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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.

November 15, 1933

Retentive Power Of Pupils Fortified by Educational Films

Results of Wisconsin Tests Shown to Confirm Permanency of Visual Lessons

New proofs of pupil ability to retain informational knowledge gained from educational motion pictures were reported by John E. Hansen, chief of the bureau of visual instruction in the University of Wisconsin Extension division, writing in the Journal of Experimental Education. The magazine contained a detailed summary of the results of experimental studies of motion picture learning conducted by Mr. Hansen in the Middleton, Wis., high school, and in the Mt. Horeb, Wis., junior high grades.

The topic studied by the two groups was that of the making of pottery, about which they had little previous information. The motion picture film used was a one-reel teaching film production, "Tableware," showing in detail the various steps involved in the manufacture of earthenware in a modern pottery. The reading matter described all steps in the various processes.

Other Studies Confirmed

"The Middleton and Mt. Horeb experiments permit the conclusion," Mr. Hansen commented, "that the educational motion picture is an aid to learning especially in the acquisition of information such as portrayed in the film on the making of pottery, as used in this study. This bears out the results of other studies in this field, notably of those made at New Haven, Conn., and in Great Britain.

"We are convinced, from these studies, that the knowledge gained through pictorial presentation is fully as permanent in its nature as that gained through reading and oral presentation. Apparently the impressions made by combinations of pictures and words are more lasting than those produced by words alone.

Meaning Made Clearer

"It is possible that the association of verbal forms with the appropriate visual images enabled the pupils in the experimental group to gain clearer and more definite notions of objects and their movements. The materials thus became more meaningful and were retained longer than less meaningful material."

In the Middleton experiment the entire high school student body of 150 pupils took part in the tests, while at Mt. Horeb the project was confined to 100 pupils in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

U. W. Faculty Extends Christmas Recess Two Days on Student Request

Heading the request of more than 2,400 students who had signed petitions, the University of Wisconsin faculty voted unanimously recently to change the dates for the annual Christmas recess this year, thereby extending the vacation two days, and to establish a committee which will study the possibilities of a new permanent vacation schedule to replace the present one, which was established in 1922.

The affirmative vote of the faculty brought to a close a successful campaign by the students through the columns of their own daily newspaper, the Daily Cardinal, for the change, which will permit the holiday recess to start at noon on Friday, Dec. 22, and end on Monday, Jan. 8.

Make Up Half Day

Under the original University calendar, the recess would have started in the middle of the week, on Wednesday, Dec. 20, and would have ended at 8 a. m. on Thursday, Jan. 4. The change lengthens the Christmas recess two days, with the loss of only one-half day of class room recitation. This half day's recitation will be made up by the holding of the regular class recitations on Saturday, Nov. 11, which would ordinarily be a holiday.

Change Helps Students

It was pointed out by students in their petition, and by faculty members, that the original dates followed a set calendar which had been established in 1922 along general lines. At that time the recess was started and ended in the middle of the week because of religious objections on the part of some to travel on Sunday, and because transportation facilities in some parts of the state were not operated on Sunday.

In presenting the request of the students to the faculty, Pres. Glenn Frank pointed out that the change in dates would work to the advantage of students living near the University, which would include those in Wisconsin.

Prof. Mark Ingraham said that the students' request seemed to be a most reasonable one, and "I hope that unless some strong arguments can be brought against it, the motion will be passed". The motion was given the unanimous approval of the faculty.

A return to the days when literary and debating societies held a place of first importance on the University of Wisconsin campus is seen in the intramural public discussion contest which is being planned for the Badger campus soon. Nearly 50 teams have already registered to participate in the contest, in which questions of great public interest will be discussed pro and con.

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

Vol. 29, No. 20

Swarm of Leonid Meteors, Lost Comet May Flash Across Sky This Week, U. W. Astronomer Says

Watchers on earth may see a meteoric display on some night this week which will rival that of a century ago when the northeastern sky shortly after midnight suddenly flared up with heavenly fireworks as millions of meteors collided with the earth's atmosphere.

For, according to C. M. Huffer, professor of astronomy at the Washburn observatory of the University of Wisconsin, it is on one of the nights around the middle of November, probably the 14th or 15th, that old Mother Earth in her orbit around the sun crosses the orbit of the Leonids, a swarm of meteors which swing around the sun in an elliptical path.

Look for Lost Comet

At the same time that the state University astronomers are watching the expected meteoric display, they will be making their third search in 33 years for a lost comet—Tempel's comet, it is called. The Leonid meteors were first discovered in 1833, just 100 years ago, when there was a brilliant display. In 1866, when this swarm of meteors again flashed past the earth, they were accompanied by the Tempel comet.

Since it takes the Leonid meteors just 33 years to swing around the sun on their elliptical orbit, astronomers watched for them again in 1899, but the Leonids failed to give a very brilliant display, and neither was the now famous Tempel comet seen, nor has it ever been rediscovered.

Meteors from Sun?

Search for the meteoric swarm and the comet was made by astronomers last November, but the display was not very spectacular. Washburn observatory astronomy students counted 236 meteors which flashed across the sky on one night, but no comet was seen.

As to the origin of the Leonid meteors and the Tempel comet, and the reason for their disappearance in 1899, astronomers are not in complete agreement, according to Mr. Huffer.

Some of them think that meteors and comets come from outer space into the planetary system, while many others believe that they are thrown off from the sun and fail to form into planets.

The interference of two other planets is given as the cause of the disappearance of the meteors and the lost comet in 1899. These two planets are Jupiter and Uranus, both much further away from the sun than the earth.

Planets Attract Them

The interference by these planets on the orbit of the meteors and the lost comet in their journey around the sun is designated by astronomers as "perturbation". By this, it is meant that the gravitational attraction of both Jupiter and Uranus pulled the Leonids and the comet out of their paths sometime between 1866 and 1899, thus making their reappearance around earth in 1899 impossible.

It was thought by many astronomers that this same perturbation might have pulled the comet and meteors back into their original path during the last generation, and that they would now be visible from the earth.

The meteors, which are composed of rocks and gaseous matter, vary in size from grains of sand to masses weighing many tons. Several of these giant meteors are known to have struck the earth in times past, the most recent one in 1908 in northern Siberia. It is said to have devastated an area 15 miles square in a forest. And in Arizona there is a hole in the earth three-quarters of a mile square supposedly made by a meteor buried there.

Inhabitants of earth have nothing to be alarmed about, however, since most of the meteors end their sky trips in ashes long before they come to earth. They are destroyed by the friction generated in the protecting cloak of the earth's atmosphere.

Prof. Olson, 75 Years Old, Serves State, U. W. for 50 Years

Prof. Julius E. Olson, one of the two men who made the University of Wisconsin a center of Norwegian culture and learning in America, celebrated his 75th birthday anniversary last Thursday, Nov. 9.

The beloved professor celebrated his birthday by holding open house at his home during the afternoon and evening. But he spent the morning working at his desk in his Bascom hall office.

Prof. Olson became an instructor in Scandinavian languages at the State University in October, 1883, succeeding Prof. Rasmus B. Anderson, who had already started the work of bringing the University to the fore as a center of Norse learning.

He became assistant professor of Scandinavian languages and literature in 1887, and was made a full professor in 1893, a position which he held until June, 1932, when he was honored by the University by being named emeritus professor.

Taught for 49 Years

Prof. Olson taught his classes continuously for 49 years, which gives him the record of having a longer teaching period than any other man ever connected with the University.

During the past few years, Prof. Olson has devoted his entire time to the job of serving as chairman of the student trust and loan funds committee, a position which he has held since 1887. He was instrumental in enlarging the funds through gifts by thousands of dollars, and is known to hundreds of former and present students who have applied to him for loans to help them through the University.

Besides his work on the student loan fund committee, Prof. Olson has had charge of numerous other activities during his long career of service to the University and the state.

Served U. W. and State

He served as University Editor from 1901 to 1907; he was asked to take charge of the University's commencement exercises in 1887; he was elected secretary of the Alumni association in 1887; and he originated and introduced the "Varsity Welcome" for freshmen in 1913.

Prof. Olson has made two visits to Norway, once in 1902 and again in 1910. Besides lecturing at the University, he has given many lectures, addresses, and orations throughout the Northwest, particularly on great occasions in Norwegian centers. He has distinguished himself as a platform orator, particularly before people of his own blood, on cultural and literary questions of vital interest to them, and has received unstinted praise for his efforts.

conference.

Faculty advisers also will have roundtable discussions of their own, and a special luncheon meeting will be held for them. In addition, other meetings will be held at which various high school publications will be critically discussed.

A "Stunt Banquet" will be one of the highlights of the conference, with various student delegates providing their own stunts in the form of skits, dialogues, recitations, one-act sketches, musical numbers and so forth. Members of the Wisconsin school of journalism staff and other experts in the graphic arts industries will lead conference discussions.

Dean Turneure Honored by Engineering Society

Dr. Frederick E. Turneure, dean of the college of engineering at the University of Wisconsin, was made an honorary member of the American Society of Civil Engineers by vote of the directors of the society recently.

Dean Turneure is the second Wisconsin engineering teacher to be so honored, Dr. Daniel W. Mead having received the award in 1931.

Honorary members, according to the constitution of the society, "shall be chosen only from persons of acknowledged eminence in some branch of engineering or the sciences related thereto." The honor is sparingly granted as there are only 19 honorary members in a total membership of over fifteen thousand.

Dean Turneure is recognized, not only in the United States but throughout the world, as an authority in the field of structural engineering.

Many Counties Send Men to 12-Weeks Dairy Course at U.

Young men from thirteen Wisconsin counties and four neighboring states registered for training in the winter course in dairy manufacturing which just opened for a twelve-week term at the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture at Madison.

Most of these men have positions in dairy plants to which they will return upon the completion of the course, according to H. C. Jackson, of the dairy department, in charge of the course. During the term, students will learn methods of testing milk and its products for quality and composition, as well as manufacturing methods and practical dairy plant operation.

Creamery operation and management, ice cream making, cheese factory operation and management, and the handling of market milk are courses in which students may take special training during the twelve week term. At the completion of the course, those who qualify through actual plant experience and through examination will be given dairy course certificates.

Those registered for the course are: Dan R. Cobb, Iowa; Clarence Germans, Dane county; Elmer Krueger, Waupaca county; Leslie Hirsig, Dodge county; Arthur H. Nelson, Dane county; Harold Sindzinski, Brown county; Alfred Timm, Shawano county; Edward Erickson, Pierce county; Harold Bergman, Polk county; Torkild Hansen, Dane county; Harvey K. Nelson, Minnesota; Clarence G. Scherkenbach, Milwaukee county;

Edward Branstetter, Crawford county; Victor Sorenson, Illinois; Ivan Schalow, Green Lake county; Kenneth Stuart, Green county; Paul Preisig, Marathon county; George Karberg, Wood county; Gordon L. Teske, Langlade county; Woodrow Russell, Oneida county; Everett H. Frailling, Michigan; John Feutz, Dodge county; and Allan Cory, Illinois.

U. W. Course to Aid Sewage Plant Men Gain Best Results

Designed to help sewage plant operators in various Wisconsin towns and cities gain greater efficiency at less cost in the operation of their plants, the second annual short course for sewage plant operators will be held at the University of Wisconsin this year from Jan. 8-13 inclusive, it was announced this week.

In announcing the course, which is to be held again this year because of the success of the first one held last January, F. M. Dawson, professor of hydraulic and sanitary engineering, pointed out that a sewage plant is installed by villages and cities to eliminate a nuisance or health hazard of some kind or other.

Whether or not the plant accomplishes the desired results depends to a large extent upon the operator in charge, he said, explaining that if the operator is willing to work and understands the basic principles underlying sewage treatment satisfactory results can be obtained.

"It is the purpose of this course to inform the operator of the basic principles used in sewage treatment as well as to describe the various methods that have been used in overcoming any operating difficulties he may have encountered," Prof. Dawson said.

The general method of the course will consist of a series of lectures and discussion periods each morning and a four hour laboratory period each afternoon together with several evening lectures. Problems facing individual operators will be considered during the discussions.

Three faculty members, five state sanitary officials, and four sewage plant operators and chemists will give the 14 lectures during the course, which is sponsored jointly by the University department of hydraulic and sanitary engineering, the bureau of sanitary engineering of the state board of health, and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

Rural Communities to Home-cure Meats in Several Counties

Will Study Latest Methods at Community Meetings this Fall

The use of home-butchered, home-cured and home-canned meats is one method by which Wisconsin farmers are planning now to help reduced family budgets this winter.

Realizing that the use of proper methods of processing will do much to improve the quality of the products they prepare, farmers in several counties will hold meat cutting and curing demonstrations where they will observe, at first hand, successful methods of doing this work. J. J. Lacey, of the Wisconsin college of agriculture and Miss Charlotte Clark, of the home economics extension service will conduct the demonstrations.

The demonstrations, many of which will be held at town halls, will include butchering at a nearby farm with cutting and canning done at the meeting hall. Farmers and homemakers will take part in each of the processing steps.

Demonstrations scheduled for November and December are as follows: Tuesday, November 14, West Salem, LaCrosse county; Wednesday, November 15, Viroqua, Vernon county; Thursday, November 16, Viola, Vernon county; Friday, November 17, Richland Center, Richland county; November 21, 22, 23, and 24 in Marathon county; November 27 and 28 in Green Lake county; December 5 and 6 in Pierce county; December 7 and 8 in St. Croix county; December 11 and 12 in Brown county; December 13 in Kewaunee county; and December 14 and 15 in Door county.

Fruit Growers Will Tackle Troubles at Many Fall Meetings

Determined that diseased and wormy apples or undersized fruit shall not stand in the way of getting the best possible market returns for next year's crop, fruit growers in several Wisconsin counties will hold orchard meetings this fall where they will give special consideration to ways of avoiding these troubles.

C. L. Kuehner, fruit extension specialist of the Wisconsin college of agriculture, will conduct pruning demonstrations at these meetings where methods of preventing small fruit and of training the growth of young trees will be studied. Orchard management, methods of fertilizing, and of spraying to control apple scab, apple worms, and maggots will be made a part of each meeting's program.

Orchard meetings scheduled for the next few weeks will be held as follows: November 14-15, Lake Mills with A. A. Zurbach, in charge; November 16, Fort Atkinson, N. O. Eckley, in charge; November 20-21, Ashland county, under the direction of E. F. Pruett, county agent; November 23-24, Pierce county with H. G. Seyforth, county agent, in charge; November 25, Barron county, under the direction of county agent G. W. Vergeront; November 27, Menomonie, with D. P. Hughes, in charge; December 1-2, Fond du Lac county, under the direction of county agent S. P. Murat; December 4-5, Green Lake county, A. D. Carew, county agent in charge; and December 6-7, Winnebago county, under the direction of county agent, O. P. Cuff.

Pepin county growers have tentatively set their meeting for November 22. C. C. Gilman, the county agent is making arrangements for the program and final date.

Plug Tax Holes!

U. W. Man Helps Federal Government Close Up Income Tax Leaks

Harold M. Groves, professor of economics at the University of Wisconsin, member of the 1931 state legislature from Madison, and former member of the state tax commission, has been drafted by the United States government to help "plug the holes" in the federal income tax, it was announced recently.

Prof. Groves has been requested by the federal government's treasury department to serve as consulting economist on federal tax legislation, which is expected to occupy a great deal of attention during the next session of congress.

In accepting the federal government's offer, Prof. Groves made it clear that he was not interested in a permanent federal appointment, as he intends to make his native state, Wisconsin, his field of endeavor. He has requested the University to grant him a leave of absence without pay for the balance of the school year, and if the leave is granted, he will spend part of his time during the next several months in Washington.

"The senate investigating committee has shown that there are huge holes in the federal income tax," said Mr. Groves, "through which millions of dollars are leaking. The government needs those millions and it will be my job to help plug the holes."