

Wisconsin Academy review. Volume 17, Number 3 Fall 1970

Madison, Wisconsin: Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, Fall 1970

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WISCONSIN ACADEMY REVIEW



FALL 1970

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Published quarterly by the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, Editorial office: 201 N. Charter Street, Madison, Wi. 53715.

Correspondence relating to the Academy (information on membership, dues payments, change of address notices, undelivered copies of the magazine, orders for single copies (\$1 each) should be sent to the W.A.S.A.L. Office, 201 N. Charter Street, Madison, Wi. 53715.)

Second class postage paid at Madison, Wi. The date of this issue is December 1970.

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WISCONSIN WEATHER

HIGHLIGHTS, 1870-1970

BY HANS E. ROSENDAL

Before proceeding to present some of the highlights of Wisconsin weather of the past 100 years, we should perhaps take a minute or two to mention that instrumental weather observations had been carried out in Wisconsin during the previous 50-year period, 1820-1870, prior to the establishment of a national weather service in 1870.

In addition, the literature contains many accounts of memorable weather events during this early period, and these have been well described without the instrumental data. For example, there are accounts of the cold and snowy winter of 1842-43, the repeated droughts of the 1850's, the cold New Year's Day of 1864, the destructive Viroqua tornado of June 28, 1865, and clues to the severity of Great Lakes storms from insurance records concerning ship losses.

Instrumental observations in the territories which now comprise the United States began along the East Coast at Boston in 1725 and at Philadelphia in 1731, but these were sporadic. Almost 100 years earlier a Swedish minister, Rev. John Campanius Holm, had taken extensive notes in his diary on the weather of the Delaware area. His description of daily weather events in 1644-45 is so detailed that Holm is generally credited with being the first systematic weather observer in our country.

Continuous long-term records began in the 1770's at New Haven, Conn., and later at Philadelphia, Boston, and Charleston. By the year 1800, twelve weather stations were in operation, mainly along the eastern seaboard. Jefferson was expressing a need for denser networks with a station in each county of Virginia to obtain climatological

Hans E. Rosendal is State Climatologist, National Weather Service, and is located at the Space Science Center, UW-Madison. This paper was originally presented at the Milwaukee Centennial meetings of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, October 2-4, 1970.

data to help agriculture. The Army's Surgeon General, Dr. James Tilton, in 1814 expressed a need for weather data to help explain occurrences of diseases. The resident surgeon at each fort was ordered to take daily weather observations, when the middle border was occupied after the War of 1812. Starting in 1819 these weather data were being collected from about 50 forts. Fort Snelling at St. Paul was the first station to report here in the Wisconsin region. Fort Crawford (Prairie du Chien) and Fort Howard (Green Bay) began in 1822 and Fort Winnebago (Portage) in 1829. The military observation program lasted until 1845-46 when the troops were withdrawn for the Mexican War. Temperature, cloudiness, wind, and precipitation were measured although actual precipitation amounts did not become available until after 1836. Lorin Blodget used these data to compile his works in climatology. Increase Lapham corresponded with Blodget and obtained his book on climatology of the United States, which he expanded upon in describing the climate of Wisconsin.

Pioneer Observers

Civilian observers appeared on the scene in Milwaukee in 1837, Beloit 1850, Dubuque 1851, Manitowoc 1851, and Madison 1855. The U.S. Patent Office, The Smithsonian Institution, the Lake Survey, and the Western Union Telegraph Company all had observers in Wisconsin. Increase Lapham was one of these observers in the Milwaukee area from 1859-72. He prepared climatic summaries for the area and also was interested in forecasting weather, as illustrated by his attempts to time the barometric low pressure systems crossing southern Wisconsin.

Most of you are familiar with Lapham's role in lobbying, together with Congressman Paine, for a national weather service. This service materialized in 1870 and became part of the Army

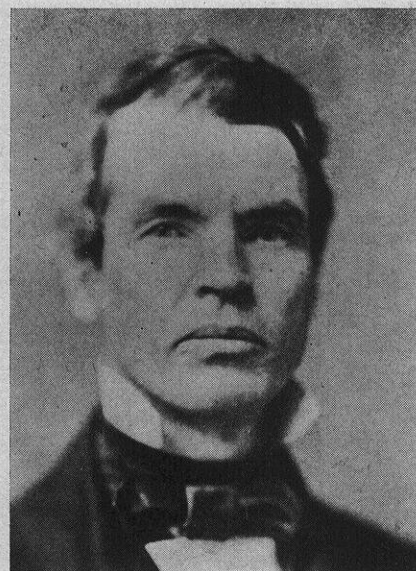
Signal Corps. Lapham became assistant to the Chief Signal Officer and was assigned to the Chicago office to forecast area weather. He issued the first Great Lakes storm warning on November 8, 1870, a milestone in U.S. weather forecasting. Life among the military did not appeal to Lapham, and he also missed Milwaukee and his friends there, so he managed to spend most of his short tour of duty with the Signal Corps at his home and library in Milwaukee.

Bureau Is Transferred

After a couple of scandals, the military lost control of the national weather service; it was put under the Department of Agriculture in 1891 and named the Weather Bureau. With the advent of aviation the Weather Bureau was transferred into the Department of Commerce, where it still is today. During the period 1965-1970 the Weather Bureau was part of the Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA), an agency which was superseded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in October 1970. During this reorganization, the Weather Bureau was renamed the National Weather Service.

Now that we are brought up to date on the national organization, I should perhaps mention that we in Wisconsin receive temperature and precipitation data from 200 cooperative observers, plus more detailed data and forecasts from four first-order Weather Service stations located at Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, and La Crosse.

We are blessed with a variable climate here in Wisconsin. Perhaps you have heard the story about the meteorologist from Barbados who departed from his post on the island some years ago for a month's trip to the mainland. Before he left he made out the next set of monthly weather observations and gave them to the telegrapher to send



Increase Lapham, pioneer Wisconsin forecaster, worked to organize the first U.S. weather service in 1870.

in day by day. He knew from climatology that temperature, pressure, wind speed and direction, cloudiness, etc., all would vary within very narrow limits.

Here in Wisconsin, far removed from a modifying ocean and literally half way between the pole and equator, we experience all sorts of extremes in weather. As you shall see, it is possible to have a temperature of 110° in southwestern Wisconsin in the case of late May in 1934 and have a snowfall of 10 inches in the same area on the same date in 1947. Fortunately, only on rare occasions and in very modified form, do we experience the conditions that set off large fires like those that rage in California this week (October 1-7, 1970); the rains, winds and tides accompanying the hurricane; the searing heat of a drought; the blizzard, the flood, and the destructive force of the tornado.

The number of lives lost and the dollar-damage figures are relatively minor in Wisconsin as compared with other states of the Union. Let us begin with the 1870's and, as time goes on, more and more of you will probably recall some of the unusual weather events of the past century.

Wisconsin Weather Highlights - 1870 - 1970



Floods are a fairly common occurrence in Wisconsin following periods of prolonged rainfall or rapid snowmelt. This one took place near Mellen, Wis., in late June 1946.

		1910	Driest year of record.
		1911 October 6	Dam washed out above Black River Falls.
		November 11	Great Lakes storm. Large tornado near Janesville, 9 killed. Temperature drop from low 70's at noon to 10° above next morning.
		1912 January	Coldest January of record.
		1915	Very mild spring followed by very cool summer. April warmer than May. Much crop damage from late August frost.
		1916 April	Extensive spring flooding along St. Croix and Mississippi rivers in April.
		July	Very strong heat wave in July.
		1917	Coldest year of record. Poor growing season ended with damaging frost in early September. October very snowy and cold with losses of corn, cabbage and potatoes.
		1918 January	January snowfall of 53 inches in Milwaukee.
		1921 July	Warmest July of record. About 50 days of 90° and above in southern Wisconsin.
		1922 January 24	Coldest temperature of record in Wisconsin with -54° at Danbury.
		February 21-23	Worst glaze storm to hit Wisconsin.
		1924 August 4	7½ inches of rain in 18 hours at West Bend. Severe flooding along Milwaukee River.
		1925 October	Cold snowy October with extensive crop losses.
		1929 January	Snowiest January of record. Snow about 40 inches deep in Fox Valley.
		1931	Warmest year of record.
		1934	Extreme heat for late May. Dust storms in June. Drought.
		1936	Very cold January and February. Lake Michigan entirely ice covered.
1871	October 8	Peshtigo Fire—more than 1,200 killed.	
1874-75		Coldest winter of record.	
1877-78		"Year without a winter".	
1878	May 23	Mineral Point tornado—20 killed.	
1881	March 2-4	Blizzard in southeast.	
	September 29	Mondovi tornado—12 killed.	
		Wettest year of record.	
1883	May 18	Racine tornado—25 killed.	
1885		Wet period ends—droughty period begins.	
1894		Drought culminates. Driest July and August of record. Many forest fires, with 300 killed near Phillips.	
1898	February 19-20	Blizzard in southeast.	
1899	June 12	New Richmond tornado—117 killed.	
1900	Fall	Extensive flooding along Wisconsin and Mississippi. Heavy rains from Galveston Hurricane September 11. La Crosse had 24-hour rain of 7.23 inches on October 27-28.	
1905	November 28	Great Lakes storm. Many ore carriers wrecked on Lake Superior.	
1909	July 20-22	Destructive floods along Lake Superior shore counties. 12-inch rain in 48 hours at Hurley.	

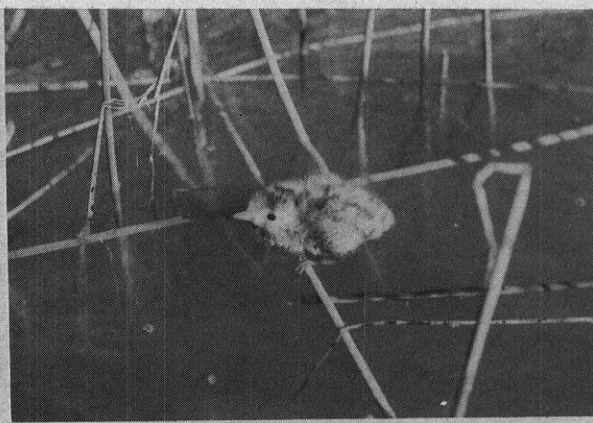
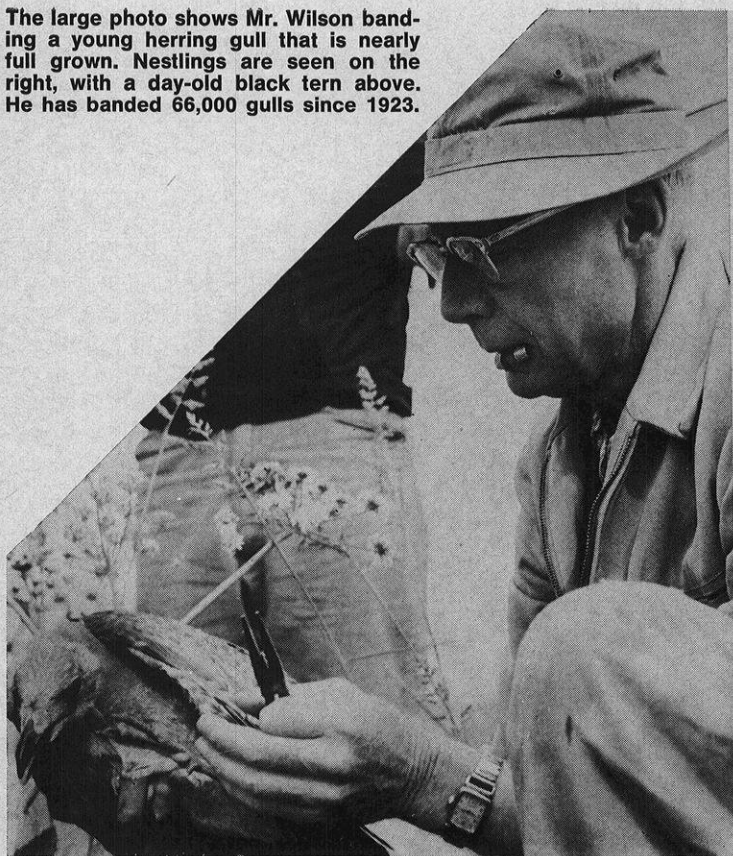


Tornadoes are the most violent and spectacular weather events in our area. This one occurred near Tracy, Minn.,

in 1967. Photo at left shows early, most destructive phase; rope-like shape at the right typifies final stage of the storm.

	July 13	Record high temperature of 114° F. at Dells. Drought conditions culminate throughout state.	March	Snowiest of record.
1938		Wettest year since 1881. Flooding along the Wisconsin River.	July 21	Flash flooding along Kickapoo River. Family of six drowned; 8.5 inches of rain in 6 hours at Viroqua.
	October 22	Great Lakes storm. Up to 20 inches snow in northern Wisconsin. Manitowoc Lighthouse lost.	December	Very snowy in southeast.
1940	November 11	Armistice Day storm; heavy snow plus high winds. Twelve duck hunters die on Mississippi River.	1952 April	Severe flooding along Mississippi River.
1941	August 29-30	Excessive rains in northwest counties. 10.5 inches in 24 hours at Hayward. Many smaller dams and bridges washed out.	Sept.-Oct.	Both months driest of record.
1946	June 23-24	Excessive rains in northern counties. 11.75 inches in 24 hours at Mellen.	1955 July	Very warm. Warmest July since 1936.
1947	January 29-30	Severe blizzard in southern and central Wisconsin.	1958 June 4	Colfax tornado. 27 killed.
	May 28-29	Unprecedented heavy late May snows.	1959 March 5	Severe blizzard across central Wisconsin.
	August	August exceedingly warm.	1961 Sept. 12-13	Heavy rains in southeast from fading hurricane Carla.
1950	May 5	Very severe wind associated with large low pressure system.	1963 January	Very cold January and February. Lake Michigan ice covered from Milwaukee to Muskegon.
	July 15-16	Flash flooding in Kickapoo Valley.	1965 March 17-18	Severe snowstorm over entire state.
	November 25	Great Lakes storm. Huge waves on Lake Michigan.	April 11	Flooding along the Mississippi River in April.
1951	January 29-30	Severe cold wave.	November 26	Palm Sunday tornadoes in southern Wisconsin.
			1967	Great Lakes storm.
				Midwinter tornado near Janesville.
			1968	Severe flooding along the Chippewa and Mississippi rivers in spring.
			1969 June 29	December was snowiest of record.
			1970	Severe flash flooding around Darlington.
				Summer drought in central and southeastern Wisconsin.

The large photo shows Mr. Wilson banding a young herring gull that is nearly full grown. Nestlings are seen on the right, with a day-old black tern above. He has banded 66,000 gulls since 1923.



BIRD BANDING ***in Wisconsin***

BY HAROLD C. WILSON

Bird banding, as you all know, is the act of placing a marked metal band around the leg of a bird to study its movements, individual habits, and other characteristics. A banded bird becomes a special individual—like a person with a social security number.

Banding is not new. Back in the first century A.D., Pliny the Elder, a Roman scholar and writer, wrote that the names of winners in the gladiator races were attached to swallows that were later released to carry the news back home.

In our country, Audubon placed thin silver wire around the legs of nestling phoebes in

1803 and had the thrill of recapturing them the following year. In 1899 Mortensen, a Danish scientist, placed tags on the legs of storks, ducks and starlings and discovered that some of the storks flew to South Africa to spend the winter.

Leon J. Cole, a former member of the Wisconsin Academy and professor at the University of Wisconsin, helped form a banding society in Massachusetts before he came to our state. For many years, the American Bird Banding Society issued

Harold C. Wilson, now retired, lives at Ephraim, Wisconsin. He has maintained a life-long interest in bird banding and related studies.

bands and kept a file on all subsequent activities of the banded birds.

By 1920 there had been sufficient proof of the value of banding for the federal government to head the project. No one person could research the migration and distribution of North American birds. With a network of nation-wide banders to supply their banding data to one central office, now at the Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Interior, the combined information makes it possible to reach valuable conclusions. Canada cooperates and uses our bands.

Under the direction of Profs.



Although two songbirds are banded for every gamebird, recoveries of banded birds are in the reverse proportion because of hunting. Ducks and pheasants have high recovery percent. (DNR photo)

Cole and George Wagner of the Zoology Department, the University of Wisconsin instituted a banding program in the 1920's as did some other colleges in the state. Special projects have been carried on through the years. Joseph J. Hickey of the University of Wisconsin Wildlife Ecology Department and John Emlen of the University of Wisconsin Zoology Department in Madison have been active in banding studies. The same can be said for George Becker and Earl Eppl of Wisconsin State University at Stevens Point; also J. Carl Welty of Beloit College. There were others, surely.

The Wisconsin Conservation Department also took up the cause. Now renamed the Department of Natural Resources, it does research with gamebirds in particular. Especially noteworthy is the work of the Hamerstroms for the Department at Plainfield, Wis. For over a score

of years they have been studying the life history of the prairie chicken and other grouse species in an effort to develop management practices and improve their Wisconsin range.

All gamebirds banded in Wisconsin or recovered within this State are reported to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service from its headquarters at the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge, Laurel, Maryland.

About two songbirds are banded for every gamebird. Recoveries of banded birds, found at locations other than the place of banding, are in the reverse proportion. Birds like ducks and geese, which are collected and reported by hunters, have a much higher percent recovery.

There are presently about 2,000 licensed volunteer banders in the United States, plus another 400 in Canada; they accounted for a total of almost

1¼ million bands placed on birds of all species the past year.

Wisconsin has 128 licensed banders. Banding permits are required by both federal and state authorities. Bands and reporting forms are supplied by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and annual reports of all banding activity are required. Last year alone, almost 100,000 banded birds were reported to the Fish & Wildlife Service by the finders. During the past 50 years the F&WLS has recorded 23 million banded birds. Of this total, over 1½ million birds were found dead or alive and reported to the Service. This is about a 6.5 percent return.

The first question likely to be asked is, "How does one catch the birds to band?" There are innumerable ways. Young birds can be tagged while still in the nest. This is time-consuming and not the best method, since infant mortality is high in many species. Birds may be caught accidentally. A chimney swift came down our chimney and through the fireplace into the livingroom; it was caught and banded.

Most birds are caught by trapping them. Countless farm youths have at one time or another used a mesh-bottom box held up on one side by a short stick with a string attached. Feed is placed under it and, after much watchful waiting, birds (often English sparrows) come to eat the bait. A tug of the string and the birds are caught.

Dozens of traps of various design have been created by and for banders. Not all birds eat the same food, and not all respond to food. Water dripping into a shallow container attracts warblers like magic. Special designs are required for shorebirds and ducks. Over the past 50 years, the so-called "government spar-

row trap" has probably been the most consistent trap device. It is merely a wire cage with a funnel-shaped entrance, through which the birds will enter to eat the bait placed inside.

The newest device, which has had astounding success, is the mist net of Japanese origin. Fine-meshed nets similar to fish nets are strung between upright poles and will capture many birds not attracted to bait. Birds fly into them and are cradled in the fine nylon mesh until re-



This redwing blackbird, caught in the new Japanese mist net, awaits banding.

The migratory habits of the mourning dove were discovered through banding.



leased. Although these nets need constant attention, they can snare many a species that is caught in no other way.

There are comparatively few species of birds in Wisconsin during the winter months. All we can do is try harder to attract birds to feeders that are stocked with a variety of seeds and foods. Suet is irresistible to black-capped chickadees and the downy and hairy woodpeckers. Sunflower seeds and millet head the list of seeds. Many people besides banders feed birds for the fun of watching them at the free-lunch counters at or near their windowsills. Some persons have admitted using over a ton of food each year!

The chickadee needs no introduction. This week (November 1970), I caught two that wore bands—one placed in November 1967, the other in December of the same year. An aspiring poet was prompted by a chickadee's cheery notes to propose a toast: "Here's to the little chickadee; the sexes are alike you see. It's hard to tell she from he; but he can tell—and so can she!"

Gulls, terns, herons, chimney swifts and swallows usually nest in colonies and a large number of the young can be banded in a short time. The herring gull, often called the sea gull, has especially interested me because it nests on nearby islands in Green Bay. It is known as a scavenger which makes it important in this era of pollution. Nest building begins in late April. There have been years when nests were built on the snow. Usually three eggs are laid and incubated for 24 to 28 days. Both birds incubate the vari-colored eggs, which are as large as turkey eggs. Some are light blue with dark blotches; others a chocolate brown with darker spots.

Incubation can begin with the laying of the first egg. The young are fed regurgitated partially-digested fish, or worms and grubs from freshly-worked fields when fish are scarce. When

I picked up a 10-day-old chick last year, it regurgitated 24 June-bug grubs.

The young leave their nest within a few hours. They stay within the territory claimed by their parents and hide under the bushes or debris along the shore. These birds are fed six weeks or more until they can fly and scout for their own food. It is necessary to band these birds before they take to the air.

May I take you on a hasty banding trip? Any gullible person is eligible for an experience that is not soon forgotten. As we row ashore from a larger boat anchored off the island, the air overhead is filled with screams and cries and falling nitrogen from hundreds of excited adults. A man of letters might recall what Francis Bacon once stated: "Money is like fertilizer—no good unless spread."

Over the years I have found men from all walks of life who, in a weak moment, offered their services. I never turned down a helper because he was a bank president, an M.D., college professor, or business executive. Most went for the experience, and one trip usually satisfied their interest.

Seasickness never helped the cause of banding. When you have eight or ten seasick people aboard, it becomes contagious. I had a school principal who became so ill he jumped out of the boat when we approached an island. Up to his shoulders in the water, he exclaimed, "At least I can feel something solid under my feet!" He never went along again.

Then there have been times when the water became so rough that we were too concerned to think of seasickness. Three years ago two college men went to Hat Island with me. It is an eleven-mile run each way from Ephraim. Returning home a squall hit us. There were heavy seas running from the south, but within ten minutes four-foot waves were also coming from

(Please see page 11)



WE SAW YOU IN MILWAUKEE

by Norman C. Olson

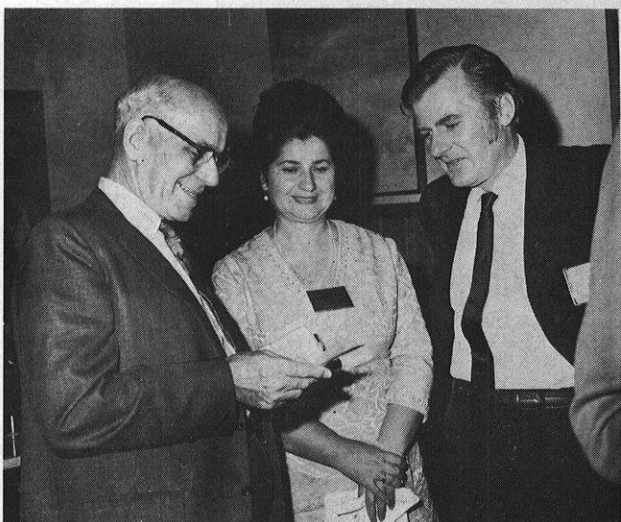
Academy President Norman C. Olson greets the guests, including a representative from Mathematical Society of Japan.



Secretary Martha Hanson serves at W.A.S.A.L. reception on Marquette Campus. (Below) Walter Scott, Centennial chairman, visits Mr. and Mrs. Hans Rosendal of Madison.



Members and their guests enjoy the special luncheon at Brooks Memorial Union. (Below) President Olson and his helpers man the registration desk at Milwaukee meetings.



Paralleling its first year of a century ago, the Academy held the second meeting of its 1970 centennial year in Milwaukee. Activities of October 2-3-4 were centered on the Marquette University campus at the invitation of Father John P. Raynor, S.J., president of the University, and his associates.

The appropriateness of this setting for the meeting was highlighted by the fact that the school is currently engaged in a celebration of its own — the tercentenary of Father Marquette's coming to Wisconsin territory in 1670.

The spring 1970 meeting in Madison has its focus on our environmental problems, in general, and the ecological aspects of our State in particular. The fall meeting, in contrast, had its emphasis on historical views of a broad range of the Academy's diversified interests.

Papers at Milwaukee ranged from Kenneth MacArthur's "One Hundred Years of Wisconsin Entomology" to Robert Ritzenthaler's "Ten Thousand Years of Wisconsin Indian History," and from Kent Shifferd's "The Ethic of Exploitation—The Historical Background of Pollution" to Judith Wojta's "History of Art Education in Wisconsin."

The Centennial Banquet on Saturday evening, October 3, provided an appropriate climax to the meeting. It was held in the Great Hall of the Wisconsin Club. Coincidentally, 1970 is the centennial "birthday" of the clubhouse, originally the home of Alexander Mitchell, a founder of the Wisconsin Academy. It is to the credit of Mr. Mitchell that he was able to supervise the creation of his magnificent new home, and also participate in the meetings and related functions necessary for the formation of a new society, at a time when he was president of the Northwestern Railroad.

Banquet speaker was Dr. Ray A. Billington, senior research as-

sociate at the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery in San Marino, California. Dr. Billington's outstanding address, "Frederick Jackson Turner: Non-Western Historian," linked in part the direction of Dr. Turner's creative efforts to the impact of his contacts as a member of the Wisconsin Academy with its broad spectrum of disciplines.

Attendance at the several functions of the fall meeting—reception, paper sessions, and banquet—totaled two hundred members and guests. Those who accompanied Ken MacArthur on his Sunday morning tour of Milwaukee's new Public Museum shared a delightful and enlightening experience.

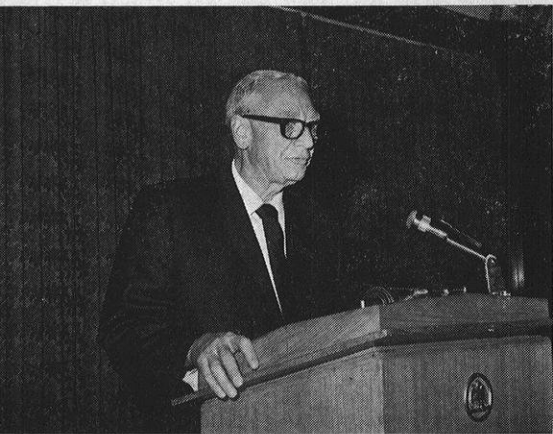
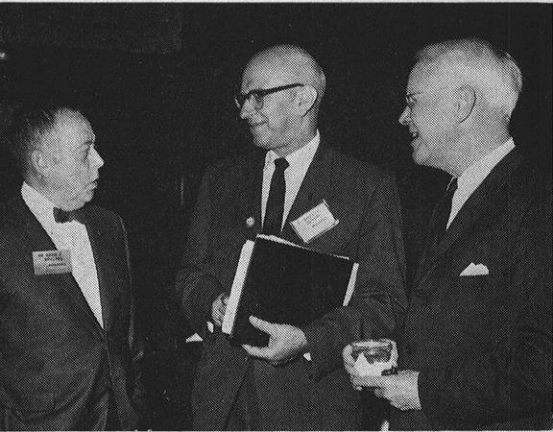
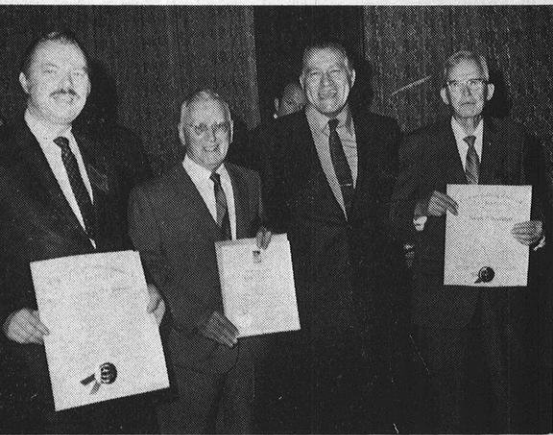
All in all, it was a fine event.



President-elect F. Chandler Young (at lectern) presented honors and certificates to many individuals and organizations following the Academy's banquet at the Wisconsin Club on Oct. 3. Dr. Ray Billington, noted historian, spoke of the scholarly achievements of Frederick Jackson Turner after the awards ceremony.



AT MILWAUKEE MEETING



These Yellowed Pages

by Gwen Schultz

Poet of the future ages,
If you read these yellowed pages
How will you envision us in our archaic time?

You may spurn our lines or quote them,
But think back to hands that wrote them
And to hearts whose temporal beats were metered in the rhyme.

Although we, by early birth,
Are confined to Planet Earth
And perceive but far and faint the worlds that you will see,

Know that we, your ancient teachers,
Can foresee you fellow creatures
Coming, and we wonder what your unborn thoughts will be.

You—who'll burst from this cocoon,
Butterfly out to the moon,
Roam the roomy recesses of Heaven's hallowed halls,

Basking as your fancy runs
In colors of assorted suns,
Gliding in smooth arcs among a million jeweled balls—

O what poems *you* will write,
Rocketing along with light
In silent day, in timeless night, through pristine majesties.

But on your stage of spinning dancers
Are you nearer to the answers
Of the sacred secret of life's old mysteries?

As many lightyears as you've traveled,
I predict you've not unraveled
One thin thread of that eternal masking mesh of fear.

Do you pity us who live
In an era primitive,
Limited to subject matter of a single sphere?

Earth's old hull—there's nothing on it
Not extolled in song or sonnet,
Not a corner unexplored by some poor poet's pen.

But, future friend, don't sympathize
With us who can't ply gaudy skies.
We don't mind hunting beauty in a hidden, leafy glen.

Narrow, mired minds, you say,
To eulogize a clod of clay?
To glorify our sunset sky and every mossy stone?

To still believe that paradise
Lies within a loved one's eyes,
That happiness is one small plot of land we call our own?

You transcend our simple pleasures,
Quaint beliefs, childish treasures.
But in your vast wanderings don't you sometimes miss

The mood of a terrestrial night,
A green-leafed spring, however trite,
That curtain-darkened room and that certain someone's kiss?

Cruise the wide and windless highway;
Whip the stellar-beaconed skyway;
Sojourn in empyreal Elysiums of space.

Still I think your guiding light
Is one that's dim and out of sight:
A lonely, candled window. My friend, that's no disgrace.

Nor if there should be a locket
Hidden in your spacesuit pocket.
Sentiment is heavy in a weightless lock of hair.

You've seen the moon's cold, scarred terrain
And walked its craggy, cratered plain;
But in your conquest, Poet, must be something of despair,

For since you've shred its cirrus veil,
Gazed upon its body pale,
You nevermore will find her—no matter how you try—

The sometimes silver, sometimes gold,
Goddess of the bards of old,
Fair Diana, chiffon-robed, Huntress of the Sky.

Reach back in time to take my hand,
Poet of the future, and
We can find adventure in every century.

If grinding space becomes a bore,
If newness cloyes and you crave more,
A world's behind you to explore! Come along with me.



The cast of the musical show "Song of the Inland Seas" posed for this picture after their premiere for Academy members and guests at the Madison meeting in May.

BIRD BANDING

(from page 7)

the opposite direction. It rained so hard we could not see 10 feet ahead. The boys wondered if they should put on life jackets. Not wishing to excite them, I said "No." But I'll never forget that trip and neither will they. We did not know at the time that the wind was clocked at 65 miles per hour. I have often thought since that my hobby of banding birds might be worthwhile after all, because both of those fellows decided to enter the priesthood later on!

The islands off the shores of Door County are rocky reef outcroppings covered with dense vegetation. A few trees and bushes, deadly nightshade, wild parsnips, grasses and weeds, not to forget the five-foot-tall nettles, form a good cover for the birds.

Gull Hatch Declines

The number of young birds varies from year to year. At the height of the pesticide havoc, gull populations dropped to seven young on Jack Island, where previously we had banded about 1,500 young a year. One year, with the help of Murl Deusing and Roy Lukes, we banded 1,100 young in a single afternoon! The same has been true of other nesting areas. Hat Island is apparently at its low point right now, with only 200 young found this season compared to over 2,000 a decade ago. The Sister Islands and Jack Island are producing about one third of their normal young gulls.

Herring gulls have no set migration. There is just a gradual dispersal along the waterways. Most recoveries are reported within the first or second year, before the birds return north to nest. I was very happy when a gull that I banded was reported 19 years later; this was a longevity record at the time. But my cherished record of 27 years was beaten (two years ago), when one of Dr. Pettingill's

gulls was found 36 years after banding.

And where do the gulls go? Through the past 47 years my gulls have been reported from most states east of the Rockies. North to Hudson Bay, east to Labrador and Newfoundland, south to the coast of Florida, and all around the Gulf of Mexico. Those from Mexico itself are usually reported as "shot". I have had five birds found in Guatemala, one in Panama, and another in California.

But I must not forget the gull that showed up in Bermuda at Tom Moore's Tavern. I have often wondered just what he was doing there!

Three New Vice Presidents Guide Academy Program for 1971 UW-M Meetings

The 1970-71 program chairmen of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters are as follows:

Prof. Louis W. Busse, vice president - sciences, 309 Pharmacy Bldg., UW-Madison; Prof. David C. Peterson, vice president - arts, Wisconsin Idea Theatre, 606 State Street, UW-Madison; Dr. Ruth L. Hine, vice president - letters, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Pyare Square Bldg., Madison, Wisconsin.

These Academy officers will develop the program for the 1971 annual meeting of W.A.S.A.L., which is to be held on the campus of UW-Milwaukee, April 30-May 2, 1971.

Louis Busse is professor of pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Born at Reedsville, Wisconsin, he attended Lawrence College and the University of Wisconsin, earning his Ph.D. in pharmacy at the latter in 1940. He became Associate Dean of the U.W. School of Pharmacy in 1954 and serves on numerous committees and with many state and national organizations. He has published over 65 papers on phar-

maceutical topics and has been a leader in continuing education for professional pharmacists.

Ruth Hine is publications supervisor for the Bureau of Research, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. A native of New England, she attended Connecticut College and The University of Wisconsin, Madison. At the latter she earned an M.A. degree (zoology) in 1947 and a Ph.D. in 1952. She joined the Wisconsin Conservation Department in 1948 after a teaching assignment in the UW Department of Zoology. She served as W.C.D. biologist and editor before becoming publications supervisor in 1962. Ruth has written numerous articles and circulars in addition to her editorial duties. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Gordon MacQuarrie Award in 1962 and the American Motors Conservation Award in 1963. She was made a Fellow of the Soil Conservation Society of America in 1968, and she has been active in church and mental health programs. She was Editor of *Wis-*

consin Academy Review from 1966 to 1970.

David C. Peterson is an associate professor of theatre arts, University Extension, The University of Wisconsin. He is also director of the Wisconsin Idea Theatre productions at the University. A native of Wittenberg, Wisconsin, he earned his B.A. and M.A. degrees in music at The University of Wisconsin before teaching high school music at several locations. While at Monona Grove High School near Madison, his musical production "Down River" attracted considerable attention, and he was invited to join the staff of UW-Extension in 1963. Long interested in musical composition, he produced several other musical shows, including "Badger Ballads", "Town Hall Tonight", and "Song of the Inland Seas". The latter was premiered at the Wisconsin Academy's Centennial observances on May 8, 1970. Peterson is currently devoted to native theatre, Wisconsin folklore, and historical events of the Wisconsin countryside.

ACADEMY NEWS



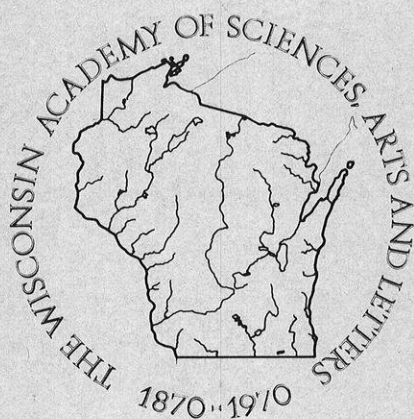
Ruth L. Hine



Louis W. Busse



David C. Peterson

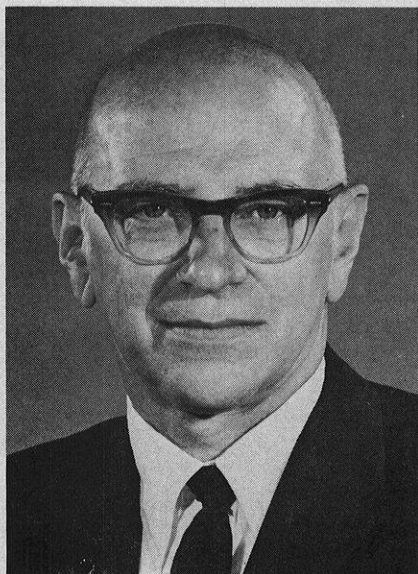


Norman C. Olson Named New Academy President

Norman C. Olson, an officer in the Agency Department of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, became the 49th president of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters in May 1970. He formerly served as Treasurer of the Academy (1965-67) and as a member of the W.A.S.A.L. Council (1965-70).

Born in Milwaukee in 1916, Mr. Olson attended Lincoln High School, Marquette University, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, from which he received his B.A. and M.A. degrees. His major fields of study were botany and English.

Mr. Olson has been with NML



Norman C. Olson

since 1937, serving in five different departments. He holds the C.L.U. degree, the highest professional designation in the life insurance industry. His honorary fraternities include Phi Sigma (Marquette) and Sigma Tau Delta (UW-M). He served in the Army of the United States from 1942 through 1945, serving 16 months in the European Theatre of Operations during World War II. He also served in various Army Reserve units until 1963, when he retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel.

In addition to his professional interests, Mr. Olson is an amateur ornithologist, a student of the American Indian, and a devotee of painting and English literature. He is a member of the Milwaukee Association of Commerce, the Milwaukee County Historical Society, the Milwaukee Art Center, and the Botanical Club of Wisconsin. An Episcopalian, he is active in the Christ Episcopal Church of Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin.

Mr. Olson's wife Elizabeth and daughter Margaret Anne are also members of the Academy. The Olsons reside at 4763 N. Idlewild Avenue in Milwaukee.

OUR NEW SECRETARY

Martha G. Hanson (Mrs. Robert P.) was elected 1970-71 Secretary of the Academy during the Centennial meetings at Madison May 7-10. She is a long-time member and booster of the Academy, which she joined in 1959.

Mrs. Hanson attended Indiana, Butler, and George Washington Universities, where she majored in zoology and botany. She taught at Butler University and The University of Wisconsin. During World War II she served as a Japanese translator for the U.S. Government.

An ardent botanist and conservationist, Mrs. Hanson leads tours for the Nature Conservancy and field trips for the



Martha G. Hanson

Botanical Club of Wisconsin. She teaches photography and is a photographic judge. She is actively engaged in training ambulance drivers, police, firemen, and ski patrol in emergency rescue work.

Martha is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine, the American Red Cross (Safety and Rescue Committees), the U. S. Ski Association, and the Photographic Society of America. She is currently treasurer of the Botanical Club of Wisconsin, in addition to her Academy duties.

The Hansons reside at 5730 Dogwood Place in Madison. Her husband is professor of bacteriology and veterinary science at The University of Wisconsin-Madison.

GEORGE E. SPRECHER IS ACADEMY TREASURER

George E. Sprecher, formerly assistant director of the Wisconsin Conservation Department, is currently serving as Treasurer of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. He was elected to that post in May 1970, and he also is chairman (since 1968) of the Academy's Committee on Long-Range Financial Planning.

Mr. Sprecher is a life-long resident of the Madison area and still resides in the area

where he was born and grew to manhood. He attended Madison High School (later Madison Central), graduating in 1919. He earned a B.A. degree in commerce at the University of Wisconsin, where he graduated in 1923.

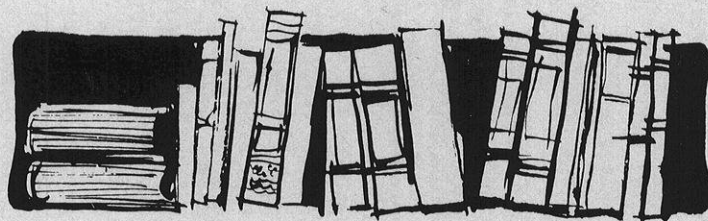
He began his work with WCD (now the Department of Natural Resources) in 1934 and became assistant superintendent of fisheries in 1938. He was appointed to the post of assistant director of WCD in 1948 and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1967.

Mr. Sprecher was secretary-treasurer of the American Fisheries Society during the period 1948-53 and later served as president (1955-56) of that organization. He was a charter member of both the National Resources Committee of State Agencies and the Menominee Indian Study Committee, which he served until his retirement. He has also been a member of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and still attends their annual meetings.

Mr. Sprecher and his wife reside at 5001 Milwaukee Street, Madison, Wisconsin. He continues to maintain an active interest in conservation affairs, in addition to his fine service with the Wisconsin Academy.



George E. Sprecher



50-VOLUME INDEX

A subject index, covering the first 50 volumes of *The Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters*, has been published and will be sent to all 1970 members with No. 1, Vol. 59. Others may order copies @ \$1.50 each from the WASAL Office.

BADGER TRACTION. Bulletin III, Central Railfans' Association, Chicago, 1969, 260 pp. \$10.00.

During the period 1900 to 1920 the trolley car was basic to our urban life. Madison and Appleton, Beloit and even Wau-paca had its own electric railway. They are all detailed in this handsome oversize volume. The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company will be the subject of a subsequent volume detailing the development and extent of this urban and inter-urban traction empire.

Researched and written by members of the Central Railfans' Association, this oversize volume contains hundreds of fine illustrations together with excellent maps of the routes. Just before the turn of the century the electric streetcar replaced the horsecar. Thirty years later the trolley lost out to the bus and private automobile. However, for a quarter of a century the much abused trolley provided the transportation link which made possible the dramatic growth of our towns and cities. This colorful story is a unique part of our American heritage.—Walter F. Peterson, University of Dubuque

RIGHT-HAND GLOVE UPLIFTED: A Biography of Archbishop Michael Heiss, by Sister M. Mileta Ludwig, F.S.P.A. Pagent Press, 1968, 567 pp. \$7.50

Michael Heiss was central to the development of Catholicism in Wisconsin during the last half of the nineteenth century. Born in Bavaria on April 12, 1818, he was ordained into the priesthood in 1840. In 1842, he came to Kentucky as a missionary and in 1844 to the new diocese of Milwaukee. In Milwaukee he built St. Mary's Church and was first rector of St. Francis Seminary. Heiss played an important role in the second plenary council of Baltimore in 1866, and in 1868 was appointed the first bishop of LaCrosse. In 1880, when the aging Archbishop John M. Henni of Milwaukee became feeble, Heiss was named coadjutor in spite of considerable opposition; and in 1881 he succeeded Henni as archbishop. As archbishop he was successful in freeing the archdiocese of debt and he also standardized the administration of the diocese. Heiss continued as archbishop until his death on March 26, 1890.

Sister M. Mileta Ludwig of St. Rose Convent, LaCrosse, did a prodigious amount of research in developing this study. Her adulation of the subject is, unfortunately, obvious throughout. Also, if you are not well acquainted with *The Song of Roland*, the title "Right-Hand Glove Uplifted" will mean little. But this is a very complete statement of the life of an important Wisconsinite and does expand our historical resources in Wisconsin Catholicism.—Walter F. Peterson, University of Dubuque.

MCDUGALL'S DREAM: The American Whaleback, by John H. Wilterding, Jr., Lakeside Publications, 69 pp. 1969.

John H. Wilterding, Jr., is a pharmacist at Algoma, Wisconsin, and has an interest in ships. In the summer of 1965 he saw the last surviving whaleback, the S.S. Meteor, and began the research that resulted in this tribute to a unique type of boat. Alexander McDougall (1845-1923), a Great Lakes captain with a dream, devised the whaleback to meet the needs of lake service. Of 44 whalebacks built, 34 were constructed by the American Steel Barge Co. of West Superior, Wisconsin. McDougall's ships were built in an era of transition to the large bulk carrier and soon became obsolete. But the basic principle revolutionized Great Lakes shipping. The bulk carriers are even now built on McDougall's principles, but with rectangular hulls.

Those interested in the Great Lakes and in transportation will find this brief history and ship-by-ship account most useful.—*Walter F. Peterson.*

FACTORIES IN THE VALLEY: Neenah-Menasha, 1870-1915, by Charles N. Glaab and Lawrence H. Larsen. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, 1969. 293 pp., \$6.00.

This study is a fine companion and sequel to Alice Smith's *Millstone and Saw* in developing the history of Neenah-Menasha. The authors, Professor Glaab of the University of Toledo, and Professor Larsen of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, viewed their project as "a case study in the dynamics of urbanization and industrialization in small cities in a midwestern setting."

Neenah-Menasha once dreamed of a predominant manufacturing role in the midwest. But the authors suggest that it was

the conscious decision of the power elite—the Clarks, Smiths, Babcocks, Kimberlys, Shattucks and Lawsons—that the growth of Neenah-Menasha should be sacrificed to their broader financial interests. The "first families" controlled community life to a truly remarkable extent. When these men decided to place business success before the community, to invest their money on a national scale, to limit support to municipal services, and not expand the limited labor pool, the fate of the twin cities was sealed.

This is a fine study covering the period 1870-1915. The meticulous research is combined with an easy style that will keep the reader's attention to the end.—*Walter F. Peterson.*

STATE OF WISCONSIN HONORS ACADEMY BY JOINT RESOLUTION

1969 Assembly Joint Resolution 111

(January 13, 1970—Introduced by Representatives ANDERSON and ALFONSI.)

"Relating to the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters and recognizing its centennial celebration.

"Whereas, the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters was incorporated by charter from the Legislature approved on March 16, 1870, and has served the people of the state for 100 years in its general purpose 'to encourage investigation and disseminate correct views in the various departments of science, literature and the arts'; and

"Whereas, thousands of Wisconsin citizens and members from other states and countries have benefited from the contacts made through this organization open to all regardless of race, creed or status in society and which includes many of the

state's most illustrious scientists, scholars and artists; and

"Whereas, the unchanged charter of this group has been fulfilled in many ways during the past century, but primarily by the following significant accomplishments:

(1) Publication of approximately 60 volumes of scientific research papers constituting original research mainly on Wisconsin's natural resources and its people.

(2) Collection of exchange publications from throughout the world on scientific and scholarly subjects and incorporation of these valuable library materials in the University of Wisconsin Memorial Library at Madison.

(3) Sponsorship of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey at the turn of the century when it was obvious that more state and federal research effort was needed to study the soils, waters, forests and wildlife.

(4) Establishment of a Wisconsin Junior Academy of Science which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year with plans for continued encouragement to young students in the future; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, that this state-chartered organization which now is self-supporting and looking forward toward another century of service be commended for its good works in the past and urged to continue and expand them in the future so that their program aimed at service to the people of the state can become even more universal in its scope and acceptance; and, be it further

"Resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to the governor, president of the University of Wisconsin, president of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, and director of the State Historical Society."

LIFE IN ASIA TODAY . . .

PRELUDE TO OUR FUTURE?

by Gordon A. Bubolz

Albin Bevers and I saw the future on our recent trip to Asia. It could be ours should we continue to pollute and destroy the environment that we have here. The teeming millions of Asian people who live in human ant hills find it impossible to get rid of the human wastes. Pollution of the air and water is evidenced everywhere. Life is cheap. Disease is difficult to control. The outlook is bleak for those who live there; in some cases, it is easier to die.

Protecting and preserving the beautiful environment that we have in this country is infinitely easier than trying to reclaim a territory that has been destroyed through overuse.

Japan has made a remarkable come-back following World War II. The Japanese are basically industrious, clean and intelligent people. *One hundred and one million* people live in a land area comparable to Minnesota and Wisconsin, which has only seven million persons. Since 80 percent of Japan's land area is mountainous, the habitable remainder is densely teeming with people.

We found the smog in Tokyo even heavier than in Los Angeles, California. While in Tokyo, children on the playgrounds fainted from air pollutants. To temporarily control the situation, the city barred automobiles from several of the city's principal streets. We wondered why our eyes smarted and became sticky until we were told by local residents that it was because of the deteriorating air environment. They informed us that everything would be okay if we would wash our eyes every few hours.

Many of the rural areas of Japan retain their beauty and

cleanliness. The major industrial cities of Japan are becoming uninhabitable. This is one of the problems that we will face here, too.

The British Crown Colony of Hong Kong is an area of 29 square miles and four and one half million people. The Chinese in Hong Kong know how to cut an exquisite suit of clothes, but because of the limited land space and crowded conditions, they don't know how to create a fabric of life for their people. In many apartment buildings, persons who rent a bedroom space, in turn, rent the hall space to others on which to sleep a few hours a night.

From ten stories high, garbage is thrown into the streets and raw sewage from toilets is drained into the bays and the ocean. It is unsafe to drink water from taps. After you take a shower, you see sand and dirt from the water in the bath tub.

In the small communities and rural areas, the human excreta is used to grow vegetables in the gardens. Naturally, we didn't eat too many vegetables. Dysentery is a common affliction.

We looked across the border separating Hong Kong from Red China, where marching men make a reality of the difference between the two countries. Thousands of families live their entire lives in floating junks on the water. They are born there, live there, and die there, coming to land only occasionally. Our impression was that a majority of the people live and exist under bare-survival conditions.

Everywhere it's crowded, crowded with people, for most of whom life is bleak and meaningless. Wars have occurred because of people pressure, and there are many "hot spots" because people do not have enough land space to live.

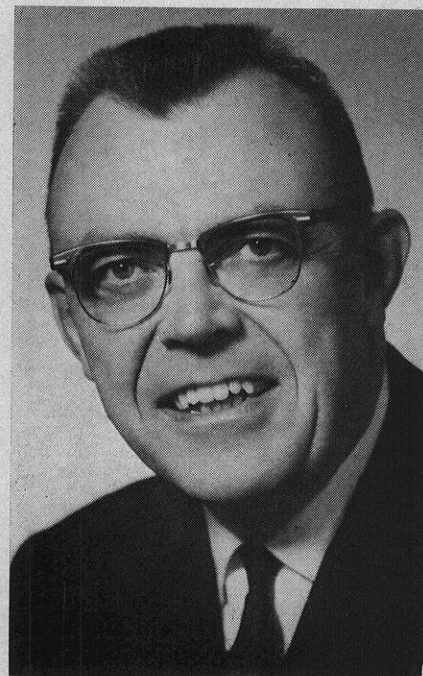
How deeply appreciative we

are that we could come back to a part of the world where we still have open space areas and land, water and air which are not badly damaged or destroyed. I am more firmly convinced than ever that we must protect and preserve the heritage that we have. How wonderful it is to be back!

F. C. YOUNG IS NEW WASAL PRESIDENT-ELECT

F. Chandler Young was named president-elect of the Wisconsin Academy at the Centennial Meetings in May. He is Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, serving since 1968.

Born in Chicago in 1918, Young earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin. After 4 years with the U.S. Army, he became assistant to the Associate Dean of the UW College of Letters & Science in 1946. Later he became Associate Dean and professor. His specialty is student counseling, in which he is a recognized authority. Dr. and Mrs. Young have two sons and reside at 821 McBride Road in Madison.



F. CHANDLER YOUNG

ABOUT THE COVER . . . A Call for the Wild

"We need clean air and water, open spaces and forests, hunting and fishing, uncrowded towns and quiet streets, human companionship and love. We also need a diverse environment for very practical reasons. Thus, studies of insect pollination on alpine meadows, of territoriality in white rhinos or red-winged blackbirds, of energy cycles in tropical forests along the Congo River, or of social behavior of chimpanzees in the wilds of Africa are all essential to understanding man's role and control of the environment, are all impossible to know without undisturbed, deliberately preserved 'wild' nature." —Hugh Iltis, *Field and Stream*, June 1970. (Photo courtesy Department of Natural Resources)





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