The University of Wisconsin press bulletin. Vol. 34, No. 2 January 15, 1941

Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, January 15, 1941

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.

Published by-weekly by the University of Wisconsin

Jan. 10, 1941

Entered as second class matter Jan. 11, 1909, at the Post Office at Madison, Wisconsin, under the act of July 4, 1894.

Release Wednesday, January 15, 1941 | MADISON, WISCONSIN | Vol 34 No. 2

Flight Trainees In Ground Tests; New Classes Open

Thirty advanced students and 50 students in the preliminary course of the Civilian Pilot Training program at the University of Wisconsin will take their final ground school examinations this week, the University Extension division announced. Some of them have already completed flight instruction which began last October.

When both the ground school course of 72 hours and the 35-hour course of flight instruction are finished and the final tests passed, the Civil Aeronautics administration will issue a private pilot's certificate, entitling the holder to fly certain types of ships and to carry passengers.

Miss Carol Anne Reis, daughter of Circuit Judge and Mrs. Alvin C. Reis, Madison, one of the five girls in the first-semester group of 50 flight students, was the first to finish and pass her flight test. She will be given her ground school examination Jan. 16.

Applications are now being accepted for the second semester flight and ground school courses to begin in February. Enrollment is open to students between the ages of 19 and 26 who have completed one year of college. Persons not enrolled in the University may take the course provided they have completed two years of college work.

During the second semester, new advanced ground school courses will be open for the first time to persons not taking flight instruction. Such students, it was explained, need not meet the physical, educational, or age requirements of the flight students. These courses are designed to meet the needs of a pilot but will be found profitable, officials added, for anyone interested in or associated with aeronautical activities.

Typical of the purposes evinced by student trainees are those of two well known Wisconsin football players. George Paskvan, fullback, recipient of All-American recognition, who completed the preliminary course in the summer of 1940, has applied to take the advanced course next semester with a view to a possible career in aviation; while Clifford Philip, end, has enrolled for the preliminary course to satisfy a special interest he has long held.

Road Building For Home Study Is U. W. Education Service

Training in highway building through study at home is given by the University of Wisconsin, which offers a recently revised extension course in the subject. The course is taught by H. E. Pulver, professor of civil and structural engineering, Extension division.

This subject is designed to meet the needs of men desiring to specialize in any types of highway work; of those needing knowledge of the techniques of road bulding and upkeep; of students planning to enter the field of highway engineering as a lifework; and of beginners generally.

On the technical side the instruction covers surveys and plans; the economics of highways; design of rural roads and city streets; construction, operation and maintenance of various types of roads—concrete, tar, macadam, gravel, and dirt; and traffic regulation and control.

Also covered in the assignments are materials of construction and other factors in road building that hold promise of effecting economies in road budgets.

This is one of many technical courses taught by the University of Wisconsin by the correspondence-study method. All courses are offered to students in any state.

PLANNED PROGRAM

The 1941 regional conference of the fifth District of the American Alumni council, held Jan. 10-11 in Chicago, was headed by a Wisconsin graduate, A. John Berge, secretary of the Wisconsin Alumni association. Mr. Berge is chairman of the entire district, which includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, and was in charge of the program for the conference.

Hispanic Lectures Are Popular at U. W.

The popular series of lectures on Hispanic Life and Civilization is continuing for its sixth year at the University of Wisconsin. This year's lectures are being held in the new Memorial Union Theater. Previous to this the lectures were presented in Bascom Theater, but when the attendance increased to over 1,000 the change was necessary.

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese, which presents the series, is endeavoring to present the culture of the nations whose languages are being studied as well as merely teaching their tongue.

To give the lectures wide range of content and professional competence, the lecturers have been chosen from different departments of the University, and guest speakers of reputation have been invited from other institutions of learning as well.

Speaking In Public Aided by Extension Home-Study Course

Ability to speak effectively, either in conversation or in public address, is a mark of power and an important influence in gaining business or social success, according to Prof. Henry L. Ewbank, of the department of speech, University of Wisconsin.

"The individual who has something worth while to say and can say it effectively and forcibly is the one who generally rises to positions of power," he declared.

The correspondence course in elementary speech writing, taught by the University Extension division, is designed as one means to help citizens develop a capacity for public expression through study at home. The instruction may be worth far more, Prof. Ewbank averred, than the small cost involved. He said thousands of employees everywhere, desiring to improve their speech habits, are taking speech courses by home study.

One student of Wisconsin's extension course, a high school teacher, characterized it as "the most stimulating" he had taken and said the benefits had "permeated and saturated" his everyday life.

The Extension division also teaches "The Debate" by the same off-campus method. A third correspondence course in speech, "The Teaching of Speech," is designed primarily for persons who are guiding others in speech work. This requires senior standing and gives University credit.

Honor State Extension Workers for Service

George M. Briggs and O. R. Zeasman, veteran extension specialists at the University of Wisconsin College of Agricutlure, were honored by fellow staff members recently for having completed 25 or more years in agricultural extension work.

Briggs, well known throughout Wisconsin for his work in crop improvement, entered extension work in June, 1916, as county agent of **Burnett county.** After serving there for three years he entered crop improvement work, doing work with soybeans, when he became popularly known as "Soybean Briggs." He also served for a time as district supervisor of county agents for northwestern counties.

Zeasman entered extension work in **Green Lake county,** where he served as county agent from June, 1917, to December, 1918. He is now engaged as specialist in soils and agricultural engineering work with farmers and county agents in soil erosion control.

21,000 STUDENTS

Wisconsins' Extension Division last year had registrations of 20,968 in correspondence courses and extension classes.

Need Scholarship Funds to Aid Needy Deserving Students

Some of America's leaders of tomorrow are being trained on the University of Wisconsin campus today. 1941's boys and girls will be the men and women of the coming generation to whom America and the rest of the world will look with eager anticipation, seeking an answer to the ills of a turmoil-infested world.

But not all of the capable leaders of tomorrow are going to be able to finish their much needed University education. There will be some who will be forced to put aside their educational climb before the top rung of the ladder has been reached. And all because there are insufficient funds for adequate cash scholarships to help them over the hump of inadequate financial backing.

Cite Three Cases

Take the cases of three students who would have been forced to withdraw from the University had not scholarship funds been made available to them. Case A is a junior girl in education. She was valedictorian of her high school class, had a straight "A" record for three years in the University, elected a Junior Phi Beta Kappa. She's been active in dramatics and forensics. One faculty member described her as "one of the most capable young women in her class." This young lady may someday teach your son or daughter—but only a cash scholarship made possible this leader of tomorrow.

Case B is a young man in engineering, a sophomore. He has a 2.95 scholastic record. He's married, having worked for a number of years in a canning factory. He wanted an education—he had leadership abilities and refused to be downed by adversity. He has become an outstanding student in electrical engineering. Who knows what contributions he may make to the general welfare of all of us? But it was a cash scholarship that made his needed training possible.

Then there's the case of C, an agriculture student, completely self-supporting. His is an outstanding scholastic record. Although only a Junior he has been given a teaching assistant's position in the college. He is a leader among the men in his school. Tomorrow he will be the proud boast of his teachers in the animal husbandry department. A cash scholarship enabled him to stay in school.

Need Scholarship Funds

"There is still an urgent need for additional cash scholarships," says Wilfred J. Harris, secretary of the University's scholarship and loan committee. "Too few students are able to receive that boost which will help them along the road to becoming successful men and women of tomorrow.

"The need isn't for large amounts. Many times it's but $25 or $50 that determines whether a student can remain in school or be forced to withdraw. It's true that we have more scholarships now than we had several years ago, but the surface has been scarcely scratched. Alumni and friends of the University, either as individuals or in groups, can render no finer service to their State University than to follow the splendid program of the Wisconsin Alumni association and do their share in raising our scholarship funds to a more adequate level."

ALMOST 150,000 REGISTER

The University of Wisconsin Extension Division recorded 148,768 registrations in correspondence courses from 1906 to 1939.

FREE INSTRUCTION

The state of Wisconsin offers free instruction in University Extension correspondence courses to world war veterans.

U. W. Alumni Prepare 4th Edition of Booklet to Help Grads Get Jobs

More than 1800 members of the senior class at the University of Wisconsin will soon receive copies of "The College Senior Seeks a Job," presented to them with the compliments of the Wisconsin Alumni association.

The booklet, now in its fourth year of publication, has been completely revised to meet the changing conditions of the employment field. Its author, Glenn L. Gardiner, '18, is an outstanding authority on personnel and placement problems. He has added much new material to his already interesting survey of how to get a job, and his readers will find his suggestions to be more helpful than ever. The booklet is designed to give the graduating senior some valuable aids in preparing himself for a job and in actually applying for a job, whether by interview or letter.

The demand for the booklet has increased throughout the four years of its publication. High school principals, employment agencies, college personnel agencies as well as business men have requested copies of the booklets. In some instances the demand was so great that special reprints had to be made.

The most recent publicity given the booklet appeared in the News Edition, a publication for the chemical field. In an article entitled "Helping Yourself to a Job," Erle M. Billings, business and technical personnel director for Eastman Kodak company, gave credit to the booklet for many of the quotations and statements contained in his article.

The publication of "The College Senior Seeks a Job" is sponsored by the Placement Committee of the Alumni Association under the chairmanship of John S. Lord, Wisconsin alumnus of Chicago.

FILMS AVAILABLE

More than 1,000 educational films both silent and sound, are available from the Bureau of Visual Instruction of the University of Wisconsin Extension Division.

FIRST "MAIL" COURSES

The University of Wisconsin, through its Extension Division, was the first of the state universities to offer courses by correspondence.

Farmers--Homemakers Plan Five Big Days at Farm Week, Feb. 3-7

Questions uppermost in the minds of Wisconsin farmers as they look toward gearing their program for agriculture into that of the national defense will claim an important part on the 1941 Wisconsin Farm and Home Week program which opens at the University of Wisconsin Monday, February 3, for five busy days of conferences and discussions.

Coming direct from the United States Department of Agriculture, at Washington, will be R. M. Evans, AAA administrator, who will address farm week visitors on, "The AAA and National Defense." Walter Katterhenry, chairman of the state committee, will outline the problems of the AAA in Wisconsin; while local residents will tell of the program as it applies to their localities.

Leaders of Wisconsin farm organizations will present their views on, "War and Agriculture" in a panel discussion. In the panel will be Kenneth Hones, state president, the Farmer's Equity Union; Neal Peck, master, the Wisconsin State Grange; L. F. Roherty, secretary, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation; and Milo Swanton, executive secretary of the Wisconsin Council of Agriculture.

War Correspondent Speaks

Bringing to farm week visitors a detailed account of the conditions as he found them in the countries engaged in war will be M. W. Fodor, internationally known war correspondent, just back from Europe. He will address the Friday forenoon assembly on "What I Saw in War Torn Europe."

Aside from the immediate importance of national defense plans will be many conferences, exhibits and discussions dealing with timely farm and home problems. Included in these questions are those dealing with poultry, soils, dairy cooperatives, farm building, farm water supply and sewage disposal, veterinary science, farm power and machinery, farm forestry, dairy herd improvement, breeding and nutritional problems, dairy manufacturing, crop production, farm orchards, plant diseases, and others.

Homemakers Have Programs

While farmers are considering problems of flocks and fields, homemakers will turn their attention to home problems. Included in their program are sessions dealing with modernizing the farm kitchen, house construction, interior decorating, family health, nutrition, and others. In the home economics building will be exhibits and demonstrations of table settings and color schemes; homemade mattresses; farm women's handicraft; economic and adequate diets from home produced food supplies; household equipment; and textiles and clothing.

More than twenty statewide farm groups are planning meetings during the week. These include the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders' association; the Wisconsin agricultural experiment association; Wisconsin muck soil farmers; the Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, and Jersey breeders; the various swine breeders; beef breeders; horse breeders; poultry improvement associations; and sheep breeders.

Young Folk Have Day

On Thursday, February 6, rural young people's day, young folks from all sections of Wisconsin will meet to discuss problems facing rural youth today. Sitting around a conference table they will discuss the questions: "What are the opportunities for rural youth?"; "How may a young farm couple attain a farm and a satisfactory home life?"; "What are the urban job opportunities for rural young men and women?"; and others. C. A. Dykstra, president of the University and administrator of the national draft, will address them on "Youth and Service in a Democracy." Allen Eaten of the Russell Sage Foundation, will also address rural youth on "Wood Piles and Haystacks." Following the recreation hour of folk games and folk dancing, the rural young peoples' day will be concluded with the "Little International" livestock exposition to be held in the University stock pavilion.

In keeping with a custom begun at the University of Wisconsin in 1909, honorary recognition will be extended to several men and women who have made significant contributions to better living on the farm. This will be done at a farmer's and homemakers' banquet in Great Hall of Memorial Union, Monday evening, February 3.

Rural Art Exhibit

The artistic side of farm and home life will also come in for its attention. Gathered from all corners of the state will be works of art and literature by Wisconsin artists. These, which include creative work in oil, water color, pastels, and wood sculpture, will be on display throughout the entire week in the Memorial Union Art Gallery. Farm week visitors will also be given the opportunity of visiting with John Steuart Curry, artist in residence, in his studio on the University campus.

On display throughout the week will be exhibits of interest to many different groups. Included will be those on grass silage machinery; electric brooder house equipment with auxiliary brooding chamber; lime and fertilizer materials; crafts and materials made at recreation leaders laboratory; potato exhibits; seed producers grain display; new weeds and their control; permanent pastures; soybeans and their use; and plant diseases.

U. W. Men Officers of National Organizations

Three University of Wisconsin professors were elected officials of national societies in their fields at annual meetings of the organizations held recently.

Prof. R. E. Langer, member of the University mathematics department, was elected first vice president of the Mathematical Association of America at a meeting held in Baton Rouge, La.

Dr. Frederic A. Ogg, University political scientist, was named president of the American Political Science association, and Dr. Howard Becker, professor of sociology at the University, was elected second vice president of the American Sociological society at meetings held in Chicago, Ill.

U. W. Geology Museum Features New Exhibits

When the horse was a tiny animal only about a foot high, there was a great lake which covered what is now southwestern Wyoming, and in this lake swam some fish called diplomystis and priscacara.

Among the new exhibits at the Geological Museum of the University of Wisconsin are casts of these fish which lived about 50 million years ago, and also a set of models showing the evolution of the forefoot of the horse, which at one time had toes.

Other recent exhibits at the museum include displays of ores from which money is manufactured, as well as those materials which were used as a medium of exchange in the past.

Purple and white shells from which Indian wampum was made and "tusk" shells strung on sinew are exhibited along with the ores of native silver and copper, nickel, lead, zinc, and gold, and what was probably the first metal money, a spearhead of copper. The Chinese were the first to use these for money, and later the Indians also used them.

In the past shells, grain, blankets, feathers, guns, animal teeth, and cattle have been used for money, even gumdrops having been recognized at one time in Alaska.

Also shown are displays of how steel is made; salt, natural and manufactured; and fossil insects in amber, the fossilized resin of ancient trees.

Miss Marvel Ings, curator of the museum, also places exhibits in store windows in Madison. At the present time she has one on the strategic minerals of South America on display at the Association of Commerce. This is scheduled for East High school when removed. There is also being prepared an exhibit of fossil fish which is to be placed in a shop window.

Make Permanent Record Of State's Folk Songs

Two University of Wisconsin professors, desiring to keep alive the old folk songs which have traveled to America from their homes across the ocean, devised a plan to capture them for permanent record. Director Carl Bricken and Prof. Leland Coon, of the State University school of music, persuaded the music division of the Library of Congress to collaborate with the University in sending a recording machine throughout Wisconsin.

A senior and a faculty member in the school of music hunted throughout the state, covering 2,000 miles in 20 days and recording nearly 100 songs on wax discs. They obtained recordings of Dutch songs, songs from Iceland, Belgian songs, Welsh songs, songs of the lumberjacks, and are now back in Madison, laying plans for further research when finances permit.

The master records have gone to Washington and duplicates will be sent back to the University for use by music students and composers.

U. W. Makes Plans to Celebrate Its 92nd Founders' Day Soon

The University of Wisconsin will celebrate its 92nd birthday anniversary early in February.

Plans are already being made for a number of Founders' Day dinners to be held on the campus and in various cities of the state and nation by Wisconsin alumni, and for a nation-wide Founders' Day radio broadcast over a coast-to-coast hookup of the National Broadcasting company.

John Berge, secretary of the Wisconsin Alumni association at the University, revealed that his office is making arrangements with the National Broadcasting company for the national radio broadcast in celebration of the University's birthday.

Both the broadcast and the Founders' Day dinners will be held on the same date early in February. The date will be announced in the near future.

Nationally Known Speakers

Tentative plans call for the dinners to be held simultaneously in a score or more cities throughout state and nation by the Wisconsin alumni clubs in those communities. Later in the evening on the selected date, all of the dinner meetings will tune in on the nation-wide radio broadcast.

The radio program will originate at the State University in Madison, at the campus alumni dinner which will be sponsored by the Madison Alumni club. Featured on the program will be the University student concert band and several nationally known speakers, including Pres. C. A. Dykstra, who is now also serving as director of the national Selective Service law. The broadcast will be a half-hour in length.

First Class Met in 1849

The Founders' Day program again this year celebrates the anniversary of the meeting of the State University's first class of 17 students on Feb. 5, 1849, under the supervision of the school's first teacher, John W. Sterling. This first class met in a little red school house known then as the Madison Female Academy building. The rectangular structure consisted of only two stories, and a board fence outlined the dimensions of the school ground.

Today the University of Wisconsin has a resident enrollment of about 12,000 students during the regular school year, a summer school enrollment of close to 5,000 students, and an active enrollment in University extension classes and courses of study of about 30,000 registrations. There are approximately 70,000 Wisconsin alumni living in every state in the Union, in every foreign possession of the United States, and in many foreign countries in every part of the world. The hundreds of classrooms and laboratories of the University are now housed in several score large buildings spread over the campus. The physical plant of the University is now valued at $25,000,000.

U. W. Engineers Seek Better Production of Super-Gas to Aid Aviation Supremacy

Improved production of better quality super-high-test gasoline for airplane motors at less cost is the aim of experiments now being conducted in a chemical engineering research laboratory at the University of Wisconsin.

Under the supervision of Prof. Olaf A. Hougen, head of the chemical engineering department, the experiments along with innumerable tests are being conducted in the cramped quarters of a small room in the basement of the State University's chemical engineering building. The design and construction of the elaborate experimental equipment have been accomplished by Instructor Charles A. Rowe and Nils K. Andersen, graduate student. These men are being assisted this year in experimental work by Ralph Beckmann and Alfred E. Pufahl, graduates in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois.

"Tailor-Made" Gas

Production of the super-high-test gasoline, known as high-octane or 100-octane gas, is not new, Prof. Hougen explained. But improvements in the process of manufacturing it, resulting in a better, more uniform quality at a much lower cost, would be a great boon to aviation especially during wartime, he said.

High octane gas is all "tailor-made," Prof. Hougen explained. It is produced by polymerizing waste refinery gases resulting from the cracking of petroleum. This polymerized product is hydrogenated, and the finished product then becomes high test gas of 100 octane.

Production of the 100-octane gas is now twice as expensive as the present regular 70-octane gas which is used in most automobiles. 90-octane gas is now ordinarily used in planes. If production costs of the super-high-test gasoline can be reduced it would tend to change considerably modern engine design.

Lead to Lighter Motors

In the case of airplane motors, the higher octane gas would make possible the use of lighter motors, thus permitting the planes to carry heavier loads of gasoline, giving them correspondingly wider cruising distances, or in wartime it would permit the carrying of heavier loads of bombs. Prof. Hougen revealed that German engineers are now unable to produce gasoline above 85 octane, and thus their load or cruising distance is reduced about one-third under that attained in American aviation.

In conducting their experiments and tests, the Wisconsin engineers are using highly complicated equipment because of the many variables which must be studied and controlled. They must contstantly control and study the effects of temperature, pressure, mixture proportions of oil and hydrogen used, tube diameters, and shape of catalysts. The catalysts used consist of small clay pellets impregnated with nickle. Through this the vaporized oil and hydrogen are pumped.

Equipment Praised

The catalysts are contained in a metal tube one inch in diameter and four feet long, enclosed in an electrically heated tube furnace. The oil and hydrogen are forced through the tube of catalysts at the same time, under pressure of about 500 pounds per square inch and at temperatures up to 700 degrees Fahrenheit. Under the influence of high pressure, high temperature and catalysts, the oil vapors are transformed to the super-high-test 100-octane gasoline.

Dr. Gustav Egloff, foremost petroleum engineer in the United States, has stated that the University of Wisconsin equipment is the best devised for the purpose anywhere in the country.

How to produce this super-gasoline of uniform high quality at less cost is the problem these Wisconsin scientist-engineers have tackled. If they solve it, their efforts may have far-reaching effects on the automobile and airplane motor design of tomorrow. And their work may also help to make American aviation defense more secure—a factor which must be placed foremost in these days of war and the need for air supremacy.