

MERRILL STUCKEY TO SUCCEED LAKE

Money Order Clerk at Post Office is Named as Assistant Postmaster.

MAS EARNED THE POSITION

Shook is Transferred to Office and Howe Will Take City Delivery Route.

It was announced the first of the week that Merrill Stuckey, well known Alma man, and for the past seven years a member of the post office force here, had been named as the assistant postmaster at the local office to succeed Howard C. Lake, who died a few weeks ago.

Mr. Stuckey who assumed charge of the work of the assistant on Monday will have in the future at the post office. He has been a faithful and efficient employe of the office during the seven years that he has been there, and during that time has gradually worked his way through the various positions at the office, and merits the one for which he has been chosen. His knowledge of business gained in commercial fields before going into the post office, has also been a benefit to him in gaining for him the recognition needed to secure the position.

Two other changes in the personnel at the post office were announced at the same time that the appointment of Mr. Stuckey was announced, which promise to have considerable interest with the people of the city.

Carl V. Shook, who for some time has been the carrier on city route number one, has been transferred from this route to the money order window, which Mr. Stuckey has had charge of for months. Fred Howe, carrier on rural route number one, has been transferred to city route one, succeeding Mr. Shook. At the present time this R. F. D. route is being served by a substitute, and will be pending further arrangements.

Postmaster V. P. Cash believes that the changes in the post office will make for better efficiency in the future, and feels certain that the changes which have been made will aid in promoting a smoother working force than the office has had in some time.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL

Father and Son Banquet Best That Has Ever Been Held Here.

The annual Father and Son banquet held last Friday evening in the Masonic Temple dining room, was a success from the standpoint of attendance and was also a success when financially considered. It was a still bigger success, however, from the viewpoint of the lads of the city, who enjoyed a bountiful repast, and made the wonderful discovery that advice can be given in such a way that it becomes very agreeable to listen to it.

Following the banquet, held at 6:00 p. m., with S. R. Swiss of the Republic Motor Truck Company Inc., acting as toastmaster in a highly capable manner, toasts were responded to by several of the lads of the city, and some of the better known of Alma's young sons. Among these were Rev. Matt. W. Duffey, who responded to the toast, "Bringing Up Father"; Frank Neal with the toast, "Teamwork"; and Orville Ingersoll with the toast, "Our Drives."

It remained for Hira C. Moore, the principal speaker of the evening to bring down the house. The Flint banker, a former Alma resident, who is a friend of all boys, in his address, "What's the Matter with Father," brought out some highly interesting sidelights that were amusing and yet served to greatly intensify the points that he brought out.

Other interesting features of the affair were the music furnished by the college glee club, the readings by Lee Sharrar, and last but not least the ride home in a "real" automobile made possible through the courtesy of The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc.

GOOD REPORT

General Canvass of Churches Completed Without Difficulty.

Sunday's bright weather helped the churches in the first effort of Go-to-Church month. One man when asked what kind of a congregation came to his church, replied, "Well, we didn't have more than a dozen unfilled seats." "That's just about the way with us," said his inquirer. "Our church was full morning and evening," was the statement of a third worker. "We did not have any new people but a large number of our own turned out," reported a fourth.

In the afternoon on Sunday the workers assigned from the various churches to cover the city and leave an invitation in each home, turned out with zest. Under the excellent generalship of Wilbur Price it proved a simple matter to complete the work in about an hour's time. In preparation for next Sunday further advertising will be done by each pastor within his own parish.

EQUIPMENT BOUGHT

Furnishings and Fountain Secured For Store in Theatre.

C. A. Miller, manager of the Idle-hour Theatre, who will also have the management of the new Strand Theatre, was in Detroit last week, and while in that city purchased the equipment for the new store, which is to be located in the Strand Theatre building.

Mr. Miller stated that while it was expected that the theatre would be ready to open on May 1, that it was very probably that the new confectionery, ice cream parlor and cigar store, which will open its doors before that time.

Included in the fixtures, which were purchased last week in Detroit by Mr. Miller, is a \$3,000 fountain, which indicates that the concern is making every effort, not only to give Alma a first class theatre, but also one of the finest ice cream parlors and confectionery stores to be found in this vicinity. The store will be under the theatre management, Mr. Miller states.

PROMINENT ALMA YOUNG MAN DIED HERE MONDAY

William A. Ewing, Well Known Alma Resident, Passed Away at Home of His Parents.

On Monday evening of this week occurred the death of William Arthur Ewing, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Ewing, for many years residents of this city.

Will, as he was familiarly called by his many friends, was so well and so favorably known that his death came as a shock to the entire community, and especially to the people of the college.

The Ewing family have been identified with the life and history of Alma college as no other family have. Will's grandfather, Joseph W. Ewing, was a member of the faculty when the doors of the college were first opened in the autumn of 1887, and was prominent in the earlier discussions which resulted in the founding of the college.

In the autumn of 1890, Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Ewing came to Alma from Wooster, Ohio, where the Dr. had been Assistant Professor of Greek and Principal of the Academy of the University. They brought with them their three little boys—Ernest, Hubert, and Will, all of whom are now gone.

Will was less than a year old when his parents came to Alma, being born October 5, 1889. He grew to young manhood here in our midst; went to the kindergarten at the college in 1893 and '94; entered the public schools in 1895; passed through the grades of our schools and enrolled as a student in the academy of the college in 1905; became a member of the Freshman class in 1909, and was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1913; joined the local chapter of the Masonic order, and has taken both the consistory and the shrine.

He joined the Presbyterian church in 1906 at the age of fifteen years, and from that time on was prominent in church activities, and always lived a consistent Christian life.

After graduation from college, Mr. Ewing accepted a position as teacher of history in the high school at Charlevoix, Michigan, and the next year was made principal of the high school, a position which he held for two years.

As might be expected he was eminently successful as a teacher, for he had teaching in his blood, as it were, but he never intended to follow the profession. And when an opportunity presented itself in 1916 he became assistant editor of the Alma Record. It was not long, however, till the Republic Truck Co., recognizing his ability induced him to enter their sales department as assistant sales manager, where he remained until February, 1919. It was here that he became associated with Mr. Milton A. Holmes, then head of the sales department of the Republic.

On Nov. 21, 1916, Mr. Ewing was married to Miss Marguerite O'Neil, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. They had been classmates in college and were graduated together in the class of 1913. One child has been born to them, William Philip, now nearly two years old.

Mr. Ewing remained with the Republic until ill health compelled him to take a rest. He spent three months at the Howell Sanatorium and then went to the Soo for a further rest.

Apparently recovered in health and anxious to be at work again, he entered the employ of the Transport Truck Company of Mt. Pleasant as Assistant Sales Manager in September, 1919.

It was not long before his old trouble returned, but he persisted in his work until the last week in the year, when he was forced to take another rest, and came to his home in Alma. It was his intention to go in the spring to a climate better suited to him. With this in mind he fought hopefully and courageously until the end came at 10:15 p. m. on Monday, March 8, 1920.

Calmy he looked on either Life, and here
Saw nothing to regret, or there
To fear."
Will Ewing was a young man of exceptionally fine fiber. He could, of course, hardly be otherwise with such a stop at the curb, it became the center

SEWER WORK IS TO START SOON

Contract Let Tuesday Evening to William Bartling for About 6,500 Feet.

MAY PURCHASE A DIGGER

Machine May Be Secured by City and Balance of Work Completed by City.

After a delay of nearly three years since the voters of Alma voted a bond issue for sewer extensions, the work held up by the war, by requirements of the State Board of Health, which had to be met, the work is about to start, the contract for about one-fifth of the total amount of sewer to be constructed, having been let Tuesday evening by the city commission to William Bartling of this city.

In all there is to be constructed in Alma about 31,900 feet of sewers this spring and summer, of which Mr. Bartling is to build for the city under his contract a total of 6,575 feet, which will be built on ten different streets.

It is expected that Mr. Bartling will construct this part of the sewer with a sewer digging machine, and that the work will be started before the frost is entirely out of the ground if possible.

The sewer, which is to be constructed and the amount on each street follows: Bridge to Francisco streets, Ferris street 1067 feet; Hannah ave. from Ferris to Michigan ave. 270 feet; Boyer ave., 594 feet; Cedar ave. 346 feet; Oak and Vassar streets, 1056 feet; Harvard avenue, 1,000 feet and Yale avenue, 1,000 feet. The sewer to be built on Ferris, Hannah, Francisco and Grace avenues, is in the eastern part of the city, just to the east of plant one of the Republic, while that to be constructed on Boyer, Cedar, Oak, Vassar, Yale and Harvard streets is in the extreme western part of the city.

The matter of a sewer digging machine and backfiller was taken up with the city commission Tuesday evening by William E. Reynolds, city manager, who gave statistics to show that the city could purchase these machines and save enough money on the balance of the sewer work this summer to pay the cost of the machines. It is expected that the sewer digger and backfiller will be purchased by the city as a result.

The city has saved considerable money for its sewers under the contract let to Mr. Bartling Tuesday, over those earlier submitted to the commission and rejected, the difference being very close to a dollar per foot in some cases. Mr. Bartling has taken the work at a cost of \$1.35 per foot.

MEET INDUSTRIALS

Saturday evening the American Legion basketball team of this city will meet the champions of the Bay City league on the high school floor and is looking forward to a hot game. The title holders of the Bay City league, are claiming the championship of the Saginaw Valley, and the local quintet is out to show them something about real basketball. The game promises to be a hard fought encounter from start to finish, as the Alma post will send its strongest lineup into the fray.

BOOTH LECTURE

Maud Ballington Booth to Lecture Here Monday.

Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, noted prison reformer, who will lecture in the Methodist church Monday evening, March 15, at 8:15, devotes all the money which she realizes from her lecture tours to her chosen work of helping the unfortunate of the prisons.

She is only able to fill a limited number of lecture dates each year because of the pressing calls of her work in the prisons, and this community is especially fortunate in having Mrs. Booth appear here.

Mrs. Booth's story of prison work is always interesting but this year her lecture is sure to be enriched by the background of experience which she gained in working overseas during the great war. Her work with the soldiers in France was appreciated not only by the organization under whose auspices she labored but also was especially appreciated by the soldiers who gave her the title of "Little Mother of the A. E. F."

Mrs. Booth is one of the greatest women lecturers to appear upon the lecture platform.

Single tickets 50 cents.

ACES OF SAGINAW

ARE COMING HERE

Champs of Michigan-Ontario League Will Have Spring Training in Alma.

The Aces, champions of the Michigan-Ontario League last year, will train in Alma this spring, according to announcement made Monday, by Charles Grubb, manager of the Republic Athletic Association, which has been negotiating with the Saginaw Aces for some weeks past, with a view of bringing Manager "Red" McKee's men to Alma for their spring workouts.

It is expected that the Aces will come to Alma to start their spring training about the middle of April, and that some intensive workouts will be held from that time on until the season opens early in May.

Manager McKee, former catcher for the Detroit Tigers, has gathered a bunch of nearly thirty promising ball players together, all of whom will be brought to Alma for the workouts, so that Manager McKee can get a thorough line on the ability of the men who are to make the race for the 1920 title of the M-O league for Saginaw.

During the time that the Aces are in Saginaw they will probably stage several bouts with the Republics, who will also be getting their spring workouts at that time, and it is not impossible that the Aces may take on the Alma College nine for one or two games.

FORTINO MAKING CHANGES

A number of changes, which were contemplated some months ago, are now being made in Fortino Brothers store on East Superior street, which will make the place far more in keeping with the needs of the community in the future. Some months ago the store was remodeled for the installation of an ice cream parlor in connection with the fruit store, and the equipment for this is now being placed. An air purifier and a water filter are also being installed.

The annual stag banquet of Zeta Sigma society of Alma college will be held Saturday evening at the Wright House.

GAS FRANCHISE MAY BE REVOKED

Ordinance Placed on First Reading That Will Nullify Rights of Company.

NO VOTE AGAINST MEASURE

If Adopted the City and Company Will Appeal to State to Set a Gas Rate.

The proposition to revoke the franchise of the Gratiot County Gas company, which was tabled two weeks ago by the city commission, was taken up again Tuesday evening, when ordinance No. 111 was offered, which has for its aim the revocation of the franchise rights of the gas company in Alma.

During the time that the proposition has been tabled, a supreme court decision has been rendered, which marks out clearly the power of the city commission in the matter, this decision having come up in the Lansing gas fight, which precipitated a wrangle between the commission and the mayor in that city.

In Lansing the commission revoked the franchise, while the mayor was determined that the matter should be decided in some other way. The supreme court ruled that the commission had the power to revoke the franchise.

The ordinance to revoke the franchise of the company in Alma was offered by Commissioner Chick and supported by Commissioner Glass, and was placed on its first reading. It was expected that Commissioner Creaser would vote against the placing of the proposed ordinance on its first reading, as he believed that it was a matter that the people should vote on, but when the vote was taken he asked to be passed. Commissioners Chick, Glass and Archer voted to place the proposed ordinance on file.

If the ordinance is finally passed by the commission, it will revoke all rights of the Gratiot County Gas company in Alma, because of the breach and default of the concern, admitted by R. B. Wagner, manager, in a recent letter to the commission. If the ordinance is passed, and the franchise revoked, a joint resolution will be made by the city and the officials of the gas company to the public utilities commission to step in and fix a fair rate for gas in the community.

TOURNAMENT

Gratiot Club Members to Stage Billiard Tournament this Month.

Messrs. Swiss, Tomer and Peterson, of the entertainment committee of the Gratiot Club of this city, have completed arrangements to conduct a billiard and pocket billiard tournament, open to members of the club, during the present month.

It is planned to have the tournament start about March 15th, but the exact date however, is to be announced within a few days. The entrance fee is \$1.00, the proceeds of which fund is to be expended for suitable prizes, any balance remaining to revert to the Club.

The tournament schedule, list of prizes and other details will be announced later.

DeLuxe candies are the best. 77-1f

COUNTY TITLE

Ithaca and Alma Battle for Basket Ball Honors Saturday.

The old Gratiot county rivals, Ithaca and Alma, will battle here the quintet this season and his loss basketball honors for the county in 1920, and a hot game is expected to result.

Both Alma and Ithaca have scored two victories over St. Louis high, Ithaca rolling up a bigger count each time than Alma was able to do, and as the Orange and Black was able to defeat Ithaca by just one point on the Ithaca floor recently, it is evident that Alma will not have things entirely her own way in the season's final game.

The Ithacans claim that their team has improved rapidly of late and that it will be able to surprise the Alma quintet in the game here, which may be more than possible, as the Alma five is certain to be without the services of Lyons, guard, who is ill. This lad has been one of the mainstays of the quintet this season and his loss will be a serious one.

ARMY'S BIG RECRUITING DRIVE STARTED HERE

Window Displays This Coming Week Will Aid Recruiting Men in Their Work.

"At 11:00 a. m., two companies of the 14th Infantry, under the immediate command of Colonel Daggett, had scaled the wall of Chinese City at the northeast corner, and the flag of the regiment was the first foreign colors unfurled upon the walls surrounding Pekin," reads an extract on the operations of this famous regiment, now a Michigan organization, on August 14, 1900, during the Boxer uprising in China.

But now the scene of the attack has shifted some thousands of miles. Lieut. Wm. Y. MacBurney and his party of seven men from the 14th Infantry at Camp Custer found no walls to scale when they reached Alma last Saturday, nor did they enter the city with colors flying, but they are here and they declare they mean business.

The history of the 14th has been brilliant from the beginning. It has long had a reputation of getting whatever it sought to get. Lieut. MacBurney declares that he and his men aren't going to let the reputation of their regiment suffer and they intend to get Alma's full share of men for the Army before quitting the city. The lieutenant doesn't say just how many men that is, but states that Western Michigan's proportion is 250 per month, and that Alma simply has to come across in proportion.

The 14th Infantry, as well as the 10th Infantry, stationed at Michigan's own Regular Army camp, Camp Custer, Lieut. MacBurney says that men who join these outfits will find themselves among many other Michiganders. Many veterans who served overseas with the 32nd Division, are now numbered among the members of the two outfits.

Although the party from the 14th is making special efforts to get all the men possible for Camp Custer, recruiting is not limited in Alma for that place alone. The lieutenant and his men in cooperation with Sgt. Justice are seeking recruits for the army, no matter whether they want Camp Custer or not. Other regiments have been assigned to Michigan for recruiting purposes. They are the 4th Cavalry, Fort Ringgold, Texas; the 17th Field Artillery at Camp Dodge, Iowa; and the 59th Coast Artillery at Camp Lewis, Wash. In addition special assignments can be made until March 15th to any regiment of field artillery, cavalry, infantry, engineers or coast artillery in the United States. The engineers and field artillery are open for one year enlistments to men with or without prior service. Recruiting for outlying possessions will also be pushed.

The activities of the party already here will be reinforced on March 15 by the arrival of Sergeant Charles A. Williamson, of Recruiting Headquarters at Grand Rapids, with seven special sets of window displays. The displays will remain on view for the remainder of the week.

At the Glass & Hannah hardware store will be an exhibit known as the "Sharpshooter's Window," of special appeal to all lovers of sports and outdoor life. Honors and awards offered the soldier who qualifies in marksmanship are to be shown, as well as his training to become a crack shot. There will also be a display of sporting goods—as an example of what the army offers in the way of athletic equipment at all its camps and posts.

On view at Robinson's dry goods store will be a "Travel Window," showing the eight countries in which the American flag is flying today. An "Educational Window" at the M. D. Wilcox book store is designed to show that the Army is doing along the line of education and vocational training, for which Congress has already appropriated \$2,000,000.

Rather close to home will be the "Camp Custer" window at Eichenberg & Company's store. Here will be shown some of the features of army life at Michigan's own Regular Army camp. A full infantryman's equipment will be shown, also picture.

(Continued on page four)

MODERN GARAGE TO BE ERECTED

C. M. Johnson, Veteran Ford Dealer, Has Taken Gus Thompson as Partner.

FIRM PURCHASES NEW SITE

New Structure to Be Started at Once Will Be 168 Feet in Length by 80 Feet Wide.

Another good business deal has been consummated in the business section of this city, which promises to give Alma another fine business block during the summer months, C. M. Johnson and Gus Thompson, who have just formed a partnership, having purchased the Hugh McLaren property on East Superior street, where they will erect the most modern Ford Garage to be found in this part of the state.

The partners have just recently secured possession of the property, which has a frontage on Superior street of 150 feet, and which has a depth on Park avenue of 172 feet. Plans for the construction of the modern garage, to replace the present small quarters, have just been announced.

The new garage will be 80 feet in width, facing on Superior street, and 168 feet in depth. It will be constructed of faced brick, and will be one story and basement in height.

Plans for the front of the building call for a plate glass front, which will be broken only by the entrance to the offices. Car entrances for the Fords, will be on Park avenue. The first forty feet from Superior street north on Park avenue, will have plate glass, similar to the front. Numerous steel sashed windows will make the garage a healthful, light place in which to labor.

The building will have about 18,000 square feet of floor space, which will be divided into rooms for the various needs of the concern. The parts room will be 35 by 40 feet, being large enough to carry a full stock of parts for both Ford automobiles and Fordson Tractors. The show room will be 35 by 20 feet, and the offices will be the same size. The offices will be finished in mahogany. The room for car repair will be 118 by 25 feet, being large enough to accommodate fifteen automobiles at one time for repair work. There will also be an up-to-date wash room and polishing room in charge of an expert. There will also be rest rooms, etc., for ladies, and for Ford owners, which should prove a highly popular feature of the new garage. These will be equipped with wicker furniture.

Mr. Thompson, when asked as to an estimate of the cost of the structure stated that it was probable that it would cost at least \$35,000. He also stated that the work would be rushed just as rapidly as possible, but that in view of the scarcity of labor and some materials, that it was not expected that the new garage would be completed much before August 1.

Mr. Gus Thompson, who becomes a partner of C. M. Johnson, the veteran Alma Ford dealer, has been with the Ford Motor Company of Detroit for the past seven years, a greater part of which time has been spent on the road in aiding Ford agents in planning and erecting new garages, and in planning extension of their business. He comes to Alma highly recommended, and Mr. Johnson believes that he will prove a remarkably capable partner.

Owing to poor health, Mr. Johnson expects to take a several months vacation as soon as Mr. Thompson becomes accustomed to the local garage, and its patrons, having had little opportunity to secure needful rest during the time that he has had charge of the Ford garage here under his sole ownership.

DANCING SCHOOL

Prof. H. H. Mittenhol Will Open A Dancing School Here.

Professor H. H. Mittenhol of Detroit, instructor in dancing, will open a dancing school in the I. O. O. F. hall Saturday evening, March 13.

Attention is called to the fact that those who are desirous of joining the class should be present the first night if possible, that the class may be as large as possible. Instruction will be given from 7:00 until 9:00, and from 9:00 until 12:00 there will be dancing for the members of the class under the direction of the professor. There will be no public assemblies.

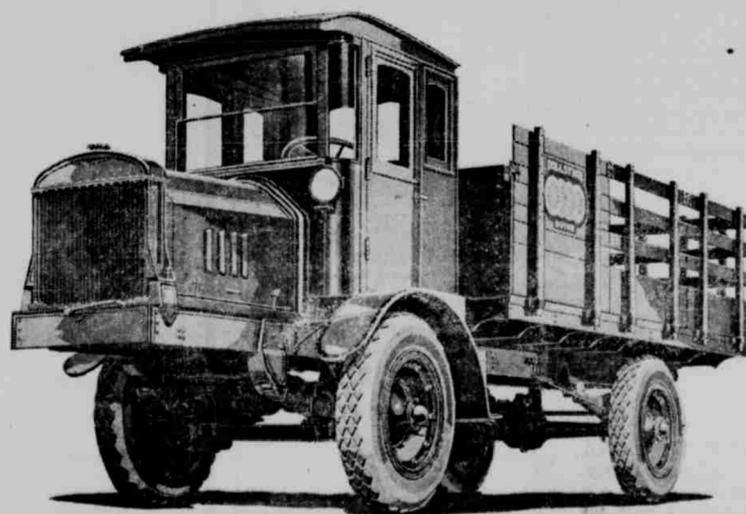
The professor has had over ten years of experience, and is now teaching in Ann Arbor, Lansing, Holly and Hillsdale. Only one school is given in each town, but the professor guarantees to instruct in the one-step, the fox-trot, two-step and the waltz in the one term, his wide experience aiding him greatly in his work of instruction.—adv.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the friends and neighbors for the beautiful flowers and other kindnesses and also Rev. Wm. Geiston for words of comfort during our recent sad bereavement.

Mrs. E. L. Bamforth and Children.

FIRST BOLLSTROM TRUCK IS TURNED OUT



The Bollstrom truck, which numerous stockholders of the St. Louis company, in this city have been looking for has arrived. During the past week it has been seen on the streets of Alma several times, and has been the occasion for considerable comment, each time it has appeared here.

The truck made several stops in Alma, and each time that it swung to the edge of the street and came to a stop at the curb, it became the center

of interest for small crowds, who eagerly looked it over, with a view of judging its capabilities, regardless of the ability of the self-appointed judges.

St. Louis is feeling highly elated over the arrival in that city of its first truck which has made a big hit in our "Sister City," and visions of a big boom are being seen by residents of that community, once the Bollstrom plant is completed and active

manufacturing under way.

This spirit of elation is being made manifest by a Welcome to the Bollstrom truck, which will be given Monday by the St. Louis Board of Trade, which has been showing considerable activity during the past few months. The Board of Trade of that community invites the public to attend the affair.

Buy the best. Buy DeLuxe.—77-1f