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SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION TO BE HELD HERE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL WILL BE HELD IN ALMA ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

Good Speakers To Be Present

On Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10 and 11, the thirty-fifth annual convention of the Gratiot County Sunday School Association will be held in this city. The convention will begin with the Saturday afternoon meeting to be held in the Presbyterian church and will close Sunday afternoon with meetings in the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches.

Among the better known speakers who will make addresses at the sessions of the convention will be President H. M. Crooks of Alma College, Professor F. S. Goodrich of Albion College, Professor C. A. Wright of Ithaca, Rev. Wm. Roberts and others. The program for the convention follows:

Saturday, 1:30, Presbyterian Church Song Service—Rev. L. L. Dewey, leader.

Scripture and Devotional, Rev. E. E. Schaffer.

Symposium—"The Unchurched Nine-Tenths of Gratiot"—Speakers, Rev. William Roberts, Rev. H. A. Carr, F. J. Schaefer, Rev. A. Mudge and Prof. Wright.

General discussion.

Solo by Miss Marion Grover.

Address, "The Wonderful History of the Sunday School Association Movement"—Professor F. S. Goodrich, D.D., of Albion.

Musical.

Address, "Methods of Primary Work"—Professor Wright.

Musical collection and benediction.

Saturday 7:30, M. E. Church. Music and devotionals.

Address—"Making a Living or a Life," Professor Goodrich.

Appointment of committees.

Sunday morning at 10 o'clock addresses will be given in the churches of the city as follows: At the Presbyterian church, "Construct or Reconstruct," by Professor Goodrich; at the Methodist church, "Childhood Delinquency—The Remedy," by Rev. Wm. Roberts; at the Baptist church, "Religious Education," by Professor Wright; at the Christian church, "The Sunday School, the Hope of the Church," by Dr. John R. Latchaw.

At 11:00 a. m. Sunday a meeting of the township officers council will be held at the Methodist church. At the same hour a meeting of the board of directors is scheduled to be held at the Baptist church.

A basket picnic dinner will be held at 12:00 noon on Sunday.

In the afternoon at 1:30 meetings will be held at three of the churches the one to be held at the Baptist church being the young people's conference and the discussion of the question, "What Can We Do to Help the Sunday School?" The programs for the other afternoon meetings:

At Methodist Church. Song Service led by Rev. L. L. Dewey.

Devotionals led by Dr. J. R. H. Latchaw.

Musical by Middleton orchestra.

Address by Pres. H. M. Crooks of Alma College.

Piano Solo by Milan Rose.

Report of Director of Religious Education by Prof. Wright.

Business Session.

Musical.

Missionary Drama by Ithaca Girls.

Address—"Future Outlook," by Professor Wright.

Recitation by Nama Andrews.

Musical.

At Presbyterian Church. Song Service.

Devotional led by Rev. Duffy.

Address by Professor Goodrich.

Musical by Male Quartette of Pres. S. S.

Report of Sec'y-Treasurer, by Dr. Skinner.

Report of Director of Religious Education by Prof. Wright.

Musical by M. E. S. S.

Business Session.

Musical.

Address, "Our Country and Its Religious Needs," by Prof. Wright.

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

Christ's Kingdom at Hand—Millions Now Living Will Never Die! Mr. Barber offers a reasonable and satisfying solution of the great question of Life and Death and the Future. Come and hear R. H. Barber of New York City, Sunday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 P. M. in the Odd Fellow hall, Alma. Seats free, no collection, all invited. Auspices, International Bible Students Association.—advertisement

"Humoresque"—Strand next week advertisement.

Clean-Up Squad At Saginaw

Veterans of the World War will be afforded an opportunity to press their claims against the federal government in a meeting at Saginaw from September 12 to 16. A "Clean-Up Squad" of federal officials will hear their claims, and American Legion representatives will be there to help them.

Claims will be heard both from men who have cases pending and from those who wish to file claims for the first time. Men who wish to protest awards which they now receive, because they consider them inadequate, also will be given an opportunity.

Dr. Frank B. Broderick, State Welfare Officer of the American Legion, sends the following tabloid instructions to prospective claimants:

"If you think you have a claim, be sure to come in. Bring your honorable discharge, and every possible scrap of evidence. Be sure to connect up your present disability with your service in the war. Bring affidavits from men who served with you, or from physicians. If you are protesting a present award, make your evidence all the stronger."

At Saginaw, the cases of veterans from Saginaw, Gratiot, Tuscola, Bay and Midland counties will be heard. In some meritorious cases, transportation of claimants from their homes to Saginaw will be refunded to them.

GIVE TESTS FOR TUBERCULOSIS

FEDERAL TESTER WILL VISIT GRATIOT TO TEST CATTLE FOR THE DISEASE.

Monday, Sept. 12, a Federal man is coming into Gratiot county to test the cattle for tuberculosis. At the present time he will confine his services mainly to herds containing some pure bred cattle. The cost will average around \$3 or \$4 a herd.

All know that tubercular infested cattle are dangerous to other stock as well as human beings. The time will come when all cattle from which dairy products are sold will have to be tested. At present the state and the United States Department of Agriculture help bear the loss sustained by destroying tubercular cattle. Now seems a good time for all to clean up the herds. All who wish the service of this Federal inspector should write or telephone to the Gratiot County Farm Bureau at Ithaca.

It is desired to get the herds all lined up before the tester comes so the visits can be arranged with the least possible driving. Those who would like their grade herds tested should make application and if there is time these herds will also be tested.

Work on Well Is Now Started

Work of putting down the new well to give an increased flow of pure well water for the city's new water system which is expected to become available within the next few weeks, did not get under way until yesterday, owing to some unexpected difficulties that the workmen encountered.

After spending some few days in getting the well drilling machine in shape for use, an attempt was made to utilize one of the old abandoned wells, but it was found that before the well had been abandoned and plugged, i. e., or some other material had been dropped in the ten-inch well, and that it could not be utilized for the purpose of dropping an eight-inch pipe and putting down a deeper well.

As a result it became necessary to start a new well from the surface of the ground, so that the first hundred feet of drilling which the city had hoped to save by using the old well must be drilled. A considerable portion of the first 100 feet was put down yesterday and it is expected that the work will proceed rapidly from now on.

CORN FOR COAL

Farmers of the corn states are planning to burn their corn next winter instead of buying coal. The high coal prices are due to two causes, the high labor cost of mining and the high cost of transportation, the latter made necessary by the excessive cost of railroad operation. The whole situation is a direct heritage from the former Democratic administration. Wages of miners and rail employees were not only raised to unheard of heights, but agreements were entered into that fastened absurd schedules upon the country for many months after the Wilson regime went out of office.

FIRE DESTROYS TWO BARN ON JOHNSON FARM

FLAMES FROM LARGE BARN LIGHTED UP NIGHT SKY FOR MANY MILES.

Both Structures A Complete Loss

Late Thursday evening the Alma fire department was called to the William Johnson farm, better known as the Udelle farm in Wright avenue, where the barns had caught fire from some unexplained source.

The flames had gained considerable headway before being discovered, and by the time that the fire department arrived on the scene there was no chance to save the structures. When the department first arrived the water pressure was somewhat low, and this and the fact that the two barns were doomed to destruction caused the firemen to turn their efforts at first to the saving of the other farm structures, as well as to attempt to quell the fire which was burning fiercely in the two barns and lighting up the sky for miles around.

The two barns and their contents, which could not be removed after the fire was discovered, because of the headway that it had gained, were entirely destroyed, and the loss is expected to be several thousand dollars.

Friday afternoon the fire department was again called to the Udelle farm, smoldering sparks having ignited some of the refuse left from the work of the flames on the previous night.

It is not known just what the origin of the fire was, and it may be that it will continue to be unexplained after the same manner of many other similar fires in Gratiot this year, which have destroyed a number of fine barns.

FREE ANTITOXIN IS STATE PLAN

REQUIREMENTS OF BIDS FOR DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN INCLUDE EARLY DELIVERY.

Lansing, Sept. 8.—Specifications for bidders for furnishing diphtheria antitoxin, toxin-antitoxin, and toxin to the Michigan department of health in accordance with the free distribution law passed by the 1921 Legislature have been submitted to manufacturers and distributors licensed by the United States Government. Bids are to be received before Sept. 30.

Requirements outside of technical specifications call for initial deliveries of antitoxin on or before Jan. 1, 1922, to points throughout the state designated by the commissioner of health, and in quantities estimated by state authorities to be sufficient for the first three months' demands. After this date the contractor will be required to keep a sufficient reserve supply of the products on hand to meet all needs.

Plans are now being worked out by Dr. R. N. Olin, commissioner of health, for antitoxin distributing stations at the most accessible points in every county. In preparation for the actual diphtheria eradication campaign which will start Jan. 1 with free distribution of antitoxin, every physician, health officer, nurse, school commissioner, superintendent and principal, village president and mayor is being circularized with educational literature.

During the first seven months of 1921 a total of 479 deaths from diphtheria was reported to the division of vital statistics. This gave the state a diphtheria death rate of 21.5 per 100,000 population up to August 1. Opening of schools, it is said, will be attended with the usual increased prevalence of diphtheria unless communities employ more stringent control methods than ever before.

MEET IN ST. JOHNS

The 56th Annual reunion of the 23rd Mich. Vol. Infantry will be held in the city of St. Johns, Mich., Thursday, September 22. The old veterans, wives, and sweethearts are to be the guests of Oliver Spaulding and citizens of St. Johns. Van Wormer's martial band of Flint, members of the association, will be on hand with a good supply of music.

Buried by Avalanche Of Hits and Errors

The members of the Carson City Independents should be hauled before a court martial for the terrible indignities that they inflicted on the Republic A. A.'s at Republic field Sunday. Certain it is that "Buddy" Ryan will not invite them to be guests here again this year after the rude shock that they created, when with the assistance of an unequal number of errors and some healthy pounding of the little leather covered pill, they chased a score of runs over the plate.

The Republics weak from chasing balls in all corners of the lot did not have speed enough left to cross the plate more than twice. Thus Carson City had seventeen runs more than were needed which might have been saved for some future contest.

As a ball game it proved a fine exhibition of batting practice on the one side and an exhibition of a woeful lack of fielding ability on the other. Apparently "Buddy's" gang of ball tossers kept their minds on the fishing streams. Certain it is that they were not thinking in terms of baseball.

Some one insisted that the score was more than 20 to 2 for Carson City. This might have been true, as the efforts of the official scorer were feeble because of the consternation that he felt at having walked several blocks to see a ball game that wasn't.

ATHLETICS ON THE UP-GRADE

A. H. S. EXPECTS STRONG TEAM; COLLEGE AGGREGATIONS TO BE MUCH STRONGER.

Athletic fans in this city have the promise of seeing a brand of athletic teams at both Alma High School and at Alma College, this coming year that will be better than those shown last year, if present indications hold true.

There is every indication that athletic conditions at Alma College are taking a decided turn for the better, but of course it is still too early to judge just how big an improvement will be noted.

The coming of Coach Roy Campbell to Alma, after six years of coaching experience at the University of Detroit and Knox College, has proven popular and it is intimated that Alma will see a number of good athletes in college this year from various sections of the state, who will be able to hold their own. This promises to be particularly true in basketball and baseball.

Conditions for football are problematical as yet. A better team by far than Alma had last year is regarded as a certainty. However the Maroon and Cream from its standing last year has a long way to beat back to the championship path of the M. I. A. A., and must show an improvement little short of wonderful to cop in football. Some splendid material is being looked for, when college opens next week, but whether it will be plentiful enough and of good enough caliber to allow a real old time team, is the proposition that is open to question.

At Alma High School practice is already underway. Coach Mullin having called out his candidates Tuesday evening, when 22 men reported, which included seven veterans. Wednesday still more men turned out. Three old men—Elias, Anderson and Hyde have not yet reported for grid work. It is expected that Anderson and Elias will be out next week with the squad. Hyde, it is reported, will not don the mole-skins this season.

The old men who turned out Tuesday evening were Garner, Sartor, Marzoff, Holmes, D'Armond, Wallace and Handley.

Much of the success of the team will depend on how soon Anderson and Elias, two stars of last year's aggregation, report. Both are hard fighters and will be needed right from the start, especially in view of the fact that two of the hardest contests of the season are among the first three games on the schedule.

Among the new men that Coach Mullin is working with, is some promising material that should make good, but the men will not be able to replace Elias and Anderson in the early games, should the two stars fail to turn out for the fall sport. Much of the success of the team will depend on the two men. It is reported, however, that they will be on the job the first of the week.

WHEATON REUNION HELD ON MONDAY

J. M. WHEATON OF THIS CITY SELECTED AS PRESIDENT AT THE ELECTION.

The annual reunion of the Wheaton family was held Monday, September 5, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wheaton, 308 Orchard street, and was attended by thirty members of the family who thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

The home and the well laden tables were very prettily decorated with asters and smilax, which greatly added to the attractiveness of the festive board for both the dinner and supper that were served.

During the afternoon a short program was given that was highly pleasing. The balance of the afternoon was spent in visiting and talking over the days gone by.

Among those who attended the function were Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Wheaton, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wheaton and son, of Grand Lodge, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Mitchell and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bohn and children of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wheaton of Detroit, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wheaton of this city and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Wygant and daughter.

Officers were elected as follows: President, J. M. Wheaton; vice president, A. N. Wheaton; secretary, Mrs. Wygant; treasurer, G. Bohn.

Another Fire This Morning

Shortly after midnight this morning the Alma Fire Department was called to the Horr & Gibbs block, better known perhaps as the Church block, where a fire had started in a vacant apartment on the second floor, over the National Clothing store.

The fire was discovered by G. Heron, assistant police chief, who turned in the alarm. By the time that the department arrived on the scene the fire had gained a good headway, but prompt action quickly brought the flames under control. Water damage was exceptionally light, chemicals being used exclusively by the department in extinguishing the blaze.

The loss will probably be several hundred dollars.

EXHIBITION AND CONCERT DREW CROWD

TROOP C 106TH CAVALRY ENTERTAINED A LARGE CROWD AT DRILLS LAST NIGHT.

Band Concert A Pleasing Feature

From 3,000 to 4,000 people were on the street Wednesday evening to witness the drill by Troop C 106th Cavalry, Michigan National Guard, forming the largest crowd that has been seen on the streets of the city this year. The band probably had considerable to do in causing so many to turn out for the evening's entertainment.

Headed by the band, the Troop marched down Superior street about 7:30 in the evening and on this street, between State and Woodworth, gave the various drills and formations of the organization. This was followed by a test of skill on the part of Sgt. Brown, who took apart and put together, while blindfolded, a Browning automatic rifle, one of the prize rifles of the troop, which will fire 600 shots a minute.

The band gave several very interesting musical selections, which proved entertaining to the large gathering.

Col. Heinrich Pickert of Detroit, a member of the famous "Red Arrow" brigade, who was present for the occasion, gave a short address in which he called attention to the need that there was of Alma giving the local Troop the support that it needed during the months of its formation and organization, and also the support that would later be the means of giving Alma an armory, the first step of which will be the appropriation of from three to five acres for a site.

Captain Reed stated Wednesday that the horses have been shipped for the unit and that they are expected to arrive in Alma some time during the coming week. They are being shipped from the demounting station at Fort Robinson.

ALMA'S BAKERIES HAD SMALL FIRES

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO CALLS FROM SUPERIOR AND MODEL BAKERIES.

Twice this past week the Alma fire department has been called to respond to fire alarms sent in by Alma bakeries, the first on Monday night calling the department to the Superior bakery and the second calling the firemen to the Model Bakery, early Wednesday morning.

The blaze at the Superior bakery was a very small one and had been extinguished before the department arrived on the scene. The loss was very small.

Wednesday morning about 4:30 the department was called to the Model Bakery where a fire had started in a room at the southeast corner of the building on the second floor. The flames had gained a considerable headway by the time that the department reached the scene, but prompt and efficient work soon had the flames extinguished. The loss is not expected to reach more than \$1500.

As the fire was on the second floor, and above the packing room, it was not sufficiently severe to cripple the bakery or halt the production, which proceeded with its usual activities on Wednesday.

Thieves Relieve An Alma Store

Thursday night the Cushing & Benedict Five and Ten Cent store on East Superior street was robbed of about \$100 worth of goods, and it is probable that the thieves were frightened away before they had completed their work of relieving the store of goods. Entrance to the store was gained by breaking out a portion of one of the rear windows. Because of the small hole that was broken in the window glass, and from the nature of the goods that were taken from the store, it is thought that boys were responsible for the robbery. Local talent is suspected of the crime. Whether one or more took part in relieving the store is not yet known. One of the thieves, or the thief, received a cut from the broken edges of the glass, drops of blood indicate.

DIED HERE SATURDAY

Erwin Simison, 37 Pleasant avenue, died at his home on Saturday at the age of 78 years. He had resided in this city for some years and had been employed by the railroad. The funeral was held from the Christian church Tuesday afternoon, Rev. J. F. Williams officiating, and interment was made in Riverside cemetery.

PIG CLUB EXHIBIT BEST

A professor from M. A. C., who has visited many county fairs in the past years as well as this year, visited our county fair Thursday. After carefully inspecting the pig club exhibit, he unhesitatingly said it was the finest show of pigs he has seen in Michigan.

The Strand is open every night.—advertisement.

Children Contract Disease From Milk

When an early writer first framed the remark that truth is stranger than fiction, it was the outcome of vivid observation. The statement became trite through repetition, but occasionally leaps into strong outline in fact. A case in point has just come to the notice of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The department, through its office of motion pictures, recently produced a film, "Out of the Shadows," which told of tuberculosis creeping into a family through the unnoticed infection of a handsome herd of cattle. In the film the farmer disposed of his unhealthy animals and built on a sound basis.

Now comes a report through the Vermilion County Farm Bureau of a case in Edgar County, Illinois, more striking than the picture story and without its happy ending. A farmer had his herd tested for tuberculosis and one cow reacted. Instead of destroying her, the farmer declared the test undependable, removed the ear tag, and sold her to his hired man for wages.

Of seven children in the man's family, five have pronounced cases of tuberculosis. The other two did not drink this cow's milk. A pig and cat also contracted disease after drinking the milk. A warrant has been issued for the original owner on charge of breaking quarantine, and, it is stated, should one of the children die, he will be subject to a charge of manslaughter.

ALMA'S BAKERIES HAD SMALL FIRES

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO CALLS FROM SUPERIOR AND MODEL BAKERIES.

Twice this past week the Alma fire department has been called to respond to fire alarms sent in by Alma bakeries, the first on Monday night calling the department to the Superior bakery and the second calling the firemen to the Model Bakery, early Wednesday morning.

The blaze at the Superior bakery was a very small one and had been extinguished before the department arrived on the scene. The loss was very small.

Wednesday morning about 4:30 the department was called to the Model Bakery where a fire had started in a room at the southeast corner of the building on the second floor. The flames had gained a considerable headway by the time that the department reached the scene, but prompt and efficient work soon had the flames extinguished. The loss is not expected to reach more than \$1500.

As the fire was on the second floor, and above the packing room, it was not sufficiently severe to cripple the bakery or halt the production, which proceeded with its usual activities on Wednesday.

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Health Society Clinic Successful

The Gratiot County Good Health Society made a very creditable showing at the Gratiot County Fair held last week.

In co-operation with the State Board of Health, the Gratiot County Red Cross, and its nurse, Miss Ackerman, the society conducted a very successful tent at the fair.

One hundred and thirty-five babies were weighed and measured and several emergency cases were cared for. An excellent rest room was provided for the mothers and was constantly in use.

Prizes were awarded for the most perfect babies by the good health organization.

Dr. Poole, the examining physician, stated that he had found a higher percentage of normal babies in Gratiot county than in some of the other counties where he has been doing a similar work.

The organization also made use of the opportunity to solicit memberships and was very successful in this respect also.

Eat Model Bakery Pastries and be happy.—16-tf

GOOD YEAR IS PROSPECT AS SCHOOLS OPEN

NUMBER OF PUPILS IN ALMA SCHOOLS ABOUT THE SAME AS YEAR AGO.

Slight Decrease Is Noticeable

The Alma Public Schools opened Tuesday with an enrollment of nearly 150 more pupils than when the schools closed in June, but with a number about 50 less than the total enrollment of a year ago, according to figures taken from the files.

Four of the five schools show an enrollment that is much larger than the enrollment of the same schools in June. Only the Lincoln school had a larger enrollment in June than at the present time.

Only one of the buildings now has more pupils than it had a year ago, this being the Republic school, which shows an increase of three. Thus the loss of the enrollment over a year ago in September is shown to be scattered nearly equally over the various schools, and the increase over last June being distributed very nearly even.

A comparison of the attendance at the various buildings at the present time, a year ago and when the schools closed in June is interesting. There are 316 students in the high school at the opening of the year. Last year in September when the schools opened the number was 325. In June it had decreased to 305.

The Washington school has an enrollment at the present time of 350. This is much higher than the mark of 316 in June when the schools closed, but is far short of the mark of 390 when school opened a year ago.

The Lincoln school reported 426 pupils yesterday. In June the number attending was 442. Last September it was 432, slightly more than this September, and slightly less than in June.

Republic school shows an increase over last year and is the only school to show the increase as compared with last September. At the present time the enrollment shows 421 pupils. Last September the enrollment was 418. In June, 1921, it was only 357.

Hillcrest school also shows a nice increase over last June. There are 123 pupils enrolled as compared with 74 in June. The number is slightly under last September's mark of 130, however.

The attendance at all of the schools yesterday was 1,686. This is 59 less than last September when there were 1,745 pupils. It is, however, 142 more than the number of students attending all of the schools in June.

The fact that the Alma Public Schools have suffered only such a very slight decline over a year ago, is indicative of the fact that Alma has not been as hard hit by the period of depression as some rumor would have one believe.

At a meeting of the teachers Monday afternoon Superintendent Kelder impressed upon them the necessity of getting the school work under way at the earliest possible time, and it is surprising to notice the way that both teachers and the pupils are evidently co-operating to secure the very best results.

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