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The Sphinx. Vol. 9, No. 2 October 19, 1907

Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, October 19, 1907

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THE SPHINX



Vol. IX

Madison, Wis., October 19, 1907

No. 2

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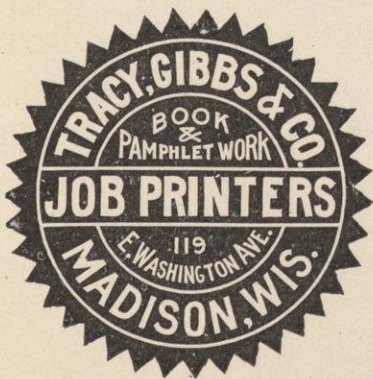
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This naughty child,
A kicker and a squirmer;
When it bit her hand,
Its aunt cried "Land!"
And grasped the terror firmer.

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The Sphinx

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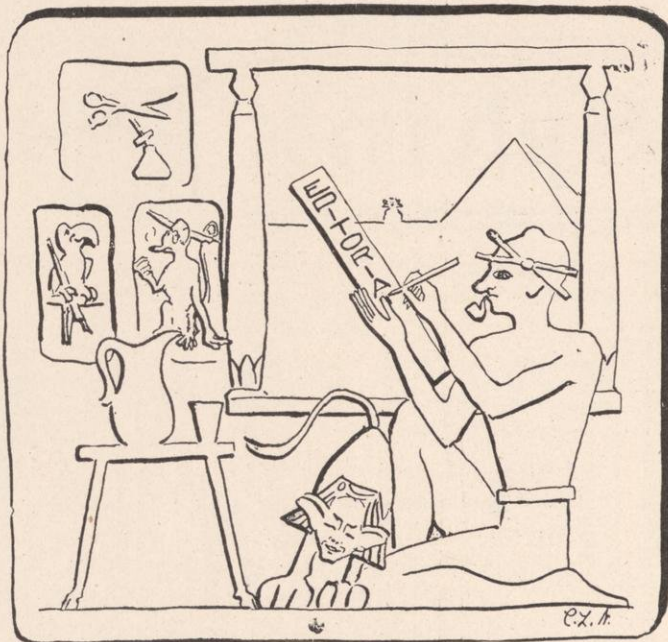


Thou poultice for the weary brain!
 Thou haven for the faltering step!
 I come to soothe that inward pain,
 Forsooth, thy wares deserve their rep.

"A cup of coffee, quick!" thou fool,
 "A Hamburg, too, with garlic smell."
 I munch thee sitting on a stool
 "All cares and bucking" go to ().

I love the sound of frying eggs,
 The bursting of each red hot dog;
 I drink my coffee to the dregs
 And curse the name of pedagogue.

—D. S. B.



THE SPHINX.

Published fortnightly during the College Year by Students of the University of Wisconsin.

Entered at the Postoffice of Madison, Wis., as Second-Class Matter, September 28, 1901.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS
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Single copies on sale at the news stands and book stores.

ADVERTISING RATES MADE KNOWN ON APPLICATION

Address communications, subscriptions and remittances for same to Business Manager, 248 Langdon St.

Address contributions to EDITOR, 631 Langdon Street.

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- HILBERT C. WALLBER, '08.
- WALTER A. BUCHEN, '10

Always remember that this is only pretence, so that you are not to believe a word of it, even if it is true.—Kingsley

ROUND AND ROUND



WITH all respect to the Wisconsin tradition which dictates that soph and frosh square accounts by polluting pellucid Mendota with each other, the SPHINX raises a clear ringing hoot in protest. The lake rush was the real taffy when there were half the participants and twice the space—but to properly conduct a rough house with some 900 fighting for glory, and 3,000 bald heads, grocery boys, and women who ought to know better than claw each others' shirtwaists fighting for the best look, in a space too small for face-tag, with an outlet the width of a cow-path, along which beautiful nature has provided geologic bump the bumps—

is going some. The pleasing growth of this our university has provided freshman classes that make the result a foregone conclusion, if there was any conclusion, which there ain't, the rush being a swimming hole ducking-fest on a dangerous scale, without object, without form and void.

Cut it out? That involves cutting hazing, to which the rush is the cope-stone and finish. Hazing is, or should be, a college experience too good to lose; it would be if upper-classmen organized to stick around and keep the lake not as a stunt but as a penalty, and gave the papers no excuse to lie. This year the numerous list of qualified overseers prepared by the St. Con. were Johnny-on-Some-Other-Spot with the consistency of Madison's pseudo-police.

The rush needs an object. Inspiration: how about a pole—a plain pole, such as 1908 put up first, and not

the slack wire apparatus the faculty in its wisdom chased them onto. Plant it in the lake if wetness is a qualification. The SPHINX herself likes the looks of a pole on shore, whence couples can adjourn to the lake at disengaged moments, as polite society to the conservatory.

How about it, you?



WHY is the time not auspicious to hold a real mass meeting? THE SPHINX remembers a few such occasions on which she became enthusiastic and hurt her voice-box, but she remembers none that weren't distressingly futile in spots.

PROGRAM.

Silence and empty front seats.

Ten minutes wait. Third grade kid attempts yell. Squelched.

We sing *Varsity* out of key. Prominent stude notified ten minutes before says: "Fellows! We must make the team feel we are back of them." Cheers and pleased comments on P. Stude's originality.

Band plays selection from *Lucia de Lammermore*. Saxophone chokes.

Alumnus—resurrected squab of '01, snatched from his family, timidly asserts: "We are going to win tomorrow." Dutiful enthusiasm.

Spiel by faculty man—generally good.

Team, called for, remark: "I—ah—I think—ah—yes—ah—thank you. (Aside) Oh hell." Wild excitement.

Speech by business manager.

Bum yell. Music by the band.

One can be patriotic over that kind of dope, but it strains the face. Is there no one capable of assembling a bunch of speakers with something to say, and the gift of reaching down into your viscera and shaking your inmost self when they say it? With three dramat societies and innumerable individual stuntifiers, why can't we put on something seasonable in the way of diversion between spiels? For the love of Mike, let's have mass-meetings worth going to.



WHAT a cheerful, warm hearted way we of Wisconsin have of encour-

aging the altruistic cuss who rises to piug for his university—about as warm hearted as two quarts of iced oyster. Our first polite comment is "Durned if anybody (but me) can run things around here," and, when we stop to unintelligently consider we say "Huh. He's looking for *Badger* summary, Grafter! James, my axe!"

Someone has got to run things, or they won't run; and generally don't, no one caring to rise and saw wood among a vegetable shower. It is needless, and mean, to assume that when a man undertakes a college job he got it by graft and for graft. We would have a darn sight more excuse for living if we got out and helped shove instead of lying on the bed burning holes in the pillow sham with our roommate's cigarettes and knocking the man that is outside hollering for us to come and back him up.

It is well to put on your engineers boots and jump on a grafter from time to time. We have plenty of Badger boards and business managers and class presidents and things who justify the current belief that everyone that gets college office is, of necessity a grafter. We should discriminate with our feet however—there are jobs that no grafter has energy enough to fill, and altruistic jobs that are unprofitable to steal. No one takes the Badger art chairmanship or the Y. M. presidency or the football managership to embellish his summary. The man who has the nerve to walk away under one of those jobs should not be landed on with opprobrium by all his little friends, as an extra.



WE had intended, to give point to our above lucid remarks, to list the genuine scaly-headed grafts that need heavy attention—but as it would require some eleven extra pages of our valuable space, we abridge.

Class offices which are grafted whenever anyone wants one are too blame insignificant to justify the effort involved in sniffing; and occasionally justify their existence by being humorous; as, e. g., when the anti-frat electee blossoms out as a pledgling; or when 1909 cooks up its election so shyly that less than a quorum hear about it.

Our intelligent system of *Badger* election compels the chairman aspirant to be an 18-carat grafter or a dead one. To attain his job he must pre-promise every sub-job on the book to influential incapables, which is rough on the chairman and rougher on the *Badger* which is the University's book. What's the answer?

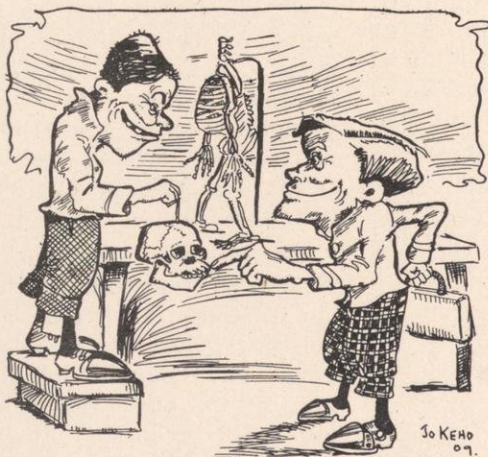
There is one small graft that wouldn't matter but that it harrows the eye so. Every year a grafting upper classman prints a dippy-appearing sheet which innocent freshmen, with a deficient sense of literary shame, claim as "our poster." We understand this year's "soph" bill was cribbed from Beloit's. We hope not. We would hate to impute to a sister college the origination of such a drivelingly futile bit of paralytic measliness.

Gilt Idols

The college boy of the magazines!
 I have loved the type from my early teens
 Hero of the tale and song,
 I have worshipped you for long.
 Squatty pipe and manly pose,
 Square-set chin and Roman nose
 Frank and pleasant,
 Big and strong
 Always dressed in fitting clothes.
 Lips that smile and eyes that shine
 Features regular and fine:—
 As I gaze I can't but feel
 Here's the college man ideal.
 Surely the ideal he seems
 As he's drawn in magazines.

The college boy of the magazines,—
 I mourn the flight of my early dreams!
 Rosy tinged romance is gone,
 Since the true type came along.
 "Briar" pipe and florid hose,
 Cellar windows on his nose,
 Rank, unpleasant,
 Makin's—strong!
 Dressed in flossy, kandy clothes:
 Vests that shout and ties that blind,
 Little sky-piece on his mind!
 As I gaze I can't but feel
 Shattered by the new ideal:
 Surely an ideal he seems
 For the comic magazines.

—Mu.



First Medic—Gee! that fellow must have had a homely head.

Minerva

"Drink to me only with thine eyes!
 Eschewing the dark brown stein."

Bacchus

"Can't—both m' eyes sheein double a'ready.
 No optical boozhe for mine!"



Deductive Libel.

Holmes—Ah. Two students are approaching.

Watson—But Sherlock, how do you know they are students? They may be respectable Madison people.

Sentimental

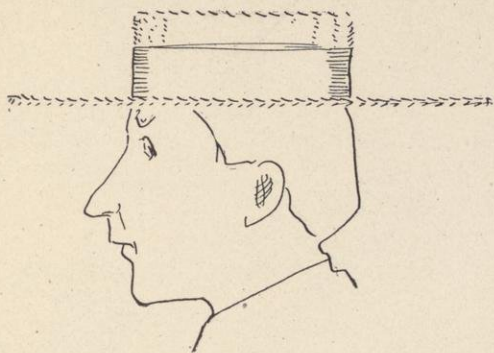
Langourously Archibald and Evadne rowed their frail craft o'er Mendota's glassy mirror. Suddenly Archibald sniffed; "It must be a dead calmb," he remarked, seizing upon his classic pro-bos-cis. But Evadne was a thoughtful girl, ever considerate of inanimate creatures.

"Go forward, Archibald," she said kindly, "and hold the nose of the boat."



Then

Ye landladye will trail ye stude
 Whych owes her last year's rente.
 Ye closer then can fynd hys team
 To dope up argumente.
 Mart-Haffner-Sharx and Kuppenheim
 Will sende theyre booklettes round;
 Ye laundrymen will spotte where nice
 Freshe victyms may be founde.
 Younge Pete will fynd ye hang-out
 Of his Mamie, Maude, or Bess,
 Ye Bible Classes then will make
 Campaigns of holyness.
 Ye Studente Bodye will arise
 Upon yts legges and shout:
 "Hooray, tres bean, and likewise rah!"
 When
 the darn
 directory's
 out.



“I WAS a freshman myself once,” said the grad with the obvious hat band.

We appeared interested.

“Yes,” continued the grad, “the freshest kid that Psi Beta Pi ever pledged, they said. It was a great initiation. Say, I couldn’t enjoy sitting down for a week. They had me climbing trees and things, steady, before; but I was a fresh kid and liked it.

“The night of the climax a couple of the fellows brought me in from my mother’s aunt’s out at Wingra. When we got in the car, ahead of us was the delicatest rose-kissed peach I’d seen. Say, it made me weep to think of a picture like that in among our average run of Pelicans.

“Bill Evers—’99, the football Evers—took me by the neck and said in a particularly gallows tone, ‘Kid! you go up and get acquainted.’

“I was fresh—but that idea doubled me up, completely. I went, though. Bill had considerable moral prestige.

“‘Ah—good-morning,’ I said. I always had quite a line of talk for such occasions, but now because I needed it, it slid back into my sub-consciousness and I couldn’t raise even a small paragraph.

“‘Good-morning,’ she said. ‘Won’t you sit down?’

“Say—that left me so weak that I wilted right down alongside her, dumb.

“‘Are you engaged?’ I asked her, like a phonograph turning out Its Master’s Voice. That’s what the fellows had told me to say.

“‘No. But I like you. Won’t you have a chocolate?’ she said, and snuggled.

“She kept up that kind of discourse all down the avenue. I was dopy. When I looked at the fellows they were sitting with their mouths open like the trap door when they play Siegfried at the Fuller.

“Down by the library she got off. Handed me the candy-box and I followed along with it feeling as if I was getting kidnapped. The fellows sat with their faces all pie, stunned too. They didn’t get off for three blocks.

“When the cold draft that blows across the lower campus hit me, I came to. ‘Say,’ I began, ‘You know this is all a mistake—you know—I am being initiated Pi Bite—that is—’

“‘Course I know,’ she said and began to laugh. She laughed about five minutes. I felt like bringing her water. ‘My but those big fellows looked *so* flat and silly.’ Then she had another fit. ‘I saw your pledge button,’ she told me when she got down to explanations. ‘I’m going into Kappa Phi myself tonight and I have a feeling for you.

“‘Oh,’ I said. I was relieved, but mad too. I’d thought it was my manly beauty had done the work.

“‘Well,’ I said recovering, I have a bid to the Kappa Phi dance Friday, and if there is any way you could give me the third and fourth and seventh, and then some?’

“‘I think I might—if we were properly introduced,’ she said. Then all of a sudden there seemed to be nothing more to say, and we stood like a couple of fools, till she remarked: ‘Well, I must be going’ and went.

“The fellows didn’t do a thing to me at the house; but that Prom—but that, as Kipling says, is another story.”

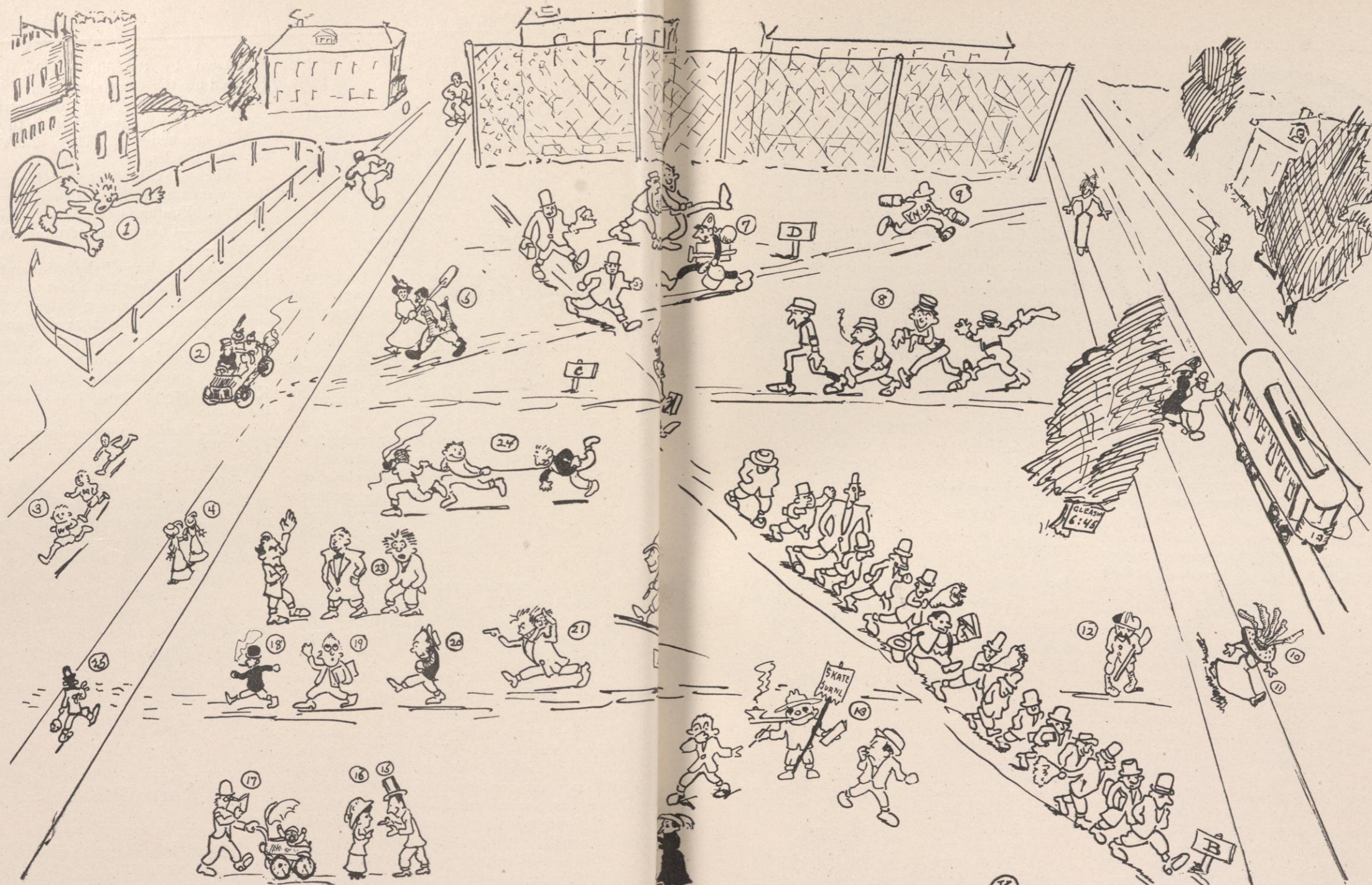
—F.



Batty Biology. I

Oh see the an-i-mal-cu-lus!
 His life is brief, but strenuous.
 He has no nerves nor feet nor debts;
 He lives on anything he gets.
 He does not buck nor bat nor fuss
 He is more sensible than us.
 Ere he is focussed on your slide,
 He’s always wiggled off or died;
 He is an aggravating cuss,
 The festive an-i-mal-cu-lus.

—H.



Campus Paths What They Mean

KEY

- A**—Strait and narrow path to Y. M.
B—Frat runway, to Girling Court.
C—Road to Gym. Abandon soap all ye who enter here.
D—Y. M. to State St., where backsliders begin to bump the bumps.

1. Stude pursued by gym itch.

2. Plutocrat with scent-wagon.
 3. Cross country team displaying lots of its
 4. Freshman girls from Two Rivers, blushing
 5. Crushes about to canoe.
 6. Man horribly scalded by gym hot water.
 7. Freshman fixing up his room.
 8. 'Steenth Minerva Rookies, Wisconsin's Or
 in uniform.
 9. Y. M. pledgling emancipating himself.
 10. Punch-bowl hat with feather geyser.

11. Co-ed wearing hat.
 12. Dog catcher looking for bull pups with no
 muzzles.
 13. Object of offence, composing doze dreams.
 14. Landladies picking out the dead-heads.
 15. Fusser.
 16. Fuser.
 17. Prof airing offspring.
 18. Stude needing a phone.
 19. Stude needing spiritual fodder.

20. Stude needing bodily grub.
 21. Stude with superfluous hair, about to be shorn.
 The wind is specially tempered to lambs
 shorn under Y. M. auspices.
 22. Fisherman and bait.
 23. Junior play aspirants making a noise like
 Garrick.
 24. Retributive Justice conducting Man-Who-
 Bucks-Through-Football-Practice to Lake.
 25. Medic with assignment of bones.



Dear Poicy: I salute Thee.

Gee! Alack! Many strange things have come my way since together we sat 'neath the sign of "Ye Green Express Wagon."

There Inhabit this Place, two Great Tribes & some Few Other People intermingled who in the conduct of affairs Cut but Little Figure: Upperclassmen, Supercilious & Puffed-up Little People—(puffing done at so much per Pound at any State street tailor shop, horse-hair Furnished Free), who Arrogate to themselves this Dignified Title, and are Allowed its Use to Keep them in Humor & from Beneath the Feet; And the Faculty, a Debilitated Dilapidated, Decaudalated & Dehabilitated (for I am Told they Wander here from Some Region to the East) Tribe, Notable only for their Faculty of being in the Way. The Upperclassmen may be known by their Hard-boiled Head-pieces & Soft-soled Boots & in the Arrogance of their Bearing and Neckerchiefs, Contrarily the Faculty bear an Unkempt & Dissolute Mien.

The Real People are The Sophs—from the Greek Root "Soph," meaning False—and Freshies.

The Call to Arms was Sounded when the Big Chief & Lord High Mucky Muck assembled the Frosh Bunch in the Chateau d'Itch.

Oppressive stillness. Gleaming in Fero-cious Warpaint the Freshies Issue forth. The Sophs are laying for them, for is not Strategy the Grandfather of a Plunge in the

Lake? Alas! when the last garment had been done into baby ribbon, Victory Perched upon the Bare-Backs of the Freshies.

Woe is me for I have Eaten of the Fruit of Defeat and my Tail (shirt tail) Trails in the Dust.

Men were Seen who had Lost Both Shoes and were Abandoned to their Fate, Caps were Severed Partially & in Some Cases Totally from their Owners Heads; Trousers were Torn Veritably Limb from Limb and in their Muddy Dismemberment were Heartlessly Left to the Tender Mercies of Prowling Janitors. Bow your Head in Thankfulness with me that it is Behind us; bow your Head Backward in accord with me and let the Nectar of Hamm & Co. console you that I am still in the running.

Adieux,

Hank, '10.

Deplorable Doings

Frightful feud
'Twixt stude and stude!
Most unladylike
rude.

Roughneck, dude,
Mud be-gooed
Each to each like
leeches glued.

Some pursued,
Unsubdued
Roughhouse lulled and
worse renewed.

Shirties strewed—
Trousers skewed—
Poses in the semi-
nude.

"Deuced crude!"
(Kick from prude
Standing where things
best are viewed.)

Brutal? Crude?
Think that you'd
Miss it? Nixy!
Puzzle: who'd?

—*Juge*



The Perverted Village

(With apologies to Goldsmith.)

[We have borne, or had sent by means of a medium, the apologies above mentioned to Mr. Goldsmith who is now sojourning elsewhere, just where we haven't found out. We fed 6 cents return postage to the medium, but so far have got no manifestations; so we reckon Mr. Goldsmith is still considering.]

Sweet Madison, fair village of the plain—
Where stars and moonlight cheer the fuss-
ing swain,
Where bursars smile whene'er tuition's paid
But lose their summer looks if it's delayed—
How often must we roll upon thy green,
Where freshman scrappiness endears each
scene,
How often hand the soph the stiffy arm—
Clasp fractured nose with blood still run-
ning warm,—
How often roll the fragrant Durham pill
Before the decent hall that tops the hill,—
Or after class hunt seats beneath the shade,
To buck the calculus or fuss the maid.
How often shall we bless the waning day,
When toil remitting lends its turn to play
Where every flizzie fair from labor free,
Receives her man—and then may one be
me!
The bashful * coeds' sidelong looks of love,
The matron's glance that will these looks
reprove—
These be thy charms, sweet village, and the
years
Shall bring full pay for all our freshman
fears.
—A Freshie.

* Huh—Ed.

x

THE SPHINX staff had torn out all its hair in the throes of humorous composition. Subject, the rush. Suddenly, a shameless boy entered with a *Skate Journal*. Reading, we knew ourselves outdone.

Mud and Dirt and Filth.

Women looked on and clapped their hands, though little children with scared looks gazed strangely into their mothers' eyes.

"Ma! I want to know. Why are those boys going swimming with their pants on?"

Dainty maidens, dressed so nattily, smiling so sweetly, looked upon the great display of bestiality. They saw men partly naked, their faces lighted with the passion of victory at any cost—the look we

imagine might be found in the eyes of savage men sweeping down upon defenceless villages. The girls saw men with whom they had danced, and talked, and perhaps loved, grabbed by countless clutching hands, dragged through the slime and the mud and muck, over the rocks, and cast into the lake.

There. Cannot you fairly hear the dull, sickening plunk?

As people hesitate to keep a file of the *Journal* around the house where innocent children might get hold of it, THE SPHINX magnanimously preserves this literary delicacy.

x

Why Him and Her Parted

Him—"Say! Did you hear how the police pinched that joint between the Co-op and Sumner's?"

Her—"My! What kind of a joint?"

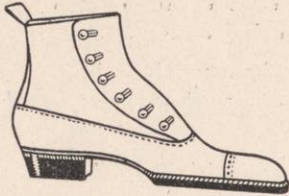
Him—"Something between a book-store and a drug-store."



"Quit your staring and turn that page!"

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and Men's
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Omar to Chrisie

'Neath that inverted Bowl you call a Hat,
Spiked to your Coiffure, or perhaps, your
Rat,
Why hidest thou? To dodge the Goo-Goo
Bunch
A-rubber at the windows of the Frat?

Worse are those Things that seem about
to slip,
A-down your spine on a toboggan trip,
Whose shape, if any, follows close the class-
ic outlines of a Saratoga Chip.

Oh Chrisie, lose that feather-dustered
Lid—
Don't give a darn though Fashion Dope
forbid—
Give it away or feed it to the Pup.
Give o'er! It makes you woozy-looking,
Kid.

Hast

Hast thou ever, in thy wanderings
Stopped at Ferdie Kaestner's place?
Hast thou ever, in thy ponderings,
Shoved a high-ball in thy face?
Hast thou ever, gentle reader,
To a pig-race hied thyself?
Hast thou ever in thy madness
Squandered all thy scanty pelf?
If thou hast not, thou hast missed it,
No true student hast thou been;
But thou'st saved a bunch of ex's,
Keeley's checks and lots of tin.

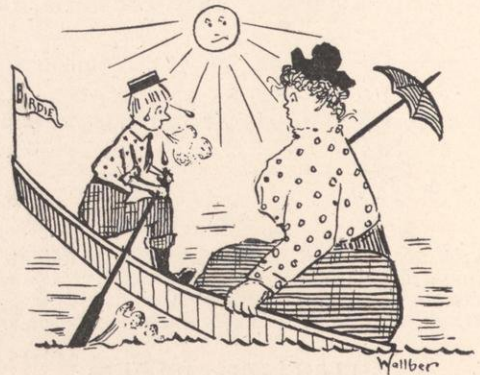
—H. F. N.



Announcement

The Delilah Hair Cutting Emporium—
Auspices of the Y. M. Clipping Associa-
iton. Red Domino has presented a cur-
tain raizer. Pompadours a specialty—we
give you a coiffure like the neck bristles
of a scared razor-back. Our firm is pre-
pared to mow anything, from the pin-
feathers of a Mendota Court freshman
to the second-growth scrub on a Nor-
malite that has been hibernating in the
stacks a week.

“What will the harvest be?”



Emergency

“What if one of those big, awful storms
should come up?”

“Well—I guess we'd have to kiss and
say goodbye.”

* * * *

“Oo—isn't that cloud threatening?”



An egotist is one who insists on talking
about himself when you want to talk about
yourself.



Dear Madame.—A young man with all the ear marks of an affinity is calling steady. But yesterday I met him carrying a drawing board and one of those cute engineer pencil boxes and a suitcase smoking a cigarette, and he dropped the suitcase and tipped his hat, but kept his cigarette in his face. He hadn't time to grab it, and I know his delicate nature revolted at spitting it out. What ought I to think?

Tremulously—Phoebe,

Care Chi Uneeda.

Dear Phoebe.—If he was truly devoted he would have swallowed the snipe. Did he drop the suit-case or set it down very carefully?

Dearest.—I have the sweetest English teacher who is a Ph. D. I know M. D. is Doctor of Medicine, but as applied to an English instructor, what does Ph. D. mean?

Lovingly—Salome.

Dam Phool. Now run along and sell your papers.

Oh Sphinx.—I know I have hitched up with the light of my life. I see him in memory's eye when Bode is lecturing, and after we part his kisses seem to linger on my lips. What does this mean?

Ecstatically—Mame.

We hope your penultimate phrase does not refer to Bode.

The linger may be explained variously, viz: 1. He may love you fervidly. 2. He may have been eating Hamburger with.



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We are headquarters for those nobby soft hats that are so popular just now—ask to see them.

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Bible Study

The unreformed freshman looked up from the 13th of Matthew. "Say," he asked, "why doesn't Dr. Hutchins hide the squad in four measures of meal until the whole be 'leavened?'"

Which was not merely sacrilegious but sage.



There was a sweet girl from St. Paul,
Who registered here in the faul,
When the registrar asked her her name,
age, address, color, parents' criminal
record if any, were you ever en-
gaged, size shoe, waist measurement,
have you a room, do you like your
landlady, why not,
She answered: "Well! I like your gaul!"

Chapter XVII—In Which We Wax Idiotic

Night fell.
What made night fall?
The pillow slip.
I guess that will hold you awhile.



Grace (narrating)—"And right in front of the Law Building I fell flat. Tom Lane was standing on the steps and he came to pick me up. Girls, I just died of mortification."

Jealous Helen (caustically)—"Another case, I suppose, of where the law took its corse."



The Bridge Fiend sits all glassy-eyed
Mid his illicit takin's,
At times he says: "You pass the make?"
Eftsoons: "Aw, pass the makin's."

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"An' let me say right heah," remarked Brother Johnsing, "foh de benefit of the bredren who am putting buttons in the plate, dat the heathen don't need no moh buttons till they hab trousehs."—*Lampoon.*



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What She Broke

Noggs—Did she break his heart when she parted from him?

Boggs—Worse than that—she broke his brand new fountain pen.—*Chapparral.*

—GO TO—

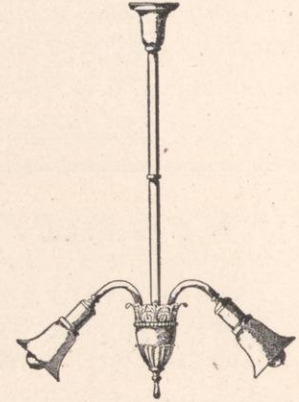
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Wife—"I wonder if that is why your poems come back?"—*Answers.*

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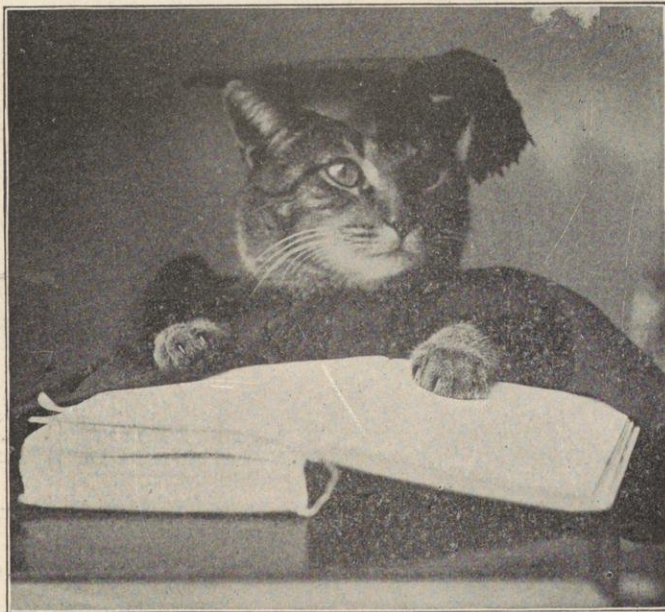
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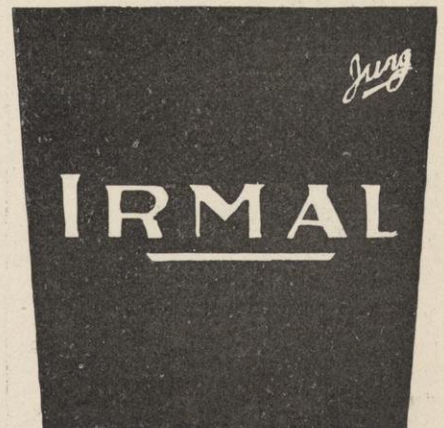
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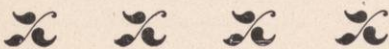
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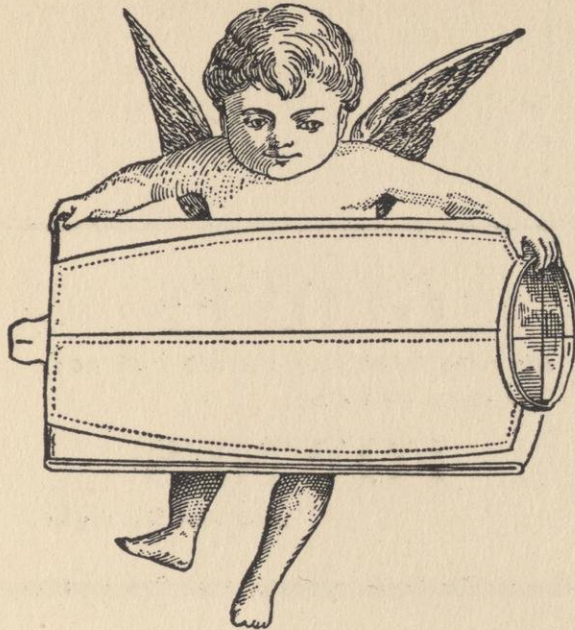
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*Read what the "Evening Wisconsin" says editorially
concerning consistent temperance in Milwaukee:*

The majority of the people in Milwaukee who are not teetotalers drink beer. It was not always thus. In the early days, before the rise of breweries in Milwaukee, drinking folks drank whisky, while temperance was supposed to consist in sticking by cider—a drink with more than twice the alcoholic percentage. King Alcohol has a very slender hold upon communities which drink beer.
—Evening Wisconsin (Nov. 19.)

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