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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.

December 6, 1933

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 29, No. 22

State High School Forensic Dates Set for Spring of 1934

Platform Contests for Secondary Schools Will Rate State's Best Speakers

State high schools which participate in competition in the platform arts were informed this week of the dates and rules to govern the 1934 preliminary and final contests sponsored by the Wisconsin High School Forensic association.

The state debate finals, at Madison, will be held on March 22, and the finals in declamation, extemporaneous speaking and reading on May 3 and 4. The state dramatic contests will be held, in order to avoid travel expense, at one of the competing schools at about the time fixed for the debate.

December 16 is the latest date for registration for debate and dramatics, and March 3 the latest for registration for speech contests.

Officers are Retained

Officers of the association recently were re-elected, as follows: George J. Balzer, principal of Washington high school, Milwaukee, chairman; Miss Almere Scott, University Extension division, secretary; C. W. Dodge, Stanley, J. E. Kitowski, Menasha, and F. C. Bray, Fort Atkinson, members of the board. O. H. Plenke will succeed B. E. McCormick as treasurer.

This year's question for debate concerns the advisability of the adoption of the British system of radio control by the United States. The wide discussion of this question, in view of the unusual current interest in it, is expected to contribute heavily to public enlightenment on what is coming to be a problem of large significance.

Schools have been invited to submit suggestions for the 1934-1935 debate question, to be chosen by the board and announced by August 15.

By recent action, two types of declamatory contests—humorous and non-humorous—will be held this year.

School Forensics Praised

High school speech activities in Wisconsin were the subject of a recent tribute from F. O. Holt, registrar of the University of Wisconsin, whose judgment it was that "our high school youngsters receive more benefit to the square inch from forensic participation than from any other secondary school activity." John Callahan, state superintendent, said he believed "no single activity connected with the schools has as much value through all the years afterwards as the experience students get in the debates and in their oratorical work, especially when they dig out the material and write their own orations, for it gives them a habit of continually looking for the facts on every question, which is a valuable asset to any man or woman as they go through life."

National Leaders Pay Tribute to State University

Tribute to the University of Wisconsin for its position of leadership among the leading universities of the world was paid by several nationally prominent speakers at the annual rally of New York alumni held in New York City recently.

The State University was praised by the speakers for the leading part it has taken in half a dozen fields of endeavor, including education, social service, research of many kinds, and sports.

Speakers included Dr. A. W. Taylor, dean of New York university's graduate school of business administration; John B. Andrews, secretary of the American Association for Labor Legislation; Gilbert Hodges, president of the International Advertising Federation; Carl Beck, co-author of "On Wisconsin," and William D. Richardson, golf editor of the New York Times.

Always in Forefront

"The University of Wisconsin has always stood in the forefront of the leading universities of the world," Dr. Taylor asserted. "Quick to recognize the value of educational changes, the University of Wisconsin was alert to vitalize these changes by applying them in the interest of the citizens of Wisconsin and of the country at large."

"Not only did the university take the lead in the training of her own students for leadership in business and industrial life, but it has set a definite pattern that has profoundly influenced other colleges and universities, both state and private."

Dr. Andrews declared that in no other state is there such an intimate contact between the university and the state's public welfare activities as in Wisconsin.

"Those who enjoy the privilege of study at the University of Wisconsin—largely at the expense of the taxpayer—are impressed with their obligation to give in return some service to society. This idea of social service has become a tradition at Wisconsin," Dr. Andrews affirmed.

Mr. Beck analyzed the "Wisconsin spirit," declaring it is the spirit "that dares go forward constructively, not afraid to lose." He said the Wisconsin spirit means sportsmanship, democracy, intellectual honesty, fight for the right, service to humanity, and high ideals.

Nations May Turn to Dictatorships—But U. W. Sports are Becoming More "Democratized"

While one nation after another may be slowly but surely slipping toward dictatorship, the world of sports at the University of Wisconsin each year is becoming more and more "democratized," a survey of intramural athletics at the State University has revealed.

The survey is contained in the annual "Handbook of Intramural Athletics," recently compiled by Prof. Guy S. Lowman, director of the division of physical education and intramural athletics, and his two assistants, Arthur Thomsen and Les Hendrickson.

Many Take Part

A total of 2,185 men students—nearly three-fourths of all men enrolled in the University—participated in various forms of athletics on the intramural program last year, the survey reveals. In the fall sports program, a total of 1,285 men on 126 teams participated; 1,672 men on 203 teams took part in the winter sports program; while 1,717 men on 154 teams played in the spring program.

As members of teams in fraternity, dormitory, and independent leagues,

the men students competed in 14 different forms of both indoor and outdoor sports to aid themselves in keeping fit physically as well as mentally. These sports included touch football, cross country running, bowling, basketball, hockey, water polo, swimming, indoor track, wrestling, diamond ball, baseball, golf, tennis, and outdoor track.

Aid Student Health

The aim of the division of physical education and intramural athletics at the University is to provide facilities, and so far as possible instruction in a large number of physical activities with carry-over values, for as many men in the University as possible, Prof. Lowman maintains in discussing the survey.

"The intramural program has 'democratized' sports, and has made a definite contribution to the physical welfare and interest of the mass of students not engaged in intercollegiate participation," he declares. "Our aim is 'Athletics for All', but as yet we are unable, because of limited facilities, to actually approach the full meaning of the slogan."

U. W. Students, Faculty to Hear Famous Pastor

A large group of University of Wisconsin students representing the various religious groups surrounding the Wisconsin campus are cooperating in bringing Dr. John Haynes Holmes, nationally-known pastor of Community Church, New York City, to the University community early in December.

Dr. Holmes will give a sermon at the Congregational church at 8 p. m., Dec. 6 on "Hitlerism versus Bolshevism—a Study of Comparative Revolutions". The students who have succeeded in persuading Dr. Holmes to come to Madison are members of Koinos, student organization composed of representatives of the dozen or so religious centers on the campus.

WHA and WLBL Rights Defended by Public

Battle-lines are forming for the fray in which two commercial broadcasting stations will attempt to take from the State of Wisconsin the two publicly owned stations which it now uses to extend the services of its educational, governmental, agricultural and other service agencies.

Wisconsin people, realizing that the unique service rendered by the state stations is in an entirely different field of activity than that of the privately owned stations which exist by selling advertising time, are vigorously protesting the action which would deprive the state of the right to operate its own stations.

The commercial interests which now threaten the state holdings contend that they will continue to supply the programs now heard over WHA and WLBL. Dean C. J. Anderson, of the University School of Education quickly settles the point by saying, "Our experience with commercial stations in broadcasting educational programs has been that they will throw out our programs if they get a chance to sell the time."

Prof. A. H. Edgerton, director of vocational guidance, sums up the motives for broadcasting when he says, "Because of the pressure to recognize commercial and advertising accounts rather than the desired and welcomed educational benefits, the private station must necessarily confine its major efforts to the former, for the present at least; but free public guidance and education of all youth and adults must not be neglected."

Will Tell of Woodlots in State Radio Series

With several million dollars worth of forest products either sold from or used on Wisconsin farms annually, many Badger farmers are appreciating the importance of the farm woodland to the agriculture of the state.

George F. Wehrwein, of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture and one of the speakers on a forthcoming woodlot radio series to be presented over WHA and WLBL, the two state radio stations, points out that as much as \$18,000,000 worth of forest products were grown in the state in 1929. This sum, he points out, about equals the value of the swine, the chickens, or the eggs sold in the state and produced at the state finals.

The two best original plays submitted in any division may be presented by the drama group to which the author belongs, or by any other member club, during drama festival week. The guild also will encourage playwriting for high schools, and has outlined a number of projects for such students, leading up to the guild festival.

It is recommended that for 1934 the drama groups throughout the state concentrate on some phase of historical drama, since the state's centennial is to be celebrated next year.

The award to the winning group in each division is a bronzed medallion of special design. Each player and member of the production staff will receive a gold guild pin.

Some 3,000 Wisconsin unemployed are already enrolled in the University of Wisconsin's extension courses in answer to the state's offer of free educational scholarships to those unable financially to attend regular college, according to figures recently released.

The 250th anniversary of the coming of the first Germans to America was recently celebrated by the German club at the University of Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Man Chosen Renk's Credit Aide

James G. Maddox, of the department of agricultural economics at the Wisconsin college of agriculture, has been chosen as assistant to William F. Renk, former commissioner of agriculture and markets, who recently became head of the federal production credit corporation for Wisconsin.

Mr. Maddox will contact county agents and local farmer groups in the formation of local credit associations among farmer borrowers of short term credit loans.

The local organizations to be formed will be permanent farmer-owned and controlled and will supply farmers with short term credit as contrasted to the long term credit now supplied through the Federal Farm Loan associations.

Wisconsin Farm Group Asks Federal Charter for Short Term Loans

What is presumed to be the first county production credit association to be formed in the entire seventh land bank district comprising Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota, was recently formed by Dane county farmers when 15 farmers applied to the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, for a charter to make short term production loans.

Joe Montgomery, secretary of the Production Credit Corporation, St. Paul; B. M. Gile of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C.; and William F. Renk, in charge of organization work for Wisconsin, were present at this first Wisconsin meeting to explain the method of organization and the type of credit to be obtained through these local credit associations.

\$85,000 Capital

Members of the newly formed association voted to capitalize for \$85,000 and elected a temporary board of five directors to serve for a year. The directors are Alfred Nordlie, Stoughton; Julius Krebs, Sun Prairie; C. A. Sorenson, Springdale; Fred Stuble, Black Earth; and M. E. Smithback, Cambridge. Until a permanent secretary is appointed it is expected that L. J. Merriam, county agricultural agent for Dane county, will aid the organization.

On Cooperative Basis

County credit associations, of which the Dane county association is but one of several to be formed in Wisconsin, are cooperative in nature and composed of farmer borrowers. Their purpose is to obtain money from the Federal intermediate credit bank to lend to farmers for agricultural purposes, such as the producing and harvesting of crops; the breeding, raising and fattening of livestock; and the production of stock products.

The work of the production credit associations is supervised by the Production credit corporations of which there are 12, one in each of the land bank districts throughout the United States. All are a part of the Farm Credit Administration.

Steel Building Design Course Newly Revised

The Extension division of the University of Wisconsin is announcing its newly revised course in steel building design, given by correspondence study. This course, taught by Prof. H. E. Pulver, is described as a practical course covering the main features of the design of buildings of structural steel, such as office buildings, hotels, and apartments.

The revisions embody latest practices by steel building engineers, a new text and new supplementary material. Students are required to make designs of the more important parts of a structural steel building. A knowledge of essentials of structural

State Leaders Praise University in Greetings to N. Y. Badger Alumni

Following are the messages of several Wisconsin leaders sent to University of Wisconsin alumni attending the Wisconsin rally held recently at the Western Universities club in New York City:

BY SEN. ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE

The ideal of a public service founded on a spirit of social responsibility which has bound together the state and University of Wisconsin during and ever renewed monument to Wisconsin citizenship.

It gives me particular pleasure to call attention at this time to the part being played by men and women trained in the Wisconsin idea in the national attack on our social difficulties. The men and women of Wisconsin and of her university, have come to regard that institution as a major instrument in molding and bettering the condition and life, not only of Wisconsin, but of the nation and the world.

The respect in which this attitude and the sound training that has accompanied it is held, is readily evident in the heavy drain now placed upon the university and the state service in the securing of capable, intelligent, and forward minded administrators at Washington. No empty words can so convincingly convey the validity of the Wisconsin idea of the role of the university as have the concrete moves of the last few months.

I congratulate Wisconsin alumni on their participation in this gratifying record and I send my best wishes for the success of your rally.

BY GOV. A. G. SCHMEDEMAN

Please convey for me to those Wisconsin alumni present at the rally my greetings and well wishes. We of Wisconsin are proud to know that the Wisconsin idea of service to the state and responsibilities of citizenship of the university is being carried to the far corners of the earth by her loyal alumni.

BY SEN. F. RYAN DUFFY

Greetings to my fellow alumni of the University of Wisconsin. Surely wish I could be with you at the Wisconsin rally which you are holding this evening. When Ambassador Bryce called Wisconsin the leading state university he undoubtedly had in mind the great contributions that the university has made in the study of matters pertaining to government.

From our university have come programs that have meant much to the great mass of our people and has blazed the way to new ideas of citizenship.