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There came a half-starved look in her left eye, then a half-starved look in the other, giving her a completely starved look, a dream of things beyond the sunset, a hunger which would always feed on hunger. "Ah, ha," we divined, "This female Don Juan, this outwardly nonchalant and carefree prom queen, is not happy."

Is this very yearning of her soul the secret of her strange allure?

We talked on into the wee small hours and the fog from without seemed to bear down upon us, bringing to us memories and little notes of unimagined sorrow, little loves, and little heartaches. Oh, God! Oh! H. L. Mencken!

We found then that our little prom queen is not merely a beautiful but dumb little wench, for she revealed that she is devoting all of her spare time to her one life work. She is working on a plan to cut out smoking in the Commons. As she talked of her ambition, the tears welled to her eyes. "It is pitiful how 'No Smoking' signs are disregarded in the Commons and in various offices about school," she wept. "Besides, it is becoming terrible how small students are smoking 'em these days. A janitor can't even find a respectable butt any more."

We were overwhelmed, to say the least, by her passionate plea and gave her a few drags from our Lucky. Her spell was upon us. No wonder that she was elected prom queen, we thought. She is magnetic, poised, and charming beyond description. But her success has not turned her head. She is still the same little innocent girl she was when she first came to old McMicken and met the Mighty Mottern.

Our interview ended, we kissed her goodnight and wended our way homeward, taking with us memories, hopes, and promises of a date sometime in the near future.

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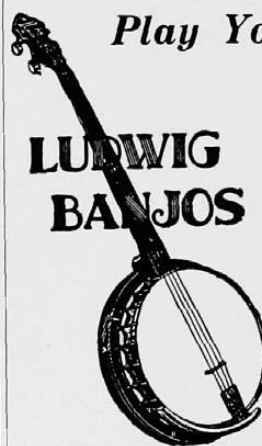
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