

DECORATION DAY

Fittingly Observed by the Citizens of Alma May 30th

ADDRESS BY PROF. MITCHELL

Opera House Crowded During Exercises Large Number at Cemetery

Memorial Day, 1911, was fittingly observed by members of Moyer camp, G. A. R., of this city. The exercises in the afternoon commenced at 2 o'clock, at which time the following program was rendered:



PROF. JAMES E. MITCHELL.

- 1. Song—"Under the Same Old Flag".....Wright Quartette
2. Address of Welcome.....Commander Gardner
3. Prayer.....Rev. H. L. Crane
4. Reading of Orders.....Adj. Greig
5. Song—"Leaving Tonight on the Old Camp Ground"....4th and 5th Grade Pupils of Public School
6. Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech.....4th and 5th Grades

The address of the day was delivered by Prof. J. E. Mitchell, who, in a manner so characteristic of himself, dignified, scholarly and intense, held his audience from beginning to end.

In the opening of his address the speaker said: "Had it occurred to any of you that exactly one-half century has passed since the great civil war began? Had any of you thought that fifty years ago probably this very hour some of these venerable veterans were marching to the theater of war and the field of battle?"

The speaker said "that not only one of the north, but they of the south, had reason to rejoice over the results of the war. What thoughtful man of the south," said he, "would not contend for the worn out doctrine of state sovereignty? What one, even, would wish his section back in slavery? The south has made more progress in the last 15 years than in almost 250 years under slavery."

butions other than in the field of war, which the United States has made to the world's welfare. Chief among these were the ideas of liberty and government in which the United States had led the older civilizations of Europe for several decades. He pointed out how our federal systems of government (an exclusive product of the United States) is being considered as a means of solving the problem of universal peace; that the foremost leaders of the world's thought have time and again suggested at the great international peace gatherings of recent years that the United States might be called upon to take the lead in demonstrating to the world that sovereign nations, like federated states, may live and grow and do business together in harmony and unity without strife and armed conflict.

In nearing his conclusion, Prof. Mitchell said: "If it should be given to the United States to bring about this glorious consummation, might we not be justified in regarding the position of our beloved republic among the nations of the earth as secure? Whether this will be brought about or no, rests not with the veterans of the civil war, but with their children and children's children and if we are true sons of our great sires the achievement is neither impossible nor improbable."

MICHIGAN LAUDED

Most Progressive State in Union Declares Denver Juvenile Judge

That Michigan is the most progressive state in the Union was the statement of Judge Ren Lindsay, juvenile judge, of Denver, who lectured on the "Misfortunes of Mickey," in Detroit last week. Judge Lindsay said Michigan's system of justice, especially in the care of juvenile delinquents, is far superior to that of many states, and he declared the Industrial School for Boys, at Lansing, to be the finest and best equipped in the country.

"The authorities in this state are dealing with the great juvenile problem in the most modern method and the only method to obtain right results." "During my tours I have travelled from one state to another, but I am more highly enthused over Michigan than any other state in the Union. I suppose I should say that next to Colorado, Michigan is the best state, but when I say anything I say it candidly. Michigan always attracted us as being so far ahead in its juvenile system. The citizens of this great state have done much for the building up of good justice, good courts and good judges."

FRESHMEN EXHIBITION

To Be Held in College Chapel Friday Evening at 8 O'clock.

One of the most popular programs rendered during the college year is the one proposed by the Freshmen under the direction of Prof. J. Q. Adams. This is known as the Freshman Exhibition and will be held at the college chapel next Friday evening. An especially interesting program has been proposed for this coming event, consisting of four declamations, musical numbers, a playlet, with a college setting, entitled "Six Cups of Chocolate."

- The program for the evening is as follows: Spanish Dance (No. 1).....Mowszkowski Miss Miller
Invocation.....Rev. W. H. Cook Summer Time.....Huhn Miss Connor
Eulogy on Lafayette.....Everett William J. Baker
The March of the Flag.....Beveridge Orlan D. Osburn
Appeal in Behalf of Ireland.....Prentiss Carlyle G. Walker
Ancestral Ideals.....Van Dyke Thomas B. Stitt
The Coming of the King.....Roedel Miss DeVries

Those taking part in the play are the Misses King, Kennedy, Travis, Van Emster, Brown and Ball. As usual, the exhibition will be free to the public who are cordially invited to attend.

The Civic League will act as hosts to the teachers of the Alma schools on Friday afternoon of this week, at 4 o'clock, in the orchard at the home of Mrs. Frances King, weather permitting. All members of the League are urged to be present. The second gasoline car for the Ann Arbor road passed through here going south Tuesday. The first one is now making two regular round trips daily between Ann Arbor and Toledo, covering the 45 miles in two hours, including all the stops. The second car will begin making the trip between Owosso and Ann Arbor, and the next, due in about two weeks, will make the run between this city and Owosso.—Mt. Pleasant Enterprise.

FRIDAY A BIG DAY

Eighth Grade Graduating Exercises and Field Meet a Great Success

ALMA WINS IN CLASS A AND B

Paul Kress Proved to be a Great Point Getter in Class A

When the Alma college boys made their first appearance on the campus last Friday morning they found it occupied by eighth graders of Gratiot county, who had come early to avoid the rush. The morning sun had not long left the horizon before they were busy taking pictures, which are to remind them of their big day in Alma. A nicer day could not have been wished for. Birds sang, and the old Alma spirit was in the atmosphere everywhere.

By 9:30 all that could do so had crowded into the chapel to witness the commencement exercises, while others visited the library, museum and other places of interest. An interesting program was rendered in the chapel. After appropriate songs by the eighth graders and a prayer by President Bruske, an address was delivered by Rev. M. Durfee of Ithaca.

The speaker treated his theme, "Forward," in a very able manner and expressed himself in such a way that all might understand him.

In his introduction, Rev. Durfee pointed out the different things the word forward might suggest to us, saying "that the word forward might speak to us of the things that are evil. It might speak to us of sickness running its course, it might speak to us of wrong habits, and it might speak to us of things bright and gladdening. God says through the great gift of time all growth says forward." After pointing out the various kinds of growth, the speaker passed to the forward movement as seen in the light of optimism, showing how the natural word embodied the idea of progress.

In conclusion Mr. Durfee said: "You may look upon your life as a precious gift with some great meaning in it. You can treat it sacredly or you can treat it otherwise. Your life may be one of power and purity or it may be a mean and meaningless life. You may pattern it after the perfect life of the Prince of Peace."

The program was concluded by a piano and violin duet by David and Rosie Mindel, and the presentation of diplomas by Commissioner C. F. Pike. Of the 216 students who had passed over 200 were present to receive their diplomas.

In the afternoon occurred the track and field meet in which Alma took first place in both class A and B by winning 79 points in class A and 69 in class B. Ithaca won 21 1/2 in A and 12 in B, while St. Louis won 24 1/2 in A and 37 in B.

Class A

Fifty-yard dash—First, Kress of Alma; second, Race of Alma; third, Leonard of St. Louis. Time, 5.4. 100-yard dash—First, Kress of Alma; second, Knowlton of Ithaca; third, Race of Alma. Time, 10.4. Mile run—First, Cooper of Alma;

KRESS WINNING THE 100-YARD DASH



This cut shows Paul Kress just as he reached the tape in the 100-Yard Dash Finals. With Brewer of St. Louis and Calvin Race in the rear, Prof. J. E. Mitchell and F. E. Ellsworth, timers, can be seen at the tape. The photo was taken by Mr. L. A. Sharp, and the camera snapped at exactly the fractional part of the second when Kress touched the tape.

second, Johnson of St. Louis; third, Down of Ithaca. Time, 4:45. Breaks interscholastic and track record. Shot put—First, McClinton of Alma; second, Smith of Ithaca; third, Kress of Alma. Distance, 41 ft. 10 in. Breaks interscholastic record. 440-yard dash—First, Durkee of St. Louis; second, Knowlton of Ithaca; third, Cooper of Alma. Time, 36.2. Breaks interscholastic record. Hammer throw—First, Kettle of Ithaca; second, Kerstader of Ithaca; third, Wood of Alma. Distance, 122 ft. 6 in. Breaks interscholastic record

SETTLES ARGUMENT

Gift of A. W. Wright to Masons of Michigan Accepted

GRAND RAPIDS PUT UP FIGHT

But Action of Grand Master Swift in Accepting Offer is Vindicated

The following account of the action of the Grand Lodge of Masons which recently concluded its annual meeting at Port Huron, is taken from the Times-Herald of that city and will be of interest to many of our readers. The article said in part: "One of the big propositions which has been before the Masonic Grand Lodge for months and which has commanded the attention of every Mason in Michigan was fought out to a successful issue last night on the convention floor and as a result the Masonic home will be located at Alma. This means that the magnificent offer of Ammi W. Wright of Alma, to the Grand Lodge is accepted. The final vote which sustained the committee's report, after a long and heated battle of words on the convention floor, also means that the action of Grand Master Swift in accepting the deeds for the property some months ago is vindicated. It means that the Grand Lodge will have absolute control of its home and it further means that this body acquires property for \$1 which a conservative estimate values at \$150,000.

"The history of the Masonic Home for its aged and dependent members is complicated, but after months of discussion the matter has finally been settled for all time and Port Huron has the honor of being the scene where the final battle was waged. The original Masonic home was located at Grand Rapids. It was erected by the Masonic Home Association, an independent corporation, and the Grand Lodge had nothing whatever to do with its management.

"The Masonic Home Association found that it had a white elephant on its hands and offered to turn the property over to various Masonic organizations. The Grand Lodge, Commandery, Eastern Star and other Masonic bodies contributed to its support, but the control of the institution was vested in a board of 15 members.

"On February 15, 1910, the Masonic Home, which was located at Grand Rapids, was destroyed by fire and a temporary home was secured by using a club house at Reed's Lake. The Grand Lodge officials then decided to take some action on securing a Masonic home which would be under the direct control of that body and Grand Master Swift appointed the following committee: Arthur M. Hume, Owosso; John J. Carton, Flint; Lou B. Winsor, Reed City; George A. Armstrong, Adrian; and F. B. Stevens, Detroit. The grand master was also to work with this committee.

"The work of this committee was to take charge of the operations looking toward the securing of a new home and site and whatever details were necessary to insure a Masonic home which would be controlled by the Grand Lodge. Shortly after the committee began its work it was learned that the fine sanitarium at Alma, which was owned by Ammi Wright, a wealthy man of Adrian, could be secured as a home. The structure, which has not paid as a financial investment as a sanitarium, was admirably adapted for such a home as the Masons desired. The structure could not be replaced for less than \$250,000 and a conservative estimate of its value today is placed at \$150,000. Mr. Wright at first stated that he would be willing to accept \$60,000 for the property in case the Grand Lodge desired to purchase it, but later made it known that if the Grand Lodge would accept the buildings and grounds as a gift he would be pleased to turn it over to them for their Masonic home.

"The committee and Grand Master Swift accepted the property on behalf of the Grand Lodge and Mr. Wright was paid a consideration of \$1. In the meantime the Grand Rapids Masons were fighting hard to retain the Masonic Home in that city and began to contest the right of the committee to accept the property as a gift. The matter dragged along for months and when the Grand Lodge convened in this city on Tuesday it was known that one of the important matters to be threshed out was the adoption or rejection of the committee's report on accepting the Alma Grand Rapids delegation, made a fight against the adoption of the committee's report. Every delegate who so desired was given an opportunity to speak his mind and it was 11 o'clock before the matter finally came to a vote.

"When the result was announced,

GRATIOT CO. U. OF M

Graduates Meet at Home of Kelly S. Searl and Organize Association

ALMA REPRESENTED BY 16

Kelly S. Searl Elected President F. E. Ellsworth, Secretary and Treasurer

In response to invitations previously issued, sixteen of Alma's U. of M. graduates went to Ithaca last Friday evening and assisted in organizing the Gratiot County U. of M. Alumni Association. Those who went were W. J. McLehers, H. C. Richardson, John D. Spinney, J. T. Ewing, J. Q. Adams, Frank Petrie, Chas. Goggin, F. E. Ellsworth, C. B. Gardner, D. L. Johnson, Ezra Smith and the Mesdames F. H. Rowland, F. E. Ellsworth, C. B. Gardner and Miss Lena Gould. Arriving at Ithaca they went to the residence of Judge Searl, where President Hutchins and other U. of M. graduates of the University were

awaiting their arrival. Music and light refreshments were on the program for the early evening, after which the Gratiot County U. of M. Alumni Association was organized and the following officers elected: President—K. S. Searl. Vice-President—A. R. Wheeler. Secretary and Treasurer—F. E. Ellsworth. Sixty-three counties in Michigan have similar organizations. There are 10,000 graduates from the University in this state. New York state has 2,500, and every state in the Union has its U. of M. graduates, varying in number from Michigan's 10,000 to Delaware's 711. Dean Hutchins congratulated the Alma delegation for the interest manifested as shown by their attendance. The annual meeting of the association will be held the third Friday in January of each year.

COMMUNICATION.

May 31, 1911.

To the Editor of the Alma Record: The speaker of yesterday at the public observance of Memorial Day, called our attention to a matter which should find a place in your paper in order that it may reach those who did not hear his address.

In clear, strong words Prof. Mitchell pointed out that the young men of our community were not showing the honor and respect for the heroes of our Civil War which ought to be shown by the younger citizens of the nation, for which these veterans offered their lives. He held that the absence of young men from the public observance of Memorial Day was an indictment against their regard for the sacred privileges of their relationship. They forget to honor the past or appreciate the present.

A careful survey of the audience disclosed to me but four who could be considered young men of Alma, three of these were strangers to me and none of them represented the young manhood of our city. I did not see a single high school student or one of our younger business men. Does this mean that our young men, in less than fifty years from the close of that great war, do not care to show public honor for their fathers and for the noble citizens of but little more than a generation ago? One cannot but wonder whether this is not indicative of a careless disregard of the most sacred obligations. The liberties which our young men enjoy, opportunities for education and culture, the resources and opportunities for industrial advancement, the influence of high moral and religious environment, and the heritage of their citizenship are all procured and preserved only by those to whom the past is a sacred memory and the present is a call to service for one's own and succeeding generations.

Truly yours, H. L. CRAIN.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Do you know that by pouring kerosene over the garbage of the kitchen and refuse of the barnyard that flies and insects would depart from your premises? If not, it is recommended by the workers of sanitary and civic beauty to do it and see what quick results would be obtained. The kerosene is perfectly harmless from combustion, the secret having been tried in metropolitan cities and by the workers of civic improvement in St. Joseph.

The members of the Francis Willard Union met last Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Golden on Mechanic street.

Hon. Lucius L. Hubbard of Houghton, Regent of the State University, spent Sunday in Alma, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Francis King.

Fred Hagadorn and Charles Davis of Fenton attended the track meet in this city last Friday and were the guests of Lawrence Montigel.

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PRESIDENT KELLY S. SEARL

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MISS VELMA SHARP

Receives Complimentary Notices From European Musical Journals.

The following is clipped from the British American Post, published at Vienna. Miss Sharp will be heard at the Artists Recital to be given in this city commencing week. "Miss Velma Sharp, of Alma, Mich., U. S. A., one of Leschetzky's most brilliant pupils is preparing for concert work in the States and already has flattering offers from America and Europe. Miss Sharp seems to have mastered the difficulties of the piano, has a wonderful touch and holds her audience immediately through her intelligence and understanding of the work in hand."

In the issue of February 25th, 1911 "Musical America" had the following in its columns devoted to Vienna notes: "Miss Velma Sharp, of Alma, Mich., who has been studying with Prof. Leschetzky for several years recently performed a difficult program with great credit to herself and enjoyment to her audience at a concert of the 'Frauenklub' of Vienna. The 'Toccata' by Leschetzky, and a nocturne by Schrabane displayed remarkable technique combined with warmth of expression, and Lavalle's 'Papillon' was rendered with great lightness and delicacy of touch."

Miss Sharp is now in London but will reach Alma sometime early in June. Miss Sharp will be heard at the artists recital at the college Tuesday evening June 13.