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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PRESS BULLETIN

The purpose of this Bulletin is to bring to the newspapers of Wisconsin and their readers—the people of the state—pertinent news and information concerning their State University. The University Press Bureau will gladly furnish any special news or feature stories to editors. Address letters to R. H. Foss, editor, Press Bureau, University of Wisconsin.

December 20, 1933

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 29, No. 24

**Mathematics for
Farm Offered by
Extension Study****Problems of Agriculture Figure
In New Course Given For
Special Purposes**

To give an understanding of mathematics useful in solving problems of the farm is the purpose of a new course recently offered by the Extension division of the University of Wisconsin under the title, "Mathematics for Agricultural Students."

This course, for study by the correspondence method, is intended for specialists such as agricultural statisticians, county agents, high school teachers of agriculture, and crop reporters, and for farmers and others desiring a good grasp of mathematical principles in connection with farm operations and results. It is also stressed as a foundation course for work in chemistry which is demanded of students in agriculture.

How It Applies to Farm

The subject matter calls attention to the many fields of application of mathematics in agriculture. It is outlined to help the student in problems of farm power transmission; in comparing graphically the variations in wheat and flour prices, and other price variants in given periods; in compiling temperature readings; in determining balanced rations for cows, butterfat percentages, and the composition of foodstuffs; in using graphs for listing production figures for advanced registries; in learning the proper ratios of plant foods and of fertilizer elements for special purposes; in determining silo capacities, relative values of foodstuffs for beef and dairy cows, and maintenance rations for sheep.

The use of tables and an understanding of money problems, such as calculating interest, needed in farm management, enter into the study. Help is given in answering questions such as: "What amount of money should a farmer be assured of getting at the end of 40 years for the timber grown on one acre of ground if the land is worth \$25 per acre when set to timber and if money is worth 4 per cent converted annually, assuming that the land with the timber removed is worth the original cost?"

Aid in Soil Problems

Problems of moisture and soil determination, which are important on many farms, receive special treatment. Through simple trigonometry, the student also is aided in solving problems of tiling, ditching, and fencing.

This course is equivalent to one of the same name given regularly in residence classes at the university. It consists of 32 assignments, and for properly qualified students gives four credits toward a degree.

**37 Wisconsin
Students Named
to Phi Kappa Phi**

Because of their high scholastic standing and their participation in worth-while extra-curricular activities, 47 University of Wisconsin students, 37 of them from Wisconsin homes, were recently elected to Phi Kappa Phi, national honorary scholastic society at the State University.

The students who were elected, and three faculty members who were named associates, were made members of the society at an initiation banquet held last Monday night. The three faculty members elected associate members of the society are Professors E. B. Fred, H. B. Lathrop, and M. O. Withey.

Wisconsin students who were honored by election to the national society are as follows:

Sanford Atwood, Janesville; John Brennan, Tomah; Charles O. Clark, Brodhead; Robert Engelhardt, Herman Hoerig, Arthur Magidson, Richard Morawetz, Howard Schneider, Mary Sheridan, Robert Stoessel, Clarence Torrey, Lucille Benz, Joseph Ermene, Henry Fox, and Robert Schiller, all of Milwaukee;

Gustav Froehlich, Cedarburg; Helen Heywood, and Jack Longley, both of Waukesha; De Otis Marlett, Ben Meek, H. Leroy Mohn, Wayne K. Neill, Mary J. Nienaber, Stella Whitefield, and Florence Hunt, all of Madison;

Samuel Miller, Kaukauna; Dorothy Nagel and Irene Schultz, both of Hudson; Meryl A. Pickering, Black Earth; Marita Rader, Edgerton; Roger Sherman, Lancaster; Melvin Stehr, Cottage Grove; Laura Bickel, Oshkosh; Joseph Elfner and Willard Blaisser, both of Manitowoc; and Robert Bruins, Racine.

**Mothers, Dads of Badger
Students to Visit U. W.
Campus Next May 19-20**

Margaret A. Condon, Brodhead, and Fred R. Holt, Madison, have been appointed general chairmen of the two committees which will make plans for the combined Mothers' and Fathers' Day program to be held on the University of Wisconsin campus next spring, it was announced by Pres. Glenn Frank recently.

The dates for the joint event, at which the mothers and fathers of students attending the State University will be welcomed to the campus, have been set for May 19 and 20, it was announced.

The plan to combine the Mothers'

**Many "Old" Youngsters Found in Freshmen
Class at State University, Survey Shows**

Present-day freshmen at the University of Wisconsin may seem more grown-up and serious than the young men and women who entered the State University in years gone by, but when it comes to actual years, many of them are much younger than the average age at which most young people start their university careers.

A survey recently conducted by the University statistician's office recently revealed that there is one member of the freshman class this year who is only 15 years of age, and that there are 20 young women students and 15 young men students who are only 16 years of age.

Fresh Younger Now

Since the average age at which most students enter their State University for their higher education is 18 years, these 36 young people are at least two years ahead of most young men and women in their educational careers.

These figures are in line with the findings of another survey conducted at the University a year ago, when it was found that freshmen students entering their State University in these modern times are on an average several years younger than the young men and women who began their careers in higher education here a quarter of a century ago.

Nothing to Worry About

This survey revealed that in 1908-09, the first year in which statistics were kept, 507 freshmen entering the University were 19 years of age or over, while only 129 freshmen were 18 years old or younger. In 1932-33, however, only 264 freshmen could boast that they were 19 years of age or older, while 880 freshmen were

either only 18 years old or younger.

Discussing at that time the new problems for the University that arise out of younger students entering its classes, Frank O. Holt, registrar and director of the bureau of guidance and records, quashed any apprehension that might arise among either parents or young students over this problem.

"There need be no apprehension on the part of either parents or students as to the relation of age to success in college," Mr. Holt said. "Such studies as have been made all show that the students of more youthful ages achieve better than do the more mature students. There are exceptions, of course, but I state the rule."

Wautoma Girl Youngest

Practically all of the youngest freshmen students in the University this year are from Wisconsin homes. The youngest of them all—the only student who is 15 years old in the entire University—is Mary K. Jones of Wautoma. Among those who are 16 years of age are the following:

Annie Kanevsky, Racine; Kathryn Johnson, Plainfield; Evelyn Day, Patricia Smith, Rosella Schmelzer, Rena McCordie, Mary Cockefair, John Blum, Frederick Struckmeyer, Gregory Bachhuber, and Willis Murphy, all of Madison;

Marion Weimer, Beaver Dam; Joyce Jaeger, Marinette; Ruth Goldberger, Milwaukee; Ruby Rule, Edmund; Esther Kipen, Manitowoc; Carl Cherin, Denmark; Wallace Drew, Rothschild; William Dafeo, Wautoma; George Yahn, Janesville; Ben Mirman, Wausau; Donald Sterlinske, Beaver Dam; David Goodman, Racine; Harvey Schellpfeffer, Mayville; and George Libman, Wausau.

**University Players
Find Fame on Stage,
Screen and Radio**

Some of the University of Wisconsin students who will appear in Wisconsin Players productions at the University theater have a good chance of gaining places in the professional theatrical world later, it appears from the records of former stars who have achieved places on the stage, in the movies, on the radio, and as directors.

A number of students who played here under the tutelage of Prof. William C. Troutman have won places in leading theatrical companies and in other fields.

Wolfsohn Stage Manager

Kathleen Fitz, a graduate student here from 1928 to 1931, made her debut in the movies in Willard Mack's "What Price Innocence." She had previously played in a Pacific coast production of Noel Coward's "Private Lives" and then played in stock.

Victor Wolfsohn, who was graduated in 1931, was immediately employed as stage manager of "Counselor at Law," and also played a bit in the production.

Helen Anne Hughes in Stock

Maurice Lowell and Al Philian are both members of the Eva Le-Gallienne company which started on the road this week and will appear in Madison in January, giving "Alice in Wonderland" and "Romeo and Juliet."

Helen Anne Hughes is playing with a stock company in Detroit. She got her first chance after leaving the university with a road company giving O'Neill's "Strange Interlude."

Don Ameche and Bernadine Flynn, Bascom theater's best known starring team, are under contract to the National Broadcasting Co. and appear regularly over the chain.

Alice Hill likewise is a radio performer with NBC, appearing in dramatic sketches. Carl Buss, prominent as a dramatist with Wisconsin Players' Studio group, is now a radio continuity writer.

Many Directors

A number of others have secured positions as directors. Among them are Gilbert Williams, former president of the players, directors of the Little Theater at Beaumont, Tex.; Kenneth Carmichael, Purdue University theater; Louis Mallory, University of Wyoming theater.

Carl Cass, head of the dramatic department at the University of Pittsburgh; Ed Krause, University of Georgia theater; Cloyd Dalzell, Poetry playhouse and University playhouse, Berkeley, Cal.; and H. B. McCarthy, director of radio station WHA.

**Rusk County Man Chosen
County 4H Club Agent**

Ray L. Pavlak, instructor in agriculture at the Dodgeville high school, has been employed by the agricultural committee of Green county as county 4H club agent to succeed the late E. L. Divan.

Pavlak, born and raised on a Rusk county farm, was for several years a 4H club member, later serving as summer club leader in both Rusk and Douglas counties. He is a graduate of the Bruce high school and completed the four-year course in agriculture at the Wisconsin college of agriculture, class of 1921.

He will take up his duties in Green county, January 1, with headquarters at Monroe.

**Clubs Offered Aids for
Study and Discussion**

Clubs whose winter programs show special cultural trends have access to much material on several studies prepared by the public discussion

Cameral**Pres. Frank Gives Recent
Convocation Address for
Benefit of News Reels**

Dr. Glenn Frank, president of the University of Wisconsin, was called upon to deliver his convocation address on "Now That Prohibition Is Over" in abbreviated form recently for the benefit of a world-wide news reel firm whose middle-west headquarters are located in Chicago.

The address was originally delivered before students and faculty at an all-university convocation a week ago. At the request of the Movietone corporation, which makes news reels shown throughout the nation, main points of the speech were recorded on a sound news reel.

Two representatives of the firm visited the University to make the recording. The news reel is to be released in New York first, and will then be shown in all parts of the country.

**Debaters Will Open
Big Radio Problem
to Public Scrutiny****High Schools in 32 States Plan
Verbal Tilts On Air
Control In Spring**

High school boys and girls throughout the United States, members of 32 state forensic associations including Wisconsin's, which are affiliated with the National University Extension association, are concentrating their attention upon the pressing question for debate in 1934—control of radio.

The issue, "Resolved, that the United States should adopt the essential features of the British system of radio control and operation," is one that has gradually been coming to the front in American public life since radio broadcasting became against industry.

Effect of Discussions

What can high school debaters do toward settling such a question of national import for the people of United States? The answer is: They can air it, expose it to public scrutiny, and thus show the public that it is at least a debatable and significant question.

This is what high school debaters plan to do for radio control between now and next March. Although the problem will not be settled finally by high school debaters, it will be solved as between the various teams each time a debate is won or lost. Ideas and information will come before the public that would have remained hidden and unexplored had not high school forensic associations taken it up with vigor.

Debates of Other Years

A look into the past will indicate how the debates of other years have encompassed some of the outstanding governmental problems facing state legislatures.

The 1931-32 special session of the Wisconsin legislature enacted the first unemployment compensation law to be adopted by any American state. In the same spring high school debaters aired this question in their debate. Since the spring of 1932, although general attention was directed more to relief than to unemployment insurance, compulsory unemployment insurance bills have passed in one house of each of the following legislatures: California, Connecticut, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, and Utah. None has yet been fully enacted.

The debate of 1931, revolving on the thesis that chain stores are detrimental to the best interests of the American public, precipitated nation-wide discussion of the inroads of chain stores upon individually-owned stores. In Wisconsin the 1933 session of the legislature passed an act imposing a special tax on chain stores.

Installment Buying Up

The question of installment buying, debated in 1930, today is receiving less public discussion than its present importance merits.

Compulsory liability insurance for automobile owners, the subject of the debate of 1928, is being considered by an interim committee of the 1933 Wisconsin legislature. Massachusetts has had compulsory liability insurance for seven years.

Debate subjects of other years which are not yet settled by legislation are: Amendment of the Wisconsin constitution providing for the initiative and referendum, still a biennial issue in Wisconsin; abolition of the direct primary system of nominating candidates for national and state offices; and the deriving of at least one-half of state and local revenues from sources other than tangible property.

department of the University Extension division, according to a listing of club studies recently issued.

Cooperating with library agencies, the Extension division makes its reference material for guided studies and study programs available to women's clubs and other groups, as well as to individuals. In connection with these programs, lectures by university faculty members also are arranged upon request.

For study programs the studies now available include: Africa; American Art; Child Nurture in the Home; Chinaware and Old Glassware; Home Crafts; Map of New Europe; Modern Italy; Music (American); and Psychology.

**Know Conditions
of World, Farm
Economist Urges****Wisconsin Farmer-Economist,
World Institute Member,
Gives His Views**

Better information on world conditions is essential if the competition of farmers is to be placed upon a better basis, was the view expressed by Henry C. Taylor, former Wisconsin farmer and farm economist, now a member of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.

From 1909 to 1919 Taylor was a member of the agricultural economics staff at the Wisconsin college of agriculture, which position he left to take charge of the Farm Management division of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Need to Know Facts

"Better knowledge of the facts of agricultural production and marketing will enable the farmers to improve their own conditions. It is desirable also that farmers of various countries know each other—how they act, how they think, and how they live. This is the starting point for a better understanding among farmers, which is essential if they are to cooperate in an international way," Taylor declared at the time of his presentation to the permanent committee of the organization.

Commenting upon the work of the Institute, of which he is now a committee member, Taylor pointed out that although it in itself was a unique experiment in international cooperation, it has already rendered valuable service in providing the factual basis for better international coordination in agricultural production and cooperation.

Is World-Wide Body

Serving on the permanent committee with Taylor are delegates from all parts of the world who are thinking in terms of what they can give to farmers throughout the world. He is the second Wisconsin economist to represent the United States at the International Institute of Agriculture. Asher Hobson, now of the agricultural economics staff of the Badger institution, was a former representative.

**Wisconsin Sewage
Plant Operators to
Study at State U.**

Sewage plant operators from villages and cities throughout Wisconsin will gather at the University of Wisconsin January 8 to begin one week of intensive study and search for solutions to problems which they are facing in the operation of their local plants.

Sponsored jointly by the State University's department of hydraulics and sanitary engineering, the bureau of sanitary engineering of the state board of health, and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the sewage plant operators' short course is being held again this year because of the great enthusiasm with which establishment of the course last year was received.

The purpose of the course is to inform Wisconsin plant operators of the basic principles used in sewage treatment as well as to describe the various methods that have been used in overcoming any operating difficulties they may have encountered. F. M. Dawson, professor of hydraulic and sanitary engineering, pointed out in announcing the course.

Lectures on subjects ranging all the way from "Educating the Public to Sewage Treatment" to "The Necessity of Sewage Treatment and the Function of the Plant Operator" will be given during the six-day school, which will come to a close on Saturday, Jan. 13. Three faculty members, five state sanitary officials, and four sewage plant operators and chemists will give the 14 lectures and conduct the afternoon laboratory demonstrations to be held during the course.

**Rock County Team
Wins 4H Clothing
Contest Two Years**

First place in the national 4H clothing judging project was again won by a Wisconsin team. For two years this distinction has been won by Rock county girls representing Wisconsin clubs at the National 4H Club Congress.

Alice Christensen and Arline Badertscher, the members of this year's Wisconsin team in contests at the club congress, competed against all the clothing teams sent from other states entered in that particular contest. Arline was the high scoring individual girl in the clothing division and Alice placed second.

The Rock county girls who placed first in the national clothing judging contest last year were Elizabeth Howard and Elmina Bumstead.

Wisconsin individuals scored in many other 4H contests. The state placed 4th in the state 4H potato exhibit. Marinette county boys who won places were Joyce Sorenson with individual Russet Rural; Alvin Mason with individual Bliss Triumph; and George Leslie in the individual showing of any other variety.

Carol Harslough, Wood county, scored as an individual contestant in the 4H baking team contest; Esther Elmer, Green county and Ruth Ellis, Walworth county; placed in clothing classes.