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The Sphinx

FUSSERS' NUMBER



THE SECOND ONE

--- After C. Allan Gilbert

Vol. VI No. 14
Madison, Wis., June 15, 1905

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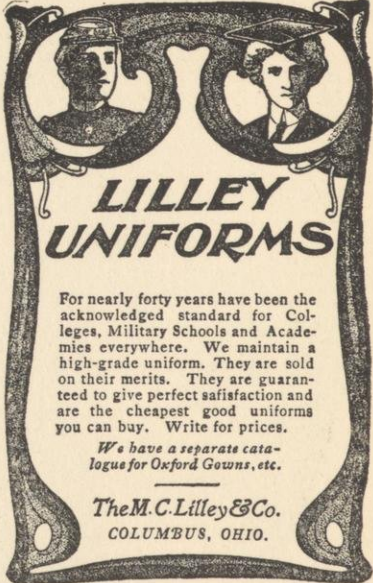
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Naramore *A*



He—You are the breath of life to me.
She—Well, suppose you hold your
breath awhile.



THE SPHINX.

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by Students of the University of Wisconsin.

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

WHILE A MAN SHOULD always fuss in moderation, he ought not to overdo it. Feminine society is the most elevating and moral, undoubtedly, but a man owes a small portion of his leisure to his fellow men, and one who does not now and then chuck the fussing and smoke a few pipes with his men chums, is failing in his duty.

There's a good deal of profit and even culture (that overworked word) to be gained in pleasant conclave with a bunch of good fellows, and it's a kind of culture and gracious education which neither books nor girls can give.

This is a "Fusser's Number" and this comment is not in any way at variance with the object of the issue. Most of us, perhaps, are more prone to overdo the "smoke-talk" performance than to spend too much time in fussing; let no one overemphasize either, that's the point.

WHEN YOUR thesis is finished by Heck!
(You've just beaten the clock by a neck,)
You're glad—but you sigh,
For Commencement is nigh,
When you've got to leave college and "trek"—

in other words, the season of orations and lugubrious farewells is at hand, or nearly. Having finished their "original researches," and had them filed in the library, the seniors are beginning to prepare to say, "Good-bye," and this preparation so prostrates them that they do no work whatever, an indisposition which affects the whole University like a sympathetic strike.

And in this state of idleness we drift through the few days left. "It is hard to leave"—but wait. Next number we're going to have an editorial so full of weeps and sobs that he who does not dissolve thereat, must be adamant—no, Portland cement which water only hardens.

Prepare!

WHENEVER A FEW BUSINESS MEN get together and the talk turns to education, some one is certain to censure the College man as "impractical, visionary, and crammed with illusions." The general idea which the world has of the college graduate and his attitude is that of the funny papers and the cartoonists—a young man with no experience of the world, and no schooling in the college of hard knocks; a fellow with a swelled head full of Latin, Greek, and ideas of conquering the earth at once.

How truly this may apply to the eastern colleges we do not know, but—here's a "bunch" got back to the Hill in the fall:

"Hello, Pete, what'd you do this summer?"

"I worked in a lumber mill, running a planer."

"Gee, you're an aristocrat. I shoveled coal on a lake boat and decked it on a schooner. Say, know Briggs?"

"Yes."

"Well, he sold books, then got a job as butler in a rich guy's place, jumped that, and got a place as clerk in a summer hotel, and finished up as bookies' clerk on a race course."

And yet they say we're "impractical, visionary."

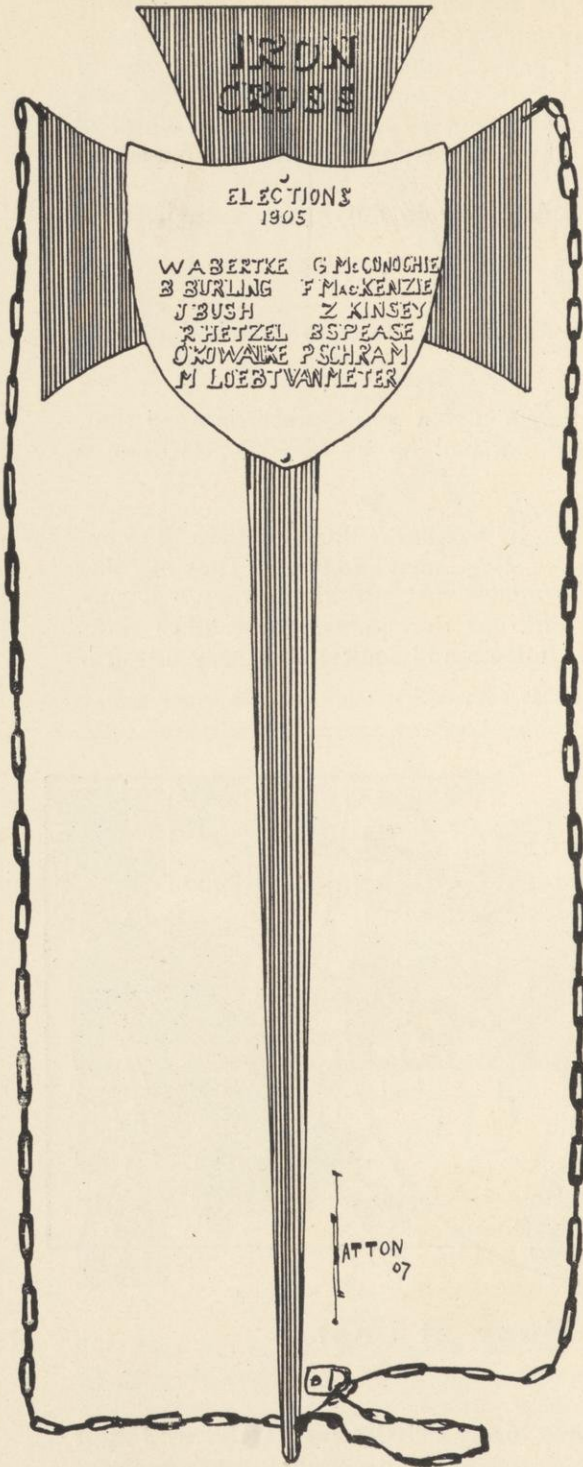
The average college man is intensely practical—he has fewer illusions than the non-student,—unless ideals be considered as illusions. College men know what they're going up against when they go out into life. They have faith that ultimately they will succeed, and perhaps to some extent conquer the world, but they know that it takes time, and they go from college expecting to start at the bottom and squirm their way upward.



Freshmen Sports == Busy at Last

When the staff changes for 1906 were published in the SPHINX just lately, we forgot to mention that Mr. T. Stempfel, '08, whose clever drawings have made bright our pages during the year, was elected to the SPHINX Board.





WHAT THE SPHINX usually aims to give is not "news" or "feature" articles; she leaves that to her contemporary, the *Daily Cardinal*, and in all verity, the *Cardinal* does it well. But the *Cardinal* is not illustrated, and

therefore, in this particular case, we give the graphic representation of one piece of news. No further comment is necessary.



Tantalus was gazing wildly at the tempting viands just out of his reach.

"Well, anyway," he sighed, "I at least see good viuals, which is more than they do at Chadbourne Hall."

Realizing that his case might be worse, he swallowed his wrath.



**Varsity Humorists
No. IV**



Seen Through Our Binoculars

The Fusser's Soliloquy

(One of Sym's Drools.)

With cussed little here below
To do but spend your daddy's dough,
Why not, then, share it with the girl
Who most enjoys the merry swirl
Of dances, parties, rides, and such,



That after all don't cost so much
As playing races, games, roulette,
And other instruments of debt.
'Tis only *ladies'* men, they say,
Who go out fussing every day.
But I don't care. It seems to me
A man who likes girls' company
Is just as much a man as he
Who scorns female society.

The knights of old, I've often heard,
Though men of valor, still preferred
To break their lances for a glove
Or garter of some lady love.
And Bobbie Burns, of worldwide fame,
Did not consider fussing tame.
So call me "Fusser," if you will.
Remember, *you* don't foot the bill.

—Sym.

x x x

Disappointment.

There came a whisper from the Board,
"Two hundred have been roasted,
Two hundred students badly scored
And carbonized and toasted."
But now the Badger has come out,
(A volume pretty nifty).
We hear a disappointed shout,
"They've roasted only fifty!"

"Two hundred"—why, it scared the bunch,
However folks dissembled;
"Two hundred"—when they got that hunch,
Most everybody trembled.
The Freshman, Soph'more, Junior, too,
The Spendthrift and the thrifty,
"Two hundred!"—Seniors faded blue—
And then—they roasted fifty.

They roasted fifty, only that
In spite of threats they thundered,
Well, fifty's somehow pretty flat
In place of full two hundred.
And everyone who looked to find
(His name in letters shifty
We had to rhyme)—is sore in mind
Unless he's of the fifty.

We may declare we simply hate
To have our faults dissected
By Badger boards,—but on the straight—
It's worse to be neglected.
And when our names do not appear,
We feel "someone has blundered,"
And grumble, "It is pretty clear
There should have been two hundred."

x x x

The Senior

His work is nearly done and soon
He'll say "Farewell" with many a sob,
Along about the last of June,
And then—go out and hunt a job.

x x x

A luxury is a necessity you can't afford



There was a young Piker who tried
To be a real sport and no snide;
But he quit right away,
When a Pousse Café
Began to embalm his inside!



Mother—In Heaven, Bobby, it is always
Sunday.

Bobby—Gee, that must be hell!



I don't object to a room full of smoke,
And can stand for a lot of cussing,
I even enjoy the bottles "pop,"
But gad, how I hate fussing.

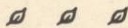


He—I could kneel before you as before
an altar.

She—That's very lovely, but would you
kneel with me before the altar, that's what
interests me.



Mary held four goodly kings,
'Twas father's turn to play;
So Mary called his little bluff,
And took his cash away.



Tobacconist—We keep a special brand of
black tobacco for old Widow Burns.

Customer—"Widow's weeds," I suppose.

She—I'm as old as I look.

He—Well, now, really, you don't look it.

The Fussers' Rubaiyat



I.

Wake up! Wake up! and Chuck that Pipe
away,
Put on the Gladdest Duds in your Ar-
ray;
Don't Sit and Grunt there like a Blooming
Pig;
Come, ain't you going Fussing, Willie,
Say?



II.

Charlie indeed has gone to call on Rose,
And Billy is on the Fuss and so is Mose,
So follow me and we will hit the Trail,
Where many a Maiden in the Twilight
glows.

III.

Come, Jolly up, and cut the Proper Fling,
Your New Spring suit is quite the Swag-
ger Thing;
You are a Bird,—so do the Fly-away
And mount the Steps and Push the But-
ton—zing!

IV.

And as the Cook comes, opening the Door,
Step in upon the Highly Polished Floor,



And ask in Manly Tones if She is Home
As you have done Five Hundred Times
before.

V.

Now a light Step you hear Along the Hall,
And then She enters, Slender, Sweet and
Tall,
And the Glad Hand of Welcome She puts
out,
"O, Willie, I'm so glad you've Come to
Call."

VI.

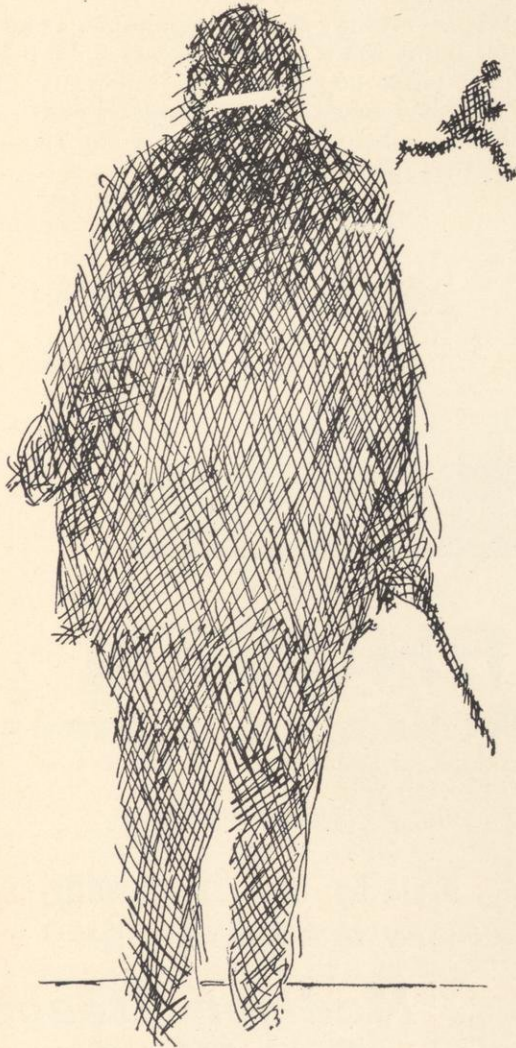
A Book of Verses?—nay, you do Not Care
For such as That, so long as She is There
Beside you, Talking like a House Afire,
Why, any place is Paradise for Fair.

VII.

The Wordly Thoughts of "Exes or a Con,"
 Are all forgot, as you sit on and On,
 Until you Hear her Father's Basso voice,
 "I wonder if That Beau of Her's is
 Gone."

VIII.

Ah Bill! could you and she alone conspire
 To Shake the Chaperonage of Her Sire,
 Would you not Laugh the S. G. A. to scorn,
 And Stay Regardless of Parental Ire.



IX.

But Ah, the Youth must vanish like the
 Rose,
 The Maiden go to seek her sweet Re-
 pose,
 And while she dreams, He Piketh down the
 street,
 To where the ice cold lager gently flows.

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X.

And when like Him, Oh, Billy—you shall
 pass,
 Among the jags who've squandered all
 their Brass,
 We'll line up, Willie, by the Gladsome
 Bar,
 And Drink each other squiffy—glass for
 glass! —*Kim.*



For Fussers

If you want to make sure of him, let him
 smoke.

Make him believe you like to hear him
 talk politics; it's a sure graft.

Tell him he must not get a carriage when
 he takes you to a party, that he's foolish to
 spend his money that way. This is one of
 the subtlest jollies possible.

A little spooning now and then
 Is relished by the best of men.

Be coy, but not too coy.

The Genius

"W'y hello, fellows! I wasn't expecting anybody up this morning. Sit down. Throw your hats any old place and be at home. I was just going to open something when you came. Didn't intend to tell anybody for a while, but I don't mind letting you into a little secret, seeing that you'd know about it in a few days anyway.

"I sent a little story to the —— magazine a few days ago and ordered them to send me a copy when they printed it. I hardly expected to get it this soon. I've been kicking myself for sending it to such a one-horse magazine, but I didn't know till after I'd sent it that hardly anything but the cheap guys ever send *them* anything. Anyway, my rep's only partly made yet, so it won't hurt much this once. You can't imagine how a fellow feels when he has written something, because you can't—well, of course, you have no intentions of a literary career. I don't mean that that's any discredit to you, of course not. Everybody can't have the same appreciation for literature. Now, there's Smith. You say he had one of his stories published. Well, I'll

tell you what *I* think about Smith. Of course he's a hard worker and makes high marks in all his studies and all that sort of thing, but that's all there is to it. He's too much of a grind. He'll grind and grind away, but can't you see that he hasn't a spark of genius?

"Now, about this article of mine. Of course I don't attach much importance to it, but there are some rather clever touches in it if I do say it myself. And I think you'll smile at some of the little jokes in it when you read them. Think you'll recognize them as mine all right.

"This certainly must be a bum magazine. Look at the shape of the wrapper. I'll bet a four-dollar dog that's the last story of *mine they'll* ever see. I'll send my next to Collier's, where people will—what the—why, that fool—it's my—"

—JOHN COLLINS.



Little Willie, cutest lad,
Chloroformed his aged dad;
He's the smartest little man
So quick to grasp at Osler's plan.
—Schuster.



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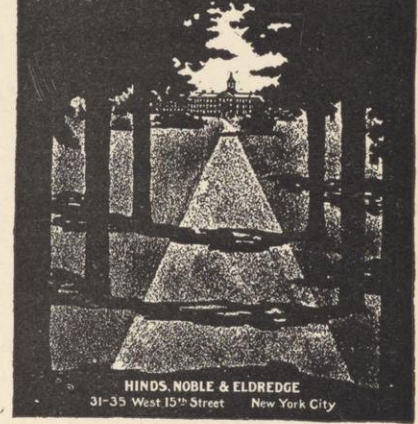
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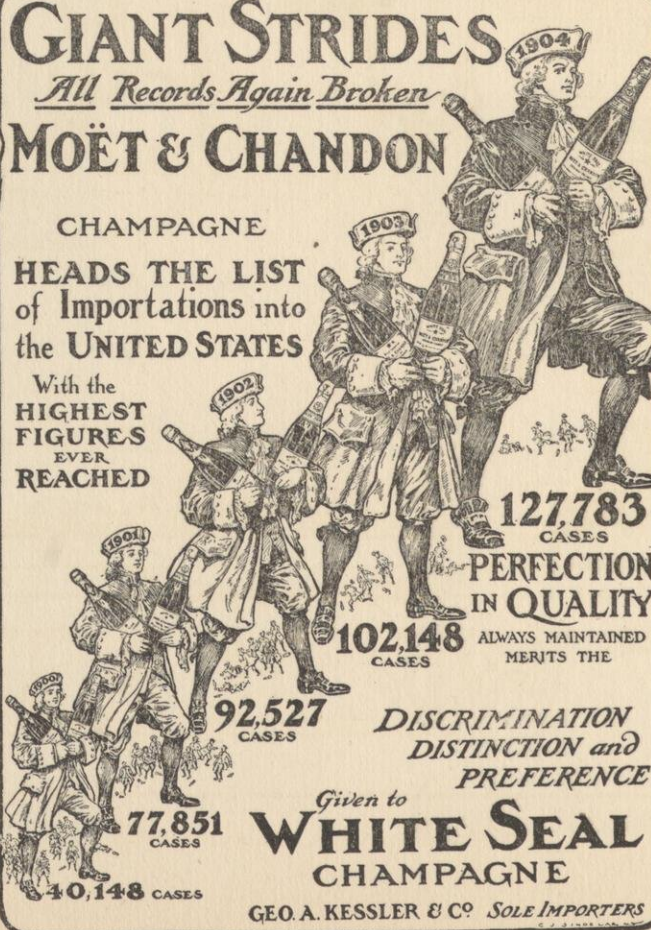
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