



Wiscetiquette : a pipe course in Wisconsin student social conduct and activities.

September, 1941

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WISCETTIQUETTE

*A Brief Guide to Wisconsin
Student Social Customs & Activities*



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WISCETIQUETTE

A Pipe Course In

Wisconsin Student

Social Conduct

And Activities

Sponsored by the Women's Affairs

Committee and the Activities Bureau

of the Wisconsin Union

September, 1941

Published and Presented

Through the Courtesy of

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FOREWORD

THE ACADEMIC SIDE OF YOUR college career is, of course, all-important but even the very maneuvering from one class to another requires some degree of social finesse. All colleges, and Wisconsin in particular, have certain social axioms that represent both tradition and good taste.

So before the six weeks exams come we offer for your consideration this "pipe course" in social education just to prepare you for things to come.

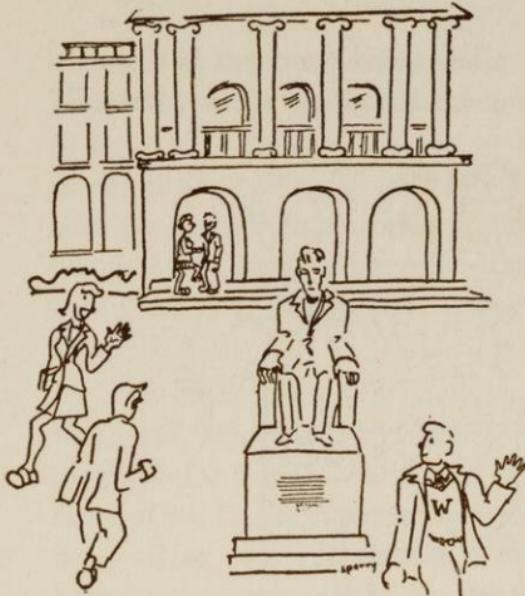
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ON THE HILL

WE SPEAK OF THE HILL as the campus in general and BASCOM in particular . . . if you know what we mean. You'll be spending hours and hours there each day, we hope, so here are some pointers.

Professors in particular fields may on the occasion of the first lecture tell you glibly that as far as they are concerned, students may or may not come to scheduled meetings of the class—as they choose. Well, a literal interpretation of such seeming unconcern is fatal, according to our past experiences . . . so just smile to yourself and get to class if you possibly can.

And while we're mentioning classes we might say that by recognizing other members of your classes with a "Hello" or "Hi" (or a smile if you're not in a talkative mood), you acquire a reputation for friendliness.

Visiting with and becoming acquainted with your professors—or any students—that you may meet at the

Union coffee hours and other social functions is not only endorsed but recommended. Knowing them personally



as well as professionally may often triple your enjoyment and benefit from the course.

Classroom Capers

BUT TO GET BACK TO THE CLASS ROOM and the professor. One of them has had the fortitude to take a definite and constructive attitude on the matter of skyrockets, which—in case you don't know—follow the general plan of "Sssss, Boom, ah! professor's name (or appropriate comment)." This particular professor says that it is very discouraging when the skyrocket gets only to first base. You can also see that it isn't too heartening to have them progress only as far as the "boom" with the last consonant practically non-existent.

And we urge you to be present for all skyrockets at the beginning of the classes, especially if you sit in the middle of any row. There is nothing so destructive to the morale of the entire row when half of it has to let down the arms of those deucedly inconvenient (no nice girl swears) chairs about seven minutes after the lecture has started, only to spend the next 11 minutes trying to get them back on a working basis.

You have progressed fairly well into the lecture. If at this point, you have lost interest, please don't turn to your neighbor for a social half hour. Maybe, with his strained sense of values, he is getting something out of it. Or maybe he is asleep, and you shouldn't disturb him. There are a lot of people that don't get their eight hours sleep when they cut classes. It is also bad form to talk in any library for these same reasons.

The Cardinal is designed primarily for digestion along with your morning toast rather than as a diversion in class . . . and anyway you'll just make the guy behind you strain his eyes trying to read over your shoulder.

We have found that a notebook and a pen inked daily are rather handy for most lectures and a couple of quiz sheets and blue books tucked in are the best insurance against wasting ten minutes trying desperately to negotiate a loan. Follow the lecturer instead of your neighbor's notes and do come to class often enough to keep from becoming a note-borrower, Public Enemy No. 3.

Public Enemy No. 2

PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 2 is the person who returns the tattered remains of someone's notes several weeks after

he has borrowed them. And Public Enemy No. 1 never returns them.

On a different rating of Public Enemies you have the ink showerer, the paper scatterer, and the person who has the firm conviction that he has a right to put his elbows not only on the arm of the chair in which he is sitting but also on the arm on which you are writing. The only remedy is to get your arm there first and exert a steady pressure against his left elbow. This handicaps your writing, but you will gradually learn to adjust yourself.

Put This On the Cuff

TECHNICALLY A MAJOR CRIME . . . you *can* get flunked in the course, fined grade points, or thrown out of school on the basis of it; cribbing is also outside of the social pale. So, whatever your fool-proof system may be, just don't use it.

Another of the least profitable of extra-curricular activities is that known as "apple-polishing". Defeat falls hard on the mistaken champions of this basically artless sport. There is nothing so discouraging to the professors as to realize that they are being sought out by students not because of their own merits but rather for some added grade points.

Not that you should avoid them as the plague or look upon them merely as a necessary evil. But when you go up after class to get some help, don't commit educational suicide by beginning breathlessly:

"Oh, Mr. Blivit, I enjoy your lectures so much. You make everything awfully clear, but I wonder if you could

explain this one to me . . . " (This one usually ends with the query as to when his new book will be published).

All this won't make any difference to the professor because he will go on in his own quiet little way putting down the grades you earn, but it is a waste of his time and yours. And it is fatal for anyone else to hear part of this line. You'll suffer an immediate loss of popularity.

Don't take this so seriously that you dismiss professors from your life. Whether you've met them and whether they know you personally or not, it's quite all right to greet them on the hill or street with a "Good morning, Mr. Goodkind." (Most of them would rather not be called "Professor").

Have a Light?

SMOKING AT WISCONSIN among coeds is an accepted institution but after all the choice is up to you. Do or don't as it suits your fancy 'cause no one will pay any attention either way . . . only *Please* practice your first few in the privacy of your own little boudoir.

Shielding our heads before the storm of protest breaks, we say that you can smoke anywhere *except* in campus buildings, at large meetings and inside the theater, or near anyone who has indicated that he or she is being annoyed. Unless you want to become a rather conspicuous young lady, you won't smoke on streets that are not exclusively collegiate, or anywhere where you will be the only one smoking; other smokers are probably refraining through courtesy.

In the interests of progress (from one class to another) you might try waiting to light up after class until you are outside the building. There might be someone directly behind you who is trying to get from Music Hall to Ag Hall and he isn't going to feel any too friendly if you decide to stop to light a cigarette in the middle of the congestion at the only exit.

Haberdashery On the Hill

WE DON'T GIVE TWO WHOOPS about what Schiaparelli is doing to the feminine silhouette, and we haven't the faintest idea of how Esquire stands on the matter of colored evening dress for men. But we do know that you can't bring down campus disapproval any quicker than to be bizarre or too casual in your dress.

Coeds never tire of wearing skirts and sweaters and blouses and jackets in their many different combinations. Saddle shoes of some variety or moccasins with ankle sox are as essential as ten pins in a bowling alley and at Wisconsin hats are worn only for rushing, for Sundays, or some other unusually extra-ordinary occasion.

The very important masculine element registers a violent protest each year against ski suits, slacks, and scarfs tied over the head but the latter is being graciously tolerated so as to preserve curls intact in misty weather.

You know only too well the masculine prejudice on the matter of make-up. Let your conscience be your guide —keeping in mind that the procedure is the same at universities as in civilized communities so far as make-up is concerned. Be conservative, and for heaven's sake, don't

antagonize these touchy males by applying your make-up in class rooms and corridors.

You fellows can get by with wearing suits or sweaters and slacks. In the case of the latter, don't absent-mindedly neglect to don a shirt, although an open shirt collar is all right once in a while. And bear in mind that there is nothing that detracts from your appearance like a sweat shirt.

Don't Rush Things

IN GETTING UP AND DOWN THE HILL, the best method is to keep the same pace as the rest of the people on the hill. Don't take your own time when the walks are crowded, and don't go leaping along endangering the life and limb of everyone in your path unless you can dodge in and out skillfully enough to avoid accidents.

Fee Card, Please!

HERE'S WHAT YOU HEAR as often as your name is called in a Friday quiz section. Since it's an old custom around here to have to whip out your fee card at the Library, while cashing a check, and practically everywhere but at church, it's a good plan to package your fee card in one of those celluloid thing-a-majigs to keep your best means of identification from becoming frazzled and worn at the edges.

DATING



AND NOW WE COME TO THE NO CREDIT COURSE with the largest enrollment on the campus . . . dating! And that covers everything from casual coking to Prom and Mil Ball. Especially in the limelight in the fall is the get-into-the-swing instrument, the blind date. Nothing offers more exercise for the imagination and the nerves than the thought of spending an evening with a perfect stranger who will, you are convinced, be either too short or will maybe dance like a small Mack truck. But more often than not a blind date is the start of quite a romance and who wants to miss any such opportunities?

The fact that a date isn't busy at the last minute isn't necessarily a bad omen, but if the match isn't a perfect one in your estimation, do make the best of it. It may be a stepping stone to better things. You may not be the campus beauty yourself in the eyes of your date, so—be

friendly and alive, but don't assume the responsibility of amusing the entire party.

Keep a stiff upper lip about the blind date business for it won't last long. In the first place, don't feel down if you're forced into a blind date. Everybody has them at one time or another. A good blind date may lead to lots more dates, with or without the original blind. In no time you will be going to formals, parties, movies, and an occasional coke date. Sounds like the clip the coupon business, doesn't it?

But don't think you must depend on blind dates to get acquainted. Use your own initiative. If you have a bit of a fancy for the little blonde in your French class who smiled at you on the hill, by all means ask her for a date. Who knows, before the moon has changed you may be studying French with her every other evening.

One thing more—if you're the one who wants the date get it early.

The UNION MAT DANCES held each Saturday afternoon when there isn't a home football game—at least until the weather gets too hot—are excellent get-acquainted opportunities. Featured at these dances are fee-card admission, campus bands, and cut-in dancing.

It's quite acceptable for both girls and men to go and return with or without a date. The informality keynote, however, does not extend to wearing sweat shirts, men.

Student hosts and hostesses are on hand to introduce you to a partner, and they will be able to do well by you if you will only help them along with a friendly smile

and decent response to their offer. And if you prefer to make your own way and cut in, just walk up and say, "May I please cut?" On the receiving end, if you're a man, retire graciously to the sideline; if a girl, smile and introduce yourself to the new partner.

Stag lines do get to be more or less of a menace—so boys, if you have any heart, please stand back to do your observing. And remember — Wisconsin views exotic dancing and jitterbugging as interesting American folk customs but not as recognized practices for *college* dances.

Formal and Informal

WEEKENDS ARE CONTINUOUSLY BEING MADE EXCITING by many formal parties on both Friday and Saturday nights. On specially busy occasions more than 40 parties are registered in the dean's office for a single weekend. The monotony of formals will be broken by bowery and radio parties and by sleigh rides, hay-rack escapades and masquerades.

Tails prevail generally at Wisconsin but tuxes are strictly okay and although formal gowns come in all shapes, sizes, and patterns, mild conservatism is your best guide. Even if you're all whipped up about going somewhere do be nonchalant and completely at ease rather than stiff and scared, thus detracting from your own fun as well as from that of your date.

Everybody at Wisconsin dresses for the occasion and if he says bowery party, don a pair of slacks; if it's a toboggan party, get out the snow suit, and if it's formal, go formal.

In dating the actual cash disbursements have no correlation with the total amount of fun derived. You must expect to take it easy for awhile both before and after an especially big affair . . . but no doubt you'll find it's worth the price. For low cost dates there are many Union facilities such as bridge in the Reception Room, table tennis and bowling, the art galleries, movies in the



Play Circle, matinee dances, and dozens of concerts and plays in the UNION THEATRE. Bicycling, skating, skiing, or hiking around the lake all offer opportunities for a full afternoon. If she hasn't any skis, the Hoofers Quarters has.

Up to You

THE SAME RESERVATION APPLIES to drinking as to smoking and we do want to beg you to say "NO, thank you"

nicely but emphatically if you don't want a drink or if you don't want another one.

Don't believe a word of it if people tell you that everyone at Wisconsin drinks—it's not so—not by a long shot. But here is just a little incoherent advice on this subject. Know what you're drinking, so a little bit later on it won't creep up behind you like a thug with a black-jack and go "Clunk." Sip, don't guzzle, even beer. If you feel your liquor, stop, because you'll feel it more before the evening's over, not to mention the next day.

For a parting word of parental advice, we consult the anonymous Jugoslavian sage who said, "If everyone tells you you're tight, go home even if you know you are quite sober."

On the other hand there is nothing quite so friendly as a beer and a cigarette and a quiet talk over the table in some local refreshery. The Union Rathskeller is the private sanctum of the men and they refuse to have its masculine appeal marred by a fluttery female. The Paul Bunyan room around the corner is always open for mixed company and the Union Terrace in the warmer months. Also reserved for the less fair sex is the privilege of roaming the streets at night and invading the ale-eries in bunches.

Adjusting Your Appetite

STOPPING IN FOR A BITE after a movie or a play usually means a malted or a beer and sandwich or perhaps just a coke and do remember that on Sunday night you're supposed to have had *dinner* at noon. Expect a full course dinner only at Christmas or spring formals or before Prom or Mil Ball.

Cab, Mister?

THE CAR-TAXI-OR-WALK SITUATION in Madison is relieved a lot by the dime fares which apply to most cabs. If the girl lives in what the papers love to call the Latin Quarter, she can expect to walk to movies, dances at the Union, and some fraternity parties if the weather is nice. For basketball, football, boxing, and the rest of the Camp Randall shows, the man should say something like, "Let's find a cab, shall we?" To which she can either assent or else say she wants to walk, depending on how she feels and how the walking is. But in most cases, the fellow has to get the cab before he comes, for he can't expect to get one by phone in less than half an hour.

The gal who expects to see her man wheel a Packard roadster up in front of the house will probably be more than a little disillusioned the first time it doesn't happen. And she might as well know that it is going to not happen rather consistently for four long years. The boy with the car is a rare bird and the Ford coupe is by far the commonest car. For going dancing outside of town, there'll undoubtedly be some sort of conveyance in the offing, but both fellows and girls might as well get used to double dating or even tripling on these occasions.

Terrific Traffic

THERE ARE SEVERAL PLACES on the Hill that just seem to collect mobs and in front of Bascom Hall is the worst. Why not practice a little bit of individuality and meet the light of your life somewhere else between classes besides the steps of Bascom? In the first place you haven't any

privacy and it seems too bad that only those with football experience should be able to get to classes on time.

And when you walk with the aforementioned light, it is a matter of no importance if you naively hold hands, but more glaring examples of sentimentality are never accepted.

Get the Hang of This

FRATERNITY PINS at Wisconsin don't usually mean engagements—national Greek laws to the contrary notwithstanding. But a pin shows more than passing interest and although there are a few scattered cases of gals with pins who will date, it's safest to figure that they are going steady.

Get 'Long With 'Em

AS LONG AS THERE ARE CAMPUS PARTIES there will be chaperons. At least the custom is as well established as chariot racing was in the day of Ben Hur. As far as we can see, there is only one thing to do—race right up to the chaperons and say "Hello". And if perchance you stop awhile to chat, you will be pleasantly surprised to find that chaperons, too, are very charming people. (Just think ahead a little to how you'll feel first time you find yourself being a chaperon!)

"Sly and Wise"

THE NUMBER OF GIRLS who are perfect models of feminine wisdom, who make their men feel like born protectors,

who ask for small cokes on movie dates, who reach for their own checks in the Union cafeteria, but who drive their dates mad with their talk is far greater than most women are willing to admit.

There's a little poem which sums the whole thing up pretty nicely—

*"The modern woman, sly and wise,
Seldom mentions other guys
But concentrates her verbal dither
Upon the gentleman who's with her."*

According to this, you see, the gal does not talk about the swell formal she went to last week. She does not recover from having her feet walked on by pointing out that Joe Hostetter is a wonderful dancer. Ah, no. "She concentrates her verbal dither upon the gentleman who's with her."

On the Pitching of Woo

NECKING. No doubt this is what you have been waiting for. Necking is when a boy and girl do things the housemother frowns on. It doubtless has its place, but, to be ungrammatical some more, its time is *not* when the date is the first one, and not when the place is public.

This includes the living room of campus houses at about 10:30. Necking requires a sort of mutual agreement that usually comes out of several dates, and often, not at all. It can be done nicely, and is, but it should not be done under the old adage that "practice makes perfect."

Phone Phonies

THE ETIQUETTE OF THE TELEPHONE — to be horribly formal about it—is divided into two parts: one is calling to call and the other is calling for a purpose. Being greeted in the middle of a bridge hand or between courses with a “Guess who this is?” is hopelessly disgusting and will get you nowhere.

If you’re calling for a quiz assignment, be the other party man, woman, or beast, make it brief! If the other end wants to talk some more, it’ll find subjects, but don’t make your casual request the excuse for a half-hour conversation.

Calling or being called for a date has practically the same requirements. It’s really not necessary to talk five minutes before asking for a date, but even more to the point is this angle—if the girl turns you down, don’t say, “Well, all *right!*” and hang up. The tactful male will carefully avoid this embarrassing question, “Do you have a date Saturday night?” Why not come straight to the point and ask her if she would like to go dancing with you Saturday? She ought to have a fighting chance, you know. Be suave, people, be suave.

The one last word is this—remember, others are going to want to phone, too.

Your Act In the Theatre

IF YOU HAVE EVER SAT BESIDE the fellow who explains the play’s every line to his admiring date, or behind a large, be-feathered hat, you’ll know whereof we speak

when we remind you that the assembled gathering is on hand to enjoy the performance on the stage, and there only.

The Golden Rule of theater etiquette includes, first and foremost, getting there on time. All evening events in the UNION THEATER start at 8 o'clock—and if you simply can't make it, do wait until the first scene or number is finished before making an unobtrusive entrance. Rule No. 2, need we say, is to refrain from flopping your feet on the railing or over the seat in front.

Longer intermissions at the theater on the campus are scheduled expressly for the purpose of making them social occasions. It may take a time or two to break that movie habit of rushing in and rushing out. But after all, a university theater is where you see people you know as well as a show, and intermission time in the lobby is your chance to be a critic, not only of the performance on stage, but of the pictures on display in the theater gallery. Just a caution . . . don't spoil your good record of getting there on time by missing the intermission curtain call.

Flowers for Mademoiselle?

FLOWERS ARE SENT not too frequently and practically according to formula. Christmas or spring formals—fraternity, sorority, or otherwise—and "big parties" really mean a corsage. These big parties can be listed rather easily—Prom, Military Ball, Inter-Fraternity, Pan-Hell (remember, she asks him to this). Unless the choice is orchids, stay under \$2.50. And last of all—find out (by hook or room-mate) what she's going to wear . . . this will let you pick the right flowers or else confide in the florist people and take their advice. Incidentally, a top-notch

floral decoration is often preferred. If you know her well enough, talk it over with her.

Outcast

ABOUT BREAKING DATES . . . DON'T! Which is very fine, you say, but there are times when you have to . . . well—

In the first place, if you don't want to be rated as an old scrounge you can't list a more attractive invitation as a good reason.

In the second place, if this must be logical, try like all get-out to break the date a couple of days ahead of time so that another date may be had.

Thirdly, try to fix it so that the excuse will reach the party of the second part by a round-about route, so that it will convince him, her, or it.

Last and finally, it is not too good a plan to break dates just for the merry of it. No one will like you better for it, and you won't get a chance to do it often once you start.

Not to Be Broken

YOU'VE ALL READ the W. S. G. A. rule that says no woman is allowed to go to a man's apartment. Take our word for it, your friends may say pooh, pooh, but the fact remains that nice girls just don't do it.

Good Night

WHEN THE SNOWS FALL and the winds blow, don't stand at the open door and like Juliet wish your date a thousand good-nights. Practically, it chills the house and blocks the entrance; actually doesn't it seem a little silly, when that's what you've been doing for the last half hour, and after all you're not going to be parted forever.



PERSONAL

The Greeks

IF YOU GO THROUGH RUSHING make it a point to enjoy it. Don't try to impress the group you like, but do be receptive and act as if you were having a good time, while taking full stock of everything. Don't let a fine-looking house, campus gossip, or the opinions of relatives and their friends (probably twenty years behind the procession) sway you. Congeniality is the approved basis of selection.

If you are not chosen by the group in which you are particularly interested, remember all is not lost. There are plenty of other interesting people, and plenty to do.

Room-mates

HERE'S WHERE YOUR ETIQUETTE will get a workout. Starting out on the right foot is always important in this

everyday relationship that will last for eight months. Why not practice those little rules of consideration that will make living together a joy. Don't be a borrow-bug and when your room-mate is studying, let there be peace. If you have a rare story or a choice bit of gossip you must get off your chest, try to contain yourself till he or she finishes the chapter.

On Your Toes

WERE YOU EVER A GIRL and did you ever have to pass three or four fellows on a corner? You are and you have? Well then you've felt like a bundle of cellophane, you've caught remarks slung at you and have felt conscious of being graded A, B, or C—and we'll guarantee you didn't enjoy it. Of course we agree that a good looking gal can't always slip by unnoticed, but here's a hint to the look'er-up-and-downer! If you like her a nice quiet whistle will convey your state of mind better than stage-whisper remarks. How about it?

Minimum requirements to be classed as a gentleman and as the equally perfect date for Pan-Hell or for the boxing matches are such little yet all-important gestures as helping her with her coat, opening car doors, being conscientiously protective and concerned. For the possibility is that if you rise for her, she will fall for you!

Bovine Mood

GUM CHEWING? Depends on the time and place. If you feel it does things for concentration, or as the ads say,

improves your chin line, okay. But we warn you that double tempo with a southern exposure is unanimously voted down at bridge tables, in theatres, and on the dance floor. If you indulge, the parking problem is up to you, and a piece of paper is usually the handiest answer.

How to Use a Davenport

OR SHOULD WE SAY, how *not* to use one. At any rate, frowns and more frowns for those who hoist their feet, keep on their hats and coats, light a cigarette whose ashes fall on the rug, and take naps on public sofas. Any or all of these practices are known as Park Bench Bum style, and are out, as a whole or in parts. "Central Park in Summer" styles are also out. (This might have gone under the heading of necking). Keep hands off your fellowsittee, be you at the Union, dormitory, or elsewhere, unless you like being tagged crude.

Hangout Hang-Arounding

A HANGOUT may be defined as a haven for that group commonly recognized as sitter-onners, stick-arounders, stay-putters, or what have you—anyway they're always on the spot to greet a chance stopper-inner and might almost be pigeon-holed as living ads for said establishment. We'll grant that cokes help the day along, but it's a darned shame there's no salary, bonus or commission for the patron-perpetual.

Concerning campus-frequented ale-houses, most gals feel that a date is the best kind of pass word. The more

bold will go in unescorted—in two's or three's. There might be a question about how late at night you can get away with it—but don't feel just because you haven't got a date you can't do anything or go anywhere. Everybody can't date all the time. Sure—we know—you figure maybe somebody'll see you and feel sorry for poor, lonely, unpopular you. Which is silly, since you might as well go to the movies, a concert, game or whatever's going to happen—rather than sit around and mope because for one evening you've been left out of the shuffle.

Finders Not Keepers

IF PERCHANCE what was yours has strayed or been "temporarily" borrowed, two reclaiming offices are maintained for your convenience: the Wisconsin Union checkroom (just left of the main entrance) and the information window at 170 Bascom Hall. Because turnabout is fair play, these also are open for your contributions.

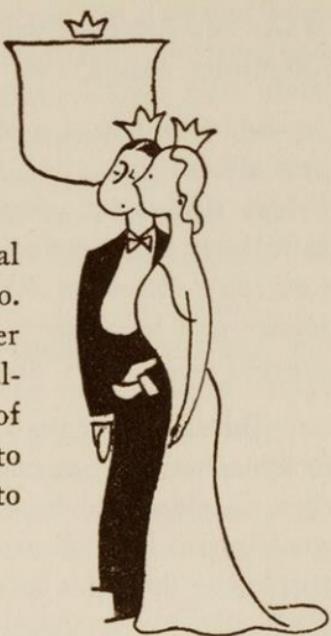
And we might add that your fee card is not a license for perpetual use of library books. Your own books too (or three) could stand a little eye-watching.

Line Play

THE RECEPTION LINE is an infrequent and not unpleasant campus tradition. Some shake hands; some don't. Sometimes a crier will call your name—whereupon you may feel conscious of everything that holds you together—but don't fall apart. If your name is just passed along the line you may have to repeat it—that's all right. If

you've forgotten it, blush—you should. Anyway, as long as they're holding out go on through them. Nobody'll bite you, and it's on the impolite side to attend a function and ignore the Line.

Introductions on a less formal scale often get bawled up, too. "How do you do?" is the proper response. "May I present" is always a safe beginning, and of course you present younger to older, Miss to Mrs., and men to women.



Very Special Events

THERE'S NO RECEPTION LINE—just the President of the University and his gracious First Lady there to greet you on the first Wednesday of each month at 130 N. Prospect—the DYKSTRA AT HOMES. Every one is invited, which we might explain includes you and Joe, and school clothes will keep you in style with everyone else.

Light refreshments (including campus-famous hot chocolate) are served. But don't rush for these as if you'd had no meals that day. You might miss the many interesting new people to meet and know—including Terrance O'Toole, the Dykstra dog.

The Dykstras are anxious to meet and talk with you—so step right up and introduce yourself, but remember

other students will want a chance to get a word in, too. Hosts and hostesses will help you to meet some of those interesting people, too.

And you'll have a chance to meet other faculty members informally at the UNION COFFEE HOURS held every Friday afternoon. Student hosts and hostesses are on hand here, too, but don't depend too much on them; they just can't introduce 400 people in an hour. Your professors will be happy to have you break in and introduce yourself—everybody does it.

And again, remember the coffee table is not planned as breadline for starving undergraduates. You'll find there is plenty on hand, so don't hurry. It's no great sport just to stand in line acting sheepish. Besides if there is a line, this is a good time to roam around the room and get acquainted, which is what you came for.

Bread and Butter Letters

AFTER A GRAND WEEK-END at the home of your roommate or fraternity brother, don't let much water flow under the bridge before you write that "thank you" letter to your hostess. Be sincere in your thanks and try to inject a little personality into the letter. Who knows, they may ask you to come again.

Terminal Facilities

WE MEAN THE ABILITY TO KNOW when to go home. Regardless of how glad you are when a few friends drop in Sunday afternoon to call, in time you become bored and

anxious to put the finishing touches on the weekend's jobs before the next week starts. Since you are a cordial host, you just don't rise after they've been there one hour and taking them gently but firmly by the elbows push them toward the door, saying, "It was good of you to stop in, but come again when you can't stay so long." No, you valiantly keep up the conversation with pleasant smiles, which seem to imply that you wish they would stay for at least a half day more.

Leaving is always at the discretion of the guest. He should generally go a little before he would like to, unless his early departure will break up a party that is really not ready to end. Of course, it is possible to drop hints to friends who come into your room that you are just swamped with work, and they will understand and soon depart. Twenty minutes is a good length for a rushee to stay at a formal rushing tea or smoker. If you go calling, make your visits short, since in these parts people are nearly always busy, and a long call will cause a serious deficit in their time budget. And this applies to calls on the faculty at their offices!

Naturally we can make no rules, so we merely ask you to be aware that in spite of your charm, you may very easily outstay your welcome. If you leave when they wish you would stay a little longer, you'll be more welcome the next time.

Ease Not Elegance

IT'S NOT THE CROOKED LITTLE FINGER on the spoon that counts, but the ability to eat watercress bathed in French dressing without getting spots on the tablecloth or looking like a blissful goat in an uncut hayfield.

Ease in performance is the result of constant practice, so if you want real finesse in table manners, you must practice them at every meal. You'll never be an artist if you have one set when there's company and another when it's just the family.



Abstractions don't help much so here are a few musts for a start:

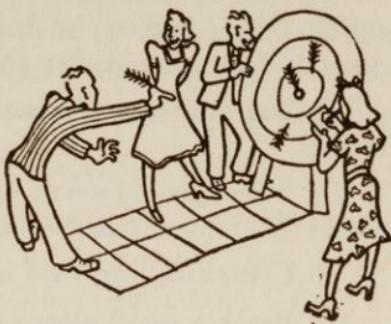
1. Do as the hostess does.
2. Generally progress from the outside toward the plate, when selecting the implement you wish to use.
3. Eat and drink noiselessly.
4. Playing with things on the table such as the silver or tallow from the candles is taboo.
5. When finished, lay the knife and fork parallel and resting completely on the plate.

6. When you lay down the spoon with which you are eating a fruit cocktail or dessert, place it on the plate under the dish from which you have been eating.
7. Talk about subjects the whole table can share and enjoy.
8. There should never be a rumpus at the table; some people have touchy nerves and elusive appetites.
9. Criticizing the food at the table is bad "taste."
10. Break a small piece of bread and butter it; cut one piece of meat, eat it, and then cut another.
11. Don't say "I'm sorry" or the equivalent if someone asks for the bread that's near you; after all, you're not supposed to be psychic.
12. When in doubt, glance at your hostess to see how and when to use silver.
13. Only unfold your napkin half way.
14. At luncheons and dinners you dress as to hour and function; a simple date dress will carry you to fraternity dinners on Sunday, to informal rush luncheons, and to informal radio parties. Floor length skirts and all the trimmings are required only for scheduled formal dinners or dances.

Leave It To You

SOME THINGS ARE DONE and some aren't, and we've tried to give a few hints on the hows and whys of campus life. We don't like to make rules, but we'll let you in on one that was not made at Wisconsin but should be followed—and that is "be yourself." Manners and customs are to be followed, but don't let them swamp all your individuality. Learn what to do and learn it well, and then stop worrying about what you should do next.

DOING THINGS



E Pluribus Union

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT HAPPENS TO YOU when you come to Wisconsin, willy-nilly, is: presto, chango—you're a member of the WISCONSIN UNION. Look at the back of your fee card, if you don't believe it. Everybody belongs, just to make it democratic, and just about everything outside of the class room happens there. Well, almost everything.

You can get a rough idea of what goes on by looking at the bulletin board in the main lobby. Statistically speaking, there are ten to thirty-five "events" each day, from billiard tournaments to foreign movies, and Mr. Smith's committee meeting.

You really shouldn't be allowed to pass your final exams, though some students do, without knowing about the Union library (1000 books and current magazines, no

studying allowed), the Sunday concerts every week in the Union theater, the matinee dances on Saturday afternoons in Great Hall (except when there's a home football game) and dozens of other "after-class" items, all part of those 172 programs students run.

There are several good ways of keeping in touch with these things—first of all you might spend *all* of your time in the Union, but this we don't recommend—too hard on school work. Other methods are the DAILY CARDINAL, the HPC BULLETINS (see the Bulletin board in your house for these), the UNION CALENDARS (available at the Union desk), and the conversation going on in the two seats in front of you in almost any lecture. The last method is not encouraged. Might be secrets.

The Union is not only a place; it's an organization, and what's more it's run by students. Actually, about 150 are on the committees and clubs which keep 172 (we looked it up) types of activities and services ticking. Any student is eligible, providing he is willing to do his share.

Information Please

The committees, and what they do, can be investigated at the UNION ACTIVITIES BUREAU, third floor. The office keeps around a complete file of campus organizations, and you can find out what is going on almost any place on the campus by dropping in there. If it comes to signing up with a particular organization or activity, the student interviewers are glad to help you. In fact, that's their job.

Remember, though, that it takes a semester of passing grades to make you eligible for many of the major activities.

It's a good idea to shop around this first semester before settling down. If you choose the right things to do, and not too many of them, they may actually help the studying and the studying may make them more fun. More important, in many ways, is the chance to get better acquainted with faculty, students, and alumni through "doing things" together.

The following paragraphs will serve as a very rough guide to help you make your choices.

Art For Art's Sake

OR EVEN BETTER, BECAUSE YOU ENJOY IT. In either case, we suggest: the two Union galleries, with shows changed about every three weeks. Good time to go: when you're waiting for the dining rooms to open, or that half hour before 1:30 classes. If you don't know too much about the subject matter, watch for the gallery talks and art lectures, where everything is made clear to the layman in ten easy lessons. At any rate, they help. Or, if you want to try your hand on an amateur basis, drop in at the Union Workshop, where you can get free how-to-do-it's in almost any art or craft—including photography.

Shooting the Bull

THE LIMITS OF A THREE TO SIX COURSE PROGRAM are expanded through frequent convocations, lectures, forums,

and roundtable discussions, and no matter how tired you may get of hearing the same lecturer every morning at 8, it is refreshing to hear someone new and different at 8 in the evening. Practically every lecture is open to students free (remember that fee card that says on the back, "You are a member of The Wisconsin Union", and usually you are given a chance to argue with the speaker after he has worn down your resistance as well as he can. One question is your limit, however, and when we say argue we don't mean loud and long. There's nothing worse than two lectures in one evening, one from the stage and the other from the floor. Get it?

If you must make speeches, or carry on debates, save your energy for the variety of forensic events—declamatory and extemporaneous speech, debates, oratorical, and inter-house discussions. These, if bull sessions are not sufficient unto the day. And speaking of bull sessions, you might try the YMCA Town Hall, which meets every Tuesday night expressly for the purpose of helping you to form and express an opinion on this and that.

You've heard, no doubt, about Damon and Pythias—well this is different—Castalia and Pythia—two women's organizations; coupled by two for men, known as Athena and Hesperia. These fancy titles are worn (or borne) by the four campus literary societies. Literary societies, in case you're wondering, are social groups organized to promote interest in drama, music and forensics. Especially forensics, in the case of the two men's groups. The Activities Bureau (again?) will turn in your name if you are interested in attending a meeting or two to find out what it's all about.

Lights! Camera! Action!

WE CAN'T TELL FOR SURE whether it's just the lure of the footlights, or the Union's new theater, but lots of people are on the lookout for a good dramatic outlet. There are plenty of opportunities to get stage, backstage, radio speaking and radio script-writing experience, and if you want to, you can write your own play, select the cast, use the Play Circle, and produce your own play. For beginning opportunities watch the Cardinal and bulletin boards (especially the one behind the theater box office) for try-out announcements. For the less ambitious there are endless chances to act or to paint a flat or two. Wisconsin Players and WHA player memberships are open to those who have shown an active interest. Men may be more interested in Haresfoot, all-male musical comedy production (office in the Union) and women in Wiskits, women's amateur skit production (sponsored by the Women's Athletic Association), but whatever you choose, please confine your theatics to the theater, and be yourself the rest of the time.

If you're spectator-minded, there are lots of possibilities, too, with Wisconsin (student) Players productions, studio plays, road shows, and foreign films (every Sunday and Monday) in the two theaters. It will save you money and bring you better seats if you get it firmly fixed in your mind that you have first crack at tickets for all Theater productions—so watch for the publicity and get there when the student sale is announced.

She Shall Have Music

WHETHER SHE (OR HE) PREFERENCES to make it or just listen to it, the opportunities are practically unlimited: such as,

the University Band or Orchestra for those who are instrumental by nature or training; the Melody Men or the University Chorus if you like to sing (inquire at the Music Hall office for details); the Union, dormitory, or Music Hall record libraries if you play the phonograph best; a campus band if you want to combine music and a paying job . . . and informal singing at dinner just to let off steam.

We'd like to suggest for that Sunday afternoon lull (though you may doubt that there is such a thing for the first few weeks in school) the free concerts in the Union theater. Just get there early and present that fee card, and you're in for an hour and a half of music, dance recital, or something else very special. We might say right here that the regular Union concert series tickets should be bought early—student and life members of the Union get first choice—because most of the seats go in the season ticket sale. Many students think it's fun to buy a block of seats for the house, or part of it, so that the whole group can sail down in a body. On the concert list this year, by the way are such artists as: the Don Cossack Chorus, Humphrey-Weidman Dance Group, the Ballet Russe, "The Marriage of Figaro", the Minneapolis Symphony, and Jose Iturbi.

Play's the Thing

AFTER A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF MENTAL GYMNASTICS a little physical exercise is absolutely necessary unless you want the permanent characteristics of the well-known bookworm. Walking up and down the hill may be

enough for some of you, but the majority, we imagine, will be a trifle more on the athletic side.

Just to help things along the Union offers instruction in bowling, billiards, table tennis, and bridge, as well as scads of tournaments for those who have learned their lessons well and feel competitive indoors.

For outside recreating there are several organizations to which you can belong. First to mind are the Hoofers, Union sponsored outing club, which started out, 'way back, as a skiing club, and which now includes sailing, biking, horsing, picnicking, overnight camping trips, canoeing, and archery. It's co-educational, and open to all. Drop in the pine panelled clubrooms, below the theater, any afternoon.

FOR WOMEN ONLY: The Women's Athletic Association, offices in Lathrop Hall, sponsors all intramural sports and several clubs such as Dolphin (swimming), Orches (dancing), Hockey and Outing.

FOR MEN ONLY: The men's Intramural Department is located in the Armory. They arrange dozens of inter-house and inter-organization tournaments throughout the year, and sports equipment is lent to campus groups upon request.

Those of you who think self-organized picnics are most fun should investigate BLACKHAWK LODGE, located about three miles out on the shore of Lake Mendota. It can be reserved at the Union office for picnics or outings, and has but one drawback—and that only if you're lazy—you must take out your own food, and clean up afterwards. Just dropping in, without reservation ahead, is the custom on any afternoon.

Fourth Estate

TO ENTERPRISING PROPAGANDISTS, ad writers, sob sisters, Walter Winchells, fashion experts, or financial wizards, we offer Wisconsin's BADGER, DAILY CARDINAL, OCTOPUS, ENGINEER, and COUNTRY MAGAZINE. For the Country Mag only ag. students (and home ec's, of course) need apply, and for the Wisconsin Engineer, you'd be more apt to succeed if you knew something about Engineering. But on the whole, no previous experience is necessary, as they used to say in the want ads (at least before the depression).

In the CARDINAL we have complete campus coverage and you, too, can be in the know by joining the staff. The life of a cub isn't at all like Horatio Alger's "Frank Merriwell on the Daily News", for it really brings a good deal of fun, although you must get your stories in. Journalism students have an inside track and are usually most prevalent, but hard work, perseverance, and all that sort of thing are what really count.

The campus den of iniquity is the OCTOPUS office, and the editors' little brown study boasts a marvelous collection of queer and interesting people. Nobody, however, smokes marijuana, and life is just one big joke after another, they hope, so don't be scared. If you think you have a sense of humor that you think we will think is a sense of humor, or can imitate *The New Yorker*, or copy cartoons, you're their man. Or woman.

The BADGER, you probably know, is not only the state mascot but the annual of the University. Photographers are in the first line of demand. Or at least photographs. But editors and business staff are necessary evils for any

publication, and the office has a fine view of the lake. Third floor of the Union as is Octy.

Attention Future Farmers

SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS have professional interest clubs which make business a pleasure, but the Ag-Home Ec school does by far the most along this line. Early in the program comes the Ag-HOME Ec WALK-AROUND, at which all Ag and Home Ec students are invited to get acquainted with each other and with the University Farm. The farm, of course, is incidental at that point. We'll leave the job of investigation to you, Sherlock, but the one clue: The Ag Student Council can duplicate the noble efforts of Scotland Yard if you get stuck.

Those who wish to continue 4-H work may do it in the campus organization of that name, and Blue Shield, one of the Ag Campus' largest organizations, offers a wide program for all students of training for recreational leadership, forums, group singing, parties, and extension work in rural communities near Madison.

While we're on this subject, please don't get the idea, as some students have in years gone by, that Ag and Home Ec students are not doing things in the Union and in almost every campus group. In other words, don't limit yourself to the Ag campus, but come around folks, come around.

How to Win Friends and You Know What

FRESHMEN AND TRANSFERS are not encouraged to spend a lot of time doing much of anything but getting the work

they came here to do done. You are no doubt familiar, however, with that bromide: All work and no play, etc. Meeting new people is a good remedy for dullness, and one way to make a lot of good friends in a hurry is to visit the student association in connection with the church of which you, or your family, are members. These groups do a lot to make the first few weeks less like an enforced holiday in a foreign land.

The YMCA and YWCA, though mentioned in the same breath, are separate but cooperating organizations. They are two of the few organizations to which students are allowed to belong during their first semester. We suggest that you stop in at the office of whichever of the two suits your sex, and make the acquaintance of the secretary and of the program. The YW is at 811 State Street, the YM at 740 Langdon. Oh yes, it isn't necessary to be a member in order to attend the programs, but the majority of users think it a good idea to pay their share—figuring it's worth much more than the dollar it costs them.

You'll also be hearing from the student church of your preference early in the year. By all means take them up on their invitations to come to a Sunday night cost supper, or a get-acquainted party. You'll find all sorts of congenial people on hand.

Of, By and For the Peepul

SINCE YOU ARE NOW BONA FIDE CITIZENS of the University community, it is also time to find out a thing or two about your campus government system. The student gov-

ernment organization is called THE WISCONSIN STUDENT ASSOCIATION, and it is directed by the STUDENT BOARD. You'll get to vote, come spring, for the people who will sit on this board for the coming year. Also, if you want something done, or not done, it is a good idea to tell the Student Board about it, and let them help on whatever it is. The Board runs several projects of its own, and directs a good many all-campus committees, including Student Wages and Hours, Student Public Relations, Housing, Forensics, Dances, the Campus Community Chest and Vocational Guidance. Of all these you will hear more as the year rolls on.

Women, and indirectly the men they know, are concerned with the Women's Self-Goverment Association, which is most famous on the campus for rules and regulations. Ten-thirty closing hours, and all that. WSGA, as it is called, doesn't limit itself to passing rules (you might like to know that all rules must be approved by a majority of undergraduate women before they go into effect). Scholarship banquet, House Presidents meetings, teas, and senior swingout are a fair sample of the things the girls are working on, besides cooperating on all Student Board projects.

The other important thing to know about campus government is the initials HPC—which stands for House Presidents Council. The organization is really a triple alliance of the presidents of all men's houses—fraternities, dormitories, and lodging houses, and its job is to develop house organization and interhouse social and athletic programs. Individual problems are handled by the DORMITORY CABINET, INTERFRATERNITY BOARD, and LODGING HOUSE BOARD.

If you want to do your share to make the world a better place to live in, you'll likely become a member before many months of one or more of the various campus political and social action groups. The Student Board sponsors several committees interested in making life more like a bed of roses than a bed of thorns for those of you who are working your way through school. (Housing, wages and hours, and so on). In addition there are numerous political groups, some with campus-wide, some with state and national interests. There is indubitably one for any faith you happen to follow, and the meetings are nice and open (free, too), so you can sample them all before you commit yourself.

A new Apprentice Group has just been organized as a proving ground for all of you embryo leaders and administrators. The Personnel Directors in the Activities Bureau office will be glad to see all interested applicants. Take our advice, and do it early.

Last Class

This ends our text for Wisconsin's most popular no credit course. If you've found it wasn't quite a pipe, we know you found, and will find that it's well worth taking—and taking again. You can pass this course MAGNA CUM LAUDE without cramming, and without midnight oil, if you'll keep this little book around your desk for periodic check-ups.



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