# The Sphinx. Vol. 3, No. 4 November 9, 1901 

Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, November 9, 1901
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Printed at Madison, Wisconsin, on the 9th day of November, 1901

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That man was a fire insurance agent.

What is he now?
A minister of the gospel.
A kindred occupation.
How so?
He's still guarding against loss by fire. - The Wrinkle.

## A Good Definition.

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## The Sphinx

## To One Who Doesn't Listen.

Maiden togged in somber hue,
With your eyes of pensive blue
Hidden half, and half displayed
By the tossing fringe and braid
Of a headgear coyly stern,
Tell-if common minds may learn-
Why, on what, you meditate
With that glance directed straight,
Focused on infinity--
Tell me, fair divinity.
Are your thoughts of English lit, Flavored high with Sunny wit?
Do they deal with more concrete
Themes, as how Necturi eat?
Or a thesis, may it be,
On colonial sovereignty,
Or the psycho-physic bent
Of the semi-reverent
Facts of consanguinity?
Tell me, sweet divinity.
Not to hazard further guess
On such subjects fathomless-
Though your cares are unconfined By mere trifles, I've divined, Still, that gown's becoming, quite, And the mortarboard's just right To set off your rippling hair. No, of course you never care, Dwelling on infinity
Do you, fair divinity?
C. E. A.



## THE SPHINX.

Published every Second Saturday during the College Year by Students of the University of Wis. Entered at the Postoffice at Madison, Wis., as Second-Class Matter, September28, 1901.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, $\$ 1.50$ PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.
(If not paid before January 1st, $\$ 2.00$ per annum will be charged.)
Single copies on sale at the news stands and book stores.
adVERTISING rates made known on application. Address all Communications to the Man'g Editor.

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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.


T HAS BEEN REPORTED that the class of 1901 will soon request the faculty to permit the seniors to have the use of Library Hall for a series of parties. What the faculty will do with this request, The Sphinx is not able to say, but she believes that when the request is considered the old argument may be advanced, namely; that if the seniors are permitted to hold parties in Library Hall, why of course the other classes should have the same, right, and that when the freshmen have a party the sophomores will attempt to break it up, and consequently in order to have peace and quiet in the university it is wise not to permit any class at all to hold parties. This argument has been used every time the matter of class parties has been agitated and to its advocates it seems to be conclusive.

The Sphinx believes that this argument rests upon the assumption that the underclassmen are not to be trusted, and that they would rather fight against one another, than become acquainted with their classmates.

It assumes that these annual requests for class parties are made not for the reason that acquaintanceship is desired among the members of the classes, but only that another opportunity may be had for a class scrap. The advocates of this argument besides starting with these false assumptions, have also forgotten that this university is not as small as it used to be.

Long ago when the classes were smaller, class scraps at class parties were always expected and zest and spice were added to the evening's enjoyment by a little "roughhouse." The cause of this was the custom of making secret preparations for a class party and the quick discovery of the secret by the other class. Consequently from the moment of the discovery, a race always ensued between the two classes, one striving to hold the party and the other to prevent it. If the two classes were each very enthusiastic and determined, a class scrap of excellent dimensions was sure to result, and what was intended for a quiet class party became a serious class scrap.

But the University has more than doubled in size since then, and class spirit is not so intense as it was a decade or so ago. Ever since the prohibition of all class parties, class spirit has gradually been dying away, until to-day there is almost nothing of it remaining. Class meetings are poorly attended. Class baseball teams are unknown (or were until last spring, when a feeble and resultless attempt to organize them was made). The student becomes acquainted with but few of his classmen, and not until the Senior Swing-out or Commencement, does he realize how many of his classmates he does not know.

The Sphinx believes that the request for class parties is made because students recognize the defect in their college course, and would like an opportunity to correct it. The students have a broader interest in mind than a class scrap, and it is not fair to them to continually assume that they are always anxious to make the life of the faculty a hard and unenviable one.

The most indispensable thing to a great university is university spirit, a spirit that makes all the students proud of the university and solicitous for its good name and progress. This we have at Wisconsin. But this indispensable university spirit requires constant feeding to keep it alive and to make it grow. It needs broad-minded men at the helm, ever ready to encourage the students by their own efforts to advance the good cause. It demands the treatment of students as men and women, conscious of what a university means and what is expected of them. It, above all, demands trust and confidence in the students by those who order and command.

The argument mentioned above is a contradiction of this trust and confidence which should of right be reposed in the students. It assumes that when the common sense and decency of the under-classmen will be appealed to, that only shame and disgrace will result. It is not fair to those who are students to-day. The mistakes of classes in the past should not be visited upon the third and fourth generations, and hundreds of students made to leave this university, year after year, unacquainted with their own classmen.

Class parties will produce class spirit and healthy class spirit should be encouraged in any university. It can not be said that the appearance of class spirit means the disappearance of university spirit, for who will say that the people of Wisconsin are not loyal to the national government because they are loyal to the state government? With the perpetual absence of class spirit, university spirit must gradually decrease and finally disappear.

The under classmen, so far this year, have not requested class parties, and The Sphinx has taken up the matter solely for the reason that she hopes when the request of the Seniors for a series of parties is considered, the old argument, mentioned above, will not be advanced. The argument belongs to the days when class scraps were common and of regular occurrence, when the University was small and the students acquainted with all the members of their respective classes.

The class scraps have disappeared but nothing to encourage the class spirit attending them has been introduced, and students leave this University year after year unacquainted with many of their fellow-classmen, all because long ago somebody threw some red pepper on the floor of Library Hall when the freshmen gave a class party.

Chemistry Quiz, 3-Give occurrences of chlorine.
Answer: Chlorine occurs in nature in a very fine state generally found with salt. It is shipped from different countries in bags. The bags are then washed and they get hydrochloric acid.

What's the most brilliant part of a fellow's face after a night out?

A-cet-o'-lene lamps.
Prof. D. (in English class)-That theme on The Summons of Bells and the Student has some good thoughts, for we are rung about a great deal by belles here.


There's a face that haunts me ever, There are eyes mine always meet, As I read the morning papers, As I walk the crowded street. Ah, she knows not how I suffer; Her's is now a world wide fame; But till death that face will greet me; $\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{P}$ - is her name.

## Responsibility.

Senior, thou hast chosen thy cap and thy gown to don.
Hast considered the things they stand for of the struggle not yet begun!
Thou hast fought thy battles on paper, hast won some dole of praise,
But thy right to drink at the fountain, must be proved in no idle phrase.
The cap and the gown are thy pledges, to fight in the strife to come,
To give what thou canst, and give freely, of the good things thy labor has won.
Thy maker, thy country, will hold thee, for the loan of their blessings to thee.
The payment they ask is not selfish, but usury by Justice' decree.
So take on thy dignity wisely, O Senior, and not in vain pride.
See that thou fail not thy compact and forever life's debtor abide.

## THE ANNUAL TRAGI-COMEDY. <br> "When Greek Meets Greek."

Setting: Langdon Street, Mendota Court or any place where freshman initiates are apt to meet.

Miss Agnes Wellington, a candidate of Alpha Beta Gamma Sorority is discovered in the foreground about to meet Jack Her-rington-a candidate of Pi Theta Beta Frat. Not having been introduced, both are rather startled at each being addressed by the other in the most honeyed of tones.

Jack (rather fantastically dressed in military coat and plug hat, politely lifting his hat.) I - - I beg your pardon, but I was asked to inquire if you preferred one or two lumps of sugar in your ice water or not. I hope you won't feel offended, but the fellows at the house seemed anxious to find out. They're gathering statistics for the geological department I think.

Agnes- (who sees some of her sorority sisters in the distance and who has also been instructed to smile broadly and greet everyone whom she met as follows): "Good morning, I hope you slept well after the rabbit. So lovely of you to come. Please do it again."
"The girls at the house told me to tell everyone I met and so they must want to see you. Of course I don't know you, but you really ought not to be startled. They don't mean to be rude, you knon. They don't know any better."

Jack (not at all flustered) - "Yes, you're right, this driving insane stunts to capture the rude gaze of the outsider is entirely novel. But I don't mind, and I guess I'm not the only one queered. Well, I'm glad I saw you. We'll probably meet again soon, and maybe be allowed the privilege of a formal introduction then. Any way, we have something in common and can sympathize with each other. Good bye, Agnes. - "Yes you're right. Au revoir."
(Curtain falls after both have disappeared around their respective corners, going in opposite directions and performing much the same ceremony.)

## The Wild Waves Said.

"Do you hear the ocean moaning Ever moaning, soft and low?
'Tis because that fat old bather Stepped upon its undertow."

## A Chinese Idyl.



HERE WAS an embarrassing silence in the Throne Room.

Li Hen-Chief High Torturerdropped to his knees.
"Lord of the Sun and Moon, "he asked, "what displeases your everblooming mind?"

The Chinese Emperor frowned.
"You told me," he observed, "that y our torture department was strictly up to date."
"Nothing is lacking, O Ruler of the Chrysanthemums."
"You have tried all varieties of torture, I presume," continued his majesty, swallowing a large pinch of opium.
"Even unto the latest dentists' tool."
"Doubtless then you have made your victims do stunts for the girls on the Chat-

"Even Unto the Latest Dentist Tool." tering Hall Porch."
With a cry the miserable Li Hen fell prostrate.


Shrieking and Cursing He was Dragged Off.
"Mercy! mercy!" he gasped.
"Aha," cried the infuriated Emperor, "you have deceived me. You have deceived me. You shall suffer the very punishment which you neglected to inflict. Away with him!" prayers of the unfortunate Li Hen. Shrieking and cursing he was dragged off to suffer the worst torture invented by the demoniacal nature of a sophomore.

In vain were the


## The Athlete.

"I can not put the heavy shot, On the track I am not fleet;
But when it comes to the standing jump, I get there with both feet."
"Perhaps you think I love this maidIn sooth perhaps I do;
Well, if I did, I'd tell herBut, by Jove, I'd not tell you."


Tuesday, October 22-
The Haresfoot gives a banquet for "our Walton."


Wednesday, October 23 -
Important. "Art" Buele departs for the East. Insignificant. The sophomores elect Charlie Lyman as president.


Friday, October 25 -
Dean Birge reappears at convocation in his briefly discarded role of "Acting President."

## Saturday, October 26-

The Badgers defeat the Jayhawkers in their first encounter with them, by a score of 50 to 0 .


Thursday, October 31-
The Annual Halloween Fancy Dress
Party was held at Chadbourne Hall.
It was exclusively attended by girls as such.

Friday, November 1The Gamma Phi house is newly christened the "Palace of Sweets."

Saturday, November 2We make our first impression on Ne braska.


## THE LOVE LETTERS OE A FRESHMAN.

My Dear Helen:
Madison, Wis., Oct. 1st.
It is long after midnight, but I can't wait until to-morrow to write to you. There is so much to tell you, for I want you to know everything that I am doing. First, I want to tell you about my room. * * * * * As for my work—etc. * * * *

The rushing has been worse than I expected even, and I wish I could have your advice before I pledge, but of course you don't know any of the fellows. (Oh, I feel so lost without you.)

I went to a party Saturday night and took a girl whom I had never seen before. That is the way they do here with freshmen, you know. Miss Copeland was the girl. She is all right, too. I guess I liked her because she reminded me of you. That would be reason enough. I have seen her several times. She is being rushed, too. I have been driving, golfing, and to all sorts of "stunts." That is what they say here, for larks of all kinds. * * * * * *

Do these long letters bore you? I wish-but I promise you never to speak of that again until I have graduated. Four endless years! Heavens! But at least won't you please change your mind about letting me write only once a week? You see there will always be so much to tell you. Yours as always, Ned.
P. S. I have counted up the exact number of days until Thanksgiving, when I will see you.

> II.

My Dear Helen:
Madison, Wis., Oct. 15 th.
I have written to you four times now, and only heard from you twice. But your letters were fine, and-well I know them nearly by heart. The Wisconsin pennant was a joyful surprise, I assure you.

Everything is going much as usual. The initiation is over and it is a relief to be settled. I am glad you approved of my choice. * * * * There was an informal at the house last night, and we are to have a supper at Middleton to-morrow. I took Marion Copeland last night and will take her to-morrow night. That is the way they do here, you know. Every fellow generally takes some one girl every time and it saves having to bother about whom you'll ask every time. It's awfully convenient, and we're going to be very good friends. I want her to meet you.

Won't you write oftener? You don't know half how much your letters mean to me. * * * Thanksgiving is not so very far off now.

My Dear Helen:
III.

I hope you will excuse this scrawl, as I am simply over my ears in work, and I have only a few minutes to tell you how glad I was to get your dandy long letter and that I mean to equal it soon. Life here is just about my idea of what things ought to be. All the people are crackerjacks, and we have glorious times. I have been out four nights in succession, and now I'll have to buck like blazes to make up for it. That is the way they do up here.

Mar-Miss Copeland is so anxious to meet you. I wish you could come up for the next hop. Can't you? Please forgive me this time. Yours in haste, NED,
P. S. -We'll have some fine times when I come home Thanksgiving, won't we?

## IV.

Madison, Nov. 20th.

## Dear Helen:

I don't believe it can disappoint you half as much as it does me to know that I am not coming home at all for Thanksgiving. The boys simply insist on my going down to Chicago with them for the game, and I have had to give in. They consider it a crime here for a fellow who can afford to go, to miss the game.

I told you all the news last week, I guess. I am grinding harder than ever. I'll be a wreck at this rate plus dissipation. I am looking forward to Christmas now, and I hope we can be together every day when I come home then.

Write soon to Yours truly, Ned.
P. S. I nearly forgot to answer your questions. Marion Copeland has brown eyes, and she lives in Chicago.

## V.

My Dear Helen:
Nov. 30th.
That was a frightful mix up, my sending you that note to Marion. I wish you wouldn't feel so cut up about it. I think I can explain things so you'll understand how it was and all about it.

Does that clear it up any? I wouldn't have you think for worlds that any one could take your place with me. * * * $\%$ Please don't think this is jollying. That is the way they do here, but it isn't my way. I will see you in three weeks. Till then believe me,

Yours very truly,
Ned.

## VI.

Dear Helen:
All the powers seem to be working together to keep us apart. That you could possibly spend Christmas anywhere but at home, never entered my head. I hope you are having a grand time out there with your aunt, but she might have sent for you some other time. It seems years since I have seen you. I sat around and moped the most of the time at home, and I can tell you I was glad to come back. Madison is just about the only place on earth. I wish you could meet Marion. I know you would like her.

By the way, my chum has quite fallen in love with your picture, and is dying to know you. He is begging for a letter of introduction to you. Would you mind? As ever,
VII.

Ned.
Feb. 1st.
Dear Helen:
I had no idea that you would be so insulted at my wanting you to come down and go to the Prom with Jack. If you really mean all that you said, I suppose there is no use in talking any more about it. I will obey your wishes and drop the correspondence with this letter, but I hope you will always think of me as

Your sincere friend,
Ned F.
P. S.-I don't think you are quite fair to Marion. It wasn't in the least her fault.

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You cannot af-Ford to have your picture taken at any other place but Ford's.

## A Smoker.

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## How It Really Is.

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## A Fight.

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The pub

The publications sent to one or two addresses.

## Indeed We Can.

"The poet Burns," began the lecturer in his deliberate fashion.
"Served him right!" said the man given to making puns.
(However we can quite agree with him).-The Wrinkle.


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## ALFORD BROS.

PHONE 172.

Very Natural, Indeed.
Is this good English? "He kissed her lips, he kissed her cheek, and then he kissed her again?"

No; but it's very natural. - The Wrinkle.

We will take good care of your prescriptions. Wisconsin Pharmacy, No. 210 State St., cor. Carroll.

He's a regular Bohemian!
What do you mean?
Why, he gets drunk every night. - The Wrinkle.

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He: The papers are having a heated argument lately.
Him: Better stop the press and let the jourrials cool off.-The Chaparral.

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## New York <br> Store 54

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The smoke-less cigarette.
-The Chaparral.

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We want you to Tackle our famous mandolins, guitars and other string instruments. Don't imagine they're scrubs because of low price. You never went up against clearer or more beautiful sounding instruments. The Backs are strong and quick to vibrate the sound. Register a Kick if you are not satisfied. Groves-Barnes' Music House, the emporium of up-to date sheet music.

We are going to have a football or midseason millinery opening; don't miss it. The Burdick, Pecher, Murray Co.

## Industrious.

"Is she an industrious woman?"
"Well, pretty much sew."

> -The Wrinkle.

A good book-case or desk can be had for little expense to you. Call and examine. Haswell \& Scholl, 26 and 28 North Carroll.

## Paleontology.

It is claimed that the Berkeley crew is the only instance in which muscles have not been found in shells. - The Chaparral.

Ford can satisfy them all when it comes to taking good photographs.

If you are in doubt. Go. It's Saturday afternoon at Camp Randall.

## A Worthy Cause.

I have decided to devote my life to civilization.

What do you think of doing?
I shall endeavor to make a dictionary to accompany the writings of Kipling. - The Wrinkle.

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When in need of a GOOD article in furniture call and look over our complete line. Visitors always welcome. Haswell and \& Scholl, 26 \& 28 North Carroll.

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A young lady in a fit of excitement, and after having visited at least a dozen different stores within the state, had at last found, what she had for many years longed fora clear, fine sounding Piano at GrovesBarnes Music House. You can find everything in the line of music at this popular music house at the very lowest rates. Sheet music at a special discount to regular customers. Become a regular customer and take advantage of the great bargains.

A jolly may be defined as the language of the gold-brick man. -The Wrinkle.

Don't fail to stop at F. J. Pecher, 416 State St., and see the fine line of Suits and Overcoats before purchasing elsewhere. It will pay you.

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Does not seem very very shocking,
Yet she put her foot in it when she asked
Might she use it as a stock-ing.
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## Alas!

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"Why?"
"They make their idols go broke."-The Wrinkle.

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We are showing a very fine line of Gents' Furnishings in all the latest patterns. Give us a call and be convinced. F. J. Peoher, 416 State St.

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-The Chaparral.
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