



# **The University of Wisconsin press bulletin.**

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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

Release Wednesday, Sept. 29, 1937

## Speech Work in 400 High Schools Begins in State

### Debates on Unicameral Legislature Are First on Year-round Program

A goal of 400 member schools is visioned by the Wisconsin High School Forensic association for 1937-38 forensic activities, now opening in the nine forensic districts of the state. Last year's membership of 384 high schools was one of the largest ever recorded. More than 7,000 students participated in organized forensic work, which includes debate, dramatics, oratory, declamation, extemporaneous speaking and reading, leading to state competitions and state title awards at Madison.

These activities are sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Extension departments of debating and public discussion and dramatic activities and by the speech department.

The common debate subject this year will involve the merits of the one-house legislature, with the question, "Resolved, that the several states should adopt a unicameral system of legislation." This is the new Nebraska plan, which will undoubtedly become the focal point of discussion. According to Miss Almere Scott, association secretary, the subject has yielded a large amount of factual and other material on both sides.

The final registration date for all forensic entries has been set for Dec. 15 for all schools. The association's annual meeting will be held in Milwaukee Nov. 5. Several constitutional amendments will be considered. A speech section will be conducted at the annual convention of the Wisconsin Education association for teachers of speech and oral English.

Four speech institutes are contemplated by the forensic association this year. Two are scheduled—at Shawano and Madison—in November, and Spooner and Sparta are other possible centers. Miss Ethel Rockwell, adviser in dramatics, recommends that schools prepare a short sketch for practice work and criticism at these institutes.

As state forensic chairman, Supt. M. A. Fischer, Dodgeville, noted in the fall issue of the association's News Letter that the public speaker has won a place of leadership as never before, that the radio emphasizes daily the importance of the well prepared argument, the skilfully dramatized play, and the well delivered comment. High school forensic work was commended as an important factor in training for such leadership.

In the same publication, Frank V. Powell, state supervisor of high schools, wrote on speech problems in high schools, with a plea for "speech training for all," and for correlation of speech work with other work in the classroom. Prof. V. A. Utzinger, of Carroll college, advocated training in extempore speaking to fit individuals to meet all speech situations with "poise and equanimity."

### Alertness to Problems In Educational Sphere Indicated by Inquiries

Indication of the large civic interest in educational problems on the part of Wisconsin study groups and individuals is given by a recent compilation of a year's package library statistics made by the University Extension department of debating and public discussion. Increased demand in many fields of information was ascribed by Miss Almere Scott, director, in large part to WPA projects and leadership, to teaching requirements, and to correspondence study and forensic work.

Many of the 52 loans of material on child study and training were prompted, the report shows, by child study classes under WPA leadership, and some of the 25 loans in the manual arts field were due to unemployed persons desiring to make salable articles. Interest aroused in WPA projects and forensic work in schools accounted for 32 loans of speech material.

Thirty-five packages sent to secondary high schools and rural schools were for rural discussion groups using outlines of the college of agriculture on "Why don't more farm boys and girls go to high school?"

The largest demand for vocational guidance material came from high school classes studying occupations. There was also a large demand—48—stimulated by correspondence students and CCC educational directors.

Subjects frequently asked for included youth, colleges and universities, curriculum subjects, foreign lands, history of education, public school system, rural schools, secondary education, student life and customs, vocational guidance, and Wisconsin education.

Altogether, the requests came for 1,028 packages on 512 educational subjects, of which 117 were new.

### IOWA LAUDS FORMER BADGER

Tribute to Bernard Wernick Hammer, a former University of Wisconsin staff member, now head of the department of dairy bacteriology, Iowa state college, was paid by his former students in a book on his life and work dedicated to his untiring research in behalf of the dairy industry.

MADISON, WISCONSIN

# 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.

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## Pres. Dykstra Welcomes Largest Freshman Class of 2,500 to U. W.

Suggesting that the State University and its freshmen reach a bi-lateral agreement of mutual benefit, Pres. C. A. Dykstra officially welcomed 2,500 first year students to the University of Wisconsin recently at the annual Freshman Week convocation held in the stock pavilion on the University campus.

This year's freshman class is the first to be welcomed to the campus by Pres. Dykstra who became the University's chief executive last spring, and it is the largest freshman class in the University's 87-year-old history, exceeding last year's record-breaking first year class of 2,401 students.

### What Frosh Offer U. W.

When Pres. Dykstra was presented to the assembled freshmen at the convocation, he was given a standing ovation and a rousing skyrocket. Explaining that in a bi-lateral agreement, each party agrees to do certain things which will be of advantage to both parties, he told the freshmen that under their part of the agreement, they could offer to the University

"Youth, enthusiasm, fresh minds, possibility of intellectual growth and a wholesome, decent attitude toward life; time and effort; the promise of future service; and good will."

In return for these advantages, Pres. Dykstra said, Wisconsin and its University offer the freshmen:

### What U. W. Offers Frosh

"Some years of association with one of the really great educational institutions of America; an appreciation of the Wisconsin spirit and essence; a chance for self-development, the making of lasting friendships, the opportunity of practicing self-government and the spirit of co-operation; and some knowledge of our civilization, its problems, its possibilities and its challenges."

## Many to Return to U. W. Campus for Homecoming

Thousands of loyal alumni and friends of the University of Wisconsin are expected to return to the campus for the gala 1937 Homecoming game with the University of Iowa, Saturday, Oct. 16, according to Edwin J. Collins, general chairman of Homecoming and senior student from Calumet, Michigan.

Collins, captain of the varsity crew and No. 2 oarsman in the boat that rowed in the Poughkeepsie regatta last summer, was named to the chairmanship last May by the student athletic board composed of captains of all varsity teams.

"Remember 1912" has been chosen as the slogan for this year's annual Homecoming celebration commemorating the 25th anniversary of that great 1912 football team that won the undisputed Big Ten championship. The Homecoming committee has made arrangements to bring back Captain Joe Hoefell of Green Bay and the entire 1912 squad as honored guests.

Since the University of Iowa will furnish the opposition in the grid feature of the annual weekend festivities, the Homecoming theme will be based around corn and the rivalry existing between Governor Philip F. LaFollette of Wisconsin and Governor Nelson G. Kraschel of Iowa as to which state has the biggest and best corn.

Student enthusiasm for Coach Harry Stuhldreher and his band of fighting Badgers is the strongest in the past few years. Last Friday, on the eve of the South Dakota State football game, thousands of students, faculty and townspeople roared encouragement to the 1937 squad in a spirited pep rally on the campus.

Another pep rally this Friday night, the eve of the heated Marquette-Wisconsin game, is expected to raise the old Badger spirit to new high levels.

Prospects for a capacity Homecoming crowd of nearly 40,000 loomed as a bright possibility this week, as Harry Schwenker, director of ticket sales, reported that the University of Iowa has ordered 2,000 tickets and asked that another block of 1,000 be kept on reserve for the game.

Ticket sales far exceed last year's, Schwenker said. More student, faculty, and university employees coupon books have been sold, and public ticket demands show a decided upswing over last year's level.

## Stoughton Man Takes U. W. Post

Earl H. Hanson, formerly of Cornell University, has returned to the University of Wisconsin to take a post on the instructional staff in the department of animal husbandry. Mr. Hanson, a graduate of Stoughton high school, class of '28, and of the University of Wisconsin, class of '35, has served during the past two years as extension specialist in animal husbandry at Cornell University. Mr. Hanson was also secretary of the New York Holstein-Friesian association.

## Problems of Parents in Child Rearing Engage Educators in Air Talks

Parent interests in successful child relationships are given attention by University of Wisconsin child specialists in a radio series offered by WHA and WLBL, the state stations, in the College of the Air program for 1937-38. The new series, "Know Your Child," is organized in cooperation with the Wisconsin Congress of Parents and Teachers, and is heard every Wednesday from 3 to 3:30 p.m.

The discussions are prepared and presented, for the most part, by Dr. J. Kenneth Little and Dr. Lewis E. Drake, of the departments of education and psychology, respectively, in the University Extension division. Other members of the State University faculty—pediatricians, dietitians, psychologists, nursery school teachers—will, upon occasion, be invited to appear. Lectures, interviews and forum discussions are planned, a question box will be conducted and questions solicited. Local units may receive credit for standard rating by listening-in groups.

## Freshman Forensics Program Gets Under Way on U. W. Campus

With a new record freshmen enrollment of 2,500 at the University of Wisconsin, the student forensic board is anticipating a record turnout for their frosh forensics program which will officially get under way with a reception, Tuesday, Oct. 12, in the Memorial Union on the State University campus.

Chairman of forensics for first year students this year is Chester Krohn, junior from Marshfield, who was appointed by Byron Johnson, senior from Oconomowoc.

Krohn, a member of the varsity debate squad last semester, has already completed the freshman schedule which calls for extempore speaking, Dec. 1; extemporaneous reading contest, Dec. 15; frosh declamatory, Jan. 6, and frosh oratory April 13. Debate trials for first year men are set for Dec. 8.

Although no intercollegiate debates have been scheduled for the freshmen at this date, it has been definitely decided that Wisconsin will enter several debating squads in the national Delta Sigma Rho tournament which will be held on the Wisconsin campus the weekend of March 25.

Last year in the national speech parley, frosh squads representing the State University turned in a commendable showing by defeating several varsity teams from colleges and universities outside of the state.

Coincident with the freshman reception is the second annual extempore speaking contest. Preliminary trials will be held in advance of the reception so that the finalists may vie for the \$25 cash award to the first place winner before the freshmen.

ly Wisconsin believes in university education" and "Now our problem is to find the facilities to serve these thousands of fine young people."

## U. W. Enrollment Reaches 10,737; Sets New Record

With a registration of more than 10,700 students in its regular year classes, University of Wisconsin enrollment this week soared to a new high record for the State University's almost century-old history.

At the close of the first week of registration, Registrar Curtis Merriman reported that 10,737 students from all parts of Wisconsin, from every state in the union, and from a number of foreign countries, had enrolled in regular session classes. This figure represented an increase of 660 students over last year, when 10,077 students enrolled.

Enrollment in the freshman class also reached a record high in the University's history, with almost 2,500 first year students enrolled, an increase of almost 100 over last year when the freshman enrollment reached 2,401.

Presented with the figures, the president made two comments, "Evident-

## Report of Group Headed by U. W. Chief Seeks to Improve Nation's Urban Life

Eleven recommendations designed to improve the lot of the millions of American city dwellers are contained in an exhaustive report of the National Resources Committee's Urbanism committee, of which C. A. Dykstra, president of the University of Wisconsin and former city manager of Cincinnati, Ohio, was chairman. The report has just been made public by the federal government.

Commenting on the report recently at the State University, Pres. Dykstra quoted from the following excerpts from the report's "Foreword":

"The nation has wisely begun to concern itself with the conservation of its human and social resources as well as the conservation of its physical resources of water, land, and minerals. These human and social resources are affected not only by the conditions of rural life, which dominated the national country life movement 30 years ago, but they now include the conditions of urban life."

### Problem of Nation

"In looking at the urban problem, therefore, we consider it not as the concern of the city alone, but as a problem of the farmer as well, in that it is a problem of all the American nation. From the point of view of the highest and best use of our national resources, our urban communities are potential assets of great value, and we must consider from the point of view of the national welfare how they may be most effectively aided in their development. In the short-time run, there may be clashes of interest between urban and rural populations... But in the long run and from the overall point of view, their interests are mutual, reciprocal, interdependent.

"Urban and rural communities have many economic problems in common. They have in common a decline in general ownership of or equity in land and dwellings. In our farming communities, farm ownership or equity in the hands of those who till the soil is declining, and in the larger cities especially the percentage of home ownership has reached its peak or is going

down. In some of the more congested areas ownership of homes has almost disappeared. Both have the problem of inadequate living conditions. Cities have the problem of the slum, while in the rural communities there are wide ranges of habitations less picturesquely named, but far below any reasonable minimum standard of human living. Both have the problem of order, health, welfare, education, and the maintenance of democratic participation in the communal life."

### List Recommendations

Major recommendations of the Urbanism committee's report are:

That the efforts already made by government, industry, and labor toward increasing economic security be intensified and that the U. S. both study and act upon the problems of chronically depressed urban areas;

That the federal government should continue its policy of assistance to the social welfare programs of urban communities;

That a comprehensive and thorough-going inquiry should be made by the present tax revision council of other suitable agency of the entire subject of conflicting fiscal policies and taxation in local, state, and federal governments;

### Improve Urban Life

That legislation should be considered primarily for periods of economic distress creating a federal credit agency authorized to make loans and grants under adequate legislative safeguards to local governments for the purposes of public works construction, acquisition or construction of public utilities, land purchases, and similar outlays. At the same time, the committee believes that direct federal expenditures in cities should be reduced to a minimum.

The Urbanism committee believes, Pres. Dykstra explained, that the adoption of its major recommendations would lead to the improvement of the standards of urban life and would bring about a national-urban preparedness to meet insecurity and unemployment.

## Student Winners of Ag Scholastic Honors Announced

### Many Students from Wisconsin Homes Honored at Ag College Event

Public recognition of high scholastic honors made by students of the freshman and sophomore classes in agriculture and home economics during the past academic year was given 12 men and 14 women at the agricultural college walk-around held as part of the opening exercises of the new school year at the University of Wisconsin.

Scholastic honors for freshmen were won by Lawrence C. Monthey, Canton, according to the announcement made by I. L. Baldwin, assistant dean. Monthey is credited with a three-point average record, the highest rating possible. His name was inscribed on the silver loving cup presented by Alpha Zeta, the agricultural honorary fraternity. Others who won agriculture scholastic honors include: Margaret Anne Muth, Two Rivers; Russell Clarence Mills, Cincinnati, Ohio; Russell John Cook, Portage; and Otto Louis Hoffman, Markesan.

The high point home economist in last year's freshman class was Janice Irene Smith, Richland Center. Ruth Huenemann, Juneau, president of Omicron Nu, honorary home economics sorority, presented Miss Smith with the silver loving cup awarded by her organization for that honor.

Other home economics students who made excellent scholastic records as freshmen last year include: Lorraine Adeline Koehn, Milwaukee; Miriam Black, Rochester; Helen Mae Collen, Milwaukee; Ellen Joann Benson, Madison.

Agricultural students receiving high honors for their sophomore work were: Raymond John Hesprich, Lomira; Charles J. Krumm, Manitowoc; Robert Paul Niedermeyer, Waukesha; John Carl Sylvester, Madison. Sophomore honors were given to: Manford C. Baer, Kenosha; George R. Mervin, Walworth; Owen David Owens, Montello; Richard L. Witz, New Lisbon.

Sophomore honors in the department of home economics were awarded to: Lucille B. Aust, Madison; Agnes G. Etzweiler, Wausau; Kathryn Kuechenmeister, Milwaukee; Martha Anna Linder, Beloit; Edith Janet Robinson, Madison; Esther Anna Sneberk, Algoma; and Celestine Trauba Hein, Greenville.

## Geologists of Three States to Hold Field Trip in Wisconsin

The fifth annual Tri-State Field conference of geologists from the upper Mississippi valley will be held in southeastern Wisconsin next Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2 and 3. The leader of the conference this year is F. T. Thwaites, of the University of Wisconsin department of geology.

The field conference annually studies the geological problems of an area in Illinois, Iowa, or Wisconsin. This year the group, which will number over 100, will visit localities in Waukesha, Dodge, Ozaukee, and Milwaukee counties to examine quarries and exposures of the rocks of Silurian and Devonian age and the glacial deposits.

The itinerary for the two-day trip includes stops near Whitewater, a visit to the iron ore pits south of Mayville, the famous Lannon building-stone quarries, an examination of the strata exposed at Waukesha, and a study of the beds along the Milwaukee river in Estabrook park in Milwaukee and at Thiensville.

Leaders for the trip include Mr. Thwaites and W. H. Twenhofel, of the State University faculty, and Ira C. Edwards of the Milwaukee public museum staff.

## Badger Journalist Chosen ACE Officer

W. A. Sumner, of the department of agricultural journalism of the University of Wisconsin, was elected vice president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors at the annual meeting of that body recently held at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

During the past year, he served as secretary-treasurer of the association, and as editor of the ACE, the official publication for the organization.

Serving with Sumner as officers of the association are: J. Francis Cooper, extension editor of the University of Florida, president; James S. Knapp, assistant extension editor, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, secretary-treasurer; and Marjorie Arbour, University of Louisiana, and H. L. Harris, University of Minnesota, as directors. The association voted to hold its 1938 meeting at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The University of Wisconsin's college of engineering is constantly carrying on research and tests which seek greater safety and more economy in construction work. Recently successful experiments in the mixing of concrete saved the state considerable in paving costs in one year's time.