

THE ALMA RECORD

VOL. XLIV.—NO. 12

\$1.50 the Year—5c the Copy

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1922

TEN PAGES

WHOLE NUMBER 2256

BACCALAUREATE DELIVERED BY H. M. CROOKS

PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE GAVE ADDRESS TO SENIORS SUNDAY EVENING.

Pointed Out Life's Needs to Seniors

Sunday evening at the Presbyterian Church President H. M. Crooks of Alma College gave the annual baccalaureate address to the senior class, the subject of the address being "The Individual in a More Socialized World."

In opening his address he pointed out that the American people are inclined to pity as insufficient creatures the people of Russia, Germany, China and even of France, Italy and Great Britain, and that we do not admit our own weakness, and that we gloss over our failures, and then pictured us as fatuous optimists.

In part he said, "Recently the Irish in America asked us all to accept their colored versions of the need of their confused home land. The Ku Klux Klan asks us to believe a mass of distorted truth and a world of fiction. A great financial genius asks us to accept his seemingly prejudiced views concerning an age old people. This people (with the help of a possibly subsidized sect) asks us to accept their special interpretation of their rights as God's chosen people. A well organized group desires us to believe that America is a failure in its government and civilization and attacks us with weekly journals and novels about city and small town books, seemingly with scholarly zeal for truth but actually tracts with their own purpose.

"For a little while it ought to be a matter of pride to be a college man. I hope you are proud of your own college. But you shall have failed if it is long your chief title to distinction. Your first position may come because you are a college graduate; your second, and each one thereafter, ought to come because you are capable. Your college never hoped nor tried to finish you, only to start you. Education aims to make you a man; never was it worth while only to make you a college man.

"To avoid such danger you must recognize all sorts and conditions of men, not with superiority, but with fraternal spirit. In civic affairs you must find a place. In educational movements in England it has been said that the most serious work is now being done in special movements and class of labor unions. University clubs in America are social only; women's clubs even in the villages, are literary, civic, and philanthropic. You will find in your future experience newspaper men trained only in newspaper offices who can teach you how to write. Amateur (Continued on page three)

WHEEL COMPANY SUIT WITHDRAWN

WARD ALSO ANNOUNCES THAT NEW MANAGER IS SECURED FOR THE FACTORY.

Announcement was made this morning by Charles O. Ward of the Northern Wheel Company that the damage suit between The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc., and the wheel company has been withdrawn by the latter concern and that a good understanding is existing between the well known Alma corporations. The settlement of the suit was made the first of the week out of court at a meeting of the attorneys of the two concerns, Attorney Woodcock of Saginaw, representing The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc. and Attorney J. M. Dunham of Grand Rapids, representing The Northern Wheel Company.

Mr. Ward also announced that the wheel company has secured the services of W. R. Cartright of Chicago, as the new manager of the factory, to succeed the late A. C. Chapman. Mr. Cartright comes to Alma with flattering recommendations, and did not take over the management of the concern until after he had visited Alma and gone into the affairs of the company in a thorough manner, and convinced himself that the concern has good future business prospects. Mr. Cartright has had a wide and varied experience in the automotive business, a part of which was gained during the nine years that he was associated with the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company.

Post Office Shows Increase Over 1921

The increase in the business being done by the Alma post office over last year is a large one, on figures for the first five months of the present year, furnished by E. L. Smith, acting postmaster.

Each month of the five shows an increase over the same month of last year, although the increase recorded in February over the month of February of 1921 was a very small one, amounting to only \$25.79. The largest increase of any single month of the five over the same month a year ago was May. May 1922 shows a total business at the post office of \$4,263.09, as against a total of \$2,993.31 in May 1921, a gain of \$1,269.78 over last year.

The increase for the five months over the first five months of last year is \$3,587.23.

Last year the amount of business done was sufficient to place the Alma office in the list of first class offices in the list of first class offices, and with the increase over last year there is every prospect that the Alma office will continue as a first class office for the following year.

If the amount of the business being done at the post office is any criterion of conditions in this city, the business improvement in Alma over the first five months of last year is considerable, and it is very probable that the business improvement is reflected in the amount of business done at the post office to some slight extent at least.

RIVERDALE HAD A BAD FIRE SUNDAY

FOUR BUSINESS PLACES IN WEST GRATIOT VILLAGE ARE WIPED OUT BY FLAMES.

Riverdale was visited Sunday by the most disastrous fire in the history of that community, which with the flames being fanned by a high wind for a time threatened the entire town, and it was not until the aid of the fire departments of Shepherd, St. Louis and Alma had been called to the scene that the flames were finally brought under control, and gradually subdued. Before the fire was extinguished four business places had been destroyed by the flames.

The fire was discovered shortly before noon, and with a heavy wind blowing the flames spread so rapidly that the hastily formed bucket brigade found itself powerless to subdue the stubborn fire, sparks from which were carried on the wings of the wind to other structures about the town, keeping nearly all of the inhabitants busy watching the roofs of their homes, on which pails, tubs, and other water holders were placed, to dump water on any sparks which might find a resting place thereon. Time and again sparks started small fires on various roofs, which were quickly put out by this means.

Aid was summoned to Riverdale from the St. Louis, Alma and Shepherd departments, which responded with hose and hand chemicals. Fine use was made of the chemicals in saving adjoining structures. The hose taken by the three departments was stretched to the river and efforts made to throw water on the flames in this way.

The buildings which were burning when the aid arrived were so far gone that nothing could be done to save them, and all attention was centered on saving other structures. It is thought that the fire started in the Hauck hardware, but this is not known for a certainty, and neither is it known just exactly how the fire started, but it is believed to have been started from a kerosene stove. The flames quickly spread over the J. W. Johnson dance hall and skating rink, the Forquer pool room, the Johnson movie house, and the Hauck hardware, all of which were totally destroyed by the flames. Volunteer aid helped in saving some of the goods in the various buildings, but the greater part of the fixtures in the four places was destroyed.

It is believed that the loss from the fire will exceed \$15,000. Mr. Johnson alone estimated his loss at over \$6,000, with no insurance. The Hauck hardware carried considerable insurance. The Johnson buildings, which housed the dance hall, skating rink, and also the movie, will not be rebuilt. Mr. Johnson stated Sunday afternoon.

BANK CLEARINGS
The bank clearings for the current week are \$100,075.75, a good increase over last week, but slightly less than they were a year ago for the current week, according to figures furnished by the First State Bank. Last week the clearings were \$86,561.29. A year ago this week they were \$108,451.09.

E. L. Smith and Rev. M. W. Duffey were in Ithaca on business Tuesday.

MANSLAUGHTER IS CHARGE MADE AGAINST WITTER

DRIVER OF CAR THAT CAUSED DEATH OF BALCH MUST FACE GRAVE CHARGE.

Young Man Is Out on Bail

Carl Witter, young Alma man, who was driving the automobile which struck and injured Albert Balch so severely last Wednesday that he died within a few minutes after being rushed to an Alma hospital, is under arrest charged with manslaughter and will face trial in circuit court under this charge.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of young Witter by Prosecuting Attorney Romaine Clark last Friday, following an extensive investigation into the affair which led to the death of Balch, and was served that day. Bail was immediately procured for the young man.

The hearing into the case was started Saturday, witnesses being called before Justice Biggerstaff in the local justice court, and following the testimony the young man was bond over to circuit court. The charge of manslaughter in this case also includes that of negligent homicide, as provided by a law passed by the last legislature.

Whitcraft Fined In Assault Case

Frank Whitcraft, a farmer living near this city was arrested last Saturday morning, and brought into justice court before Joseph L. Biggerstaff, charged with assault, it being alleged that on the previous Thursday evening he beat up Willie C. Stitt, a neighboring farmer, who is nearly 70 years of age.

It is said that a cow belonging to Whitcraft had been bothering Stitt considerably and in the evening in question, the cow again got on the Stitt place and was run into the barn yard with the Stitt cows, after which Stitt went to the house to prepare to milk. While at the house, his wife saw Whitcraft at the barnyard, and Stitt then went out, and in an argument that arose, it is said that Whitcraft attacked the old man, blacking both of his eyes and otherwise injuring him.

When Whitcraft appeared before Justice Biggerstaff he entered a plea of guilty and the case was then continued over until Monday, June 12, at which time Justice Biggerstaff gave Whitcraft the option of a \$35.00 fine with costs or to spend 60 days in jail. Whitcraft immediately paid.

Presbyterians Start A Bible School Here

One week from next Monday a Vacation Bible School will be started in the Presbyterian church to run for five days a week over a period of five weeks. The school will convene at 9:00 a. m. and run until 11:45 a. m. During that time pupils enrolling will be taught the Bible by paid instructors in just as thorough a manner as any subject in the public schools is taught. Classes for all ages will be arranged.

Similar schools to this have been started in recent years in many cities and have proven to be an invaluable means of giving the boys and girls a careful instruction in that theme more important than any other and yet more ignored today than any—The Way of Life.

Although this school will be organized and financed by the Presbyterian church no denominational teaching will be given and pupils from any or all other Sunday schools are invited to enroll if they desire to do so.

More as to the curriculum, rewards for scholarship, etc., will be available for next week.

ALMA OVER QUOTA
Announcement was made yesterday by N. A. Borgen, campaign manager for the Salvation Army that the quota for the City of Alma has been over-subscribed by several dollars, a total of \$1,562 being secured in the drive which ended with the tag day Saturday.

MARRIED AT STANTON

Hans Paul Findsen of this city, and Miss Ella Viola Manley, the daughter of Mrs. Blanche Manley of Vestaburg, went to Stanton and were quietly married Wednesday morning of last week by Rev. Mayhew of the M. E. church there. The y were attended by the groom's sister, Mrs. Sena Anderson, and her husband, Myers Anderson. After an automobile trip during which they visited with numerous relatives, they came to Alma to make their home. Mr. Findsen has been employed at the Ford garage for the past several years, and is well known here.

ANNOUNCE MARRIAGE

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Schwartz announce the marriage of their daughter Bessie Louise to Mr. Joseph Melin, of Brooklyn, N. Y., on Tuesday, June 6th, 1922.

GROUND BROKEN FOR GYMNASIUM

FORMAL EXERCISES TUESDAY MARKED START OF WORK ON NEW STRUCTURE.

At 5:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon the formal exercises in connection with the breaking of ground for the new \$100,000 memorial gymnasium at Alma College was held in the presence of a large number of students and friends of the college, the exercises being in charge of President H. M. Crooks.

Dr. J. T. Ewing, registrar of the College, was the first speaker. He told of the starting of the college in 1886 and the construction of the administration building and a girl's dormitory in that year, which were opened for the first time, October 26, 1886. In 1887 the heating plant was constructed, and was followed in 1889 by the laying of the corner stone of the library building, which was completed in the following spring. The starting of the combined museum and gymnasium, in 1894 was spoken of, which was completed in 1895. He then spoke of the construction of the memorial to Mr. Hood, Hood museum in 1897, and in 1902 of the construction of Wright hall, the gift of Ammi W. Wright. From that time on no buildings were added by the college up to the present, he said, but spoke of the worthy effort of Zeta Sigma last fall to establish a home. He also told of the building of the athletic field in 1902 and the addition of the Davie gate in 1912. The new gymnasium he said, was the first unit of the greater Alma College which was being hoped for. In closing he said that Alma College had never felt a need for a building, but what the need was soon supplied.

Professor Roy Hamilton, acting dean, told how the money was raised for the memorial gymnasium. He told of the campaign among the college students and faculty, who had taken for themselves a quota of \$10,000, and how the students and faculty had made a world record in pledging 100 per cent strong towards the gymnasium, giving pledges that totaled \$14,175. He then spoke of the campaign in Alma and in the county, which added to the sum that the faculty and students had pledged until \$88,000 was in the coffers for the new building, which would be the embodiment of the hopes of the college and a memorial to the service men of the county.

Dr. Barkley, of Detroit, chairman of the board of trustees, was then called upon by President Crooks to turn the first shovelful of ground for the gymnasium. In turning the ground he said that the building would memorialize the work, and would give assurance and hope for the future. Then Mayor Charles R. Murphy for the city was called upon to turn a shovelful of dirt, and he was followed by President H. S. Brock of the Alma Chamber of Commerce, which aided greatly in the campaign here a year ago when funds were sought. Jotham Allen, chairman of the drive campaign committee, turned a shovel full of dirt, and was followed by Coach Campbell, Keger Zinn, president of the student council, and Mrs. Elizabeth M.iger for the girls.

Then the trustees lined up at the suggestion of President Crooks, with the women members at the head, and each in turn put their foot to the shovel, and lifted out a shovel loaded with dirt. Mrs. William A. Bahlike of this city was the first, and she was followed by Mrs. John Dodge, of Detroit, the two women members who were present. L. A. Sharp was third and he was followed in order by John W. S. Pierson of Stanton, Clarence B. Chatfield of Bay City, Charles H. Bonbright of Flint, Dr. Lewis S. Brooke of Millford, and Professor Kendall Brooks of Mt. Pleasant. Mr. Seeley of Caro, a former trustee, who was present, was then called upon to conclude the formalities by turning still another shovelful of dirt.

PAVING WORK ON WOODWORTH HAS STARTED

HOLMES, CRANE & BARTLING STARTED EXCAVATING FOR PAVING LAST WEEK.

Work Will Last For Some Weeks

The paving on North Woodworth avenue has been put underway by the firm of Holmes, Crane & Bartling, which was recently awarded the contract by the city for the work on this street, on West End street and on West Downie street.

A large force of workmen started the work of excavating at the north end of the street, at the intersection of East End street the latter part of last week, and is working south, towards Superior street. With the force of men at work the firm is making rapid progress with the excavating, the entire north block being plowed-up and a considerable amount of the dirt already removed.

It will take some time to complete the work on this street, which has several blocks to be paved as the entire street must be excavated, and curb and gutters constructed before the paving can be laid. As soon as a suitable amount of the excavating work is completed, however, another force will be started at the north end of the street, putting in the curb and gutter, and then just as rapidly as possible the paving will be laid. Thus it is probable that before all the excavating is done, that work of laying the curb and gutter will not only be under way, but the actual work of laying the paving will also be started.

As soon as the workmen finish the work on this street the work will be started on Downie and on West End streets. Downie street is to be paved west from State street to Park avenue, a distance of two blocks and West End street will also have about the same amount of paving, as it will also be laid west from State street, for two blocks.

Harry Opens New Grocery in Alma

A new grocery has been opened in the Fraker block on East Superior street, which will be the first of Alma's grocery stores to adopt the serve-self idea for its customers, which has been gaining a rapid headway in the larger cities of the country during the immediate past few years.

The new store will be under the ownership of Carl Harry, who for the greater part of the time during the past several years, has been connected with Alma groceries, and who is well versed in the business.

The store in the Fraker block in which the new place is located, has been completely redecorated, and new furnishings and shelving placed throughout the entire store. In keeping with the new furnishings and fixtures is an entire new line of groceries, all of which combine to give the place a neat and attractive appearance.

Pupils to Present Hiawatha's Childhood

Hiawatha's Childhood is to be presented in the high school auditorium Friday evening at 8:00 o'clock, the chorus consisting of 250 voices from Washington School. They will be assisted in the part choruses by the High School girls' glee club. Long-fellow's original text is to be used, with music by Bessie Whiteley.

The part of Nokomis will be taken by Lois Smith and Hiawatha by Donald Hoffman. Other characters are Mudjekeewis, Iago, warriors, maidens, wind-spirits, fireflies and phantoms.

Music for the evening will be in charge of Miss Emmel, staging in charge of Miss Myers and the dances in charge of Miss Hood. The costumes will be in charge of the Washington teachers, assisted by the sewing classes.

Violin music will be rendered by Mr. Thoms of St. Louis, Russell Johnson of this city, and Elsie Smith of Mt. Pleasant.

Victor Crittenden, star hurler of the Alma college baseball team, has received many letters of congratulation from old Alma students and other friends of the college over his wonderful performance at Albion in winning two games in two days and bringing the M. I. A. title to Alma. Among the letters of congratulation was one from James A. Barkley of Detroit, chairman of the board of trustees.

College Classes Hold Elections

During the past few days the various classes and some of the societies at Alma College have been electing class officers for next year. The officers and classes for which they were elected follows:

Next year's senior class: president, Russell Wilson of Traverse City; vice president Edith Hughes of Royal Oak; secretary, Fromilda Young of Howell; treasurer, Clarence Henderson of Bad Axe.

Next year's junior class: president, Harold McNaughton of Argyle; vice president, Gladys Fryxall of Traverse City; secretary, Emma Ritter of New York; treasurer, Oswald Kirker of Detroit.

Next year's sophomore class: president, Harold Foster of Newberry; vice president, Ruth King of Saginaw; secretary, Greta Muir of Bay City; treasurer, John Shroyer of Flint.

Zeta Sigma Literary Society has elected officers as follows: president, James Howe of Alma; vice president, Lawrence B. Marks of Osoda; secretary, Harold Foster of Newberry; treasurer, James Kirker of Detroit; critic, Victor Crittenden of Howell.

The junior class has already elected Kenneth Frye of La Grange, Ill., as editor of the Maroon and Cream for next year, and John Hunter of Newberry as the business manager.

BACCALAUREATE BY REV. DUFFEY

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT WEEK PROGRAM WILL BE OPENED SUNDAY EVE.

The annual Alma High School commencement week program will open on Sunday evening, and will come to a close on Thursday evening of next week.

The commencement address this year will be given by Rev. M. W. Duffey at the First Methodist Episcopal church on Prospect avenue, union services of the churches being held that evening for the occasion.

On Thursday evening, June 22, the annual commencement program will be given in the High School auditorium, at which time 66 seniors will complete their high school courses, and leave to continue their education at colleges or universities, or else to go out to face life in a business way. The address this year is to be given by Rev. William H. Mason, pastor of the Warren Avenue Presbyterian church of Saginaw. Rev. Mason was for a number of years the pastor of the Presbyterian church in this city, and his return to Alma for the high school commencement is certain to be well greeted.

NEW TRUCKS HERE

During the past few days Thompson's garage, local agents for Republic Trucks, have delivered Republics to two live Alma business houses.

One of these delivered to the Model Bakery Tuesday, is a specially designed body on a Rapid Transit chassis, being designed to allow for a maximum load of baked goods on a single trip. The large body is so designed that three separate places are provided for carrying bread shelving dividing the body into three parts and thus doing away with the necessity of piling the loaves one on the other. Movable cross-pieces are so arranged that they may be easily moved as the bread is taken from the shelves, thus keeping the loaves that are left from bouncing around, and jamming. A number of small compartments are also provided in front for carrying pies, cookies, etc. The entire body is finished in a cream color, with black trimmings, with each side of the body carrying the usual Model Bakery inscription.

The other truck delivered the first of the week was a Model B 19, 2 1/2 ton job for The Home Lumber & Fuel Company to be used in the delivery of lumber.

SEEKING THE WRITER

Authorities are seeking to locate the writer of a number of "poison pen" letters in St. Louis, which have been sent to various teachers of the public schools there and to a few of the well known residents of that city. All of the letters evidently have to deal with school affairs.

Residents of St. Louis are now demanding that the affairs in connection with the schools there be probed, and at a meeting Monday evening a petition was made up which was sent to Thomas E. Johnson, state superintendent of public instruction, asking that the department investigate affairs there.

Attorney Coffey, representing the department, is expected to be in St. Louis today to start an investigation in behalf of the Department of Public Instruction.

Fred VanBusker of Ithaca was in the city on business Tuesday.

FOURTEEN WERE GRADUATED AT ALMA COLLEGE

PROFESSOR ROY HAMILTON IS MADE VICE PRESIDENT BY THE TRUSTEES.

Student Council Made Permanent

The thirty-fifth annual commencement passed into history yesterday with the exercises at 10:00 a. m. in the college chapel, when fourteen young men and women finished their college courses.

The exercises were opened with the Academic procession from Wright hall. The invocation by Dr. James Barkley, chairman of the board of trustees, was followed by a selection by the girls' glee club, after which President H. M. Crooks introduced the speaker of the day, Henry Churchill King, D. D., LL. D., president of Oberlin College, who took for the subject of his address, "The Fine Art of Living."

In opening his address he pointed out that thought is the actualization of ideals according to great principles, and that the body and the mind look to action, and that every thought tends to action if all other thoughts are excluded. In this way he said some of the most important decisions of our lives are reached, almost subconsciously.

He then pointed out that that which is worth while, is to be what one ought to be, to make mind and body ready for action, as character requires will in action, while drifting not only undermines the character, but makes for less happiness, and makes one of less account in the world.

Self control is a prime condition for character, he pointed out, it being needed by the athlete to win and to achieve, it being needed to win confidence and influence.

The normal mood is also a need he said, pointing out that one does best when thinking of the mark that he is aiming at than as to how he is hitting the mark.

In closing his address he pointed out that that which is not expressed does not thrive, while things put into action live, and that one cannot have character without work, and work done square.

Following the address Professor Roy Hamilton, acting dean, presented the graduates for degrees, which were conferred by President Crooks on the fourteen members of the senior class, as follows: Miss Mildred Cash of Alma, A. B.; Paul R. Cash of Alma, A. B.; Mabel Lamson Field of Rudyard, A. B., summa cum laude; Joanna Louise Hainline of Alma, A. B., cum laude; Clarence Warren Hopkins of Breckenridge, A. B.; Roland Otto Kern of Rose, A. B.; Beulah Louise Howard of Temperance, A. B.; Prosper Belmont of Parthenay, France, A. B.; Ruth Isabella Stewart of Detroit, A. B., cum laude; Frank M. Vreeland of Bay City, A. B., magna cum laude; Hulda Ward of Alma, A. B.; Wayne R. Wenger of Saginaw, A. B.; Clarence LeRoy Williams of (Continued on page two)

TO HIT BOOZERS HARDER IN ALMA

ORDINANCE TO BE CHANGED SO AS TO PROVIDE FINE OF \$100 OR 90 DAYS IN JAIL.

The old city ordinance adopted back in the palmy saloon days of Alma, when it was an ordinary thing to see a drunk on the streets, is to be revised to meet present day conditions, and the drunk who is found once in a while by the officers will face much greater difficulties than in the past, as the amendment to the old ordinance will carry a heavy penalty if the court should see fit to impose the limit.

The amendment for the ordinance drawn up by William A. Bahlike, was filed at the commission meeting Tuesday evening, and will be placed on its first reading next Tuesday evening, and will come into force just as rapidly as the proper legal steps can be taken.

The old ordinance called for a fine of up to \$20.00 in such cases, and the amendment to the ordinance will provide for a fine of up to \$100.00 in place of the \$20.00.

The old ordinance also provides for a jail sentence of 30 days, and this is to be done away with by the amendment which will call for a jail sentence of up to 90 days.