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ELGIN MIFFLIN.
CHICAGO ALUMNI GATHERINGS.

The Chicago alumni have numerous small social affairs, besides the big annual dinner which takes place the latter part of February. Just before Christmas, P. B. Woodworth, '86, P. M. Chamberlain, '88e, and wife, N. S. Mayo, '88a, and wife, who was Mollie Carpenter, also of '88, George L. Teller, '88, and wife, all of Chicago, and W. H. Vandervoort, 8ge, and wife, who was Mary Smith, of '89, of Moline, Ill., had supper together.

More recently, Mr. and Mrs. Woodworth, F. H. Wade, '08, G. H. Osborn, '11e, Fred Stone, '12e, and Will Nies and Fred Granger, both of '13, had a sociable dinner. In the latter part of January, the Woodworths had dinner at the Union League Club, with W. R. Rummier, '86, and wife. Mr. Rummier is a successful patent attorney, with offices in the Tribune Bldg.

January 31st, Howard A. Taft, '10, and wife, Tuchia Ryall Taft, '11, Osborne and Stone, with I. J. Westerveld, '12e, and wife, had supper together. At all such meetings as the above, many reminiscences of the M. A. C. are indulged in.

MRS. L. M. WOODWORTH, '93

NEW ENGLAND ALUMNI TO GATHER.

The successful meeting held at Rochester last week has led M. G. Kains to contemplate the holding of a similar meeting in New York City in the near future. There are many former M. A. C. people in and near New York, and a combination with the New England association should bring out a goodly attendance. Kains desires that all such send him their names and addresses. The Philadelphia alumni are included in this arrangement.

Most men, by the time they graduate, are entitled to vote. Are you going to cast your vote next fall for men who are friendly to the best interests of the College?

UPPER PENINSULA FARMERS FEEL KINDLY TOWARD COLLEGE.

President J. L. Snyder recently returned from a flying trip to the upper peninsula, where he met a number of influential men who are desirous of better agricultural conditions in that region. He reports that despite stories which have appeared from time to time in the newspapers relative to the opposition to the College, the people really are very generously disposed toward M. A. C., and are more than pleased by the announcement that they will receive considerable attention in the future. W. F. Raven, field agent, and one other man will be detailed to the upper peninsula to assist in developing the country agriculturally.

NEW ATHLETIC FIELD SOON TO BECOME A PLEASING REALITY.

Even as the RECORD is going to press, the College is coming into possession of the old Woodbury farm, just south of the Red Cedar and west of the windbreak. The tract includes some 325 acres, and will provide the future students of M. A. C. with a playground sufficient for the needs of all time.

Not all the property will be given over to the use of the athletic department, but enough will be allowed to permit of two or three football fields, several baseball diamonds, and a fine running track.

Among the excellent features of the proposed site are the fact that it is high and dry and easily drained, points which are deplorably lacking in the present athletic field. Another is the nearness of the new field to the campus proper, making it unnecessary for the students to wear out the grass on the campus in taking their exercise.

Work on the new field will doubtless be started this spring, but it is not expected that it will be ready for use before the fall of 1915. As soon as the present athletic field is vacated it will be turned over to the military department for a drill ground.
A PLAN WORTH CONSIDERING.

Any plan which serves to get the alumni back to the scenes of their college days and to renew within their hearts a spirit of loyalty to the college and a live interest in the activities of the present, is surely worth more than passing consideration. The following paragraph, clipped from an eastern newspaper, speaks for itself:

It is an astonishing fact that such an event as the alumni day planned by the Yale authorities for February 23 proves to have been tried at no other American university. The effort, which happens to be addressed particularly to the Yale alumni of New England, is to bring the graduates back, not for any athletic contest or society reunion, but for the distinct purpose of regaining touch with the university as a working educational plant. They are to be invited to attend whatever classes they please, though fortunately not to recite; they are even asked to get up for morning chapel which, with a hastily swallowed breakfast, should make the illusion of returning college days fairly vivid. If it’s a cold morning. They are to be offered quarters in the homes of the faculty, and a general effort undertaken to make clear just what the university is trying to do and how far it is doing it. The idea is admirable, and merits copying elsewhere.

It seems to us that such a plan might work if tried among the M. A. C. alumni resident in Michigan, as well as in northern Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. We feel certain that a large number of the “old grads” could find it convenient to return to college and take part in real college life for one day—enough to make a creditable showing, and to prove to the present students that “once a college man is always a college man.”

Former members of the Hort, club, the Farmers’ club, and the engineering society could attend the meetings of those bodies, while it is quite possible that many of the societies would find it to their advantage to hold special meetings at the time.

The old timers would just wander back for the purpose of enjoying another day of college life, and not for any special athletic contest or day filled with ceremonies. We would like to know what those concerned think of such a proposition.

The second annual banquet of the Minneapolis Wolverine Society was held at the Athletic Club, in that city, on January 26. A large number of former Michigan people were present, among them several M. A. C. people. Mr. Charles F. Herrmann, ’97a, was president of the society during 1913. Other M. A. C. people who were present were: H. R. Smith, ’95a, and wife, W. T. Langley, ’82, and wife, Karl B. Jewett, ex-’80, and wife, and A. D. Badour, ’12a.

Harry E. Moon, ’06e, was a campus visitor a short time ago. While in college, Moon made some records in the 100-yard and 220-yard dashes which still stand. He is now identified with a construction firm in Salt Lake City, Utah.

C. L. Rose, ’11a, is doing well in the real estate business at Evart, Mich. According to information received from him, he can give prospective buyers perfect satisfaction in either unimproved lands or good farms.

Norman B. Gridley, ’13e, for the past six months connected with the Olds Motor Works, has resigned his position to accept one as assistant in the vocational training department of the Lansing public schools.

Irving J. Woodin, ’13, has sent his address to the RECORD as 313 Temple Block, Kansas City, Mo. Woodin will be glad to have any old M. A. C. people call on him, as he says he is a stranger to the city.

Since leaving the General Motors Company last October, H. H. Barnett, ’06e, has been engaged in civil engineering and surveying work in and near Pontiac, Mich.
EUNOMIAN SOCIETY PLANS TO HAVE ALUMNI AT PARTY.

Special plans are being made by the members of the Eunomian Literary Society, in an attempt to have as many alumni members as possible present at their winter term party which is to be held February 28th. Already quite a number of the old members have written that they will be on hand, and indications point to a successful affair.

A banquet, in addition to the dancing, with the music for the evening furnished by Fischer's orchestra, and a general informal good time are some of the things promised the former members who will return for the event.

Opinions heard on the campus convey the impression that it would be an invaluable aid to all the societies if the alumni members would keep closely in touch with the men in school at all times, giving the societies the benefit of their experiences and more mature judgment.

EX-VARSITY MAN BECOMES COACH.

One of the former M. A. C. athletes who is a product of both the Brewer and Macklin regimes is about to begin turning out teams of his own, with which to startle the sporting world. The man is B. P. Pattison, '12a, who has recently been appointed to tutor the athletes of the University of West Virginia.

While in college, “Big Pat,” as he was called, was a member of the varsity football, basketball, and baseball teams. In the former sport he was an understudy for “Buck” Wheeler, '09, and a teammate of such men as Shedd, Campbell, McKenna and Exelby. In baseball Pattison was a pitcher, his great size assisting him to dazzle the batters with speed. After his graduation, Pattison was signed by Terre Haute, in the Central league, where he had fair success.

Promotions in the cadet corps in the future will be strictly by seniority of rank. A list of the officers has been carefully prepared, taking into account the dating of each man’s commission according to rank. Company lines will no longer interfere with promotions, the officer of highest rank moving up automatically.

H. B. Calkins, ex-'07e, is now located at 517 N. 48th ave., West Duluth, Minn. During 1912 and 1913 he was a general inspector for the Northern Pacific Railway and since June, 1913, has been electrical foreman with the Minnesota Steel Co.

FARNHAM BISHOP SPEAKS ON PANAMA CANAL.

Last Tuesday evening the populace of East Lansing had an opportunity of learning some more regarding the Panama canal from the lips of a man who has lived in the zone, and who knew his subject. An additional feature, which added to the interest of the lecture, was the fine collection of lantern slides with which it was illustrated.

At the start, Mr. Bishop briefly took up the history of the old republic of Panama, going back to the days of Columbus and Balboa, and tracing it through the periodic revolutionary outbreaks which were as regular as meal times.

In a simple and easily understood manner, the reasons why a sea level canal would have been impossible were related. The main factor against this type of waterway was the uneven level of the Chagres river, which in times of flood rises as high as 40 feet. Another reason, now pretty generally understood, is the difference of the tides at Panama and Colon, which would have caused a gigantic tidal wave to sweep through the canal twice daily, tearing down the banks.

Many of the stupendous pieces of engineering, about which most had read, were described in detail, with the aid of the slides. The Gatun dam, the Gamboa dike, the lock systems, and many other subjects were covered in the lecture of over an hour, and it must be said, to the credit of Mr. Bishop, that he had his audience thoroughly interested during the whole time.

THE COLLEGE WATER AGAIN.

Lansing newspapers have been having a merry tilt over the condition of the College drinking water. One says it is and the other says it isn’t. Dr. Giltner, head of the bacteriological department, and the one man in a position to know, says that there is no immediate danger from the campus water supply. The water is as good as it has been for the past three months.

That there is some pollution from an unknown source is apparent, but no germs of infectious disease have been found. Were the college authorities unacquainted with the situation, there might be danger, but they are prepared in advance, and every precaution is being taken. Up to this time, not one case of illness traceable to the water has appeared on the campus.

A grapefruit is a lemon that had a chance and took advantage of it.
CORRESPONDENCE

From A. N. Robson, Crestwood, Yonkers, N. Y.: "The RECORD is certainly received and read with great interest, and I would not wish to be deprived of its anticipated arrival." Mr. Robson is now employed as forester with the Bronx parkway commission, with headquarters at Yonkers.

A. B. Rogers, '04, Sioux City, la., says: "It is 10 years since I was graduated, and I have visited the campus but once during that time. I am cut off from friends of the dear old college, and never see a 'grad' here. I hope to some day, as this is 'some city,' a 'wild west town' no more."

Dear Editor:

Don't change the RECORD from a weekly to a monthly; a short spicy weekly is much better than a long newsy affair that comes at such intervals and takes too much of our valuable time to read. Don't change the alumni reunions. You can tear down College Hall any old time and erect in its place an auditorium, but give us a chance, once in three years, to return to the old campus and meet both old and young. There are a thousand acres in the farm now, and if the campus won't hold all of us, some can take to the woods.

L. B. HALL, '82.
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Editor:

I have been receiving the RECORD for three months, and want to say that I am mighty glad when I find it in my mail. I am much interested in what is going on at the college, and note with pleasure the strides it has taken since I was there in 1894.

P. F. AMERY, ex-'95.

Mr. Amery is now a successful dairy farmer at St. Croix Falls, Wis., and a leader in progressive movements in his community. The Interstate Park Farmers' Club is an organization which is doing a lot of good in that locality.

A note received from P. W. Mason, '12, of Purdue University, tells of his visit to Florida during the Christmas holidays, and of meeting Prof. R. H. Pettit at Atlanta, Ga.

Albert Latcha Waters, '90a, who has served in various capacities in connection with mining interests in this country and Mexico, is now president of the board of regents of the University of New Mexico.

HORT. CLUB.

The principal speaker at the last meeting of the Hort. Club was A. N. Bullock, of Lapeer, Mich., who gave the boys some practical ideas relative to the proper method of marketing apples. His plan is to ship a car-load of apples to some city, and then go there and sell them direct to the consumers.

Among the things he emphasized was the value of a good trade name. A name with a reputation behind it is worth real money. Mr. Bullock has a reputation for good fruit, which enables him to get his price. He also dwelt upon the necessity for careful sorting and proper packing, two things essential to the building up of a good trade. He showed why the trade desires barrel fruit, when the consumers prefer fancy box apples.

FARMERS' CLUB.

Last week Prof. Pettit and Dr. Bessey continued the discussion on "The Storage of Farm Manure" begun by Prof. Musselman and Dr. Giltner a couple of weeks ago. Prof. Pettit spoke on the relation to insects. The chief insect to be considered under this head is the fly, whose natural breeding place is in manure. If this pest is to be controlled, stored manure must be screened in or stirred to a considerable depth every day or two to destroy breeding places. A pit or shed with cement bottom and sides prevents the larva from getting into the ground where they habitually pupate.

Dr. Bessey spoke on the relation of weed seeds and fungi to stored manure. The former are nearly all killed under ordinary conditions but unless there is considerable heating, as in a closed pit, the fungi that cause many plant diseases find an ideal breeding place.

PEACE OR WAR?

As the result of a generous offer by Lansing business men, a number of students are entering the "peace or war" oratorical contest to be held in the spring. Mr. J. H. Moores has offered $75.00 for the winner of the first prize, while the second contestant will receive a prize of $50.00 from R. E. Olds. The local try-out will be held at the College about the middle of March. The principal contest will be held at Olivet. Contestants will be entitled to individual coaching by Mr. C. B. Mitchell, of the English department.
What’s Doing This Month

This department in the RECORD is designed to assist alumni who plan to visit the college in so timing their visits that they may attend the functions most interesting to them. We believe this will be of interest to former members of the various societies. The list of social functions for February is given below:

Feb. 13—Junior Hop, Masonic Temple, Lansing.
    " 14—Concert, Armory.
    " 20—Union Lit. Party, Armory.
    " 20—Columbia Party, Ag. Bldg.
    " 21—Sororian Party, Armory.
    " 21—Phylean Party, Ag. Bldg.
    " 27—Dramatic Club Party, Armory.
    " 28—Themian Party, Armory.
    " 28—Eunomian Party, Ag. Bldg.

STATE VETERINARIANS MEET.

The annual meeting of the Michigan State Veterinary Association was held at Lansing and East Lansing on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. Approximately 100 members were in attendance and many helpful pointers were handed out at the various sessions.

Dr. N. S. Mayo, ’88, was present, looking after the interests of the Abbott Alkaloidal Company, of Chicago. This company deals in a large line of veterinary medical specialties, and Dr. Mayo had a fine display at the meeting.

In addition to the veterinary students, a large number of men in other courses took advantage of the opportunity that offered to attend the meetings and learn something of the work.

Levi B. Bye, ex-’07e, is now an ensign in the U. S. Navy. After leaving M. A. C., Mr. Bye went to Annapolis, and from 1909 to 1912 was assigned to battleship and torpedo boat duty. From 1912 to 1914 he took post graduate work in ordnance, and is now located at Indian Head, Md. His mail reaches him through the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Dept., Washington, D. C.

Walter H. Flynn, ’99e, for some time past employed with the Michigan Central railroad in Detroit, was chosen president of the Railroad Y. M. C. A. at the annual meeting held January 17. Mr. Flynn is at present superintendent of motive power for the M. C. railroad in Detroit.

NOTRE DAME PAYS PENALTY FOR DEFEAT OF AGGIES.

In one of the most exciting basketball games seen here this year, the fighting Irishmen from Notre Dame paid dearly for the trouncing they administered to Macklin’s men last month, going down to the score of 45 to 22.

Notre Dame has a reputation for scrappy teams, and this year’s five is no exception. Although the home team led in the scoring all the way, the visitors never stopped fighting, and furnished the fans with plenty of thrills.

Until Vatz and Frimodig were chased, on account of personal fouls, and Goss was injured, the M. A. C. five played rings around the South Bend team. At the end of the first half the count stood 39 to 14 in favor of Gauthier, Goss, et al. The speed and team work of the local quintet was always fast, and at times absolutely dazzling. Every man played so perfect a game that picking the star is impossible. For the visitors, Fitzgerald and Kenny displayed the best work. Frimodig’s work bordered on the sensational at times, and Macklin’s center problem appears to be solved. McClellan, a new man, replaced Vatz, and showed the qualities of a veteran.

The lineups and summary:

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Gerald Cook, ’13f, who ranked as high man in the civil service examination for Philippine forester last year, has been transferred to the U. S. list. Cook has, so far, failed to receive any appointment. He quoted his letter: “Tell the boys not to take the examinations. They are all ‘bunk.’”

Ernest R. Graham, ex-’06, has recently written to the RECORD. Since leaving M. A. C., in ’04, Mr. Graham has received the degree of B. S. and M. E. from the College of Mines, and has been actively engaged in mining work. At present he is superintendent of the Mogul mine at Terry, S. D.

A. F. Frey, ex-’04e, has recently moved from Chicago to Anaconda, Montana. His new address is 718 Oak St., Anaconda, Mont.
The Evolution of the Silo

By Will W. Zimmer, Cornell University
Special Ag. '05

No reader of the M. A. C. Record needs any argument in favor of turning the corn crop into ensilage and “canning” it in a silo for supplying fresh, green feed during the months when her pastures are dried up or covered with snow. In fact, ensilage is now being fed practically all the year round on some farms, and proving its value as a “cheap” feed, when the results produced are taken into consideration. However, the requirements for preserving ensilage in a fresh, sweet and succulent condition from the time the corn is cut until it is all fed have only just recently been entirely met in a satisfactory manner by a new type of silo. Previous to this the silo has been a sort of makeshift affair, which preserved ensilage rather indifferently, and required a lot of attention and repairs.

Fifty years ago the silo was merely a pit dug in the ground. It was very unsatisfactory for several reasons. Much of the feed spoiled, and in it there was a hard job to remove the silage for feeding. This pit, therefore, was soon discarded, and was followed, in 1876, by the first real silo in this country, a square bin built in the barn. This type was soon abandoned because it was impossible to pack the ensilage properly in the square corners; the silo was not airtight, and the moisture of the ensilage was rotting the timbers of the barn. The round stave silo was the successor of the square bin, and was considered up-to-date because of its vast improvement over its predecessor. But while this stave silo has been justly popular, its faults are many and are becoming more apparent each season, as it is realized that certain requirements for preserving ensilage may be met more economically and satisfactorily by a modern form of building construction, used throughout the country in erecting sky scrapers, manufacturing buildings, grain elevators, storage tanks, homes, etc. We refer to fireproof and weatherproof hollow building blocks made of vitrified clay.

In order to preserve ensilage in a perfectly fresh and succulent condition, it must be kept away from the air. Just so far as the air penetrates in a silo, the contents become rotten or moldy. Then, if the silo whose walls are nearest airtight will keep ensilage in the best condition.

The glazed surfaces of these modern vitrified-clay hollow silo blocks make a wall that requires no painting and is impervious to air and moisture, and the two dead-air spaces in each block protect contents of silo from extremes of outside temperature. The blocks are reinforced between each layer by two continuous steel bands, which are laid in grooves and covered with mortar. This gives the completed silo great strength to resist any side pressure from weight of ensilage or severe winds. This type of silo will last for several generations with practically no repairs, and will stand as a monument to the owner’s good judgment.

From an economical viewpoint, the first cost of a silo is of only minor importance. Its durability, cost of keeping in repair, and its efficiency in serving its original purpose of preserving ensilage—any one of these factors is of more important consideration. Many cheap silos are the most expensive, because they not only are practically worthless as preservers of ensilage, but they are short lived, and in constant need of repair.

A silo built of these hollow vitrified clay blocks costs a little more than a stave silo made from cheap woods, but it never needs painting re-erecting, straightening, or replacing on the foundation after a heavy wind storm. It is weatherproof, decayproof, verminproof and fireproof.

An attractive and interesting book on hollow vitrified clay block silos is issued by the National Fireproofing Company, Lansing, Michigan. It will be mailed free to anyone interested in better silos and ensilage.

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