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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS BULLETIN

The purpose of this Bulletin is to bring to the newspapers of Wisconsin and their readers—the people of the state—pertinent news and information concerning their State University. The University Press Bureau will gladly furnish any special news or feature stories to editors. Address letters to R. H. Foss, editor, Press Bureau, University of Wisconsin.

March 6, 1935

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 30, No. 34

High Schools Of State In Finals For State Titles

Highest Honors in Debate and Dramatics are Goal of Sectional Aspirants

When the last of the sectional debate and dramatics contests are concluded at various Wisconsin centers next Saturday, the winning high school teams will be those to enter the state contests at Madison for the highest honors in these branches of forensics. The ranking teams in debate will compete at the state capital on March 22.

The place and the date for the state dramatics contest will be decided by the competing schools. The date will be between March 23 and 30.

Roundtable for Debaters

The state debate at Madison will be followed the next morning by a debate conference and breakfast at the Memorial Union, at which the visiting debaters and coaches will be guests of the association.

Eau Claire high school, representative of the northwest section, was last year's state debate champion, while Oconomowoc was the state drama title winner.

Registration for forensics this year exceeds that for 1934. In dramatics the increase in schools participating has been about 25 per cent.

The latest report to Miss Almere Scott, secretary of the Wisconsin High School Forensic association, includes the following schools in the debate and play schedules:

High Schools in Debate
DEBATE—EAU CLAIRE DISTRICT—Augusta, Chippewa Falls, Colfax, Eau Claire, Menomonic; LA CROSSE DISTRICT—Sparta, Tomah, Viroqua;

MILWAUKEE DISTRICT—Beaver Dam, Berlin, Columbus, Cudahy, Hartford, Horicon, Kenosha, Mayville, Milwaukee, Washington, Oconomowoc, Racine (William Horlick), Waukesha, Wau-pun, Wauwatosa, West Allis, West Bend, West Milwaukee;

OSHKOSH DISTRICT—Clintonville, De Pere, Kaukauna, Kewaunee, Menasha, Neenah, New London, Oconto, Oconto Falls, Pulaski, Shawano, West De Pere;

PLATTEVILLE DISTRICT—Bloomington, Mt. Hope, Prairie du Chien, Richland Center;

RIVER FALLS DISTRICT—Amery, Baldwin, Hayward, Hudson, New Richmond, River Falls, Roberts, Spooner;

STEVENS POINT DISTRICT—Adams-Friendship, Antigo, Marion, Marshfield, Mattoon, Medford, Merrill, Mosinee, Nekeosa, Phillips, Port Edwards, Redgranite, Rhineland, Rosholt, Scandinavia, Stevens Point, Tigerton, Tomahawk, Wausau, Wautoma, Westfield, Wisconsin Rapids, Wittenberg;

SUPERIOR DISTRICT—Mellen, Park Falls, Superior (East), Washburn;

WHITEWATER DISTRICT—Baraboo, Brodhead, Deerfield, Edgerton, Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, Hartland, Lodi, Madison (Wisconsin high), Middleton, Oregon, Randolph, Stoughton, Verona, Watertown, Waunakee.

These Enter Dramatics
DRAMATICS—EAU CLAIRE DISTRICT—Bloomer, Eau Claire, Lady-smith, New Auburn, Osseo, Thorp;

LA CROSSE DISTRICT—Bangor, Fountain City, Needaah, Tomah, Trempealeau, West Salem;

MILWAUKEE DISTRICT—Columbus, Horicon;

OSHKOSH DISTRICT—Menasha, Oconto Falls, Shawano, West De Pere;

PLATTEVILLE DISTRICT—Darlington;

RIVER FALLS DISTRICT—Baldwin, Hudson, Osceola, River Falls, Spooner, Woodville;

STEVENS POINT DISTRICT—Athens, Birnamwood, Marion Mattoon, Mosinee, Nekeosa, Rosholt, Scandinavia, Tigerton, Wisconsin Rapids, Wittenberg;

WHITEWATER DISTRICT—Jefferson.

Hygienic Lab at U. W. Guards State's Water Against Germs of Various Diseases

Guarding Wisconsin's water supply against infection from germs of half a dozen dangerous diseases and thereby protecting the health of the state's citizens is one of the big jobs being done in the state laboratory of hygiene at the University of Wisconsin.

Constant examination of the water supplies of the state's cities and villages and of many private wells is the way in which the laboratory's microbe hunters guard the state's water supply. The work is done under the direction of Dr. M. S. Nichols, chemist, and Dr. W. D. Stovall, director of the laboratory.

Diseases which may be carried by water, according to Dr. Nichols, are typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery, diarrhea, and amoebic dysentery, the disease which exacted a toll among World Fair visitors a year ago.

Searching for germs of these diseases in the state's water supply, the laboratory has examined 17,402 samples of water from all parts of the state during the past year, it is revealed in the annual report of the laboratory made public recently. Besides this work, the laboratory examined thousands of other specimens suspected of disease during the year.

Frequent bacteriological tests made on city water supplies prove that they are kept in safe condition. Dr. Nichols points out, although occasionally there happens to develop slight defects in

Dangers to Family Health, Hidden in Home Plumbing Systems, Uncovered by U. W. Men

Important facts concerning hidden dangers to family health that may lurk in plumbing systems of homes have been uncovered through extensive research by hydraulic and sanitary engineering experts at the University of Wisconsin.

Under the direction of Prof. F. M. Dawson, several staff men have been performing experiments which reveal dangers unknown heretofore in many old types of plumbing systems. The explanation for the existence of these dangers is technically termed "back-siphonage"—that is, where the plumbing system is so arranged in a home that polluted water may seep into the safe supply, any drop in pressure in the pure water pipes may create a vacuum which will suck impure water into these pipes.

This may occur, Prof. Dawson points out, in many homes where there is a bathroom on the second floor or a washroom in the basement with tubs connected directly to the water system. The danger is immeasurably increased in office buildings, factories, and hospitals where complicated plumbing systems supply water to many floors.

Need Rigid Inspection

Yet, strangely enough, the very existence of this dangerous condition has remained unknown to sanitary engineers and health experts until recently, and even now some deny it, according to Prof. Dawson, who points out that private plumbing fixtures in every home must be more rigidly inspected for possible leaks.

In the hydraulics laboratory Prof. Dawson has built an experimental home water supply system about 35 feet high. The system was built in 1930 by the university in cooperation with the Chicago Hospital association. Its purpose was to find out just what causes pollution of water in the home. During the summer of that year the first experiments in control of back siphonage were conducted, and the work has been going on ever since.

Learning of the existence of this project, large manufacturers of plumbing fixtures all over the country have asked the university to test their equipment to discover possible defects. And not infrequently, according to Prof. Dawson, serious defects in valves controlling the operation of the fixtures have been uncovered.

Design Safer Valves

Information they have so obtained has led manufacturers to design safer valves. Better designs of plumbing fixtures, such as wash bowls, closets, and bathtubs have also been suggested to the manufacturers by Prof. Dawson and his associates to better safeguard

the health of their users.

Moreover, the experiments have disclosed the fact that many old-fashioned plumbing systems are a menace to community health. A faulty, worn-out valve of ancient design may endanger the life of dozens of families in the same apartment building or neighborhood. For once impure water escapes into the mains from a closet bowl or washtub it can pollute water of the whole vicinity.

There are many conditions under which back-siphonage can occur. A sudden drain of water from the street mains to fight a fire may create a drop in pressure sufficient to cause the water in the pipes of a home or office to flow backward. This creates a vacuum in the pipe which may draw disease-laden water from a closet bowl into the fresh supply. Thus, especially where the polluted water comes from an office building or, worse, a hospital, a city may suffer from the scourge of typhoid fever, amoebic dysentery, or a host of other deadly diseases.

Eliminate Cross-Connections

The problem facing sanitary engineers is to insure that this cannot occur. Back siphonage can best be averted by elimination of all cross-connections between safe and unsafe water pipes, and the careful inspection of valves to be used, Prof. Dawson contends. A leaky valve may create a dangerous cross-connection. Or a check valve in the basement may allow water, under a sudden reversal of pressure, to form these dangerous vacuums.

Air vents located in pipes at strategic points in the plumbing system, so that air may enter the pipe in case a condition arises under which a vacuum might form, thus eliminating the possibility of the vacuum forming and sucking water from fixtures, are strongly recommended by Prof. Dawson as essential safeguards against back-siphonage.

The State University has conducted some of the most exhaustive research into the nature and prevention of back-siphonage than any other similar institution in the nation. The work has been carried on in cooperation with the state board of health.

The department is soon to publish a bulletin dealing with technical results of its studies during the past few years in cooperation with the state board of health. The bulletin will be distributed among plumbers and architects of the state, giving them the latest scientific data on this vital problem. Authors of the bulletin are A. A. Kalinske and William S. Kinne, faculty research associates working under Prof. Dawson.

Dr. Frank Gives Annual Phi Beta Kappa Address

Dr. Glenn Frank, president of the University of Wisconsin, gave the annual Phi Beta Kappa address recently at Boston, Mass. Phi Beta Kappa is the leading national honorary scholastic organization of the country.

In giving the address, Pres. Frank spoke before the Phi Beta Kappa society of greater Boston, which consists of the joint association of the Phi Beta Kappa societies of Harvard university and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Pres. Frank also spoke before thousands of teachers and educational administrators from all parts of the nation when he gave the opening address and lead discussion at the recent session of the National Educational association convention in Atlantic City, N. J.

It is estimated by the federal office of education that more than 833,000 students graduated from the nation's high schools in 1931-32, and that there were 138,000 students graduated from first-degree courses in colleges.

For every 1,000 Americans 21 years of age and over in 1932, about 25 had college degrees and 109 had high school diplomas.

equipment which are remedied immediately when laboratory tests prove them to exist.

But rural supplies of water are not so safe, he asserts. Of the 300,000 private wells in Wisconsin today, it is estimated that about half would fail to pass the test for drinking water as laid down by the U. S. public health service. This estimate is based on examinations made of water from several thousand wells in the state.

Many of the wells receive their pollution and become unsafe because surface drainage gets into the top of the well, Dr. Nichols said. To remedy such a situation, he explained that if a pump is bolted at the top of the casing of a drilled well with a gasket between, surface water can be readily excluded. Also, toilets should be located in such a place that no surface or underground connection is possible. Because of the harmful effects of polluted water, every citizen getting his supply from private wells should assure himself of its purity by bacteriological examination.

Due to the work of the state laboratory of hygiene at the University, in guarding the water supply of the state, the death rate from typhoid fever, for instance, has been reduced from 336 persons in 1908 in Wisconsin, to only 16 in 1933, Dr. Nichols said.

Choose Two for Cancer Research

U. W. Grads Named to Conduct Study on Cancer Problems

Two Wisconsin men, both of them graduates of the University of Wisconsin Medical school, have been appointed to special research fellowships for the study of cancer problems at the State University, it was announced today by Dr. Charles R. Bardeen, dean of the Medical school.

The two men are Dr. Frederic Mohs, who entered the University from Burlington in 1927, and Dr. Harold Rusch, who came to the University from Merrill in 1926.

Both men will carry on research on cancer problems in University laboratories under special fellowships established recently by the board of regents with funds made available by the income of the \$450,000 Bowman bequest, left to the University in the will of the late Jennie Bowman, Wisconsin Dells, who died about a year ago.

Income from the fund at present amounts to about \$12,000 yearly, and at their last meeting, the regents decided to use this money to establish a series of special cancer research fellowships, which would enable the University to push forward its efforts to determine the cause and cure of that dreaded disease, cancer.

Both of the men appointed have been working on cancer problems since their graduation. Dr. Mohs obtained his doctor of medicine degree from the University last June. Since then he has been an interne at Multnomah hospital at Portland, Ore. While in the Medical school at Wisconsin, he carried on research on various cancer problems under the direction of Prof. Michael Guyer, and the results of much of his work has already been published or is now in process of publication.

Dr. Rusch obtained his degree in medicine in 1933. Following graduation, he served as interne at the Wisconsin General hospital at the State University for a year, and during the school year 1934-35 he was instructor in the department of physiology of the Medical school. While an interne, he became interested in cancer problems, and he was carrying on research work in that field under the direction of Dr. Walter J. Meek when he was appointed to one of the special fellowships.

There were in America in 1932 about 1,900,000 living college graduates and about 8,100,000 living high school graduates who had not continued their education through colleges, it is revealed by government statistics.

Sets Dates for 1936 Farm and Home Week

The week of February 3-7, 1936, has been set for the next annual Wisconsin Farm and Home Week, according to K. L. Hatch, in charge of this annual state event. The 1935 week, recently held, was attended by people from every one of Wisconsin's seventy-one counties. As many as 18 separate farm organizations held meetings during the week.

Jobs Increase for Women Trained in Clothing, Textiles

An increasing demand is being reported for young women trained in the field of clothing and textiles. The home economics department at the University of Wisconsin, reports a considerable number of recent graduates now holding responsible positions in these fields.

Mrs. Julia Nofsker, Madison, is instructing at the University of Wisconsin. Shirley Fabrick, Bozeman, Montana, returned to a position in the public schools of her home town. St. Elizabeth College, New Jersey, is employing Mary Omen of Princeton, Illinois. Alice Wahler of Laval, is teaching at Beaver Dam, while Hedwig Raemisch, Madison, is employed at the vocational school in Sheboygan. Frieda Reid, Madison, and Florence Hinze, Waupun, are vocational teachers in a Milwaukee high school.

The Almond high school has in its employ Vera McDowell, Montello, as home economics instructor. Velma Reich, of Black Earth, is home economics teacher at Walworth. Home economics teaching positions are also held by Helen Snyder of Janesville, and Lucille Stair of Brodhead. Miss Stair is employed at Marshfield, and Miss Snyder at Hillsboro.

Several graduates are engaged as designers of textile materials. They include Helen Farley, Aurora, Illinois, with a manufacturing company in New York City; Margaret Morrissey and Edith Reynolds of Madison, Edna Aller, Janesville, and Virginia Buswell of Oak Park, Illinois, are thus employed in Chicago, while Violet Casperson, Frederic, is similarly employed in Minneapolis.

Those engaged in work calling for a knowledge of materials as well as buying power of the average family, include Margaret Gustine, Canton, Illinois, who is employed at Carthage, Illinois, and Genevieve Drath, Wauwatosa who is assisting with county relief work.

Jean McFarlane, Janesville, is employed as a home demonstration agent in Winnebago county. Miss Ruth Peck, Spring Green, is clothing specialist from the state home economics extension service.

Other positions in which those trained in textiles became engaged include commercial demonstrators, clothing shop owners, and personal advisors, in colors and lines. Ruth Martin, Chicago, operates a shop of her own; Emmeline Lewis, Madison, is employed as an employment manager at a store in Boston, and Leone Heuer, Racine, is in charge of the home economics department of a large Chicago department store.

U. W. Enrollment for Second Semester Is Up 18 Per Cent

Enrollment in the University of Wisconsin for the second semester of this school year is 18 per cent higher than it was a year ago at this time, figures recently released by the University statistician's office have revealed.

The total enrollment for the second semester is 7,745 students, the figures showed. This is an increase of 873 students over the total of 6,872 enrolled for the second semester of last year.

The figures show an increase of 832 students or 15 per cent in the enrollment of students from Wisconsin homes, and an increase of 41 students or three per cent in enrollment of out-of-state students.

The figures also reveal an increase of 12 per cent in the enrollment of old students, that is, students who were in school the first semester, and an increase of 21 per cent in the enrollment of new and reentered students.

U. W. Men to Present Scientific Papers at Annual Academy Meet

Many University of Wisconsin faculty members will read scientific papers at the 65th annual meeting of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters to be held at Beloit April 12 and 13.

One of the oldest organizations in the state, the Academy has held annual meetings since it was chartered by the state legislature in 1870. Besides Beloit, meetings have been held at the State University and in Oshkosh, Whitewater, Appleton, Williams Bay, and Ripon, according to H. A. Schuette, professor of chemistry at the University, who is secretary-treasurer of the organization.

The Wisconsin section of the American Chemical society will meet jointly with the Academy this year, Prof. Schuette announced. Norris F. Hall, professor of chemistry at the State University, will be the main speaker at the annual Academy dinner to be held Friday night, April 12. Prof. Hall will speak on "Chemistry Looks at Nature and Man."

Badger Citizens to Attend 6 Summer Meetings at U. W.

Students, Teachers, State Leaders to Gather at State U. for Special Meets

Hundreds of Wisconsin citizens, ranging from high school students and their teachers to rural leaders from all parts of the state, will gather on the campus of their State University during the coming summer to attend six special institutes held in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin's 37th annual summer session, which opens July 1.

Although not a part of the summer session, the special institutes will all take place during the six weeks summer school, thus enabling those attending the special meetings to enroll in the University at the same time and take studies which correspond with the work of the institutes in which in regular classes may also attend the they are interested. Those enrolled special meetings.

300 on Faculty

Classes will be given by about 300 faculty members in the 1935 summer school, which opens on July 1 and closes on Aug. 9. Special nine-week courses in the Graduate school, offered again this year, will begin on July 1 and end on Aug. 30. The Law School opens its 10-week session on June 24 and closes on Aug. 30.

The six special meetings which are expected to draw hundreds of Wisconsin citizens to the campus of the state's major educational institution are:

The School Administrators' conference, July 15-19;
The Bandmasters', Orchestra Leaders', and Chorus Conductors' clinic, and a conference for piano teachers, July 8-28;
The Dramatic and Speech institute, July 1-19;
The Rural Leadership conference, July 1-12;
The Conference on Apprenticeship Laws, Federal and State, for which dates are to be set later;
The summer seminar of the Association of College Unions, July 14-26.

In addition to these special institutes, the summer school for workers in industry will probably hold its annual campus labor institute early in August. This special meeting annually brings to the campus several hundred state labor leaders and workers in industry.

All of the special institutes except the conference on state and federal apprenticeship laws and the meeting of the Association of College Unions have been held during previous summer sessions. Plans for the conference on apprenticeship laws are now being made by Scott H. Goodnight, director of the summer session, and the state industrial commission.

Schoolmen to Meet

The School Administrators' conference is sponsored by the school of education, while the annual Music Clinic is held by the school of music, and gives training to bandmasters, orchestra leaders, chorus conductors, and this year to piano teachers.

Held under the auspices of the University bureau of dramatic activity, the annual Dramatic and Speech Institute each year draws many men and women to the campus from Wisconsin and other states. The Rural Leadership conference, under the direction of Prof. J. H. Kolb of the college of agriculture, attracts many leaders from rural communities throughout the state.

Collegians Hold State Rural Life Conference in May

"What kind of rural life do young people want?" is the theme chosen for the Wisconsin Collegiate Country Life conference to be held on May 11 at the University of Wisconsin college of Agriculture.

Students from all parts of the state will participate in the conference. The state advisory committee in charge of the event consists of E. L. Kirkpatrick, of the State University college of agriculture; A. W. Zellmer, principal of the Wood County normal school; and G. P. Devoy, rural sociologist at the Platteville state teacher's college.

Subjects will be considered by discussion groups at the conference include: vocation and employment; leisure time activities; informal education; and rural organization.

Young people of rural Wisconsin, students in high school training courses, county normal schools, colleges, and the State University today, perhaps as never before, are looking to agriculture as a way of living as well as a means of earning money. More than 500 attended the conference held last year.

U. W. Journalism Grads Head Teachers' Group

Three graduates of the school of journalism at the University of Wisconsin were recently named to offices in the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism and the American Association of Teachers of Journalism. They are Kenneth E. Olson, who was reelected president of the teachers' organization, and Roy L. French, who was elected vice-president; and Ralph D. Casey, who was named editor of the Journalism Quarterly, publication of the association.