

THE ALMA RECORD

HARCOCK & GROSSKOPF, Proprietors

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THE OPENING OF SCHOOL

The public school opens next week. It is an event of the utmost importance because it concerns most vitally the welfare of the whole community not only now but in the years to come.

There is great unrest and a great deal of pessimism with regard to the future of our country and that makes it absolutely imperative that the boys and girls shall learn the lessons of good citizenship. The school is our one democratic institution of equal interest and importance to rich and poor, high and low.

Looking at the school from the financial standpoint, no accurate estimate of its value can be made because the standard of American citizenship is not measured in dollars and cents. It is measured in terms of honesty, thrift, industry, right living, clean manhood and pure womanhood, and money does not buy these things.

Last year the expense of operating the school as shown by the annual report was \$121,810.33 and the estimated cost for the ensuing year is \$123,000.00. This is a lot of money but it is spent for the common good, and whether or not we get value received depends upon our own attitude towards the school.

There are some things that we should keep clearly in mind with regard to school work and probably one of the most important of these is that attendance should be regular, consecutive and prompt. In a large institution like the school it is necessary that there be certain rules and regulations, that there be a regular course, and that the plans shall be made ahead for the whole year, and even for the entire course.

We have all heard of the Irishman who was going to make a bacon hog out of his pig by feeding it all it could stuff for two or three days and then giving it nothing at all for perhaps an equal length of time. After a couple of years his friend McGinnis asked Mike where he got that little "runt," and Mike indignantly replied, "That's a bacon hog. He may be little but he's darned." What is true of physical growth is equally true of mental growth.

Possibly the most important thing to be said about the opening of school is to urge the cooperation of patrons and faculty. It is a foregone conclusion that differences will arise, that questions of discipline will come up, that there will be misunderstandings. But all these things can and should be adjusted through co-operation.

Parents should always keep in mind the fact that their children are in school for a specific purpose, and that they should be making progress toward the goal of good citizenship and upright manhood and womanhood. If they are not doing well in their work, the facts should be ascertained and step taken to get results.

Let's keep in mind that education is the bulwark of the nation and that we can get the best results only by co-operation, and let's make this the best educational year Alma has ever seen.

AS OTHERS SEE

"Bobby Burns" made himself famous by some of his trite sayings and amongst these was "Oh would some power the gift would give us To see ourselves as others see us!"

It is quite gratifying to know that other people sometimes appreciate the usefulness of a newspaper, and we reprint some words of appreciation recently expressed at a Chamber of Commerce meeting, by one of the leading business men of the country. Read it carefully and then boost your home papers when you have a chance.

There is not a worthy project contemplated or set afoot but the newspaper espouses and champions the cause. No building is ever erected, but what at every step from foundation to capstone the progress is made a matter of record in the home paper.

It is the merchant's channel of communication with his patrons; and it is equally the buyer's market-place. The honesty of present-day advertising commends itself to the public, and more and more the space of the home paper is being demanded for legitimate advertising purposes. The time is coming when the necessity of bringing pressure on some business men to get advertising will give way to a seeking for space by honest advertisers as the most available means of reaching the public, and the cheapest.

The newspaper is Argus-eyed; it sees everything; knows everything; records that which is worthy of recording; and the editorial sanctum is often the safe repository and final resting place of many a sordid and unworthy story that never is permitted publication.

It greets the newest infant, and rejoices with the happy parents; it rings the wedding chimes, and tolls the knell of the departed. It is joyous with the happy, and sad with the sorrowful. It bears an intimate message in every issue to those who have removed from the old home town; and conveys news to the home-folks from those who are away.

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What can a newspaper do for a town? It can do more than any one single agency to insure unity and advancement. With it in thriving condition, every industrial, social and moral movement is assured of effective leadership, which makes for accomplishment; without it a town is silent and dead, for silence, however golden, is a sign of death.

STATE POLICE HAVE BIG YEAR

ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS STATE TROOPERS HAVE PERFORMED VARIED SERVICES IN ENFORCING LAW.

WORK HAS GROWN GREATLY

A revelation of the great scope of the work of the Michigan State Police is given in the report recently made by Major Robert E. Marsh, commandant, to Governor Sleeper. This shows that the troopers on patrol and special assignments have travelled an aggregate of 597,974 miles during the twelve months and visited more than 2,000 towns and villages.

That the money expended for the maintenance of this force is not entirely net outgo is evidenced by the fact that the fines collected in state and county courts in cases brought by the State Police amounted to \$30,476.50 and in the federal courts the fines were \$75,500. Altogether, 4,568 persons were required to take out licenses of various kinds. Stolen goods of a value of \$37,000 were recovered.

In a monetary way, however, the greatest accomplishments of the force were of a preventative nature. Putting out forest fires, preventing destruction of property, breaking up incipient race riots, protecting banks and other business establishments in the smaller cities and villages, guarding orchards from raiders and similar services bulk large in potential saving of loss.

During the year 1946 arrests were made for almost every crime from murder down. Of those arrested 852 were convicted during the year, 86 cases were pending, 99 prisoners had been turned over to other officers and only 10 were discharged. This proves that the State Police were exceedingly careful in the arrests made.

Whisky Traffic Fought.

A constant attempt was made to stop bootlegging and moonshining. Liquor amounting to 22,595 gallons, of an estimated value of \$515,000, was seized and 53 stills were destroyed. Two members of the force were seriously injured in battles with liquor runners. Particular activity was displayed in breaking up illicit distilling after it was proved by analyses that most of the home-made whisky is poisonous in nature and likely to cause death if taken in any quantity.

Much has been done by the troopers to make the highways of the state more safe and the arrest of speeders has also protected the macadam and gravel roads which are torn up by reckless drivers.

Protection was extended to a number of towns which had been the sufferers from gangs of criminals who used motor cars in their raids and these raids were effectually stopped. Many gambling resorts were raided by the State Police and the crooked gamblers forced to close up, while their apparatus was seized and destroyed.

Police Made Investigations.

Investigations were made for the attorney-general and other state officers. Assistance was given to storm-swept districts and many citizens were also given aid when they were found ill or injured on the highways by the troopers.

State Police are forbidden to discuss religion or politics, are told to give warning rather than to use forcible measures wherever law violation appears to be due to ignorance or heedlessness and are instructed to render every aid possible at all times to women, children and persons in distress.

Larger Force Needed.

In conclusion, Major Marsh reports: "The impossibility of protecting the rural districts of a territory covering forty-two thousand square miles, practically without police protection except that furnished by the State Police, and of complying with the two thousand, five hundred and one requests for assistance received during the past year and which are constantly increasing as the force is becoming known. With a force of only two hundred and four officers and men this must be acknowledged and does not admit of argument. Although the population of the state has increased over one-half million since the force was first organized, the strength of the force has not increased one single man."

"While the amount of pay provided by the Act of 1919 helped at the time to keep the experienced men, the increased cost of living during the past year and the large increase in wages of all classes of labor, has not only made it difficult to secure desirable recruits, but has influenced members of the force to resign so as to accept much better paying positions. I would respectfully recommend the force to be increased by thirty-five per cent and that the pay be increased to conform to the pay of police officers of cities of the first class."

POLICE EXTINGUISH FIRES

M. A. Corey of Gaylord has written to the State Police thanking them profusely for their patrol and guard service during the recent forest fires in that region. It was largely through the efforts of the State Police that many fires were extinguished, any one of which might have proven disastrous. A patrol ride through the district daily keeping a sharp lookout for new fires.

Women Shrink as Insects

A recent survey by a pharmaceutical journal has disclosed the fact that the number of women pharmacists in the United States has more than doubled within the last five years.

For Those With Gout.

Carrots are good for those having a tendency to gout.

A new "Tarzan" picture, Strand next week.—adv.

AMERICAN RED CROSS TO GIVE RURAL HELP

Program for Public Health and Community Welfare is Now Well Under Way.

Rural communities and towns of less than 8,000 population benefit in a very large part by the public health and community welfare work of the American Red Cross. Almost all of the 8,000 Red Cross chapters have some rural sections in their territory. Therefore the Red Cross Rural Service.

Briefly, the purpose of Rural Service is to assist people to get out of life more health, well-being and happiness. In this purpose public health instruction and general educational progress of both children and adults play a big part.

Recreation is found to be one of the biggest needs in rural life. There is lack of sufficient play-life for the children and social life for the adults. Picnics, pageants, debating clubs, baseball leagues, community singing and other social events which bring the people of surrounding communities together have been organized and carried on under the guidance of Red Cross rural workers to great advantage. In many instances solving recreational problems and getting people together proves to be the awakening of the community to other conditions which may be improved by united action.

As a result of community organization, townships in which there had been neither plans nor interest in community progress have been organized to work together with the united purpose of bringing their community up to the most enlightened standards. Lecture and musical entertainment courses have been started as a result of community meetings, as well as circulating libraries, Red Cross schools of instruction in Home Nursing, Care of the Sick and First Aid. In the larger towns the need for restrooms and public comfort stations is being met. Playgrounds for the children have been established and recreational activities worked out for the year.

In order that there may be concerted effort in carrying on the programs of the various welfare agencies in the rural districts, Red Cross Rural Service helps the organizations already on the ground. The main object of the service is to lend a hand everywhere and take the lead only where necessary.

Lost Honors Magellan Won.

An astrologer deprived Ruy Faleiro, the famous Spanish astronomer, of sharing joint honors with Ferdinand Magellan in the discovery of the Pacific ocean and the straits of Magellan. He had joint contract with Magellan from Charles V under which the two were to have one-twenty-fifth of the clear profits of the journey as well as governorship of all the lands discovered on the trip, with the rank of adelantados. This was to be theirs for life and then handed down to their heirs forever. Before the date of sailing Faleiro had his horoscope cast. The astrologer said that this told him the trip would be fatal, and Faleiro stayed behind when Magellan and his five ships sailed from Seville, Spain.

Possible Origin of "Loafer."

An old Dutchman in New York had the misfortune to have a shiftless young American girl in love with his daughter. He disapproved of this and used to say to her, "Here comes that loafer of yours, the idle good for nothing." How the "lo" got into the word is not known, but an idle man hanging around came to be called a "loafer."

WHY THAT LAME BACK?

That morning lameness—those sharp pains when bending or lifting, make work a burden and rest impossible. Don't be handicapped by a bad back—look to your kidneys. You will make no mistake by following this Alma resident's example.

Jacob Cross, retired farmer, 209 East End says: "Some five years ago my kidneys started to bother me. Sharp pains seemed to come on all of a sudden. They seemed to start in the small of my back and dart all around. Lots of times, these pains would catch me when in a stooping position and my back was so lame and sore that it hurt me when I lay in bed. Along towards night I used to be bothered with dizzy spells and little specks often got in front of me, hindering my sight. I had to get up three or four times at night, as my kidneys were so weak. The secretions burned in passing and I could barely stand the pain. I heard of Doan's Kidney Pills and got a few boxes at Murphey's Drug store. They fixed me up in great shape." 60c at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.—adv 11.

OFFICIAL CALL

The Democratic Electors of Gratiot county are hereby notified that a County convention of the party will be held at the Opera House at Ithaca, Tuesday, September 14, 1920, at 1:00 p. m. Standard time, for the purpose of electing thirteen delegates to the Democratic State Convention at Lansing, September 29, 1920. Also to transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Dated at St. Louis, Michigan, August 30, 1920.

Robert Burns, Chairman; Archie McCall, Secretary; Nalla Axmi—Sees all, knows all, tells all.—adv.

THE REVENGE OF

TARZAN

Strand Theatre Wed. and Thurs. Next Week

School Supplies of Every Kind

We have the largest stock of school supplies in the city

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Pencils Pens

Inks Rulers

Drawing Supplies

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We want your trade and give value received in high grade goods

Cushing & Benedict

FOLKS--DO YOU KNOW WE HAVE FURNACES FOR SALE

Famous Homer

WITH ONE AND THREE REGISTERS

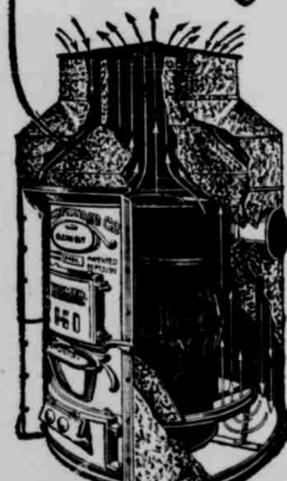
Building Time is HOMER TIME



Thermo-Seal Inner Lining

Buy Your Homer this week

We're going to suggest that you come in this week and give us an order for your Homer Furnace. You're going to buy one this year anyway—you won't go through another cold winter as you have this last year, with all the discomforts that stoves and inefficient heating plants bring to you.



install later

and when the cold fall months come on your furnace is ready and you can get all the comforts and enjoyment from it. During the week of May 8 to 15, all Homer dealers in the United States and Canada will be specially prepared to show you the Homer.

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