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State Legislature Praises Dr. Birge For Long Service

Dr. Edward A. Birge, 89-year-old former president of the University of Wisconsin, was made happy last week when he received a specially printed copy of a joint resolution extending to him the congratulations of the Wisconsin legislature. The resolution was adopted unanimously by both senate and assembly.

Despite his advanced age, Dr. Birge, who served as dean of the college of letters and science from 1891 to 1918, and president from 1918 to 1925, can be found in his campus office every week day, working on problems in the field of hydrobiology.

As one of the directors of the Wisconsin Natural History survey, Dr. Birge has collected more scientific data concerning Wisconsin lakes than any other person, except probably his colleague and co-worker, Dr. Channing Juday. These studies have aided Wisconsin in its conservation work.

Two years ago Dr. Birge took up typing so that he could pound out his own reports and scientific notes on a typewriter. Author of hundreds of scientific reports on his lake and stream studies, he is known throughout the world for his work.

In reply to the legislative resolution, which highly praised him to his "outstanding record of public service through these 66 years," Dr. Birge modestly wrote to the Wisconsin legislature:

"It has always been a source of great pleasure to me—and of some pride—that it has been my good fortune through my active life, to do my part in advancing this Commonwealth through its University."

The complete text of the joint legislative resolution follows:

"Whereas, the University of Wisconsin's President Emeritus E. A. Birge was honored last fall by national scientists and Wisconsin friends on the occasion of his 89th birthday; and

"Whereas, this grand old man, known to so many as 'Dean Birge,' became associated with the University of Wisconsin in 1875 as instructor of natural history, and has an outstanding record of public service through these 66 years, probably equaled by no other Wisconsin citizen; now therefore, be it

"Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, that the Wisconsin legislature pause in its deliberations to extend sincere congratulations and felicitations to Dean Birge for his long continued, distinguished services to the University and the State of Wisconsin."

U. W. Astronomer Honored for Work

Prof. Joel Stebbins, director of Washburn observatory at the University of Wisconsin, received the Catherine Wolfe Bruce gold medal for 1941 for his outstanding contributions in the field of astronomy at a meeting of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific at San Francisco recently. Prof.

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.

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.

Release Wednesday, Feb. 26, 1941

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Pres. Dykstra Confident State Will Aid Its University This Year; Praises American Youth

Belief that Gov. Heil and the State legislature "will see to it this year that the University of Wisconsin will have the funds necessary to an effective working of this great institution," was expressed by Pres. C. A. Dykstra in a recent talk on several Wisconsin radio stations. Pres. Dykstra appeared on the radio program with the University concert band.

"This State has provided for her children a great center of learning and inspiration which we call the University of Wisconsin," Pres. Dykstra said. "We who are responsible for its welfare, both material and spiritual, are naturally anxious to keep up its reputation and make reasonable provision for its maintenance."

I believe that the elected representatives of the people who are now in session in Madison will see to it this year that the University will have the funds necessary to an effective working of this great institution," he asserted. "The Governor has indicated that he understands the University problem and that he will do everything possible to see that we have certain necessary facilities as well as operating money.

Not in Glory Business

"Our University wants nothing for its own glory. It is not in the glory business. It asks only to be allowed to do its very best for the young men and women of Wisconsin. What we need in these treacherous days is the development of leaders who can give us intelligent direction, scientists who can show us the way to better living, teachers who can bring inspiration and understanding to the children of the State and innovators and inventors in our search for better ways of doing.

Stebbins presented a paper on astronomy at the meeting.

In speaking Dr. Stebbins said that stars may be potential power plants, but that science has not yet been able to tap them for enough energy to wind a clock. He said that the amount of starlight-power reaching the earth is so limited that there isn't any left by the time it is measured.

Dr. Stebbins' award came to him for his work in measuring star brilliancy to 1-1000th of a magnitude through the adaptation of the selenium cell and the photo-electric cell to a highly accurate system for measuring starlight.

He said it would take the combined light of ten trillion stars, focused into one telescope, to run an ordinary 100-watt light bulb.

With delegates from all colleges and universities in the state expected to attend, the Student Religious Council of the University of Wisconsin is sponsoring an all-state religious conference to be held on the State University campus Feb. 28-March 2.

The conference is being held as a preliminary to the annual Religious Emphasis Week which will be held on the campus March 2 to March 9. During the entire week, religious leaders from all parts of the nation and representing all denominations will speak to Wisconsin students on the general relationship of religion to daily living.

The purpose of the preliminary conference is to promote student religious fellowship on and beyond the college campuses of Wisconsin. All denominational groups are taking part in the conference.

The conference will open on Friday, March 28, with registration in the Congregational church near the campus. At an opening dinner meeting the same day, Dean Frank O. Holt, of the University Extension division, will speak on "The College Campus Needs Religion."

A general symposium and several program meetings will be held in the Wisconsin Union building on Saturday, March 1, with Madison pastors leading discussions, and a student religious convocation is planned for the Wisconsin Union theater at 8 p. m. on Sunday, March 2.

These are our tasks at the University as we see them and we take our job seriously. Wisconsin must be a better State because of its University. Except this be true we have no need for such an institution.

"Education is not perfect; it does not accomplish all that it hopes to. None the less, it is the greatest factor in a successful democracy. Ignorance is the tool of tyranny. Whenever the dictator takes charge, his first target is the educational system including the library. He burns books and exiles the professors. Then, with much less interference, he can work his will.

U. W. State Linked

Schools and colleges have always been the stronghold and centers of freedom. Ours must continue to be. Here in Wisconsin we want our University to contribute to the advancement of the democratic idea and be a bulwark in our national defense. Together the State and the University will undertake our inescapable task and responsibility. The future of our Commonwealth and of the University are liked together, forever. On Wisconsin applies to both."

Pres. Dykstra returned to the University in February from his work in Washington as director of the national Selective Service law. He has served as president of the State University since May 1, 1937, but was loaned to the federal government three months ago to direct the job of drafting the nation's youth for national preparedness.

"I've learned many things since coming to this State in 1937," he said during the program. "One of them is that when once the Wisconsin spirit

begins to run warm in your veins you never quite cool off. My sojourn in Washington for the last three months has made me realize more than ever how much a part of the Wisconsin landscape I have become. Not that I have not enjoyed my assignment in our national capital as Director of Selective Service. I have and I hope I have learned much more about our youth in all parts of the country.

Praises American Youth

"My confidence in the younger generation has been confirmed by what has been happening all over this great country," he declared. "Don't let anybody tell you that our American youth will sell America short. The overwhelming majority of our young men today are indicating by their attitude and their actions that they will gladly match action and duty with their privileges and freedoms.

"They feed a responsibility for the maintenance of what we hold dear and for the extension of the democratic way of doing things even in our own country. They know that democracy is not just something inherited but rather a dynamic enterprise to be furthered and perfected. They know too that unless we go forward we are liable to slip back, losing some things that are very dear to us.

"As I return to the campus I rejoice again in the kind of young people sent here from the homes of this State," Pres. Dykstra said. "Here is a cross section of the population of Wisconsin—students from farm and city, from all kinds of homes and backgrounds, of all faiths and religions, students of every kind of capacity and talent."

Plan Religious Emphasis Week at U. W. March 2-9

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Wisconsin Orchardists Plan March Sessions

Many county fruit growers associations have postponed their regular winter meetings from December to March. Orchardists at many of these gatherings will confer with Conrad Kuehner, extension fruit specialist of the University of Wisconsin, and H. J. Rahmlow, secretary of the State Horticultural Society, on current fruit growing problems.

Dates set for orchard meetings include: March 3, Dodge county fruit growers association, Court House, Juneau; March 10, Jefferson county fruit growers association, community building, Fort Atkinson; March 17, Ozaukee county fruit growers association, Rivoli Theater, Cedarburg; March 18, Racine county fruit growers association, county school of agriculture, Rochester; March 19, Milwaukee county fruit growers association, Greenfield town hall; March 20, Washington county fruit growers association, Town Hall, Jackson; March 21, Sheboygan county fruit growers association, City Hall, Plymouth. Wisconsin fruit growers are seriously interested these days in the marketing situation created, in part, by the war.

STUDENTS GET NEWS!

Embryo journalists at the University of Wisconsin in the past semester have had printed in Madison newspapers enough copy to fill 47 newspaper pages, or an average of about 61 inches of print—almost three newspaper columns—for each of the 129 students taking the reporting course offered by the School of Journalism.

She is Miss Lulu M. Dryden, known

as the "iron woman of Baltimore," who now directs her own iron and steel products brokerage company. As reported in the New York Times, she turned to the University of Wisconsin, early in her career, for a knowledge of some of the fundamentals of shop practice by the extension method. Assigned to the engineering and drafting department, she reasoned that she needed an educational foundation, such as extension courses help supply. She began her studies with a course in shop sketching.

Now, as in the first world war, Miss Dryden is deep in deals for war contracts related to the defense program.

"While my major knowledge has

been gained from 35 years of practical

experience in the iron and steel in-

dustry," she commented in a letter to Extension officials, "I cannot praise too highly the extension courses offered by colleges today. If young people when starting out in business would aim to secure positions with firms managed by broad-gauge of-

ficers and would supplement this with

selective courses applicable to the

specific work in which they wish to ex-

cel, which can be secured through your

extension system, opportunities even

today are without bounds."

Miss Dryden's years as head pur-

chasing agent were marked by her

recognition as the first woman among

6,000 members of the Purchasing

Agents' association.

According to Miss Dryden, a career

should be a secondary consideration

for women.

"But if necessity demands," The

Times quotes her, "and your pro-

clivities lean toward a career in busi-

ness, then determine your job, fit

yourself to hold it, and be best in your

field."

U. W. Men Help Publish

Dictionary for Youth

Three University of Wisconsin pro-

fessors are included on the advisory

board of the new Thorndike-Century

Senior Dictionary, for students of the

ages 12-20, which is being published

this month. They are: Miles L. Han-

ley, professor of English; R. M. S.

Heffner, professor of German; and

Robert C. Pooley, associate professor

of English. The dictionary is written

expressly for young Americans and

it contains up-to-date definitions of

many of the new words of the lan-

guage, such as bombproof, shelter,

blitzkrieg, and blackout. Simplified

definitions and pronunciations are

featured.

State Debate Title Is Stake in Finals In Madison Tourney

Fourteen Wisconsin high schools, survivors of preliminary and sectional debates in the southern, central and northern sections, will send teams to Madison next Monday, Mar. 3, to contest for highest state honors in debate. The debate question centers on the increase of powers for the federal government. All debates will be open to the public.

Chippewa Falls, Frederic, Madison (Wisconsin High), Mayville, Menomonie, Merrill, Neenah, New Richmond, Port Washington, Superior Central, Two Rivers, Waukesha, Wausau, and West Bend.

Teams which receive "A" ratings in the finals will be declared winners of state title honors. Other possible rankings are "B" and "C." A banner will be awarded to "A" ranking teams, and medals will go to all participants on the basis of their respective ratings.

All participants and coaches will listen to a survey of the debate techniques by the judges, to be given on Tuesday morning at the Memorial Union building on the University of Wisconsin campus.

A speech institute for high schools has been scheduled for Menomonie on Oct. 25, 1941. Similar programs will be offered at Madison in November and at an eastern-northern center.

Four institutes in the season now ending provided special speech instruction for approximately 1,350 high school students from 117 schools.

These activities are annual functions of the Wisconsin High School Forensic association, conducted in cooperation with the State University's department of speech and department of debating and public discussion of the Extension division.

Staff members of the University's College of Agriculture who will address the conference include C. A. Elvehjem, W. C. Frazier, E. G. Hastings, E. E. Heizer, H. C. Jackson, Dave Nusbaum, W. B. Sarles, H. H. Sommer, L. C. Thomsen, Evert Wallenfeldt and K. G. Weckel.

vention. It will be held Sunday, Mar. 2, at 2:45 p. m., also in the Union theater on the campus. The concerts will constitute two of the finest musical events to be held in Wisconsin this year.

Outstanding American musicians, directors, and composers who will direct the band in these concerts include Herbert L. Clarke, of Long Beach, Calif.; Capt. R. B. Hayward, Montreal, Canada; Frank Simon, conductor of the Armcro band, Ohio; A. A. Harding, director of the University of Illinois band; Edwin Franko Goldman, conductor of the famous Goldman band; S. E. Mear, Whitewater, president of the Wisconsin School Music association; John J. Richards, former conductor of the Ringling Bros. circus band; Col. Earl D. Irons, bandmaster of Texas Agricultural college; Capt. Charles O'Neill, New York.

The first of the concerts will be a special one for the young people of Wisconsin this Saturday, March 1, at 3 p