

# The Sphinx. Vol. 8, No. 1 September 22, 1906

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Vol. VIII

Madison, Wis., September 22, 1906

No. 1

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## THE SPHINX.

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

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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

HE SPHINX smiles her inscrutable smile on a new generation of Wisconsin students. For seven years she has watched the University grow and change. She has helped to make some of the changes, and she has fought others. Slowly but with quiet strength forces have been at work to make the institution more

and more like a modern manufacturing plant. Each year the question "How large a per centage on the investment is my four years at Wisconsin going to pay me?" has been answered more accurately and more satisfactorily. Each year some waste product has been eliminated, some new and more economical plan adopted. A man of ordinary ability may enter the University, put in four years of ordinary work under the advice of the authorities and, on graduation, be provided with a safe position, whether he intends to teach history, plead cases, build bridges, put up prescriptions, clerk in a business house or manage a farm. An institution which can do as much is doing the public a service, just as is the railroad or the telegraph company.

THE SPHINX feels that the University is filling a great place in the economy of the state, but she is not satisfied. It may be that there is no place in a modern educational plant for the humanities; certainly the place these studies occupy at Wisconsin is small and ever growing less.

THE SPHINX is aware that the classics are ably taught by members of the faculty. But they are taught scientifically to men who wish to teach them for a living. Most of the men who major in Greek do so with the express intention of teaching it, and teaching it, not as a literature, but as a language.

We cannot criticise the university's department of fine arts, for such things as sculpture and painting and architecture do not exist for the University of Wisconsin. But take the case of English. The University provides numerous courses in English literature aud two or three in advanced composition. Both composition and literature are ably taught by scientific methods and most of the students who major in English intend to teach it, and teach it as a science. And yet composition is not a science; it is an art; and literature is not a science; it is a humanity.

We do not wish to be understood as holding aloft the slipshod at the expense of the scientific. We acknowledge the value of modern educational methods and systems.



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And yet it seems to us that just in the proportion as the education of young men is reduced to a scientific process, the one great unknown quantity is neglected. There are one, or two, or more individuals in every few thousands who like to think, who have ideas that struggle for expression. It is by self expression that the mind grows. Where is the provision for the various forms of artistic self expression in the modern educational pant? The answer comes that he who has ideas will learn the artist's medium and express himself, whatever his environment. And this is true. But what of those who have but a spark of the fire? The men who would express themselves, and develop in so doing, were the avenue open? We believe that there are many such. Is not the tendency of our spirit to kill artistic ambition?

In the highest sense, happiness is the end of all our training. There is no joy like that of creation, of artistic self expression. Give, then, every man his chance whether his creations are in themselves of value to the world or not. They have their use to him.

#### P



HEN THE CLASS of 1908 announced its prize play contest last spring the conditions were published in the *Daily Cardinal*. This competition is open to any undergraduate; the prize is fifty dollars or more, and the plays must be in on November fifteenth, nineteen hundred and six. Further conditions may be learned on application to any member of the play committee. A letter in care of the *Cardinal* or THE SPHINX will be cheerfully answered. We might add that anyone who has a grudge against any custom, characteristic or peculiarity of

Wisconsin has an opportunity to get even by writing up his kick in dramatic form.

#### P

We would like to write a lot about the athletic situation, but the essence of it is this: Make the best of conditions which are no worse than those our rivals are facing, and things will take a turn for the better.

P

THE SPHINX is the only independent medium of expression open to Wisconsin students. Its columns are always open to those men who have so far advanced in their attempts at self-expression that their creations are pleasing to others.

#### P

Class spirit in the Commonwealth is inimical to democratic ideals; class spirit in the University fosters them; therefore, THE SPHINX will continue to print the names of those freshmen who persist in imitating their elders by wearing derbies and smoking pipes on the campus.



#### **Directions for Intrants.**

When you get to Madison, register. If you don't register, you can't vote. Register in the new administration building at the corner of Park and State streets, opposite the Library. The best method is the flying wedge; some authorities favor the tandem back play and it sometimes suc-We advise you to collect a few ceeds. husky friends, select one of their number to act as the head of the wedge, agree upon signals and prepare for battle. As leader you will be permitted to bring up the rear. When your friends have made their rush and the wedge is stuck fast in the doorway it is your cue to take a running start and jump to their shoulders; once on your feet you can step from head to head and so make your way over, rather than through the crowd; they will be so interested in other things that they will not notice your passage provided you step with reasonable care. The Registrar is the worried looking man with the smile. Tell your troubles to him; he will soothe you. Once having registered, you have but to wait until dark when the crowd will have left and you can get out of the building.

#### Fees and Expenses.

Fees are paid in the Law Building. This is done so that our future lawyers may, by observation, become calloused to taking your money. Cough up gracefully, the worse is yet to come.

The incidental fee is \$10.00.

Note: This is a free university. The fact, while not obvious at first glance, becomes apparent by comparison with the kindred institution of the free lunch. There you deposit a nickel and receive the lunch; here you spew up \$10 and get a piece of an education. Only in the first case you have the beer, while in the second you have merely a receipt and a feeling of bereavement.

#### Important.

Men students must take gymnastics (freshmen are counted as men for convenience). Fee: \$1.00; for short course \$.75 Hence, women, scenting a bargain, take the short course. Women are required to provide a gym suit, consisting of two parts.

Male intrants must drill, in a uniform of prescribed thickness.

Chemistry: deposit \$15 to \$25, depending on what you have on your person when held up. Size of refund depends on your moral character (not your present moral character, but the character you will have after you have been here a while) and the vigilance of the supply-room man.

Books are very expensive; we feel sure that you will have to write home for more money.

Board in Madison varies in price from \$4.00 to \$2.50, and in quality from bad to worse.

Rooms are without exception moderate in price, sunny, well-ventilated, cool in summer and uncomfortably warm in winter. We can prove this by the cards on the bulletin boards.

Excellent accomodations may be had at the large stone hotel on the corner of Park street and University avenne. Freshmen are advised to enquire there.

#### Principal Campus Buildings.

Main Hall is the ornate three piece building with the over-grown cupola. It is the color of an extremely blonde Jersey cow, and it sits on the top of University Hill like a hen on a hay rick. The chemistry building is the pseudo-fireproof structure with the bad smell. North and South Halls are modelled after the same soap box. The Engineering building may be identified by the feet which adorn its window sills. The Law building invariably has a long youth leaning against its east side smoking Bull Durham.

Science Hall inadequately surrounds Professor Snow. You can hear the School of Music anywhere in Dane county. Farmer's Home, Ferdy's, Hausman's, etc.—see Y. M. C. A. handbook.

#### Selection of Courses.

Persons of strong mind with no insanity in their family for five generations back, may safely attempt to glean information from the University catalog. This document was compiled in 1852 by eleven different committees working at separate times; it was put together in the dark; and the proof was read by a cross-eyed boy in a state of trance. For the benefit of freshmen and other persons of feeble intellect, the university provides class advisers, whose duty it is to tell you what studies you ought to want to take. The usual office hours of class advisers are from 1:00 to 1:05 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays.

<sup>(</sup>Note: We, the Sphinx, has one for sale, built for a man five or six feet tall, waist twenty-three, foot twelve, collar thirteen; no matter what your figure, we guarantee it to fit like those of the official tailors; we have worn it as little as we could without getting conned.)



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A Few Don'ts for Freshmen.

#### Awfully Rushed!

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Miss Sorority—Were you rushed any when you came up this fall?

Miss Rustik—O yes, just awfully. Took the five o'clock train from the Center, and came off without any breakfast. Never was so rushed in my life!



#### Parting Advice.

The Sporty Rube was leaving the old farm for Madison.

"Cut, cut, cut," chortled a hen.

"Ah," reflected the Rube, "how beautiful it is to find such symyathy in the lower animals."

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#### **Back Again!**

Walking once more on the campus, Mounting the stairs on the "Hill", Halting a moment to gossip With Charley or Johnny or Bill; Why the glad hand when you meet them? Wherefore that three-cornered grin? Summer vacation is over And now we are all back again!

Gone are the days in the mountains, The weeks in the woods by the lake, Talk now of profs. and instructors, What course of study we take, Solemnly eulogize football, Where will we get our good men? A wave of reform has swept o'er us, Alas! they are not back again!

#### Lament.

We have come back To here once more. Most things are like They were before. Five cents still buys As large a beer, The Hill is where It was last year.

Yet things are altered Since last spring: Main Hall has grown Another wing, And all of us, Both me and you, Are three months older— Strange, but true.

And I have changed My boarding place. Now when I go To feed my face The menu sticks To corn beef hash For which I cough Up four plunks cash.

And the sweet maid I queened last year Has not come back So is not here. Married? or conned? I cannot tell. Now, tell me, friends, Is not that unpleasant?

Ah sacre bleu! Oh woe is me! Ah trucky-doo! Oh hully gee!



# Smart Boots for Men

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¶ Schumacher Shoes are renowned for their distinction their shapely, stylish appearance. They fit, retain their shape, and afford absolute

comfort in walking.  $\P$  A favorite among neatly dressed men, and once you wear them *your* favorite too.

\$4, \$5 and \$6 the Pair. SCHUMACHER BROS. MILWAUKEE, WIS. We Have No Branch Stores.

#### To Dr. Hutchins.

We hope 'tis true— What they say you'll do— Prescribe us some sugar pills That will give us a place In the athletic race And cure those ''Wisconsin Ills."





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She (ready for the ball): "Charley how do you like my new ball dress?" He: "Where is it?"—*Pick*-

me-up.

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"I hear he is a famous artist." "Pen and ink, or water color?" "Neither; grape juice."— Widow.



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BOTH

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Mexican, 30c. 31 lb	.\$1.00
Java Blend, 28c. 34 lb	.\$1.00
Rozan, 25c. 41 lb	.\$1.00
Hotel Blend, 22c. 44 lb	.\$1.00
Bourbon Santos, 20c. 51 lb	.\$1.00
Jamaica, 18c. 6 lb	.\$1.00
Golden Rio, 15c. 7 lb	.\$1.00

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