



The University of Wisconsin press bulletin.

Vol. 29, No. 28 January 17, 1934

Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, January 17, 1934

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/6QB7XCS4C4BKC8L>

This material may be protected by copyright law (e.g., Title 17, US Code).

For information on re-use, see

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

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—the 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 weekly by the
University of Wisconsin

Entered as second class mat-
ter Jan. 11, 1909, at the Post
office at Madison, Wisconsin,
under the act of July 4, 1894.

January 17, 1934

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 29, No. 28

Lecture Series on Recovery Plans Offered to Cities

Short Course on Reconstruction Policies Is Opened to Local Groups

A series of short lecture courses aiming to clarify many aspects of the national reconstruction program will be offered in Wisconsin cities by the economics staff of the University Extension division, according to plans announced this week. This series, which is made possible by federal assistance, will use 16 instructors in economics—graduates of colleges and universities who have been added to the regular staff.

Four instructors will be assigned to Milwaukee county, ten to the five extension districts in the state, and two will be in reserve.

Material from all sources has been analyzed and evaluated, and outlines and charts prepared to assist in explaining the national reconstruction program.

Subjects are limited to five of the following: The outstanding features of the reconstruction program; the trends in banking; the corporation and its relation to economic stability; what is happening to the dollar; can we manage our purchasing power; the consumer and the new era; operation of the industrial recovery act; our debts, public and private—their use and abuse; the farmer and the new era; the home owner and his mortgage; significant trends in our economic system; what is happening in Europe.

The course will be limited to four or five weekly lectures, given preferably by arrangement with the superintendent of schools or the director of the vocational school, for Parent-Teacher associations, service clubs, church organizations, or other community groups. Organizations may also request these lectures either singly or in series by writing direct to the University Extension division at Madison.

Labor Meets Set for Badger Cities

U. W. School Sponsors Milwaukee, Sheboygan Meets

Two Labor Institutes, one to be held in Sheboygan Jan. 23, 24, and 26, and the other scheduled for Milwaukee Jan. 30-Feb. 3, have been announced by Miss Alice Shoemaker, executive secretary of the school for workers in industry at the University of Wisconsin.

The two Institutes have been arranged by Miss Shoemaker in cooperation with local labor organizations, and are held under the auspices of the Wisconsin school for workers.

Consisting of a series of evening forums, the Sheboygan Institute will be held nightly at 8:15 in the high school auditorium. The three general subjects to be discussed are: Jan. 23, Farmer-Labor Cooperation; Jan. 24, Regulation versus Public Ownership; and Jan. 26, "The Balance Sheet of the NRA".

Martin Glaeser, professor of economics at the University, and Max Raskin, Milwaukee city attorney, will lead the discussions during the forum on regulation versus public ownership, with Prof. Glaeser upholding regulation, and Mr. Raskin supporting public ownership. Other speakers have not yet been announced.

"Labor and the NRA" will be the general topic of the Milwaukee Institute, for which local committees are now making plans. Five general subjects are to be discussed on each of the five days of the Institute. They include: Present Status of Organized Labor and the NRA, Money, Public Ownership, and Labor's Next Steps. The list of speakers who will present these subjects will be announced soon, Miss Shoemaker said.

Prof. R. B. Anderson Reaches 88th Year

Prof. Rasmus B. Anderson, who helped establish the first chair of Scandinavian languages and literature to be founded anywhere in the world outside of Scandinavia at the University of Wisconsin in 1876, celebrated his 88th birthday anniversary Jan. 12. Born in Albion township, Dane county, in 1846, Prof. Anderson was two years old when Wisconsin became a state.

Prof. Anderson did much to make Wisconsin and its State University the center of Norwegian culture and learning in America. He believes that he was the first Norwegian-American to teach in an American university, beginning his career at the University of Wisconsin in 1869.

Prof. Anderson speaks eight languages, most of them quite fluently. He is the author, editor, or translator of about 70 books, and at the age of 88, his memory is as keen as ever. He is the oldest curator of the Wisconsin Historical society, and is now the oldest living ex-diplomat in Wisconsin, having been made United States minister to Denmark in 1885.

Seven students from Wisconsin homes were recently initiated into Alpha Chi Sigma, professional chemists' society at the University of Wisconsin. They are Eugene Brimm, Sheboygan; Thomas Jones, Oshkosh; Grey Konrad, Madison; Jerome Ole-son, Waupun; Frederick Smith, Janesville; Frank Stirn, Arcadia; and Myron Stone, Park Falls.

Rural Pastors Will Meet at University in Farm-Home Week

That they might learn first hand of the plans of the federal government for farm adjustment, rural clergymen in Wisconsin are calling a meeting to be held in Madison, January 31, during the annual state Farm and Home Week at the State University.

The state Interdenominational Committee on Social Relations, of which the Rev. Alfred W. Swan, Madison, is chairman, will hold sessions to discuss "Social Justice in Modern Agriculture" led by Dr. Arthur E. Holt of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

The pastors have reserved the forenoon for the address of Secretary Wallace of Washington, D. C., when he will discuss with Wisconsin farmers and homemakers federal plans for agricultural adjustment.

Honor Three U. Mathematicians

Faculty Members Honored for Long Service to U. W.

Three of the University of Wisconsin's outstanding mathematicians were honored by their friends, associates, and students for their long and faithful service to the state and its University at a banquet held in the State University's Memorial Union building last Friday evening.

The three faculty members, all of whom came to the State University as teachers back in the 1880s and early '90s, are Prof. Charles S. Slichter, dean of the Graduate school; E. B. Skinner, professor of mathematics; and E. B. Van Vleck, emeritus professor of mathematics.

Several hundred friends of the three mathematicians, including both faculty members and students, attended. In addition, representatives of mathematics departments of several other American universities honored the Wisconsin mathematicians with their presence at the affair.

Noted Visitors Attend
The visitors included Prof. George D. Birkhoff, of Harvard university, one of the foremost mathematicians of the world, who formerly taught at Wisconsin; Professors G. A. Bliss and E. P. Lane, of the University of Chicago; and Prof. T. F. Holgate of Northwestern University. In addition, Prof. Warren Weaver, who left Wisconsin two years ago to join the Rockefeller foundation in New York, returned to the campus for the occasion.

Five speakers gave addresses at the banquet. They included Pres. Glenn Frank, Dr. E. A. Birge, president emeritus of the University; George C. Sellery, dean of the college of letters and science; Prof. Birkhoff and Prof. Weaver. The three faculty members being honored also spoke, and Prof. Mark Ingraham of the mathematics department acted as toastmaster.

All three of the faculty members honored have served the state and its University for many years. Of the three, Dean Slichter holds the longest service record—47 years—nearly half a century. He became an instructor of mathematics at Wisconsin in 1886, was made assistant professor in 1889, and professor in 1892. Since 1920 he has served as dean of the Graduate school.

Three Serve 116 Years
Prof. Skinner joined the faculty of the State University as an instructor in mathematics in 1892—41 years ago. He became assistant professor in 1895, associate professor in 1910, and since 1920 has been professor of mathematics. Prof. Van Vleck came

Music Composers Topic of Program For Group Study

Clubs Are Offered New Outline to Foster Appreciation of American Writers

Music clubs desiring to encourage appreciation of American composers and a better knowledge of the present condition of music in America are given a new means for such pursuits in a study program issued this month by the University Extension division. This is a new addition to the series of club studies offered by the department of debating and public discussion. It was prepared in cooperation with Prof. E. B. Gordon, of the university school of music, and the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs.

Young Writers Encouraged
One object of this study, according to its stated purposes, is to give direction to "worthy efforts of our young or untried composers," that they may not go unrecognized. The study is also commended as a means of awakening and fostering the amateur spirit in music.

"Since the use of leisure time is becoming a serious problem in America," the outline says, "it is important that every community have an opportunity for and guidance in the wise use of this free time. Our musical organizations can render a valuable social service in helping to solve this problem."

Scope of Program
The following general topics are included for study: Music in America since 1900; Edward McDowell; twentieth century composers, and such contemporaries as the ultra-modernists and the exponents of jazz; the contribution of women to American music; symphonic music; opera; folk music; socialization of music; radio and music; and a concluding study on the value of music and a survey and outlook of music in America.

The department of public discussion, cooperating with state and local libraries, is prepared to supply clubs with reference material for the topics suggested, and current material available through its loan service.

Wisconsin Economist Invited to Confer With Jersey Farmers

Rutgers University has asked Wisconsin to cooperate in a new experiment in adult education that has been designed to aid farmers and other rural leaders with new and various problems which have given rise to recent governmental action.

Asher Hobson of the department of agricultural economics has been invited to attend meetings at five different points in New Jersey for the purpose of conferring with farmers of the Mosquito state upon International Relations and Agriculture.

This educational experiment, the first of its kind to be undertaken in this country, is being carried on through the cooperation of the Agricultural Extension Service of New Jersey and the American Association for adult education. Noted authorities in agricultural economics and international relations are to be brought to New Jersey from many sections of the United States. They will conduct forums once a week at the University and address public meetings in widely separated points in that state.

to the mathematics department in 1893 and was made assistant professor in 1895. In 1898 he left the University, but returned in 1906 when he was raised to a full professorship. He was honored with an emeritus

Tax Collections in Badger Cities May Be Higher Now— But Future Won't Have to Pay So Much of Present's Bills

Although tax collections in three fourth class and six fifth class cities in Wisconsin are greater than those made in 68 cities of similar size in neighboring states, the taxpayers of the Badger municipalities, especially those in the fifth class, are not so heavily burdened with either bonded debts or interest payments, on which sooner or later must come a day of reckoning.

This is revealed in a study of the finances of 77 fourth and fifth class cities in Wisconsin and five other states, including Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and New York, recently completed at the University of Wisconsin. The study revealed that the Badger cities are consistently following a "pay-as-you-go" policy in municipal finance while cities in neighboring states seem to be charging present-day government costs up to the future.

U. W. Men Make Study
A report of the study, which is entitled "Public Expenditures, Tax Burdens, and Bonded Debts in Wisconsin and Neighboring States", has just been published as a bulletin of the State University's bureau of business and economic research. The study was made by Dr. George L. Leffler, sometime instructor in economics, with the aid of Harold M. Groves, professor of economics.

The fourth class Wisconsin cities whose finances were studied in the survey are Racine, Madison, and Kenosha. The fifth class Badger cities included in the study are Oshkosh, LaCrosse, Sheboygan, Green Bay, Superior, and West Allis. All of the fourth class cities had populations of between 50,000 and 100,000, while

the fifth class cities had populations of between 30,000 and 50,000.

Both fourth and fifth class cities in Wisconsin raise more money through taxes than do those of the neighboring states, the study revealed. The three Wisconsin fourth class cities in 1930 collected \$47.35 in taxes per capita as against \$41.87 per capita in 27 fourth class cities in neighboring states.

Again, tax collections in fifth class cities in Wisconsin average 25 per cent higher than in similar cities of neighboring states. In 1930, per capita tax collections in the six fifth class cities in Wisconsin averaged \$45.60 as against only \$36.90 in 41 fifth class cities in the five neighboring states.

Badger Debt Burden Small
On the other hand, Class 5 cities in Wisconsin are much better situated in regard to bonded indebtedness than cities of similar size elsewhere. In 1930 the per capita bonded indebtedness of six fifth class cities in Wisconsin was \$46.84, while the per capita bonded debts of 41 cities in five neighboring states was \$75.26, a debt burden nearly twice as great as in Wisconsin cities.

At the same time, interest payments on these debts in 1930 averaged only \$2.50 in fifth class Wisconsin cities while it reached \$5.38 per capita of similar size in nearby states.

Because of the heavy bonded indebtedness of one fourth class Wisconsin city, Madison, where the debt burden exceeds \$100 per capita, the per capita bonded debts of the three fourth class Badger cities is slightly higher than in the 27 fourth class cities of neighboring states. But the in-

1.8 Cents A Mile is Special Railroad Rate Offered Farm, Home Week Visitors

Special low round-trip rates of 1.8 cents a mile will be offered by Wisconsin railroads to the annual state Farm and Home Week, at Madison, January 29 to February 3, according to word received by K. L. Hatch of the College of Agriculture, from the Western Passenger Association.

The fares which are good for a ten day period will permit a stay for the entire week's program. No certificates will be required to obtain these rates.

With many problems now before the agriculture of the state, a large attendance is expected to hear Secretary Henry A. Wallace, and others of the United States Department of Agriculture, tell of federal plans now being worked out to aid farmers bring their farm operations into line with 1934 demands.

Homemakers to Honor Mrs. Jones

To Present Portrait at Farm Week Banquet

Mrs. Nellie Kedzie Jones, who through years of untiring devotion to the cause of rural homemaking has endeared herself to rural communities throughout the state, will be honored by Wisconsin homemakers when they meet at the annual state Farm and Home Week at the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture, Madison, January 29 to February 2.

The occasion will be a banquet given in Mrs. Jones's honor Monday evening, January 29, when an oil portrait of Mrs. Jones will be presented by Wisconsin homemakers to the College of Agriculture.

A homemaker from Marathon county, where Mrs. Jones lived as a rural homemaker prior to being chosen to direct the home economics extension work at the university, will make the presentation. The portrait is being painted by Robert W. Grafton, painter of Michigan City, Indiana.

Mrs. Nellie Kedzie Jones, the first home economics worker at the University of Wisconsin to be recognized in this manner, recently retired from active service with the honorary rank of emeritus professor. She had served as head of the home economics extension for 15 years.

City Planning Topics Begin on WHA, Jan. 23

Some phases of modern municipal planning will be discussed over WHA, the University of Wisconsin station, on a new schedule starting next week. The speaker will be Prof. H. E. Pulver, of the Extension division, department of civil and structural engineering. These talks will be heard on successive Tuesdays at 9:15 a. m., beginning Jan. 23.

The consecutive topics in this series are: Elements of a City Plan; The Street and Transportation Systems; Parks and Recreation Facilities; Civic Centers and Public Buildings; and Zoning.

professorship in 1929. The three men have a combined service record in the University of 116 years, with Prof. Slichter serving 47 years, Prof. Skinner 41 years, and Prof. Van Vleck 28 years.

terest payments, and the percentage of taxes paid out for interest on debts are much smaller in Wisconsin fourth class cities than in similar sized cities in the neighboring states.

Badger Interest Low
The three fourth class cities in Wisconsin in 1930 were bonded to the extent of \$85.58 per capita. This was almost exactly the same burden as found in 27 neighboring cities where the burden averaged \$85.49. But the interest payments in the Wisconsin fourth class cities averaged \$4.19 in 1930 in contrast to \$5.54 per capita in the 27 cities in the nearby states.

In addition, class 4 cities in Wisconsin pay a much smaller percentage of their taxes out for interest than do cities of similar size in neighboring states. In 1930 the ratio of interest charges to tax collections in Wisconsin fourth class cities was only 8.9 per cent, while in five neighboring states similar cities were paying 13.2 per cent.

Government Costs Vary
Total government costs in the fourth class Wisconsin cities are higher than in similar sized cities elsewhere, while the cost of government in the fifth class Badger cities is much less than in the class 5 cities of the neighboring states.

In 1930 the per capita average public expenditures for the three class 4 Wisconsin cities was \$68.83 against a per capita average of \$63.18 in 27 cities in neighboring states, while the per capita government costs in the fifth class Badger cities averaged \$53.90 as against \$57.01 in the 41 fifth class cities in the neighboring states included in the study.

Sec. Wallace Will Meet State Farmers at Farm Week

Roosevelt's Farm Secretary to Talk to Badgers at University Meet

Wisconsin farmers and homemakers, confronted with many perplexing questions arising out of federal plans for farm improvement, are meeting at State Farm and Home Week, Madison, January 29 to February 2.

K. L. Hatch, in charge of arrangements for this state event, believes that there is a silver lining to the sombre clouds that have been hovering over agriculture and sees this lining in the plans which the federal government has for aiding agriculture to adjust itself to new and changed conditions.

In order that Wisconsin farmers and homemakers might get first-hand the answer to their questions, arrangements have been made for several men prominently connected with farm adjustment plans to confer with them during this annual Farm Week event. Among these is Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Albert S. Goss, of the Farm Credit Administration; J. F. Cox, of the Surplus Crops Division, and others.

Many Groups to Meet

A large number of farm and rural organizations have already definitely made plans to hold their annual meetings during Farm Week. Among them are the Wisconsin Livestock Breeders Association, the Wisconsin Horse Breeders Association, the various dairy breed organizations, beef breeders, wool growers, sheep breeders, potato growers, and others.

Each of the five days has been given over to a consideration of some form of farm adjustment. Corn-Hog Adjustment Day has been set for Monday, January 29. Tuesday, January 30, is Farm Finance Day. Wednesday, January 31, is Agricultural Adjustment Day. Thursday, February 1, is Dairy Adjustment Day, while Friday, February 2, has been designated as Rural Life Day, when rural drama and music groups will hold their state festival.

Many Events Scheduled

With the drastic price declines of the past two years having thrown the whole economic machinery of the farm out of gear, farmers of the state right now are asking many important questions. Ways by which the farmer may refinance himself through the Agricultural Credit Administration; how he may avail himself of benefits under the Corn-Hog Adjustment plan; what is in the offing in the dairy program; and many other important questions will be brought up for consideration at this annual farm event.

The state grain show, the state drama festival, honorary recognition of farm men and women who have contributed to improvement of agriculture, and the Little International Livestock show will also be held during this annual Farm and Home Week.

Railroads are offering very attractive rates from all parts of the state to Farm Week, Hatch states and it is expected that a large attendance will be on hand for the consideration of the problems now before the farmers of the state and nation.

U. S. Plant Chief Was First Named by "Uncle Jerry" Rusk

When Dr. W. A. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, recently retired from active service, he completed a period of public service which began under the direction of "Uncle Jerry" Rusk, one time Wisconsin governor and first secretary of agriculture.

It was Jeremiah Rusk who, when he was governor, signed the bill creating the Wisconsin agricultural experiment station, and later, as the head of what grew into the present United States Department of Agriculture, invited Taylor, Michigan nurseryman and farmer, to start his long time service to American farmers and farming.

Dr. Taylor, upon retiring, was praised for his distinguished service by Secretary Wallace. In addition to directing the work of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Taylor has served as an expert in horticulture with the United States Commission to the Paris Exposition; was a member of the International Jury of the Department of Horticulture at the St. Louis Exposition; and, in 1918, was a member of the Agricultural Commission to Europe.

Noted Mathematician Speaks at University

One of the world's foremost mathematicians, Prof. George D. Birkhoff, of Harvard university, who last month won a prize of 10,000 lira offered by Pope Pius the 11th for an excellent work on mathematics, delivered four lectures to University of Wisconsin students during the past week.

Prof. Birkhoff's lectures were given at the State University under the auspices of the Wisconsin Alumni Research foundation which, in addition to the aid which it extends to University research, each year brings to the campus some noted scientist.