

# THE ALMANIAN

THE STUDENT PUBLICATION OF ALMA COLLEGE

VOLUME NINETEEN

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*Olivet College  
Selects New Coach*

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**THE ALMANIAN**

The Student Publication of Alma College

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

We wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the new officers who were chosen for their various positions at last Thursday's elections. They have an opportunity which is theirs to take if they will.

We wish especially to congratulate the newly elected members of The Almanian staff. There is probably no other position or job on the campus which has so many ups and downs as does Almanian work. There is no other work which can bring so much satisfaction as well as so great a share of unrest.

There are those sad moments when it seems as if everyone comes up to us and demands to know the writer of a certain article and what was his grand idea. Sometimes we are pleasing one group and have another group decidedly enraged. And then there is the rare time when every one seems to commend us on some piece of work and our happiness is complete.

We are glad to have had the Almanian work. We have suffered and enjoyed. But we are more than glad to turn the work over to Cec and Lorry and whoever will be their assistants.

**ROBERT FROST'S EXAMINATIONS**

The following account of Robert Frost's original methods is quoted from McNaught's Magazine:

"At the final examination (at Amherst) I wrote upon the blackboard: 'EXAMINATION—(for one is required.)'

"Do what you think will please me most."

"Then I left the room saying I would be in my office. A little later I looked in on the puzzled youngsters and said, 'The limit is four blue-books.' This added to their dismay. One student actually wrote four blue-books thinking that was the minimum limit. Others came to the office and nearly shook my hand off and told me how much they had enjoyed the course. A few who had learned to know me better merely wrote a few epigrams, but the one student who had the most vision went home."

These incidents are typical of Robert Frost. He is not interested in forcing his pupils to learn; he is an inspiration to those who seek him and his ideas. Small groups meet with him for three-hour periods and he talks with them and draws out their ideas.

"At Amherst," said the poet-professor, "I told the students who enrolled in my classes that if they were not interested enough in the work to attend classes and to give away money I would give them D grades. But they were to keep out of my way. The professor knows the low grade pupils and can grade them; the others may slide through."

**Grand Serenade Given Thursday**

A grand serenade was rendered by the men of the college from the upstairs steps last Thursday night. There were more men singing than at any other serenade ever held on the campus.

The serenade was the culmination of the evening after the Upperclass Men's Club had entertained the lower classmen at the stag banquet.

The serenade began at midnight and got away to a rather bad start. However things soon warmed up and before the thing finished the best music of the year had been poured forth. Rog Cole's orchestra started things off. Rog had his sax and a good reed, Deac Closser handled the piano, Bob Teft worked on his banjo and George Boyd had his trumpet all oiled up.

After a few numbers by the orchestra the singing began. Songs by the whole group were enjoyed, then a few specialties were introduced. Homer Barlow and Jack West each offered a solo. Then a Pioneer Hall trio composed of Homer, Jack and Reggie Hocking gave some of their best.

Frank Kennedy then arrived from down-town and donated several piano numbers. The members of the Glee Club who were present joined in a group and "Little Pee Weet" and other of the club's best sellers were rendered.

A return solo from Wright Hall was given and the boys applauded enthusiastically. As is usual with serenades, "Alma Mater" and "Good Night Ladies" ended the songfest.

**Gilbert Scheib Will Head Sophs**

Gilbert Scheib was chosen to head the next year's Sophomore Class at the elections held by the Freshman Class last Thursday. The other officers elected by the Class of 1929 were Marion Jenks, vice-president; Gertrude Melody, secretary; Ross Mitchell, treasurer, Jack West and Ruth Hyde Student Council representatives.

**TAKE IT SERIOUSLY**

An undeniable tendency exists among undergraduates to scoff at the student who takes his education seriously—who makes a conscientious effort to gain a thorough knowledge of the subjects he is studying, instead of devising means to "get by" with a minimum amount of effort.

The majority of students come to college with some idea, surely, of obtaining an education. Many, as soon as they arrive, try to dodge as much of it as possible. If a professor has not arrived at a class by two and one-half minutes after the hour, the whole class departs precipitately, praying that they can get down the back stairs of the building before he can get up the front ones. If a few students evince a desire to wait until the entire three minutes required by university ruling have elapsed, they become the objects of scorn and derision.

If it is worth while to spend four years in pursuit of an education, surely it is worth the extra effort necessary to get the best of it, not a superficial smattering of miscellaneous information. The student who is covertly laughed at now for his conscientiousness is likely to have the last laugh in the years to come.

**SENIORS REVEL ON ANNUAL SKIP DAY**

(Continued from page one)  
dred were started. Dorothy Bradley won seven matches from Clint Treadway in a crap game and of course there was another ball game.

Then for an hour or so the gang divided into groups. Hank Holland took a group to Crystal Lake. Harley went fishing and caught a trout but as he only caught one he didn't consider it worth while to bring it in. It was about eight inches long he said but Dot Doudna forgot what he told her to tell folks and said that the fish was only four inches. Harley says he will probably never forgive her. A dozen or so captive turtles were brought in and were entertained royally. One so entered into festivities that he smoked a cigarette with evident relish.

The high spot of the afternoon was a big ball game when two mixed teams were chosen, Dutch and Harley being captains. Dorothy Lee and Henry Holland were strike out artists de luxe and D. Doudna insists that she made a home run. Dot Allen was umpire and, as is the way with umpires was wrong on every decision but had her own way about it anyway, which is another characteristic of umpires. Varying results were announced after the game. Some say that Dutch's team won 106 to 97. Others say that Harley's side win 17-14; D. Allen claims that Dutch's team won 17-11 and she had her own way in this case too.

Lunch came after this game. Fern won another bouquet because of the lemonades she prepared. Ice cream and other things, you can't expect us to remember everything, were also consumed. After lunch a large group gathered around the cottage and sang in order to drown out the outrageous language of Steve Nesbit, Bud Richards, and Shorty Hunter who were furiously engaged in another ball game.

Leaving the cottage, which was nice of them, the Seniors drove to the dance pavillion at Bass Lake. There they sat in a long, begrimed foot weary line and watched the dancing and heard Gil Davis sing a melody or so.

Under the full moon they drove to Alma. Gathering on the museum steps they rendered a stupendous serenade. Features of the serenade were solos by Esther Oldt, Don Gillet and Sheik Couter, who rendered "Thanks for the Buggy Ride." Eleven o'clock ended the party.

While we have mentioned the nice parts of the day it is sad to state that the affair was not without its casualties. Betty Brooks developed a headache from hearing Gare Reid's attempts to sing and had to leave early in the afternoon. Shortly Hunter had an accident to the lower part of his raiment and had to borrow Louise Watrous' slicker until Woody obligingly produced some adhesive tape. Ron Harris was scheuled to return with Andrews at eleven o'clock for an annoying genetics class but Leonard forgot him and the editor now has a half-hour credit to make up in some manner. Harley Catherman walked into the ball once and went for an hour or so with one eye closed. D. Mitchell also encountered the ball several times with different parts of his anatomy than his hands and suffered greatly. Fern sprained her ankle but recovered when she found that she wouldn't have to build the fire for the next meal. And at the very end Prexey's long-suffering Ford gave up on the drive home and was brought meekly and shame-facedly in at the end of the tow-rope.

There's lots more to tell and even more that shouldn't be told. But it was some day. Ask any Senior who went.

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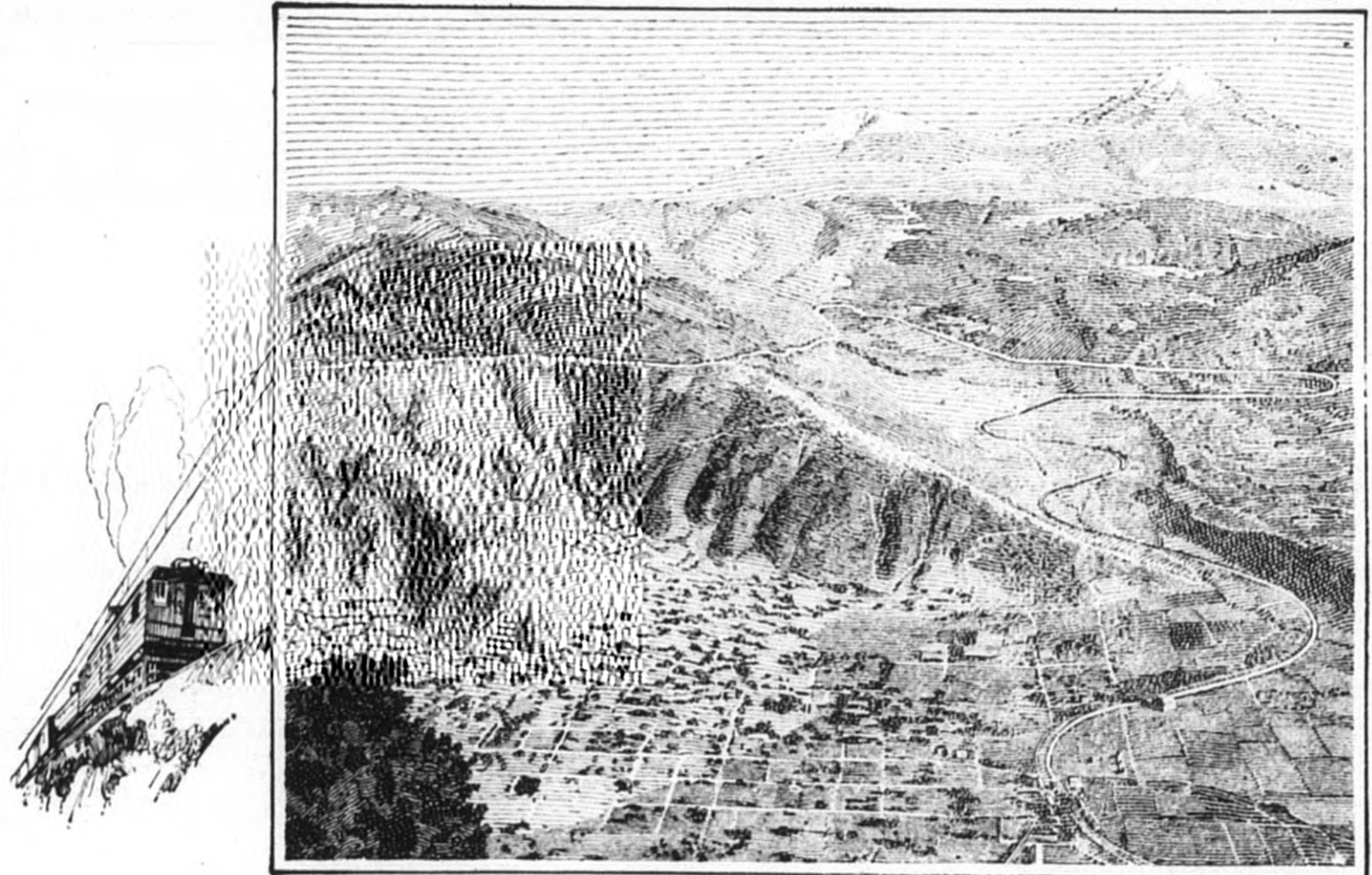
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**AROUND THE CAMPUS**

It is our hearty suggestion that every class on the campus hold a skip day. The example set by the Seniors clearly shows the benefits derived. A new and wonderful spirit has been discovered among the fourth year students since their skip day. The cliques that tore the class on most issues are united. They wear their caps and gowns and carry their canes with relish. Classmates should become acquainted long before then.

Professor Albert P. Cook is the most busily engaged individual on the campus these days. Every day after chapel you may see him standing with eagle eye watching the students as they leave the morning service. Suddenly with a swoop he lands upon some individual who is furtively trying to hide behind MacDougall and snakes him into the office. Sad are the stories being told. Heigh ho! Why must the righteous always be poor?

Folks from Flint insist that their numbers are very much endowed with capacities for government. Four students from that town were chosen for class offices last Thursday. The Juniors elected three of them: Skin Frazer, Helen Wood, and Mary Shroyer all hailing from the Buick town. The fourth student from Flint to be chosen is Gertrude Melody, secretary of the coming year's Sophomore class.

Every one is telling how dismal the hall was over last week end. Everybody went home just like President Crooks said they would. The Kappa Iota house party at Crystal Lake took a vast group from the hall. We regret that because yesterday was Decoration Day that the most of our stuff had to be set up last Saturday. We are thus prevented from relating all that transpired there. We imagine that it was plenty.

It was with joy that the students heard some of their own number sing songs in chapel last week. Every year at some chapel service some of our soloists sing the old sentimental songs with the student body joining in on the chorus. Esther Oldt sang "Juanita," Ethel West sang "Love's Old Sweet Song" and Marion Grover sang "Way Down Upon de Swanee Ribber." It carried the older students back to the days when Fromilda Young and Doc Hudson used to sing these songs at some chapel service every year.

And speaking of student participation in chapel exercises, Lewis Salmon's paper on the Philippines was very well received. Compulsory chapel is under fire all over the country. In many colleges the students regularly take charge and satisfaction is universal. It would be a good plan if other Alma students would follow Lewis's example and offer their services or consent to take part. (The Almanian staff begs to be exempt.)

Elections are over. Wasn't it glorious to have a few politics rolling around the campus? We frown on the practice, but it is very enjoyable.

The days of the serenades seem to be reviving. That good old Alma tradition has suffered greatly during the past year. Time was when no men's literary society would think of having a stag banquet or janitor's treat without finishing up on the Museum steps in plaintive melody. But this year things have been lax. But when the Seniors returned home last Wednesday they poured forth their souls in real harmony. It was technically a serenade but some say it doesn't count because there were women's voices in the singing. However the serenade given the next evening was the real thing. When a piano is put on the Museum steps and other musical instruments are utilized and when scores of male voices are heard on the air after the midnight hour when the moon is full and clear, then a serenade is a serenade and none can dispute it. May there be more of them.

The combined glee clubs are hard at work practicing new songs for the Baccalaureate services. Music is a grand thing for the Commencement season. We would suggest the college band prepare some new pieces for the swing-outs. Last year the band played some pieces but they were their old marches, stirring enough but scarcely appropriate for an academic procession. We remember last year when the band lead the Tuesday night swing-out playing one of its most stirring marches. And according to custom the crowd started to follow the gowned procession

around the campus and finally came to when they saw the last gown crack around the corner with the wearer some four feet ahead of it and the observer some four hundred feet behind trying breathlessly to catch up. We could think of nothing more appropriate than a real stately piece played by the college band for these last day processions.

**ALPHA THETA**  
The regular meeting of the Alpha Theta Literary Society was called to order by the president. Roll call was responded to by a current event. Marion Jenkins played a violin solo. Ethel West discussed the plays of Lady Gregory and Lord Dunsany. "The Rising of the Moon," by the former was read. The program was followed by a business meeting. Adjournment.

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