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THE SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION NEARLY DONE

BUILDING OF WALKS IN CITY WILL CEASE VERY SOON FOR THE WINTER.

A Large Amount Has Been Laid

Sidewalk construction gangs have nearly completed the work that is to be done in this city for the year 1921 and it is probable that another ten days or two weeks will see the work brought to a conclusion. Hopes are being held that freezing weather will hold off until the contemplated work is concluded.

The work that still remains to be brought to a finish is on Park avenue, Mechanic street and on South State street. On State street the sidewalk is being laid from the railroad tracks south to the bridge, closing up a spot that in the past has been a muddy one during bad weather. On Park avenue sidewalk is being laid south from the railroad tracks to the corner of Mechanic and on Mechanic street east from Park to State, a distance of two blocks.

Work on the south side of the city on Marshall street, and Allen avenue, and on the north side of the city on Wright avenue, is just being completed and until the figures on the amount of work laid are compiled the totals on these streets will be unavailable.

Sidewalk has been laid on nine streets and avenues in addition to those named above, tabulations having been made so that Manager Reynolds is able to give the figures for the number of square feet of walk constructed on these streets. The figures that have been given are for square feet of sidewalk five inches in depth. The crosswalks, which are seven inches in depth were changed to five inches to give a correct tabulation on the walk constructed.

On Walnut avenue 3,220 square feet of walk was constructed. On East Downie street 875 square feet was built. On College avenue a total of 1,060 square feet of walk was laid. On Fairview avenue walk was built on both sides of the street. On the east side of this street 2,750 square feet and on the west side another 2,750 square feet were laid. On Chatterton avenue 480 square feet was the total constructed. On Washington 1,525 square feet of sidewalk was built and on Liberty the amount was 1,282 square feet. On River avenue a crosswalk that was put in figures a total of 436.8 square feet.

CANCER FACTS GIVEN PUBLIC

SHOULD SEEK TREATMENT AS PROMPTLY AS APPENDICITIS PATIENTS.

Lansing, Nov. 3.—While the medical profession has not yet discovered the ultimate cause which starts the lawless growth of cells forming cancer, intense research has revealed many facts which are being told the public during "Cancer Week" which started Monday.

"Statistical investigation obtained from hospital and life insurance data has tended to furnish evidence that cancer is not hereditary," reads a statement from the American Society for the Control of Cancer. "Existence of cancer families does not afford definite proof of the general inheritability of this disease, for such families are not very common and the occurrence of a considerable number of cases in a given family can be explained as purely accidental.

"Thought of heredity should not lead to worry, for cancer to a certain extent goes hand in hand with longevity. Cancer is not transmitted by contact with the patient. In all the thousands of recorded cases of cancer there is no report of a case acquired from the patient by any physician or nurse. Cruel neglect of some patients has been known to occur because of the groundless fear of catching cancer.

"Ravages of this disease can be diminished by dissemination of knowledge leading to its early recognition by the patient and physician. The following points should be remembered: Cancer always starts as a local affair; in the beginning it may cause no pain or other symptom of ill health; no up-to-date doctor will treat a condition that might mean cancer without thorough examination; and— the cancer patient must learn to seek treatment as promptly as a patient with appendicitis."

Interesting Series of Good Services

Letters are being sent out this week announcing plans for an interesting series of Sunday evening services in the Presbyterian church during November. The general theme of the services will be "The Christ We Forget." The music will be led by a double male quartette, a mixed quartette and the Sunday School Glee Club on successive evenings. Congregational singing will be emphasized. On the third Sunday in the month a stereopticon lecture of unusual interest will be given entitled "Young Alma's Problems." Students of world movements state that in the future, the most important event of the last decade will not be thought of as the World War but rather certain movements going on in China about which western civilization knows little. The lecture referred to is just off the press and will tell of these movements. It is to be given under the auspices of the Fortnightly society of the church.

MICHIGAN T. B. DEATH RATE LOW

STATISTICS SHOW STATE WITH FOURTH LOWEST RATE OF REGISTRATION AREA.

Lansing, Nov. 3.—Michigan has the fourth lowest death rate from tuberculosis in the registration area of the United States, according to statistics recently compiled. This fact is taken by the Michigan Tuberculosis association as the best possible argument for a vigorous prosecution of the tuberculosis campaign in 1922, since the best promise for the future is the accomplishment of the past. But it is further looked upon as an argument for renewed efforts since Michigan is not yet the lowest in the United States in the matter of tuberculosis death rates; and the people of this state should not rest, the state tuberculosis association believes, until it is at the head of the list.

It is entirely possible for Michigan to lead all the other states in the Union in cutting down the annual toll taken by the white plague. The reduction during the past ten years shows what can be done if the problem is attacked vigorously; and what has been done is only a sample of what could be done if enough effort could be put forth.

One of the biggest obstacles to overcome is the widespread belief that there is something in Michigan's climate that is bad for tuberculosis sufferers. This belief is held by many, but the fact that Michigan already has the fourth lowest death rate and is still cutting it down year after year shows that here is nothing in this superstition. Michigan is as good a state to get cured in as any other state, the Michigan Tuberculosis association asserts.

What is needed to cut down the death rate still more is widespread information about the disease and how to prevent it, as well as the erection of sanatoria and other similar institutions. This work the Michigan Tuberculosis association is fostering and for this the Christmas seal sale will be held in December. Every citizen can have a share in forcing down the tuberculosis death rate by buying seals generously.

To Aid the Men In Hospitals

The Women's Auxiliary to the American Legion of this city had a very profitable business meeting at their last session at the home of Mrs. P. W. Creaser on State street and decided to hold a Baked Goods Sale, Saturday p. m., November 5th, at the office of the Medler Electric Co.

It has been ascertained officially that there are in the neighborhood of eleven ex-service men from our county now in Government hospitals, all in a more or less critical condition; one of these is from this city. The aim of this Auxiliary is to send these boys such things as may make them more comfortable in mind and body. It requires funds to carry on such a work and a faithful few are doing the work where many of this city should be assisting in all ways possible.

We especially need your membership and regular attendance, and the boys need your thoughtful care. Show your interest by joining us if possible, and anyway help us to help them by helping yourself in our Baked Goods Sale.

R. H. Kersey, well known contractor of South Bend, was in the city on business in regard to the well that is being put down here for the city under his supervision, the latter part of the week.

OLD RESIDENT OF THE CITY DIED MONDAY

G. H. BANSIL, WELL KNOWN RESIDENT OF ALMA, DIED FROM LAGRIFFE.

Masonic Funeral This Afternoon

George Henry Bansil, one of the best known and most esteemed of the older residents of this city, passed away at his home at the corner of Grant avenue and West Superior on Monday afternoon from a severe attack of LaGrippe. He was 73 years of age.

For years the late Mr. Bansil has been living a life that has been a noble one, scattering kindness and aid around him, endearing himself to everyone with whom he came in contact. During his journey through life several young children were enabled to secure an education through his efforts, and those of his aged wife.

Mr. Bansil was born in North Adams, Hillsdale county, in 1848, and continued to reside there until a young man. He was married in 1870 and three years later came to Gratiot county.

Mr. and Mrs. Bansil have resided in or near Alma since 1873, when they moved to a farm near this city from North Adams, Hillsdale county. About twenty years ago they moved to Alma and Mr. Bansil became engaged in the real estate business being in partnership for some years with the late Mr. Swigart and J. D. Sullivan, continuing in this business for approximately fifteen years.

In politics Mr. Bansil was a staunch Republican and until late years was an active worker in local and county politics. He held a number of minor political offices in both the town and county.

He is survived by his wife, Emiline Bansil, and also by relatives in North Adams, Hillsdale, and Manclona. The funeral services were held this afternoon at 1:00 p. m. from the late home. Rev. Gelston of the Presbyterian church and Rev. Jay Clishe were in charge of the services. Alma Lodge F. & A. M., No. 244, of which Mr. Bansil was a member had charge of the services at the grave in Riverside cemetery.

ARMISTICE DAY TO BE OBSERVED

REV. JOSEPH GREEN OF MT. PLEASANT TO SPEAK AT BIG MASS MEETING.

Alma is planning to recognize Armistice Day, Nov. 11, fittingly by a mass meeting held between the hours of 12:15 and 12:45 at the Strand Theater which the management has given for the occasion. In order that all who desire to do so may go the merchants of the city voted at the banquet of the Merchants Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce to close their stores between the hours of 12 and one o'clock.

The speaker who has been invited to give the address for the day is Rev. Joseph Green of Mt. Pleasant. One feature of the service will be prayer for the families whose sons were lost during the war and also for the success of the conference on the limitation of armaments which will convene at Washington, D. C.

The service has been made short so that even the busiest may spare time for it. It is hoped that all will attend.

UP AGAINST IT

A subscriber urged the Edmore Times to print more home news and the retort is that "the past three or four days we've been trying to 'scare up' a dog fight so as to have something to chronicle, but dogs are very scarce. As the saloons and criminal courts are out of business, there is no chance to chronicle murders and convictions. So few people attend church it's hardly worth mentioning. So few people are getting married the birth notices are few and far between. About the only news available now is 'The Jones took dinner with the Smiths last Sunday.' But the gasoline run out and they couldn't get over. We might say, however, that the line of old bachelors and their prospects of marriage is about as good as ever."

The Fortnightly Society of the Presbyterian church will meet with Mrs. Lloyd Ellison, 909 State street, Tuesday afternoon, November 8, at 3:00 o'clock.

Downer Appointed Fire Inspector

Tuesday evening at the meeting of the city commission, William E. Reynolds, city manager, appointed R. E. Downer, as fire inspector, and it is expected that he will take up the work as inspector immediately. Mr. Downer, who has had considerable experience in work along these lines, acted in the capacity of a fire inspector for the city last year, and his re-appointment to the place this year makes it evident that the city officials regard him as a capable man for the work.

MAUSOLEUM

The mausoleum in the cemetery is about completed. There are a few extra burial places for sale. These burial places will be sold at the same price as the former ones until December 1st, after that time the price will be raised \$50.00 each. Anyone wishing to purchase burial places will please notify H. W. Moore, Park ave., or J. W. Flowers, general delivery, Alma, Mich., and they will call upon you and explain all you want to know about it.—advertisement 21-3v

BUY TAILORING SHOP

A. R. Worley, who has conducted the St. Alma tailoring shop for some time, sold the place Wednesday to J. C. McClean and Edward Dan of Lansing, who will take immediate possession and operate it. They plan to make the tailoring shop a much more modern one than it has been in the past, and with their wide experience gained in the larger cities believe that they can give Alma a first class shop at this location.

BUSINESS WOMEN HAVE ORGANIZED

MRS. SYLVIA GAFFNEY IS PRESIDENT OF ALMA'S NEW BUSINESS ORGANIZATION.

At a meeting of the business women of the city held Tuesday evening at the Wright House parlors, an organization to be known as the Alma Business Women's Association was organized with 53 charter members.

The new organization will have for its purpose the promotion of the interests of the business and professional women of the city and also to bring the members into relations of mutual helpfulness, in which respect the association is very similar to the business women's associations of the larger cities of the state.

Mrs. Sylvia Gaffney, who has long been recognized as one of the leading, if not the leading business woman of the city, was elected as the first president of the organization. Miss Ruth Milliken of the D. W. Robinson store was elected as secretary, and Flora Wise of the Alma State Savings Bank as the treasurer.

Miss Edna Wright of Saginaw, representing the Women's League of Voters was present, and gave a short talk to the members of the new organization.

REPORT INCREASE IN INFANT DEATH

INFANT MORTALITY RATE DURING SEPTEMBER WAS MUCH HIGHER THAN AUGUST.

Lansing, Nov. 3.—Twelve and one-half per cent increase in the number of deaths of children under one year of age during September over the number that died in August, is reported by the division of vital statistics of the state department of health.

Passing the most dangerous months of the year, June, July and August, with exceptionally low infant mortality rate in September jumped to 95.5 per 1,000 living births, an increase of 10.8 deaths per 1,000 births over the rate of the preceding month. The state's infant mortality rate for the first nine months of 1921 now stands at 81.2 in comparison to 79.5 at the end of the first eight months. Rural districts showed the most severe increase in the number of infant deaths during September, the infant mortality rate increasing over August from 81.5 to 94.7, an increase of 13.2; the urban rate jumped from 85.7 to 95.0, an increase of 9.3.

For the first time this year the rural birth rate caught up with the urban birth rate. The general birth rate for the entire state and for both urban and rural communities during September was 25.2 per 1,000 population.

Michigan's general death rate in September was 11.7 per 1,000 population, an increase of 0.7 over that of August and but 0.1 higher than the nine months' average of 11.6.

NEW WELL IS TO BE DRIVEN DOWN DEEPER

BELIEVE STILL MORE WATER WILL BE FOUND UNDER SANDSTONE STRATA.

Secure Knowledge For Future Work

Alma's new well, which gave a good flow at a depth of 527 feet, is to be put down deeper, with the expectation that a still more plentiful supply of good well water will be secured as soon as the well is driven on through the sandstone which it reached.

There are several reasons why it is highly desirable to put the well down to the strata of ground just under the sandstone.

The principal reason is the desire to explore the ground under the sandstone as to the probability of securing water from a deeper strata of earth, which in case water cannot be secured at a deeper depth would at some future time avoid the trouble and waste of money, perhaps, in putting down a deeper well if the present test well does not show water at a lower depth. There is every reason for believing that plenty of water can be secured under the sandstone strata. Geological surveys, and compilations made possible by wells at Ithaca, St. Louis, Midland and Mt. Pleasant seem to indicate that under this city is the bottom of a bowl, in which should be found plenty of water. If the indications prove out the well should give a much greater abundance of water at a deeper level.

This will not ruin the well in case water cannot be secured under the sandstone, as the pipe could be perforated at the point where the present water was found at a depth of 527 feet and the water taken from this vein.

If the city is successful in locating a still better well at a deeper depth, it will have become certain of a good well water supply for the city for years, and would permit the putting down of new wells at some future period with a practical knowledge that the water was to be secured, when the well had reached a proper depth.

This will not delay to any great extent the completion of the new system, and it undoubtedly will be only a short time before the people of the city are able to have good well water in their homes.

IMPROVEMENT BEING SHOWN

RAILROAD EARNINGS, COTTON, STEEL, LEATHER, COPPER, ETC., SHOW NEW LIFE.

The country is still marking time, but all the same, the straws that show the wind are piling up in a pretty good-sized stack, indicating that better times are on the way. These straws are facts. Consider a few of them:

The railroad earnings are improving. Car loadings are on the increase. The steel industry has seen the worst of dullness. Copper likewise. Woolen mills are more active. Silk trade is reviving. Leather and hides markets are getting busy. Cotton prices are moving surplus cotton stocks. The sugar industry is picking up on higher prices. More building and construction every day. Merchandising and retail trade responding to increasing groups of buyers. Lumber dealers are moving their stocks. Banks are loosening up and beginning to support business in a business-like way. And a flood-tide of gold from foreign countries has placed, so far, well over \$500,000,000 real gold coin in American vaults.

But most important of all the signs—of which the above is only a meager sample—is the gradual turning of pessimists into optimists. A country must believe in itself, and look cheerfully toward the future, before there can be any future worth believing in.

THE POPPY

This nation has selected the poppy as the flower for use on National holidays. It is especially fitting that it should be worn and displayed in commemoration of Flanders' Fields on Armistice Day.

The Women's Auxiliary to the American Legion requests that you assist in the observance of that day by wearing your poppy.

"The Old Nest" is coming—advertisement

O. E. S. Changes Date of Its Revue

The O. E. S. of this city, harkening to the desire of the public, which expressed the hope of attending both the opening number on the Community Lyceum course, on November 14, and also attending the O. E. S. Amateur musical revue, "Fads and Fancies of 1921," has set the date for the revue and it is now announced that it will be held November 15. It had originally been scheduled for November 14, but because of the conflict in date with the lyceum number, the ladies comprising the management of the revue, very graciously changed the date to avoid the conflict.

The cast is now rehearsing daily for the revue, which is to be given at the Strand theatre, and Alma people are certain to have a rare treat when "Fads and Fancies of 1921" is presented.

Attorney John W. Myers of Ithaca was in the city on business the latter part of the week.

HIGHWAY WORK IS COMPLETED

LAYING PAVEMENT ON STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAYS HERE IS FINISHED.

Alma's state trunk line highway pavement has been brought to a completion, the firm of Holmes, Crane & Bartling of this city, which had the contract for the work here for the state highway department, pouring the last of the concrete Friday.

The paving on the trunk line highways here will increase the amount of paving in Alma to a great extent, and will add much to the city, especially in view of the fact that the paving was badly needed on each of the streets, which form portions of the trunk lines.

On the east and west trunk line on West Superior street paving was constructed from Cedar avenue to the city limits, a distance of about three blocks. This paving is 26 feet in width, the state paving a twenty foot span and the city taking care of the cost of the additional six feet.

On Wright avenue from the entrance to the Ann Arbor freight yards north to Knudson's corner, or the city limits, approximately a mile of paving was laid. North to Elwell street the paving is 26 feet in width, the city taking care of the extra six foot width. From Elwell north to the city limits the paving consists of a twenty foot span.

On East Superior street two blocks of paving 26 feet wide was laid between Euclid avenue and Bridge st., and from Republic avenue east to the city limits on this street, a 20 foot span of paving was constructed for a distance of approximately three-fourths of a mile.

All of the pavement, except for the last piece built, has been opened to the public. The pavement that is still closed to traffic on East Superior st. from Republic avenue to the city limits, will be opened in about three weeks, Mr. Holmes of the firm of Holmes, Crane & Bartling, stated last evening.

WEATHER REPORT

Following is the weather report for the month of October, as reported by F. L. Delavan, co-operative observer here. Mean maximum temperature for the month was 65 degrees and the mean minimum was 42 degrees. The maximum was 73 degrees on October 17, and the minimum 20 degrees on October 26. The total precipitation for the month was 3.18 inches, the greatest amount in 24 hours being 1.19 inches on October 7. On 11 different days .01 or more inches of rain fell. There were 17 clear days during the month, 6 partly cloudy and 8 cloudy.

TRIP CALLED OFF

Because of the lateness of the season and the inability of many of the retail merchants of the city to leave their business affairs yesterday, the trip to Grand Rapids where the local retailers were to be guests of the wholesale houses of Grand Rapids, was called off. The retailers of the city hope to make the trip to the Furniture City some time next summer.

POLICE REPORT

The police report for the month of October, which will go before the city commission Tuesday evening will show a number of arrests during the month, only four of which are for speeding. Five were arrested for drunkenness, 4 for larceny, two for assault and battery, one for breaking parole and one for passing a bad check.

Mr. and Mrs. V. P. Cash spent the week end in Brooklyn with Mr. Cash's brother and on their return called upon their son, Justin, who is attending M. A. C. at Lansing.

CANCER TO BE DISCUSSED ON FRIDAY NIGHT

CANCER WEEK MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE M. E. CHURCH.

Saginawan Is To Be Speaker

Nation-wide cancer week will have its innings here Friday evening, when a lecture probably by Dr. James Bruce of Saginaw, will be given at 7:30 o'clock in the Methodist Episcopal church on Prospect avenue.

The death rate from cancer has been constantly growing in the United States and in all other countries of the world, it is being pointed out. In the United States the death rate from cancer has increased from 62.9 per 100,000 of population to 81.6 per 100,000 of population during a period of 17 years from 1900 to 1917.

Figures compiled by the state department of health in Michigan would indicate that approximately 3,300 people in Michigan will die as the result of cancer during 1921. During the first eight months of the year 2,180 people died from this cause in the state.

During cancer week it is being pointed out in every section of the country that cancer is a curable disease if recognized and treated in the early stages, as the practical knowledge of how to prevent an individual from dying of cancer is thoroughly satisfactory to many types of the disease, provided cancer is discovered and treated early enough.

Dr. Peterson of Ann Arbor, chairman for National Cancer week believes that if the public can be taught to recognize symptoms of cancer the moment they appear and be impressed with the necessity of immediately securing treatment from those skilled in this disease, the death rate from cancer could be reduced thirty per cent.

The speaker at the Methodist church Friday evening will pass on to the public many interesting points in regard to cancer, its cause, the symptoms, and the necessity of prompt treatment in eradicating the disease.

The committee for Gratiot county which is aiding in the work during National Cancer week is composed of Dr. Wheeler of St. Louis, Dr. F. J. Graham of Alma, Dr. T. J. Carney of Alma, Dr. J. N. Day of Alma, Dr. Barstow and Dr. Campbell of St. Louis, Dr. Howe and Dr. Drake of Breckenridge, Dr. Burt and Dr. Dean of Ithaca, Dr. Parkhurst of North Star, Dr. Highfield of Riverdale and Dr. Hall of Pompeii.

TICKETS ARE BEING SOLD

FIRST NUMBER OF LYCEUM COURSE WILL BE HELD MONDAY EVENING, NOV. 14.

With Alma high school seniors busy selling season tickets for the annual Community Lyceum course, which opens Monday evening, November 14, with the three act comedy, The Mollusc, it is expected that the tickets will go rapidly, and those who are planning on availing themselves of the opportunity of witnessing the various numbers on the course this year should arrange for their tickets at an early date.

The ticket sale from now on promises to be a spirited affair as the seniors hope to dispose of the entire seating capacity of the high school auditorium before the opening number. The seating capacity is somewhat limited, which is more reason why those who expect to attend the course, should make early reservations for their tickets.

In addition to The Mollusc, there are five other highly attractive numbers on the lyceum course. Charles Zueblin, noted lecturer on American life will appear here December 16. M. Beryl Buckley, interpreter of dramas, comes to Alma January 10. Dr. Robert MacGowan, who is here on January 18, is regarded as a wonderful platform lecturer. The Fine Arts Quartette, which is highly regarded wherever it has appeared, will be the feature on February 7. The well known Di Giorgio Orchestra will furnish the final number on the course, March 13.

Mrs. Francis King, who has been giving a series of lectures before horticultural and garden clubs in various cities in the east during the past few weeks, has returned to her home in this city.