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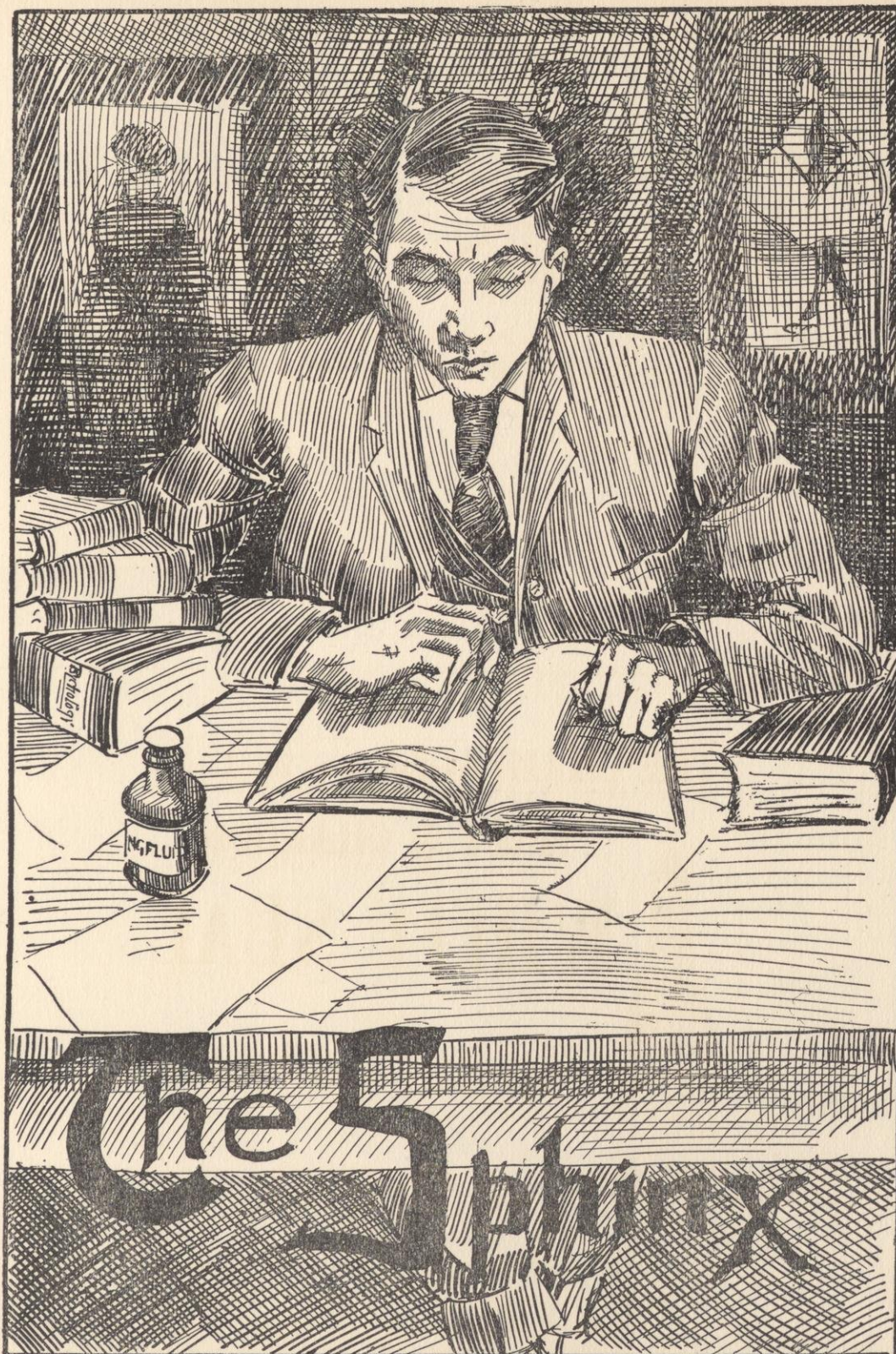
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W. H. P. 1906

MADISON, WIS., JANUARY 27, 1906.

VOL. VII NO. 8



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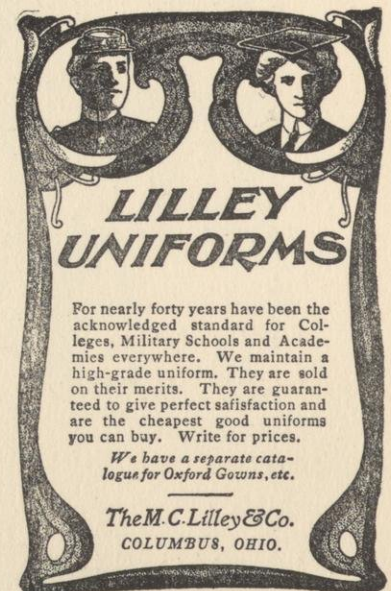
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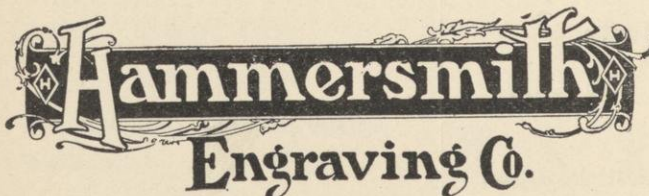
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The Sphinx

Naramore '04



The Revival.



SING a song of buckers;
To the Libe they go—
Toms and Bills and Kates and Janes—
See the busy row!

Poring over text-books,
Never read before;
Cramming madly night and day
Old forgotten lore.

Sitting up till midnight
Learning Ifs and Whys;
Reading stupid monographs
Meant to strain the eyes.

More ambitious students
You could scarcely find;
And the keenest college scout
Now becomes a grind.

Faces all grow peaked,
Lines of care appear,
Everybody seems oppressed
By a nameless fear.

Why this frenzied hurry?
Have they gone insane?
Not at all—it merely means
Exams. are here again!





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GEORGE B. HILL, '08.

JOHN V. MULANEY, '08.

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



THE AMATEUR vaudeville performance which a town and gown aggregation presented the other night under the auspices of the Attic Angels was done, THE SPHINX did some thinking. It occurred to her that these amateurs had taken several light and mincing steps in the desirable direction. The attempt to produce skits from comic operas was a success. THE SPHINX doubts if a similar attempt at Shakespeare would have been anything but a failure. It seems to her that the great dramatist is rather outside the province of the amateur; there ought to be a law against amateur productions of his work. Not that the acting of Shakespeare is not good training for the embryo actor, but that a company of beginners is not apt to satisfy its audience with their attempt. The audience make the production possible, and they ought not to be asked to pay good money for a mutilated Shakespeare. It is only when the amateur company puts on a farce, burlesque or comic opera, and an original one at that, that their work is wholly justified.

THE SPHINX has been hoping for a long time that undergraduate interests would become ambitious enough to produce an original farce or musical comedy. It may be that a comic opera is too much of an undertaking, involving as it does the writing of a musical score. But there are certainly undergraduates who could write a farce involving exaggerated local conditions, and introducing musical numbers in which popular songs were parodied to apply locally. Of course the writing of the mere number of words necessary to provide an evening's entertainment is no afternoon's diversion, and doubtless the knowledge of the difficulty of the task as well as the length of time and the amount of work involved has deterred the would-be dramatist.



WORKING "under pressure" may be a good thing. Then, again, it may not. Since THE SPHINX doesn't believe in work of any kind, it, of course, doesn't believe in working "under pressure."

But landladies and laundrymen are the most inconsiderate people to get along with that you will find when you finally butt into the world. They have a proverbially

mean disposition about the end of every month. They actually demand payment for the trifling services they perform for you. Now, the landlady and the laundryman enable you to live decently; you must pay them for thus serving you; the money with which to pay them you must get by working for it—ordinarily; therefore, to live decently you must work. This is all too simple and childish, you say, to waste your thoughts upon. Mebbe so. But just think how many of our worthy fellowmen have been unable to understand this simple axiom. . . . Anyway, it's true; and it loans us a text whereupon to disseminate.

Don't belliake (thanks, Fra Elbertus) about the "durned hard work" you have to do during exams. It's good for you. It's the only time during your whole course when you get a taste of the strenuous times to come. It gives you the mental endurance and agility necessary to stave off the Keeper of the Hash House some future day.

So by all means learn to work "under pressure." And in case there are some who do not know how to work in this fashion for exams., we would like to put them on the owl car.

1. *Don't sleep at night.* This is very undesirable, as it takes your mind too long off your work. Short naps, however, during lectures are not injurious. In fact, they are occasionally very useful, since your appearance of deep abstraction when so engaged often gives your professor the impression that you are of a scholarly nature.

2. *Don't go to the Libe.* Above all, don't go inside of it! The flippant, frivolous atmosphere of the reading room may percolate into your system and drive out that serious concentration so essential to working "under pressure." If it is absolutely necessary, however, you may without serious danger go as far as the steps and wait there for her to come out.

3. *Don't over-eat.* Drink more.

4. *Don't over-exercise.* Confine your physical exertions, if possible, to a daily walk, preferable before retiring, down State street, and at intervals of say two days, vary the exercise by carrying a small load.

5. *Don't forget the pressure.* This you may purchase of any local dealer, in quantities to suit the taste. Mum's the word. One hundred and fifty pounds pressure gives just about the right head.

If you follow religiously, or otherwise, the above suggestions during exam. week, we feel reasonably certain that you will get all that is coming to you.

What Happened to Percy.

Dramatis Personæ.

Percival....A member of the Y. M. C. A.

HalHis roommate.

LindyA member of the Y. W. C. A.

Place—Madison.

ACT I.

Scene I—A room in the Y. M. C. A. building. Percival is discovered standing before a small mirror, sizing himself up and down with glowing satisfaction. Time, 2:30 P. M.

Percival—Fine! Simply fine!!—tall, handsome, military. Gee! I feel happy! I believe I could do almost anything, now! I wonder what Lindy says when she sees me on the street! I bet she fairly thrills with the feeling that I'm hers. Say—a good idea! I'll take a walk down past the Y. W. C. A. and let her see me. Probably she'll be in the window. Oh?—if she only is—? . . . I guess I'll turn up my trousers. Somehow or other they look careless but attractive then.

Scene II—The Y. W. C. A. building. Percival is passing by, self-conscious, his chest thrown out, walking just so, and his eyes strained askance toward the front window. Time 2:45 P. M.

Percival—Yap, there's somebody. . . . That's Lindy in the red waist. I mustn't let her see me looking. . . . Gol, I bet I look fine! Oh, Lindy, aren't you glad that you met me? You don't find a fellow like me every day, do you? . . . I guess I'll look again and see what effect—heavens! what are the laughing at? They're almost splitting themselves. Surely, it can't be me. . . . Yap, I thought so. That senator from Racine would make anybody laugh. It's a wonder he wouldn't cut out that long gapping step and wipe off that wise owl-like look. Well—I'm glad it's not me, anyhow.

Scene III—A room in the Y. M. C. A. building. Percival is seated on the edge of his bed gazing at a photo in the back of his watch, a look of perfect happiness and contentment on his face. Time, 3:00 P. M. Enter Hal.

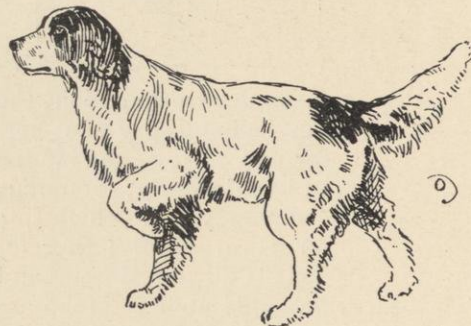
Hal—Hello, Percy; how are you? Say, you're looking better this afternoon. Must have gotten through that quiz.—Did you?

Percival—Yes; got a fair.

Hal—That's the candy. I told you you'd pull through O. K. Next time—

say, your garter's down—next time don't—what's the matter, Percy? What are you damning that *pink* garter—laugh!! Who laugh—hello! Telephone? . . . Alright. Just a minute, Percy, I'll be right up again. (Curtain.)

—'07.



“Put down three and carry one.”

A Sea Tale.

I.

'Twas a beautiful night long ago,
And the wind it blew up hard.
The good ship Archapeligo
Was loaded full with lard.

II.

The wind blew strong, as I said before,
And it blew from out the west;
It loudly slammed the cabin door,
And turned the captain's vest.

III.

The sturdy crew all turned pale,
The windlass was taken ill,
The only sound was a low gun-wale,
So they gave the cannon a pill.

IV.

The crew of the ship with the load of lard,
Shook hands with Davy Jones,
They now compose (their fate was hard)
A pile of water-soaked bones!

—A. B. Shuster.

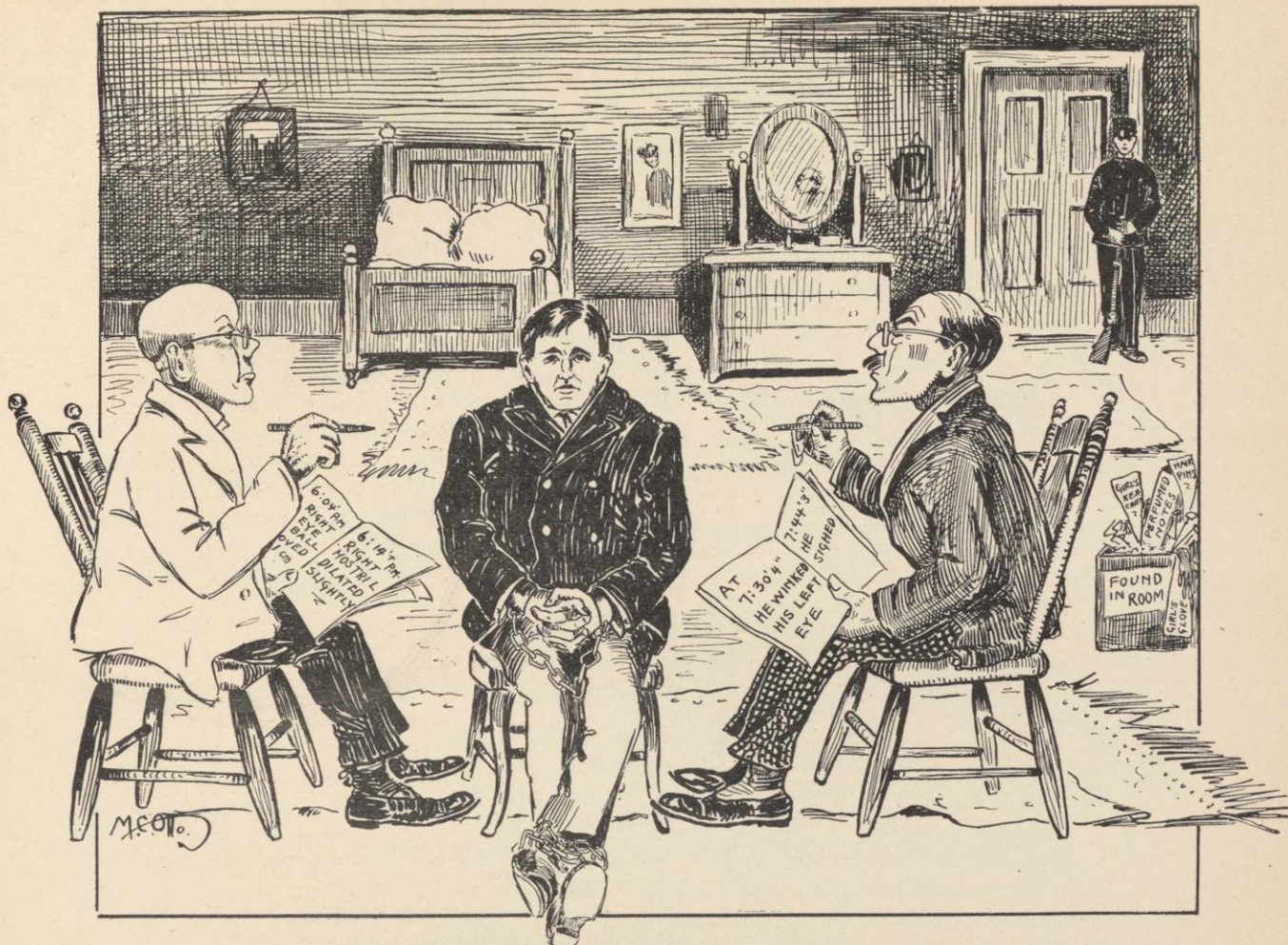


There was a young man named Kernan
That came to the U. to get learnin'

He learned to wear pegs

And how to tap kegs—

Now a dollar a day's all he's earnin'.



A Passing Breeze.

"It was not like this in the Olden Days."—*Old Adage.*

When father was a little boy
And went away to college,
He had the single lofty aim
Of loading up with knowledge.

What happy days those must have been!
How unsophisticated!
How free from all the deadly pits
For which we now are slated!

But now,—Ah now—the times are changed;
Temptation hems us in;
Deep quicksands are on every side,
The world is full of sin.

And so our learned Faculty,
To keep us clean and pure,
Has introduced a weight plan
To conquer Satan's lure.

That plan's a truly wondrous thing;
It surely takes the cake;
It rests upon a mighty truth
Ten Satans couldn't shake.

Its sponsors must have reasoned thus:
We wish them all good luck—
Hermetic'ly sealed up at home
No one can run amuck.

And so no more our dances can
Run on past twelve o'clock;
State street's a dangerous place at night,
For folks are apt to knock.

All mid-week parties have been struck
From off the students' list,
Their calisthenic value
Must have totally been missed.

And now we hear it rumored 'round—
God grant it isn't true—
Detectives are upon our trail
To find out what we do.

So go to bed at eight o'clock,
And be as still as mice,
For if you don't, the Profs will think
You surely can't be nice! *J. D. S.*

A Gun-Room Ballad.

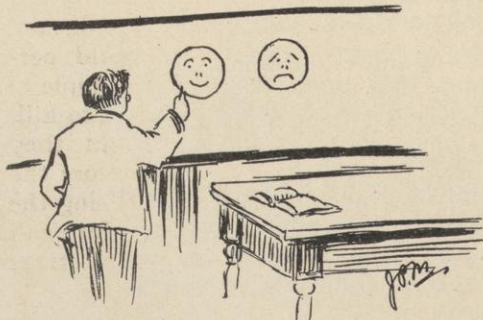
It's, oh, to be fair and slender!
 It's, oh, to be chesty and slim!
 To carry one's self like a ramrod,
 With your toes in line with your chin.
 Then it's fall in line, you Freshman,
 And away with your cigarette—
 No smoking in the lines, my boy,
 Or they'll call you up, you bet.
 Oh, the sporty man will never make a soldier!

Its, oh, to be born without conscience,
 With the sense of pride of a brute;
 With the grace and the poise of a clothes-pin,
 And never a chance to shoot.
 Then it's, "Keep in step, you dough-head!"
 And, "Straighten out the line!"
 "Keep your hand out of your pocket, there;
 Or I swear you'll get a fine!"
 Oh, the awkward man will never make a soldier!

Oh, its gloves like an undertaker's;
 It's clothes for the Arctic seas;
 It's a figure off on your dancing pumps,
 And a reprimand if your sneeze.
 Then it's shoulder your arm, you mucker,
 And march like a jointed stick;
 And run like a blamed young gosling,
 When they yell out "Double quick!"
 Oh, it's this and something more that makes a soldier.

It's, oh, for a voice like Stentor;
 It's, oh, for an honest notion,
 That to march and drill makes college life,
 Six rounds in the wheel of promotion.
 Then it's straighten up, old comrade,
 Be resigned to drill and wait;
 You're the "future of the nation,"
 You're the "guardian of the state,"
 'Tis the man of this opinion makes the soldier!

—J. V. M., '08.



Prof. O. (illustrating in class): Miss B., what is suggested by the second picture?

Miss B. (ruminating on the last night's sleighride): Oh, it looks like the full moon.

Prof. O. (exultingly): Beautiful train of thought! Wonderful case of suggestion!



A dairy student at our house
 Bothered us with his chin,
 Till a smart young sophomore christened
 him,
 Our regular "butter-in."

—J. V. M.



Walla, walla, bungo, lee!
 Me go get some Chop Sou-ee!
 No more eata U. S. mice,
 No more starve on bum flied lice.
 Chinese chop house come to town,
 Alla Chinamen go down
 Geta gong on Chop Sou-ee!

Hank's Exams.

Exams. don't bother us long agric fellers,
 Becuz at "buckin'" we all are hellers;
 Right there we are in trainin', bet yer eye—
 We uster buck ther wood-pile, four feet
 high.

We kin "stab" ter beat ther band,
 Cus us fellers fight with fist an' hand,
 So at "knockin' out their eye" w e l l e r

An' at "bluffin'", we are right there with
 ther goods,
 Cuz we all came from where there's bluffs
 and woods;
 "Ponies" an' "horses" we drive with er
 nifty rein;
 Corncribs we know, so at "cribs" we do
 raise cain.
 —Hank.

When Cairns Joked.

Mr. Geyser (reciting in American Literature)—"Yes, the women of Cooper's novels are unreal. They appear always to live in the spirit of the Golden Rule. . . ."

Prof. Cairns (interrupting)—"Has your experience proved, Mr. Geyser, that the real woman lives in a different spirit?"

Mr. Geyser's profuse explanation was drowned in a feminine titter.



Freshman Themes No. 1.

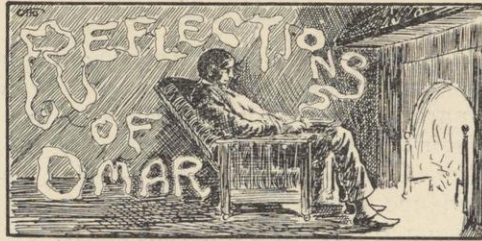
CATS.

A cat is an animal about which many jokes have been purrpetrated. A cat can purr kindly or purr severe. Among the jokes which are cracked about the cat is the riddle, Why is a cat's tail like the end of the earth? Because it is fur to the end.

A cat has nine lives, and when it loses the last it generally crawls under the house or barn, where sometime after it will be remembered. Cats like to be remembered after they are dead and to attract attention while they are alive. Sometimes they attract more than attention, but they are hard to hit. Men have in the night plotted to kill their lovely cat, which blinked at the fire so peacefully but in the day, they are Jekylls and Hydes; rather better on the hide. Cats are called Malteses, Angoras, begorras and other names not fit to print. Speaking of fits opens another line.

I used to love to see a cat have a fit, and had one (a cat, not a fit) which would perform if I would turn him around a couple of times. I wound him up. It was fit to kill, and it did. When two cats fight they swear and curse for a long time before the fur flies, and then end by one chasing the other under something, where a feller can't see the sport. If cats couldn't climb trees there would be fewer cats.—1909.





"Now's no time for mirth and laughter;
No more than 'tis the morning after,"
quoth Omar, forgetting to light his pipe,
and picking up the Critique of Pure Reason.
"You fellows will have to vamoose to-night.
Got to bone for finals."

"What's the use?" asked Beggs flippantly.

"Use!" exclaimed Omar. "Say, you
make me think of a fellow I use to know."

"Well," said Beggs.

"Pug Smith was his name. He made
good with a banker's daughter in Chicago.
His vocation was writing up social doings
for a newspaper, and his avocation was
fussing. Pug was well mannered and pos-
sessed that style of good looks that seems
to go with the girls. The banker was a
sensible man, who was once in love him-
self, and strangely enough had never out-
grown it. So instead of trying to check
the tide of love, he set about making a
channel for it to suit his taste. He told Pug
if he would give up his hackwork and bury
himself away from the world for a year, in
the office, and learn the banking business,
he would take him into the firm, furnish a
swell little mansion for them down on the
lake front, and give them his blessing.
But, the banker said, you will have to dig
to do it."

"Of course, he did. Lucky dog!" said
Beggs.

"But he didn't," continued Omar. "He
merely said, 'What's the use.'"

Blue Book Nursery Rhymes.

BY HANK.

B. B., B. B., buckler boy,
Exams. and ladies, all his joy.

Piff, paff, puff,
Crim, cram, stuff;
For profs. are staff, stiff, tough!

Little Boy Freshman, come write your
exam.
Your prof. is all ready, your head is all
cram.

Mr. Prof. Hubbard went up to his cup-
board,

To get a poor student an ex.
But when he got there
The cup-board was bare,
And so the poor student got conned.

Freshie, freshie, little man,
Profs. all catch him with exams. —
Daddie makes a lot of dams!

There was a professor named Mack,
Who believed not in breaking his back,
When he 'nounced his exam.,
He said not to cram,
Or the ax he will give you—alack!

Thorkie, Thorkie, just for fun,
Thought he'd make the M. E.'s run;
So he soaked 'm hard in Steam—
Sort of Turkish bath 'twould seem!



To the 'Varsity Engineer,
We'll unbutton a rousing cheer;
Though he wears a blue shirt and a rummy
old hat,
He's the Co-eds' ideal of a beau for a' that.

Heard at the Buttermakers' Convention.

Chairman (rising as the Agric. band finishes its first selection):

"We shall now have the pleasure of listening to some music by Mr. Blank."



Have you thought that when you go,
With your grievance or your woe,
To your papas who papah upon the Hill;
For your worry and your fret,
'Bout the only thing you'll get
Is a foxy little sympathetic pill.

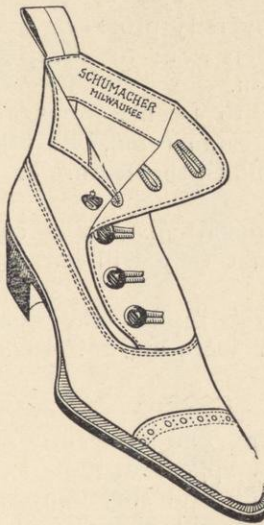
It is foolish for us boys—
Careless Nature's helpless toys—
To object to our professors' stern decree;
Why, just think of all the fun
That we'll have when we've begun
Playing ping-pong on the Rah! Rah! Varsity!

—J. D.S.



Why is an editor's office called his sanctum? The occupant is usually anything but sanctum-onious.

MORE STYLE



There's more style in one pair of Schumacher Shoes than there is in a case (36 pairs) of others—
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All the down East styles are here.....

SCHUMACHER BROS.
MILWAUKEE

We have no branch stores.

That Remarkable Sue.

A GIRL there is and her name is Sue;
And Gee, what *can't* that Co-ed do!

She rides a pony with blithesome grace,
With a pale-blue look on her studious face;

And hides her cribs with the greatest ease,
Where no propah professah evah sees.

She jollies the fellows with come-again smiles,
And tickles their vanity with her sly wiles.

First one, then another she gaily takes in,
And trots him around with a Chessy-cat grin.

She goes to the games in a dress of gay red,
That, seen in a pasture—well, 'nough has been said.

She babbles all day of the charms of Boheme,
A place she has never been in, it would seem.

She tells every fellow how glad she would be
If she had been born a man, 'stead of a She.

"For then what a prize college devil I'd make.
Propriety's very foundations I'd shake!"

Who is she, you ask, this remarkable Sue,
That such unconventional stunts loves to do?

I'll tell you,—no matter what people may say,—
She's a girl over at the Young Women's C. A.!

Clipped Quips

Coeducation.

A well known university professor has a dilemma in which he is wont to entrap advocates of coeducation.

"If you lecture to twenty boys and twenty girls in the same room," he asks, "Will the boys attend to the lecture or to the girls?"

Of course the coeducationist, to be consistent, must say that they will listen to the lecture.

"Well, if they do," replies the dean, "they are not worth lecturing to."—*Harper's Weekly*.

The girl prayed long and fervently and at last her good fairy appeared.

"I will grant you," said she, "any request you make, but I will give your best friend just one hundred times as much."

The girl pondered, then, "Give me one freckle."—*Chaparral*.

Senior — Did you bring any evening clothes with you?

Freshman—Yes, I think I remember seeing mother put two suits of pajamas in my case."—*Widow*.

He Had an Edge on, Too.

Flubb—Isn't Bill looking dull this morning?

Dubb—Yes, he cut up too much last night.—*Record*.

He—I shot the leopard on the spot.

She (with interest) — Which spot?
—*Fester*.



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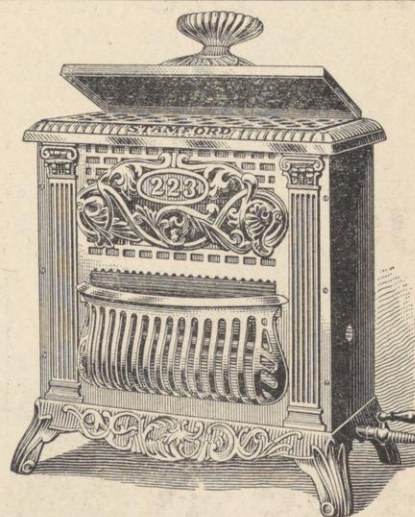


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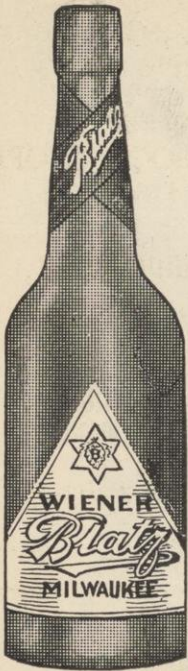
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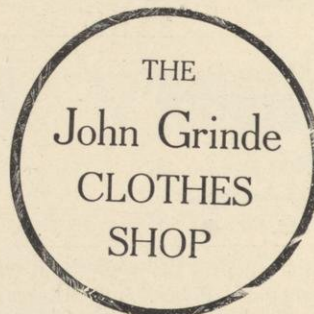


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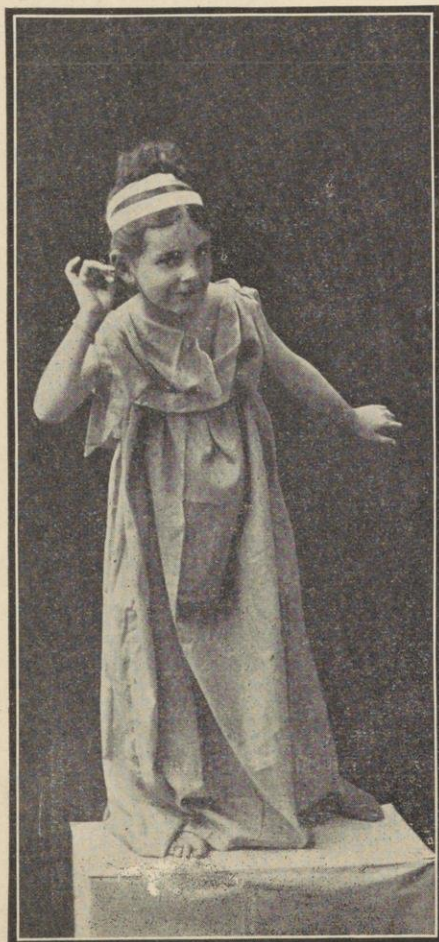
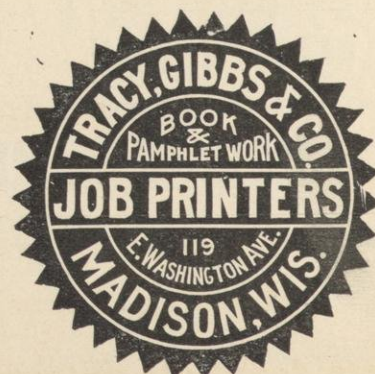
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