

The Sphinx. [Vol. 10, No. 4] [November 1908]

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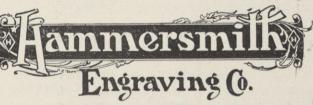
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The Drillatory Mill

"What are the bugles blowing for?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"To make the runts show up their stunts," the peevish Freshman said.
"What makes you look so cross, so cross?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"It's tough to be a rooky, Floss," the peevish Freshman said.

They are drilling of the rookies and it ain't no joyful play.

The Captain has his eye on us---and it's our busy day.

Our Alma Mater gets the dough and we get all the-----say,
It's tough to be a rooky in the evening.

"What makes the rear rank breathe so hard?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"They're blessing all their officers," the knowing Freshman said.
"What do they make those motions for?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"To scare the microbes on the floor," the caustic Freshman said.

They are drilling of the rookies, they are having lots of fun.
They halt him and they dress him and they make him tote a gun.
Rooks learn the latest cuss words, how tobacco chewing's done.
Oh! It's great to be a Freshman in the evening.

"What's that so bright that's marching round?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"That's only Tommy Atkins, Floss," the smiling Freshman said.
"Why does it dress so gorgeously?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"There's nothing else for it to do," the peevish Freshman said.

They are drilling of the rookies---how the rookies love to drill.

It is Culture's surest earmark to be clever at the kill,
And a leader's primer lesson is to do another's will--So they're drilling of the rookies in the evening.

"Who's that so stern and silent there?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"That there's the boy who isn't coy," the foolish Freshman said.
'What are the fellows whooping for?" asked the Freshman Maid.
"They're jubilant because they're done," the peevish Freshman said.

They are done with drilling rookies, you can hear the joyous yelps,
In joy of their dismissal of the graceless little whelps,
Alma Mater seems a step ma--but the good sweat money helps.
So be sure to go a drilling in the evening.

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THE SPHINX.

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

ay back in the days of the Pharoahs, the Sphinx used to lie in the shadow of a pyramid and watch the silent, sulking, sullen sons of the soil being whipped into soldiers by the relentless application of military law. She watched them the live-long afternoon as they marched, back and forth, back and forth, under the pitiless desert sun—across the scorching desert sands.

In the twentieth century she wanders into the gym to play a game of basket ball and finds the freshmen get-She watches ting theirs. them tramping, back and forth, back and forth, within the narrow confines of the And the same building. thought comes to her now, in her mature wisdom, that came to her back in Egypt when she was but a child. That thought is, "What's the use of it all?"

What is the use of forcing the Freshmen and Sophs to waste many weary hours in trying to become soldiers? If any of them really think they want to drill, by all means let them do it. Drill does no harm, unless it can be called harm to take from 3 to 5 hours each week away from really valuable pursuits and dawdle it away in the gym. Our point is that it does no real good, either.

A good many people now believe that Military Drill is obsolete - a relic of the days when were more pugnacious and less inclined to reason; of the days when a call to arms might come at any moment. Granting, however, that war might come even in these days, what has been gained by this undergraduate toy soldiering? In the whole regiment there are, perhaps, a hundred men who have taken enough interest to get some real meaning out of the chaos of the gym. rest have only acquired a distaste for things military that will make them think several times before ever entering the army.

If there were no compulsory drill, the interested hundred could have become far more accomplished martinets, while some of the glamour of military life would still remain for the others.

Western Championship

There's two words to stir the soul of a wooden Indian. THE SPHINX has gotten past the matinee girl stage. She is blase, souffle, and occasionally de trop. So no ordinary events excite her. When she is on edge it means something. She is This does now on edge. not mean that she has an edge on, or that she is going to be cutting. She has had to cut too much already to feel that way. But she is on edge over this western championship idea.

What happened at Minneapolis last Saturday strengthens her belief that the western championship is bound for Madison. In fact it is now sure to be here on the 21st. Of course we may not be able to overcome the claims of the big city and keep it here—nothing human is absolutely certain.

WHETHER student opinion unmistakably expressed receives due consideration from the faculty, or whether it does not, will be rather clearly indicated by the action said faculty takes on the Junior Prom question. A petition requesting a change in the cost and regulation of Prom has been signed by nearly every prominent upper-classman in the U. This petition surely expresses student opinion. Prom is largely a student affair.

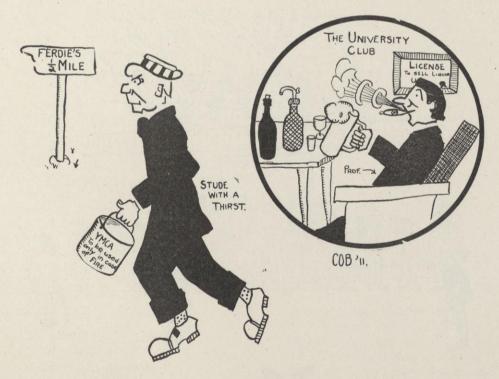
Prom is also an attempt to show the rest of the world just how flossy we can be when we try. It marks the crest of the local social season. It is, in a certain way, a criterion of comparison with other schools. The feeling that we ought to have as good a Prom as anybody else's is,

then, neither unnatural nor unworthy. It is simply a manifestation of the Wisconsin spirit that ought to animate every one in the University all the time, and so far seems only to have hit the student body. If the faculty can get hold of a small swig of this spirit 1910 will have a real Prom. Here's hoping.

WHAT do you Varsity girls suppose is the popular idea of you? We had always thought you were strong with the public as a bunch of high-browed, high-minded young women with innumerable serious purposes. We were wrong. The cartoon below comes nearer to expressing the popular notion of the co-ed than we could. A Prof put us wise to this fact the other

day while expatiating on the beauties of paternalism. He said parents send their children here to be watched over and cared for by a benevolent state. You see, girls, you have no voice in the matter. Neither do we. That's what hurts.





What do you know about this?



The Glory of War

A boarding house lady named Skinner When questioned, "Why skimp on the dinner?"

Explained: "I am able to seat more at table,

By training my students down thinner."



"This tooth hurts like sin."

"Why don't you go to Chase, the dentist?"

"I'm afraid I might catch him."

Who's Who --- and Why

Serious and Frivolous Facts about the Great and Near Great.

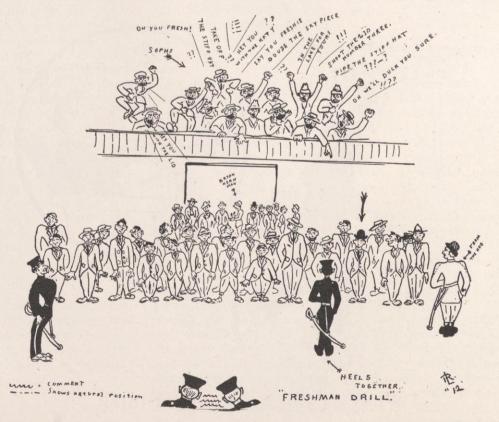
The unnamed hero of this little tale was near great. Not near great in the same way Ten Ike is great, but near great in the hospital squad. It was upon the illustrious occasion when the far-famed warrior, General Queen, is reported as having said that our glorious battalion was as well drilled a body of galoots as any bunch of hay-pitching farmers he had ever seen. It was upon this occasion that our own regimental chiropodist and Peroxide slinger was near great General Queen.

Ø

The Frost threw his cigarette into the atmosphere in a sacrificing sort of way and entered the domains of his striped highness, the Royal High Mucky Muck, Duke of Skygack.

"I want a commission in the cadets," he bellowed in stentorian tones. "My father is Senator Slinky, from Honey Creek."

"Your father has the necessary qualification," replied Mucky Muck. "You are commissioned a Secoud Lieutenant."



E Pluribus Unum



Pedigree in Clothes

Blessings on thee, soldier true
With thy well worn suit of blue.
It first belonged to J. McGill,
He wore it quite a while until
They conned him out and then alack,
'Twas seen on Jim, the Agric's Back.
Jim wore it some, then let it go,
Because the neck was cut too low.
His roomy quickly donned it then,
And in the ranks 'twas seen again,

And now YOU have it—treat it well For goodness knows, it looks like—

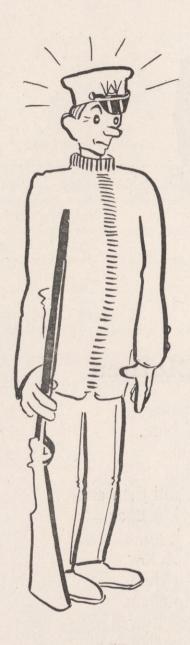
an old uniform.

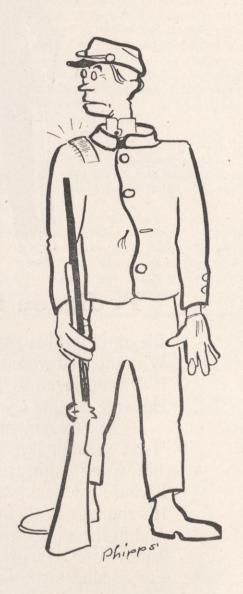
*There was once a corpulent Cu,
Who, indulging himself in a Whu,
Said when I see a maid,
In a sheath-gown arraid,
I make it my business to Stu.

A lady named Salome did
A dance of Seven Veils;
'Twas even more sensationelle
Than anything at Kehl's.
But one dance makes Salome's
Look conventional and slow—
The dance of Seven Molecules
Performed by Benny Snow.

^{*}Sheath Gown Joke License No. 41144.

The Old Guard and the New





This is the eight-een car-at kid—Just pipe the pom-pa-dour-like lid And see how sat-is-fied and smug The as-pect of his mar-tial mug. His ra-di-ance will blind men's eyes So he can croak them by sur-prise. Gay rags as-sist the soldier, kid.

This is the old ca-det, my child, His un-i-form has druv him wild. Just note his fixed and loo-ny glare—It's hard to have a war-like air In rags that cost you two thir-teen. We hope that in his en-vi-ous spleen He will not shoot the Freshman child.

Letters from a Conned-Out Father to His Son

I.

(From Graham Cracker, of Crackerville, Ill., to his son Beerfont, '12, at Madison, Wis. Beerfont, in his last letter to the old man, stated the case against military drill.)

CRACKERVILLE, Nov. 7.

DEAR BEERFONT:

Yours of the twenty-third ult. received and contents noted. I am glad to hear that you are enjoying military drill. If there is any one thing in my brief college career that I can look back upon with unmitigated pleasure, it is M. D. I was so glad when it was over that, even now after all these years, I feel good every time I think of it. Of course there are worse things than military drill. I simply never happened to run across them.

There's no use whining to me about it, though, because I'm not going to try to get you out of it. Be game, my boy, and when the major assumes a ponderous frown and clicks his military heels together, prove that you are a true soldier by not blowing your nose while he is looking. To do this takes more than mere courage. Courage is nothing, if you have forgotten your handker-

chief.

I suppose I am about as ready as the next fellow to admit the good points of a man or a thing I don't like. To prove this I am going to concede right here that military drill is not all bad. There were a few bright spots in my military career besides the finish of it mentioned above.

I remember well one time when the captain of my company called out, "Cracker, step one pace forward." I turned red with pleasure at being thus personally addressed. I was having all the fun that goes with reaping an unearned reward.

"Boys," said he, "here is our best example of what a good soldier ought not to be."

He was a self-sufficient little snob, that captain. In those days frats were not so plenty as they are now, and he felt the honor of being a member of one of them rather deeply. He is now making a visit of indefinite length in Joliet as a result of taking too great liberties with the Goddess of Liberty—got to stamping her phiz on some old lead he had.

Once in the spring of '86 as we were marching down the side streets of Madison, a measly little fox terrier came running out at us; some way or other I had gotten hold of an old blank cartridge. I thought I saw a chance to disprove the statements of the croakers about the ineffectiveness of cadet soldiery. So I fired the blank at the dog, but instead of being scared he came at the regiment like a small Pioneer Limited running amuck. The next thing I knew we were all piling into the gym like a crowd of hobos going to a free Christmas dinner.

I simply mention these things in a general way, although it is true I never got to

be anything more than a private.

I notice you say that they have adopted a new uniform, and that you request a twenty to cover it. We didn't use to cover our uniforms, though some of them needed it badly. However, I suppose this is some new wrinkle you want to get pressed out, so I am enclosing the twenty.

Your mother thinks you do not write often enough. Having been there myself, I am not going to add that I think the

same.

Your affectionate father,

GRAHAM CRACKER.

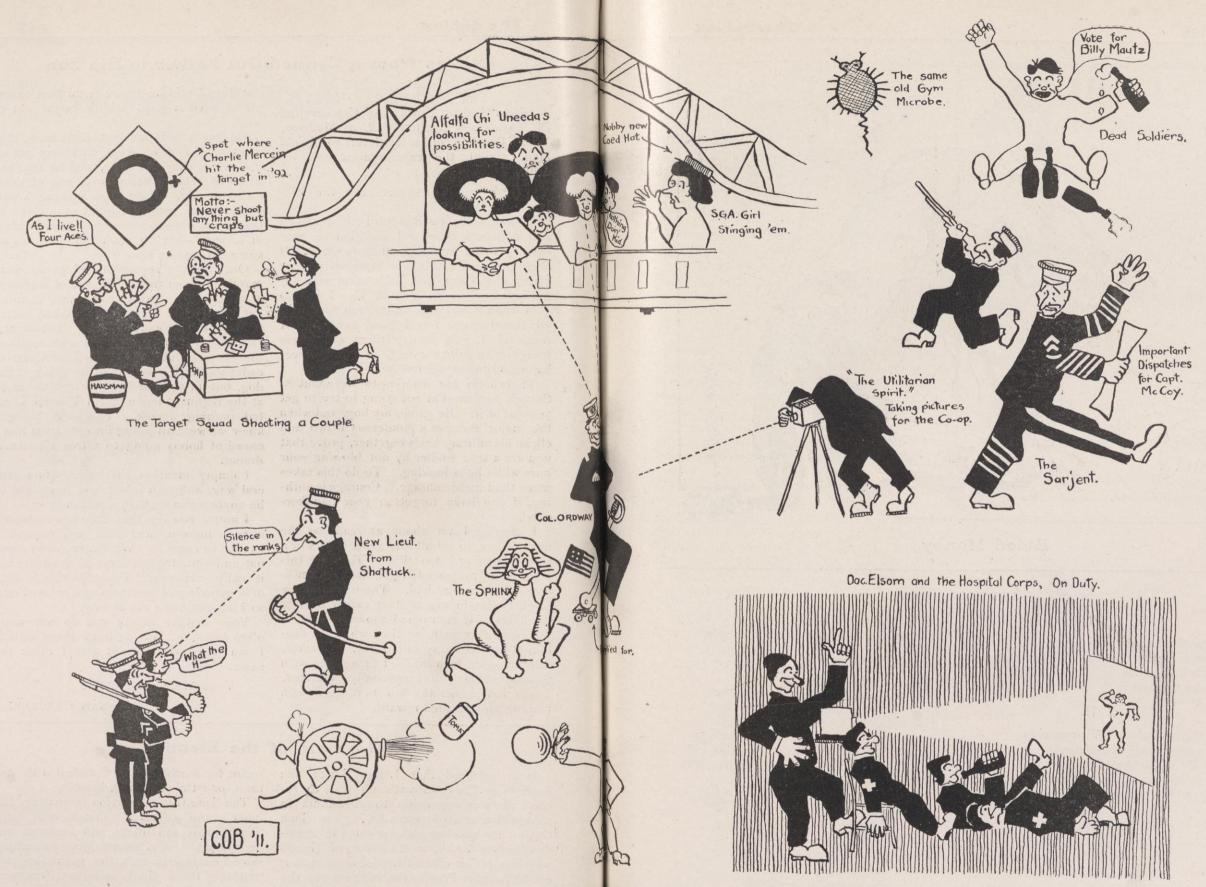
Aftermath of the Election

It is rumored that Lenny Smith, the Sophomore Civil's Sweetheart was to receive the vice consulship to Abysinnia in recognition of his services to Jagless Gene Chafin, Prohibition sprinter in the Presidential-free-for-all, in the event of Gene's winning. The circulation of this rumor elicited a large Prohibition vote among the engineers. They all wanted to help Lenny out

The rumor is current that Billy Mautz will run for President in 1912 on the same platform on which he made his spectacular

sprint for sheriff, i. e., "Satisfied with one term, or "I ain't no hog, boys."

The Sane Guy's Aversion is snaring the souls of the artless Freshmen with election returns and dilute and inocuous refreshments. We believe that something should be done to curb the pernicious activities of the S. G. A. in luring Freshmen to futile and feckless fussing. We were turned down with a dull thud by a Freshman girl at an S. G. A. party last year. That's what makes us so peevish about the Smiling Girlie's Association.



SKETCHES FROME FIRING LINE

BY THE SPEATTACHE

The Sphinx



Blood Money

Song of War

1.

Thus the warrior Hiawatha Now returned from the Wis-con-sin's— Place knowledge and much wisdom— Spoke this lesson to his people.

IT.

In the land of the Wis-con-sin's Is a mighty co-ed college, Feared of all the Minne-so-tahs, And a place of wondrous learning. There I learned from wise professors How to fuss the bashful (?) co-ed And to sling the booze at Ferdie's.

III.

But at last there came a limit,
'Twas the military drilling.
In the army of the captain,
Captain Kidd the privates called him,
Valiant chief of all the rookies—
Dubbed the misfit fitter's models.
In his corps of stannic soldiers

Did I linger but a moment,
When I saw the bunch of bone-heads,
Officers, I think they called them,
Captains, too, and first lieutenants;
When I saw the forty pounders
Made to lug upon our shoulders,
And the uniforms so gaudy
Handed down from generation
Immemorial unto now.
And the tin swords on the captains,
Seemed to lend an air most childish.
To the little playling soldiers,
And their every look betokened,
"If mamma could see me now."

IV.

Nevermore, my Indian brothers, Shall I long to be a soldier, Shall ambitious military Fill my heart with foolish longings. Nevermore the civil war gun Shall I take upon my shoulders Or be bossed by pseudo-soldiers Wearing pifling little swordlets.



These Marcel waves make one horribly seasick

Ain't it Awful

When you have just selected a nice place to hang your pipe-rack and the landlady announces that smoking is not allowed in her house?

M

Clipped From the Milwaukee Flea Press.

Two More Football Victims

The Horrible football Moloch has snuffed out two more youthful lives. William James and Henry Johns, who had been watching a football game on an empty lot in Boston were struck by a switch engine on their way home and died immediately.



Military Hops

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Scabbard and Blade

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Arms—Hacked blade (used by Mercein), rampant; scabbard (symbolical of private), couchant. Argent Interrogation point (or) on Azure field. No quarter (ings).

Motto-In Cap we trust.

The Sphinx

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Amateur Night Friday

NIGHTS - 10e, 20e, 30e MATINEES - 15e, 25e

The Directoire Effect



The Latest in the Garden of Eden

A great battle of the future was being fought. The valiant general, three thousand yards in the rear, issued this command to his orderly (R. Newman, U. W. '10), 'Send biers to the fallen."

Adding an additional millimeter to his height by standing on tip-toe, the ex-U. W. captain saluted and rushed off in a frenzied search for the local counterpart of Hausman's.

It was the night of the diurnal keg party on Mount Olympus. As Hebe handed Cupid his stein of nectar Lenny Smith rushed in. "Hey there," he chortled, "he's a minor." "Oh, very well," said Cupe, sulkily, "have it your own way. I'll go to the University Club and get a locker."



"Was the Anti-Fat good for him?"
"Yes, it made him lean to the grave."

20

A Near Joke.

Dash—"Why do they call it the Excelsior Boarding Club?"

Splash—"I suppose on account of the breakfast food."

Dash—"No, because they serve the best meals in town."

(Adv.)



Dear Sphinx:

Why is the English Department?

HELOISE SCHWEINEFLEISCH.

Maybe it is to give the Freshmen a common bond of sympathy by giving them all the same thing to cuss. But ask us something easier, Hel.

Adorable Sphinx:

Would a directoire gown be out of place at a military Hop?

EILEEN TRESBIEN.

Probably not unless a Freshman put his Florsheims on it. Try it. The Student Conference might be induced to offer police protection.

Idolized Sphinx:

What would the song writers do if the stars were not above or a girl didn't have eyes like a dove when love comes at the end of a line?

DOROTHY SNUCKELFRITZ.

We have troubles of our own, Dolly, without worrying about the song writers. Why? Are you one?



THE MULE is an ass. He thinks that the size of the noise makes the size of the argument. Some hat dealers think likewise but good merchants never "bray." It's the noise of value not the noise of words that convinces.

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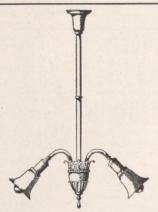
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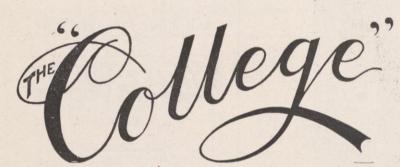
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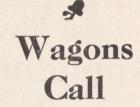
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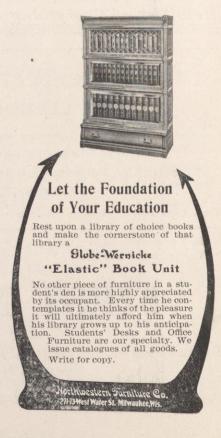
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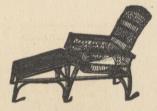
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