

The Sphinx. [Vol. 10, No. 5] [December 1908]

Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, [December 1908]

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180 -	at maid before Tenuery lat \$1 50 per
(11 1	not paid before January 1st, \$1.50 per a will be charged.)
	the copies on sale at the news stand book stores.
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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



ELL — It's come at last—the game to decide the Western Championship. The game toward which we have been looking for the last three years. The game with Chicago.

It means more to us this game with Chicago than any other game can ever mean. Indiana—Marquette—Minnesota—all fade into insignificance under the overshadowing importance of this game. There is no other western game like it. There is only one eastern game—that between Harvard and Yale.

It is trite to say that whether we win or lose we have a team to be proud of. It is trite to say, "May the best team win." No matter how often you may say it, you always add mentally, "And may the best team be Wisconsin's."

Wisconsin to win. That's what THE SPHINX believes the student body wants. It's nice to be so pure as to be above suspicion. It's fine to be a moral model of Athletic ethics. But better than all is to have a winning team? Wisconsin to win— And when we do—think of it, people, —when we do!

WHAT are the things that are going to stand out sharply in your memory against the dull monotone background of ordinary college existence? Aren't they the things that will make you glad you went to college? Won't you remember them as being among the very best things of your whole life? What are they? More than a few of them are football games.

Will you, who watched the Marquette game, ever forget how you felt as you saw the ball, whirling between the goal posts, change humiliating defeat into victory? Will anyone of the little gathering of Wisconsin rooters at Minneapolis two weeks ago ever forget those few tense moments when Minnesota fought three times to carry the ball the five intervening yards to our goal line—and carried it only four?

Do you think you'll ever forget this game today?

Are not these things worth having—these things that we will remember? Shall we let any shortpolicy, however sincere that policy's supporters may be, do away with them?

Those opposed to intercollegiate athletics say football is brutal—demoralizing —degrading. THE SPHINX says that the opportunity to see and feel the enthusiasm of a big football game is one of the greatest and best things a University education has to offer.

What do you say?

WHEN an able man makes an enviable record in a difficult position, it is plainly desirable that he be kept in that position or advanced to one more important. Ordinary common sense is the basis for that statement. Unfortunately, ordinary common sense is painfully scarce in some circles of this University.

Dr. Hutchins has represented Wisconsin in the Western Conference with great credit to the University and to himself. By an inexplicable action of the Athletic Council he is to be superceded in this position. Is there any right in this action — any justice — any consideration for the best interests of the University? The newly elected conference representative may be excellently qualified. It is highly improbable that he is as well versed in the matters taken up by the conference as a man who has made the direction of athletics his life work.

We believe that the powers of the Athletic Director should be increased; that he should be given more freedom of action; that he should have more consideration from the members of the faculty and a higher standing among them. We believe that this would work great benefits to our athletics, and through them, to the University.

Any move tending to depreciate the importance of the Athletic Director, or hamper his freedom of action, we believe to be a move the wrong way.



WHY the ruff?

We have suffered long and vainly with the merry lido. Lately it has become a vital issue. Profs have allowed themselves to be dragged into print on the subject. The S. G. A. has held a special lid-fest. And now the more sanguine among us are trying to believe that the diameter of merry lids is on the decline. And then here comes the ruff, which looks like a big Nabisco wafer and feels like a circular saw. As an ardor refrigerator it has Mrs. Woodward backed off the boards. It works automatically, too, for when she tips back her enchanting physiognomy and lets her lips get tempting, up comes this ______ ruff. Rough, isn't it?

Take it from us, though girlies, sweet revenge 'll get you one of these days if you don't watch out. If you ever put an ultra merry lid and a 20-inch ruff on at the same time, a simple twist of the wrist will set you doing the singing top act for hours together. There are lots of horrid men around here keen to supply the simple twist.



Purity Banquet



We hate, upon this joyous occasion, to rise in meeting and say a few well chosen words. Nevertheless, there is a field which cries for your attention, it is so overworked. We refer to the field of student subscriptions.

Now, it was a good thing to send the band to Minneapolis, just as it is a good thing to go to lectures occasionally, or to subscribe for THE SPHINX. Perhaps it was an equally good thing to send the team to Chicago—perhaps it was a better thing.

It would be just lovely if we could send the whole team over to the continent for a year or so. Unfortunately most of us can carry our surplus money without stooping.

There is such a thing as overdoing even student subscriptions.

The other line shakes when it looks at old Butch: He's after their meat they all know. Our all-western tackle will stop every play; On plunging himself he's not slow.

Now first let us talk about Biddy, He's captain, so that's only right; Did he play at left end? Oh, sav, did he? To all other ends he's a fright. Now "Mess" is the man who can play the new game; There is none that can ever surpass The man whose ability gave him the name.

Of the "crack" with the forward pass.

When you see a huge form leap up for the ball And block all the kicks of their team. You may rest well content and say to yourself, There's nothing that's escaping Stiehm.

Carl Dreutzer's the man who will fight all the time. He stands like a solid stone wall: The guard who must play in the line against Dreutz, Must be on his guard most of all.

Of all the names-you'll hear 'round here, The best is Keckie Moll-it's Keckie Moll. Of all the men opponents fear They fear most Keckie Molljust our own Keckie Moll.

The line of foes on bended knees, The waiting Culver eyes. He looks them over till he sees The one to pulverize.

and suns Must hasten to keep pace, And if he falls a Muckelstone Will take his place in space.

Jimmy Dean though no bigger than Cunny, Is the wonderful end of the age; With Marquette he made

Folly feel funny. And today he'll turn over the

Page.

The whole bleachers yell and

Left tackle for twenty yards

They may hammer him hard,

They try over him all in vain.

but they'll not gain a yard;

gain:

then Ostie goes through

When Cunny .runs, the stars

By the side of Jack each other back, Looks like a child in kilts, When he bucks the line you hear a crack. As the foolish tackle Wilce.



Fusser (at the game)—"That fellow will be our best man in a few weeks." Fussee—"Oh Jack, this is so sudden."

Broken Training

He—I saw a full back tonight. It—I saw a bunch of them.

Ø

She—Is that really Mr. McCarthy? He—Yep, that's Mac. She—Why, he's white. He—You bet he is. She—But I thought you said he was a Brown man.

x

E. E. 3—(To intruder on his bucking fest). Why am I, tonight, like Chicago's center on Nov. 21? L. & S. 3—Why?

E. E. 3-Because I trying to buck Steam.

Poor John

Johnny Rockefeller had a High School, A High School, A High School, When his conscience bothers him His Chi. School, Gets a dormitory added on.

Johnny sent Wisconsin an eleven Some have gone to (------) And some to Heaven, Some of them came back Done up in a sack Poor John, Poor John.

No, Gertrude, they do not play football with the balls of their feet.

The Game and the Girl

Marie went out to the Game with me— Or, rather, I went with Marie. I made the raise in devious ways, But it's worth somewhat in these dreary days To see how each man in the Man's Game plays— And to sit by the side of Marie.

Marie's soft hair is aureate bright— Golden silk in the cold sunlight— She's neat, petite and awfully sweet, And I'd rather sit on a grandstand seat And cheer for the Team--advance or retreat— Than be president or right.

What do I care if she thinks there are Four quarterbacks—or more— For she's Marie, and that is to me The pro and the con of whatever may be! But fudge and piffle and likewise gee! Just SEE her—you'll know how things are.

And what care I if the little lass Can't tell a punt from a forward pass. The Fall's wine air makes the roses flare In her warm, soft cheeks—and I wish I'd dare To ——I (Maybe I will when the signs are fair.) Meanwhile, here's to the Game—and the lassI



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, Nov. 18. Dear Beerfont:

I was very much pleased to learn that you have made the Freshman team. If I were you, though, I wouldn't exaggerate the dangesr of practice quite as much in your letters home as you have been doing lately. Your mother has visions of broken bones protruding through your flesh which are no more pleasant for me to hear about than they are for her to see.

There is really no great danger in football. I remember how, in my day, I went out for it myself. It was before the days of regularly organized teams, but the fellows used to do a good deal of playing among themselves. That year we decided to play a game with a little college nearby. Everybody connected with the University, from stokers in the heating plant to full professors, was eligible in those days. I hoped to get a chance at one of the latter but as bad luck would have it I was told to play tackle against the biggest stoker in school. He was a great coarse hulk of a man, utterly lacking in the finer sensibilities, and possessed of a fist like the dome of Main Hall.

We had an old Yale man for coach. He took us aside before play started and said we wanted to use smashes on tackle. I said I would be glad to smash the tackle. He said that was the right spirit, but that it might be a good idea to tell the man about it so that he knew he was being smashed. We lined up and our quarterback called the signals. I had forgotten what they meant so I stood up to ask. Just then things began to happen. The ball was passed and some one yelled, "Form interference." I wasn't really very anxious to interfere with the big bruiser opposite me, but our 210-pound fullback got behind me and I was the compressed part of the sandwich.

What I felt must have been very much the same sensation as that which a flie on the top of a pile feels when the pile driver hammer strikes. They took me to the temporary hospital which had been improvised for the football season. I was out inside of a week, however, and barring a sprained ankle, a black eye, and a couple of sore voids where teeth had been, I never felt better in my life.

So, you see, I have been through it and know whereof I speak, when I say there is no real danger in football.

I understand we play Chicago, Saturday. When I was at Wisconsin John D. had not yet separated himself from the cash which made Chicago University possible. Hence I have not the strong feeling about this game that all the latter day Wisconsin graduates seem to have. Still, the sight of money going around in a state of shocking exposure has always been a painful one to me, so I am enclosing a ten that you may be able to use to cover some similar amount from Chicago.

Your affectionate father,

GRAHAM CRACKER.





THE CHIGO GAME AS IT OUT TO BE

0 r cy nid nid nind 57 6 0 0 • • R.C. PHIPPS 'II



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Awful Warnings to Amateur Cooks

The cannibal monarch got wrathy When his son served a Methodst rare. So just to preserve his good humour He served him a little hot heir.

3:

Patricienne

A tilted chin—an icy eye— Patrician sniff as I sneak by— She wears light spats and stunning garb, But she's forgotten me—a barb.

In high school days we used to play Clap in clap out—the juicy way. Brush by, Romance. Such slushes end And each of us has lost—a friend. She: Why don't the Chicago team pay more attention to us girls?

He: The Chicago team, my dear, is strictly a Stagg affair.

Conversation Scraps

M

I say there, I have a two hundred pound half back—two to one on Wisconsin for male rooters only and Moll kicked a Chicago pippin right in the middle of BB, so *Stagg* says—that, if we win—all the co-eds—will have a jag from now till —the first half will bet even money all the way to Camp Randall on a forward pass for slugging —the faculty told the band —to play ''cheer, cheer"—in Chicago's territory until morning —on State street for a

Panic

Chicago bumps up against Wisconsin today, and through the intermediation of Standard Oil the whole financial world trembles in the balance.

Great Excitement was seen in Wall street. He was looking well. Standard Oil fell off heavily and made a slippery footing for trading in futures. Towards evening it was reported that Page had bitten his finger nails three times, which caused a severe flurry.

Our correspondent got a few details from financial men of note with the aid of a few financial notes.

John D. Archbold said, archly: "Our policy of concealment has been a mistaken policy. Hereafter we shall court investigation and avoid investigation in court. If there are any holders in the old line, all is lost, or practically so, honor alone remaining."

John W. Gates said: "I am plunging on Wisconsin's plungers. You can have my Standard Oiled stock at two bits on the clinker."

Thos. W. Lawson said, in part: "I can see where the stalwart sons of the North slip it over the grease-smudged scions of the System. I earnestly advise everyone to send me one dollar by return mail. This will insure the success of our enterprise. Today will see a great victory over the oleaginous interests. The System is on the rocks, but I will pry a few out from under it. If you don't send in your simoleon I will cut out the advertising. College publications please copy."



She—Do you bowl, Mr. Bunn? He—No, I take mine in a glass.



Graph of the Football Situation at Wisconsin

63



Carrying It Too Far

"Mind," said the Old Resident of the College Town, "I don't want to be set down as a grouch. I don't object to being beat out of three months' room rent by a chap who drinks cocktails, or being kept awake nights by cheerin' and caterwaulin', or even to payin' my five dollars for the support of the football team. But when the season's over and I've got insomnia from bein' kept awake so much, and when I've been beat out of three months' room rent just because the boy was worthy and playin' the best game at half seen for years, and when I've contributed to the support of the team so that it hired a coach and won the champeenship-well, sir, after all that to have them students get so crazy celebratin' that they take and bonfire my front fence and my horse block and the new hen house, I tell ye that just riles me a mite too much. And if one of them young vipers comes around next year and wants to be trusted, I'll see him further first, I will; I'll see him in Halifax."-H. W.

Celebration

- It seems to me I started out to get a jag last night, Let's see. Uh-huh. That right.
- It seems to me I went to Ferds to lose my line of sight.

Let's see. Uh-huh. That's right.

It seems to me the booze flowed free, 'an' zhen after my 'slevnth glass I zhink I got out 'o' zhe phashe in a [hic!] hurry, 'n' met zheven blue zebras wiz pink eye-brows 'n' a red elephan' painted green an' lots o' snakes 'n' a p'licem'n 'nd ended in er a fight.

Le's se. Uh-huh. Thash ri'!

x

Football Fallacies

Many prominent football players have been subject to curious superstitions.

Pat O'Dea always maintained that to trip and fall on his opponents' 35-yard line, while running with the ball with a clear field ahead of him was bad luck.

Eckersall thought that it was bad luck if a 200-pound back of the opposing team kicked him in the face.

Whenever the score was 5 to 5, and Capron missed kicking the goal, he said it was a sure sign of bad luck.

Curiously enough, Vanderboom considered it a sign of good luck to score a touch down on the thirteenth of the month.

Charlie Miller has always held that to get more than one con was an evil omen.

ø

Higher Education

Mickey—I must go down to de College dis evenin', Mame.

Mame—Are youse one of dem stoodents now, Mickey?

Mickey—Aw, get wise, kid. I mean de smoke house.

X

Enthusiastic Alumnus: I see the old guard's back today.

Officious Sophomore: Come out of it, man, that play hasn't been used for years.



The Night of the Game

First Pifflicated Person—"Doesh thish student belong here?" Landlady (coldly)—"No, all my students were brought home an hour ago."



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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- THE SUMMER SESSION embraces the Graduate School, and the Colleges of Letters and Science, Engineering and Law. The session opens the fourth week in June and lasts for six weeks, except in the College of Law, which continues for ten weeks. The graduate and undergraduate work in letters and science is designed for high school teachers who desire increased academic and professional training and for regular graduates and undergraduates. The work in Law is open to those who have done two years' college work in letters and science or its equivalent. The Engineering courses range from advanced work for graduates to elementary courses for artisans.
- THE LIBRARIES include the Library of the University of Wisconsin, the Library of the State Historical Society, the Library of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, the State Law Library, and the Madison Free Public Library, which together contain about 276,000 bound books and over 150,000 pamphlets.
- THE GYMNASIUM, Athletic Field, Boating Facilities, and Athletic Teams give opportunity for indoor and outdoor athletic training, and for courses in physical training under the guidance of the athletic director.
- Detailed information on any subject connected with the University may be obtained by addressing W. D. HIESTAND, REGISTRAR, MADISON, WIS.



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