

THE ALMA RECORD

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

A RIGHT AND A DUTY

It is not only the right but the duty of every American citizen to inform himself on matters of public interest that he may vote intelligently. The presidential campaign is approaching. We must make a choice not only of a president, but of party and governmental policies.

Read this brief resume of the party record and give it earnest thought:

The first act of the Wilson administration was the enactment of a tariff law which repudiated the principle of protection and the country was assured that there would be no injury to legitimate industry. During the period of ten months that law was in effect prior to the war, our imports increased and our exports decreased to such an extent as to make a difference of \$26,000,000 in our balance of trade.

Without any adequate reason, President Wilson surrendered to some unnamed power for some unknown reason the right of the United States to grant free tolls to American coast-wise traffic through the Panama Canal.

Although pledged to economy and to a reduction of the number of government employes, as well as to the maintenance of the competitive test in appointments, the Wilson administration increased the payroll, ignored the Classified Civil Service rules wherever possible, and increased expenditures.

With nearly all the rest of the world at war and with Germany beginning aggressions against the United States, Mr. Wilson denounced as "nervous and excited" those who urged preparedness. He dismissed from his cabinet a Secretary of War who believed in military preparation, and placed a pronounced pacifist in that important position.

By proclaiming "watchful waiting" as his policy in Mexican difficulties Mr. Wilson invited the insults and injuries suffered by this nation and its people. By his repeated yielding to Mexican diplomats, he acknowledged their superiority in the arts of international diplomacy.

By his utterances and his acts he encouraged that socialistic and paternalistic movement which undertook government operation of the railroads, telephone and telegraph lines, and the ocean cables, and had its check only when in its natural development it produced the "Plumb Plan" for a government bond issue to buy the railroads and turn them over to the employes to operate.

So far as he had the power and opportunity he strangled individual initiative, discouraged private enterprise, and approved policies that tended to decreased quantity and higher cost of production. He kept the people ignorant of their public affairs, undertook to usurp legislative functions, vacillated on every public question, and subordinated general welfare to partisan interest.

THE APPROACH OF SPRING

There are signs of spring on every hand,—more so under foot. With the approach of spring there are some things that need our attention.

Probably first amongst these is to put into operation a house-building campaign. To say that Alma is in need of more houses to care for our people is putting it mildly.

The Republic Truck Company is preparing to enlarge and extend its plant, which will mean more men. The Northern Wheel Company is getting well underway, and has in view plans for extension. A plan is on foot to utilize the carburetor plant building; all of which means more people who will need homes.

If we expect people to come to and live in Alma, we must provide homes for them and we might as well recognize the fact that Alma will not grow much more industrially unless comfortable homes are provided. The time to do something is now.

With the approach of spring we should institute a general clean-up campaign. We should co-operate with the city manager and commission in this regard.

There are many things which can be done by individuals at little expense that would greatly improve the appearance of the city, and make an attractive place in which to live.

The setting of shade trees is an important matter, and the selection of varieties is even more important. We should avoid the setting of soft wood trees such as poplars and box elders; they are neither enduring nor beautiful.

Probably the best trees are elm, maple, and Norway maple. They are beautiful, live long, furnish abundant shade, and are of clean habits.

Many people make the mistake of setting shade trees too near together. Forty feet apart is about the right distance.

Let us co-operate this spring to make Alma more beautiful than ever before and to provide better and happier homes.

WATCHFUL WAITING

Of one thing the country may be assured as a result of the appointment of Bainbridge Colby as Secretary of State. Our Mexican policy will undergo no alteration. Mr. Lansing showed signs of taking a determined stand for American rights, when he was summarily removed, but hereafter "watchful waiting" will rule. On March 10, 1916, the notorious raid on Columbus, New Mexico, occurred, preceded and followed by murders and outrages too numerous to mention. In October of the same year Mr. Colby went out of his way to attack Col. Roosevelt for the latter's criticisms of the Wilson policy.

Nature is beginning her spring house cleaning. To be sure she is not yet out of the dirty disagreeable part of the job, but just think what an improvement will soon manifest itself all around us, when the warm rains come to wash away the filth and the grass grows green and the birds sing again.

If every American could realize the real joy to be found in productive service, and seek his or her enjoyment through productive service instead of mere pleasure seeking, half the serious problems confronting the country today would be thus easily solved.

WOOD'S VIEWS

Major-General Leonard Wood, in writing to a friend, has outlined his view of paramount questions in such a fashion as to be highly commendable to every thinking man.

Such is the range of ground covered by Wood, that it would be a hard matter to add to that which he has already made public through his letter. It would be almost impossible for one to pen an editorial that would be stronger for Wood, than are the words that he himself has penned.

We quote commendably from his letter: "(A) We must spread the war burden over a longer period of years than at present contemplated and remove the strangle hold of excess profit taxation from business. Good business should receive all possible encouragement.

"(B) The railroads should be returned to private ownership and continued under private ownership, subject to such governmental supervision as will result in equitable rates, proper handling of interstate questions, etc.

"(C) Our international policy should be a strong, dignified and conservative policy, speak softly but carry a big stick, love peace and the square deal."

"(D) A small but excellent army and ever ready navy.

"(E) A well equipped, diplomatic and consular service.

"(F) Relations between capital and labor—between those who work and those who direct—must be on the basis of a square deal to labor and a square deal to capital; a wage which, with thrift and industry, will enable a man to live and save. We must provide the necessary machinery promptly to investigate conditions at issue in strikes and for making the same public. We must strive to increase the human element in the relations between employers and employes. We must see that labor has suitable working conditions. We must give an honest day's work, and in turn for an honest day's wage for an honest day's work, labor must give an honest day's work. We must not only live, but help to live.

"(G) We need a protective tariff sufficient to protect such of our industries as need protection.

"(H) Despite her terrific war burden, England is doing everything possible to aid financially and otherwise in the upbuilding of her commerce to regain her lost trade. We have the world at our feet, figuratively speaking, and should push forward our commerce and trade vigorously. As a part of this program we should develop from the great fleet now in our possession a suitable merchant marine.

"(I) We should institute most rigid governmental economies and establish a budget system.

"(J) We must build up respect for law and order and the rights of property, the rights of the individual, for everything rests on this.

"(K) We must see to it that there is no class legislation, but that our government is maintained under our constitution, each department functioning strictly within its own limits."

A MESSAGE TO ALMA

I wish to get the attention of the people of Alma for just a few thoughts that may be of benefit to us all. The fact is plain that God has wonderfully blessed the people here as elsewhere. We have a nice city to live in built up of many homes, a number of factories to furnish employment to those of us that wish to work, a number of stores where we may go to buy the necessities and comforts of life, and up-to-date schools where we may have our children given the proper training for lives of usefulness.

Connecticut has a married couple living apart in two towns, the bride, who has advanced ideas, in one town, and the bridegroom, who has a good job and a big salary, in another. They decided to live in separate establishments and to visit each other over weekends or run away together, as one of them explains it, for several days whenever the mood seizes them. They have rented a third apartment in New York city, which they will lease "in their play time." The bride insists her maiden name and title of Miss. It is her idea that man and wife should not live in the same house, and so get a surfeit of each other.—Boston Globe.

AGE-OLD BUILDING MATERIAL

"Pise," in Use for Many Centuries, is Merely a Simple Form of Concrete.

What is pise? The word, which in its complete form is written pise de terre, betrays a French origin and from its general appearance, might well suggest some affinity with the world of art. These preliminary impressions, however, will be found misleading. There is nothing peculiarly French in pise dwellings, though they are common enough in some parts of France, and reference to them abounds in French literature of the eighteenth century.

The word itself, traced to its Latin origin, apparently means nothing more artistically than "battered." Perhaps the simplest definition of pise is provided by Pliny the Elder, who calls it "earth, battered between boards," meaning by boards a form such as may be used for concrete in construction work.

The Roman sage adds that it was an old and well-tried system of building, and remarks that Hannibal used this material for watch towers on the tops of hills in Spain during his campaign.

Who knows whether it was not also in use when Cheops built his Great Pyramid; for there are prehistoric pise buildings in New Mexico and Arizona which, some say, date back at least to that period?

Certainly history cannot trace the system to its origin, and the pise dwellings now visible in France, Spain, America, the British colonies, and elsewhere may give no complete indication of the extent to which this material was employed in other centuries.—Exchange.

INDIAN'S TRIBUTE TO MOTHER

Red-Skinned Fighter in World War Proves Worthy Descendant of Race of Chiefs.

Wounded-With-Many-Arrows is an Indian living in South Dakota.

According to an Indian custom, the first thing an Indian mother sees or says after her child is born may be chosen as the infant's name. The night of his birth, in April, 1893, the mother saw a warrior who had been wounded by many arrows; hence the name given to the new-born child.

Entering the world war in the armies of the great white father at Washington, the first thought of this copper-skinned descendant of a race of chiefs was of his mother, whom he named as the beneficiary in his \$10,000 government war risk insurance policy.

The mother's name is Susan-Loves-the-War and she lives at Waukopla, S. D. She was proud that her son was among the first to respond to the call of the United States for soldiers to fight for their country; she was glad when he came back, unharmed, full of wonderful stories of the adventure through which he had passed. And she realized that he had, by his insurance policy, demonstrated that all he had was here, as everything he was he owed to her.

Wounded-With-Many-Arrows, who is called Indian-Good-to-His-Mother.

Big Money for Perfect Potatoes.

The perfect potato, which resists blight and other "spud" diseases, has been developed, according to Samuel Ryder, head of a well-known English seed firm.

He refused to give the name of the hybridist, but said he paid him \$12,000 for seed potatoes which wouldn't fill a peck measure.

"We have bought up all the hybridized seed of this expert," said Ryder. "The average potato yield in 1918 was four tons per acre in England. With the new seed, six pounds per foot, or 23 tons per acre, can be produced. The full results of the perfect potato may not be reaped for two or three years."

New Matrimonial Idea.

Connecticut has a married couple living apart in two towns, the bride, who has advanced ideas, in one town, and the bridegroom, who has a good job and a big salary, in another. They decided to live in separate establishments and to visit each other over weekends or run away together, as one of them explains it, for several days whenever the mood seizes them.

They have rented a third apartment in New York city, which they will lease "in their play time." The bride insists her maiden name and title of Miss. It is her idea that man and wife should not live in the same house, and so get a surfeit of each other.—Boston Globe.

Many O'Briens.

A soldier named John J. O'Brien, owing to the war risk bureau about its insurance, failed to give his serial number or policy number, but said the papers would be easy to identify as his wife's name was Mary A. O'Brien. A search through the bureau files disclosed the names of 175 John J. O'Briens, and each of an even 50 of them had a wife named Mary A. O'Brien.

May Use Concrete Coffins.

The corporation of the town of Middleborough, England, is considering the use of concrete coffins in local cemeteries as being lighter and cheaper than those made of wood.

His Class.

"Here's some health expert says we don't need sugar." "He must be one of those guys who are always taking the sweetness out of life."

Symbol of Firmness.

You can't push a mule and you can't pull him. As an example of firmness what better do you want. A mule sure has the courage of his convictions.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

Facts Versus Fiction.

Shopgirl (looking up from novel)—Such a stupid author! I'm sure those two would have kissed each other long ago.—Boston Transcript.

WHITE AND VEATCH TO APPEAR IN ALMA



RODERICK WHITE



REESE FARRINGTON VEATCH

Through the Music Department of Alma High School the public is given a musical treat as one of America's foremost violinists, Roderick White will be in our city Wednesday, March 24, with Reese F. Veatch, baritone. He achieves distinction and wins new laurels whenever he appears before the public. His is the true artistic temperament coupled with a mastery of technic.

Having been a pupil of C. Thomson of Brussels and Leopold Auer of Petrograd, undoubtedly two of the greatest teachers in the world, he has held an estimable position along with other pupils of Auer's, of whom might be mentioned Elman, Heifetz and Zimbalist.

This gifted artist made his debut

in Berlin November 15, 1913, winning emphatic success. The spring of 1915 he appeared in New York in several recitals with Alice Neilson and also John McCormick. Perhaps it might interest some to know Mr. Roderick White is a brother of Edward Steward White, the novelist, also of Gilbert White whose works of Art have made him famous abroad as well as in our own country.

It is through the generosity of Mr. Veatch and his friendship with Mr. White with whom he has given concerts in the western part of the state we are enabled to secure the talent of such an artist.

Mr. Veatch will need no introduction to our city, having been a mem-

ber of the faculty of Alma college for six years previous to his work in the service.

His co-workers know his worth as a musician whose soul is in his work; and as a director and teacher to be classed among the highest. He is the possessor of a baritone voice of exceptional range and richness of quality and variety of colour; whose interpretation is admirable.

The musical is for the benefit of the Music department with the idea of buying Victrola records for a class in Musical Appreciation.

The concert will be held in the high school auditorium and will start promptly at 8:15. General admission fifty cents. High school students 35c.

YPSI IN M. I. A. A.

Michigan State Normal Made Members of the Intercollegiate.

By a unanimous vote of the various colleges of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, taken by mail during the past few weeks, the Michigan State Normal at Ypsilanti, has been made a member of the Michigan collegiate circle.

The Michigan State Normal will replace Olivet College in the Michigan Intercollegiate, the Crimson having dropped out last June when the college closed its doors. Early this fall the proposition of voting in a successor to Olivet was taken up by the association, and at that time it was understood that four out of the five colleges of the association, were in favor of the admittance of Ypsi, and one against it. Later the other college shifted its grounds and voted in favor of the Normal.

Most of the M. I. A. A. colleges have base ball dates with Ypsi, but whether or not a complete schedule can be worked out, so that Ypsi can compete in baseball is still a question.

If Ypsi is not in the race in baseball, it is expected, however, that she will be represented at the annual track and field meet to be held at Albion College in June.

The membership of Ypsi in the association promises to be popular as it will bring into the college circle another strong institution, which turns out strong teams, and will aid greatly in keeping up interest in college sports in Michigan. It is one of the best moves that the M. I. A. A. could have taken.

The action also paves the way for an early enlargement of the association to possibly take in Hope College and Mt. Pleasant Normal. There are several good reasons for the admission of Mt. Pleasant into the association, more probably than in the case of Hope College. Without ques-

tion such a move would prove popular, and would also put the collegiate association on a firmer footing than ever before, as well as to create a far keener interest in sports in the smaller institutions of the state.

ALMA DROPS TWO

Team Loses Fast Games to Muskegon and Grand Rapids.

Stacking up against two strong aggregations the Alma college quintet, which has staged a remarkable comeback after a long series of defeats, was downed twice on its week end trip to Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

The Muskegon game was lost 41 to 18, but the score does not show the real class of the game that was fought by Wood's men. The first half was 18 to 11 for the Muskegonites, and it was not until late in the second half that Muskegon piled up the big count that it had at the end of the combat. Smith was the star of the Friday night game for Alma.

Saturday night at Grand Rapids Alma gave the Furniture City Y a hot game being defeated by only five points, the score being 24 to 19 for the Y cagers. Hooker, who had seen Smith in action at Muskegon Friday night tipped off the Grand Rapids players to ride him, and it was only the riding of Smith that saved the Y team from a defeat at the hands of the Maroon and Cream. Smith was able to annex only two field baskets during the game.

ATTENTION, AUTOISTS

Attention is called to the fact that 1920 licenses must be on automobiles that are in use. Your attention is also called to the fact that the law calls for a license plate on both ends of the auto. Violators will be arrested.

Oscar Vibber, Chief of Police.

The Record can do your Job Printing—call or telephone—adv.

ARMY'S BIG RECRUITING DRIVE STARTED HERE

(Continued from page one)

tures of various activities of the 10th and 14th Infantry.

To prove that our boys "Brought home the bacon," a glance into the window of Ellison's Grocery store will be ample proof. There will be seen war trophies of every description captured from the Germans by American soldiers during the World War.

The "Medical Department" window at the C. R. Murphy drug store will touch on the wonderful work done overseas during the war by the U. S. Army Medical Department, and also on the reconstruction work now being carried on in army hospitals in the U. S.

The all-important army shoe will not be neglected. At the Economy Shoe Store is to be shown the care used by Uncle Sam in providing for the care and comfort of his soldiers' feet, so that they may take the lead wherever they go.

PROMINENT ALMA YOUNG MAN DIED HERE MONDAY

(Continued from page one)

antecedents. The world is much poorer because he is gone; and all who knew him well are now feeling very poor too because they have lost such a friend.

If the sympathy of a very large circle of friends can in any way lessen sorrow or assuage grief, then his young wife and his father and mother must surely feel their load greatly lightened.

The funeral services are from the home this afternoon, and in charge of Rev. Willis L. Gelston of the Presbyterian church. Interment will be in the family lot in Riverside cemetery by the side of his grandfather, grandmother and two brothers.

Advertise your wants in The Record.

Lily White

"The Flour the Best Cooks Use."

makes the kind of bread you can serve three times a day and always have it eaten.

And good bread is an excellent body-builder. It is a splendid food for children.

In fact, there's nothing better for the kiddies than good bread and butter or bread and milk.

It makes them grow sturdy and healthy.

But you must have good bread for old or young. It should be light, tender, flavory and wholesome—just the kind LILY WHITE, "The flour the best cooks use," bakes.

Better baking satisfaction or your money back is guaranteed.

VALLEY CITY MILLING CO. Grand Rapids, Mich