

# Oxogas Burners

Save Fuel, Smoke and Dirt

Why not have one installed in your stove or range by

**F. M. BAKER**

Agent for Gratiot County

Township Agents Wanted.

Call on or address

F. M. BAKER

115 Walnut St.

Alma, Mich.



## How We Go At It

First we look into the battery to see if you put water in it.

Then we use the hydrometer which is the one reliable way of knowing the condition of its charge.

Then, if no special cause of trouble appears we put it on the line to see if it will take a charge.

But if there is plain indication of serious trouble we open the battery up and find out exactly what's what.

Don't trust your battery to amateurs or artists in guesswork, who claim they can tell inside condition by outside inspection.

Come here where you find adequate machines and apparatus to really inspect, charge and repair any battery.

**Alma Electric & Battery Co.**

Willard

## Forehanded Folks

Believe in Preparedness

Getting ready for the Big Boom that is coming to Alma requires

**Building Material**  
of all kinds

Our Stock is complete and the price consistent with conditions. We make a point of prompt delivery which is an important part of a builder's preparedness.

**Home Lumber & Fuel Co.**

## The Coveted Kiss

By VICTOR REDCLIFFE

Harold Blythe followed the crowd which led him into what had once been a skating rink and more latterly adapted to public social and political gatherings. It was a bright and lively scene within—glimmering lights, music, any number of gaily decorated booths tended by pretty girls and smiling matrons. A great streamer announced a home fair in progress for the benefit of victims of the war abroad.

Blythe was a total stranger in the town, and had strolled forth to take in whatever might offer in the way of variety.

It was nearly canopied in, but there was sufficient of an opening to display the loveliest looking girl he had ever seen. She was rosy, smiling, fascinating. "Kisses, ten cents," read a transparency over the booth. Blythe noted a dandified fellow pay his dime and pass through a little passageway at one side, and the young lady disappearing, apparently to wait upon her customer.

"It's more than worth the money," he soliloquized in glibness and anticipation; and as the customer disappeared through another exit and the roguish face and twinkling eyes again presented where the draperies parted, Blythe tendered a dollar bill.

"Keep it all," he said, smiling audaciously. "I presume there is a reduction on a dozen? Twelve kisses, please!"

He entered the passageway, to find a board, serving as a counter, heaped up with folded bits of tissue paper. The fair young girl was behind it. She deliberately placed in a paper bag—a dozen candy kisses.

"They are home-made," she told her customer, with an aggravating assumption of innocence. "I know you will like them."

"I certainly shall," bowed Blythe, concealing skillfully his disappointment and chagrin at becoming a victim of a clever subterfuge. "I'll win the real article yet!" he told himself as he emerged on the other side. A minute later Blythe asked a girl selling buttonhole bouquets the name of the young lady.

"Oh, that is our best worker!" came the response. "She is quite a stranger here, but she has made everybody her friend—Miss Adelaide Standish."

Blythe gave quite a start. His face grew grave. He did not linger in the rink. The purveyor of kisses, the mention of a name evidently familiar to him, had seemingly started a line of thought that made him serious.

Adelaide Standish had only a flashing glimpse of her generous customer, but his face somehow left an impress upon her mind that was far from fleeting. Blythe was a good deal unlike the majority of youths with whom she had dealt. Some of them had snickered, some had got angry, one or two had tried to obtain real kisses. The contrast of a wellbred young man, who treated the episode with well-mannered good nature, charmed her.

There was quite a little history and mystery as to Adelaide. She had come to Rossville, presumably an heiress. That is, at her humble home at a town fifty miles distant, an orphan living on the bounty of a relative, she had been visited by old Leon Wardell, with whom she now lived. According to his story, one Hugh Barry, a distant relative of both, dying, had left to him the bulk of his fortune and to Adelaide a fair annuity as long as she lived with him.

It was not very agreeable for Adelaide in the lonely old house with her crochets guardian, but she was well provided for, had plenty of pocket money, and it seemed pleasant to be free from constant work. The only thing Adelaide did not like were the occasional visits of a stepson of Wardell, who meditated a match between them.

The mission of the young man at the hotel was a mystery to Rossville. He would stroll about town for an hour in the morning and then for another hour after dark, and each time he would pass the Wardell home. Twice Adelaide came face to face with him. He lifted his hat and she bowed, but he did not seek to speak with her.

One morning Wardell announced that he was going to another town for the day. After he had left, Adelaide looked up the house and went to call upon a girl friend. She did not return until mid-afternoon. As she reached the front door, it gave at her touch. As she entered the hall she heard footsteps in one of the lower rooms.

"Is somebody there?" she called out, and with a reassuring smile Harold Blythe stepped into view. She was startled—spellbound.

"If you will give me a few moments, Miss Standish," he said, "I would like to explain my presence here. My mission is this," and he drew from his pocket a large envelope. "I have acted at the instigation of your dead father's old lawyer, who had reason to believe that your guardian had suppressed the truth as to the estate. It is all yours, and here are the documents, hidden by Leon Wardell, that prove it."

They let Wardell off lightly because he was a relative of Adelaide, and further because, mutual love melting their natures, it was natural that the happy lovers should feel indulgent and forgiving after real kisses had succeeded the candy ones.

### The Eagle of Napoleon.

Napoleon revived the ancient symbol of the Caesars. The Napoleonic eagle itself was eight inches in height and nine inches across the wings. It stood on a brass block three inches square, and weighed three and one-half pounds. Modern colors are as nothing compared to the old ones, as difficult to hide as the big drum.

Alice Joyce in "The Spark Divine," Idlehour Monday.—adv.

## PEACHES

A carload of yellow Albertas and Dewdrop. Fine quality. Price right

Car of Fertilizer at \$35 per ton. One-Nine-One

BEANS at a \$7.00 basis.

HAY \$18 to \$23 per ton.

STRAW \$7 to \$8 per ton.

APPLES 75c to \$1.00 per bu.

## NELSON SMITH

Union Phone 277

ALMA, MICH.

Warehouse on P. M. at Foot of Gratiot Avenue

Leave word or phone R. H. Brown to have your Furnace looked over, overhauled or repaired, within the next 20 days. He will order repairs and install same promptly if arrangements are made soon. Also for new work in heating and ventilating, by all means see

## R. H. BROWN

Phone 118-2R

207 Superior St.

## Boxed Candy

We have secured the finest lines of Boxed Candies to be obtained for the fall and winter trade and offer these goods with the knowledge that better candies cannot be secured for the money.

We Also Specialize in Meals and Lunches

## The European Cafe

## Auction Sale

Having decided to discontinue practicing the undersigned will sell on corner of Woodworth and Superior Sts.

Saturday, Sept. 27th

at 2:00 P. M.

His entire lot of office furniture and fixtures consisting of Four Bookcases, Two Stands, One Secretary and Bookcase combined, One Operating Chair, One Table, Some Surgical Instruments, A large number of Books, and other small articles not mentioned.

TERMS: All sums under \$5.00, cash; over that amount, time will be given to suit purchaser by giving approved paper.

Dr. E. A. Bagley, Prop.

J. D. HELMAN, Auctioneer

## Now is a Good Time To Pick Up

Scrap Iron, Rags, Rubbers, Metals.

We are in the market at all times for HIDES and FURS. Highest market prices.

## Berman's Junk Shop

UNION PHONE

Record Want Ads Get the Results

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Alma State Savings Bank

AT ALMA, MICHIGAN

at the close of business September 12th, 1919, as called for by the Commissioner of the Banking Department.

### RESOURCES

LOANS AND DISCOUNTS, viz:

Commercial

a Secured by collateral \$ 18,562.33  
b Unsecured 287,049.53  
c Items in transit 12,539.59  
Total 318,141.45

Savings

a Secured by collateral 16,110.69  
b Unsecured 11,552.00  
Totals 27,662.69 \$345,804.14

BONDS, MORTGAGES AND SECURITIES, viz:

Savings

a Real Estate Mortgages 190,491.21  
Total 190,491.21

RESERVES, viz:

Commercial

Due from banks in Reserve 4,135.02  
Cities 7,135.50  
Exchanges for clearing house 12,910.00  
Currency 385.70  
Silver Coin 157.06  
Nickels and Cents 24,723.28  
Total 48,461.71

Savings

Due from Banks in Reserve 7,611.71  
Cities 27,550.00  
U. S. Bonds and Cert. of Ind. carried as legal reserve 8,000.00  
Currency 3,907.50  
Gold Coin 1,292.50  
Silver Coin 100.00  
Nickels and Cents 48,461.71 73,184.99

COMBINED ACCOUNTS, viz:

Overdrafts 508.15  
Premium Account 136.28  
Banking House 16,250.00  
Furniture and Fixtures 5,000.00  
Outside Checks and other Cash Items 5,126.01  
Total \$636,500.78

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid in \$ 40,000.00  
Surplus Fund 15,000.00  
Undivided Profits, net 4,588.20  
Dividends Unpaid

COMMERCIAL DEPOSITS, viz:

Comm'l Deposits sub. to ck. 288,967.72  
Certified Checks 581.65  
Cashier's Checks 721.59  
Time Comm'l Cert. of Dep. 26.00  
Total 290,296.97 290,296.97

SAVINGS DEPOSITS, viz:

Book Accounts—subject to Savings By-Laws 93,073.59  
Certificates of Deposit—Subject to Savings By-Laws 173,542.02  
Bills Payable 20,000.00  
Total 296,615.61 296,615.61

Total \$636,500.78

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Gratiot, ss.

I, Karl R. Adams, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear, that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and correctly represents the true state of the several matters therein contained, as shown by the books of the bank.

KARL R. ADAMS, Cashier.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of September, 1919.  
H. M. GLASS, Notary Public.  
My commission expires Nov. 2, 1921.

Correct attest:  
WILLIAM A. BAHLKE,  
DANIEL L. SHARRAR,  
JOTHAM ALLEN  
Directors.

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE First State Bank

AT ALMA, MICHIGAN

at the close of business Sept. 12, 1919, as called for by the Commissioner of the Banking Department.

### RESOURCES

LOANS AND DISCOUNTS, viz:

Commercial

a Secured by collateral \$151,003.88  
b Unsecured 311,162.13  
c Items in transit 25,075.03  
Totals 487,241.04

Savings

a Secured by collateral 21,410.00  
b Unsecured 17,209.54  
Totals 38,619.54 \$ 525,860.58

BONDS, MORTGAGES AND SECURITIES, viz:

Savings  
a Real Estate Mortgages 341,617.55  
c U. S. Bonds and Cert. of Indebt. Pledged 208,650.00  
f War Savings and Thrift Stps 100.00  
Totals 550,367.55 550,367.55

RESERVES, viz

Commercial

Due from Banks in Reserve 151,592.97  
Cities 4,320.62  
Exchanges for clearing house 33,718.00  
Currency 11,735.00  
Gold Coin 6,242.75  
Silver Coin 443.55  
Nickels and Cents 208,042.94  
Totals 346,335.83

Savings

U. S. Bonds & Cert. of Ind. carried as legal reserve 106,600.00  
Currency 314,642.94  
Gold Coin 106,600.00 314,642.94

COMBINED ACCOUNTS, viz:

Overdrafts 1,249.57  
Banking House 25,000.00  
Furniture and Fixtures 5,000.00  
Other Real Estate 5,099.55  
Outside Checks and other Cash Items 1,329.42  
Total \$1,428,549.61

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in \$ 50,000.00  
Surplus Fund 50,000.00  
Undivided Profits, net 2,812.47

COMMERCIAL DEPOSITS, viz:

Comm'l Deposits subject to ck. 568,773.83  
Demand Certificates of Deposit 66,503.17  
Certified Checks 2,773.65  
Total 638,050.65

SAVINGS DEPOSITS, viz:

Book Accts.—Subject to Savings By-Laws 217,638.36  
Certificates of Deposit—Subject to Savings By-Laws 394,044.25  
Total 611,682.61

Notes and Bills Rediscounted 76,003.88  
Total \$1,428,549.61

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Gratiot, ss.

I, Carl H. Washburn, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear, that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and correctly represents the true state of the several matters therein contained, as shown by the books of the bank.

CARL H. WASHBURN, Cashier.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of September, 1919.  
FRANK O. PARKER, Notary Public.  
My commission expires Feb. 23rd, 1921.

Correct attest:  
L. A. SHARP,  
FRANCIS KING,  
P. M. SMITH  
Directors.