

Cracks in the Ivy Tower

Lecturemanship

By MARGARET DOODY

The voice of the lecturer is now loud in the land. The professor professes. For keen Professorwatchers, as well as Lectureavoiders, specimens should not be too difficult to recognize. Native habitat: libraries, low dives, the inside of a '57 Volkswagen, and most frequently, the other side of a desk, across a crowded room, or, in a seminar course, the other side of a table concealed by clouds of smoke. Shape of head: occasionally cubical, often three-dimensional oval—this latter formation is known as the Egghead, which has only recently become something to Crow about; disappointing, as usually Nothing Hatches. Colouring: usually vaguely tweedy. Marking: VARIABLE and erratic. Voice: a low monotone on one plane, tending to infinity . . .

Yet, let us be serious a moment. Life, if we are to believe Dr. Watts, is both Real and Earnest. The Lecturer is worthy of serious study. After years of arduous and expensive research on the part of myself and colleagues, and after a process of inductive reasoning over collected data, we have reached the formation of several Fundamental Laws regarding Lecturemanship. Briefly, thus:

I Lecturing consists in the Professor's dividing what he knows (or thinks he knows) about a topic by the number of lectures he has to give. Let K equal (hypothetical) knowledge of Professor. Let N equal the number of Lectures that should be given—subtract from N all the days of holidays, Dunn's birthday, and which he has the 'flu. Thus,

$$\frac{K}{N - (H + f)} = 1 \text{ course}$$

You will recognize this principle in all its simplicity as Basic. In other words, there is only a limited Supply of K. While Demand is stable (it is not likely to increase) the lecture is not likely to change. The professor is liable to give less rather than more of his potential K. If the number of lectures he must give exceeds the number of lectures he has prepared (many profs count overmuch on variable factors H and f) he can always eke out his academic stew with chopped-up odds and ends. He can read excerpts of D. H. Lawrence, or dictate statistics as to the number of charwomen who voted Liberal in the British Election or tell little anecdotes about Madame Pompadour. If, of course,



Dear Diary...

As I take my pen in hand, I take my bottle of Coke in the other hand! Yes, dear diary, where would I be without Coca-Cola? Just a social outcast. Why, everybody drinks Coke! John and Bill and Barry and Charley. Horace too. Confidentially, I think I'll have another bottle of Coke.



SIGN OF GOOD TASTE

SAY 'COKE' OR 'COCA-COLA'—BOTH TRADE-MARKS MEAN THE PRODUCT OF COCA-COLA LTD.—THE WORLD'S BEST-LOVED SPARKLING DRINK.

THE ART OF DATING 20th CENTURY STYLE

PART II

The following is the second in a series by a well-known campus king. They are designed to offer practical dating advice to all males backward with the opposite sex. The author, who wishes to remain unknown, has gladly consented to answer all questions by private correspondence. Please address your letters to the Features Edi or and he will see that they are delivered

3. CONCERNING ARRIVAL TIME:

The question of whether or not you should pick the girl up on the dot can be dealt with briefly. By all means be on time—neither too early nor too late. If you arrive too early, she may be flustered and forced to hurry in "putting on her face", and nothing to a female is more annoying. Moreover, if the girl is living at home, you may be forced to talk with her parents at length, and while it is always advisable to create good feelings with the powers that be, you may find that embarrassing questions are asked. On the other hand, to arrive too late shows a lack of enthusiasm, which, as a device of love, is unfortunately the female's prerogative. Again, parents will worry about your sense of responsibility if you are not punctual.

These are already planned as Lectures, he will have to find something else.

This brings us to—well, it doesn't really get us anywhere much, but let us consider the next point.

II Relevance Quotient, or RQ is the amount of material the professor gives in the average lecture that has any real Bearing on the Course—roughly:

Where EQ equals the number of questions on the exams

Where OR equals Outside Reading—No. of books

Where WL equals Words per Lecture (N.B. This DOES include the "UH", "And", "well", "mmm" etc.)

Where Nt/L equals Note-words per Lecture (the more cryptic the better)

$$\frac{EQ}{WL} \times \frac{I}{O.R.} = EQ$$

Any professor who scores higher than a decimal is obviously new to the game. Also, beware—the higher the R.Q., the harder the exam is likely to be. This brings us to

III The Passers Law:

Always remember that lecturing involves a high degree of hypertension, hostility and suspicion on the part of the egghead in front towards the egglayers in back. This makes the game of Exams doubly exciting. Any can play. If you are tagged out in the spring, you are still allowed to play in the X fall supp. Roughly, the Hostility of a right-minded pedagogue is equal to the sum of the squares in the class. To determine your chance of passing:

Let H equal hostility factor

Let N equal number of lectures attended

Let E equal the Number of Essays passed

Let S equal number of times you have slept in class

Then $N + E - S = P.C.$ (Passer's Chance)

Divide all this by the number who passed last year. Multiply by the stripes in his tie, and put it all over your notebook.

Like all laws, these are Extremely Scientific, Very Valuable and Completely Useless. Work them out constantly — in your margin, on the backs of Exam papers. They will soothe your troubled spirits. They are a nice change from doodling. They give you something to do during Lectures. And we have a lot of lectures yet to live through.

4. CONCERNING MANNERS and ETIQUETTE:

It is always wise to mind your manners and keep your place (we warned you that this was introductory material). Girls like nothing better than to be waited upon, flattered (not too obviously, but with finesse) and generally to be made the centre of attention. Good manners are particularly important while you are under the scrutiny of parents, but should be carried out through the evening. By all means help her with her coat, open the car door (never beep the horn in front of the house—at seven o'clock, it's rude; at one o'clock, its suspicious) for her, drive with common sense, treat waiters courteously, etc. All this helps to make you a good security risk (women will be deceived).

It is a good idea to give her the impression that you know your way around. Never take her anywhere that you haven't already cased, unless you're double dating and the other party knows his way. (Incidentally, never double date the first time unless your aims are purely at a superficial social level. This is one occasion when nobody wants an audience.) By this I do not mean that you should swagger, boast or be otherwise pushy and authoritative. Just try to develop a casual air. Make sure you know the tipping rates, where the coat room and rest rooms are, etc.

5. CONCERNING WHERE TO DATE THE FIRST TIME:

This depends very largely on the type of girl (which information you obtained in the preliminary introduction and through various inquiries), the size of your wallet, and whether you are in a small town or a metropolis. If the girl is uninitiated and younger, and if you're in a large city, the task is easy. There are umpteen places to go to that are loaded with atmosphere. There are

reduced, of course, if the girl does not drink, but even so there will be restaurants in several price ranges that are not too noisy, have background music and soft lighting. But a drink helps in any case, adding a warm glow to an atmosphere already romantic.

If the girl is young and uninitiated and you're in a small town like Halifax, the success of the evening depends more upon your personality. After a movie, there is little else besides a small collection of 'quick and dirty' restaurants equipped with nosy juke boxes and booths. You cannot rely on atmosphere or drink, unless you're a member of a fraternity or other social club. Under these conditions, it is perhaps best to provide your date with a number of suggestions and ask her to choose. If she seems to be having difficulty, it is easy enough to guide her answer so that she will feel she is doing what you would like to do as well. In a metropolitan area, a certain element of surprise is always very effective. Perhaps you may date her for a show and "something to eat" afterwards—leaving "where" a mystery. But you must make sure that the girl is dressed as others will be wherever you go. Girls are never more distressed than when they are improperly attired . . .

The situation is quite different with an older girl, or with one who has been dating in adult circles for some time. She is not going to be impressed by atmosphere, although she will enjoy it. She will not be as susceptible to flattery or drink. The former will have to be rendered more subtle, and the latter — just more. In a big city, the element of surprise can still be employed, but in Halifax your conversation will be more important. In any event, the girl who has been around will be tougher to impress, but on the other hand, probably easier to talk to . . . and more co-operative.

CAN'T CATCH HER ON FOOT?

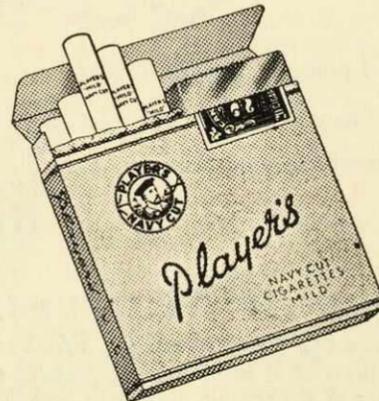
Try Skating!

SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday—8:30 - 10:30

Saturday—3:30 - 5:30

Player's Please



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