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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.

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 1, 1933

Books Chase Gloom From Prison Cells Under State's Plan

Lure of Literature Leads Inmates To New Interest in Life, Report Reveals

Books taken from a prison library to the solitude of the cell are often the means of inculcating constructive and "pro-social" ideas and of inspiring inmates with ideals to fashion their lives anew upon release.

This belief was voiced in a report by Chester Allen, director of education for the three state penal institutions for men in Wisconsin, and John Faville, Jr., resident director at Waupun prison. A second resident director, Steve C. Govin, is stationed at the state reformatory near Green Bay.

The book service at the Waupun prison is integrated with the correspondence-study work conducted among the inmates by the University of Wisconsin Extension division, and with the reading courses supervised by the Wisconsin Free Library commission.

Ambitions Are Revived

"More than 21,000 men have gone behind state prison walls in Wisconsin alone," the Allen-Faville report points out. "Many spend a major part of their lives there. Their contact with the normal activities of free men outside can come to them only through the printed page. Their normal emotions can be kept sensitive and alive through the medium of worth while books. Most important of all, the discarded and forgotten ambitions of men can come to life again through the pages of books."

The Waupun prison shelves have been shorn of over 3,000 old and unreadable books. To the 2,000 remaining have been added 3,000 new books, including many of fiction and non-fiction.

What Prisoners Read

Changing tastes have been carefully watched and checked. A growing demand was noted for modern biography, travel and history. It was found that after most men have grown tired of "herd-fodder" they need a little persuasion to read vivid and well-written books of biography and history. The library's task is now to have these books on hand, so that a man's improving tastes need not be discouraged or frustrated by a lack of books.

The educators whose views are quoted observed that it is impossible to make men of little previous reading taste read books merely because some authority says they are worth reading and should be read. They pointed, however, to an exceptional case in Waupun of a bank robber doing a long stretch:

A Bank Robber's Taste

"Thrown into a scholarly environment, he would have become a lover of good books. For a time he read only the cheap and trivial literature and then grew tired of it. He reluctantly started a diet of Anatole France, Willa Cather, Galsworthy, and others. Then it was that he discovered his natural and deep literary interest. His attitude toward literature now is as strong as if he had acquired it in college, perhaps stronger, although until he came to prison he had never read anything but the tabloids."

The circulation at the Wisconsin prison is well over 3,000 books per week in a prison population of approximately 1,700, and each man is limited to two books weekly from the general library. Special study books and reading course books are not counted in this high circulation figure. The books are in constant circulation, few remaining on the shelves.

Mothers, Dads of Students to Visit State U. in Spring

Fathers and mothers of Wisconsin students will be welcomed to the campus of the State University next spring in a combined Mothers' and Dads' Day program, if present plans of student leaders are carried out.

It will be the first time in history that the Mothers' Day program and the Dads' Day event have been combined into a single affair. In past years, Dads' Day has always taken place in the fall of the year, sometimes during football season, while Mother's Day has been celebrated on the Wisconsin campus late in the spring.

Drastic economy in force at the University this year is one of the reasons for the joint celebration of the two events.

Another tradition, "Varsity Welcome," had to be given up earlier this fall because of lack of funds to defray expenses.

Decision to combine the two annual events at which the University plays the host to the fathers and mothers of its students came following a conference between student leaders and Pres. Glenn Frank. Plans for the combined affairs will be made by student committees, to be announced soon.

Church's "3 Squares Club" Gives 38 U. W. Students 3 Square Meals a Day for 41 Cents

A "Three Squares Club", meaning three square meals a day for at least 38 students, is the latest depression-beating innovation which has been started on the University of Wisconsin campus.

The idea originated this fall under the auspices of the Wesley Foundation, Methodist church student center at the University. Using the dining facilities of the Foundation, the 38 student-members of the club prepare all their own meals and dine royally three times a day at a total average daily cost per person of only 41 cents.

The students take turns at cooking and serving the meals, and at purchasing the food, under the careful supervision of the Rev. Ormal L. Miller, director, and Earl Page, associate director. The Foundation charges a nominal fee of \$5 per week with which to defray cooking expenses and replace broken china.

Is Social Nucleus

The club also has become the nucleus around which the social and religious program of the student church center is being built this year. The 38 students do not only gather to eat. They have musical programs following the meal, with the entire group singing various songs, before they go to their rooms to put in an evening of study.

By the simple means of barter, the club has been the means by which at least four students have been able to continue their studies at the University this fall, Mr. Page said. Coming from farm homes, these students have been able to trade bushels of potatoes, home-canned fruits and vegetables, and even milk, cream, butter and eggs, for their meals at the club.

Badger Leader in Adult Education Honored by Regents

Mrs. E. E. Hoyt, Extension Teacher, Is Given Emeritus Rank at Retirement

Mrs. Edith Hoyt, assistant professor of education in the Extension division of the University of Wisconsin, retires from this position on Nov. 1 after nineteen years of service, during which time she has developed and conducted various correspondence courses in the field of education and has taught some 8,000 students through the correspondence method.

In recognition of her pioneer service in preparing and teaching these courses, together with her collateral and related activities outside of teaching, the board of regents of the university has conferred upon her the title of emeritus assistant professor of education, effective Nov. 1, 1933.

Outside the teaching field also, Mrs. Hoyt is recognized as a leader in adult education work. As one of the early Wisconsin leaders in parent-teacher work, she prepared, in 1918, the first bulletin on parent-teacher associations for the state of Wisconsin, which has been widely used.

During the World War, in connection with the woman's division of the state council of defense, she acted as Wisconsin chairman of child welfare for the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, and was awarded recognition by Miss Julia Lathrop, chief of the bureau, for her part in the educational campaign of the "Children's Year."

For several years Mrs. Hoyt has been chairman of the adult education department of the state federation of women's clubs. She prepared a guided club study on Parental Guidance and Education, and other club programs on Child Nurture in the Home and Problems in Child Training. These programs are used extensively not only in Wisconsin but in other states. She was one of the original workers in the campaign against illiteracy in Wisconsin and in the development of citizenship schools and other community activities.

Button Sales

Made Possible the Annual Homecoming Program At U. W. This Year

Supporting the University's traditional homecoming program with tremendous enthusiasm, students at the University of Wisconsin this year made the Badger's 25th annual Homecoming possible through the sale of thousands of buttons.

With usual funds for the homecoming affairs completely wiped out because of the drastic economy in effect at the University this year, the students devised the plan of selling buttons throughout the University community in an attempt to raise a total of \$600—the amount deemed necessary to continue various traditional events on the program.

Many sororities and fraternities gave 100 per cent support to the button sales campaign, funds from which enabled the Homecoming committee to maintain the annual bonfire, mass-meeting, and other traditional features of the colorful program in which students, alumni, and faculty annually take part.

MADISON, WISCONSIN

STATE DOCUMENT

WIS. LEG. REF. LIBRARY

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State Rural Drama Festival Called for Farm and Home Week

Many Wisconsin Communities now Stage One-act Plays for Entertainment

Plans for the 1933-34 State Rural Drama Festival, in which rural adult groups from practically every county in the state will take part, have just been announced.

The festival will be a feature of Wisconsin Farm and Home Week, January 28 to February 2. The plays for the week's drama festival will be selected directly from each county instead of from districts as formerly. At each county tournament a play critic will be present to review the plays and with authority to extend invitations to outstanding play groups to participate in this state event.

This form of rural entertainment, in which last year more than 400 rural adult groups presented their one-act plays, is fast becoming a part of the recreational activities of many Wisconsin communities.

Confronted with the necessity of stretching a diminished budget for amusement, Badger farm communities are returning to the days of the "home-spun" for their amusements.

Commenting upon these home-made and home-grown activities as fruits of the depression A. F. Wilemen of the Wisconsin college of agriculture suggests that this type of rural activities is creating a new rural America.

Each year in Wisconsin for the past six years hundreds of rural groups and thousands of rural people have selected and presented plays. Local, county, and state drama tournaments and festivals have been held each year, with the result that one of the most extensive developments of rural folk drama has taken place in Wisconsin that has been seen anywhere in the United States.

As long as production was the farmers' principal problem strong individualism held sway but as the essential problem of agriculture has shifted to one of marketing and distribution which are group problems, a situation has developed in which rural drama enthusiasts see rural groupism replacing old individualism.

Plays given at the state festival last year were "Patchwork Quilt" presented by County Farm Bureau from Milwaukee county; "This Way Out" presented by Frankfort Farmer's Union from Pepin county; "The Bishop's Candlesticks" presented by Paoli Mother's Club from Dane county; "Dreams" presented by Popular Parent-Teachers association from Douglas county; "Joint Owners in Spain" presented by Arena Parent-Teachers association from Iowa county; "Highness" presented by the Mishicot Drama Club from Manitowoc county; and "Pierrot—His Play" presented by Kohler Curtain Players from Sheboygan county.

Thirty High Schools Sign For Speech Meet

Thirty Wisconsin high schools already have indicated a purpose to participate in the second annual speech institute for secondary schools, which will be held at Eau Claire sometime in November. It is sponsored by the Wisconsin High School Forensic association, with the department of debating of the University Extension division and the university's department of speech cooperating.

The following schools have signed to send representatives:

Acadia, Augusta, Barron, Bloomer, Chippewa Falls, Colfax, Dorchester, Eau Claire, Eau Claire (St. Patrick's), Gilman, Granton, Hammond, Holmen, Ladysmith, Medford, Menominee, Nekoosa, New Richmond, Ondossagon, Owen, Reedsburg, River Falls, Sparta, Spooner, Stanley, Superior (East), Thorp, Tomah, Tony, Trempealeau.

26 U. W. Faculty Members Take Part in State Teachers' Meet

Twenty-six members of the faculty of the University of Wisconsin will play important parts in the various sectional meetings of the 1933 convention of the Wisconsin Teachers association, which opens in Milwaukee on Thursday, Nov. 2, and continues for three days.

Two of the 26 University faculty members participating in the convention this year will act as chairmen of sectional meetings. They are Robert C. Pooley, professor of English, who will be chairman of the section on English, and Guy S. Lowman, professor of physical education, who will be chairman of the physical education section of the convention.

Other faculty members taking part in the convention's sectional meetings will either lead discussions on various problems facing the state's school teachers, or will present papers on numerous subjects of educational interest.

Other University faculty members and the parts they will play in the convention are:

Burr W. Phillips, assistant professor in the teaching of history, who will lead the discussions in the civics section; Dr. Kai Jensen, professor of child psychology, who will speak to college teachers of education on "Newer Methods of Approach in Child Study"; J. L. Miller, instructor in economics, who will speak before the commercial section on "The Economics of Commercial Education"; Wakelin McNeel, state leader of boys' and girls' clubs at the University, who will dis-

cuss "What Should be Expected of Schools in Teaching Conservation" before the conservation and forestry section; Dr. W. F. Lorenz, professor of neuropsychiatry, who will speak at the section of education of exceptional children on "Our Present Needs"; Glenn Trewartha, professor of geography, who will talk on "Prairie du Chien, a Sample of Historical Geography"; R. A. Hinderman, teacher of manual arts, who will talk on "Individualizing Educational Services through Guidance" at the Guidance section;

Prof. Abby L. Marlatt, director of courses in home economics, who will discuss "Interesting the Child in Nutrition" at the health education section; Dr. E. B. Hart, professor of agricultural chemistry, who will talk before the food and nutrition section on "Recent Contributions to the Health Program from the Field of Nutrition";

Phile M. Buck, professor of comparative literature, who will speak before the Latin section on "The Tradition of Excellence"; Prof. Blanche Smith of the Library school, who will speak at the library section; R. E. Langer, professor of mathematics, who will talk on "Euclid's Elements" before the mathematics section;

Prof. V. A. C. Henmon, of the psychology department, who will discuss "Recent Developments in the Study of Modern Foreign Language Problems" at the modern languages section; Prof. W. F. Giese, of the French

department, who will talk on "The Humanistic Study of French" before the French section; Prof. Paula M. Kittel, who will speak before the German section;

Prof. C. J. Anderson, dean of the school of education, will speak on "An Appraisal of the Rural School as a Social Institution" at the rural education and state graded schools section; Dr. Robert West, professor of speech, will tell of "Stuttering as a Normal Reaction to an Abnormal Situation" at the speech correction section; Dr. H. L. Ewbank, professor of speech, will discuss "The Radio and Speech Education" at the speech training section;

A. S. Barr, professor of education, will discuss "Some Fundamental Principles Underlying Visual Instruction" at the visual education section; Prof. Don D. Lescobier, professor of economics, will discuss "The Adjustment of Youths to the Changing Economic Order" at the vocational education section; Mrs. Louise Troxell, dean of women, will tell of "My First Two Years in a Dean's Office" at the section for the Wisconsin association of Deans of Women; and Miss Helen White, professor of English, will speak before the English section of the convention.

The annual University of Wisconsin alumni luncheon of the convention will be held Friday, Nov. 3, with Judge J. C. Karel, Milwaukee, as the speaker. Judge Karel will speak on "Wisconsin Alumni Pedagogues on the Spot".