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State's Best Plays By Badger Writers Named For Festival

Judging of the 77 plays entered in this year's playwrighting tournament of the Wisconsin Dramatic guild, just completed, resulted in three awards in each of the nine classifications for this annual program. For the most part, according to Miss Ethel T. Rockwell, guild secretary at the University of Wisconsin, the 1940 entries show an unusually high standard of achievement.

Arrangements are being made to produce the best of the winning plays by the groups to which their respective authors belong. These presentations will be given in the Wisconsin Union theater at the University during the 12th annual festival of the guild, March 29-31. The guild is sponsored by the University Extension division.

Largest number of plays entered were in the community theater division, with 21. First place award was made for "Indiana Twilight," by Dr. Samuel R. Davenport, Eau Claire, a drama of young Abe Lincoln during his 14 Indiana years. Second place went to Gordon Peterson, Milwaukee, for a poetic drama, "Lancelot of the Lake," and third to Mrs. John McCain, Ripon, for a farce, "Installment Dilemma." Judges in this division were Prof. Ronald E. Mitchell, University of Wisconsin, Theodore Cloak, Appleton, and Roland Fernand, Chicago.

In the international grouping, made up mostly of community theater members, first place was awarded to "First Night," a drama concerning the first performance of Rossini's "Barber of Seville," written by William L. Thomas, of Milwaukee Players. Second went to "Something in Common," an American-German-Italian comedy, by Mrs. Anne Megna Dunst, of the Writers' Circle, Milwaukee, and third to "The King," a folk drama of the American Swiss by Dr. John A. Schindler, of the Monroe Little Theater.

Finding difficulty in grading the plays for first and second honors in the full-length play division, J. Russell Lane, Ronald E. Mitchell, and Fred Buerki, judges, again gave two plays an "excellent" rating and three a rating of "very good."

The "excellent" rating was awarded to two young men of the University of Wisconsin, Bill Erin, La Crosse, for "The World Waits," and Earle L. Reynolds, Madison, for "Americana." For the "very good" rating, the choices were "Here Today," by Gordon Peterson, Milwaukee; "Ripe from the Family Tree," by Henry D. Allen, Whitefish Bay, and "The Unconquered," by Miss Mary Holan and Sidney Palay. The University theater plans to present one of these plays during festival week.

In the children's division an "excellent" rating was awarded to "This Is the World that Davy Built," a play in child psychology, by Mrs. Frances Gordon, Shorewood, first place, and "The Royal Robbers," a fantasy by Miss Louise Helliwell, Milwaukee, second.

First in the woman's club division was "Bridge Is Fun," by Mrs. Olive C. Logan, South Milwaukee, and second was "Where the Heart Is," by Miss Mary M. Crane, Ripon.

First place in the rural play grouping was given to "Anything Can Happen," by Miss Marian Smith, Omro, and second to "Miss Cynthia's Hired Man," by Mrs. Eloise Fort James, Richland Center.

In the church play division first place went to "Calling Mr. and Mrs. America," by Mrs. Cecile Belle Adams, Madison, and second to "Hannah," by Mrs. Harriet Stone, Fort Atkinson.

Seven plays were submitted by high school students. First place was awarded to Leonard Casper, Fond du Lac, for a mystery play, "Purloined," and second place to Miss Aldeen Frye, Superior Central, for "Her Cross a Crown."

In the college division first place was awarded to Miss Jocile Leonard, of Edgewood Junior college, Madison,

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, Feb. 28, 1940

Twelve Schools In Debate Finals Will Argue Rail Control

Twelve high schools, four from each of three sections of Wisconsin, will meet at Madison in state finals to determine state high school debate ratings. The final contests will be held in the state capitol Monday, March 4, at morning, afternoon and night sessions, all open to the public. Participating teams, which have weathered the debate season in local and sectional tournaments, are the following:

Northern—Chippewa Falls, Menomonie, River Falls, Eau Claire.

Central—Sparta, Two Rivers, Neenah, Wisconsin Rapids.

Southern—Deerfield, Mayville, Watertown, Wisconsin high (Madison).

The debate question, common to all high school programs in the U. S., is "Resolved, that the federal government should own and operate the railroads."

The state finals will consist of three rounds. By a new ruling, the highest school and all tied with it on the basis of wins and losses will be considered the state champions. Also for the first time a banner will be given to each school whose team ranks "A." Medals will go to all participants in accordance with their rank—"A," gold, "B," silver, and "C," bronze.

Schools participating in competitive forensics are being invited to express preferences for debate topics for 1941. Among the issues which have been suggested for their choice are regulation of the press, U. S. government and business, un-American tendencies, and extra-curricular school activities.

Nearly 400 Wisconsin schools make up the state forensics association's membership. Twenty thousand students participate annually in organized forensics activities, and twice that number engage in speech activities not a part of the association's regular program.

Greenskeepers Plan Short Course At U. W.

Practical problems on golf course management will be considered by Wisconsin greenskeepers when they meet at the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture, March 11 to 13 inclusive, for their annual greenskeepers short course. Included on the program of the three-day course will be questions dealing with varieties of grasses, shrubs for courses, turf troubles, weed control, mowing equipment, and fertility problems.

Scheduled to address greenskeepers at their conference are John Monteith, greens section of the United States Golf association; J. G. Moore and H. L. Ahlgren of the College of Agriculture; John Darrah, Beverly, Ill.; C. A. Tregillus, West Lake Forest, Ill.; M. P. Christensen, Racine; O. J. Noer, Milwaukee; and H. L. Ewbank, University speech department.

for "Never Too Late," and second to Miss Dorothy Grondahl of Milwaukee-Downer college, for "A Play for Christmas."

Twenty plays were entered in the radio division and were judged by members of the station WHA staff. First place was awarded to Miss Jo Morrissey, Milwaukee, for her script entitled "Girders," and second award went to Mrs. Vivian Barber Buse, Milwaukee, for the play, "A Thankful Guest," and third to Miss Peggy Bolger, Madison, for her play, "Curtain Coming Down!"

Educators Visualize Expanded Range of University of Future

That the university of the future will contribute to the education of more students outside than inside than inside campus walls was the forecast uttered in educational comment noted by the University of Wisconsin extension division.

The form to be taken by this later development of universities was visioned by Pres. James D. Hoskins, University of Tennessee, who in a recent statement described the model university of the future as one in which a large majority of the students never appear on the campus but receive university teaching through a highly developed extension service brought directly to their own communities.

While in many states adult education through extension teaching remains as a hope for the future, it has long been realized in Wisconsin, where it has attained a large development in extension practice since its adoption early in the present century. The University of Wisconsin is rated as the first state university to organize an extension teaching service to reach individuals in every county.

President Hoskins' prophecy was matched by Pres. Robert M. Hutchins, University of Chicago, who described the public education system "as much for adults out of school as for young people in school," and extension instruction as "bridging the gap between theory and practice." Extension courses were termed "highly practical means of bringing the best university thought to bear on contemporary life."

Earlier, the Hoskins view was voiced by Prof. V. A. C. Hennon, di-

rector of educational guidance at the University of Wisconsin.

"Ultimately," he prophesied, "we may expect every department or division of a university will have its contributions to make, through an extension division, to the intellectual, esthetic, and spiritual needs of those who are outside the walls of a university."

Dr. Edward A. Birge, president emeritus of the University of Wisconsin, once characterized university extension as offering to students "a way out from a life which they feel is cramping them," and as "bettering the society in which these individuals live."

An eastern educator, Dr. William A. Neilson, retired president of Smith college, was quoted as recalling a "dry and uninteresting" course he once took in a foreign university, and contrasting it with his study of an extension course in the same subject.

"I received stimulus and suggestion," he said, "as valuable as any I received in five years from professors who followed the strictest academic traditions."

A similar observation regarding university correspondence instruction was credited to the late William Rainey Harper when president of the University of Chicago.

The outreach of off-campus teaching by the University of Wisconsin is pictured in latest annual figures showing 27,338 registrations for courses—credit and non-credit—taught in extension classes and by correspondence study. They represent the largest volume of extension teaching in the 33-year history of the service.

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

Five U. W. Degree Holders In Mid-West Are 'Modern Pioneers'

Five of the prominent men who were nominated in the mid-west to receive awards as "Modern Pioneers" have received degrees from the University of Wisconsin, a survey of the list recently made public has revealed.

The five men named are among those nominated for the award because of their contributions to American progress through inventions and discoveries. As part of this program to honor the nation's outstanding inventors and research workers, a dinner was held in Chicago for the "Modern Pioneers."

The five men who have received degrees from the University of Wisconsin and who were named among the mid-west "Modern Pioneers" are:

Dr. Harry Steenbock, '08, now professor of biochemistry at the University. A world-renowned scientist, Dr. Steenbock is noted for his discovery of a method of imparting vitamin D to foods through irradiation. He was granted the honorary degree of doctor of science by the University two years ago.

Armin Elmendorf, '17, of Winnetka, Ill., president of the Elmendorf corp., Chicago.

Vandever Voorhees, '24, Whiting, Ind., connected with the development and patent department of the Standard Oil Co., in Chicago.

L. R. Smith, chairman of the board of the A. O. Smith corporation, Milwaukee, who in 1930 was granted by the University the honorary degree of doctor of laws.

William Halvor Taylor, '14, engineer with the Vilter Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee.

54 Engineering Research Studies Under Way At U. W.

The University of Wisconsin College of Engineering has 54 different research projects underway at the present time, Dean F. Ellis Johnson recently declared in a radio interview.

"We have but scratched the surface," said Dean Johnson. "Every discovery in science and every practical development from it has brought to light other ventures to be undertaken. We have 54 research projects under way in the College of Engineering right now and the number is but limited by our resources."

Dean Johnson, who is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, class of 1906, returned to the University a little over a year ago to head the College of Engineering. He was interviewed over the radio by John Berge, executive secretary of the Alumni association.

In explaining the origin of the research projects conducted by the college, Dean Johnson pointed out that one project often leads to another, while many spring from the intellectual curiosity of both faculty and students. Others are suggested by the problems arising in public service or the industries of the state.

"One project is giving us a better understanding for sewage disposal, and thereby the protection of public health; another will improve the clay products of Wisconsin; still another is of importance to all users of concrete blocks in foundations."

Dean Johnson explained that the college is working on a project that promises to help solve both the problem of dry materials and the exacting requirements of the oil to be used on highways and roads in Wisconsin. This project is of particular importance to the state since a million and a half dollars is spent each year for road oil.

"An important investigation of future interest is a project we have for the Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers to determine how to introduce fresh air into an air-conditioned room without creating drafts that are unpleasant or dangerous to health," he said.

"For the Tank Truck assn. we are beginning a study of the flow of oils through valves and fittings to speed up the loading and unloading of their tank trucks."

A recent issue of the Journal of American Concrete Institute devoted over 40 pages to an article which discussed the University of Wisconsin College of Engineering's investigation for manufacturers of concrete blocks.

Horsemen To Hold State Sale At U. W.

Exactly 60 high grade draft horses have been consigned by Wisconsin horse breeders for their annual sale at the University Stock Pavilion, Friday, March 8, announces J. G. Fuller, animal husbandman of the College of Agriculture.

Fuller reports increased interest in developing throughout Wisconsin in this annual sale, where Wisconsin farmers have the opportunity to purchase home-raised draft horses of good breed from Wisconsin's best herds. Many farmers prefer animals of known age from reputable local breeders that are spared the hazards incident to shipping from out of state sources, Fuller finds.

Of the 60 animals consigned, there are 14 stallions and 23 mares of the

U. of W. Scientists Pry Hidden Secrets From Photosynthesis, Foundation of Life

For 15 years photosynthesis, directly or indirectly the foundation of essentially all life in this old world of ours, has fooled science to hold back one of its most important secrets.

Now, through the joint work of University of Wisconsin chemists and botanists, one of science's misconceptions concerning photosynthesis has been corrected and one of its hidden secrets uncovered, undoubtedly to the eventual benefit of the human race. The Wisconsin scientists who have worked on various phases of the problem are Farrington Daniels, B. M. Duggar, W. M. Manning, J. F. Stauffer, and W. E. Moore.

Photosynthesis is known to science as the process by which carbon dioxide and water are combined by sunlight in the growing plant to form organic material. It is the foundation of all agriculture and is necessary, directly or indirectly, for the life of essentially all plants and animals and also for the operation of most engines.

General features of photosynthesis have been actively studied for more than a century. But in spite of its great importance very little attention has been paid to the study of the primary photochemical reaction which takes place in the process.

Science considers photosynthesis unique among photochemical reactions in that it is brought about by sunlight, which contains energy considerably lower in intensity than the high-intensity energy which is needed for the direct chemical union of carbon dioxide and water. Scientists suspect that in nature probably several intermediate steps are involved, each one absorbing this lower grade energy to do a part of the whole reaction.

Scientists throughout the world have considered photosynthesis not only a remarkable process, but until recently they thought that with fa-

vorable laboratory conditions the process could take place with remarkably high efficiency.

Research conducted by the great German chemist, O. Warburg, 15 years ago, seemed to prove conclusively that plants had an energy efficiency of 70 per cent in their photosynthesis process. That is, that 70 per cent of the red light energy in the sunlight was converted into use in combining water and carbon dioxide in the growing plant to form organic material necessary to the plant's life.

Wisconsin scientists, investigating various phases of the photosynthesis process, have now proved that Warburg's figure is much too high, that instead of being 70 per cent, the energy efficiency is really less than 20 per cent. In other words, less than one fifth of the light actually absorbed under the most favorable conditions is utilized in producing carbohydrates and plant material.

The Wisconsin scientists explain that their discovery is of no immediate practical importance, but that it should lead to rapid progress along theoretical lines in this field of science by removing the handicap of the Warburg mistake and thus hasten the day when the photosynthesis process may be directly converted to the benefit of humanity by making food and fuel out of carbon dioxide and water through the alchemy of sunshine.

In conducting their invaluable research, the Wisconsin scientists made over a thousand determinations under a wide variety of conditions and with several independent methods especially developed for the work. Several special pieces of equipment were constructed to carry on the research, which also led to the important discovery that other plant materials as well as green chlorophyll, green coloring matter, can take part in photosynthesis.

New Home Agents Take Over Duties

Home agents were employed by two additional Wisconsin counties and assumed their duties during February, according to an announcement by Miss Blanche L. Lee, in charge of home economics extension at the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Miss Elizabeth C. Davies assumed the duties of home agent of Iowa county, a native of Wild Rose, Waukesha county, Miss Davies was born and raised on a farm. She is very familiar with boys' and girls' club work, having been a 4-H club member for five years. Following graduation from the University of Wisconsin home economics department, she accepted a position as teacher of home economics at the public schools of Luck, Polk county, where she cooperated with the home agent in home economics work with women. In her new position she will be active in directing 4-H club work as well as home demonstration work with groups of Iowa county homemakers. She will have her headquarters at Dodgeville.

Miss Myrtle C. Smith, Mineral Point, is now home agent of Douglas county. Graduate of Stout Institute, she has had experience as teacher in the Nursery School at Stout Institute and has had rural school teaching

Stories of Extension Students Show Success Won the Hard Way

Students beyond the usual high school or college age; students with physical disabilities or financial handicaps; students forced to study on the side to learn while they earned—all of them reaching their educational goals against odds. These were reported as typical of many mentioned in a survey of attainments of correspondence-study students, listed by the University of Wisconsin extension division.

The survey presented a picture of numerous students making superior records in both home-study and residence programs, of degrees earned, and of employment obtained on the strength of hard-won training.

One disability case—a Brown county girl whose college course was delayed eight years by infantile paralysis, now is a teacher in a Wisconsin high school. Through extension courses studied at home she earned 60 credits (equivalent to two years of college work), and finished her course in residence with a University of Wisconsin diploma. Her position came the next fall.

After Twenty Years
Her earlier education interrupted by illness and financial straits, another woman student was listed as completing her high school program by taking State University extension courses and, after nearly 20 years' delay, receiving her high school diploma which qualified her for nurse's training.

A youth in a small city, hindered from finishing high school, made up deficiencies by extension courses of high school grade, and received her high school's diploma. Then, during six years of home study, he earned 43 college credits. He completed 28 University courses in 15 years. Enrolling

Four Gifts Boost U. W. Scholarship Funds By \$1,000

Scholarship funds amounting to almost \$1,000 were received in checks and pledges to the Wisconsin Alumni Association and the University of Wisconsin recently. All funds will be available this year and will be governed by the University scholarship committee.

Largest gift to the increasing scholarship funds came from the Washington, D. C., alumni club whose president, George Worthington, announced the presentation of a \$500 fund following the club's annual Founders' Day dinner Feb. 7.

The most interesting gift, an amount as yet undetermined, came from an alumna in California. Writing to Dean Frank O. Holt in response to an article by him in the January edition of the Badger Quarterly, this alumna stated that in 1899 she had been the recipient of two \$60 scholarships. This money meant so much to her at that time that she now plans to repay the University in the hope that some present day student or students can receive the same help.

She asked that the University Economics department determine how much money would be needed today to correspond to the purchasing power of her \$120 in 1899. That, she says, would be the amount of her contribution to the scholarship funds. The Economics department figured that the \$120 in 1899 is worth \$235 today and that is the amount of this gift.

Dean Frank O. Holt has received two other contributions in response to his Badger Quarterly appeal. One a check from a Wisconsin alumna in the west for \$50 and the second, from an alumna living in Wisconsin, for \$200. The latter sent her check in the hopes that "it will mean a little more ease, a little more food and fun for some young people."

Further contributions for the University's sorely needed scholarship funds are expected as the Alumni Association's current campaign for alumni club and individual scholarships gathers additional momentum, according to John Berge, executive secretary of the Association. A special committee has been appointed to secure additional funds to be administered by either the local clubs or the University committee.

This scholarship campaign is one of two activities being heavily stressed by the Association this year. As announced by President Howard T. Greene in the February edition of The Wisconsin Alumnus, the raising of additional scholarship funds and the furthering of the Association's placement activities for graduating seniors and young alumni are of utmost importance at this time.

experience. She will have headquarters at Superior.

Miss Helen Haldiman, formerly home agent of Douglas county, is now home agent of Jefferson county. Native of Green county, she is a graduate of the home economics course at the University of Wisconsin. While in Douglas county, Miss Haldiman was very successful in developing home economics programs and leadership with 4-H members, older youth and adults. She will assume similar responsibility in Jefferson county. Her headquarters will be at Jefferson.

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Such modest expenditure, Extension officials pointed out, is compared with a fee of \$250 often charged for a single course by some commercial correspondence schools, as reported by students.

The comparison was advanced by the Extension division to enforce repeated warnings against organizations which exact high fees for courses and teaching services which fall below the standard of those offered by colleges and universities which have no profit motive.