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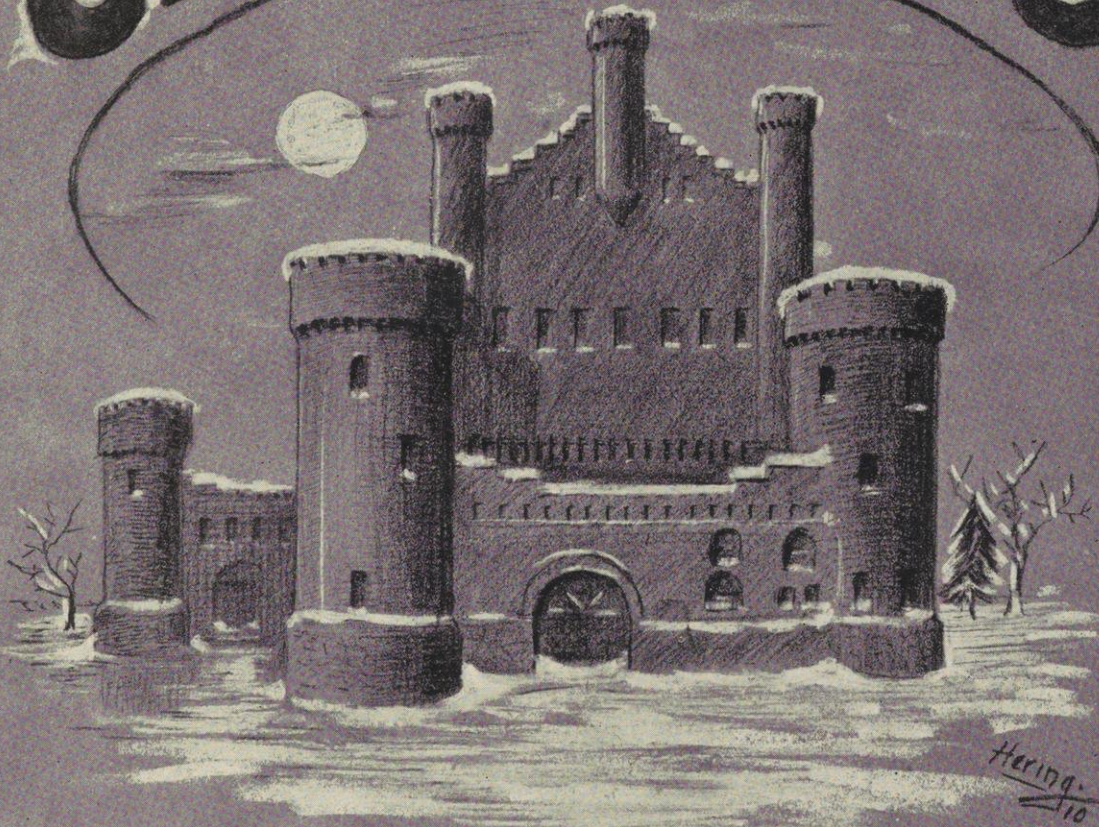
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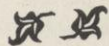
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## The Sphinx on Christmas



Once more it's Christmas, and perhaps the twenty-first for you,  
While I have watched nigh on two thousand pass and be forgotten.  
You'd think, now, that the holly and the mistletoe I've seen  
So much of in my day would pall on me. They don't, and I  
Have often wondered why. I think it is because they bring,  
Each year, a message from the Past. I've noticed that when one  
Grows old whatever comes from out the Past is welcome.

I can remember back—far back—before there was a Christmas.  
I remember, too, it always seemed to me as if the years  
Lacked something that they should have had to make them all complete.  
The seasons followed in an endless chain; the months rolled by,  
Unmarked and undistinguished; not a day one cared to cherish  
Over all the rest; no time of joy—pure joy: no flood  
Of happiness like that which now comes once a year—at Christmas.

But now for nineteen hundred years and more each Christmas day  
Has added something to my memory's store that I have deemed  
Worth while. And so the holly and the mistletoe are welcome  
For the pleasant thoughts they conjure up from out the Past.  
They say I am a riddle, and they seek to find what I  
May mean. It's fortunate for me they're all so much engrossed,  
Else they might find I'm very much like other folks—at Christmas.





## 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

When the wind sweeps over the frost-bound lake,  
When the chilling blasts make the windows shake,  
When the walks are slippery and hard to climb,  
When the Fresh begins to count up the time,  
Then—it won't be long till Christmas.

When you think once more of the folks at home,  
When you're sick and tired of the Main Hall dome,  
When you hate to think of the study grind,  
When you let your work get away behind,  
Then—it won't be long till Christmas.

When *she* comes to bother you all the while,  
When *she* curves your lips in a silly smile,  
When *she's* uppermost in your every thought,  
When *she* soon shall hear of the things you've wrought,  
Then—it won't be long till Christmas.



**W**HAT wouldst like for  
Christmas, Little  
One? A fur collar-  
ette—or an eligible  
young man with a young  
diamond up his sleeve? A  
rare imprint from an Old  
Master—or a up to date im-  
print from a young Master?  
It might take some time to  
get the former, but the  
latter you can have right

now. Yes, right now.  
What's the use waiting for  
them to hang the miseltoe?  
Better give it to your moth-  
er? Girl! How *could* you?  
—To your little sister then?  
Oh, no. Little sister  
wouldn't appreciate it.—I  
know they change fast at  
that age—but not so fast as  
that.—Well, then—thank  
you. You're welcome. Have  
another.



WHILE you may smile in a somewhat superior way at the influx of the above which has recently been taking place, you want to remember that the University bases its principal claim to greatness upon the fact that they are here. That the Agric School, and particularly the short course thereof is the one really fine feature of Wisconsin is the impression which magazine and newspaper articles and the Agric faculty strive to create. Perhaps they overdo it, but the Agric faculty probably get in the habit of overdoing things a little. Their raw material comes to them very raw.

WE begin to suspect that some one has eloped with the 10 bones hung up last Spring and again this Fall, as a prize in the Varsity Song Contest. Of course the Committee says that none of the songs submitted were fit to be sung. This, we should think, would be very discouraging to bards, but not so bad as having the prize do the disappearing act at the finish.

It is an amusing game that the Committee has been playing—one having all the delicate humor of a clown ordering up the treats and then getting away with both glasses. But it is pathetically puerile—typical of two-year olds.

Out of all the songs written, one at least was worth \$10. It might not have been a masterpiece, but a recognition of it would have encouraged future effort. Still, encouraging effort along any line is apparently contrary to faculty policy so why reason with the Committee?

WAIT ten years and you will see another reform in class election methods here. If election expenses grow at the present rate, someone who is losing out on the graft will be sure to start a reform. After a while all voters will require carriages to the polls, and then somebody will start an auto precedent. Immediately the *garbage* will be in on the campaign fund with both feet, and the liveryman will find himself outside blowing on his fingers to keep them warm. He will hire some disinterested stude to instigate a reform, and presently all will be pure as the driven snow once more.

We note with pain the pitiful yappings of the Fresh politicians. Politics is none too savory at best. In the hands of Freshmen it becomes nauseating. It is all foolishness, anyhow, for, in the words of a notorious upperclassman distinguished for his adroit and successful manipulation of college men and things, "The only men who go after class offices in their first two years are those who know they could never get them any other time."

WHENEVER THE SPHINX sees something that her votaries have added to the world's store of good dope, she feels like gloating over it. But when she gets the chance, 9 times out of 10 she forgets, just

as you will forget a lot of things you meant to find out when you are at home this Christmas. There is one thing, though, that she must speak of, and that is the new 1909 calendar which is the joint work of Horatio *alias* Hod Winslow who filled the editorial chair to overflowing back in '04, and Max Otto, who was Art Editor in 1906. These are two men whom THE SPHINX is proud to claim.

WHO has not noticed that the welcoming smile of that sweetly altruistic maiden known as the Wisconsin Union is losing a tiny bit of its sweetness for want of practice. Few are the strange feet that fall on the floors of her kingdom and the dear girl is beginning to accumulate some of that bitterness hitherto found only in the heart of the S. G. A. wall-flower. She does not understand why things are as they are, for when she was induced to come here the deadly indifference characteristic of the Wisconsin stude was for the time forgotten and no one told her of it. Her purpose is pure and good as God's air on a June day and would do as much, almost, for the health and broadness of mind of those who have hitherto "trun" the good lass down. Get out, you, and learn to know her. You will like her when you do.

WHAT do you think of a man who will sport an unearned W around the University and strive to create reverence in the minds of Froshes by slyly hinting at splendid athletic achievements which were never achieved. We think that in such cases the W stands for only one thing and that is WART.

# Proflet, Prince of Conmark

## or; Prexicles, Prince of Tire\*

as presented by

THE RABBIT'S PEDAL EXTREMITY CLUB.

With a contemptuous laugh at W. H. Shakespeare.  
 Properties by the Co-Graft Association.  
 Costumes by the Y. W. C. A. Sewing Society.  
 Music by the Short Horn Band.

### Rules of Theater.

1. Freshmen in arms not allowed.
2. No dogs from Charlie's allowed within. Take them without.

### Dramatis Personae.

*Lennicus*—Kink of Conmark.  
*Kallian Burgullus*—A Chemical Reaction.  
*Rubrico Ericurnius*—Who tries Milwaukee cases.  
*Sunnypyraldo*—Jester.  
*Allena*—A Perfect Lady.  
 Scene—Second Subcellar of the Booziversity Club.

### ACT 1.—SCENE 1.

*Lennicus, Sunny, Kallian and Rubrico discovered sitting on kegs, quaffing Malt Tonic. Enter Allena.*

*Allena*—To be, or not to be, that is the question:

Whether 'tis nobler for me to let the Stude Conference kick me out of the Conference

Or whether 'tis better to resign and let some other prune pocket the Deposits on Athletic Suits.

Thus doth conscience make cow- (spies group) What hoe! Who goes there!

*Lennicus*—Fear not, Gentle Lady. We are but harmless Profs. Join us. Wilt have a Psychology Cocktail, a Calculus Straight, or a—

*Allena*—Nay! Nay! Pauline! Out upon the Joy Producers and shove me over a good old Botany Root Beer.

*Sunnypyraldo*—And why not a Latin-Root Beer, Gentle Maiden? Ha! Gentlemen, a joke.

*Allena*—Isn't he cute?

*Lennicus*—Truly, he seemeth a cunning varlet.

*Rubrico*—I have heard that he writeth plays, or such, at least, he calls them.

*Lennicus*—Fortunate man, only to have heard it. I saw one once.

*Allena*—Terrible!

*Lennicus*—It certainly was. I wouldn't like to hurt *him*, but how I should like to have the fellow who helped him write that play brought before me.

*Rubrico*—Truly such a man would then be an "accessory before the fac-" uly. What ho, knaves, bring another case before the court—and an opener too. Beg pardon.

*Lennicus*—But now, most noble Doughheads, to get to the point—

*Rubrico*—I have reached the point already. Dem the luck. (*He exits sadly.*)

*Lennicus*—First and foremost, honored contemporaries, I believe the objective Point of our motley assembly here on this nocturnal night is to provide Some effectual, everlasting, infinite, eternal and non-feasible proposition for Restraining the tendency of the Psychological Apperception of a majority of the Neophytes of this enormous institution of education, who would fain refract the rays of

\*Rubber.

Public interest from our illustrious, superfluous, renowned and illuminous faculty,  
and di-  
Rect them onto an impolite, ungentlemanly, brutal and ferocious contest,  
known by the name  
Of Football.

*Chorus*—Aye! Aye! Numen! (Hic) Lumen! Correct, sit down.

*Lennicus*—(jumps up suddenly and tears up and down the room.) I have it! I have it now.

*Kallian*—I fear it hath him again. Now if he and the other Freshmen would only refrain from indulging in those horrid, nasty cigarets, why—

*Lennicus*—Aw! Ain't it awful, Mable? But listen, Brothers, I have an idea (loud astonishment). We shall

Instruct our dear Allena to pass a law making only faculty members eligible to play football. Then, by the gods, we shall once more be in the calcium- How we would

Star when we next ran up against Chicago. Even now, I can see the co-eds Cheering as, with one mighty stride, I elude Pat Page and make a touch—

*Allena*—Aw, cut it kid! Now

I fear me that under your plan there would be danger of spoiling one's ruff, so I propose

that instead of indulging in the roughness of close contact, we conduct our Games hereafterwards by mail, as even now chess tournaments are run.

This would provide the necessary mental exercise without the deucedly awkward *physical*

Exertion. Bah Jove!

*Lennicus*—Right thou art, most noble lady. If 'twere done when 'twere done Then 'twere well if 'twere done quickly.

*All*—Have done.

*Lennicus*—And now let us live and move and mark, that all beholding us may realize That we are the one best bet around these diggings. Such being the case we will all

Join in on our ten-year-old throttled-in-bond yell. Now, altogether:

*All*—What's the matter with the Faculty?

They're all right.

Who's all right?

The Faculty.

Who says so?

Everybody.

Who's Everybody?

*The Faculty.*

QUICK CURTAIN.

### Frozen Out



As we see it



As they see it



THE MISTLETOE OF FANCY  
Is a picture most alluring  
That carries you far out to sea  
From staid and proper mooring.



But just as you are dreaming  
That she caught you in the act  
You awake with horrid screaming  
To THE MISTLETOE OF FACT.

### Finis

Mary had a little "Fair,"  
Which caused her but a thoughtful stare.  
The little "Fair" changed to a "Poor,"  
And Mary sees the open door.  
The little "Poor" dropped to a "Con,"  
Now Mary's face is a trifle wan.  
But look! Ye Gods! We see a "Fail"  
Of Mary, nought is left but wail.

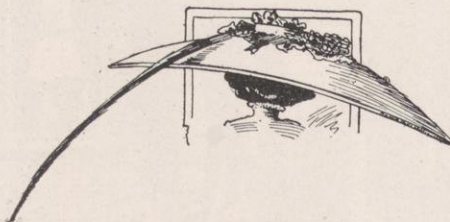
Said a jovial grad from Marquette,  
Talking foolish at their swell banquette,  
"We want crews at Marquette  
If we get into debte,  
We will make it all up when we bette."

### Some Olefactory Sense

*(Written with a typewriter—and a purpose.)*

I sat in the Libe at seven,  
My a coy-ed Swedish and husky.  
She was perfumed more than the limit,  
With Lavendar, mixed with Musky.  
I started to edge and fidget,  
Till she beat it and left me there;  
But a fat asthmatic Freshman,  
Flopped into the vacant chair.  
He sniffed, he snuffed, he snuffled,  
Till my poor young nerves gave way,  
While I thought of the hurrying hours,  
And bemoaned my wasted day.  
He left me, yes, and he left me,  
A sickly tobacco scent.  
I got my hat; cursed wildly;  
And into the night I went.

### Guess Who



See page vi

—J. H. '09.

## Letters from a Conned-Out Father to His Son.

From Graham Cracker, ex '88, at Crackerville, Ill., to his son, Beerfont, '12, at Madison, Wis.

CRACKERVILLE, Dec. 1st.

DEAR BEERFONT:

Your request for more of my hard-earned long-green at hand. You say that you have met a young co-ed, Ethel by name, and that you feel you must treat her right, and purchase a Christmas gift for her—something "chic"—you remark. Well, my young chick, don't grow all of your feathers at once. While Ethel may be the original peaches and cream, try her out, my boy, try her out, before you sink all of poor old Dad's cuprous coins into diversions for her delectation.

I remember my own experience too well. I was introduced to Zeuna Simons at a little party and was so stricken by her charms that I asked her if I might see her home. She assented, but when we arose to go, I saw to my horror that she did not walk right. Lame? It would have been much better if she had had no other limb. However, I was game, and helped her to stumble into the Pal. When we were seated under the bright lights I saw that she was wearing a switch, and that she sported a big mole on her left cheek. I then looked around, hoping to see strange faces, but everybody in sight grinned at me knowingly. Zeuna was not found wanting when it came to instructing the waiter. She started in with pre-soup orders, and finished up many courses after nuts. I have often thought that she must

have had emergency bulk-heads in both feet.

You may well imagine that I felt about as chipper as a dill pickle that's had a bite taken out of it. I managed to lead her home, when I bid her good-bye for ever. Understand, I just mention this in passing, and you are not to flare up and exclaim in accents wild that your Ethel is as different from my Zeuna as a Porter-house is from a round-steak. Now, whereas I was undeceived early in the game, it may take you longer to pick out the flaws in your jewel. But a sting postponed bites just as hard, as old Josh Wetherby used to tell his tenants when they tried to hold him off for rent. Ethel may be the real pippin, but don't slop over about her, as you know that a pail which slops over soon empties itself, and I don't want you to grow up to be one of those fellows who holds his bride-to-be on his lap during courtship, and who, after the minister has had his little say—when his wife asks him if he loves her, takes a running kick at the cat and hollers "Sure!" Go easy, son, for after your co-ed fussee has heard you insist many times that your only aim is to make her life a sweet song, it will annoy her to hear the orchestra snoring in its sleep later on.

Anyway, you're much too young to think of a cottage for two for a long while yet. The stunt for you to do is to let Ethel stay home, while you remain in your room more and fuss your Algebra and your English.

However, am enclosing a check for twenty-five that you may see Ethel at her best.

Your affectionate father,

GRAHAM CRACKER.

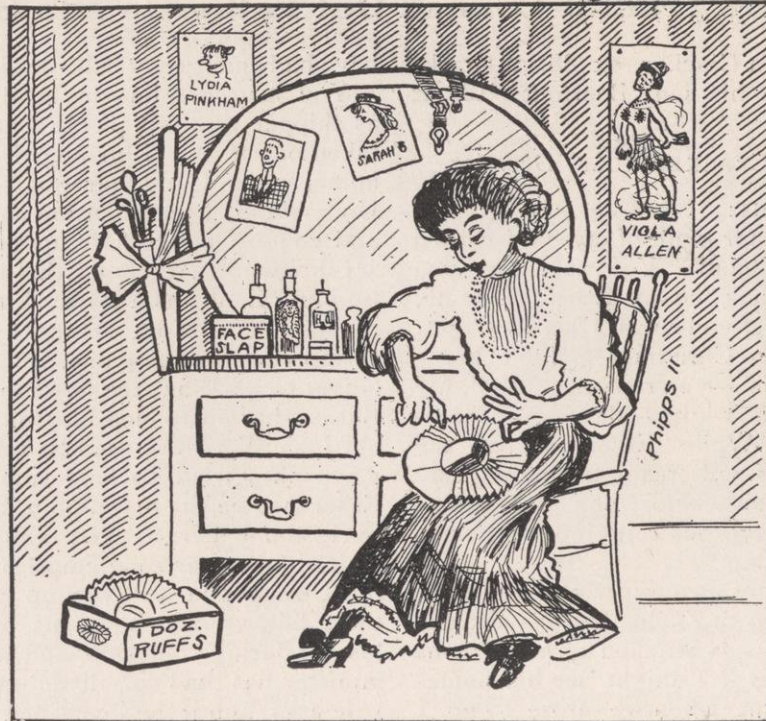
Have you seen the new type of Normalite,  
With the bold pugilistical mug?  
Have you seen him, I say, the ill-mannered  
jay,  
Who looks, for the world, like a thug?

Oh, 'tis long we have laughed, and even  
have scoffed  
At the Normalite bone-head and buckler,  
Yet that type had its uses to help its abuses,  
But what can we say of this mucker?

Devil take him I say, and I hope that I may  
Hear an answering echo, "Yes, take him."  
We'll all gladly knell his funeral bell,  
If you don't we will just have to lake him.



For a good little ΔT



Roughing It

### Refreshing

Bertie '12 to Pretty Co-ed: "Ah, Miss De Smythe, would you like to take a walk in this fresh air?"

Pretty Co-ed.: "No, thanks, there are too many fresh things around here now."

### Xmas Suggestion

An Elevator's handy for a girl who wants a lift,

But who would want an elevator for a Christmas gift;

You get enough such pleasure in our large department stores

As you're flying neatly packed past the ninety-seven floors;

You stop to let a lady out who stands way in the rear,

And as she pushes by you, she'll jab you in the ear.

It's a ride that's most enticing and you hate to be a pup,

But who the devil thinks it grand, I don't. Sure, going up?



### More Blessed to Give Than to Receive, Etc., Etc.

Bill ex-'11: "Hello, Bob. What did your class advisor hand you last year for Christmas?"

Bob ex-'11: "Two Cons and a Fail. And you?"

Bill ex-'11: "Two Fails and a Con."

Bob ex-'11: "Shake, old man, shake."



Confidential



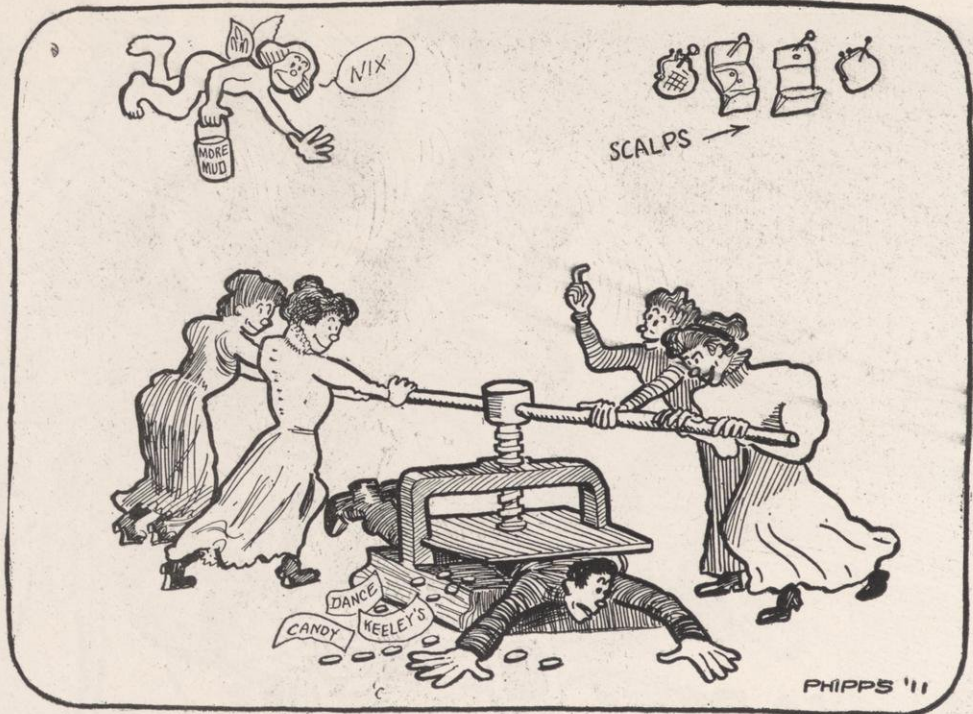
The Faculty in their Latest Song Stunt



And they say Some People don't believe in Santa Claus

Every Day is Christmas Day With Me





### The New Women's Press Club

If there's a song I hate to hear it's "Baby Doll," the worst of all;  
 Of all the songs that grate my ear, it's the worst of all, "Baby Doll."  
 Now, "Honey Boy" to me is mild,  
 And others worse don't get me riled,  
 But if you want to make me wild  
 Just sing "Baby Do-o-oll."



### COMMUNICATION

(The Sphinx Assumes no Responsibility for Opinions Expressed in These Columns.)

Immediate Action Necessary.

The writer, after careful investigation among the student body, is pained to report that there have been found in the University two fair co-eds who have not as yet passed the ponderous portals of the Pal. Conditions among the students of the masculine gender are infinitely worse. THE SPHINX finds that there are at the present time twenty-three men in the 'Varsity who haven't a single Keeley check to show for their collegiate education.

This deplorable state of affairs should be remedied by the Faculty Social Committee immediately.

BABY DOLL.



**Mythology Wisconsinensis**

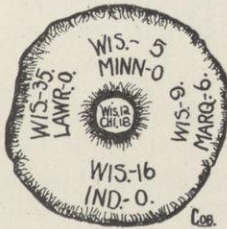
Hercules was trying to remove a Pantorium tag from his corduroys. "Blankaty, blank, blank, but this has got the Gordion Knot frizzled to frazzle!"

With these words he whipped out his trusty (Gillette) blade and with one mighty blow, severed the offending tag.

Aeneas was taking leave of Dido and a hike for Italy and his rival's overcoat. "Do come again soon, won't you, Mr. Aeneas. I do so want you to meet some of our freshmen;—we have the cutest bunch this year!" With which words Dido entered the banquet hall of the palace and took another piece of fudge.

—K. M. M.

**Look at the Doughnut**



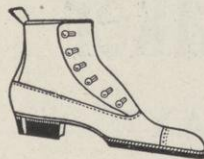
**Not at the Hole**

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Frosh.—"What is Chaser majoring in?"

Soph.—"K-Mistry."

Frosh.—"On the square?"

Soph.—"Yep. Three nights a week."



**Moving Picture of what Happened Nov. 21**

**FULLER OPERA HOUSE**

# Dan Sully

IN

## The Matchmaker

SATURDAY

**Dec. 19, 1908**

Matinee and Night

### No. 39

Stude—Give me a hamburger with  
Charlie—With what?  
Stude—Without.



Going Home to Mother

### As We Plan Our Vacations

"Ha," mused you on the night of Nov. 24, as you rolled on the mattress that feels like a pre-installment of the bed of coals to come. "Ha," mused you, pricked on by the everlasting chicken feather in the landlady's best pillow, "tomorrow night it will not be thus," and you begin to plan your vacation something like this: "I'll fuss Eileen strong to make up for the nine weeks of longing. Let's see. Wednesday night I get home at 9:30. Why didn't I tell her I would come up? It is kind-a late, tho.

Thursday—Gee, it was nice of her to ask me to dinner. I'll stay until midnight.

Friday—Driving in the afternoon. Theater at night.

Saturday—Eileen all day.

Sunday—Church in the morning. Tete-a-tete with fond farewell in the afternoon.

Then you snort with satisfaction and go to sleep.

### As They Turn Out

Wednesday night—You arrive home and are apparently neglected because your long-lost aunt with her four charming daughters is coming.

Thursday—Your aunt comes with her four charming frosts. She hasn't seen you since you were an all-night howler. You find that decency (mother) makes you stay home for dinner. Ring up Eileen to explain. She says, "Oh, very well," in a tone that makes you begin apologizing until you find out you are talking to Central.

Friday night—The gang calls. You sneak away with them. They are going to see "The Kentucky Blue Grass Widows," and you linger on.

Saturday—Awful headache. Stomach something fierce.

Mother thinks it is the change in the grub. "They do almost starve them at Madison," she explains to Aunty. You stay in bed all day to keep away from the chills and get up to find that you must take Martha, Jane, Kitty and Maude to see May Irwin in "Lydia Pinkham's Carouse."

Sunday morning you take the bunch to church. Eileen comes in with Jack Standing. In the afternoon Eileen drives by the house three times with Jack Standing. P. M. Eileen comes to the depot with Jack Standing. She freezes you as you, obedient to mama's stare, kiss Aunty and her herd good-bye.

Sunday night that mattress of coal feels like Paradise.

*And it will be the same way at Christmas, kid.*



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Get your beauty sleep

**MEN!**

Get busy in the Gym

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BEAUTY CONTEST  
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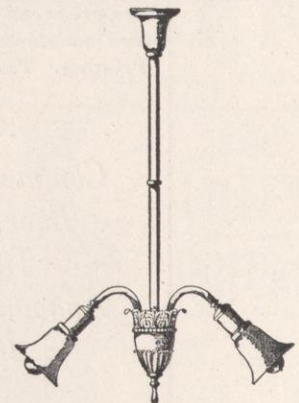
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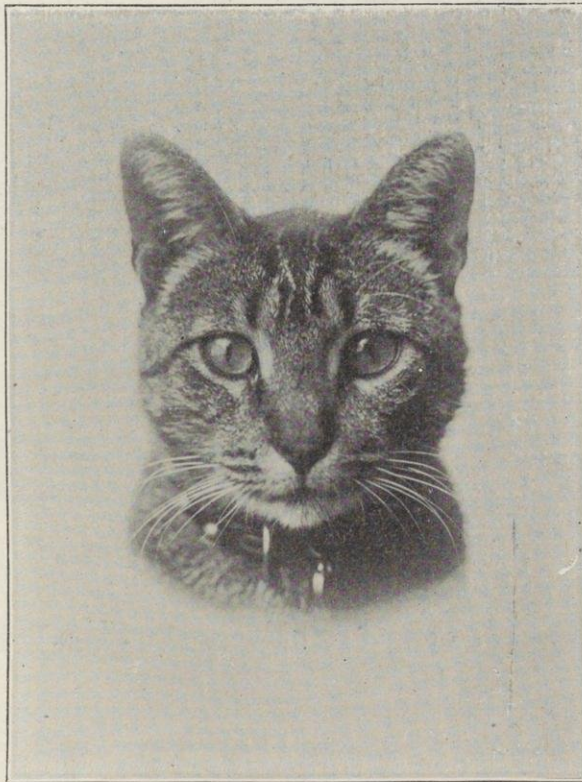
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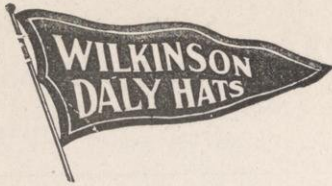
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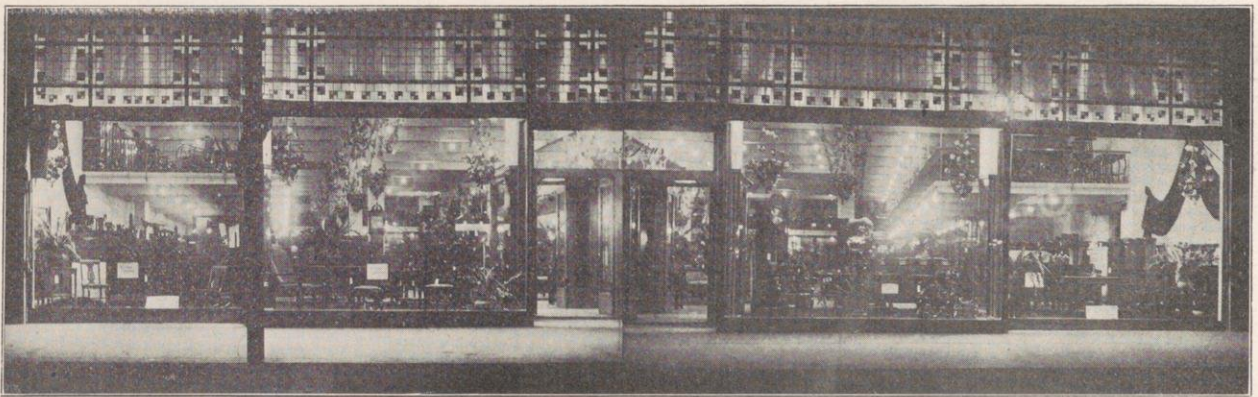
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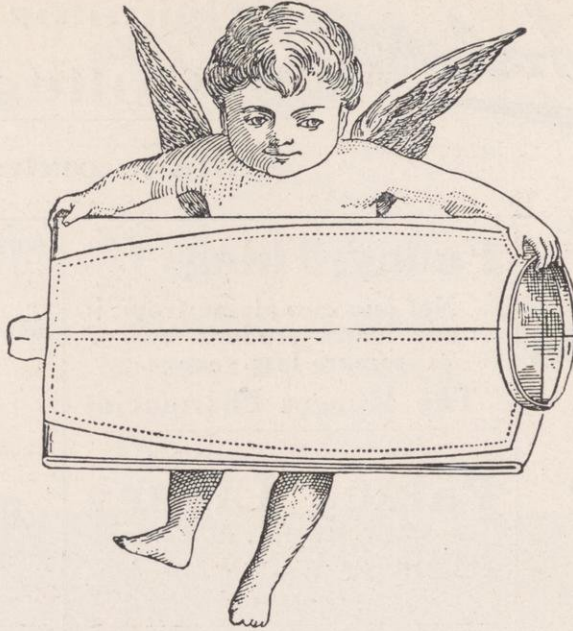
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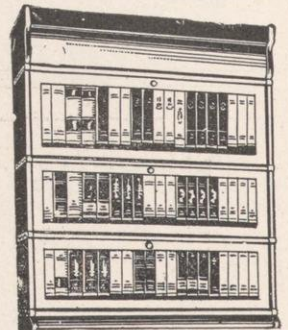


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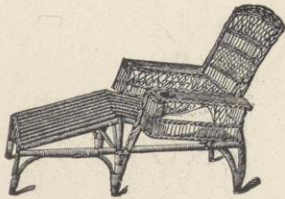
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