

What the College Girl Hazers Did to Little Miss Rogers

The Torture of a Purdue University Student That Has Roused a Country-Wide Movement

Against the Cruel and Senseless Practice

Miss Mabel Rogers, Who Has Sued Seven of Her Fellow Students for Hazing Her.

THE cruel hazing of Miss Mary Rogers, of Purdue University, Ind., has led to a country-wide agitation against this degrading practice in girls' colleges.

Miss Rogers has brought a suit for \$7,000 damages against her tormentors. The detailed statements she makes under oath in her complaint will astound many persons who look upon the higher education of women as a valuable means of improving society.

The defendants are all young women of good family and social position. They are Mary Clark, Indianapolis; Ruth Cowan, Chicago; May Blue, Lafayette; Mary Sheridan, Attica; Agnes Phillips, Monroeville; Esther Kistner, Terre Haute, and Helen Lee, Oxford.

These girls, according to Miss Rogers' story, came to her in her room when she was studying on the evening of January 14 last, a cold, winter's day.

They chased poor Miss Rogers around the room and tore her clothing off. They painted her body with red ink, poured muckilage over her back, covered it with feathers, stuck her body full of pins, and then thrust her into a tub of cold water until her face was under the water and she nearly drowned.

"I was ill at the time," says Miss Rogers, "and I told them this when they attacked me. I begged them to stop, but they paid no attention to my pleadings."

Miss Rogers declares that as a result of this hazing her eyesight has been permanently injured, and her nervous system has suffered an injury from which it has not yet recovered, and will probably never recover.

Hitherto many girls who have been injured in hazing escapades have abstained from making complaints from a sense of honor or fear of their companions. Miss Rogers is seeking legal redress with determination, and her action is welcomed by many educators who have tried in vain to stamp out the evil of hazing among girls.

President Stone, of Purdue University, has suspended the accused girls and has declared that he will make every effort to stamp out the evil.

Many observers declare that girls, when they indulge in hazing, are apt to be more cruel than men students.

There is no recorded case where the men students of a college did anything as cruel as sticking pins into their victim. Such performances must necessarily be more dangerous to a girl than a man, on account of her more delicate organization.

Professor David Edgar Rice, the distinguished psychologist, of Columbia University, recently pointed out that when woman resorted to physical force, which was not normal to her, she showed a marked tendency to be more violent, unrestrained and cruel than man. He illustrated this by the example of the Chicago police-women. They were appalled because it was believed they would be gentler in handling women; but as soon as they had occasion to use force they behaved with great harshness.

The Chicago women strikers complained bitterly of the police-women, and declared that they would much rather have to deal with policemen. In this case we may observe the same natural tendencies that appear to make girls more cruel and unrestrained than men when they engage in the practice of hazing—a bad practice under any circumstances.

One of the many cases of brutal hazing that has been reported was that of pretty Miss Julia Mills, a New York girl, of wealth and well-known family. She was to be initiated into the Sigma Gamma secret society. The others stripped and bound her and then made her believe that she was being branded in the middle of the back with a red-hot iron. She fainted away and suffered an attack of serious illness from which she was long in recovering. Afterwards she learned that "the branding iron" was a lump of ice.

Miss Anna Johnson fell from an upper story window of the University of South Dakota, and severely injured herself while endeavoring to escape a hazing party.

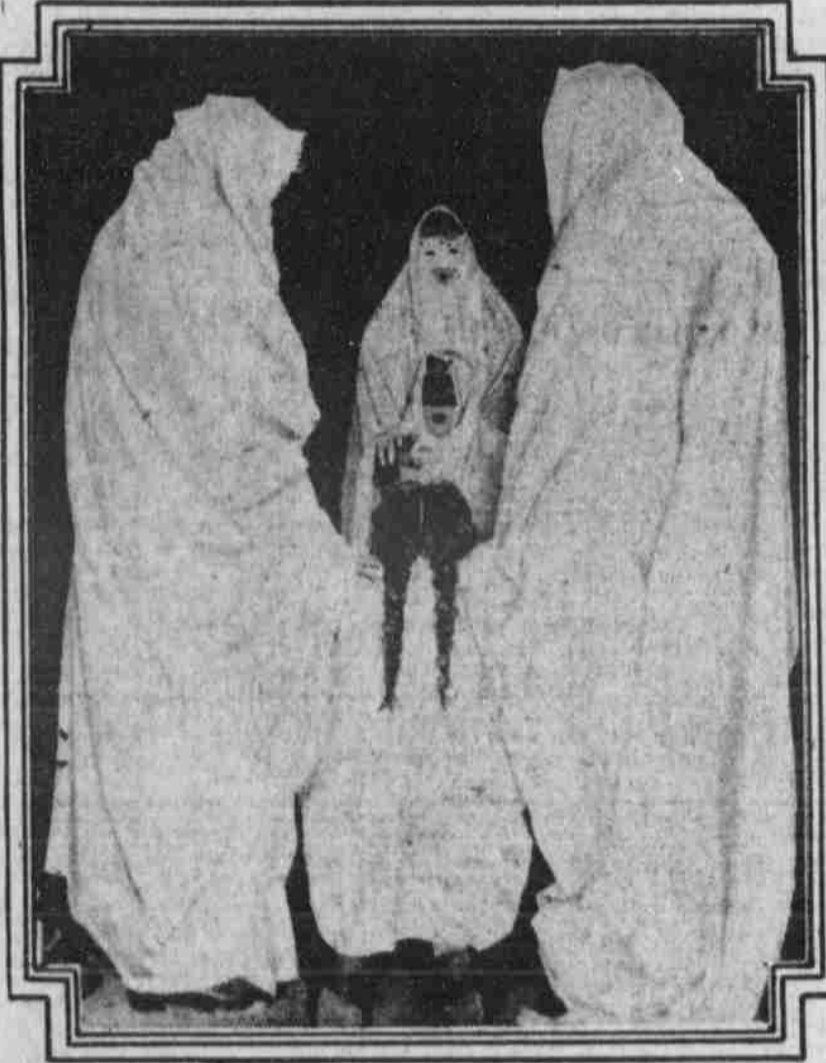
Miss Loraine Clark complained that her fellow students at Bridgeport High School made her eat macaroni boiled in soap while blindfolded, telling her that it was worms. Then they forced her to drink kerosene and lathered her face and pushed her down a flight of stairs.

The complaint filed by Miss Rogers, which has brought about the present movement against these dangerous practices, is given herewith in full.

Making the Student Kneel to the Tortures. An Actual Photograph of a Part of a Hazing, Which Miss Rogers Says She Was Forced to Undergo by Being Stuck Full of Pins.



"Plump into the cold water of the bathtub they threw the screaming little Miss Rogers," or, as the complaint sets forth specifically—"did further, in a rude, insolent, violent and forcible manner, drag, pull, twist and throw the said plaintiff into a tub of water until her body was submerged in the tub aforesaid."



Why She Sues Her Seven Schoolmates

State of Indiana, County of Tippecanoe, Mabel Rogers vs. Mary Clark, Ruth Cowan, May Blue, Mary Sheridan, Agnes Phillips, Esther Kistner, Helen Lee.

THE above-named plaintiff complains of the above-named defendants and alleges:

That this plaintiff is now and was on the day of January, 1914, a student in Purdue University, situated in said county and State; that she is and was on the said date a special student and as such is taking special work in the said university in domestic science, preparing herself for the purpose of teaching. That before the acts of the defendants hereinafter complained of the plaintiff was a strong, healthy girl, and that her eyesight was normal.

That the said defendants are, and were on the day of January, 1914, students in the said Purdue University, and are members of the senior class and are in the fourth-year class. That all of said defendants and this plaintiff are and were on the day of January, 1914, students in the said Purdue University.

That there is situated on the campus grounds of the said university a building known as the "Ladies' Hall," which is a part of and connected with the said university; that the defendants and plaintiff lived herein while attending the said university at the "Ladies' Hall;" and said building or a part thereof is designated and used exclusively for the purpose of rooming and living of girls attending said Purdue University as students.

That on the day of January, 1914, and while the said plaintiff and said defendants were students and rooming in the said "Ladies' Hall," the said plaintiff was in her room at the said "Ladies' Hall," having partially disrobed, and was then and there preparing her studies and lessons for the following day's recitations at the said university.

That the defendants then and there, on the date aforesaid, conspired and agreed to violently and

forcibly haze and tub the said plaintiff, and that in accordance with said conspiracy and agreement the said defendants congregated and assembled in and about the said plaintiff's room for the purpose of carrying out said conspiracy and agreement; and the said defendants, in furtherance of their said conspiracy and agreement, did then and there, in a rude, violent and forcible manner, eject her, the said plaintiff, from her room aforesaid, by then and there pulling, dragging and pushing and twisting her, the said plaintiff, from her room aforesaid.

And that after the said defendants had violently and forcibly ejected the plaintiff from her room in the manner aforesaid, the defendants, in a rude, insolent, violent and forcible manner, tore the clothing of said plaintiff and painted the chest, back, neck of this plaintiff with red ink and poured muckilage on the back of said plaintiff.

That the said defendants then violently and forcibly stuck the plaintiff with pins, trying to compel the said plaintiff to kneel to the said defendants, and that all of the said acts of violence and force were in furtherance of the said conspiracy and agreement. That all of said acts of violence and force in painting and sticking with pins and the forcible manner of the said plaintiff and painted the chest, back, neck of this plaintiff with red ink and poured muckilage on the back of said plaintiff.

That the plaintiff was suffering from illness at the time, but notwithstanding her pleadings and entreaties the defendants further, in a rude, insolent, violent and forcible manner dragged, pulled, twisted and threw the said plaintiff in a tub of water.

That the defendants, separately and jointly, in the furtherance of said conspiracy and agreement, threw the plaintiff in the tub of water aforesaid until her body was submerged by the water in the tub aforesaid.

That all of said acts were in the presence and seeing of the ladies of said "Ladies' Hall" as aforesaid, to the great pain, suffering, humiliation, degradation and damage of this plaintiff.

That by reason of the violence and force and the throwing of said plaintiff in the tub of water in the manner and form aforesaid, the plaintiff suffered great physical pain and damage, and that by reason of the violence and force the aforesaid plaintiff became unconscious and hysterical and remained in this condition for three or four hours, and that the plaintiff suffered great pain therefrom and that by reason of the violence and force and acts aforesaid plaintiff was compelled to go to the hospital to be treated for the bruises and other injuries sustained.

That by reason of the violence and force used by the defendants the plaintiff's eyes were affected to the extent that they are but 25 per cent normal, all of which was caused by the violence and forcible throwing of said plaintiff in water, as aforesaid.

That by reason of the violence, force and acts of the defendants against the plaintiff, the plaintiff's nerves were affected and the plaintiff became, and is now, very nervous and has trouble with her nerves; and by reason of the nervous condition of the plaintiff she can not sleep at nights without taking medicine to make her sleep.

That by reason of the hazing, violence, force and acts of the defendants to this complaint herein set out and complained of, the students of the said university in the class rooms and on the streets and the people of the streets since that time, comment on and remark about this plaintiff, to her great pain, humiliation and degradation and damage, all of which was caused by the acts of violence of the defendants to this complaint.

That the plaintiff's health and eyesight have become permanently injured and affected, all of which was caused by the violence, force and acts of the defendants, to the great damage of the plaintiff. That by reason of the sickness and injuries of the plaintiff she lost more than six weeks of school at the university and she can not now carry on the numbers of work at the university that she could before the said acts of violence of the defendants, on account of the nervous condition caused by the said violence.

That by reason of the sickness, injuries to the plaintiff and injury to her eyes, the plaintiff was put to great expense for hospital expenses, physician and medicine, all of which was caused by the violence, force and acts of the defendants heretofore mentioned.

That by reason of the facts herein alleged the plaintiff has been damaged to the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars.

Wherefore the plaintiff sues and asks judgment against the said defendants in the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS and for all other proper relief.

FRANK KIMMEL,
H. McCORMICK,
CLYDE CHATTIN.

Science Explains That Nebuchadnezzar May Have Lived on Alfalfa

STUDENTS of the Bible have frequently been puzzled by the statement that Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, "did eat grass as the oxen," and lived in that manner for seven years.

Dr. J. B. S. King, of Chicago, author of the standard work "The Chemistry of Food," has put forward the interesting suggestion that the reason why Nebuchadnezzar was able to live so long in this way was that he ate alfalfa, the wonderful food-plant which has done so much for vast regions of the West. There is evidence to show that alfalfa grew in the vicinity of ancient Babylon and that its raw leaves will feed men.

The story of Nebuchadnezzar is told in the Book of Daniel. The great King, at the height of his power, had a strange dream, and called upon Daniel to interpret it. The prophet said that the dream meant that:

"They shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field; they shall make thee to eat grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."

"The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar; and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as the oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of Heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws."

The "seven times" is understood to mean "seven years." The Bible narrative tells us that at the end of that period Nebuchadnezzar returned to his home strengthened in mind and body, free from arrogant and tyrannical tendencies and greatly improved in character.

How are we to explain this occurrence? We know that a man cannot live for seven years, or for many days, on what is ordinarily called grass. Every occurrence may, of course, be explained on the ground that it was a divine miracle, but in this case it would be more reasonable to seek for a natural explanation. This would be provided if we find that alfalfa grew around Babylon.

The territory adjacent to the city of Babylon was a highly cultivated alluvial district irrigated

by a splendid system of canals and laterals, mainly planned by and constructed under the personal direction of King Nebuchadnezzar. The plain lying on the western bank of the Euphrates was commonly called "Eden," and is supposed by many to have been the "Eden" of Genesis. It was upon this fruitful plain that the Bedouin subjects of Nebuchadnezzar, captured and invincible the flocks and herds of their Babylonian masters.

Here was enacted the drama played by the insane king, one of the greatest and most impressive figures in ancient history. He had proved himself to be an exception to the rule that strong men in positions of power must be ruthless also. Invincible in the field of a warlike nation, he was yet a peace-loving monarch and devoted to the work of beautifying his capital city, improving the agricultural resources of his country and fortifying both against invasion by neighboring rulers.

Twice he marched on and captured Jerusalem. The second time, 588 B. C., he sacked the city, tore down Solomon's temple and led the inhabitants away to the last Babylonian captivity. This act was inspired by knowledge of the fact that the Jews had betrayed him to the invading Egyptians, whom he overthrew.

But neither Nebuchadnezzar's greatness as a military genius nor his wisdom as a ruler of error would have kept him alive during his period of insanity if he had not found food that would sustain human life. The question naturally arises, therefore, could he have eaten grass like oxen and still live?

In the light of modern science the answer to this question is "Yes." Here is the explanation:

In the year 430 B. C., less than 100 years after the Babylonian king is said to have lived and fed with the beasts in the field, the Arabs brought into Greece from Persia the seeds of a plant with which they long had been familiar—"Alfalfa." At that time Babylonia had become a part of the Persian Empire through conquest by Cyrus after the death of Nebuchadnezzar.

The Bedouins who fed the Babylonian flocks on the plain of Edin were nomadic, pastoral Arabs who had flocks and herds of their own; bred a strain of horses that has been famous

for three thousand years; roamed from place to place when they were not serving in enforced captivity; fought when they could find anyone to fight with; practiced predatory robbery and violence and stole everything they could get their hands on. Yet they honored with religious fidelity a code of ethics with respect to their pledged word that modern people might copy to their everlasting credit.

They were popularly supposed to be descendants of Ishmael, son of Hagar, and their proper home was in the northern part of the Arabian peninsula. Southern Arabs were an agricultural, commercial and industrial people, living in cities and villages.

These so-called Bedouins had known and used alfalfa for centuries before they introduced it into Europe, and they had given to it the name it now bears in this country, the meaning of which is, literally, "the best fodder." This fact being established, it is permitted to assume that alfalfa grew abundantly on the irrigated plains of Babylon, just as it now grows luxuriantly in the irrigated valleys of Central California, in Texas and other Western States.

As a matter of fact, it is not only reasonable to suppose such to be the case, but it would be unreasonable to doubt it. The Babylonians of Nebuchadnezzar's time had attained to a high state of civilization, and they were far ahead of all their neighbors in advanced agricultural methods. They had the best of everything to be found in Western Asia. Is it reasonable to suppose they did not also have "the best fodder?"

If it be true that alfalfa grew on the plains of Babylon in the sixth century before Christ, there is no element of improbability in the statement that Nebuchadnezzar ate alfalfa "like oxen" for alfalfa alone of all grasses is shown by chemical analysis to contain digestible nutrients in the proportions required to sustain human life. All other grasses contain so large a percentage of non-digestible fiber and other matter that the digestive organs of man cannot take from them and assimilate a sufficient quantity of nourishment to feed the body.

The analysis may be found in Bulletin No. 95, issued by the North Dakota Agricultural College, an official publication. The analysis differs

somewhat from that of other samples made at different times and places, and it is important to note that the protein in the North Dakota sample shows a lower percentage than other samples. An analysis of a sample of alfalfa hay grown in Wisconsin, for instance, shows 18.17 per cent of protein, and protein is the tissue-building food element. The North Dakota publication gives a comparison between alfalfa hay and wheat bran, the latter being commonly known to be capable of sustaining human life. Here is the table:

	Dry Matter	Digestible Nutrients	Carbo- hydrate	Ether Extract
Alfalfa	91.6	10.4	39.6	1.3
Wheat bran	88.1	12.3	39.2	2.7

Further proof of the food value of alfalfa is shown by the fact that alfalfa meal is now being manufactured in large quantities, not only as feed for poultry and domestic animals, but for human consumption as well.

At a banquet recently held in Chicago, participated in by former citizens of the State of Kansas, which, by the way, is the banner alfalfa State, the menu embraced a coffee, tea, cake and croutons made from Nebraska alfalfa. Bread, biscuit, breakfast food, candy and syrup also are commercial products made from alfalfa, and alfalfa griddle cakes are said to be extremely palatable.

For the purpose of making alfalfa meal the plant is cut when it has attained a growth of from eight to twelve days—while it is young and tender. The analysis from which the foregoing figures are taken was of a sample of alfalfa hay, cut when the plants had begun to blossom, probably after a growth of from thirty to forty days. The percentage of digestible nutrients is much higher in the young plants than in those that reach their full growth.

Another significant fact is that fully 60 per cent of the protein is found in the leaves of the plant. The leaf of the young plant would therefore be much more nutritious than wheat bran, and people have lived for considerable periods on the latter.

Remembering these facts, it seems clear that Nebuchadnezzar, by selecting young plants and eating only the leaves, could have sustained life very easily.