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Youth Will Discuss After-war Problems On Debate Platform

Post-war world organization, from the viewpoints of Wisconsin high school youth, will be rationalized from hundreds of school platforms next year in programs planned by the Wisconsin High School Forensic association. This general topic, or phases of it, will become the 1943 debate issue for high schools, and will also be adopted by many colleges and universities.

Exact wording of the question will be announced in the fall.

To supply background material and references to sources, the forensic association, through the University of Wisconsin extension department of debating and public discussion, will make available to schools the official Debate Handbook, in two parts, published by the National University Extension association. The Town Meeting of the Air program of Nov. 12 will be devoted to this debate theme.

Public Opinion

"The thousands of discussions to be held throughout the country during the coming winter will help create an informed public opinion," said Prof. Henry L. Ebanks, of the department of speech, University of Wisconsin, "so that, when the time comes, we will be ready to adopt the best solution to this vital problem."

The state forensic association last year sent 44 debaters from 11 schools, 28 players from four schools, and 141 others from 88 schools to other state contests (finals). It sponsored four regional speech institutes, which reported a total attendance of approximately 1,320. Three institutes are planned this fall: At Wausau, Oct. 16; at Eau Claire, Oct. 24; at Madison, in November.

Schools participating in the dramatic contests are required to register for them by Nov. 2; for debate and other contests, by Dec. 12.

Annual Meeting

Announcement was made of the annual meeting of the forensic association, to be held Nov. 6 at the Milwaukee Art institute auditorium. Among the proposals to be considered is the addition of panel or public discussion to the list of tournament activities. Final action will be taken on several constitutional amendments relating to eligibility and procedure. One of these recommends that membership in the association be open to any Wisconsin public or private high school. The effect intended is to admit parochial schools, thus widening the opportunity for training for effective citizenship through organized forensics.

Wisconsin Graduates' Round Robin Letter Travels for 35 Years

A round robin letter which was started by Richard L. Loesch, who graduated from the University of Wisconsin engineering school in 1907, is still circulating after 35 years of travel.

The letter has constantly pursued its cycle over the United States and for a time included one stop in England. It has travelled about two million miles and has made at least two hundred complete cycles.

At least 1,400 letters have been written by the seven members of the group during these past 35 years. The members of this particular round robin look forward to its return after each succeeding circuit and have become more attached to "the robin" as the years roll on, declares one of the members.

The seven engineers among whom the letter was started include R. L. Loesch, Montrose, Colo.; Allen C. Hibbard, Oakland, Calif.; E. P. Hubbard, Milwaukee; C. W. Green, New York, and formerly London; R. B. Anthony, Chicago; A. J. Goedjen, Green Bay; and Louis Reinhard, Milwaukee, who is now deceased.

Marketing Farm Timber Told in New Circular

Thousands of dollars are lost every year by Wisconsin woodlot owners who do not know the value of their timber products or the kind and specifications demanded by the different markets, declare extension foresters in the new circular, "Marketing and Harvesting Farm Timber" recently published by the Extension Service of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Saw timber, for example, if sold on the stump rarely brings more than 20 per cent of its rough lumber value, while logs delivered to the mill bring about 60 per cent or more of such value, the foresters explain.

Ways of cutting various kinds of logs for such purposes as veneer logs, railroad ties, plywood, pilings and poles, boxwood, posts, bowling pins and fuel wood are explained in the circular.

U. W. Students Form New Historical Society

An enthusiastic group of students, both graduate and undergraduate, has recently formed a historical society at the University of Wisconsin.

The group plans to study Wisconsin history by actually doing historical and museum work with the State Historical Society. The students are helping do the research and arrange the materials for the series of rotating displays shown in the main corridor of the historical library building on the lower campus at the State University.

The University historical society includes students interested in history, museum work, art, radio, and public relations. Its members are anxious to prepare museum articles for display, build forms, arrange cases, prepare labels, draw posters, write and take part in radio dramatizations, guide classes through the displays, speak before schools, and prepare publicity releases. The group also plans to visit the museums and historic spots of the state from time to time.

To Editor:—The news in this bulletin is prepared especially for the press and is released for publication on the date below. Please address exchange copies to Editor, 711 Langdon Street.

Release Wednesday, September 9, 1942

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.

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Spanish Study List Hits New Record Enrollment at U. W.

Interest in Latin America, greatly intensified by the war, is reflected in skyrocketing enrollments in Spanish courses noted by the University of Wisconsin extension division, as well as by department heads in charge of campus courses. The extension division reported 159 Spanish registrations in the last fiscal year—three times as many as in many former years, while the residence course enrollment in Spanish jumped correspondingly.

The same trend was observed nationally. A midwestern college survey showed a 47 per cent gain, while in the south the gain was as high as 62 per cent. The demand for Spanish was less in the east and west. Sectional increases, it was indicated, run in proportion to proximity to Latin America.

It is not only the colleges that are teaching Spanish; many secondary schools are now introducing it in their curricula.

The University Extension division reported that the study of German has shown little diminution since the war began. Its new enrollments in German in 1941-42 were 147, only ten less than a high level ten years ago, while the annual total has been fairly uniform over the past ten years.

Military German

The extension division announced it has just added to its correspondence-study list a course in military German, useful for persons employed in our intelligence service as well as for general needs.

All foreign language courses taught by the extension division are approved by the Army Institute for army students everywhere.

Students of French and Italian in the extension division showed a decrease of about one-half from the number taking these subjects a decade ago. A recent enrollment in elementary Italian by an Italian-American at Fort Sheridan was motivated by strictly domestic reasons. Unable to write in Italian, he wanted to understand the language in order to correspond with his mother, who can write only in her native tongue.

Because the government needs linguists, there is no danger of foreign language instruction being eliminated in American colleges during the present war, according to Prof. W. F. Twaddell, head of the University's German department. The need for linguists will be accentuated by the government's vast new responsibility for helping shape the world of the future, he indicated.

Interpreters

From the standpoint of foreign language teachers, an adequate knowledge of other countries and their languages is essential during the war and during the reconstruction era to follow. The American government already has asked for qualified interpreters. Britain is reported to be taking men out of prison camps to teach German to her soldiers.

With Allied triumph, this country will face responsibilities in her relations with other nations beyond all previous experience, and large numbers of her citizens will enter various types of foreign service. Hence, according to one commentator, colleges and universities should be educating more students to become masters of other tongues and more discerning students of foreign problems.

Four of Nine Named to Railway Labor Board Are Wisconsin Alumni

Serving on a nine-man national railway labor panel under newly-organized machinery are four University of Wisconsin alumni, appointed by President Roosevelt.

They are William M. Leiserson, graduate of 1908, who was named chairman of the new panel; Judge Wiley Rutledge, who graduated in 1914 and is now associate justice of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; Dr. Edwin E. Witte, who graduated in 1909, and is now a professor of economics at the University; and John A. Fitch, 1909 graduate, director of industrial courses at the New York School of Social Work.

Mr. Leiserson's present appointment adds to his already busy career in the field of labor. Now on the National Labor Relations Board, he had previously served on the National Mediation board and the National Labor board of the NRA. He had been professor of economics and political science at Toledo university from 1915 to 1918, and professor of economics at Antioch college since 1925.

Professor Witte has also been called to Washington at other times, and directed the Roosevelt commission on economic security, as a result of which Roosevelt's social security program was evolved.

Before Judge Rutledge's appointment to the Court of Appeals in 1939 he had been dean of the College of Law at the University of Iowa. He has also been a professor of law at the University of Colorado and Washington university, and practiced law in Boulder, Colo.

Mr. Fitch has been teaching labor courses at the New York School of Social Work for 25 years. He is the author of "The Steel Workers," "Causes of Industrial Unrest," and "Vocational Guidance in Action."

U. W. Geology Survey Aids War Construction Projects in State

Because the geological survey at the University of Wisconsin has in its files information about the geology, the gravel and sand deposits, and the water supply of almost all parts of Wisconsin, it was able to help save a great deal of time in construction in the state of various large projects necessitated because of the war effort, Ernest F. Bean, state geologist at the University revealed recently.

The geological survey, which is an independent department authorized by the Board of Regents of the University, yet connected with the University geology department, has long performed many services in aiding the highway department, and serving as geological advisers to citizens, to the various departments of state government, to municipalities, and to business interests, but its facilities have proved especially valuable for these war-time construction needs.

Also increased because of the war necessity for more minerals is the department's service of testing samples of minerals sent in to determine if any are from valuable deposits.

Aid Ordnance Works

When road builders, well drillers, and other construction companies first came to Wisconsin to start building the Badger Ordnance works at Merrimac, they asked the state geological survey for information on the location and amount of building materials available nearby. The survey gave them this information from its files and thus saved the builders time in getting construction under way.

An enormous tonnage of sand and gravel is being produced locally, which should result in large savings in cost and a reduced burden for the railroads.

The well drillers also wanted information on the water supply in the Merrimac territory, and on the kind of material to be drilled through before reaching the supply. Since the

department keeps much detailed information on all the wells drilled in the state, it was able to answer these questions, too.

Aid Army Camps

The Madison air force technical school also needed information on a source of limestone and some sub-grade problems, which the survey was able to furnish.

When Camp McCoy at Sparta was being built the survey advised on water supply and loaned some maps and notes. In addition, two of the experienced geologists from the survey were loaned to the engineers in August, 1941, and one of them is now still at the camp acting as general supervisor assisting in the production of shale and limestone.

Because of its previous surveys and knowledge about the geology of the state, the State University geologists know the location and value of most of the mineral deposits of the state. However, the war has now greatly increased interest in mineral deposits of all types, and persons finding anything on their land which they think might be valuable, send a sample to the survey for an analysis. The geological survey has always given this service to the state, but since the war the number of samples submitted has been doubled.

Help Citizens

Iron ore, manganese, zircon, kaolin, talc, and grinding pebbles have been the subjects of numerous conferences and correspondence.

The service of the survey has been valuable in most cases only because it has discouraged the sender from wasting money on exploration where the mineral is of little value.

Interest has been increased also in oil exploration, but because such exploration is useless in nearly all of the state, the survey performs the service again in discouraging expenditures on such ventures.

Engineering College At U. W. Aids State Industry, Citizens

While they produce goods for America's war effort, Wisconsin industries are being served by University of Wisconsin engineering research laboratories, Dean F. Ellis Johnson of the State University College of Engineering declared in a recent address on the University's Music Hall of the Air radio program.

The University's service slogan, "the boundaries of the campus are the boundaries of the state," is being borne out in engineering research projects as well as in special engineering short courses conducted for men at work in industry or in public service, the dean's speech brought out.

"The College of Engineering makes definite contributions to the further instruction of men already in the service of the public or of industry," Dean Johnson said.

"Perhaps it is true that in this wartime emergency the public in general realizes even more than they do in peace time how much the safety and welfare of the nation depends upon the training of the engineers of the nation receive.

"Important by-products of the training of men which are secondary objects of the College of Engineering are researches in fundamental and applied science, applications of research projects as well as in special engineering short courses conducted for men at work in industry or in public service, the dean's speech brought out.

"The department of chemical engineering is studying the application of chemical kinetics to plant design. This study may have a very important bearing on whether you later get tires for your car because it may effect the manufacture of artificial rubber," Dean Johnson pointed out.

Another application of research to the development of new Wisconsin industries is the work which has produced the Baker-Truog process, which makes possible the use of vast Wisconsin clay deposits in manufacturing building tile.

"There are many examples of interest in which problems of state industry are being solved through work done in the College of Engineering," the dean said. He cited the space and cost savings of a great Milwaukee company producing forgings under a war contract as a result of using equipment of unusual design based on research by the department of electrical engineering of the University.

The clay products industry is financing tests on tensile strengths of mortars in the University mechanics department, the dean added, citing such research as an important study carried on cooperatively by funds supplied from sources outside the University.

Before Judge Rutledge's appointment to the Court of Appeals in 1939 he had been dean of the College of Law at the University of Iowa. He has also been a professor of law at the University of Colorado and Washington university, and practiced law in Boulder, Colo.

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Advanced instruction is carried to

the exhibit reveals that even as late as 1930 more than half of Wisconsin's population was of foreign birth or had at least one parent of foreign birth.

First among the wanderers, of course, were the Indians, who came several thousand years ago from the west. Then, in 1634, the French appeared, to control Wisconsin until about 1815. Next the "Old Americans" came, a minority from the Southern states settling in the southwestern Wisconsin lead region, but most of them from New York and New England. After 1850 the Germans, Irish, Scandinavians and other northern European groups became numerous, and about 1900 the Poles, Italians, and various southern Europeans began to migrate.

The new exhibition has a striking series of maps showing the migrations and places where the groups settled, portraits of leaders of each nationality, several cases of typical articles which they brought to their new homes and a beautiful group of dolls dressed in the colorful native costumes of the nationalities.

The lower corridor of the Historical Society's library on the University of Wisconsin campus does much to explain how American democracy had worked in Wisconsin in assimilating so many nationalities.

In progress now in the engineering laboratories of the State University are 66 separate research projects, he revealed.

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