

# The Almanian

THE STUDENT PUBLICATION OF ALMA COLLEGE

VOLUME 24

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NUMBER 18

## STUDENTS WALK OUT; DECLARE HOLIDAY

### READINGS FEATURE KAPPA IOTA MEET

Monday, February 16, the Kappa Iota Literary Society held its regular meeting. There was a short business meeting and a program consisting of two readings by Janet Owen and a piano solo by Jean Turnbull. Members answered to roll call with the title and author of a book recently read.

### AL DEAN SETS PACE; CAGERS BEAT KAZOO

### Alma Goes Into Undisputed Second Place in Close M.I.A.A. Title Race

Paced by Al Dean, diminutive forward, the Alma College cagers overwhelmed the Kalamazoo five in Memorial Gym Friday night 32-26, and stepped into an uncontested second place in the M. I. A. A. title race. The defeat dropped the Hornets into a tie with Hillsdale for first honors in the League.

Hackadorian's opening tally in the first few seconds of play gave the Southerners their only lead over the Campbellmen for the game, and from the time that Alma stepped into the lead with a pair of deuces, the Hornets were forced to trail behind.

Dean's accurate shooting was the outstanding factor in the Presbyterians' victory. The McBride Midget dribbled through the strong forward defense time and again and countered with shots of uncanny accuracy. His thirteen points gave him undisputed scoring honors for the game as Hackadorian and Gussin came nearest with nine apiece.

From the opening whistle, the game was marked by speedy offensive plays and brilliant defensive work that kept the gallery of fans up on its toes as both teams gave the finest exhibition of speed and accuracy that has been seen on the Memorial hardwoods this year. Paired up with the absence of many fouls, these factors made for a game far superior to any in which the Maroon cagers have played this year. Captain Murdock, flashy Hornet forward, was put out of the game in the last fifty seconds of play for four personal fouls—his perennial affliction of Alma's court. The incident marked the fourth time that the Kalamazoo Captain was taken out on fouls in as many games on Alma's floor.

Dean, Brown, and Gussin were the keystones of Alma's smooth-working offensive while Tromater was Alma's bright defensive light. Hackadorian and Murdock played the best games for the Hornets.

After overcoming Kalamazoo's two-point lead early in the contest, the Campbellmen found the hoop often enough to keep well ahead, and at half time the score found the Presbyterians leading 16-15. In the second session, the attack of both teams moved at a fast clip and the play with one minute to go left the Campbellmen leading by three points. Dean dropped a fast spot-shot for his last counter at one-minute time, and following the tip-off, Murdock tripped Gussin and was put out of the game. The Ghost made good his try and put the Maroon team on the long end of a 32-26 score.

### ATTEND OLIVET FORMAL

Miss Sue Gillam, Lansing, and Mr. Charles Miller, Detroit, spent Saturday in Olivet, where they were guests of honor at the annual Washington Dance of Phi Alpha Pi, brother fraternity of Phi Phi Alpha on the Congregational Campus. Each year an Olivet couple attends Phi Phi Alpha's Lincoln Dinner Dance, and the Olivet group makes it reciprocal by having an Alma couple as guests at their function.

Juniors: Don't forget the Class Dinner in Wright Hall, Thursday at 6. Chet Robinson will be the speaker and he will have a real talk.

Plan to be there!  
Get your Maroon and Cream orders this week from any staff member. The price is \$2.75.

### "PATRIOTS' CLUB" SPONSORS LOCK-UP, PARADE, DANCE, AND FREE SHOW IN CELEBRATING WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY; FACULTY MEMBERS FROWN

#### CONTRIBUTORS, NOTICE

Inasmuch as the Almanian goes out to most of the High Schools in the state, the Editor requests that every article turned in for publication which contains names of students should also include their home town. This will add to the local interest of the papers which are exchanged throughout the state.

### SOPHMORE SHUFFLE VERY COLORFUL SOCIAL EVENT

Floodlights centered on streamers of silver and purple transformed Memorial Gym into a pretty dance floor as more than a hundred couples danced to the captivating music of Tommy Towner's Band on Saturday night in celebrating the annual Sophomore Shuffle. Every detail was complete, and the Sophs are to be commended for the fine party which they sponsored.

Much of the success of the party is due to the work of Milton Smith, of Saginaw, who acted as general chairman, as well as to the committee heads who worked against the handicap of insufficient time to put over one of the year's peppiest social events.

The ninth dance, was the official Sophomore Shuffle, a remnant of last year's Shuffle, and the dancers were all set to be "coming around the corner when she comes."

The party was beyond a doubt the most elaborate Sophomore Shuffle which has been given on the Campus in the last few years, and the decorative scheme is another challenge to the Junior Class to work out a novel and elaborate decorative scheme for the J-Hop.

### ZETAS REGAIN FRAT BASKETBALL TITLE

### "Stucco Boys" Overcome Early Lead of "Phinamints" to Win Game

After trailing through the game, Zeta Sigma came back with a burst of speed and brilliant basket-shooting to win the last game of the inter-fraternity league and regain the title by downing Phi Phi Alpha 14-11, in the Memorial Gym, Tuesday night. The game marked the finest playing that has been seen in any of the inter-society games this year, and both of the squads played hard, clean ball, and the Zeta boys are to be complimented on the victory. Fouls were few and far between, and each squad made a determined effort to play the best brand of basketball of which it is capable. Catherman, ineligible varsity man, and H. B. Johnson, varsity substitute, were the outstanding players of the game, both showing more speed and precision than any of the other men on either squad. They played fast, skillful ball, and were the main factors in the Zeta victory.

The Phis opened the scoring after four minutes of play and managed to keep a point or two ahead until the last three minutes of play when a series of finely-timed plays carried the ball down the floor, and sharp-shooting eyes found the hoop for the points that meant victory.

Al Mark, Chicago freshman, referred the game and committed himself commendably, keeping the game well in hand and caling his decisions to the satisfaction of both teams.

The lineup of the teams was as follows: Zeta Sigma—Catherman, Farmington; Johnson, Clare; Grey, Traverse City; Royer, Detroit; Byron, Saginaw. Phi Phi Alpha—Leadbet.

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### Students Declare First All- School Skip-Day Held In Four Years

Faculty members, aided by a screw-driver on the end of a watch chain, picked and poked at the lock placed on the door of the "Old Ad" Monday morning and finally succeeded in opening the doors only to find a deserted building which remained so all day as the "Patriots' Club," motivated by a desire to honor the occasion of Washington's birthday or some such thing, declared a general holiday with the result that the classes which convened during the day were few and far between. The holiday, the first conducted under student auspices for four years, was one of more than usual merriment and activity, and for twenty hours the campus and town was alive with celebrating students.

The "Patriots' Club," a group formed surreptitiously for the promotion of patriotic spirit, was on hand "by jth dawn's early light," and succeeded in driving off the majority of students who felt the call to classes more urgent than the need of honoring the memory of "The Father of Our Country." A few of the more persistent students, actuated by one desire or another, managed to evade the vigilance of the Patriots, and slipped into the Ad Building to hear a lecture.

The formal celebration opened at 7:50 with a flag raising in front of the museum, and the colors were slowly pulled to the top of the pole, the group singing "The Star Spangled Banner." Following this event, an impromptu band was formed, and more than 200 students snaked their way through Superior street behind the twirling baton of Drum Major, Lieutenant Hodges, bandmaster, soldier, par excellence. At the east end of Superior, the entire group circled around the stone driveway of the Roller Mill and an open air service was conducted. Mooie Gussin officiated at the chapel services, which were held promptly at nine thirty, and after a number of hymns were sung, the "Ghost" introduced the speakers of the occasion. Harold Logan, a campus celebrity of last year, was the main speaker on the program, and outlined briefly (far too briefly!) the outstanding events of America's greatest soldier, Dave Golden, '30, now of Ann Arbor, was the next speaker, and managed to leave out of his speech everything of importance that the first speaker had



HE NEVER TOLD A LIE  
HE CROSSED THE BELAWARE  
HE WAS "FATHER OF HIS  
COUNTRY"  
HE GAVE ALMA COLLEGE A  
HOLIDAY

also omitted. With the group singing of "Alma Mater," the crowd again fell into the line of march and trekked up the main "drag" behind the inharmonious strains of "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here," and other famous national anthems which were not recognizable as they came in several keys from an array of good and not-so-good instruments.

Smitty, Alma's up-and-at-'em yell leader, was on deck fully clothed in his pajamas, and officiated as master

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#### SPORTS EDITOR ILL

Alan Dean, Sports Editor of the Almanian, has been confined to the Zeta house this week, suffering from an attack of the flu. The Campus wishes Al a speedy recovery and hopes to see him back on the job soon. Blame the Editor if the sport review this week is inadequate.

### JUNIOR CLASS WILL HAVE BANQUET THURSDAY NIGHT

The Junior Class is taking the initial step on the Campus toward the promotion of a spirit of class interest. This move will be in the form of an all-class dinner in Wright Hall Thursday night, February 26, at 6 o'clock. Special tables will be provided for the Juniors, and it is the hope of the dinner committee that every student of the Junior Class, both local and out-of-town people, arrange to attend the dinner, the success of which will determine whether or not similar class functions will be attempted in the future. The object of the dinner is to promote a cooperative spirit which has been noticeably lacking this year, but which is absolutely essential if the two biggest Campus projects, the yearbook and the J-Hop are to be successful.

An effort is being made to obtain a speaker for the occasion, but the class is being told that the speech will be little more than a few remarks, since the committee is not desirous of having any long, drawn-out speech-making.

Every member of the Junior Class who can possibly arrange it is asked to be in the reception room of Wright Hall Thursday evening at 5:50.

### ALMA CHEMISTS LOOK INSIDE OF MOLECULE

### Dr. Kaufmann and Aides Hear Address at American Chemical Society Meeting

Wednesday night, Feb. 18th, Dr. Kaufmann and four members of the Chemistry Department went to Midland to hear the lecture and attend the district meeting of the American Chemical Society. The Midland section is composed chiefly of the employees of the Dow Chemical Company but invites anyone to hear these lectures.

Dr. Anderson, lecturing on the topic, "Looking Inside the Molecule," presented a new theory to the chemists and offered some very convincing proof of the validity of his concept of molecular structure by a demonstration of his apparatus and by a series of lantern slides. The assignment of structure to the atom seems to be the aim of most of the physicists of the present day, but this new approach by an organic chemist can not pass unnoticed. The startling correlation of the experimental and the theoretical values remains a fact which one cannot easily forget. The lecture, though it presented some serious and weighty thought, was not without humor, and Dr. Anderson seemed to delight in poking fun at the physicists with their "heterogeneous groups of probability waves called matter." Another humorous situation arose when he suggested that the molecules on being struck should give harmonious frequencies similar to chords in music. The facts seem to bear this out and experience shows that grain alcohol has a chord much more harmonious than wood alcohol, for instance. Although the physicists had taken quite a beating they were rewarded in the end, for it

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### RUDDOCK IMPROVING WILL RETURN SOON

The condition of Amos Ruddock, Almanian Editor, who has been ill with pneumonia for the past six weeks, is much improved, according to word received here from Detroit. Amos hopes to be back and busy with his studies and many Campus activities within the next few weeks.

### NEGATIVE MEN WIN LAST HOME DEBATE

### Affirmative Debaters Lose To Kalamazoo On State Insurance Question

Alma's negative debate team won from Adrian College Thursday night in the College chapel. The decision was rendered by Professor N. J. Weise of Albion College, who served as critic judge. The question debated was that of unemployment insurance.

The affirmative argument was opened by Washington Cook of Adrian. He pointed out that any plan which might be proposed for unemployment must necessarily be a relief measure, for the causes of unemployment were so varied that a cure would be impossible. He further emphasized the moral responsibility of the employer for the unemployment of the worker; and proposed a plan whereby the employer, employee and state were to contribute a definite amount of cash each payday, which was to be deposited in a local bank as a reserve fund for times of unemployment. During a 26 week period of unemployment, the worker was to receive 40 per cent of his regular wages. The speaker further pointed out the good effects of the plan in the amelioration of the conditions of the unemployed.

The first speaker on the negative was John De Wilde. He based his argument upon four primary contentions: first, that unemployment insurance will fail to safeguard the workman and will not do away with unemployment; second, that it will not provide against future unemployment; third, that unemployment insurance will create more unemployment; fourth, that unemployment insurance will tend to demoralize the workman.

The second affirmative argument was presented by Albert Rush of Adrian. He contended that their plan was not like the English "Dole" system; that their plan was a relief measure which would benefit the unemployed worker, immediately; and that there is a definite trend in American industry toward periodical unemployment.

The constructive argument for the negative was closed by Kenneth Ollis. He hurled numerous questions at the affirmative, as: "Why legislate?" "What is your precedent?" "How about the difficulties of administration?" These questions seemed to puzzle the men from Adrian. He concluded the case for the negative by citing instances in which private enterprises had met the problem of unemployment.

The usual high percentage of faculty and low percentage of students was present.

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### SET DATE FOR PARTY

April 11 was selected as the date for the annual Alpha Theta formal at the regular meeting of the society on last Monday night, February 16. The committee have not yet been announced.

Helen Logan was elected general manager for the basketball team and committees for a St. Patrick's Stag Party were appointed and plans and dates discussed. The date has not been definitely set.

The regular order of the meeting preceded the business and roll call consisted of reports on social events in foreign countries. The impromptu "Behind the Veil", by Elizabeth Paull, was given by Frances Stephens.

Clark Jamieson still has a few openings for copies of the Maroon and Cream.

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KEEP IT UP

Despite numerous opinions to the contrary, the Washington Birthday celebration Monday was worth while. It is a fact that valuable time was lost and lectures were allowed to go to seed or be heard by a half a dozen students, but there was undoubtedly some values to compensate for this loss which even surpassed the golden hours and fascinating lectures in worth. The students who gave up their class hours demonstrated a spirit which is altogether commendable,—a spirit of cooperation which many of the more pessimistic minded folk on the campus have said was altogether lacking. The spirit was there and The Almanian is anxious to go on record as commending the campus for its spirit and the demonstration of it. It was apparent when the first plans were broached. It was there during the parade and the down-town celebration. At the dance it was especially noticeable. Everybody danced, and nobody thought of class differences, society differences or any other distinctions. It was a spirit of each for all and all for each. To the campus we would say, "Keep it up!"

SOME INTERESTING CONTRASTS

The chapel services of Thursday and Friday provided some interesting contrasts. In the former, Dr. Randels said that some of the students, perhaps many of them, are of university calibre. The next day, some one disclosed the fact that there are some in the student body of kindergarten calibre. It is this last group that it is interesting to find.

The prank of this "infant," who placed the chemical on the floor so as to disturb the speaker, was for the most part harmless, but it was nevertheless childish. Those who have even faint recollections of high school days recall instances when buzzers were clogged with putty, and limburger cheese was placed behind radiators, but these incidents are recalled as being truly characteristic of high school days. Now what a disillusionment to find a college student performing the same pranks; in fact, pranks which are usually forgotten even before one gets into high school.

That such a thing can occur in a college chapel service seems almost unbelievable. The fact that it did occur is a warning that someone of the student body needs to take a mental inventory. He's lacking some vital portion of his stock in trade, and it is time for him to stock up before he goes farther. Remember, high school pranks, like high school pins, rings, and letters, should be thrown away before you get your green pot or hair ribbon. If you have neglected to do it, it might be well to forget them now and catch the spirit of college men and women!

STUDENT FORUM

Here's another hat in the Student Forum ring! I usurp a few inches this week to register my reactions to the debate that has been waged in the open column of student opinion the past two weeks. The letters that have already been printed have proved more than a little bit interesting, even though I've been a bit disappointed that "F. G." has not disclosed his or her identity. I would like to know who he or she is and what his or her standing on the campus is.

Nevertheless, may I speak my thoughts on the subject under discussion. The letters printed the past two weeks have a number of weaknesses and more loopholes which have not been taken care of adequately.

"F. G." has issued a challenge to the student marshal in his missive, and Mr. Carter has not responded to that challenge, nor even mentioned it in his rebuttal, and I'm wondering why? It seems that the inter-fraternity element has entered the discussion and that is why I ask openly (upon the strength of my status as a disinterested non-fraternity man) why some of the big freshmen on the campus are not wearing pots? To avoid personalities (as the former

contributors have done) would be to avoid the issue, so I ask why some of the following men are potless? Aigrid Wilkas, a man whom I know is without sufficient credits to be a Sophomore, and who has been without a pot all year. (Does the fact that he is a prize fighter put fear and trembling into the hearts of our respected student council?) Clifton Conlee, a freshman, who, although he is living in a frat house, has been on the campus but one semester. (Maybe the fact that his papa is an undertaker is considered, no?) Jim Coleman, a classmate of mine, whom I know does not have the required number of hours for Sophomore standings. He should be made to wear a pot just as the rest of us of the class of '33 did for a year. Why the laxity? Maybe the student council can answer some of these questions!

Another fact which interested me is a discrepancy between the financial reports issued by "The Two Wise Owls," and that presented in the minutes of the student council which were published in the same edition. "The Owls" state that the student council still has \$324.53 to spend, whereas the treasurer of the council said in his meeting that only \$163.28 remained. Will some one please enlighten the student body on this score?

It may be that my memory is poor, but I take exception to the statement that "the council has sponsored several functions this year." As I recall, there was ONE dance given, and at that one, one of the honored men of the council took the pains to collect "two bits" from me for it. Moreover, I can find no record of this money having been taken in, in the printed minutes of the council subsequent to this function.

To the council I offer my congratulations for their work in providing a flag pole for the athletic field. It was certainly a commendable bit of work, and fills a decided need, and I believe that some of our faculty members, or the president should be taken to task for overlooking the opportunity of injecting a bit of praise into their chapel talks for this work of the council.

I have been inquiring rather surreptitiously among the members of the student body this past week, and find no support for the statement that the "clowns," or rather, the student council, was ever told by a freshman to "go to H—." From what I can glean, no one of the disciplined frosh ever appeared before the student council. If the fact that one of the freshmen told some of the individual clowns to go to the region referred to above, that is a different matter, but I can find no evidence to substantiate the statement that the council was given that advice.

As for "F. G." I'm afraid that his or her knowledge of the student council's power is rather limited. Why should he ask the student council for an accounting of athletic expenditures? I know (and I've been here but half a year less than "F. G.") that the spending of athletic funds is placed in hands that are more reliable than those of the student council. He or she might do well to brush up on the knowledge of how things are run on the campus.

To get to the "Owls," I'm afraid that they need "lightning calculators," because there are errors frequently creeping into my accounts in the business office, and they might do well to get some anti-error machine to remedy this evil. Selah!

The Man At The Keyhole.

The clowns and racketeers:—These matters of greatest import are taken to the student paper for disposal rather than behind the closed doors of a Student Council meeting. First, let me dispose of the matter of Coach Crowley. He, being our guest, has been good enough to give us his time and an entertaining talk and yet has come in for some open criticism from the President of the Student Council. Dealing with children, as I am, it is necessary to be quite lucid; therefore, let me say it is very poor taste to criticize an invited guest. If the President of the Student Council learns just this much I shall feel amply repaid for my efforts.

I should like to apologize. I did not realize that the tentative plans for the Football Banquet had progressed as far as the matter of decorations. On being enlightened by the clear, illogical report of the Student Council, I am gratified to learn that decorations were bought and paid for. Perhaps the Student Council may use them for their next "all College party."

In closing, I am pleased to note that at least one member of the Student Council was awake in chapel. Let me say finally, with apologies, "the world will little no'e nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what the Student Council did here."

F. G.

"Babe" Gable, Marjory Hedgecock, and Mary Mason Leitchey were our guests at the Hall. We were so glad too, to have Irene and Kay Boyd with us once more.

Co-ed News

Due to limited space last week, the co-eds, as usual, were left out, but there is one important item from last week that we can't leave out, even tho it might be rather "old" news, for it was about a formal, and formals are important things around Wright Hall. There was the tea in the afternoon, and there's always a bit of borrowing and buying for teas—and it's usually hats—so all those not going to the teas open up their hat boxes and let us tea-goers find something that matches. But it was a lovely tea and the girls hurried home and hustled around the Hall getting ready for the formal. There were the usual "ohs" and "ahs" as the girls stepped from their rooms and walked up and down the halls to try their dresses out and let the unfortunates have a peek at them before going down to greet "partners." There were some "imports," much to the disappointment of some of us. But it did give us a chance to see some of the girls "back home."

There's a new girl in the Hall—Helen Hummer. We hope she'll like Alma-on-the-Pine.

Even a formal looks faded, though, alongside this week-end—and what a week-end!

It started out with the Kazoo game. Ruth Hudson, Blanche Howlett, Betty and Phyllis Saunders were Kazoo guests, in rooms 322-324.

Well, we won the game—then we danced. And, oh! what misery for the girl basketballers who practiced a few nights before. Nevertheless, 'twas a nice little get-together.

And then the much-looked-for Soph Shuffle! And it was all it had been advertised as being! And was it ever advertised? In fact, the news reached last year's "jiboomers"—Geo. and Babe, Dick and Ann, Speed and Howdy, Ken and Ellen, Harold and Norry, Goldy, Dale, Hap, Vern and Emily, France and Rach Jimmy and Irene. Then, too, there were some imports and they were our guests. Elw n Miller's girl and Smitty's! And the anniversary for the Sophs' Shuffle was celebrated in the ninth dance. It seems only the "jiboomers" participated. Remember last year when Speed and Al started it at the Soph dance in Wright Hall?

Buff and Mary weren't there 'cause Buff's ill, is he not, Mary?

Marjory Lundbom had a guest in the Hall, too. As yet we haven't discovered her name, but hope she enjoyed her visit.

Aileen Water's sister and friend also were our guests. They were entertained just before leaving Sunday, and it seems they had a marvelous time and are coming again real soon. But they really should have stayed to

help us celebrate George Washington's Birthday. We think they might have enjoyed that, too.

Yes, Monday was George Washington's Birthday. At 7:45 the first service of the day began. The students met at Wright Hall and crossed the street to the flagpole where the flag was raised to the "Star Spangled Banner." The co-eds also participated in the parade and chapel service that followed. After the parade the students gathered once more at Wright Hall for a Washington's dance. It was reported as being the peppiest dance ever held in Wright Hall. At eleven o'clock the students rested for the afternoon festivities, which consisted of a dance after lunch and a free show at three at the Idlehour. It was the best George Washington's Birthday we've ever had.

After listing all the gay times had this week-end we must spoil it a bit by reporting those on our sick list:

Mary Painter has been ill for several days but is much better today. Micky and Libby are also ill with the flu. We hope by the time this is published it will find them up and, oh, yes! to classes.

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Saturday, February 28

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"THE LITTLE ACCIDENT"

One of the finest farce Comedies of the year, with young Fairbanks turning in one of the best performances of his busy screen career.

**BIRTH CONTROL YES?**

Requests to have orations printed have been made for only one—the composition of Amos Ruddock, who was prevented by illness from participating in the contest. Both student and faculty requests have been made for this article.

Editor.

The Gentlemen Seventeen of the Dutch East India Company sat in council and sagely pulled their beards. The occasion for this beard-pulling and deep thought was because the Dutch East India Company had been hasty, much too hasty in hijacking the wealthy Spanish treasure galleons with their lighter and faster clipper ships, and as a result the Spanish had retaliated against these hijacking heretics and thrown out an effective blockade of men of war that prevented the ships of Holland from trading in the much coveted Indies.

So the Gentlemen Seventeen pulled their beards and tried to find a way out of the dilemma.

Now the Dutch were great scientists and the outcome of the whole matter was that the Company appealed to the scientists for aid. These learned men dusted off their maps and charts, sighted the stars and figured pages full of figures and returned to the Company wreathed in smiles. "Yes, there was a way out. A short cut to India." "Where was it?" "To the North." One could reach the Indies by merely sailing Northward. Dutch ships would no longer have to pass the hostile Spaniards and at the same time would have a little East India route all their own. This would be a distinct advantage. So the Company lost several ships in attempting the passage. Then it fitted out Heemskerk with a ship and sent him northward. He was wrecked on Novya Zembla, which was just one of the reasons why one could not reach the Indies by sailing north, the chief others being that there was no passage and the impossibility of navigating in Arctic waters. Heemskerk returned and told his tale. He was laughed to scorn. It happened that at that time Henry Hudson, that famous renegade English navigator, rode at anchor in a Dutch harbor with a ship outfitted by parliamentary gents and manned by an English crew. The Gentlemen Seventeen hied them to Mr. Hudson and said, "You can reach India by sailing North."

Henry set out from Texel Roads in the Half Moon, sailed north, veered west and ran into America, but that was not India. So it went on. For all I know the Dutch are still searching for the passage. At least, they wasted the time and lives of many of their great men, not to take into account the appalling sum of money wasted on these fruitless expeditions.

To we enlightened Americans the attempt to find a passage to the Indies by sailing northward was a foolish thing. We know better. So did the Dutch, for had not their mariners told them so? Yet they persisted in it. We have been and are not unlike the Dutch. We, too, have been seeking a passage northward for many years, in spite of the fact that our learned men have told us for many years that there is no such thing. The Dutch sought a short cut to the Indies by sailing over the north pole. We are seeking a short cut to civilization by taking evolution and progress into our own hands. Both are equally foolish. The only difference being that the Dutch sought something that would be a distinct advantage to them and we are seeking something that would be a distinct advantage to us. It is an interesting analogy. One might carry it farther, but my knowledge of Dutch history is limited.

Yes, a short cut to civilization—the passage northward. It would seem that man has taken something into his own hands that he has no right and no ability to control. But you will tell me: "Look at the enormous progress we have had; look at our civilization. Is it not a beautiful thing?" We have progressed, maybe. That depends on what terms one uses to measure progress. I do not agree with you. Nor does science.

I may say with a deal of backing by most learned men in the world that all civilization is self-destructive; always has been and always will be. Simply because we do not know enough to let nature bring it about of its own free will, if nature so desires. I presume that you are inclined to doubt my word. Then let us glance at the proof. I must pause to say here that though I am using facts that are true the world over and though I am considering things that are true the world over, I am speaking more especially of facts and conditions in regard to the United States. But let us look at the proof.

Science has recently, so very recently that few of us know anything about it, presented to the world at large five warnings based on actual observations that show that our civilization is destroying itself even while you sit here and listen to me.

The first of these is that the advanced races are going backwards and that the less advanced races threaten to overwhelm them. The percentage of men who are doing the thinking for the world is today very small, in fact, proportionately the smallest that has been in some time. That is a sure sign that any nation is going to the dogs. At least, it always has been in the past. Consider that if you were compelled to pick the five greatest thinkers in the United States. If you knew the facts and if you were true to yourselves, three or four of your selections would be scientists—the men who have propounded that which I bring you tonight.

One-third of our army draft was unfit for three out of every ten persons are pitifully ignorant, three are diseased beyond all hope, only one is really healthy, only two are capable of thinking for themselves, and only four are able to support themselves.

The civilized races biologically speaking are plunging downward. Civilization always destroys the man who builds it. Our vast efforts to improve man's lot are hastening his hour of destruction. Man's resistance to disease is increasing, while diseases that effect man's mind and body are increasing—weaklings, hoboos, paupers, orphans, idiots, imbeciles, and all are increasing, while great leaders and thinkers are decreasing. Go to the findings of the Army Draft, to the British Military Commission, to the Life Extension Institute for the proof. Go to the psychologists and the doctors for the facts. Just look at your intelligence tests. Sixty out of every hundred voters who are clamoring for more democracy, which to the unintelligent means more power, not more wisdom, could not possibly understand the theories and the workings of democracy, if heaven depended on it. Yet our high civilization has entrusted the affairs of this nation to just these people. Is it then no wonder that we have crime rule, for crime does rule here, and wars and industrial depressions. One may figure out the reasons for the great depression that we are now in and for the starving that I have seen, as he will. No one knows the economics of the situation and the guess of a schoolboy as regards these matters is just as good as the guess of one of our leading economists. The reason that we have unemployment and depression is because we have entrusted these things to men and women who are not mentally capable of understanding them. A successful Democracy must have enough people in it who can intelligently and voluntarily solve the basic problem. How many of our statesmen know what a differential birthrate is? Probably one out of ten. Yet that is the greatest known cause for the failure of nations and we have the greatest differential birth-rate ever known—a baby and a half.

The second warning is that heredity is the chief maker of men. Once in awhile we do have an Abe Lincoln, but consider that behind him was the best of blood. We Americans have a quaint philosophy which we incorporate into our government. It involves two of the greatest nebulous untruths that I know. The first is that "all men are created equal" and the sec-

**St. Louis Theatre**

Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 25-26  
WILLIAM HAINES in  
"REMOTE CONTROL"  
Pathe Review Pathe News

Thursday and Friday Feb. 26-27  
MARIE DRESSLER & WALLACE BEERY in  
"MIN & BILL"  
Sportlight Fox News

Saturday, February 28  
REX BEACH'S  
"The Spoilers"  
With GARY COOPER  
Cartoon—"Ain't Nature Grand"  
Comedy—"Bachelor Daddy"  
12th Episode of  
"THE LONE DEFENDER"

Sunday and Monday March 1-2  
MAURICE CHEVALIER in  
"PLAYBOY OF PARIS"  
Fable Metro News

Tuesday and Wednesday Mar. 3-4  
RICHARD BARTHELEMESS in  
"THE LASH"  
Cartoon—"The Hash Shop"  
Pathe Review Pathe News

and is that "God will raise us up leaders in times of stress." Well, all men are created very unequal in every respect and it is not prayer that makes leaders but germ cells. A man is known by his ancestors. That is the best criterion for the selection of leaders in our country and yet we utterly disregard it and insist on electing people from the laborers and the common classes to represent them we say. About as absurd as electing an insane man to represent the insane. Going to the other side of the problem, when a statesman is able to make clay out of those he governs it is very important that he understands what it is that makes them what they are. We should be constantly evaluating our human blood stream and taking measures to keep it regnant and live.

The third warning of science is that education and art and religion will not improve man's lot.

People used to think that giraffes got long necks from having to stretch them out after high branches when the lower herbage was gone. In fact people believed for years that this was the sum and substance of the evolution theory. As eminent a man as Bryan opposed this theory. So did science, but science knew better. Mr. Bryan didn't. No, the correct way of stating it is that because the lower herbage was gone only the giraffes with long necks could live, and reproduce their kind. It is most interesting, interesting because it goes to show that no matter how much we may educate a father it will not make his child more brilliant unless we educate the father to select a mate with inborn brilliance. This hastens the conclusion that the more you cultivate and educate man without taking measures to insure his proper parentage the more do men deteriorate. They do this because the easy improved environment has enabled the weak to live and sow their weakness among the strong. Yet we have staked everything on the fatuous notion that grandfathers' environment is the grandchild's heredity. Stupidity begets stupidity and intelligence begets brains. This is because children are not born from improved body cells but from unimproved germ cells. In short statesmanship must learn the simple biological lesson propounded by Mr. Conklin: Wooden legs are not inherited but wooden heads are. Now we come to perhaps the two most important warnings of science.

First, the golden rule without science will wreck the nation that tries it. We are a nation that makes great use of the golden rule. You can ride over the country in a railroad train made incidentally not by those benefited by the golden rule but by those we hinder for it;—ride and you will see the results of this golden rule. You will see it filling insane asylums, orphan asylums, pauper institutions, poor farms and jails.—Monuments, living monuments to the folly of a people who are using something they know nothing about. The best blood in our land has been forced to spend millions to keep and support these people, but how much have we spent to do away with that which causes them? Science says: control your birth. You need to anyway for various reasons and we abhor it because there is nothing in the Bible about it; because we think it bloody and because we think that it involves the use of contraceptives. Well, it does

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involve that partially but contraceptives are used as freely now as they would be anyway; but in the main it means that paupers and tramps and lunatics should be forced to suffer operations that would prevent them from procreating their own kind because they have demonstrated that they do not have the right to live. Bloody is it? Well, evolution and civilization is a bloody process. It is not a pink tea as we would wish to make it.

The last warning is that medicine, sanitation and hygiene will weaken the human race. It is a commonly known fact that it has. Emerson saw it, so did others. Vice and disease are good for a race; wickedness, folly and sins are natures purgatives. Even the Hebrews saw this when they said that the children of the wicked are cut off, and other such sayings. Christ said, "Men do not gather grapes from thorns nor figs from thistles." Yet we think we can. The old Spartans left their children to die if they were weak. That's birth control after a fashion. Vice, too, leaves its children to die. That's birth control after another fashion. Vice kills off the vicious and leaves the strong to hand on the torch of heredity. No, our inventions are good, but our theory is all wrong.

That is the warning that science gives to a race that is hastening to its destruction. You are now thinking that I am advocating a return to the primitive type of society. That would be undoubtedly the best solution. Unfortunately that is impossible. Why then have I told you this? Because I think, and because science thinks and firmly believes that all our national difficulties and all our national problems have been caused by our failure to recognize the importance of just such things. And I believe that our problems in the future will be comparatively small if we heed them before it is too late. Depressions, strikes and wars are caused through pitiful ignorance. Do away with this ignorance and the class of people that cause it and you will do away with these things themselves. It is all very simple.

Now you tell me that I have presented a problem and I must solve it. I shrink from a task that has baffled great minds for many years, but I bring to you a solution, not my own, but one that science has itself offered:

The first step is birth control. Let us be rid of the man who has no right to live. Let us cast this ugly burden off our shoulders and instead of seeking to make whole the hopelessly diseased and incompetent let us spend our money to keep the strong and competent that way. Self preservation is the first law of nature and it was centuries old before man was thought of before the Bible was created and before contraceptives were made. Hard measures, is it? Well, these are hard, this is a hard business and these are hard times.

The second thing that we can do is to send our industrial leaders such as Mr. Ford, along with the President and his cabinet and his congress and all the other statesmen, to school. Yes, to school to our scientists,—to the psychologists, to learn among a great many other things the lessons of simple biology and psychology and perhaps imbue them with a little of the milk of human kindness and understanding. Let them learn the discoveries of science and let them learn the methods of science; let them learn what a laboratory is for and how it is used and then let them use what they have learned, not to better themselves but to aid their fellow man.

In conclusion, I wish to say that I do not believe such a course of action would prove a balm to help all the ills but I do think it would aid immeasurably. I think it would do more good than dabbling in a world of economics which even the economists themselves do not understand. I think it would do much more good than world courts and international politics, and so on with a million other things. None of us have ever wanted wooden legs but the day has come for us to desire to be rid of wooden heads.

**M. I. A. A. STANDINGS**  
(Correct through February 22)

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Hillsdale	6	2	.750
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**Alma Chemists Look Inside Molecule**

(Continued from Page 1)  
seems that Raman, the Indian scientist, from whose effect Dr. Anderson derives much of the experimental support for his theory, is, after, all, a physicist by trade.  
The lecture room of the educational building at the Dow Chemical Company was filled with about 150 appreciative listeners who were thrilled and amazed to see the molecular models dance.

**Students Declare First All-School Skip-Day Held in Four Years**

(Continued from page 1)  
of ceremonies and cheers. On the homeward march the crowd paused long enough to pay tribute to "Father George," all the frat houses, "Prixy" and the Wright Hall Girls, with vociferous cheering demonstrations which echoed across the town and roused some of the less ambitious fra-

ternity boys from their comfortable beds.

At the end of the march, someone suggested dancing, and there was a rush for Wright Hall. In a few minutes, Dean Steward had kindly given her permission to allow the dance, and as quickly as the floors were bare, the crowd was busy dancing to the music of the Kampus Kids. For 3 hours, dancing was enjoyed as it has never been on the Campus before. There was no formality and every student entered into the spirit of care-less abandon and shuffled around the reception room floor until lunch time. After lunch, through the kindness of Dick Rockwell, the student's friend and showman, a special free matinee was held in honor of the occasion. "The Big Trail" was the feature that held the student body thrilled during the afternoon and provided a fitting wind-up for the day of celebration. The student body is using the Almanian columns to say "Thanks" to Dick for the show.

**Zetas Regain Frat Basket Ball Title**

(Continued from Page 1)  
ter, Detroit; Baldwin, Mancelona; Luchini, Alma; Gould, St. Charles; McLellan, Calumet.

**Affirmative Debaters Lose to Kalamazoo College**

(Continued from page 1)  
Friday night while Alma's basketball team was playing the quintet from Kalamazoo College, Alma's debate team lost to the Kalamazoo duet. The debate was held in Mandel Library in Kalamazoo. The question debated was unemployment insurance. The case of the affirmative was opened by Barker Brown who pointed out the need for action, the responsibility of industry, and the necessity of compulsion in any successful meeting of the unemployment situation. The case of the negative was opened by Mr. Hoskins of Kalamazoo who contended that unemployment insurance would not guarantee anything, and that it was not scientific. The affirmative argument was closed by Donald Blackstone, who presented a practical plan of unemployment insurance, which eliminated the major defects in former systems of insurance and was supported by leading authorities as a practical measure.

The negative argument was closed by Greisimer of Kalamazoo, who contended that the affirmative plan did not get at the causes of unemployment. He suggested a plan of regularization of industry which was identical to the plan of the affirmative, without the feature of compulsion. The critic judge of the debate was Coach Henry of Battle Creek College.

Junior Class Dinner on Thursday night at 6.

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