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Varsity! Varsity!! Nineteen!! Nine !!!

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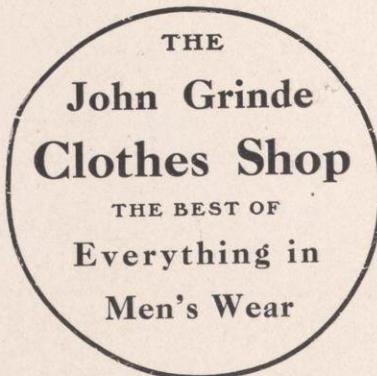
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hair—
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her.

The goddesses and the sirens died—
Oh! Far afar in the withered days!
What care we, what heed we? We need
them no more,
Our goddess is one of more heavenly
ways—
A health to the wit and the witchery of
her—
The Girl—the Girl of the Prom—Lord love
her.

The Sweet, the Neat, and the Beautiful,
The Heart of the heart of the Heart of
my heart!
What is there, what lives there, can flare
up desire
Like she, when she wills? It's the heart
of her art.
A health to the witch and the sorcery of
her—
The Girl—the Girl of the Prom—Lord love
her!

The shrine is ready, the incense
smoke
Is rolling in honor of all that is fair!
As Greatest, as Sweetest, as Wisest of all,
Praise the little light girl with the won-
drous great hair.
Loud praise for the wisdom and witchery
of her—
The Girl—the Girl of the Prom—Lord love
her!

—Walther Buchen.



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*



WELCOME, girlie! Here, you carry the Keys of the City and I'll carry your suitcase. Lets take this hack; the chaperon's in the other.

That's the new Capitol. They lay a stone every little while. Oh, no—studes never buy anything but dry goods, round the Square.

Yes; that's the Libe. Looks nice? Well, maybe it does to you, but for us—it has unpleasant associations.

Excuse our campus—it looks some better by moonlight. Those squirrels are real tame—eat from your hand—we keep them around for object lessons of the faculty's ideal of the model stude.

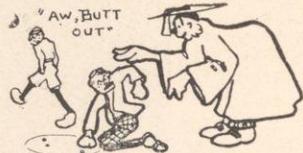
* * * * *
Well, this is it. Oh, no, plenty of time—forty-'leven carriages behind us.

What's the basket? Oh. That's our lunch. Let me explain.

Last year the social committee—that's a body of men surrounded by red tape—they thought if Prom was marked down to half price it would be real democratic, and Thomas Jefferson would turn over in his grave and give three rabs. They thought, you see, that the ticket was the whole Prom; also that a fellow likes to treat his Heart's Best to a remnant.

So, if you see anything wrong, don't blame the Prom committee.

But tush—it's the girl and not the dance that makes prom Prom. There's the first waltz. Say, when you look at me like that I forget there ever was a social committee.



WE can't make ourselves feel mean enough, Prom time, to give Peanut Paternalism more than a passing glance.

Now lit societies make THE SPHINX's head ache, but she thinks it significant that they dropped the Inter-collegiate gab-fest like a hot potato when some one rumored the faculty had a directing finger on it.

Some mean fairy gave the faculty the Leaden Touch. Nothing puts so quick and lasting crimp in Stude Activities as benevolent supervision and butinski-ism *ex-officio*.

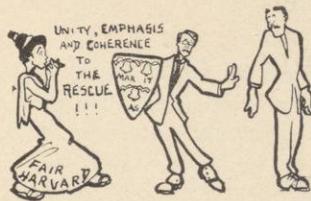
We had an ideal of Wisconsin as a place where the cheerful student was responsible for himself and his affairs and learned the rudiments of being his own

boss, incidentally to imbibing Stics or Calc. Our prof force seemingly has a different vision of resigned and perfectly lovely little

Rollos and Dottie Dimples being polished decorously in a nice systematized culture-machine, all shiny and neat to show to the legisla-

ture—a glorified Lawrence.

If not, why is the faculty finger being irritatingly hooked into everything the studjent essays?



WE noticed in a recent *Lit an Entrée Nous* by Professor Dodge of the English department, which, as Carlyle said in regard to the hiccups, "is unimportant in itself but adumbrative of much."

Prof. Dodge expressed a restrained desire to slap Doc. McCarthy for the latter's observations on Ha'vud. Prof. Dodge explains that Ha'vud is afflicted by the

fool sons of the Western millionaire — the habit of raising fool sons and millionaires being peculiar to the West. He also remarks that Ha'vud men are proud of their Alma Mater. Having met several Ha'vud men we were already aware of this. He did not, however, mention the peculiar front shown by the Ha'vud man when you meet him, bumming summers, *e. g.*—the cold storage effect that makes you feel like a small quantity of low grade dirt. It is not for us to claim to be other—but the Yale or Cornell or Michigan man don't let you know it, if he thinks so. Also, his pride in his particular culture-mill

is ingrowing and not expressed as blat.

The important part of Prof. Dodge's *entree* was a by-product, a paragraph in which he opened up momentarily on Wisconsin. In accordance with the lightsome ballet habit affected by the late unlamented Matthew Arnold and our English Dept., the professor waltzed lightly away from the subject in hand like a fly off a griddle; but he was there long enough to brush a phase of our collective lives that is interesting—the growing element of chronic Charleyboyism.

We feel a moral call to discuss that at length shortly.



The Princess Passes

My Angeline is passing fair,
Though no scholastic paragon—
Her class advisor's pet despair:
My Angeline is passing fair,
She handed him the Baby Stare.
And through his conscience chortled
"Con."
My Angeline is passing—"Fair"—
Though no scholastic paragon.

"Are you going to take in the convocation?"

"No; I'm going to take in the can-vacation."



"Poor Prom—what pride you used to take
In saying—I am It.
Poor Prom—you bet you are just that,
These days, since you've been hit."

—D.

Then and Now

IT'S only a golden memory,
The Junior Prom as it used to be,
The careless glamor of old is lost
When nobody cared how much it cost;
For then of money it took a mint
But now we haggle, and scrimp and stint
"The Prom," says the faculty, "after all
Should cost no more than a naval ball!"

Oh slush! O splutter! and like-wise
—splash!
Because our boarding house feeds
us hash,
Is that a reason we
shouldn't eat
steak,
On some of the
money our dad-
dies make?



Hops are the hash
—and isn't it
clear
We might have por-
ter house once a
year—
You see the meta-
phor? — dearie
me,
Prom ain't the same
as it used to be.

But still it's a fairly pleasant blend
Of cheerful chances to blow and spend
And staid Professor don't try to guess
How much she paid for that Prom time
dress,
So while there's a girl to dance with you,
And eyes that glow as they used to do
There'll be a touch of the ancient glee—
Though it ain't the same as it used to be.

—*Bertron Braley, '05.*

Sunday Supper

"It is hard—cruelly hard," sobbed the Chadbourne Girl; and a flood of bitter tears tinkled into her cup.

"What is hard?" said Mrs. Cora Stranahan Woodward, kindly.

"This cider," answered the Girl with a suppressed hiccup.



What is the origin of the word "kiss"?

It is merely a perverted contraction of "cheek"!

The Heir to Millions had been frigidly repulsed by the Boston Girl.

"You are mad," he shivered. "In fact, crazy." Then an inspiration struck him.

"You are cracked ice," he tittered, and fled away into the night.



A Short Suit

Oh, hearts were trumps; I took her hand,
(And she was passing fair)
I had to make it diamonds; so
She's playing solitaire.

The Engineers

*The firelight flickered on the wall
And danced along the floor
As young Nought Seven turned the log
And said to tired Nought Four:*

“It’s Prom Night at the U,” (he said,)
“And I was there last year,
And now she’s dancing it with Jack
And I’m stalled off out here.
Say, when I think of *him* with Jane
I feel so doggone sore—”
“We all get that way just at first,”
Growled worldly-wise Nought Four.

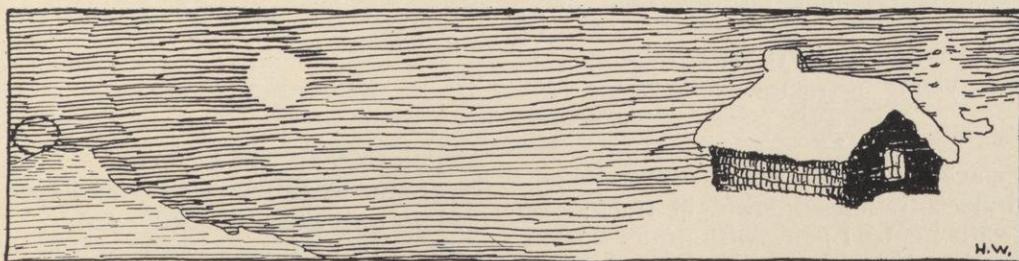
“I couldn’t train with Jack,” (he said,)
“For fifty thousand per.
The pup! Right now I’ll betcher that
He’s knockin’ me to her.
Someday when there’s just me and him
We’ll settle up our score—”
Puff—“You’ll get over”—puff—“all that,”
Drawled pipe-in-mouth Nought Four.



“Jane knows I’ve started right,” (he said,)
“And cut out raising Cain.
Say, I’d just kill myself with work
To square myself with Jane.
You bet the minute I get raised
To say—two thou or more—”
“I’ve heard all that; let’s hit the bunk,”
Yawned heavy-eyed Nought Four.

*The firelight flickered on the wall
And danced along the floor
As young Nought Seven scowled and sighed
And followed tired Nought Four.*

—Horatio Winslow.





Freddy Baumbach Trying to Make Ends Meet

B. H. Reformer (in back-ground)—“I know she looks hungry—but mercy me, three dollars is *plenty* to pay for *any* child’s dress.”

Horticultural Notes

College widows’ weeds are hardy annuals.

The Con is a lemon on the Tree of Knowledge.

Marks are raised by the grafting of a peach on a young instructor.

x

“Alas, alack,” the student sighed,
As Gracie’s train sped down the track;
“The swath I cut—I point with pride—
For Gracie’s sake was right and wide—
But gee! it did things to my stack—
A lass—a lack.”

There was a disinfectant sign on the gym and all the little bacteria were leaving the home of their ancestors.

“Is this delirium tremens or the millennium?” gasped the studes, clasping their brows convulsively.

x

Just listen to the stories
That the Freshman privates tell
Of the privates, second rank
And you will cease to wonder
If war is really _____

—J. C. M.

A Leap Year Prom

Before the postman came, James Silver was the glummest individual that ever looked out of his study window at a January snowstorm. Ten minutes after that easy-going official had departed, leaving two letters addressed to him in bold feminine handwriting, he was happier than a Baltimore left-over served up as a New York count.

Tears of joy stood in James' dark eyes, and clung to his heavy lashes like dew drops to thistle down. He did not weep, however, as was his manly prerogative, but instead gave way to a series of kittenish antics which put a decided crimp in the appearance of his dainty boudoir. Then he made a pile of pillows—all sent to him by feminine admirers—and sat down on the floor, Turkish fashion, to read once more the bliss-bringing missives.

"Dear James," so the first began. "It would give me great pleasure if you could attend the Prom with me this year. Nearly all the girls are going, and we are planning to have a house party that will make last year's stunt look like a Sunday school picnic. I know you would like our chaperon too for he is the best old fellow that ever was, and not full of finicky notions about young men retiring early and going easy on the fudge. I do hope I'm not too late—you popular fellow!—to find you already promised to another. Yours sincerely,

HELEN."

"Isn't Helen a *dear*!" exclaimed James, rapturously, pressing the letter to his lips. "So *this* is why she has been so nice to me all these weeks. How strange I didn't think of it before. Goodness knows that girl has asked me to nearly everything! The fellows all said she was getting a terrible crush on me. Well—maybe she *is* after all. *This* surely looks like *it*."

James laid the letter aside, after another parting osculation, and picked up the other. It run thusly:

"I write to ask you, Sunny Jim,
If you won't put yourself in trim,
And let me take you to the Prom—
(Say 'Yes'—be quick—or I'll ask Tom!)—
P. S.—Now don't you dare say no,
Or I shall have to stag it.—JO."

"Just like old Jo," murmured the happy boy. "She's the best fellow that ever ordered a porterhouse for two. Strong, self-reliant, clever, masterful—what more could you desire in a girl? All the fellows think she is simply great. And here she asks me—little, modest, retiring, insignificant Me!—to go to the Prom with her. She's just grand! I must write and tell mother about it, right away. Oh, I'm so glad!"

And James clapped his white little hands in glee, and danced the Merry Widow waltz twice around the room. Then suddenly his nicely-penciled brows met in a frown of vexation.

"Dear me!" he exclaimed. "I can only accept *one*. Which shall it be? Helen is a good, comfortable sort of a girl to be with. She isn't what you may call brilliant, but then she isn't always boring you to death with impressionistic pictures of the big blaze she's going to start when she gets out in the world. Besides her father owns a breakfast food factory and she always has simply heaps of money to spend on us fellows. If I went with her, just think of the flowers and sleigh rides and dinners and stunning souvenirs she'd give me. Whee! It fairly takes my breath away!"

"But, no! How *can* I turn down Jo? So breezy and entertaining and original. What a good time we'd have together. She's not a daughter of the predatory rich by any means, but she has ability and character and leads in all the student activities—so there! And I'm sure all the rest of the fellows are just dying to get a bid from her. I wouldn't stand any chance of being a wall decoration if I went with her."

James went to his *escritoire* (See French Dictionary, page 32), spread out some scented writing paper and took up his pearl-handled pen.

"Dear Helen," he wrote. "It was *so* kind of you to wish me to be your charmer at the Prom. How we could have enjoyed ourselves on your princely allowance. Just think of the nice things you could have bought for me! And I do so need a diamond stick pin, some pearl pompadour rats, a gold bracelet and so many other things. And

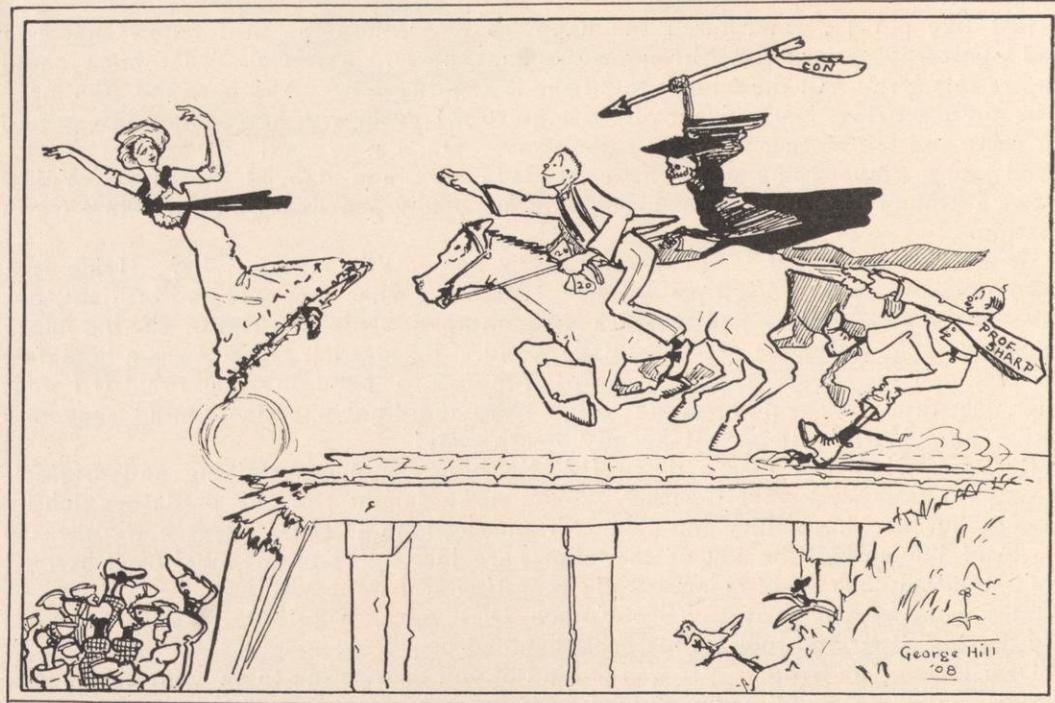
in return, think of all the fudges and chili con carne I could have made for you with the chafing dish, when your dear old bewhiskered chaperon was snoring knot holes in the air. You have paid me the highest compliment that a woman may tender to a man, and I feel it deeply. But my heart and inclinations are elsewhere. Just twelve minutes and thirty seconds before your letter came I mailed an acceptance to another of my numberless sutoresses. I do hope, however, that you will be able to get another nice fellow to go with you, and that we can arrange to have several dances together. You dance divinely, Helen, with all your faults, and it is a pleasure to trip the light gymnastic with one who never walks all over the tips of my white kid pumps. Yours gratefully, JAMES."

"There," sighed James. "That ought to let her down easy and still show her I appreciate her good intentions. Now for Jo."

And for ten minutes his pen played the merry-merry on the de luxe paper with the following result:

"My Dear Jo: Yes, yes, and again yes. Is that quick enough to suit you? You dear old girl! I could really hug you—if 'twere not considered ungentlemanly. (Conventionality makes it necessary for me to leave *that* in your hands.) I nearly fainted with joy when I found that you had actually invited me to go with you. That you, the admired one, the victim of all designing papas with marriageable sons, should turn to me as your wading partner through the social pool, almost overcomes me. I'm afraid to stir lest I should come to, and find it all a fancy instead of a real honest-to-goodness fact. I received countless other invitations to go, but of course I didn't consider them for another moment after *yours* came. I know you can't buy me as many nice things as some of the other girls could, but then it is the fad in our set to admire girls with brains and energy and I know I shall be the center of many envious eyes. I have already engaged a tailor to make my new dress suit. All pale blue, with purple trimmings. Come over to see me some day soon and I'll show it to you. Mother says not to spare the expense, because she wants *her* boy to be dressed as well as the other boys. Father is a little uncertain about my living in the house during the house party, because he didn't know if it was the proper thing for a young man to do. But I assured him that all of us boys would be well chaperoned, and that seemed to set his doubts at rest. Yours as ever, JAMES."

—F. W. Mackenzie.



The Race of the Fusser

Heartfelt Apologies to Mr. Duerer

Is Cupid blind? Wild speculation!
For think with what discrimination
He chose the wide world's fairest mark—
He ne'er was shooting in the dark!



And when on its companion dart
He sought to file another heart
He shot at Random? Sure he missed him—

For I've that arrow in my system.
Thee for me and me for thine—
Thee, my Prom-time valentine.

—H.

Jeremiasque Prophecy

It was during the Annual Economy Hop, and a lone girl sat out unattended. She was listening to the music, for I saw her weeping, when the band murdered the *Merry Widow*. It was a touching scene.

Cautiously, fearing to scare off the S. G. A. glare, I approached, and with pleading

countenance, questioned the fair Ophelia.

"My maid"—sayeth I, "Are you, too, enjoying this dance?"

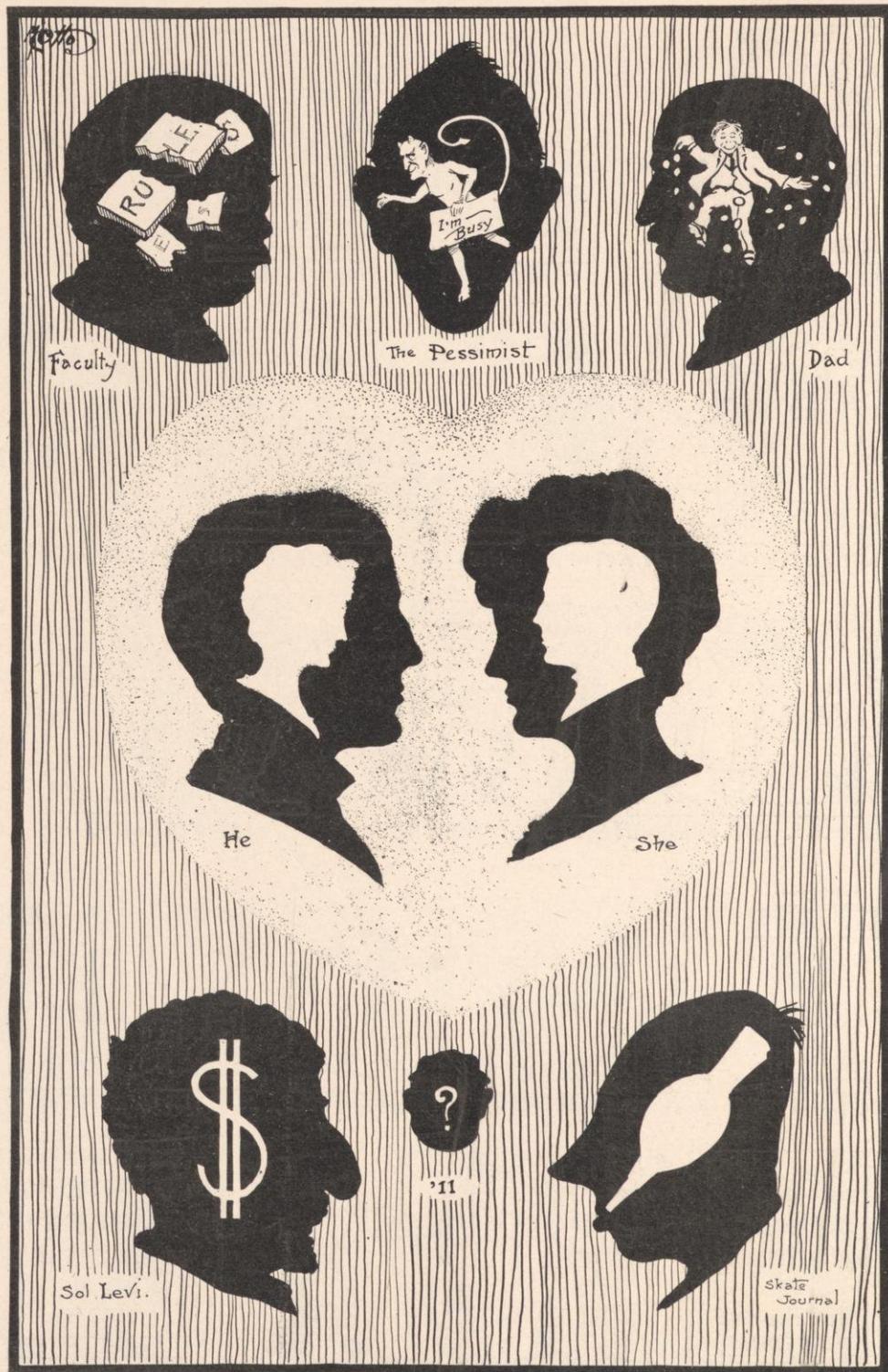
"Not yet,"—she replied mournfully—and I, caught, unawares upon one of the Gym Alps by the onrushing flood of youthful tears—was completely carried away.

—D.

Splurge!—it is better to go up like a rocket and come down like a stick than to be a common ordinary stick in the mud, first, last, and always.



A Horrible Tale, in Horrible Verse, of a Horrible Stude,
who was Horribly Punished



*Psychology of Prom time now
 Prof. Sharp proceeds to tackle
 "On One Idea He and She
 Are monomaniacal.*

*"While Pa and Sol have allied kinds
 Of frenzied cerebration—
 The scribe we find, ne'er minds his mind
 But seeks the wild Sensation."*

Woman was made after man; and has been after him ever since.

"Though her face makes you hop from the Water Cart
 She may raise the dickens in some one's heart—
 Make swimmy emotions in *some* one's head
 She's somebody's valentine, boys," he said.

—*Harper's Third Reader.*

x

Ulysses was between Scylla and Charybdis.
 "Gee" he muttered brightly, "I feel like a Prom
 chairman."

Calming himself, he tied a true-lovers knot in the
 main brace.

x

Lost.—A Tau Beta Pi key, in Room 165, Main Hall,
 Thursday afternoon, Feb. 6, between 2 and 5. Eddie
 Maurer was seen loitering in the vicinity at the time.

x

They were seated in close juxtaposition on the Dav-
 enport.

"I feel there is a subtle affinity between us," ventured
 He.

"Poor affinity—it must be awfully crowded," mur-
 mured She.

g

Be good and you will die young.

"What is the reason the lake looks
 grave
 And smiles not even a placid smile?"
 "No more, no more, can it mirror your
 face
 And so it lies shrouded to mourn a
 while."

"Why are the stars so frosty and cold
 They glowed so warm in the summer-
 time?"
 "They see your face in the lake no
 more
 And so they have veiled them in filmy
 rime."

—W. A. B.



My Valentine



Manual of Manners

Apologies to Candyball's Style Chat

THE Prom rig (male) universally adopted in *pomme de terre* circles includes: a decollete vest; shirt with landscape effect, representing the rink after a snow storm. The wearer of the swallow tail should conventionally resemble the youthful tadpole just assuming the frog stage. Attempt to look if the suit was your own, rather than rented or stolen. Carry personal dog: One Swallow-tail Doesn't Make A Fussier.

The Tuxedo is an abbreviation of the above, producing a likeness to the mature frog, or a young robin.

Foot notes. To shine pumps: upon retiring remove the right pump and rub the left pump with the right foot. On arising assume the right sock, the corresponding pump and the left sock in the order named, and reverse the process. This method is endorsed by leading short-horns.

If it be your practice to wipe the pen on your hosiery, abandon the habit at such times you wear tan or mauve socks.



Sun Set on Mendota

Prom Personals

Mr. Howard Beye, the imminent tragedian, will not attend, as he is doing heavies—moving the pianos, chorus, and other properties—at the Fuller.

Mr. Carl Juergens, '09, will not attend owing to a regretable accident to his dress shirt, Mr. Rideout having slipped in a mud-puddle on State street.

Mr. Dex Witte, the prominent student, will be unable to attend on account of the untimely demise of his fiancee's grandmother.

(NOTE: She demised 11 years ago.)

Roland Fisher, the prominent treasurer of Caduceus, will be unable to attend on account of sore throat and influenza and gripe and a bad cold and pneumonia.

As we go to press—Three bones have been found in the treasury of Caduceus.

Mr. Fisher will attend.

Tubby Wheelock will attend *en masse*.

The Convocation

11:45—Rush began on the gym as though it were a New York bank.

Attack on Music by forlorn hope led by Wisconsin's Ow'n. Music suffering terribly. Many notes escaped them, however.

“Varsity Toast.” (Luke-warm milk toast.)

From the Opium Joint Scene

Junior Play

The Villain—“So, haughty minion, yuh spurn muh bid to Prom! Curses, I have half a mind to go out and shoot muhself.”

The Heroine—“In that case, go, and get half-shot.”

The Monday After

When the Prom's last glitter is faded, which the studes went bust to provide—when the last *tete-a-tete*'s *tete-e-teted*, and the Girl's on her homeward ride—we shall rest, (and faith we shall need it), flop down in our shoes and socks, till our roomies shall cruelly rouse us, to hike to our eight-o'clocks.

“Wisconsin Marching Song,” by Glee Club. (Comment unnecessary.)

“Fair Harvard,” by Glee Club. (Musical Pursuit Race. Any member coming within five words of the next is disqualified.)

Witty* Introduction by Prexy.

The ADDRESS by Pres. ELIOT. (Really worth the money and then some.)

Slaughtered National airs executed by the Banditti.

*“Brevity is the soul of wit.”—Henry Scheideler.

Reprinted from Dope's Rap on the Block

Her gown was made of crepe de soie
Embroidered with fromage de brie.
Around her pearly, swan-like throat
A Biedermaier table d'hôte,
With biased chiffon appliqued
Of cretonne-flowered muslin made.
Her coiffure rodent and marcelled
An aigrette and tiara held.
A sidecomb tatted and crocheted
Restrained the wayward locks that strayed.

Of cerise-blue her sunburst skirt;
With watered silk her waist was girt.
Burnt-onion pumps of glace kid
Her dainty little tootsies hid.
Of pink fichu her fan so smart
With battenbergers à la carte.
Thus smiling with majestic pride
The Prom Queen joyously did stride.

—J. C. M.

The Weather for February

and Farmer's Home Almanac

Feb. 1—Lit societies discuss Joint on top floor of Main Hall. High winds.

Latest date to pick your peaches.

Feb. 2-5—Bumps arrive. Temperature drops in three frat houses.

Feb. 5-12—Longest nights in year. Week opens with cold feet and chills. General drought accompanied by great precipitation.

Fair or poor. Week ends very wet; floods.

Feb. 13—Frosh calls up sorority junior with Prom bid. Severe freeze.

Feb. 14—Bright and fair. Dense cloud of Prom Girls will gather over East and West Madison and move toward university, accompanied by breezy sports in warm socks. All hail, queens.

Gather pippins. Lemons turning green.

Feb. 15—Driving reins in direction of Middleton. Local areas of high pressure.

Feb. 15—Continued bright and fine. Purses lightning; no change but little mist.

Orange blossoms budding.



The Wild and Uncut

"Get a bid to Prof. Dennis's pre-exam tea?"

"Uh-huh."

"Goin'?"

"I am. I've cut his lectures too much to cut this."



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P. M. Girls flying south; also other directions. Cold, gloom.

Feb. 16—No one notices the weather this day.

Feb. 17-24—Dense storm of bills will form on Square and burst over Latin Quarter. Bank clouds. Cold chills. Brain storms.

Feb. 24-28—Reports hit home. Dark, sultry. Low rumbles of thunder beyond the horizon. Very threatening.

Bad time for wild oats.

Month closes dark and cold.



ENVOY

The Grim, the Black, and the
Horrible

Glare google-eyed from an inky sky—
How may I, how can I, annex me more
coin?

Gee! How the wad that I had did fly!

Lend me, uncle, the ticker will cover!
A Time for the Girl of the Prom—Lord
love her!

—Walther Buchen.



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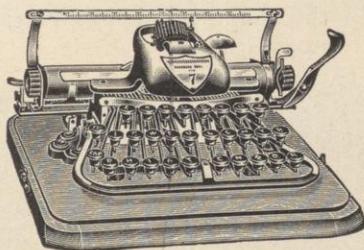
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—Exchange.

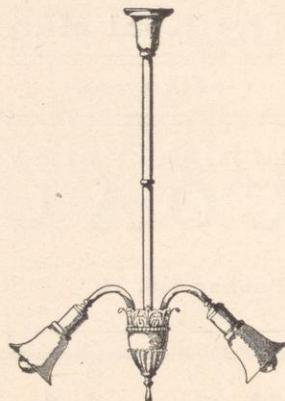
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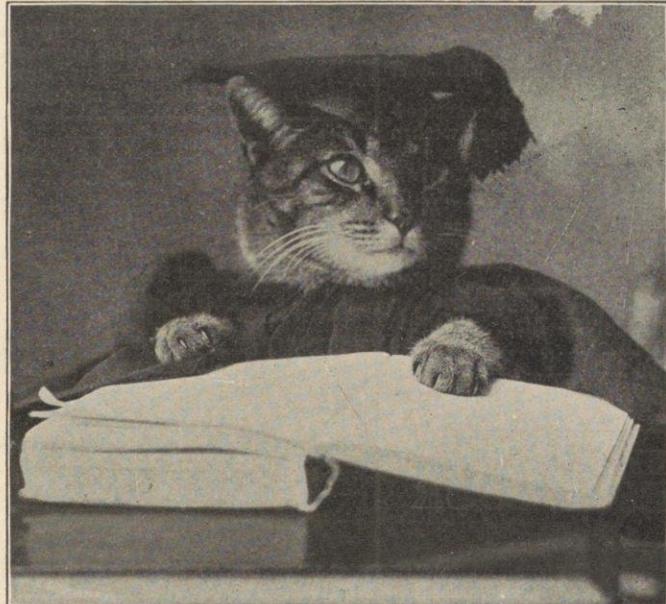
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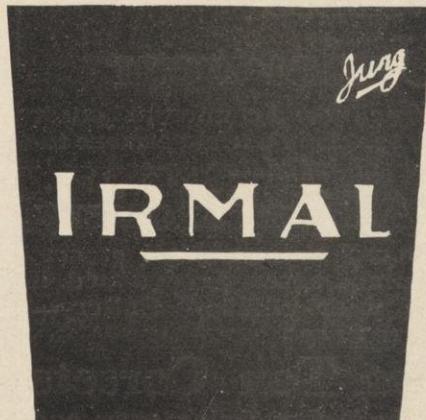
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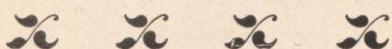
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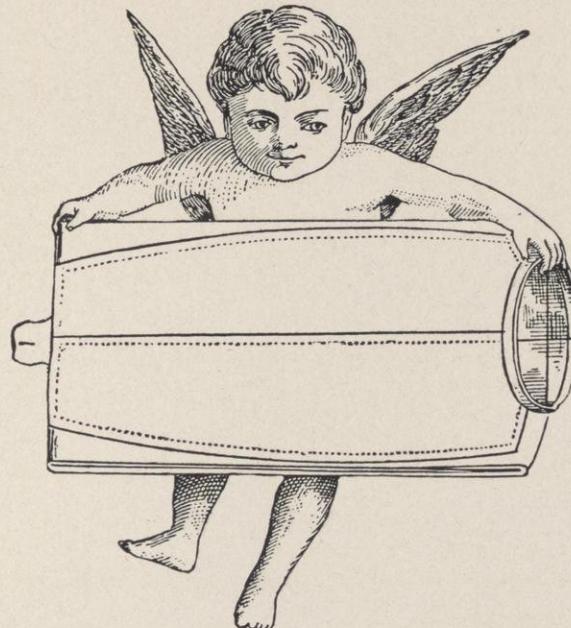
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