

Merry Christmas

The Almanian

"Where Friendliness Links Learning to Living"

VOLUME 44

ALMA, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1951

NUMBER 7

College Receives Building Fund Gift of \$250,000

The Almanian features, for its Christmas issue, the announcement of a \$250,000 gift to Alma College by the Van Dusen Trust Fund. The announcement came through a letter from Mr Charles Van Dusen to the Board of Trustees of Alma College and was made at the meeting of the Building Campaign Committee held in Westminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit.

This quarter of a million dollars is the initial gift in the college's campaign for two and a half million dollars for new buildings and major improvements at the college. The campaign will begin on January 1, and has been authorized and approved by the Synod of Michigan.

Building Priorities

The Van Dusen Trust Fund gift will be applied toward the building of a new girl's dormitory, which will be first on the priority list of new buildings, following completion of the Tyler Building. The new girls' dormitory will contain a dining hall to seat five hundred persons.

Dr. Harker says that everything in the building program is being planned for a school of five hundred. College authorities want to keep Alma a small college, but second to none in quality.

The total two and a half million dollar program calls for the new girls' dormitory and remodeling of Wright Hall into an attractive men's dormitory, a science hall and a music hall. In addition, the budget is allowing for general campus improvements, including a new baseball diamond, permanent football bleachers, walks, roads, and landscaping. A provision is also made for enlarging and modernizing the heating plant.

Van Dusen Active Man

Mr. and Mrs. Van Dusen's generous gift has given the fund campaign a splendid send-off. Mr. Van Dusen was for years president of the Kresge Company in Detroit, where he is an elder of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and one of the leading laymen of the Synod of Michigan. He has also been a national figure in Masonry for many years. "Charlie" Van Dusen, riding "Commander Bill", led many great Commandery parades, in all parts of America. He is now retired from active business, but goes to his office every day as punctually as ever. It was a gift from Mr. Van Dusen which, added to that of the local Rotary Club, purchased new uniforms for our Kiltie Band.

The Tyler Memorial Student Center, which we hope to see started in the spring, will be located at the corner of West Superior and Harvard, and the new girls' dormitory will be built west of the Chapel on the space which is now the baseball outfield, well back from Superior Street. This arrangement will preserve the beautiful greensward to the West of the Chapel, along Superior Street. In all of our plans, every effort is being made to preserve all of the natural beauty of campus lawns and woodland.

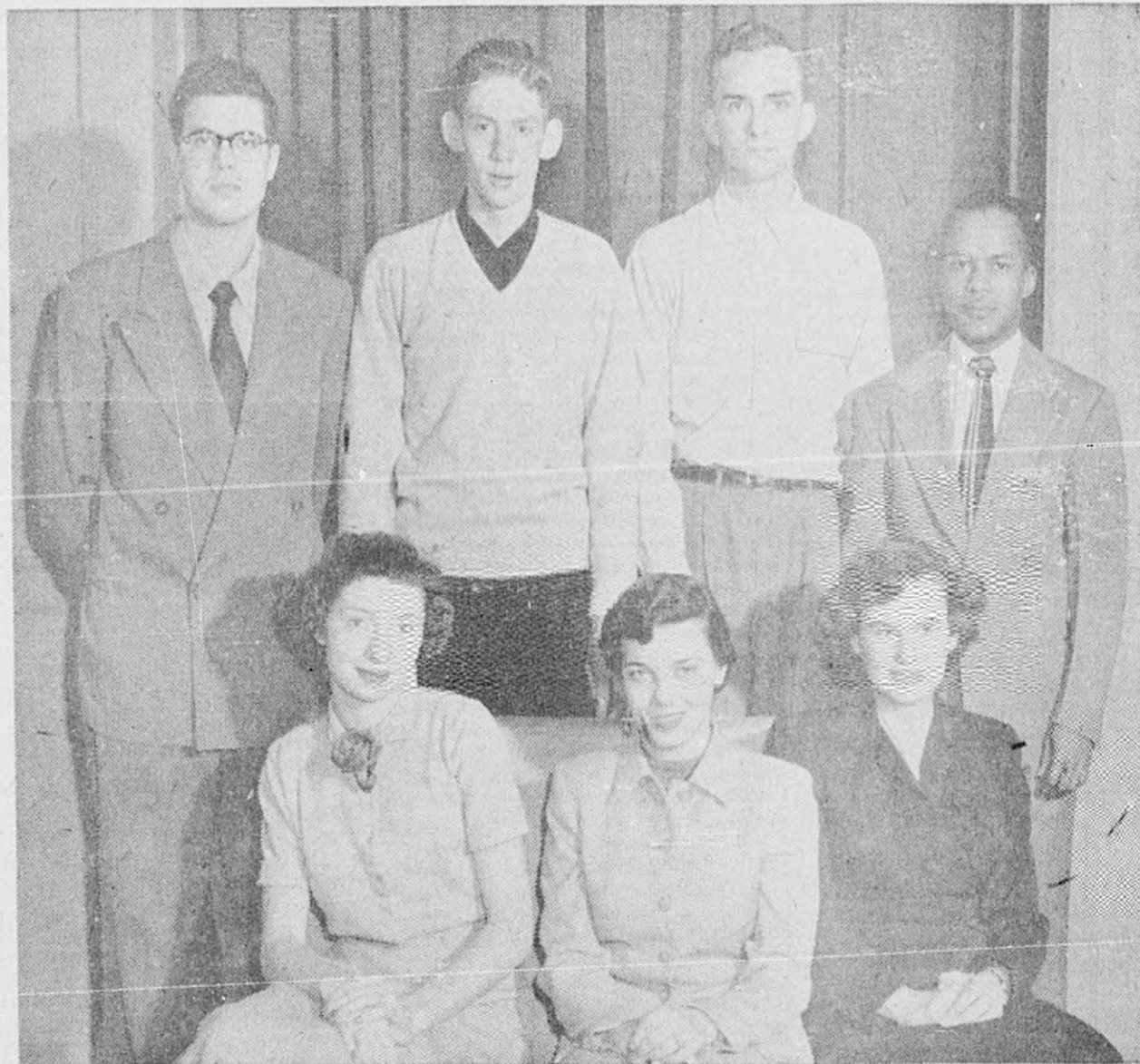
Sitting Bureau

Dean McKinney's office is setting up a baby-sitting bureau. Anyone interested — men as well as women — should leave his or her name in the personnel office, along with available free time.

A list of students desiring such work is sent to the faculty.

Seven Seniors Elected "Who"

Among Students at Alma



Left to Right—Art Turner, Kirkwood Hamilton, Bob Pueschner, Mendell Vaughn, Janice Bleil, Carol Rohlf, Marilyn Tweedie.

Leadership Scholarship Future Success

Seven seniors were elected to the "Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges" this year.

Nomination for this honor is based on excellence and sincerity in scholarship; leadership and participation in extra-curricular and academic activities; citizenship and service to the school; and promise for future business and society.

The students for this year are: Janice Bleil, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Monrad of Grosse Pointe. Janice's major is English and she plans to teach. McDonald Kirkwood (Mickie) Hamilton, son of Dr. and Mrs. Roy W. Hamilton of Alma, plans to go into dentistry. His major is biology.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Pueschner, Robert J. Pueschner is of St. Louis. Bob's major is chemistry and he plans to be a chemist. A music major who plans to teach, Carole Rohlf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rohlf is from Akron.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin S. Turner of Hemlock, is Arthur Turner. Art is a biology major and plans to go on to medical school. Marilyn Tweedie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph R. Tweedie of Ashley is a sociology major.

Last but not least in the list is Mendell Vaughn from Battle Creek. Mendy is the husband of Mrs. Georgia Vaughn. Mendy's major is biology and he plans to teach.

A. C. A. Silent Sermon

"Watchman! Watchman! Will the night soon pass?" "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy."

The night is dark, the city is besieged, and the veteran watchman looks out across the dark night, ever-watchful to see if objects of death are lurking under the black camouflage of night. Then from the base of the watchman's tower comes the voice of a young, frightened soldier who is experiencing his first siege. Who can measure the fear of this young lad as he clutches his spear and makes ready his shield? You cannot blame him if he calls up to the veteran upon the tower: "Watchman! Watchman! Will the night soon pass!" Yes, nights in a combat zone are long, lonely and frightening and oft times the cry leaves the heart, "Will the night soon pass?" That might be the call of the peoples of the world today as we are besieged in a world which seems most willing to swallow us up in the morass of fear, so prevalent today. But then another voice is heard, "FEAR NOT! For behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy!" How utterly ridiculous to say such a thing. Wouldn't it have been more sensible to say "run away" or something else of that nature. But no, the voice said "Fear not," and for some two thousands years that voice, with those courageous words, have returned to haunt us each Christmas time. Why have we had our ears stopped up? Why do we continually call out "Will the night soon pass?" Is it because we have enemies, is it because we are ignorant, or is it because we are sick

College Senior Directs Play

Arthur Turner, senior from Hemlock, has just finished producing and directing the Alma High School Senior Play, "Mother Is a Freshman."

Art was active in high school dramatics and has done much of the same work in college. Last year, he wrote the play, "Absalom, My Son." He also directed "Family Portrait" and has had parts in "Lost Horizon" and "Guest in the House". Just lately, he produced and directed the A. C. A. play, "He Came Seeing" which was presented here at the college and in Grand Rapids.

He is also active in A.C.A., Almanian, Phi Phi Alpha Fraternity, President of Pioneer Hall, Men's Senate, and Scotsman. He is a member of Alpha Phi Omega, the National Dramatic Fraternity and Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Art is a biology major and plans to go on to Med. School.

Art did a fine job in directing the high school play. He says that he had some fine co-operation in working with the high school seniors. After seeing the play, all felt that both Art and the senior class did a fine job.

Union No Longer College Center

What has happened to the union here on the Alma College campus? During the last two years, the attendance or perhaps the popularity of the union has decreased to such an extent that this question has increased in its importance. From the hotspot as the center of activity on the campus, as all unions should absolutely be, it has decreased to a state of barren desolation. A union is a place where students should congregate during free hours and enjoy the prospects for increased associations with fellow students on the campus. It should be the center of social life on any college campus. What has happened to it here at Alma?

The recreational facilities are adequate enough to attract students (with possibly the addition of magazines); the union itself is without a doubt an attractive layout; and there is good service with fairly reasonable prices. The fault must lie somewhere else. Why do students always say, "Let's go down to Stan's (or the Super) for a cup of coffee," rather than the union? The union was a spot where it was a struggle to find a place where a line often had to be formed to be able to play ping pong; and at many tables card games could be found "going strong." It was a place for relaxation and for the formation of friendships. This is the situation which most Alma College students would like to have re-occur.

A step in that direction has been taken by the student council. For the immediate future, a school-wide ping pong tournament is being planned, which could possibly

Harker Returns After Tour

Dr. Harker returned to campus, Monday night, after a nine day succession of engagements. On Sunday, December 2, he preached in the Redford Presbyterian Church in Detroit, and spoke to their young people. He then went to New York City, where he was one of forty educational observers invited to attend the National Association of Manufacturers' Congress of American Industry. Forty-eight college students, one from each state in the union, were also privileged to attend the Congress. Returning to Ecorse, he spoke there Friday evening at the Charter Night of the Ecorse Presbyterian Men. He preached in the Monroe Presbyterian Church on Sunday, and spoke Monday evening to the Men's Club of the City of Fenton.

Band Party

Tonight the Kiltie Band is presenting a different form of dance. Members of the band under the direction of Marv Jenkins will provide the most danceable music ever heard. This is the first time in years that an organization putting on a party has provided their own dance band.

Plus this heavenly music will be an entertaining and amusing floor show by band members et al. This dance promises to be one of the most funfull evenings of the semester, so hop on the "Merry-Go-Round" and give your gal a whirl.

See you there!!!



Season's Greetings, Everyone!

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The Almanian

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- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Mary Alice Cook
- ASSISTANT EDITOR Art Turner
- NEWS Jane French, Editor
- ASSISTANT Peg Lomas
- Betty Houghtaling, Nancy Lacey, Ricky Erickson, Stu Friesema, Bob Willets, Vern Robinson, Rosemary Rogers, Judy Phillips, Carol Rollits, Russ Dürler, Joyce Howarth, Shirley Sherman, Rod Jackson, Jan Bleil, Bill Castle, Grant Gallup, Jim Hollingsworth, Angie Erdman, Marion McDonough, Maurice Arnold, Jane Barr, Jo Greenley, Max Haase, Donna Kyes, Jane Burgess, Audrey Patterson
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- "Lefty" Gadzinski, John Schubel, Dave Lockwood, Dave Cornell
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- ART Dave Lockwood, Bob Young
- BUSINESS MANAGER Allen Alexander
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- ASSISTANT Bob Kelley

We Are Lucky...

Throughout the small colleges of the country, much importance is placed upon the students attending them. You may ask the question, "Why is a student attending a small college more important to that college than a student attending a large college or university?" The question is answered simply when we realize that small colleges for the most part are usually not dependent upon the state for money. This means that they have to charge more for an education, but by doing this they have to prove that the extra money gives the student a better education. Thus the student becomes more important to the school and the school becomes more dependent upon the student. Therefore, when a college does anything, it is for the good of all the students and is done with only that in mind.

Alma is such a small college, non-state-supported, and we, the student body, should indeed feel fortunate to be part of such an ever struggling college. Each and every student of Alma is a vital cog in the continuation and development of the school. A college which is all the time fighting to maintain its high standards academically has to produce truly fine men and women in order to compete with the larger state-supported schools.

Where else is it possible to be in so many activities and carry on such a fine Christian fellowship at the same time as here at Alma? College is simply what you, the student, make of it. No one can lead your life but you yourself, and it is up to you to learn to participate and enjoy Alma to your best advantage.

E. W. H. Guest Editor.

Dear Editor:

I have been quite pleased with the fine papers you have produced this semester, but the last issue was a great disappointment. I and other students assumed that in the light of recent issues the one last week would be well worth waiting for. It wasn't. It seemed rather to be a complete reversion to the mediocrity of past semesters. Not only was much of the "news" dated, but seemed to be aimed at the people on your mailing list. In short, I can think of no better word for the majority of the articles than PROPAGANDA. The "Almanian" is alleged to be a publication by and for the student body. You failed or so it seems to me to live up to this purpose.

Also I doubt whether you can yourselves justify the great amount of space consumed by the EDITORIAL regarding conduct in the dining hall. It was as if appeared neither editorial nor article. I do not wish to quarrel with the content of the article. The things it said are true. That alone does not give it priority over articles that are of equal interest to the student body. It was much too long and so tended to look like filler. It would have been more in keeping with its theme if it had been much shorter and placed as a letter to the editor as a plea to the student body from the dining hall staff, which it obviously was.

At another time I would like to see a discussion of the necessity of the Greek Gab section every week.

I dislike intensely writing a letter of this kind so please, dear Editor and staff, won't you go back to your style of a few weeks ago and do your darndest again. This is

the only school paper we have had in Alma Mich. to once again live up to its name. K.W.W.

Dear Editor,

Last Monday noon Dr. Potter and compulsory chapel met. Compulsory chapel lost, at the risk of again receiving another blast from the president of the A.C.A. In essence I think Dr. Potter was correct in what he had to say. I don't think that a chapel service was the place to say it but what was said certainly hit the nail on the head.

When a person reaches college age he more or less has been cultivated in his religious teachings and convictions at home and has been more or less "weeded". Compelling him to go to chapel is not going to change his religious habits to any great extent. As a result one goes to chapel because he has to and displays his displeasure at being treated like a child by acting like one. Witness the activities going on during a weekly chapel service that are far from a religious attentiveness.

I would like to see an experiment carried out here at Alma. For a while (a month at least) a VOLUNTARY chapel program should be initiated. Perhaps then chapel would become what it is designed to be, a true worship service because the people present would be there for the express purpose of participating in such a service. I also would not be at all surprised if chapel attendance suffered no great decline and perhaps would increase somewhat. For it is a human trait to try to avoid anything one is compelled to do even if, deep in one's heart, he actually wanted to do it. G.P.S.

Greek Gab

The last article in this week the Delts and Sigma Phi had the cutting of a tree in the office. Moans and groans could be heard throughout the house and descriptions of aches and pains were heard from everyone. The cause for all this was that many of the members were recuperating from a very strenuous week-end in the fields. It was the only time that the Delts and Sigma Phi were at home. The only time that the Delts and Sigma Phi were at home. The only time that the Delts and Sigma Phi were at home.

We are holding our annual Christmas party this coming Sunday, and St. Nick is going to come sliding down the chimney and hand out presents to the members who have been good little boys this past year. About this time of year someone always starts that unbelievable rumor that there ain't no Santa Claus but most of us just turn our heads and won't listen. We know there is a Santa Claus and we will be there waiting for him.

DELT DATA

Here's a big invitation to the Delt-Sig Holly House Saturday night. From 9:00 to 11:30—Everyone is invited to our open house—so come one—come all for fun, dancing and refreshments.

Last week end was a big one for George Lawrence and John Fields. They went to good old Palmyra, New York and on their return we find that John and Joan Lawrence are soon to be married, the 29th of December, in fact. All the Delts extend congratulations and best wishes to this sweet couple.

The volleyball season is getting along nicely and all the Delt teams are winning regularly. We find a team of ours in top in each league. Keep spiking, boys!

It must be they aren't making batteries as good as they used to. Every time you turn around someone is asking you to give them a push. Two of the boys are even taking turns.

Looks like most of the boys over at the house have started vacation already. No studying at all. So I'll get back to my chess game. 'til next time. So long.

Zeta Sigma

The way things look now I'll never get this thing turned out. There are sixteen different conversations and projects going on around here, and all kinds of suggestions and questions. What a life.

Aubrey Wells seems to be pretty well on the way with the little "Joe" he's been taking out lately. It couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

According to the "Wrighteous" girls, there are only three Zetas that are worth anything, the rest of us are a bunch of buns and worse. That's alright, girls, we know how you feel. But we're sorry you do.

It sure is funny the way Long sweats out the mail everyday. I believe that boy is in love. I've tried to tell him, but he just won't listen to his old dad.

To those who knew him, here's a bit of news: Doug Davey is finally taking the fatal step. He's getting married to a New Jersey girl the fifteenth of this month. It hurt me to see him go.

It seems that there is a little, blond Wright Hall girl just about in love with Eugene Hugel. What are you doing about it "Hug"?

A bunch of the bowlers around campus are anxious to get started but there's a wrench in the works someplace. Maybe someone can explain the delay. I'm not one to grudge much but it seems to me that there has been pretty poor management in the intramural section so far this year. Of course I don't know the whole story, so it might be due to other causes.

Charlie Niles has girls all over town. I'll be damned if anyone can find out where he keeps them. Be sure and stay "loose" over Christmas and New Years.

Here we go again and for the last time this year. To the year 1952 we are going to have a party in the sorority room at 1215 on Saturday the 16th of this month early Sunday morning. We're going to have a Christmas tree, gifts, refreshments, singing, and just about everything except Santa Claus.

Our sorority team scored here in the game with a 2-0 victory. The girls were on the floor in a very beautiful way on the floor. The girls were on the floor in a very beautiful way on the floor. The girls were on the floor in a very beautiful way on the floor.

Our volleyball team keeps pushing ahead but we still have a long time to go before the end of the season. We'll just keep on playing and hope we keep on winning.

Everyone is getting in the spirit of Christmas. There are trees in the lounge and dining hall. The choir has given their traditional Christmas concert. The Messiah is soon to be presented. The women of Wright Hall are starting Buddy Week and will end it up with a Christmas party. The Frosh have presented their frohe and there are many Christmas traditions coming. When you come back to school next year we hope you'll get into the swing of things by coming to the K.I. Card Party on January 12th. It promises to be the best of parties, especially if you like to play cards. Here's hoping you have a wonderful vacation, the merriest of Christmases and the best of New Years.

ALPHA THETA NEWS

We hope everyone had a good time Friday night at the Preada. With the aid of Miss McKinney and Prof. Steistra, the following were selected as winners: pinocle, Greta Perry and Betty Kelly; bridge, Rich Nesbitt and Bob Jewell; ping pong singles, Bruce Songer and doubles in ping pong were Don Sterns and Bruce; and dancing, Peggy Gilliland and Bill Taylor. Many Ellen managed to hobble over for the party with the assistance of Mr. Graham Gilbert. We're happy though that she is coming along fine and can even manage the front steps without aid.

The absence of the choir girls with a few less at Monday night meeting. Plans are in full swing for the Christmas tea given in honor of our patronesses, Sunday afternoon Monday nite, the making of a cookie party will be awaiting us at the home of Mrs. Kammerman.

As of this writing our standing in volleyball gives us three wins and one loss. We may even get there yet—miracles do happen.

It's time to turn down the midnight oil—so cheerio and happy holidays!

SIG SEZ

It certainly was wonderful to journey to Ashley the other night. The sorority was the guest of the Tweedie's for the celebration of Marilyn's twenty-first birthday. A joyous time was had by all and the food was out of this world. It was an extremely well-stuffed group that returned to Alma late in the evening. Many birthday congrats, Marilyn—when did you say you were going to Ithaca?

My, but Rick sure looked happy this last week end. Could it be that the Grosse Pointe Board of Education let one of their prize teachers leave the G. P. city limits for the week end?

Char is getting more excited by

PRINTING OF ALL KINDS

No job too small No job too large

ALMA RECORD

the minute. That wedding very far off. Speaking of things that are very far off—that Delt-Sig open house is this week end. We want to see everyone over at Delt House after the game on Friday night. Where else can you find dancing, entertainment, refreshments—all for free!

Well, this sort of winds up 1951. The Sig Phi's want to everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Have a vacation, but don't fall off the Christmas Tree! See ya next year!

OPEN LETTER

Attention Board of Trustees: Many of the brilliant educators in our country have been unable to devise a solution to the problem of the comparatively low salaries of our professors. No doubt worth while has yet come of this. Why not? I don't know, but I think it is time individuals started doing something about this problem.

If we look at home we can see an intolerable situation right now. The average pay of a professor on the Alma Campus is less than \$4,000. Out of this amount professors are supposed to be contributing to organizations and clubs connected towards keeping them on the latest developments in their department. In connection with this they should also take the latest magazines and books that they are encouraged to purchase their education by going on to higher degrees. Incidentally they are also supposed to raise an intelligent family and send the children on to college.

Personally, I don't see how we can do it. It can only be for love. I'm sure I'd grow hate it. They expect too much for love.

Do You Want a Model T or a Cadillac Education?

"Ya pays yer money and takes your choice"—according to the amount of money you want. You can get a Ford for \$1,000, a Cadillac for \$3,000. It just depends on what you want out of it. We are paying our professors a "Ford" education and expect a "Cadillac" service.

Right now we have a student union that is serving a good purpose. But do we really need more chrome on it, more lounges, ping pong tables, etc.? It would be nice but wouldn't gain anymore. Maybe some day it will be a great advantage but first let's pay for better teachers.

I think we have some wonderful faculty members now and I also think we have some poor ones. But I think we should pay what we have, adequate salaries to encourage them to do their best and enrich their lives.

I'd like to see a "Cadillac" professor!

Whaddal ya have? A Cadillac Ford?

What can we as individuals do about this? Write in your opinion as a starter—faculty members included—and then let's see what happens. AND YOU—the board of trustee members—how do you feel about it?

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PLEASE PATRONIZE

Student Council

December 11, 1951
The meeting was opened by Vice-President Eldon Bailey, roll as taken, and the minutes of the st meeting were read and approved.

Carol Stevens asked that the council arrive at some definite conclusion regarding the number games a cheerleader must wear at before she can win her sweater in this event. It was moved and voted that the cheerleaders be allowed two absences per basketball season, provided that there is still a three-man squad to wear despite her absence.

Bill Castile reported that Professor Rowland was willing to cooperate with our suggestion that the "Alma Mater" be sung at each regular assembly. The Council will be responsible for making arrangements for a pianist and leader to begin the song at the close of each assembly program.

The assembly programs for the year have already been scheduled with emphasis upon student participation. The Student Council will be in charge of one of the programs during the month of April. Further plans for this assembly will be made after Christmas vacation.

It was reported that the library collection has approximately 25 volumes on it. Another announcement will be made at the assembly.

McPHAUL'S
BARBER SHOP
GOOD GROOMING
IS IMPORTANT

Paul's Soda Bar
"Catering to the college"
Good food and good service
is our aim . . .

STANDARD
SERVICE

Lubrication and Wash
George Martin, Prop.

ALMA
FURNITURE

Hallmark greeting cards for
all occasions
GIFTS

ED J. FAETH
Quality Shoe Repair
209 E. Superior Ave.
ALMA, MICHIGAN

MIRROR
BARBER SHOP
4 CHAIRS

BRANNAN
PASTRY SHOP
312 N. State, Alma
NO ORDER TOO LARGE
OR TOO SMALL

CATERING TO
ALL OCCASIONS

this week to give any other students who are interested in having the library open on Sunday a chance to sign it.

Eldon Bailey reported that all withdrawals from the Student Council Treasury must by necessity be okayed by Mr. Merritt, because he is legally responsible for all financial matters of the college as a whole.

A possible change in the number of absences allowed Student Council members from the weekly meetings will be further discussed next week.

The meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Jan Bleil, Secretary

We Are Changing

It started out as a beautiful day. The smog was hovering over the fair city of Alma, the birds were twittering and choking in the dust, and all was serene except for the children screaming under my window on their way to school. The wonderful scent of the refineries wafted into the room, killing a mouse—the wind was from the east.

This was my first morning at Alma College. I was about to begin a period in my life which I would always remember.

I leaped from my bed, totally forgetting that it was at least four feet off the floor and landed, with a resounding thump, on the head of a poor fellow sleeping below. My toes caught in the springs and were of no use for at least three days. (I usually use my toes to comb my hair, and it usually looks like it.)

Undaunted, I dressed quickly, a trick that I was taught in Cub Den No. 4, and hurried to the mess hall (pardon, Mrs. Adkins, dining salon)

These Are Women

I was greeted by a group of slee-eyed women who looked as if they had slept all night in a hay stack. I learned later that this was before the era of the new mattresses.

Their eyes were only half-opened, their lipstick was smeared, their hair tousled, and their drooped. I laid this all to my imagination and thought to myself, these are all very beautiful women and they have wonderful personalities. My dream burst like a bubble.

Trying to establish one of those lasting friendships that I had heard so much about, I gave a hearty hello to one of the rare beauties waiting in line. She gave me a meaningful glance—meaning, if I didn't shut my big yap she'd scream for the Dean of Women.

Not wanting to cause a riot, I moved down the line to another specimen of female pulchritude. "Hello," I said daringly, while covering my head with a tray in expectance of the blow to come. My glasses frosted from the icy stare and cold shoulder. Upper classman.

This Is Food

I gave a sickly chuckle and shrugged my shoulders. She wasn't so much anyway. The crowd, ("mob" would be more appropriate), shoved me down the line as far as the oatmeal, where I was promptly served with a nice, big bowl of the stuff, all over my trousers, by a friendly, smiling young lady. "I'm sorry," she said, "this is my first day." "Oh that's all right," I murmured, "You'll get experienced and learn how to catch my sweater, too."

She smiled menacingly, so I shuffled on to the girl who was serving the syrup for the French toast. (French toast you say; if a Frenchman saw that toast he would quickly claim himself pure German.) The girl gave the same kind of smile and I moved quickly, but not fast enough. As I moved to the milk counter the syrup was still running off my arm, and the pretty co-ed was still laughing when she spilled it on the next unsuspecting fellow.

I sat down next to one of the heavier variety of college girls, and was promptly reminded of woman's superiority. Her left elbow was terrific.

After ten minutes of kicking, nudging and jostling at the table I finally ran out screaming in anguish and protest.

These were my thoughts two years ago. Two years on our campus have mellowed me considerably. I don't consider college women as being that bad any more; I consider all women that way.



From us to you . . .

BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY HOLIDAY

THE STAFF

It's a Small World

Will coincidences never cease? Mrs. Ackley Lippert, who works in the dining hall, has adequate proof that news of Alma College travels quite a distance—even to such a distance as Yusouka, Japan, where her son, S. N. Robert J. Lippert, is stationed aboard the yard oiler U.S.S. Derrick.

Some time ago she received a letter from her son saying that he had seen in the Army paper, Stars and Stripes, an article telling about Alma's tie with Hope College for the M.I.A.A. football championship.

Bob was quite amazed and pleased, since he is a loyal Alma fan. He attended Alma High School and was always interested in sports whether it was as an actual team member or as a sports reporter.

Upon graduation he entered the Navy, where he is now a crew member of a yard oiler whose job it is to refuel all ships sailing between Japan and Korea. He does hope that after eighteen months or so of the Navy he'll be able to come back to Alma College to further his education.

Monte Carlo

Several weeks ago, the Delta Gamma Tau presented their annual Delt Monte Carlo.

From 8 until 11:30 everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest, dancing and chatting with friends until the highlight of the evening—the hour of gambling. From dice games to games of chance and even a horse race—the guests of the "Gambling House" wandered about squandering their money here and there. Money was provided at the door—it's always easier to spend someone else's money!!

The pro gamblers of the evening—Gene Arbaugh and Esther Douglas—with earnings totaling into the billions both received gift certificates for their luck. So ended the annual evening of legal gambling at Alma College.

I wish I were a Freshie, with lots of books and stuff; And all the homework I would get, still wouldn't be enough! I'd never cut my classes . . . I'd never miss a day . . . Oh, oh! Here come those men in white to carry me away!

The fellows are finally rebelling. They have quit acting like gentlemen, and have resorted to acting like ladies. It's the only way to survive.

The Moral

Seriously, though, it's funny how one's attitude toward things changes. As freshmen, most fellows are the perpetual wise-guy, and have always got a gripe against the world.

It seems that you begin to accept more things and to treat them fairly and considerately as you get older. There seems to me to be no better place in the world to gain this quality than right here on Alma College Campus.

You can sure learn in a hurry that those first conclusions that you jump at about anyone or anything are nine tenths of the time wrong. There have been a lot of times when I've had to struggle to get my foot out of my mouth, and I finally learned that my foot didn't get caught unless my mouth was open.

Here at Alma, we've got one of the nicest groups of people that anyone could run into, people from all walks of life going into all walks of life. The experience of living with those people and appreciating them all is one of the finest things that an institution can teach a person. I only wish that we could have started learning earlier, and that those who are in control of the governments of the world today could have gotten as much out of a similar experience as we have.

Harker Writes Magazine Story on Basset Dogs

In the magazine entitled "Fur, Fish, Game", November 1951 issue, appears an interesting article entitled "I Bought Bassets", which was written for the magazine by John Stanley Harker, president of Alma College.

In the article Mr. Harker mentions his early interest in hunting and his conclusion that as he would probably spend his life in the densely populated sections of America, in areas where game is not plentiful and hunting is hard, he would need for a dog, a real game finder. He also wanted a hound that would work carefully and slowly.

After some research regarding the matter, he finally decided that the Basset would fit his specifications for a dream dog. From the Carl E. Smith kennels of Spring Valley, Ohio, he finally obtained Bonita S. She was black blanketed with tan running gear and a tan head and immediately proved herself to be a dynamo of energy. This was back in 1931. Although the original dog has long since gone the way of all good dogs, Mr. Harker has always adhered to the Basset strain. The Basset, he states, is strictly a one man dog and they hunt where you want them to hunt. "Owning a Basset is year 'round sport," he states.

The article in question, which is very interesting, is illustrated with a picture of Mr. Harker and one of his hunting dogs and on another page with a picture of his two young daughters each carrying a Basset pup, with the caption "Two Little Harkers and two Little Bassets."

Silent Sermon

Continued from page 1

and weak? Yes, we have enemies; personal and national; we are ignorant, morally and spiritually; and we are sick and weak from wars and depressions.

We all have a tender spot in our hearts for the babe in the manger, but how many of us realize, with Fulton Oursler, that "he is the God who had fashioned time and space in a clockwork of billions of suns and stars and moons, and in the fullness of time became a human being like ourselves on a microscopic midge of planet, and overcame this world of fear. Read

the Gospel (the good news, the good tidings of great joy) and you will see the Strong Son of God in action. As a friend of man He saw that fear placed a barricade in the way of men, closing them off from fellowship with one another and with their God. As a teacher he saw that fear like a weed in the garden of truth, choked off the beauty of all that which is true, beautiful and good. And as a physician, he saw that fear was a toxic working upon the mind of man, poisoning him into insanity and self-destruction.

Harken! and again listen to the voice of the Christmas angel, "Fear not! for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people," and then the words of Emmanuel, "Arise, and be not afraid."

PRAYER: O God, unstop the ears and minds of men so that they will hear anew that great proclamation which frees them from fear. Then may we stand unafraid in this our Christian heritage. Amen.

R. H. Miller

In the parlor sat the three
The girl, the lamp, and he.
Two is company and no doubt
That is why the lamp went out!

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It is indeed a privilege to write a few words on the occasion of the Almanian's announcement of the Van Dusen gift to Alma. This gift brings to all of us the finest kind of holiday cheer. It makes us feel that we are indeed on our way toward the fulfillment of our dreams for Alma's material development. The Van Dusens' gift is a great and generous one, and we can find no adequate words to express our gratitude. I feel that all of us, students and faculty alike, are resolved to prove worthy of the great faith the Van Dusens have thus expressed in Alma's future.

May you all have a joyous Christmas! The very fact that most of you will be able to spend the Christmas season with those whom you love, in your own homes, insure days filled with pleasure. And may the New Year be, for all of you, a better and a happier one than the old one has been! You may like to read Robert Beattie's "Way to a Happy New Year":

*"To leave the old with a burst of song,
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the thing that binds you fast
To the vain regret of the year that's past;
To have the strength to let go your hold
Of the not-worth-while of the days grown old,
To dare go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that's new;
To help your brother along the road
To do his work, and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer
Is to have and to give a happy new year."*

Alma Working with Others

About a month ago there was a unique meeting which took place at the Hotel Olds in Lansing. It was unique because it was a meeting something new, something which heretofore has not been. There is now a great beginning of an organization which in future years should make us proud to be an alumnus of a small school. The meeting was the formal kickoff of the Michigan Small College Organization. Among the colleges represented were Alma, Hillsdale, Olivet, Adrian, St. Aquin and Marygrove. Others are in the process of joining. But the gratifying thing was that many of the leading industries of the state were also represented.

Industry Beginning to Help

It is no secret that the small colleges throughout the U. S. need finances. In Michigan they have begun to tell their story. And industry has listened. The industrialists are ready to help these small colleges as a unified group. The organization is in its infancy at present and plans are being created, which might not be carried out in the near future. But success is definitely on its way. For example, to show a small sample of what will come in the future, four industries have given at least \$2500.00 each, just to help get the organization under way. Others have given lesser

amounts as a starter. There are industrial greats from all over the state comprising the board of trustees of the organization. Vice presidents of General Motors and Chrysler Corporation are no exception.

A Good Reason

Dr. Haake, noted economist and advisor to General Motors, was the main speaker at the banquet and what he had to say was extremely enlightening and satisfying. He perhaps voiced the reason why industry is now ready to support the small college: "I hope sincerely that the private college with its greater understanding, greater activity . . . will go on to make a better heritage for those generations following and to help carry forward the chance for each individual to better himself and to bring himself upward so that he can truly call himself a child of God. It is the small college which will necessarily be able to train those leaders who will help to make these desires a reality." The meaning here is something which the outer world must come to know.

Alma's Part

Alma will play a great part in this organization. It was possibly the most represented at this meeting, considering only faculty members and friends of the college, not to mention the 40 band members. And too, Alma will reap the benefits of the organization. Let's hope it is a huge success. When we're home let's tell everybody about it. Perhaps we can do a small something to make it that success.

Confucius says: Men still die with their boots on . . . but usually one is on the accelerator.
—The Beacon

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A New Light on Familiar Verse

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, jingle all the way.

Christmas time is here again and there goes all my pay.

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the town, Old Papa St. Nicholas wore a frown. The counters were bare and the customers gone, the manager sat with all curtains drawn. He counted his loot and wrung his hands with glee and mumbled something 'bout "Nothing is Free." The skinny old Santa Claus drew out his pay, and he was darn glad it was near Christmas Day. The runny-nosed kids would no longer be; sniffing and hollering on his well padded knee. This dime store St. Nicholas could well rest in peace, for his only job was their Daddys to fleece. With mechanization and inventions galore, there now stands a Santa in every drugstore. Ready to greet the kiddies with cheer, and take Papa's wallet for the oncoming year.

Now Ma in her babushka and me in my creepers had really become a couple of sleepers. Dear daddy was shivering cold in his bed, while visions of invoices danced in his head. The presents had mounted since November third and Daddy's account was as free as a bird. The stockings had carefully been laid all about, cause everyone knew that Pop'd shelled out.

The Christ Child was coming and boy were we glad, cause then we'd get presents from kindhearted Dad. We do not believe in Santa no more, but it's an excuse to buy out the store.

Carollers are singing hymns in the street, collecting enough money so that their bills they could beat. There's not enough money to give to the poor, but there's just enough left for a party next door.

I'm all in favor of presents and such, but don't you believe that we do it too much.

Out on the lawn I heard such a clatter that I leaped from the bar to see what was a matter. 'Twas dear, dear old Santa, Old Santa so dear, with a broken down sleigh and one tired old deer. I then staggered over, said to Santa "What's up?" He answered quite weakly, "I'm tired as a Pup."

"I can remember in those days of old, when all the presents this one sleigh could hold." But now, with all the people so greedy, it takes sixteen boxcars to help out the "needy".

I turned quickly around and cried in my beer, it's a sad shape the world's in, Santa Old Dear.

Perhaps if the world would think more of prayer than asking for Christmas a new rocking chair, this moth-eaten Earth would not always be, a place of such intense rivalry.

Christmas was made to show God's good will, it wasn't intended for stockings to fill. I don't mean to tell you about morals and stuff, for what I could say'd be hardly enough.

Do not stop giving, for presents are fine, but there is the need, we must draw the line.

Let's all have a Holiday that is bright and merry, but perhaps as you go through it this thought you may carry. Do not be stingy, with prayers be free, perhaps all our loved ones next year will be, home from Korea 'round our Christmas tree.

Library Announces New Books

HALFWAY TO HEAVEN
by Jean Hersey

An artist and a photographer spend a pleasant time in Guatemala. The country's people, customs and beliefs are delightfully pictured.

A PENNY FROM HEAVEN
by Max Winkler

The autobiography a music publisher from his boyhood near the Austrian border through the ups and downs of his early days in the United States to the success story of Belwin, Inc.

A SOCIALIST'S FAITH
by Norman Thomas

The outstanding Socialist completed this book on September 25th, 1950. His faith is still strong as he reviews briefly Socialism's activities in this country and in Europe during the last thirty years.

Bradley Contest After Christmas

This year as in the past the annual Bradley Oratorical Contest will be open to all students of Alma College. The one hundred dollars in prizes come from Preston W. Bradley, pastor of the Peoples Church in Chicago. He has sponsored this contest every year in memory of his mother.

The preliminary for the women will be held on Tuesday, January 8, at 3 p. m. in room 100 of the Administration building.

The men will have their preliminary contest on Wednesday, January 9, at 3 p. m., in room 100.

The finals will be held in the chapel on Tuesday, January 15, at 8 p. m. At this time the prizes will be awarded.

The prizes consist of first place twenty-five dollars, second place fifteen dollars, and third place ten dollars, and will be given to each group.

Iranian Schools

by Cyrus Azimi

I have been asked to write an article telling you about the system of education in my native country of Iran.

Our schools are much different than yours. We have elementary schools up to the twelfth grade and then university, but no college (ed. note—grad school but no undergrad school). After graduating from high school we go directly to university. This is because we study the whole program that you take here in college in high school. From the day we enter seventh grade we are required to take about twenty subjects. And as we go higher we have to take more subjects a year. When I say we have to I really mean it because there is no choice of choosing. The subjects are set by the government and it is compulsory for us to go through all of them. In Iran we have to study six years of chemistry, six years of physics, human science, geography, history, languages, algebra and so on. Perhaps you would be interested to know the program of our fifth class in high school. I quote here and you compare it with your eleventh grade program and see the difference. We have to study these subjects in our eleventh grade: Persian, Arabic, English, physics, chemistry, natural science and hygiene, geography, history, algebra, trigonometry, astronomy, religion, botany, human physiology or biology, geology, drawing, painting, penmanship, and physical education.

As you can see, in my country we pay more attention to education and as we have a very high program in high school we need not have colleges. Our universities in my country are much the same as they are here. We have five year universities, however.

The very high degree of education we have in our high schools leaves very little time for extra-curricular activities. For that reason we have no or a very minor athletic program. I was very amazed to see how much you students here enjoy athletics. In Iran we had no time for such things and had to stay at home and study.

The last thing I would like to mention is our attitude toward our teachers. We had a great respect for our teachers and moreover we showed it. I saw in a high school over here that the teacher came into the room and nobody paid any attention to him. In Iran we stood up when the teacher came into the room and never sat down again until he gave us permission. We never laugh or freely speak with him. Of course everything is much different over here and I can't compare American student customs with Iranian student customs in this respect.

I hope you enjoyed my article telling you a little bit about our system of education in Iran. I want to tell you one more thing. When you see different people from all over the world with different customs and ways of living, don't be surprised. Just look at it from their point of view.

Ed Note: Perhaps if we all did what Cyrus mentioned in his last paragraph we would all be a little more tolerant of other people of the world and could get along with them better.

I sneezed a sneeze into the air, It fell to earth, I know not where. But hard and froze were the looks of those In whose vicinity I snooze.

Wright Hall New

The funniest things fell over the fourth floor banister of Wright Hall— Ask Alice Welsh or E. Castile for the dainty details.

What is this thing called "steady"? It is contagious? In an answer we refer you to Mrs. Alice, Shirley S. or Ruthie R.

For a while, we were wondering if the landing between the third and fourth floors was to be used for a couple of beds. It seems Edna and Barb couldn't decide whether they liked the third floor chatter or the fourth floor snoring best. Finally picked fourth.

With all this mild and changeable weather, the girls here had an attack of spring housecleaning on Saturday. Our guests to the Winter Whirl could hardly find a path through the halls to their rooms. Speaking of the Winter Whirl, we think you fellows were pretty lucky to have seen beautiful girls in their gorgeous dresses at the dance.

The girls from Wright Hall would like to wish everyone Merry Christmas and the proverbial Happy New Year.

See you in '52!!

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