

# The Almanian

STUDENT PUBLICATION OF ALMA COLLEGE

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NUMBER 6

## THE LETTER BOX

Dear Editor and Students:

Since Dr. Randels took issue with your editorial in last Friday's Chapel I hope you will appreciate his repeated assurance that he sympathizes with your irritation—if not by proper attendance and attention, at least with a bearing of ladies and gentlemen. But even at that particular occasion there were individuals behaving outrageously for their age and schooling during a public meeting.

The following lines were written before the above incident. You answered your own question whether we must have sermons in the negative. Though I do not blame you for this I regret that we older people have let matters drift to such a degree that you of the younger generation simply refuse to listen to us in the pulpit. Now I am convinced that our chapels have somewhat improved lately and I should be sorry for all those who share the editor's determination (courageous as it may be) not to listen anymore to any—even "inspiring sermons three times a week."

However, if I interpret you correctly, and I believe I do, I should say that you are not really antagonistic to any "inspiring sermons" for the simple reason that you as mentally sane beings cannot be opposed to the truly good. Perhaps the term "sermon" and what you are accustomed to associate with it in your past experience have biased you against all future sermons.

If such were the case, I should have to pronounce that all and every bias is of evil. You yourselves would have to be charged with entertaining preconceived judgments. For here is the point for your complaint about chapel leaders. Or is it not so that we older people disregard your critical attitude toward life as a whole; that we approach you in a language and with an air as if you still had the mentality of the average folks of the sixteenth century.

Undoubtedly some of us as some of you cherish age-old sentiments no longer favored by you, or, not to the extent as often voiced by professional religionists. And you resent being talked to by persons who stubbornly refuse to differentiate between knowledge, information and opinion. Moreover you don't want to be forced into being exposed to our idiosyncrasies.

But the worst of all you loathe the "divine" imposter and ecclesiastic salesman of that sort of Christianity which is more despicable than the humbug of the old time peddler in patent medicine. You are against the hireling of which Jesus spoke; against the more or less bad actor in the clerical garb; against the clever man who always speaks with the utmost care about generalities, never committing himself on anything, except where he commands the majority, but even then exhausting himself principally in an elaborate vocabulary of platitudes.

Yes, my young friends, some of us understand you perfectly. We know and are proud of knowing that you—some of you—insist upon being treated seriously and that you won't permit any misuse of your intelligence. In viewing our world in its entirety you discover discrepancies between the doctrines of the pre-scientific ages and the facts of life and nature as ascertained today. And any one who cleverly or unconsciously avoids facing them while assuming leadership is in your eyes "called but not chosen."

Permit me to assure you that some of us earnestly try to live up to your standards of analytic reasoning for truth and of cultivating noble sentiments for a better fellowship among men on this earth.

Now will you—all of you—do your part, foremost by correcting those that misbehave among yourselves during our sessions?

Dr. Theodore Schreiber

## Balladry Program Given in Chapel

Central State Professor Expert on American Ballads.

Professor Beck from Mt. Pleasant presented one of the most interesting chapel programs of the year last Thursday when he gave an illustrated address on balladry. Ballads have been the chief hobby of Prof. Beck for many years.

"Balladry is not art but it's the stuff out of which art is made," began the speaker. He revealed that when Englishmen wish to study the old ballads of their country they come to the hills of Virginia, Kentucky, and the like for material, for the old English ballads have been preserved in a very pure state in this section. Prof. Beck then sang "Barbara Allen" to a tune which he picked up from an old Kentucky mountaineer who used to go around and play wherever court was sitting to earn a meager living. He pointed to such old terms as "cruising through the fields" to prove the antiquity of this epic.

Animating his talk with rare jokes and with facial expressions that reminded one of Amie Semple MacPherson, Mr. Beck revealed such interesting points as that "Frankie and Johnny" has sold more copies than any other piece of music written and that if the alleged author of "Wreck of the Old Ninety-seven" wins his impending lawsuit, he will be very rich.

A delightful story ballad from near the Lake of the Ozark had for its theme the frightful ruination of a certain poor man's wife wrecked on Hell when the devil stole her. From Iowa and Nebraska came "Round My Little Old Sod Shanty on My Claim," and from the Soo in Michigan "My Sweetheart's the Mule in the Mine." Encored twice, Professor Beck finally closed with "The Dreary Black Hills," an intriguing tale from South Dakota's Black Hills.

## Randels Defends Chapel Sermons by Experience

Qualifying himself by forty years of worship in the Alma College chapel, Dr. Randels presented an answer to the caustically critical editorial appearing in the Almanian a few weeks ago. Speaking in chapel Friday, Dr. Randels said, "I believe the religious life of Alma College is just as sincere as it was twenty years ago."

The effectiveness of the talk was partly due to the complete lack of sarcasm in his answer. He said the answer to the editorial was found in the fact that the students listened eagerly and attentively to two talks by ministers during the week after the appearance of the editorial in the columns of the Almanian.

He recognized the need of a "more realistic expression of those strivings within us." "I believe we can all help a great deal toward that," said Dr. Randels. Asking that students refrain from slamming hymn books and the like, Dr. Randels said he had two reasons for this request.

One was that it would have a definite effect upon visitors and the other was that it interfered with the worship of himself and others who might desire to worship. "My God is also a wrathful God!" closed the speaker as he cautioned those who did not have a reverent attitude in chapel.

This week will mark the end of the first six weeks of college. Freshmen may see their marks from their supervisors sometime around November 1.

## College Student Lectures Over WBCM Every Sun.

Richard A. Elve, who is enrolled in the college in the Junior class, broadcasts every Sunday at 4 p. m. over station WBCM, Bay City. His program is entitled "The Voice Of Christian Youth." Mr. Elve was pastor of the Baptist church at Holland, Michigan for three years and is now pastor and youth leader of the First Baptist church at Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. Elve attended the Davenport McLaughlin Business College at Grand Rapids and received his Bible training at the Moody Bible Institute at Chicago. He is preparing for his A. B. degree.

## Three Elected to Honorary Society

Sanders, Lake and Clack Admitted To Phi Sigma Pi.

In chapel last Wednesday the Alma College scholastic honor society, Phi Sigma Pi, admitted into active membership Jack Sanders, Kathryn Lake, and Douglas Clack, all of Alma. Dr. Rice was also honored, as was Professor Tyler. The address was given by Leon I. Tyler, LL.B., A.M., formerly Professor of Education at Alma College.

Prof. Tyler's remarks centered about the theme that "the golden hour of scholarship is the morning hour." "And how we waste these days!" exclaimed the speaker. Painting a picture of the ideal student, he said it was not the book-worm variety that he referred to but the person with enthusiasm, which is necessary in any walk of life.

"The golden word in the vocabulary of scholarship is 'Now!'" Lincoln was cited as a great man who was always ready. "There is no great scholar but he who is ready to do the work of life," said Prof. Tyler. He closed his talk with the caution that our period of school learning may soon be over, but the duration would never close.

## Entire Student Body Joins in Annual Pajama Parade Revelry

The Pajama Parade, the merchant's headache of the past, was tucked away into history's pages last Thursday evening for one more year. Under the able marshaling of Chuck Skinner, and with the assistance of cheer dispenser Forrester and other kibitzers, the program was carried out with admirable efficiency.

Old timers might find it hard to recognize in this year's parade a descendant of the revels of their time. It was truly a more toned-down affair than those of the "good old days."

The warming party at the gym was a pink tea to those who can remember back as far as Bull Smith, Oakley, Conley, Campbell, Vitek and Beach. True, a few games of "guess who?" were indulged in by the rather half-hearted frosh, but the old time zest and zip was lacking.

Orderliness has replaced the sadistic bullying of yesteryears, and mebbe it is just as well. Doubtless from the standpoint of merchant and administration it is a very fine thing. But what would some of our hardy predecessors have "said" to the frosh who "thought it would be a good night to get some sleep" or who were "too tired" to want to take part?

Anyway—pajama clad, seniors leading, the students snaked their way down Superior to take over

## Homecoming-Parents' Day To Be Observed Saturday

### Homecoming Program

12:00 Noon—Luncheon at Wright Hall. (Brief Program following lunch.)

1:30—Parade.

2:30—Football game, Bahlke Field. Alma vs. Kalamazoo. After the game—Reception at Wright Hall.

6:00—Banquets:

Phi Phi Alpha—Main dining room, Wright Hotel.

Zeta Sigma—Masonic Temple.

Alpha Theta—Odd Fellows Hall.

Philomathean—Uncertain.

8:15—All-college dance at Memorial Gymnasium.

### Caledonia Kiltie Band To Feature Gala Program.

Alma will celebrate a combined Homecoming and Parent's Day this Saturday. Although following in the wake of the elaborate Golden Jubilee the festivities should not be dwarfed by the anniversary and will probably outdraw last week's occasion with the society banquets, the football game, annual dance and other scheduled activities.

The day's events will begin with a special noon luncheon in Wright Hall. A brief program will follow the luncheon and this in turn will be followed by the annual parade.

The celebrated Ford Caledonia band, composed of the Scotch Highland bagpipers who were such a sensation last Homecoming, will again feature the parade. Several other bands will also march in the parade and various organizations and the societies have entered floats.

The Student Council is offering a ten-dollar first prize and a five-dollar second prize to the best two floats entered by the college organizations. Several floats from downtown business places will also be in the parade but will not be eligible for the prizes.

Following the parade the Alma Scots will play Kalamazoo in a crucial MIAA football game on Bahlke Field. Alma's chances of winning the conference title hinge on this all-important battle. Both teams are undefeated and the winner will probably continue on to the championship.

After the game a reception will be held in Wright Hall for the students and their parents. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. At the same time Coach MacDonald will be serving coffee and doughnuts to all the former Maroon and Cream football lettermen in the gym.

An invitation has been sent out to all the former gridders to attend the football game and a special bench will be erected along the sidelines for the ex-varsity men to cheer the present pigskin toters along.

At six o'clock the societies will hold sway with their annual stag banquets in the various banquet halls downtown. The day's activities will be concluded with the annual informal dance in the gymnasium.

## Frats and Sororities Prepare For Their Banquets

The annual fraternity and sorority stag banquets have been arranged and will follow the football game this Saturday. It is an annual custom for the societies to hold their Homecoming dinners and give the alumni and actives a chance to get together.

Each will have its banquet in one of the various banquet halls downtown and all expect record crowds. Phi Phi Alpha has arranged for their banquet to be in the main room of the Wright Hotel and the dinner will be served by the Wright hotel service. Zeta Sigma will have its banquet in the Masonic Temple and the dinner will be served by Martin's restaurant.

Kappa Iota is to have theirs in the Rotary room of the Wright Hotel with the hotel service. The Alpha Thetas are having their banquet in the Oddfellows hall with dinner being served by the Rebeccas, while the Philomathean banquet plans are not yet quite complete.

BEAT KAZOO!

## Gridders Eke Out Win Over Olivet

Lea and Dean Block Punts For Only Tallies Of Game.

Alma continued its habit of squeezing through to a victory as the Scots nosed out Olivet 12-6 in a gridiron thriller on the Comet's home field last Saturday. The MacDonald men were playing an inspired aggregation but it has been their practice to be just enough better than their opponents to win and thus finished on the long end of the score again.

The Scot reserves spotted Olivet one touchdown in the first period and then the varsity took the field for the rest of the game and by alert ball playing erased the Comet's margin and went on to a victory.

A pair of wide-awake guards, Cash Lea and Harold Dean, accounted for Alma's points as they both blocked punts deep in the

(Continued on page 3)

the town. Merchants—all the best ones at any rate—gave candy, gum or tickets on merchandise to fellows who had them barely long enough to realize what sort of loot they had before some childlike paddy grabbed it out of their hands. Now and then when by luck and some skill they managed to hold on long enough they bestowed it graciously in the palm of some sweet-smiling siren.

After all the possible loot had been extorted from the friendly townspeople, the frosh were allowed to have a swell time nuzzling peanuts across the pavement. Winning in spite of a strong competition from fellow classmates and nut-nuzzlers, Doug Garrison's little brother, Hugh, modestly refused to be photographed or take up contracts which movie scouts offered. Blowers were of course disqualified. Proposals were made—the best by Angie to Aletha—and a wheelbarrow race finished off the frosh's good time.

More running around and yelling—organized and otherwise—finally led to the Strand Theatre. Here President Howard Clark acted as m. c. for what appeared mighty poor talent. However, no one could be sure just what the merits of our little green brethren were as entertainers of the

(Continued on page 4)

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## STUDENT FORUM

Dr. Randel's chapel talk last Friday again brought up that old, old question of chapel itself. For four years some of us have been beefing about chapel. Last year a straw vote was taken and with a few exceptions every student contacted agreed that chapel programs were not, as a whole, worth the time that we have to put into them. Following that a list of constructive suggestions were presented to the Chapel Committee and were, shall we say "absorbed". A recent editorial in the Almanian which severely criticised the programs, was printed. Following the Friday chapel a suggestion was made that we devote a chapel program to a panel discussion of the whole business and try and improve the situation. The reply was that there is no real objection to chapel programs and such a plan would merely stir up bad sentiment.

The President of the United States has the power of veto. Labor has learned to make itself heard through the walkout and the sitdown strike. Has the time arrived when the students of Alma College will have to hold a demonstration in order to impress on the faculty that chapel programs are being objected to? Students who have no interest in religion are balking but doing nothing. Students who are interested in religion are talking and doing nothing. Ministerial students are talking and doing nothing. It seems to me that we should either do something or shut up about the entire mess.

Last year some one suggested a "shut up" strike in which students refused to sing in chapel. I think we've got something there. But at any rate, it is just about time that we either put up or shut up.

R. Daniel

## Wright Hallology

### "STUFF AND THINGS"

Some things that make one wonder; What girl in Wright Hall wakes up the dorm with special delivery letters early in the morning? Who's been curling her red locks for 6 years? (Too bad when it rains, K.) Who soaks her feet in the wash bowl on third floor? Where do the girls get all the chicken feed for those spreads? What boy from Saginaw is known as "Sugar Lips" around the dorm?

We can name three Freshman girls that study, can you? Ask "Sully" who taught her those ape imitations? Why doesn't that certain girl wake up to the fact that everyone has seen that certain fellow's ring? Have you met the Wright Hall girl who is more used to dressing chickens than to cutting up worms in biology lab?

Why do a certain few girls think the well should have water in it at three o'clock in the morning, too? Did you know that Coney Island hot-dogs taste much better at 2:00 in the morning? Is Dilly still waiting for that radio from her boy friend? Who was C. Conge's out-of-town guest a week ago Sunday?

Why does Willie want Jeanne Spearstra to have a part in "Man or Mouse"? Wright Hall wonders; "Is Stu Mac Fadden? "Happy Bottom," did you find out

where all your food went? Why wait for a phone call there, Fran? Is it true Dot Lindke's met her dream man? Who sent Gene Lewis the whacky ash-trays? What does "Goo plus Foo" mean, Mugs Elliot? Some say that Johnny Fraker's a smooth dancer—some say, "Phew"! If you need cod-liver oil pills see Catherine Weavers. Each sorority now boasts an engagement ring; have you seen them? What does Fran Fredrech think about when she gets that pensive look? Don't you agree that Jack Brice wears a Glangary cap better than any Wright Hall girl? What New Yorker thinks that Butch Dawson is a swell table head? Why does Captain Gilbert "Butch" to you, keep on pretending not to see the Freshman girls, who all think he's got "moxie"?

What three fellows have a suite with a ? in the trunk? Who made the horses run away (almost) at the Alpha Theta hayride? What is this about room 208 in Pioneer-Cough Syrup? By the way, "Killer" Kane, do watermelons taste good in the Jungle? We'll bet anything that Miss Houser didn't make the salad for the Philo party. What does Herb Peters think about the Sunday nite lunches?

What happened between room 36 in Pioneer and room 25 in Wright? Doesn't Janie Fraker wield a pitchfork admirably, or maybe you didn't see "Little Nell" K. I. Pirate Party. Does Wayne believe; "the little things count"? Why is the most popular question in Wright Hall, "Are you?" Is it true that the fellows who didn't appear in the Pajama Parade sleep in their B. V. D.'s? Aren't DeNoyles and Kaufman your idea of Kootchers divine? Did you enjoy the apple pitching at a certain frosh football hero, too?

That phonograph at the Open House was worse than the one at the last dance—and why didn't the Zetas give cigars to the ladies (or coeds), too? Wondering about everything, The Wright Hall Starvation Army marches on and on and on.

Prof. C. D. Brokenshire, R. W. Clack, and W. E. Kaufmann, of the faculty, attended the alumni meeting in Detroit last Thursday.

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## Pioneer Hall

The Pajama Parade is over and we're still alive. Some of the Frosh must have "Forgotten" about it, we didn't see them around. The Mr. Olney "broke" on the phone, the other evening. Bob Gillileden drove a new Buick back from Lansing, Thursday night. Merris said, "They didn't give me a chance to show my stuff," after the "Home Talent show" Friday. DeNoyles and Koffman are making reservations to go to the south sea islands to give a few lessons. Art Russe'l also plays the trumpet with some gusto. Who broke the window in the hall on third. Looks as though a ball might have sailed through. Bill Frier, the popcorn king, at the Strand, nearly was tramped under-foot in the rush on the theater, Friday night. Bill Totten makes a good sports commentator, even if he doesn't know what he's talking about. You didn't know we had a band over here at Pioneer, did you. We didn't either, we are still looking for it. Who imported the fresh fruit at the Strand Friday night?

Ed Ziem eats sugar and water candies and likes them. Cribbage seems to be the favorite indoor sport, even holding supremacy over "bull sessions." With all of the electric razors in use at the hall, radios don't sound so hot. Bubbles DeNoyles was in Detroit over the week-end. Most of the fellows wouldn't be broke around here, if they only had three cents to send a letter home for some dough. Don't look now, but is there anybody reading this? If there is, you can quit anytime now.

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**Gridders Eke Out  
Win Over Olivet**

(Continued from page 1)  
Olivet territory. Lea fell on his behind the goal line in the third quarter to register the tying points and the first touchdown of his career but Dean downed him on the one-yard line in the fourth quarter and Art Smith carried the pigskin over to chalk up the winning margin.

The reserves started the game and kicked off to Olivet. The Comets immediately began an extensive drive that carried them 73 yards to a touchdown without once losing possession of the ball. A series of passes and dashes advanced them downfield before Prentice circled right end for four yards and a touchdown, but it was a lucky break that really set the stage for their counter. The second-stringers blocked Olivet's first punt attempt but the Comets downed their own punt on the Alma 40 yard line to enable them to continue their march without interruption.

The reserves proved that they possess some punch themselves as they began a march from midfield later in the first period and moved right up to the eight yard line before the period ended.

At the start of the second stanza the varsity was sent in but failed to make the best of the opportunity the subs had presented them. But the Scots moved right back into scoring territory again only to be halted when Boat fumbled on the ten yard line after receiving a Smith-tossed forward.

Alma began the second half determined to win and backed the Comets into the danger zone. Olivet gained possession of the ball, however, but their attempt to punt out was blocked by the ever-alert Lea and he pounced on the elusive pigskin in the end zone for the initial touchdown. Gilbert's attempt from placement was wide of the mark.

The Scots had a scoring chance again midway in the period but Don Smith's attempted field goal from placement on the 25 yard line fell short.

In the final quarter Olivet opened up with its first sustained offense against the varsity and on a series of long passes advanced to inside the twenty yard line but the Scots stiffened and gained possession of the ball. Alma punted out and Devaney swooped down the field to recover the Olivet safety man's fumble of the boot on the fifty yard line.

Olivet stopped our offense as they intercepted a pass on their thirty-one yard line. On fourth down Harold Dean slashed in and

blocked Prentice's attempted punt. The ball bounced back towards the goal line and the speedy Dean downed it on the one-yard line. On second down Art Smith swept around left end to tally the touchdown. Again Gilbert's attempt to convert the extra point from placement failed.

Olivet opened up with a desperate passing attack in an attempt to overtake the Scots but their drive was halted when Gilbert intercepted a pass on the twelve-yard line as the gun ended the game.

The game was a thriller throughout as the Comets proved to be a stubborn foe and forced Alma to bear down frequently. Olivet used few substitutions and were without a doubt the scrappiest team the Scots have faced this year.

**Let's Go, Scots!**

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## ZETA-THETA NOTES

Well, we hear that "Bill" Troyer might be back for Homecoming. Wonder who he's coming to see? We'll let you guess.

Hooray for Dick Ginther who has picked up where Strobel left off.

Pauline is going around in a happy mood these days. Chic Sayles is coming back for Homecoming.

By grapevine we hear that Gene Lewis and Norm Geyer have come to an understanding; both are "that way" over somebody absent from the campus, but remember what happened to Betty Fraker and Fritz Malcolm last year.

Is it true that Stewie Moran has fallen from the list of bachelors? The girl is Katherine Conger; that reminds me, did Stewie and Johnnie have a good time in Ann Arbor?

Freshmen keep your dates open, the Smoker is November 3rd and we promise everyone a good time.

Even with that line she flings to Hugh Ruthevin he doesn't get mad. A good job he doesn't believe it.

Saw Phil Becker and Jane Lee talking again. That's been off and on ever time since the Alpha Theta mixer. Why don't they settle down?

Say where did Bill Hamilton disappear to when Betty Tunis' mother was around. Bet Bill's bashful.

Is it because of M. P. that John Fraker has been late to fraternity meetings?

We see Don Carpenter is gradually taking up pedro playing. We're all wondering why. Cherchez la femme.

It's too bad Brother Vandenberg couldn't attend the Open House the other night, the Phi's enjoyed it.

Is Mitchell falling for Johnnie's line or is it vice-versa?

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg who recently became an honorary degree winner and one of the most prominently mentioned Republican presidential prospects for 1940 accepted an invitation to become a member of Zeta Sigma fraternity according to a letter received by the organization the past week. Senator Vandenberg is an old friend of Col. Frank Knox, Chicago publisher, who is also one of the earlier members of Zeta Sigma.

WRIGHT HOUSE  
BARBER SHOP

NILES  
&  
SON

GEM THEATER  
ST. LOUIS, MICH.  
Sound Pictures at Their Best

Tues. and Weds., Oct. 26-27

CHESTER MORRIS, LEO CARILLO, HELEN MACK in

I PROMISE TO PAY

— Feature No. 2 —

HUGH HERBERT  
MARY MAGUIRE in

That Man's Here Again  
Cartoon

Thursday, October 28th

EDWARD ARNOLD  
JEAN ARTHUR in

EASY LIVING

Comedy Major Bowes Parade

Friday and Saturday, Oct. 29-30

JANE WITHERS  
ROBERT KENT in

ANGEL'S HOLIDAY

Jungle Menace No. 2  
Comedy News

Sun. and Mon., Oct 31- Nov. 1  
PAUL MUNI, MIRIAM HOPKINS  
in

THE WOMAN I LOVE

Comedy News

## PAJAMA PARADE

(Continued from page 1)

stage for they had little opportunity to make themselves heard over loud booping upper-classmen.

A steady two-way barrage of apple cores and sundry unknowns made questionable the safety of the front seats. Fortunately no casualties were reported.

Prize performer was "Every-night" Marris and even he was not up to his usual standards. The annual hoochy-kooch number, this time with Kaufman and DeNoyles holding the spotlight, showed greater finesse than any since Bob Mack's memorable performance. Olney managed to open his mouth wide enough to put one of his Prof's feet in it. If he doesn't get his teeth kicked out (figuratively speaking) it won't be because he didn't try.

And then came sentiment and

song. Alternating the girls and fellows sang old favorites at each other under sputtering torch lights before Wright Hall. While the girls had a slight edge on sweetness, tone and harmony, the fellows made up with enthusiasm and loudness.

Compliments of



## PATER'S SON'S

GEORGE WILLIAM WALKER:—

From the City of Champions—Vice-Pres. of Zetas—On the Oratory-Debate team—Member International Relations club—Practice teacher in French—Swipe—Neat dresser—Dignified—Good sense of humor—Likes Wright Hall beef stew and diced carrots—Milk-man during summers—One of the last of the old school of tap dancers.

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