

# THE ALMA RECORD

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## DETROIT TRUST BOUGHT BONDS

City Disposed of Waterworks Improvement Issue to Good Advantage.

### LEGAL APPROVAL IS GIVEN

Legality of the Procedure of City Commission Settled by Lawyers.

On Tuesday evening the city commission sold the \$80,000 worth of water system improvement bonds to the Detroit Trust company, this concern being the highest bidder for the bonds that the city wishes to dispose of, in order that the improvement on the water system might be continued.

Only two bids were made this week for the bonds, due probably to market conditions in the country, Payne Webber Company of Detroit, being the other bidder.

The bids were asked for on \$80,000 worth of bonds and also on \$35,000 worth of bonds, as the city officials thought that perhaps it might be advisable to dispose of only the smaller amount of bonds at this time, but a thorough discussion of the market conditions of the country convinced them that it would be a matter of good business to sell the entire \$80,000 worth of the bonds now rather than take a chance on the balance in a few months hence, with such uncertain market conditions.

The bonds have already been approved by one of the leading firms of bond attorneys of Detroit, and are known to be good, and the bid of the Detroit Trust company was made contingent on the approval of the bonds by this firm.

The Detroit Trust company bid par for the bonds, with some various small expenses connected with the handling and printing of the bonds to be paid by the city, which amounts to a total of \$765.00.

### PROVING ADVANTAGES

Peace Time Army Is Attracting A Number of Men.

Few persons realize the significance of the educational work of the new peace time army, or the advantages that it offers to the young men today. It is not that enlisted men are merely going to school and that soldiers throughout the army are receiving general or special education as a part of their army training, but that they are receiving training that will give them a good advantage when they return to civil life.

One of the biggest purposes of the army training today, is to train the army in ideals of Civic upbuilding, and will have a great bearing on the country in the future.

Some few men have recognized the advantages that the new peace time army offers them, during the month and have entered the service through the local recruiting office, according to Sergeant C. E. March, in charge of the Alma recruiting office.

Among these men are Thomas B. Hoodman of Mt. Pleasant now at Camp Grant, Walter H. Battin of Mt. Pleasant now stationed at Camp Benning, Everett C. Keller of Farwell now stationed at Camp Travis in Texas, Howard N. Brown of Mt. Pleasant at Camp Benning, and John A. DeLaMater of Mt. Pleasant, now stationed at Camp Grant, Edward L. Geigle of Coleman at Camp Grant, P. R. McTear of Mt. Pleasant at Camp Grant, Lyle J. Sigourney of Vestaburg now stationed at Camp Jackson in South Carolina, Bertrand J. Evans of Mt. Pleasant who is now at Camp Jackson, Edgar E. Deeter of Mt. Pleasant now stationed at Fort McArthur in California, and Arthur Miller of Edmore who is now stationed at Camp Jackson.

### DIED IN YPSI

Former Republic Ball Player Died There Sunday Evening.

A telegram from Ypsilanti, received here Monday morning, told of the death of Don Bell, at his home there the previous evening. The message did not state the cause of his death.

Bell will be remembered as a former member of the Republic Truck base ball team, for which he both pitched and played first base. Last summer he gave up baseball, after accepting a position in the purchasing department of The Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., where he was employed until a few months ago, when he returned to Ypsilanti. He was a member of the George W. Myers Post No. 132, American Legion, of this city.

### MIDNIGHT SERVICES

Midnight services will be held at St. Mary's Catholic church Friday night (Christmas Eve), at which time the church bell will be rung in commemoration of the birth of Christ. This will be the first time that the midnight service has been held in Alma in this church. A service will also be held at 10:30 Christmas morning. The public is cordially invited to attend either, or both of these services.

### MAKING GOOD

Several Alma People Honored At Albion College.

Four graduates of Alma High School who are attending Albion College are evidently making good there, these being Margaret Drake, Nona Duffey, Velmer Lyons and Donald Dunham. Another Alma man, although not a graduate of the local high school, is also making a name for himself at Albion. He is Carl Johnson, pitcher, who last year defeated Alma 4 to 2, in the M. I. A. A. finals at Albion.

Miss Margaret Drake, has been named as the first alternate on the women's debating team, which is to meet Butler University in Indianapolis, and thus stands a good chance to get into the debate.

Miss Nona Duffey, the daughter of Rev. Duffey of the M. E. church, who entered Albion this past fall, is secretary of the Freshman class.

Velmer Lyons, former Alma athlete, is making things hum on the basket ball floor at the Methodist College, is on the squad, and broke into the first game last Friday at Detroit, getting Albion's lone field basket. He is being conceded an excellent chance to win a forward position over Captain Kenagwa of the Albion outfit.

Donald Dunham, a Sophomore, has been named on the Albion debating team, which meets four universities and one college of the middle west, which have Delta Sigma Phi chapters.

## MUNICIPAL XMAS TREE ON FRIDAY

American Legion Post Is Being Assisted in Work by the Auxiliary.

Plans for the George W. Myers Post No. 132, American Legion, for Alma's Community Christmas tree on Friday evening, December 24, are rapidly nearing completion, and give promise to a big night for the children of the city, as it is planned by the Legionnaires, and the Women's Auxiliary, which is assisting the former service men in the work, that each child that attends the community tree shall receive a present.

The big community tree, which was put in place at the corner of State and Superior on Tuesday is being decorated with colored lights and other decorations suitable for the occasion, and each night during the Holiday season the big tree will be lighted between the hours of 5:00 p. m. and 10:30 p. m.

Plans for Friday evening call for the assembling of the children of the city at the nearest church, from which they will march to the tree at 7:00 o'clock. Parents are requested to bring the smaller children with them to attend the exercises.

On reaching the tree the children will form a large circle around it, and will sing "Come All Ye Faithful," and "Holy Night." Prayer will be offered by Rev. Gelston of the Presbyterian church.

Santa Claus will then distribute gifts to all children present. Boy Scouts will assist Santa Claus in the distribution.

The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion is working on the program for the event, and while still somewhat incomplete promises to make the occasion one highly suited for the season. The program committee consists of Miss Ruth Von Thurn, Mrs. N. L. Diaz and Miss Louise McLaughlin.

### LOOKING GOOD

High School Team Should Develop into Strong Quintet.

Prospects for the Alma high basketball quintet appeared to be good in spite of the fact that eligibility has hit the squad a rather hard blow, and will cost the team the services of Stearns, a veteran, and which may also keep Hyde, another veteran, out of the game for two or three weeks.

The other candidates are working out daily, and are making a good showing, all things considered, and it is believed that when the locals open the season immediately after the holidays that Coach Mullin will put a strong team on the floor.

It is still a question as to what men will be chosen on the team, and it is doubtful if Coach Mullin names the first string men before the night of the opening encounter with Greenville on January 7.

Among the men who are making a good showing and who stand a chance to break into the game are Sartor, Anderson, Hopkins, Elias, Lee Lyons, Bentley, Garner and Handley.

### MARRIED RECENTLY

Miss Louise Parkhill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Parkhill of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., was united in marriage to Mr. Shirley MacGillivray of Mt. Pleasant on Dec. 5th by Rev. W. L. Gelston at the Presbyterian manse of this city. Miss Parkhill is a well known resident of Mt. Pleasant. She received her life certificate from Mt. Pleasant Normal last June, and has been studying this year for her degree. Mr. MacGillivray is a registered pharmacist engaged in business with his father in Mt. Pleasant. The bride was accompanied by her sister.

## To You and Yours

### OUR CHRISTMAS WISH

**IT REQUIRES not the occasion of Christmas with its joys, cheer and prevalent good will, to arouse in us a sense of the appreciation due patrons of this paper.**

**In our hearts and minds are gratitude and good thoughts for you during every day of the year; but Christmas hallows our sentiments and makes their expression fitting and timely.**

**Such as we have accomplished and such good as may be traceable to our efforts would not have been possible without your sustaining power and co-operation. If in any sense we have upheld a beacon, you have supplied oil for the lamp. If ours has been a chariot, yours has been the motive element which has kept it on its way.**

**All characters appealing to or endeavoring to entertain the public, must be given a certain meed of applause or they cannot exist. With those engaged in publishing a newspaper, the applause comes in the interest which readers manifest in its columns and in an occasional word of approval. The practical help of subscribers and advertisers has enabled us to maintain a publication standard; their encouragement has furnished the degree of pleasure necessary as an incentive to our daily tasks.**

**May the spirit of Christmas work for you the full degree of its bountifulness. May you be enabled to get the same amount of pleasure and benefit from these columns that we have derived from making them.**

**THE PUBLISHERS**

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## CELEBRATED THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. William Clark Were Married Fifty Years Ago December 14.

Tuesday evening, December 14th, Mrs. Ola Maurer, entertained twenty six relatives and friends of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Clark, who have been married fifty years that day, at an eight o'clock wedding dinner.

The parlor was beautifully decorated in white with a large white wedding bell hanging from the chandelier. The sitting room was trimmed in red and green Christmas decorations and poinsettias as was the dining room where a large Christmas bell hung over the center of the table directly above the bride's cake.

After dinner the evening was spent in visiting and talking over old times of fifty years ago, listening to music and to Mrs. Ophelia Presler, who with a few well chosen words, presented Mrs. Clark with a gold wedding ring from her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Maurer, and Mr. Clark with a set of gold cuff links and a five dollar gold piece, also a fruit dish full of mixed fruits.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Pratt and daughter, Mrs. Cunningham and daughter, Wendelin, and sons, Keith, Gordon and Kenneth, of Alma; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Apple of Elwell, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pangborn of Alma, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Reed and daughter, Jennie, Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Soule and two children, Alice and Clair, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Presler and daughter, Florence. One daughter and husband with their children, of Lansing were unable to be present on account of bad weather.

## DENIED REPORT

U. S. Board Won't Sanction Proposed Michigan Northern.

The proposed Michigan Northern railroad, about which the people of central Michigan have heard considerable during the past year and a half, will not be built in the very near future at least, as the government has refused to sanction a permit that would allow the backers of the enterprise to go ahead.

It was the intention of the backers of the enterprise to tap central Michigan, from north to south, by way of Bay City, Midland, Alma to Lansing and Kalamazoo, thus opening up a rich section of the state that does not now have a north and south line. The backers of the enterprise failed to satisfy the government as to the possibilities of the road being one that could pay a fair return upon new business that could be developed, it is understood.

## ELK'S DANCE

First Yuletide Event Will Be Held on Tuesday Evening.

Under the auspices of Alma Lodge No. 1400, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, a Yuletide Dancing Party will be held in the new Elks' Temple, next Tuesday evening, Dec. 28, dancing to begin at 8:30 sharp.

The affair has been arranged for Elks and their friends, and is the first function to be held in the new Elks' Temple. Its unnumbered success will be the forerunner of many occasions to be conducted by the Elks which will be a distinct addition to the social life of Alma. Tickets are \$1.50 for the couple. Music will be furnished by the Elks' orchestra.

St. Alma Shrine No. 26, W. S. of J., will hold a special meeting Thursday evening, December 30, for conferring of degrees at the Masonic Temple.

"Don't Ever Marry"—Strand soon, adv.

## FIFTY YEARS OF WEDDED LIFE

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Montague Celebrate Golden Wedding on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Montague of this city will celebrate their golden wedding, marking their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 25, Christmas, at the home of their daughter in Kansas City, where they are spending the holidays. Mr. Montague having left for Kansas City to join his wife Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Montague, who have been in Alma since the establishing of the Michigan Masonic Home here several years ago, of which Mr. Montague is the manager, are well known throughout the state.

## GOOD PROSPECTS

Legion Team Should Be a Speedy Court Aggregation.

The George W. Myers Post No. 132, basketball team, which is now working out twice each week in the Alma high school gymnasium is beginning to round into form and is giving the promise of being a speedy aggregation that should be strong enough to make most of the Legion post teams of this section of the state step aside.

A schedule is being worked out at the present time, and it is expected that it will be announced very soon. It is expected to be a hard one, and the expectations are that some of the best Legions of this section of the state will be seen in action on the Alma floor.

Among the Legionnaires who are showing good form are Gaffney, Hoodman, Moore, Handley and Smith.

## MARRIED THURSDAY

Local Girl Married To Maple River Farmer.

Following closely the wedding ceremony which took place at noon with Rev. Matt. W. Duffey of this city in charge, about forty of the bride's friends called at the home of Mr. Thomas Wilcox of Gratiot avenue, on Thursday evening of this last week and delightfully surprised the newly made bride, formerly Miss Adelia Wilcox, and the happy groom, Mr. Leo Reynolds. After good wishes and congratulations had been offered, the rest of the evening was spent in games, music and readings, followed by a sumptuous luncheon with rice and confetti occupying the position of dessert on the menu.

Miss Adelia Wilcox has lived in the city of Alma with her parents for about three years the old family home being at Owosso. During her stay here she has made numerous friends among the young people of the city because of her congenial personality; and because of her warm interest in the children of the town, she has devoted a large amount of her time to their varied interests. She is a graduate of the Mt. Pleasant Normal School, and for six years has been an instructor in the public schools of the state.

Mr. Reynolds is a graduate of the Michigan Agricultural College, a prosperous farmer living at Maple River, near Owosso, and a leading layman in his local church. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds will be at home to their friends at their Maple Rapids farm after January 1st, 1921.

## EFFORTS BENDED TO AID THE POOR

Organizations of Alma Striving to Make Christmas a Real Happy Day.

Alma's poor have the prospect of a merry and a happy Christmas, as the lean wolf that has been stalking at the door of a number of Alma homes will not be around, when the morning of Saturday, December 25, arrives, because their more fortunate brothers and sisters of the community have been, and still are, preparing to make the day the best remembered in the history of the city, as real Christmas cheer will go into every nook and corner of Alma, for the aid of the unfortunate.

Perhaps never before has the community had so many families that have been facing a cheerless Christmas. But it will not be as cheerless as they have probably been imagining that it would.

Every organization of Alma is preparing to do it utmost in aiding the distressed of the city, all of them remembering that "It is much more blessed to give than to receive." A committee has been working diligently at The Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., with a view of bringing smiling faces into Alma homes on Christmas day. Approximately \$1,200 has been raised, through the company, its employees and through the ball held Wednesday evening. This promises to go far in aiding many a distressed home.

The Salvation Army is planning for one hundred bushel baskets of food for the needy in the city. All of the churches are preparing to do their part in this most noble work, and lodge organizations such as the Masonic lodge and the others are preparing to aid the poor of the city.

All in all it promises to be the nearest approach to a real community Christmas that the city has ever enjoyed, with more people than ever before aiding in the great work of making it more of a day of giving in Alma, to raise new hopes in discouraged homes, and to carry to every spot in the city the real joy of the season.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The following program will be given at the First Christian Church on East Superior st., Friday evening, December 24, at 7:30 p. m.:

Song by chorus.  
Scripture reading and prayer.  
Song, "The Christmas Manger," by primary.  
Recitations by Violet Warden, Roberta Crassen, Charles Andrews, Hava Richards, Mabel Morningstar, Irene Rowley, Erma Slusser, Fern Bradley, Theal Andrews, Leon Markham, Isabelle Flemming, Ronald Riley, Alma Zinn, Franklin Williams.  
Song by Miss Lippert's class.  
Piano duet, Mae Williams, Esther Zinn.  
Vocal trio, Margaret, Fern and Mary Holmes.  
Reading, "Jes' Fore Christmas," Mae Williams.  
Vocal duet, Beulah Markham and Mildred Moore.  
Exercise, "Christmas Cupboard," and three recitations by Miss Johnston's class.  
Male quartette.  
Tableau, "The Annunciation."  
Tableau, "The Angel Choir."  
Tableau, "Star of Bethlehem."  
Tableau, "Christmas Gifts."  
Tableau, "Christmas Carols."  
"Spirit of Christmas," Madge Johnston.

Exercise by Gretchen May, Margaret, Joseph and Donald Fall.  
Song by audience, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing."  
Santa Claus.

## WILL REVISE CONSTITUTION

Committee Appointed to Revamp This and Also to Go Over By-Laws.

### WILL BE READY VERY SOON

Primary Election of Chamber of Commerce Will Then Be Held.

The executive committee of the Alma Chamber of Commerce has appointed a committee, consisting of Harry Gerber, president of the Board of Trade, D. L. Johnson, secretary, and Charles G. Rhodes to revise the constitution and by-laws of the Board of Trade, in accordance with the needs of a chamber of commerce.

The constitution and by-laws to be revised will be patterned to a great extent after those of the most successful organizations of the kind in Michigan, some of which are recognized as being the best chambers in the country. The valuable portions of the present constitution and by-laws will be continued.

It is expected that this work will be completed at an early date, and that it will be possible to submit the constitution and by-laws to the membership for approval and ratification at a meeting to be held during the first week in January.

Immediately after the approval of the constitution and by-laws, the primary election of the Chamber of Commerce will be held. Primary ballots will be sent out to the membership, with a complete roster of the members. The 24 members receiving the highest number of votes will be then selected and voted upon, and from these the twelve receiving the highest number of votes will become the directors.

It has been decided by the executive committee that those holding plural memberships may assign memberships to others besides those in their employ, if they are desirous of doing so. In such cases it is requested that the names and addresses of those to whom the memberships are assigned, be sent to the officers of the Chamber of Commerce at once.

## MRS. GOSSETT DEAD

Well Known Alma Woman Passed Away Sunday in Detroit.

Mrs. James Gossett, residing on Woodworth avenue, passed away in Detroit Sunday, where she had gone for an operation. She was well and favorably known by a large circle of friends, to whom her death came as a distinct shock, as it had not been realized that her condition was so serious.

Harriet Jane Gossett was born at Spring Lake, Michigan, October 20, 1859. May 1, 1891 she was united in marriage to James C. Gossett of Grand Rapids and in 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Gossett, with their family, moved to Alma where they have since resided.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Rodney Burgess of this city, and Mrs. Jack Gallagher of Saginaw, one son, Fay C., her father, George Schwab, Sr., three sisters and three brothers.

The body was brought to Alma from Detroit Monday evening, and on Wednesday afternoon at the late home the funeral was held, conducted by the Rev. J. Frank Jackson, rector of St. John's Episcopal church. The body was placed in the vault at Riverside cemetery.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The Christmas service of the Presbyterian church and Sunday school was held Tuesday evening at the church and proved a very delightful service.

At six o'clock a chicken pie supper with ice cream and cake for top dressing was served and enjoyed by nearly three hundred people. After the supper the company went to the main body of the church where the evening's program was given. It consisted of the singing of Christmas songs and carols by the schools, the reading of the Christmas story by Miss Ruth von Thurn, and the story of "The Other Wise Man" by Miss Crawford.

At the close of the program Santa Claus appeared, to the great delight of the children and proceeded to distribute presents to the youngsters and kept at it until every child in the house was supplied with one or more gifts.

The committee had further planned for a white Christmas and many gifts were brought to be distributed about the city to add to the Christmas cheer of those who might not otherwise be remembered.

The church was prettily decorated and two trees adorned with candles added to the beauty of the scene.

## OPEN XMAS

The post office will be open on Christmas day from 10 a. m. to 12 M. City patrons may call for their mail, as there will be no city delivery. Rural carriers will make their regular trips. The public will be governed accordingly.

Vincent P. Cash, postmaster.