

THE ALMA RECORD

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO

It was a distinct disappointment to the people of the United States when President Wilson vetoed the prohibition enforcement bill, and we believe it was an act unworthy of the President and out of harmony with his professed high ideals and usual good judgment.

The people of the United States have fought long and earnestly for the accomplishment of prohibition and there can be no possible question as to its beneficial effects both from a moral and an economic standpoint.

Never before in the history of the United States has the House of Representatives been so prompt to put the stamp of disapproval upon a presidential act for within three hours from the time the bill was vetoed—the house had passed it over the President's head by the overwhelming vote of 176 to 55. The vote was not a party measure but men voted for America's interests regardless of politics.

If prohibition was a good thing during the war it is a good thing now that we have peace because the problems of reconstruction are going to demand greater things of us than the demands of war. Anything that stands in the way of the best and greatest development of the American people is a menace to their best interests and there is no question but that the liquor traffic was always a breeder of evils and always will be as long as it is allowed to exist.

The next generation have great tasks to perform in preserving American ideals, protecting American interests and maintaining American freedom, hence we have no right to do anything that will interfere with their highest degree of success.

We do not pretend to know what prompted the President to take the action he did but we do believe that the act can not be viewed in any other light than as a betrayal of the best interests of the American people and that it will go down in history as an act entirely unworthy of a President who has done many very commendable things. If he yielded to outside influences for political reasons or in payment of a political debt as many assume he did the act is all the more unworthy. This is not a time to toy with American interests; too much is at stake.

HOME BUILDING

Unquestionably the greatest need in Alma today is more homes. It is a very difficult matter to find a suitable home with modern conveniences either for sale or rent. The city population is growing rapidly and would grow still more rapidly if homes were available. Barns and garages have been converted into living apartments and still the need is not supplied. We might as well face these facts one time as another. If we expect Alma to increase in population and grow into the city it may be, the business men of Alma must join in a united effort to provide suitable homes at a reasonable price either for sale or rental for the people who desire to come here. If other cities offer just as good wages and better housing conditions they are going to get the people and we are not.

There is money enough in Alma to provide for this need or it can be obtained. It is not money we lack, it is concerted action. We can not expect to build a city without some concerted effort and united action any more than a man can get a home by sitting on the lumber pile and saying, "Gosh, I wish I had a house."

The Alma Building and Loan Association should be revived and get into action or else it should be reorganized into an active force for the good of the community. We should not delay in this matter. Flint is building three thousand houses and other cities are putting forth an action in the same direction.

Our need is great right now. Opportunity is knocking at our door and unless we wake up she will pass on to some other place and report that we were sound asleep when she called. This is a problem for the business men of Alma and no one else is going to take the time to solve it for us. It is our own question.

MADE IN GERMANY

Previous to the Great World War, a common sight in every store was goods labeled "Made in Germany." As a consequence of this, the laborer in the United States and the U. S. manufacturer had to compete with the German laborer and the German manufacturer who lived much more cheaply in every way and was the subject of a dictatorial monarchy which told him just what he could and could not do.

The war is ended, but peace is not yet signed and already, the label, "Made in Germany," is again in our markets. That nation which deliberately planned to murder innocent men, women, and children; sink our ships; kill our boys; and do everything it could to ruin our markets and debauch our Government, is still unconquered in the true meaning of the term. Already Germany, with peace still unsigned, is again plotting to conquer our markets and to take from our people the labor which is theirs by right. A careful scanning of the newspaper accounts of the strikes and labor troubles which are menacing American industry today reveals the significant fact that the real leaders in all these movements are foreigners, trouble breeders, many of whom undoubtedly came to this country for that express purpose.

There is no reason why we should trust that nation whose lawless actions saddled onto us a debt of twenty-five billion dollars which cannot be paid by our children's children, to the extent of turning our markets over to them. It is about time that we Americans wake up to the situation and safeguard our own interests against these destroyers of society.

The best way to build up a city on lines that will stand for permanency and progress, is for every one to boost for home concerns. If a man is running nothing larger than a peanut stand, it should be considered one of Alma's business institutions and made the best possible.

Every day demands of your best effort, and any thing short of that is unworthy of you. You can make the most of your life only by persistent effort intelligently directed, but it is your task and no one else can or will do it for you.

There must be a cause for the wave of crime that is sweeping over the country and that cause very probably lies in the fact that we are failing to teach to the youth of the land the value of high ideals and the necessity for strict honesty.

It is impossible to get something for nothing in an honest way, except by gift, but there are a great many people who seem to be looking for the chance to get something without giving honest service in return.

If you can't see that the other fellow has some rights which should be respected, there is something wrong in your upper story and you should take an inventory to see what part of the furniture is missing.

To be a true American carries with it truthfulness, honesty industry, faithfulness, courage and loyalty. To fall short of these qualities is to fall short of the best in American citizenship.

The man who does business on the square every day, and does his best need not worry about the outcome. Success is sure to crown honest effort intelligently directed.

THE THEATRE

The Idlehour Beginning with the first week in November we begin to get into some of the new series of pictures for the season of 1919 and 1920. We ask you to take particular note of some of the productions we will offer after November 1. Some of the greatest improvements in motion pictures are being made right now, the slogan of the industry being, "Fewer and Better Pictures." More attention is being given to direction, better stories and plays will be used, fewer pictures will be made by the big, first-class producers, and this means that you will be offered vastly better entertainment. Although our new contracts have increased in costs from 50 to 100 per cent, we do not intend to raise our admission prices, granting that our public will continue to give us frequent and liberal patronage. In order that as many as possible may have an opportunity of seeing such pictures as we intend to show, many of them will be shown for two days. Just imagine such plays as Robert Warwick in "The Witness for the Defense," with Elsie Ferguson as the star; Tom Moore in "Lord and Lady Algy," in which William Faversham and Maxine Elliott made such a tremendous hit; Enid Bennett in "Stepping Out," which was privately screened for us in Detroit, and which is one of the cleverest pictures we ever looked at; Madge Kennedy in "Strictly Confidential," which will be shown two days with Fatty Arbuckle's latest picture, "Backstage"; Wm. S. Hart in "Wagon Tracks"; Constance Talmadge in "Experimental Marriage"; Wallace Reid in "Peter B. Kyne's" great novel, "The Valley of the Giants"; Rex Beach's greatest picture, "The Girl from Outside." All these and many other pictures of the same class will be offered you during November. They are not only the best in the market, but are the best the market has ever afforded.

The Genesta Theatre

The feature show for the coming week is the well known Charlie Chaplin masterpiece, "Shoulder Arms," which will be given November 11, and which promises to draw the biggest crowd of any film that has been seen here recently.

The tragic phases of the experience of the average doughboy, from the time of his first membership in the "brookie" squad until he appears as a full-fledged, dauntless hero in the line, is the basis of the story and the action that is given in "Shoulder Arms," one of Chaplin's latest features.

Charlie's difficulties begin when his feet attract the attention of the drill sergeant, and they continue all during the drill work that Charlie must needs take part in. It is a "provoker" of a high order, at this stage, and later as Chaplin gets to the trenches and plays havoc with the Germans it becomes a thriller, while still an intensely amusing picture.

Those who have seen Chaplin in "Shoulder Arms" claim that this is one of the best and strongest features that he has ever appeared in; that the famous laugh maker is at his best as a soldier.

ALMA HIGH SCHOOL

Chapel exercises were held at the high school, Tuesday morning, October 28, in observance of Roosevelt day. The program had been arranged for Monday, the day which was Roosevelt's birthday, but the local speaker who had been asked to talk was out of the city.

The program was opened by the singing of "We'll Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys," by the entire assembly. Then Mr. H. S. Babcock, editor of the "Alma Record" was introduced by Mr. Kelder.

Mr. Babcock's topic was, "Roosevelt, the Man." He told how Roosevelt, as a boy, was a weakling, but through force of will power, and outdoor exercise, he made himself a very strong man. Roosevelt, when a boy made some resolutions which he kept throughout his entire life. He resolved to never do a dishonest thing; never to tell a lie, although he might lose much by it; never to do a dirty thing; to always be on the square; never to do a thing which he thought his mother wouldn't approve of; and to do what he knew was right, in spite of all criticism and opposition. He had the courage to stand by his convictions, which many people do not have.

When the Spanish-American war began, Roosevelt felt that it was his duty to go, and he did go. He would gladly have organized men for the great war recently, but since he was not allowed to do so, he had his sons go.

Roosevelt said that they should go into the thick of things rather than have a soft job at home. When Quentine was killed he received the news calmly and said that he was glad that he had a son who could give his life to his country.

Mr. Babcock emphasized the fact that as the boys and girls of today will be the men and women of tomorrow, they should try to have their ideals as high as Roosevelt's. During their school life many will adopt high ideals, and it is the lack of ideals that make thugs, thugs, and the like.

Mr. Babcock read some sayings of Roosevelt, and told the tribute which a cow-boy friend of his paid to him. The cowboy said that he had never known Roosevelt to do a dishonest or dirty thing, to tell a lie, to take God's name in vain or to be otherwise than on the square. Roosevelt was a Christian, and was proud to acknowledge it. He attended church regularly and reared his children in a Christian atmosphere.

Roosevelt as a man, and as an official has set a splendid example for the young people of today. He ranks with Washington and Lincoln, and as a true American, for he acknowledged in this country only one loyalty beside that to God—that to the American people.

Miss Ruth Palmer then sang a solo and gave an encore. The program was concluded by a collection to the memorial in honor of Theodore Roosevelt, which amounted to \$16.45.

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YPSI SATURDAY

Maroon and Cream Eleven Will Meet Teachers Saturday.

The Maroon and Cream football aggregation will meet the strong Ypsilanti Normal College eleven at Ypsi Saturday afternoon in what is expected to be a hard struggle for the Alma eleven, with the number of green men that Coach Wood will have in the line-up.

There is more than the mere winning of this battle at stake in the coming game, as the Alma College team will be out to uphold a record that has held since these teams first clashed in the great fall sport. The Teachers have never been able to grind out a victory over an Alma College football team, and it is to keep Ypsi from smashing this record that Alma will bend her efforts in the coming bout. Two or three times Ypsi has managed to tie Alma in football but with these exceptions has been forced to bow her head in defeat.

Reports indicate that the Normals will have a veteran aggregation in the field to face the Maroon and Cream and this will mean that the Wood-coached eleven will need every available man to turn the trick and bring home the long end of the count in that battle.

The game is a non-M. I. A. A. affair and it is expected that as a result, the team will be considerably stronger than the one which met Albion on the Methodist field Saturday. "King" Miller, and Malcolm Smith are almost certain to be into the game this week, and there is a slim possibility that Eddie Boyne, crack little end, may be able to take his place on the line and oppose the best that the Teachers can put on the gridiron.

The task of taking the Normals into camp will be no small one, and Coach Wood is grinding away with his men this week to get them in good shape for the fray. Owing to the length of the trip it is expected that the team will leave Friday noon for Ypsilanti, and it is expected that the eleven will be given a good send-off at the depot.

COLLEGE DEFEATED

Albion Aggregation Ramped over Alma Team with Ease.

Outclassed completely, the green Alma College football aggregation went down to defeat Saturday before the greatest football team that Albion College ever got together, and when the final whistle blew to stop the one-sided contest the Methodists had piled up 55 points, while the Presbyterian College, for the first time in years, had been unable to put over a single counter against the Downstaters.

The defeat, not in the least unexpected, was the worst that Alma College has ever suffered in the Michigan Intercollegiate Association. Only twice in her entire football history has any eleven been able to pile up a larger score than did Albion pile up on Alma in Saturday's defeat, and the probabilities are that it will be a long while before such a stunt is pulled off on an Alma team again.

Alma's green team displayed all of the fight that Alma elevens have gained a reputation for, but against greater experience, greater speed, greater weight, and more football knowledge, it went for naught, except to keep the score from mounting to still higher proportions.

The defeat puts Alma out of the running for the Michigan Intercollegiate championship in October, eliminating the Maroon and Cream from any possible consideration, as there is not a chance of Albion being defeated in the association race, and Alma's tagging a comeback of defeating a team that might take Albion into camp. It marks the first season in a decade in which Alma has been put out of the running in October.

Albion's well oiled machine won absolutely on its merits. There are no excuses to offer. The defeat, however, has inflicted a sting that will never be entirely eradicated.

NOTICE TO EX-SERVICE MEN

Returned Soldier or Sailor of Gratiot County:

This is an urgent message to you from the State War Board, asking you to fill out the service record blank which has probably been furnished to you by one of the Township directors in charge of the work. In filling out the blank, you are asked to make the copy directly from your discharge papers and add the other items asked for upon the blank. You are further asked to write something upon the back of the blank, concerning your individual experience.

In asking you for this record there is nothing behind the request other than the desire to pay a tribute to you individually and preserve for your descendants and the other children who will live many years from now, the historical facts connected with yourself and your service in this greatest of all wars. The record is being requested not for the present but for future generations. Every county in the state is making a similar record and a great many other states have followed Michigan's lead in feeling that this individual record is the greatest tribute possible to pay the men who served in this war.

Please read the explanation below and make out your record now, sending it to the director who gave you the blank or apply to Mrs. E. D. Hamilton of Ithaca, Michigan.

With the Governor and State Board as advisory council and with the co-operation of the County War Board in each county, a system of County Directors of the work has been built up and at the present time every county in the state is enthusiastically recording the history of the deeds of its men on specially prepared blanks supplying proper spaces for noting every fact of historical interest that can happen to our soldiers and sailors from the day of their birth to the location of their graves. County Directors are being urged, in writing each man's war record, to look into the future and try to put down such facts as will be of interest and value one hundred years hence, when all

sources of direct information will be gone.

Michigan's war history, under the system being used in its compilation, has several points of real value. It is first of all the tribute of the State, through the co-operation of the various counties, to all Michigan men who served in the war. Monuments will be raised over the state to the men who made the supreme sacrifice. This record will be the written story of that sacrifice, together with the stories of the men who were so wounded that perhaps death would have been preferable, and the histories of the men who would have given their all to be in the front line but were held in camps in America. In deed the completed record will be the greatest monument that will be raised to Michigan's men in this war.

It is difficult to estimate the value of this record to succeeding generations, but it is safe to predict that the work will be appreciated in a measure little dreamed of today. It is also safe to predict that our heroes of this war will see in the work one more proof of Michigan's pride in them and her desire to keep alive the memory of their deeds.

(Signed) Michigan War Preparedness Board, Gov. Albert E. Sleeper, Chairman. Local records should be sent to Mrs. Glen Crisp, chairman of the city of Alma for this work.

Mineral Lake.

A lake near Biggar, Saskatchewan, has been found to be saturated with sodium sulphate, and the deposits under the lake and alongside the edge to be nearly 97 per cent pure sulphate. The mineral is used extensively in the manufacture of sulphuric acid, in photography and other industrial purposes.

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We Thank Our Stars That Our Thanksgiving Clothes are Here in Time and Ready!



for good merchandise in the men's and young men's business has been so hard to procure that we don't know what will happen to some stores. They simply won't be able to hold their usual Thanksgiving display and that's all there is to it.

Whether we were just naturally born lucky or inherited in our youth, we can't answer—we simply know that our Thanksgiving show this year outshines our much talked about Thanksgiving show of last year for we have received nearly 95% of the goods we bought and if you'll talk to any ten merchants on Superior Street they'll tell you that to receive even 60% is considered excellent

You can judge from that just how able we are to serve you.

Our Ship has come in and it's loaded to the gunwales with the finest, freshest, Thanksgiving clothes that ever a man had to be thankful for.

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