

New Phase of Telephone Situation.

Patrons are Urged to Look After Their Interests Closely.

A FEW FACTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Advantages Offered by the Union Telephone Co.

Last week Wednesday a company known as the Gratiot County Telephone & Messenger company was organized at Alma. Since that time the new company has had an agent of the Michigan Bell Telephone company in Alma, Ithaca and St. Louis urging the citizens to subscribe for the service of this new company. Some of our citizens have agreed to take this service, while others have taken the matter under consideration or have flatly refused. Of course it is the natural desire of every telephone user to secure the best possible service for the least possible money. Those who have not been urged to take the service of the new company desire first to be convinced of its merits as a business proposition. Leading merchants and business men of Alma, before subscribing to the new company would like to know what advantages this company can offer that they are not now enjoying. If this company proposes to give service over the Bell company's lines, how will they reach Perrinton, Pompeii, Middleton and Bannister, in each of which the Union company has an exchange?

How will they reach Brice, Ashley, North Star, Sumner and Elm Hall at each of which the Union company has a toll station? These towns represent the entire southern and central western part of the county, in none of which towns the Bell has a 'phone. How will the new company with its single station at Breckenridge make up to its subscribers for the Union company's exchange of 50 phones? The Union company now has stations or exchanges in 15 points in Gratiot county, and 135 'phones outside of Ithaca, St. Louis and Alma. The Bell company has but six 'phones in all these towns. The Union company now has 435 'phones in Ithaca, Alma and St. Louis, while the Bell only connects with about 20 'phones in the county. What chance is there that the new company, scalled, or the Bell, can ever give the service the Union company is now giving. The Union company is now covering thoroughly 13 counties of Michigan, reaching 128 points, and 3460 subscribers, besides over 800 other points covered by other independent connecting companies and giving service to 40,000 subscribers. What advantage can the Bell offer to offset this? The principal argument of the new company as represented by the Bell agent is free service between the three towns.

The Bell company is now in the hands of the receiver. For in the contracts drawn by that company the receiver expressly says he cannot bind the company except in a limited way. If so how can the Gratiot company so guarantee its subscribers privileges of Bell lines, which the Bell company cannot itself guarantee. Then what is the guarantee of the Gratiot company worth? What assurance have the subscribers of the new company that it will be able to carry out its contracts of free service for any length of time, even a year?

What obligation is the Bell company under, anyway to live up to all contracts signed by parties who do not own one cent's worth of stock? Anyway would it not be a mistake for the towns of Gratiot to have two or three systems? Would not a single system with toll rates to Alma, St. Louis and Ithaca be far more valuable than free service with two systems and less subscribers to each?

Would it not be well before changing to investigate thoroughly the probable size of these three exchanges, and give careful consideration to all these questions?

THE RED RIBBON MEETING.

It Will be Held in Saginaw July 28-31, With a Great Program.

The Courier Herald, speaking of the coming race meeting to be held in Saginaw, says, "the program is the best offered horsemen by any Michigan town and as there is virtually a class for every horse a record breaking meeting is assured." The classes arranged for us are as follows:

Trotting—2:35; 2:28; 2:25; 2:22; 2:20; 2:18; Free for all.
Pacing—2:35; 2:28; 2:25; 2:22; 2:19; 2:16; 2:14; Free for all.
There are now over 60 horses being trained over the Saginaw track and the first of July will find several prominent Michigan stables located there. Local horsemen will keep the dates in mind, July 28-31, and when the gates are open will be found filling in. This locality is always well represented at the Saginaw races.

Alma College

PASSED INTO HISTORY.

Alma College is More than "Sweet Sixteen" Improvement to be Made this Summer. How the Faculty will Spend their Vacation.

The sixteenth year in the history of Alma college, which closed last week, has been a year of progress, and the faculty and friends of the institution are proud of the past and most hopeful for the future.

The reports for the past year show that the financial condition of the institution is good. Twenty-nine thousand dollars has been subscribed or paid toward the fifty thousand which will suffice to make the college self-supporting. The number of students enrolled has been greater than ever before, and the general excellence of work in all departments has been better than heretofore.

For the future several changes are contemplated. During the summer Wright Hall and Pioneer Hall will be thoroughly cleaned and renovated, new cement walks will be laid in front of main building, and cases will be put in Hood Museum for the exhibition of the famous Winchell collection. The basement of the main building will be used for chemistry exclusively and fitted up for that purpose.

Not all the vacancies in the faculty have been filled, but it is understood that Miss Bessie Brodie will succeed Mrs. Plum as head of the kindergarten department and Miss Essy Hooper will be the librarian, in preparation for which work she will take a summer course in the library school at Amherst, Mass. The positions of teacher of modern languages, and lady and gentlemen physical directors are yet to be filled.

The faculty will spend the summer as follows: Profs. J. T. Ewing and F. N. Notestein in Alma; J. W. Ewing will go to Boston early in July, via the St. Lawrence, accompanied by Mrs. Ewing, and probably Miss Albertson; Miss Kohn, Bay City; Miss Gelston Ann Arbor, and possibly a trip to New York; Prof. E. H. Harper, Chicago and Macatawa; Prof. Pennell, Chicago University summer school; Mrs. St. John, Detroit and possibly New York; Prof. Clize at Home; Miss Allen, Chicago. At a mass meeting in the chapel Wednesday afternoon of last week Louis S. Brocke, '96, awarded base ball "A's" to Earl Webber, Burnett, Adams, Helmer, Steep, McBride, Whitney, W. Dunning, B. Dunning and Davis, Jennings, Beecher, Phillips, Hurst, Swigart, Kratsenburg, Howard, Hynes and Baker secured track "A's", and Whitney, Williams, Hynes, Phillips, Kratsenburg, Anderson, Shiner, Jennings and Brown, indoor and basket ball "A's".

The following members of the class of '03 have accepted positions in various places. Wallace Webber at Linden, Mich., in a bank; Pearl Fuller, Hibbing, Minn., as chemist for a big iron mine; A. J. Helmer, St. John's, Mich., teaching; L. S. Bagley, Alma, Mich., in the Alma State Savings Bank; Miss Hazelton, Geneseo Academy, Ill.; Miss Hooper, Alma, librarian at the college; Miss Soule, Albuquerque, New Mexico, teaching; H. N. Ronald expects to go to Princeton and J. Y. Brook may do likewise.

SHARRAR & MULHOLLAND

Are Sole Agents at Alma, Mich., for the Greatest Blood, Nerve and Stomach Remedy Ever Offered to the Suffering Public.

Ask them for a free trial package of the Dr. Lyon home treatment for catarrh, blood, nerve and stomach disease. It is guaranteed to cure all stomach, bowel and liver troubles, and the best medicine for pale, weak women. This medicine has stood the tests. It is recommended by physicians and all who use it. It is free to try. It will cleanse, soothe and heal the mucous membrane of the whole system. Makes new blood and strong nerves. It removes the cause of disease. Nature will do the rest. It contains no stimulant, opiate, or other poison. It is a pure botanical product, which restores health to all who use it. Procure the free trial today.

The North-Western Line.—Imported Japanese Fans.

A set of four attractive Japanese fans issued by the Chicago & North Western Ry. sent to any address securely packed on receipt of 10 cents to pay postage. W. B. KINISLERN, Pass. Traffic Manager, 32 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill. 17-20

Forty Acres of Land to Clear.

I have forty acres of land situated four and one-half miles south of Alma that I wish to let to some responsible party to clear and put in shape for the plow. Address 1262-tf F. W. BROWN, Alma, Mich

Sunday Excursion to Crystal Lake and Frankfort.

Sunday, June 28, the Ann Arbor R. R. will give another of its popular excursions to Crystal Lake and Frankfort, and as the "Royal Frontenac" hotel opens for the season on June 27th this excursion should prove to be a very delightful trip. Special train leaves Alma at 6:03 a. m. Fare for round trip \$1.25. Children under 12 years of age half the adult fare.

Special Train to Cadillac July 4th.

To enable the public to attend a big celebration at Cadillac July 4th, the Ann Arbor R. R. will provide a special train which will leave Alma at 8:11 a. m. and arrive at Cadillac 11:00 a. m. It will leave Cadillac on return trip at 6:00 p. m. Excursion tickets will be sold for the train to Cadillac and intermediate stations at one fare for round trip.



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In whatever direction the Colorado tourist may choose by rail, if he go to the mountains his journey is a succession of glorious scenery, varying in the characteristics of placid beauty, grotesque ruggedness, and awe-inspiring grandeur.

Up the canons are stupendous walls rising perpendicularly, or gradually sloping back toward greater hills, or, yet again, leaning forward above the chasm, as if threatening to come tumbling down—projecting great rocks that hang suspended over the train as it glides smoothly by—a panorama of grandeur and wonder such as belong only to the Rocky Mountains.

To enable people to reach Colorado without unnecessary expenditure of time or money, the UNION PACIFIC has put in effect very low rates and splendid train service from Missouri River to Denver. Accommodations provided for all classes of passengers.

For further information call on or address, F. B. Choate, G. A., 126 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Christian Endeavor Special Train to Denver.

The passenger department of the Chicago & North-Western Ry. has arranged for a special train account United Society of Christian Endeavor Convention, Denver, July 9-13, 1903, to leave Chicago 10:30 p. m., Tuesday, July 7th, with Pullman Standard and Tourist sleeping cars, free reclining chair cars and standard day coaches through to Denver without change. This special train will enable Endeavorers and their friends to travel westward in congenial company and upon schedules arranged for their special convenience. The route is over the only double track railway between Chicago and the Missouri River, and will traverse the rich prairie and farm regions of Iowa and the Platte Valley of Nebraska by daylight. Only \$25.00 round trip from Chicago and correspondingly low rates from other points. Tickets good to return until August 31st. Very low side-trip rates to points in Colorado. For illustrated folder and full particulars address:

W. H. GUERIN, 17 Campus Martius, Detroit, Mich. 17-20

\$16.00 Chicago to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Return.

Via Chicago & North-Western Ry. \$20.00 to Duluth and Superior and return. From Chicago daily throughout the summer, good returning October 31. Four fast trains leave Chicago 3:00 a. m., 9:00 a. m., 8:30 p. m. (electric) and 10:00 p. m. Luxurious equipment, dining car service, unequalled. For tickets and reservations, apply to your nearest agent or address, W. H. GUERIN, 17 Campus Martius, Detroit, Mich. 17-20

Specia Summer Rates

Via Chicago & North-Western Ry. For round trip tickets during the summer season to St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, Ashland, Waukesha, Devils Lake, Gogebic, Lake Geneva, Madison, Marquette, Lake Mills, Green Lake, Lake Minnetonka, and other summer resorts of Wisconsin, Northern Michigan and Minnesota, Yellowstone National Park, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. Descriptive pamphlets, "Colorado," "California" and "Hints to Tourists," giving detailed information, mailed upon application to W. B. KINISLERN, P. T. M., Chicago, Ill. 17-20

Fourth of July, 1903.

Round trip tickets, good going July 3 and 4, and good returning up to and including July 6, will be on sale at all ticket offices of this company, at a rate of one fare for the round trip. Points in Indiana and Ohio within 200 miles of selling station included in this rate. Ask agents for particulars. 1267-2w.

Excursions to Boston.

For the N. E. A. meeting at Boston, July 6-10, 1903, the Wabash road will sell tickets at one fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip. Choice of routes. Write for handsome illustrated folder giving full particulars.

F. A. PARMEL, A. G. P. A., 97 Adams St., Chicago.

Short Jaunts for Busy People.

Is the title of the handsomely illustrated booklet, issued by the Chicago & North-Western Ry., briefly describing nearby summer resorts, with information as to summer hotels and boarding houses, railroad and hotel rates, etc. Sent on receipt of 2 cent stamp by W. B. KINISLERN, Passenger Traffic Manager, 32 Fifth Ave., Chicago.

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