

# THE ALMA RECORD

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## THE ALMA REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA BEGINS TODAY

### PROGRAM IS A VARIED ONE OF MUCH INTEREST

MANY FEATURES ARE OFFERED  
DURING WEEK, INCLUDING  
DRAMAS AND LECTURES.

### Ticket Sellers Report Today

Alma's 1921 Redpath Chautauqua will get under way at the Chautauqua tent on the grounds adjacent to Wright park this afternoon, and the people of this city who are fortunate enough to hold season tickets for the event have the promise of hearing what is believed to be the strongest series of entertainments the Chautauqua has ever brought to this city.

The week's program will open this afternoon with a grand concert by the Oceanic Concert Company, the concert following the introductory exercises. This evening the Oceanic Concert Co. will give a short concert, which will be followed by Montaville Flowers with his lecture, "America Looking Ahead." It is a strong lecture and should not be missed.

Friday the Chapel Singers will entertain afternoon and evening. In the evening Lewis A. Convis in a lecture, "Personal Experiences with the Bolsheviks in Russia," will bring to Alma first hand information in regard to conditions in that country, obtained from first hand study.

"As You Like It" and "The Man From Home," are two famous dramas which will be given during the course in addition to the numerous musical numbers and the well known lectures.

Full reports from the ticket sellers, who are the Alma residents who guaranteed the Chautauqua this year, previous to the meeting held this morning, are rather meager. As the solicitors all have their quota of tickets it is believed by the committee that the sale is proceeding in a satisfactory way. There is nothing yet, at least, to indicate that the ticket sale is not proceeding satisfactorily.

J. S. Knoetzer, a member of the committee, however, urges that all of the solicitors continue working until the last minute to make certain that a sufficient number of tickets will be sold. It is regarded as possible that some of the ticket sellers may not dispose of all of their tickets, and it is felt that if all of them continue their work with success.

The solicitors are meeting this morning to check up the ticket sale, but so far no definite reports can be procured.

### CAVALRY LEAVES FRIDAY MORNING

SEVENTY-FIVE ALMA MEN WILL  
TRAIN AT GRAYLING UNTIL  
AUGUST 20.

Troop C, 108th Cavalry, will leave Alma Friday morning at 11:15 Eastern time for Grayling, where in company with other National Guard units of the state, the troop will train until August 20.

All material for the company, excepting the horses, has now been received, and Monday evening clothing and equipment was issued to the 75 members of the company. Included in the material which was received during the past week was a five ton truck for the use of the troop.

Just when the horses will be received for the company is still something that Captain Reece cannot tell, although they are expected almost daily. He has been assured, however, that there will be horses at the camp in sufficient number to care for the needs of the Alma company.

Thursday evening formation of the company will be held, and again Friday morning at 7:00 o'clock.

### SLUSSER SELLS GARAGE

F. E. Slusser, for the past two years the proprietor of the Slusser garage on East Superior street, disposed of his garage the first of the week to George Blisch and F. F. Zimbrink. The new firm took immediate possession of the garage. Both Mr. Blisch and Mr. Zimbrink are well known residents of this city. The latter has had a wide experience in garage work. Mr. Slusser has not determined just what he will do in the future.

### City Widens a Bad Corner

The intersection of East Superior street, Michigan avenue and Euclid avenue is being widened by the city with a view of lessening as much as possible the danger that is constantly present at a bad street intersection.

The turns on the narrow pavement from the other streets have been such that in view of the heavy traffic passing that point considerable care must be exercised by drivers, especially at certain periods of the day.

The city officials realizing the danger that the corners offered to traffic, cut back and made wider the approach to Euclid avenue on Superior street, going to the east. The sharp corner between Michigan avenue and Superior is also being cut back considerably.

The change promises to meet with hearty favor from automobilists and others who are forced to constantly use those streets, as it does away to a great extent of any possible danger there, except that it may be from careless driving.

### JULY SAW HEAT RECORDS BROKEN

MONTHLY AVERAGE OF TEMPERATURE WAS HIGHEST IN PAST SIXTEEN YEARS.

July was the hottest month that the county has experienced for sixteen years, according to figures which have been furnished by F. L. Delavan, local weather observer, the average temperature for the month being 79 degrees against 75 degrees for an average for the next hottest July of the sixteen years.

During nine of the sixteen years the monthly average for July was less than 70 degrees, which gives a good indication of the excessive heat that was enjoyed last month.

Only once during the entire sixteen years has the highest temperature for a single day in July exceeded the hottest of the July days this year. This was in 1906 when the temperature went to 102 degrees. This year the high mark was one degree less.

The low point of the July temperature this year was higher than the low point of any July during the past sixteen years except one by at least three degrees.

The monthly average shows July, 1921, to have been the hottest July of the sixteen years. The nearest approach to the monthly average of July 1921, was in 1916, when the monthly average was 75 degrees.

The total number of inches of rainfall was probably close to the average for July. In 1916 only .53 inches fell during the month, this being the low point for the sixteen years. The greatest amount for the month during the sixteen years was in 1912 when 6.55 inches of rain fell in July. The usual amount of rainfall in July has been between two and three inches.

### Saginawan Opens New Shop Here

A. W. Cross of Saginaw has moved to Alma and has opened a shop in the rear of the Republic garage building on West Superior street for the manufacture of automobile tops, curtains and cushions.

Mr. Cross also expects to do repairing and upholstering work at this location.

He has had twelve years of experience in this line of work, and comes to Alma from Saginaw with some flattering recommendations as a first class workman.

### JULY WEATHER SUMMARY

F. L. Delavan, local weather observer, reports the following weather summary for July: The mean maximum temperature for the month was 91 degrees and the mean minimum 67 degrees. The maximum was 101 degrees on July 5, and the minimum 52 degrees on July 21.

The total precipitation for the month was 2.39 inches. The greatest amount of precipitation in 24 hours was .9 inches on July 28. On eight days .01 or more inches of precipitation fell. There were 24 clear days during the month and seven partly cloudy.

### OPEN NEW SHOP HERE

Oibrant & Price have moved to this city from Muskegon and have opened an acetylene welding shop at the former location of the Lodewyck garage. The two men also plan on conducting a garage at that location.

### CONVENTION TO BE HELD HERE SOON

GRATIOT SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO  
HOLD TWO DAY SESSION  
IN THIS CITY.

### Excellent Program Is Being Prepared

Plans are underway for the thirty-fifth annual convention of the Gratiot County Sunday School Association, which is said to be held in Alma for two days, Saturday and Sunday, September 10 and 11th.

While the plans are far from complete indications are that the program this year will be one of the best that has ever been given at a Sunday School convention in the county.

Special efforts are being made to secure good speakers for the convention, who are specialists in their chosen lines of Sunday school work, and it is expected that much valuable information will be procurable by Sunday school workers, from the addresses that are to be given by those people. Certain of the more important phases of Sunday school work will be elaborated upon in the addresses. The talent promises to be of an unusually high class for such an event in Gratiot.

The musical end of the convention will not be overlooked either, in the plans for the convention. Even now music of a very worthwhile nature is being assured those who attend the affair.

It is expected that the program for the convention will be ready for announcement in about two or three weeks.

### NOTICE

The city taxes are now due and payable any time from July 8th to September 14th, 1921, without any penalty, and from September 15th to November 1st, 1921 four (4) per cent will be added to the amount of your taxes. Also the Special Paving Tax on East Superior street from Euclid avenue to Bridge avenue, West Superior street from Cedar avenue to the corporation line, and Wright ave. from end of present pavement north to Elwell street are now due and payable any time before August 21st, 1921.

Dated Alma, Mich., July 16, 1921.  
D. W. Adams, city treasurer.

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSY

SEVERAL MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE INCLUDING WEST ROAD, BEFORE ORGANIZATION.

The Alma Chamber of Commerce is continuing its activities in several matters of importance, especially in regard to the improvement of the road for the four miles west from Alma, and during the past week has had a few other matters under discussion that promise to be of importance.

At the present time it is almost certain that another delegation from the Alma Chamber of Commerce will go to Lansing next week to agitate the early improvement of the road for the four miles west from Alma. Realizing the great importance of the improvement of the road this fall, the Chamber of Commerce will make every endeavor to secure early action so that the work on this particular road will not go over until next spring.

A committee of the Chamber of Commerce is now working on a proposition for the establishment of a grain warehouse in Alma for an outside company. The work on the proposition so far has not gone far enough to insure the establishment of such a warehouse here, but the expectation is that the company, which is interested in the matter, will decide to locate a branch here.

A membership committee of the organization, consisting of twenty-five members of the committee each have several prospect cards of new people in the city, and older residents, who are not members of the organization, whom it is felt should be numbered among the members. It will be the special duty of the members of this committee to interest these people in the organization and secure their signatures to the membership cards.

### Warns of Fraud in Alfalfa Seed

Much alfalfa seed sold in Michigan is being adulterated with yellow trefoil, according to Prof. J. F. Cox, head of the farm crops department at M. A. C., who is receiving a large number of samples of this plant. Consequently he has warned farmers of the state to plant none but native grown seed from the northwest.

"Trefoil seed is very similar in appearance to alfalfa," says Prof. Cox, "but the trefoil plant has very small value compared to alfalfa for forage, hence the farmer buying seed adulterated with trefoil is directly injured, the loss caused him being in proportion to the trefoil carried."

"Great care should be taken in purchasing alfalfa seed to be sure that the native grown seed from the Dakotas, Montana, Idaho or Utah is planted in Michigan. The Grimm, Baltic and Cossack varieties are the hardest. Next to them good northern grown common alfalfa should be selected for Michigan planting."

### PAVING PROGRAM TO BE SHORTENED

RESIDENTS OBJECT TO PAVING THIS YEAR ON SOME AVENUES AND STREETS.

By resolution Tuesday evening the city commission expressed its determination to pave Pine avenue, Woodworth avenue, Prospect avenue, Park avenue, Elwell street, two blocks on West End street, and two blocks on Downie street.

The probabilities are, however, that only the paving on Woodworth avenue and Downie street will be laid this year, the balance being laid over until some later date.

When the hearings of the objections to the paving on the various streets was held Tuesday evening by the city commission objections to construction of the proposed pavement on Pine avenue, Elwell street, Park avenue and Prospect avenue were submitted.

The petitions were not all worded the same but in substance all of them asked that the paving on the respective streets and avenues be held up this year because of the financial and business depression. Some of those present said that some of the people on these streets would find it hard to pay their regular tax this year without having any tax added for the pavement.

As the petitions against the paving this year on the various streets had seemingly a majority of the residents' signatures on them, it is expected that the commission will not call the board of special assessors together to prepare the special assessment rolls on those streets and avenues. In fact the residents of these streets were given to understand by the commission that the paving would not be laid until conditions were better.

One surprising feature of the hearing was the fact that residents of Woodworth, north from Superior, asked that the entire block be paved fifty feet wide instead of thirty from the alley, north. It is regarded as more than probable that this will be done in view of the fact that it will make the street look much better in the future and possibly serve at some future time as a means of avoiding the congestion that is now experienced on State street from the narrower paving.

No objections to the paving on Woodworth avenue, Downie street or West End street appeared at the hearing, and as a result the city commission is now planning on paving at least Woodworth avenue, north from Superior street, and Downie street from State street to Park avenue.

### SONG IS HERE

Last Thursday the first supply of the song, "My Dear Old Southern Home," arrived at the Frank F. Smith music store and copies of the song, written by the proprietor of the store, can now be secured at that place. Those who have heard the song are well pleased with it, and are predicting that Mr. Smith will find a ready sale for the first of the songs that he has written. Other songs of his are expected to come from the press in the very near future.

A painting, illustrating the scene of "My Dear Old Southern Home," by Myrtle Van Laven Walker, is now on exhibition at the Smith music store, and will be given away the last evening of the chautauqua, as a feature piece of advertising for the song. Tickets on the painting will be given away each entertainment.

### LARGER ALMA COLLEGE PLAN IS UNDER WAY

REMODELING OF GYMNASIUM  
BUILDING FOR CHEMISTRY  
DEPT. IS STARTED.

### Start Work on The First Floor

The first work, following the endowment campaign, which looks forward to a larger Alma College is under way, the Owen-Ames-Kimble Co. of Grand Rapids having been given the contract for the remodeling of the kindergarten rooms in the old gymnasium building, which is to be made into a modern chemistry department.

While the first floor of the old gymnasium structure is perhaps not as large as desired for the purpose, the remodeling of the second floor at a later period will give plenty of room for everything relating to the chemistry department. The second floor will probably be remodeled in the spring.

The first floor of the gymnasium building will furnish three rooms for chemistry, a lecture room, a quantitative laboratory and a store room. The laboratories for organic chemistry and general chemistry will remain in the basement of the administration building for the present year, and when the second floor of the gymnasium building is remodeled next spring, they will be moved to this structure, which is then to be known as the chemistry building.

The remodeled structure will make a much more suitable home for the chemistry department, and will probably house the department for some time to come, or until a science hall is constructed, and as a result of this fact the trustees of the college plan on having very substantial work done in the remodeling.

The Grand Rapids firm already has a force of men on the job. Practically all of the men being used in the work are local workmen, and it is understood that all material used in the remodeling that can be secured in Alma, is being purchased in this city.

It is hoped that the work of remodeling the first floor of the building may be completed by the time that college opens about the middle of September, and to have the quantitative laboratory moved to the new location.

### FUNERALS TO BE HELD SUNDAY

BODIES OF SGT. LEONARD AND  
PVT. McLEAN WILL REACH  
ALMA TONIGHT.

Telegrams received this morning by Mrs. Edward McLean of Rockingham avenue, and Frank Leonard of Park avenue, are to the effect that the bodies of their sons, Sgt. Harry Leonard, and Private Leslie McLean, left Hoboken Wednesday afternoon for Alma. They are expected to arrive here tonight or Friday morning.

Services for Sgt. Leonard will be held at 2:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Riverside cemetery, in charge of the Alma Lodge No. 244, F. & A. M., and the George W. Myers Post No. 132, American Legion. Leonard was killed in action in France, August 3, 1918.

The funeral services for Private Leslie McLean, Alma's youngest service man, who died of wounds July 20, 1918, will be held at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the First Methodist Episcopal church. Rev. Duffey will officiate. The American Legion service will be held also, by the George W. Myers Post No. 132, American Legion.

### INVITE LEAGUE TO AFFILIATE

At the meeting of the directors of the Alma Chamber of Commerce held yesterday afternoon in the rooms of the organization at the city hall, an invitation was extended to the Civic League to become affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce. It is expected that the League will accept the invitation.

Money spent with us buys not only good coal but satisfaction and reliability as well. Brown-Ward Co., phone 27-6016

### To Picnic at East Lansing

Thursday, August 11, the pig and calf club members of Gratiot county will have a basket picnic at the Agricultural College at East Lansing.

The clubs from the north and central part of the county will meet at the Farm Bureau office in Ithaca at 8:30 a. m. The clubs in New Haven and North Shade will join the others at St. Johns.

All friends of the club members are urged to attend the picnic. There will be a short stop in Lansing to visit the State Farm Bureau office, and to observe the workings of the different departments.

After dinner the grounds and barns will be inspected. Professors from the different departments will explain about the different experiments they are conducting. There will also be a demonstration in judging cattle and hogs.

### CLARK IS NAMED AS PROSECUTOR

ST. LOUIS CITY ATTORNEY APPOINTED TO FILL VACANCY BY JUDGE E. J. MOINET.

Attorney Romaine Clark of St. Louis is the prosecuting attorney of Gratiot county, appointed by Judge E. J. Moinet of the Gratiot-Clinton circuit, to fill the unexpired term of O. L. Smith who recently resigned to accept a position as one of the assistant attorney general's of Michigan, bearing out the prediction made by The Record nearly two months ago, at the time that it became known that Prosecutor Smith had accepted the state position. The appointment was made by Judge Moinet on Friday.



Romaine Clark

Clark has been practicing law in St. Louis for several years past, and has been city attorney of St. Louis for some little time. One of the youngest attorneys of the county Clark has not been heard from as much as the other members of the bar, perhaps, up until the time of the trial of Oscar Collins a few months ago, when he acquitted himself much better than his friends expected, in the legal battle that he put up for his client.

Last fall Clark was a candidate for the Republican nomination for prosecutor against the veteran prosecutor and campaigner, O. L. Smith, and was defeated. He made no active fight to secure the nomination. A number of the members of the Gratiot bar urged the appointment of Clark to the place.

Prosecuting Attorney Clark is a graduate of the Law School of the University of Michigan. Before attending the Michigan Law School, he attended Alma College, and at that time made many friends in this city, who have continued to hold him in high regard.

As O. L. Smith was about to step out of the county office, he was called into the office of James G. Kress, judge of probate, on Saturday, where he was presented with a gold watch, a gift from the county officials, as a token of the high esteem in which they held Gratiot's former prosecuting attorney.

### Plant Superintendent Died on Tuesday

LeRoy C. Vandemark, aged 36 years, plant superintendent at the local plant of Swift & Company, died Tuesday evening after a short illness, his death coming as a distinct shock to his many friends in Alma and vicinity, in which he had spent practically all his life. He had been an employe of Swift & Company's Alma plant for the past nine years.

LeRoy C. Vandemark, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Vandemark, was born March 13, 1885, near Riverdale. He was married September 7, 1918, to Mrs. Esther North, who with a daughter, Julia, his parents, who with a daughter, Julia, his parents, who with a daughter, John, of Owosso and a sister, Mrs. Martha Schaff, survive him.

The funeral service will be held from the First Methodist Episcopal church this afternoon, in charge of Rev. James V. Myers. Interment will be made at Riverside cemetery.

### FARM FACTS OF CENSUS ANNOUNCED

NUMBER OF FARMS IN GRATIOT SHOWS DECREASE OVER THE TEN YEAR PERIOD.

### Land and Building Value Almost Double

Figures in regard to agriculture in Gratiot county, gleaned from the fourteenth census, which were made public today by the director of the census, shows that Gratiot county on January 1, 1920, had 3,859 farms as compared with 4,205 farms on April 15, 1910, when the previous census was taken. This shows a decrease in the number of farms of 8.2 per cent.

Of these farms 3,845 are operated by white farmers, and 14 by colored farmers. In 1920 there were 4,194 white farmers and eleven colored, showing a decrease in the number of farmers in the county of 8.3 per cent.

In 1910 3,154 owners and managers operated farms in the county, as compared with 2,821 in 1920, a decrease of 8.3 per cent. The number of tenants on farms of the county increased from 751 in 1910 to 1,038 in 1920, or 38.2 per cent.

The total amount of land in farms in 1910 was 323,148 acres and in 1920 it decreased 5,900 acres to 328,074 acres, or 1.5 per cent. The number of improved acres gained during the ten year period. In 1910 the number of improved acres of farm land in the county was 248,899, and in 1920 it was 251,326.

The value of farm land and buildings increased greatly during the ten year period and is now almost twice as valuable as in 1910. On April 15, 1910 farm lands and buildings were valued at \$18,457,274, while on January 1, 1920, they were valued at \$35,287,393 or an increase of 91.2 per cent.

Figures given for domestic animals on the farms of the county reporting April 15, 1910, are not very closely comparable with those of January 1, 1920, the last census having been taken before the breeding season, while the 1910 census was taken about the middle of the breeding season and included many spring calves, colts, etc.

The farms reporting domestic animals in 1910 was 4,067 as compared with 3,724 in 1920. In 1910 a total of 13,850 horses were reported as against 13,284 in 1920. The number of mules increased during the ten years from 67 to one hundred. Cattle in 1910 numbered 26,191 and in 1920 numbered 29,709. Gratiot had 59,608 sheep April 15, 1910, and on January 1, 1920, had less than half the number or 25,825. There were 27,195 swine in the county April 15, 1910, and on January 1, 1920, there were a total of 29,935 in Gratiot.

### WILL EXTEND LIGHT SYSTEM

BOULEVARD SYSTEM WILL BE EXTENDED BLOCK EAST TO RACE ON SUPERIOR.

Upon recommendation of William E. Reynolds, city manager, the city commission Tuesday evening voted to extend the boulevard lighting system of the city.

The system is to be continued for one block east from Gratiot avenue to the race bridge on East Superior street.

At the time that the city installed its boulevard lighting system this block had not been built up, and at that time there was no indication that the city would within the course of a few years advance so rapidly that business structures would completely fill the block. As a result the system was brought to an end at Gratiot avenue.

There is also a slight agitation for the continuation of the boulevard system north on State street, and it is more than likely that this work will be undertaken next year.

You've missed a fine opportunity to save if you haven't seen those real shoe bargains in Robinson's shoe window on State street. Better see it now!—advertisement