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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PRESS BULLETIN

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

To Editor:—The news in this bulletin is prepared especially for the press, and is released for publication on the date below. Please address exchange copies to Editor, 711 Langdon Street.

November 22, 1933

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 29, No. 20

**Extension Courses
As Teaching Aids
Listed in Bulletin****Methods for Augmenting Training
for Professional Work
Are Outlined**

Ways in which teachers in Wisconsin schools can add to their professional equipment are outlined in a new bulletin on extension courses for the teacher, issued by the University of Wisconsin Extension division. The bulletin lists many courses that are useful in strengthening the teacher's preparation and qualifying for advancement.

In the past six years, the Extension division pointed out, 16,249 Wisconsin teachers enrolled for its correspondence courses. Last year, 1,564 teachers in the state were among the 8,287 students enrolled for extension courses by this method.

Reasons Are Cited

Various motives are ascribed for the interest shown by teachers in Wisconsin extension courses for their further training. Some teachers found it more advantageous for economy reasons. In other cases these courses satisfied certain credit requirements needed to enable the teacher to qualify for an advanced certificate or a better position. The Extension plan also was used as a means of pursuing an interest in some of the higher branches, as sociology, mathematics, classical literature, modern history, languages, etc., in spare time.

Courses for teachers are offered for professional advancement, credits toward a degree, state teachers' certificates or licenses, or credits in special fields, and to provide informational material for teachers in vocational and technical high schools.

Training Value Shown

The Extension bulletin urged teachers to fortify their position by adding to their preparation and training, contending that in times of keen competition the teacher who is best qualified to hold a place is the one who is always a learner and is most benefited by a continued program of study.

To assist students to take extension work at the lowest possible cost, the Extension division announced it will furnish the required textbooks on a rental basis, at one-third the purchase price, at the student's option.

State's No-Advertising**Broadcasts Threatened**

The Federal Radio Commission has set January 8 as the date for the hearing of the applications of two commercial radio stations which propose to take from the state of Wisconsin the radio facilities it now uses to extend the benefits of its governmental, educational and agricultural service agencies. If either of these are successful it will mean the end of non-commercial broadcasting in Wisconsin.

The state has two daytime stations which have long rendered regular service. WHA is located in Madison and operated through the state university. WLBL is owned and operated by the State Department of Agriculture and Markets at Stevens Point. Neither station has ever sold a penny's worth of advertising time. Private interests would now abolish them to increase their facilities for personal gain.

WIBA, Madison, has applied for part time on the clear channel now used by WGN Chicago, and proposes to abandon WHA and WLBL to strengthen its own case.

WTMJ, Milwaukee, has asked for full time use of the clear channel now held by WMAQ, Chicago. It would abolish the Stevens Point and Madison stations, according to its most recent application. This followed an earlier proposal to abolish WHA and locate a new commercial station near the center of the state.

"Letters of protest indicate that Wisconsin people do not favor these plans", H. B. McCarty, director of the Madison station said. "WHA is the oldest station in America and WLBL is the first truly agricultural station in this country. If they are taken now it means the loss of a heritage which can never be regained."

**U. W. Man Reports on
Waterproofing Concrete**

A comprehensive report on "The Efficiency of Surface Treatments on the Permeability of Concrete," has been prepared by George W. Washa, instructor in mechanics at the University of Wisconsin, and is published by the American Concrete Institute. A summary of the report has just been issued by the University of Wisconsin Engineering Experiment Station as Reprint No. 31.

The experiments upon which the report is based covered a period of eight years. Mr. Washa conducted part of the tests and assembled the data collected over the whole period. Eighteen different compounds were investigated.

With the advent of bad weather which keeps students off the lake, the University of Wisconsin life-saving service has been closed for the season. Two men keep a constant vigil, night and day, from the watch tower of the University boat house during the season.

**State Sewage Plant
Operators to Go to
School in January**

Sewage plant operators from many towns and cities throughout Wisconsin are expected to go back to school for one week this winter when the second annual sewage plant operators' short course opens at the University of Wisconsin in January 8.

The course will be conducted for an entire week, with the operators attending lecture and discussion sections each morning, and laboratory and demonstration periods each afternoon. In announcing the course, F. M. Dawson, University professor of hydraulic and sanitary engineering, emphasized that "this course is to be conducted as a school and not as a convention".

The course is designed to help sewage plant operators in various Wisconsin towns and cities gain greater efficiency at less cost in the operation of their plants. Its purpose is to inform the operator 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 he may have encountered.

The course is sponsored jointly by the University department of hydraulic and sanitary engineering, the bureau of sanitary engineering of the state board of health, and the League of Wisconsin municipalities. Three University faculty members, five state sanitary officials, and four sewage plant operators and chemists will give the 14 lectures and conduct the laboratory sections during the course.

**School Editors to
Stage Own Stunts
at Annual Banquet**

High school editors from all parts of Wisconsin who attend the 14th annual State High School Editors' conference at the University of Wisconsin Dec. 1 and 2 will be both guests and performers at a "Stunt Banquet" that is expected to surpass anything that has ever been staged at any state-wide meeting ever held at the University.

The high school editors and business managers get credit for trying something different. Most of the state-wide meetings held at the University hire professional performers to entertain at their annual banquets, but not so with the high school journalists.

Made Great Hit

Last year they decided to entertain at their own annual banquet. They hired a master of ceremonies, and then the student delegates themselves put on a program of skits, dialogues, recitations, one-act sketches, and musical numbers which made a great hit, to say the least.

The same "Stunt Banquet" will be one of the high-lights of the annual conference this year, and already several high schools have entered numbers in the program, which promises to be better than last year. William H. Purnell, of University Haresfoot fame, will again act as master of ceremonies.

Expect 200 at Meet

More than 200 editorial and business staff members of high school papers and yearbooks are expected to attend this year's conference, which is sponsored by the University school of journalism. The numerous round-table discussions of the event will be centered around the idea that during the depression ideas for financing and publishing high school newspapers, magazines, and annuals are needed more than in normal times.

Members of the school of journalism staff and other experts in the various graphic arts fields will speak at the general sessions of the conference and will lead the various discussion sections which will tackle in the frankest possible manner the various problems facing the editors, managers, and faculty advisers of the state's high school papers and yearbooks.

**Bonded Debts of Schools in 52 Badger Cities Climb 500 Per
Cent in 14 Years, Yet Stay Safely Within Legal Debt Limits**

The bonded debts of school systems in 52 second, third, and fourth class Wisconsin cities climbed approximately 500 per cent during the 14 years from 1918 to 1932, a recent survey of school bonded debt policies in the cities during those years has revealed.

The survey was made at the University of Wisconsin by Dr. John A. Bays, former University graduate student who was granted the degree of doctor of philosophy recently by the University. The survey was completed over a period of three years, and gives an insight into the trends of school bonded debts in the Wisconsin.

Although the bonded indebtedness of the 52 city school systems increased 500 per cent during the 14-year period, increases in other school factors which would naturally be the causes of the bonded debt increase were not so large, Mr. Bays found.

Building Shortage Cause

"It is possible that a former shortage of needed school buildings, brought about during the war years of 1914-1918, plus the prosperity years following the war, caused the accumulated demand for building funds during the period," Mr. Bays declares.

In none of the 52 Wisconsin cities during the period 1918-1932 did the outstanding school bonded indebtedness exceed the maximum legal mu-

**Alumni Research
Foundation Gives
State U. \$140,000****Protects Consuming Public and
Helps U. W. Research Work
at Same Time**

Following its avowed purpose of giving protection to the consuming public on the one hand, and of aiding University of Wisconsin scientific research on the other, the Wisconsin Alumni Research foundation is giving a total of nearly \$140,000 to the State University for the continuance of its research program during the coming year, it was revealed today.

The foundation was established by a group of alumni interested in scientific research more than six years ago. It is a non-profit organization whose income is earned from patents which it holds on inventions and discoveries made by several faculty members.

Among the more important of these discoveries is the Steenbock process for the irradiation of certain basic foods and medicines, such as bread, milk, and cod liver oil. Through the irradiation process, the important nutritive element, vitamin D, is put into these foods and medicine.

\$120,000 to Research

Of the total amount given the University, \$120,000 was allocated directly to scientific research activities which otherwise would have to be cut off because of the drastic reduction in University funds from the state for the biennium 1933-35. This fund will permit the University to continue between 60 and 70 important researches during the coming year, under the direction of 36 scholars.

The fund also provides for the employment of 50 or 60 research assistants, many of whose appointments would otherwise have ended this year because of lack of funds. Among these assistants are many young Wisconsin men and women who completed their University training last year, and who are thus enabled to continue their work in the scientific fields in which they have been specializing for from four to six years.

\$10,000 to Graduates

Besides its aid to the University research program, the foundation also gave an additional \$10,000 for the establishment of about 25 post doctorate research associateships. This fund was first given to the University a year ago, and it annually enables a group of young men and women who have completed their work for their doctor's degrees to continue in the scientific fields which they have chosen as life careers until they can find jobs.

Another \$8,000 of the foundation's funds have been given this year to the establishment of a University department of conservation which will be conducted in conjunction with the University arboretum—a tract of more than 400 acres of land which is being devoted to wild life conservation and propagation research work.

Realizing that much of the land in the state has little or no farming value, the University's conservation department, under the direction of Aldo Leopold, prominent wild life conservationist, will attempt to work out a program whereby this land can earn a profit for its farm owners by being put to use for recreational and sporting privileges.

\$8,000 to Arboretum

Carrying into effect this three-point program is the best answer to the critics of the foundation that the public interest is not being safeguarded by utilizing commercially the results of University faculty patents, whereby such returns flow back to the public through support of uncontrolled research rather than inure to the benefit of individuals who might otherwise utilize such returns to their personal advantage, Harry L. Russell, director of the foundation, declared.

Not only does the foundation aid University research under the direc-

**Once Took Norwegian
to Teach Students to
Sing German at U.**

How Julius E. Olson, now professor emeritus of Scandinavian language and literature at the University of Wisconsin, during the gay '90s taught the faculty and students of the State University to sing old German songs was recalled to mind when the beloved Norwegian professor celebrated his 75th birthday anniversary recently.

Prof. Olson's birthday brought to a close a half-century of service to the people of the state and to the University—a service which made the State University one of the few centers of Norse culture and learning in America.

Back in the days of Pres. Adams' regime at the University, before the World War, Prof. Olson was one day called upon to conduct the weekly University student-faculty convocation. He said he would do it if he could conduct it in his own way.

Permission granted, the dynamic professor of Scandinavian languages let it be known that his convocation was going to be "different". On the day of the convocation, the hall was packed to the rafters. And Prof. Olson swept the crowd off its feet by singing several old German folksongs.

With interest aroused, he had printed copies of a number of these beautiful old songs, and they were distributed to student classes in German and to faculty members. And it shortly came to pass that students sang the songs at all occasions, even at football games!

**Many U. Students at
State Young Folks'
Religious Meetings**

Several hundred students at the University of Wisconsin were registered at the Wisconsin State Young People's interdenominational religious meeting held in various churches surrounding the campus recently.

Twenty-four other students, from various Wisconsin cities, including Madison, played important parts in conducting the conference, which is held in some city of the state annually.

The young people's conference grew out of an organization of a group of Protestant churches who were unable to continue this work because of lack of funds. The central theme of the conference was "Builders of a New World", with a number of church leaders speaking on various phases of the idea.

Among the University students who participated in the meeting were Otis Clark, Lodi, president of the association last year, who presided over one of the daily assemblies of the conference, and Stan Otis, Madison, treasurer of the organization last year, who was elected president for the coming year.

Other University students from Wisconsin cities outside of Madison who helped conduct the conference were: Laurentine Beers, Janesville; Elizabeth Long, Sun Prairie; Ruth Werner, Fond du Lac; Merle Wise, Milwaukee; and Tom Heebink, Beloit. Twelve Madison students helped arrange the program for the meeting, and assisted in registration work.

tion of the University research committee and board of regents, but also protects the public in the purchase of those products which have been treated with the Steenbock process to give them greater health-giving properties, he pointed out. Since no governmental regulations whatever exist at the present time concerning food and medicine irradiation, the foundation itself must test products of all firms it licenses to prevent ruthless exploitation of a public that is becoming more and more vitamin-minded, Dr. Russell said.

Need Standard System

Among the 10 recommendations suggested by Dr. Bays to improve the school bonded debt policies of Wisconsin cities is one which advises that standard school accounting practices of all financial transactions should be required in every city school system. In checking his data from reports on file at the state capitol, Mr. Bays found many discrepancies due to errors in the financial statements of the school systems, even when reports on attendance, enrollment, and the like were found to be very accurate and reliable.

State Should Help

Another recommendation urged that if the resources of a city are not sufficient to establish and maintain the minimum school building standard and to operate the schools in a satisfactory manner, the state should assist with the building program.

Other important recommendations suggested that the maximum term for all city school bonds should be 20 years, that a definite minimum school building standard should be required in every city, and that if a city school district is so heavily bonded that the annual tax burden is too heavy but could be lightened by refunding the debt for a maximum of 20 years, refunding should be permitted.

**New Forest Market
Service Available
to State Residents****Extension Forester Gathers
Price Data as Regular
Market Service**

A forest products market price schedule, the first of its kind ever to be made available to farmers, loggers, and woodsmen of the state, has been compiled by F. B. Trenk, extension forester at the Wisconsin college of agriculture. This will be made a regular quarterly market service to residents of the state.

This price schedule, planned for owners of merchantable timber who are seeking profitable markets for their products, is based upon average prices paid by buyers of forest products throughout the state. It will include quotations on hardwood stumpage, veneer logs, saw logs, boxwood and cooperage bolts, posts, poles and piling, pulpwood, tanbark, lumber and railroad ties.

According to the first report, just issued, the cash income of Wisconsin farmers from the sale of forest products was two-thirds as great as cash income from truck crops; four-fifths as large as the cash income from potatoes; and one and one-half times that received from tobacco.

Prices quoted in the first report cover the period of August, September and October of the present year.

**Many Farm Boys Enroll
for 1933 Short Course**

Young men from 37 Wisconsin counties registered for the Short Course in Agriculture when it opened at the University of Wisconsin last week.

The Wisconsin Short Course in Agriculture, started in 1885, was the first of its kind to be held in America. More than 7,000 students have enrolled for training in practical farming in this course since its beginning. Two more terms, one to begin January 2, and the other on February 5, may be entered by students later in the year. The course will close March 10.

Counties from which students enrolled for the 1933-34 course are Adams, Barron, Buffalo, Calumet, Chippewa, Clark, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Pepin, Pierce, Racine, Richland, Rock, Rush, St. Croix, Sauk, Shawano, Sheboygan, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago.

**First State Farm Agent
Injured in Auto Accident**

E. L. Luther, first Wisconsin agricultural agent, suffered severe injury in an auto collision at Park Falls recently while enroute from Ashland to Phillips to attend a farm meeting pertaining to drouth relief matters.

Luther, who directed farm institutes in Wisconsin for a number of years, was the first agricultural agent appointed in Wisconsin. In 1912, he began the work in Oneida county, the first Wisconsin county to adopt a farm extension service.

Until recently, Luther directed the tobacco acreage adjustment program for the federal government in Trempealeau and adjoining counties. Since the completion of this work, he has assisted farmers in securing freight reduction of feeds shipped into drouth areas of the state.

**Plan Labor Institutes
for Wisconsin Cities**

The first of a number of winter Labor Institutes sponsored by local federations of labor with the aid of the University of Wisconsin school for workers in industry was held at Madison last week.

Four members of the University faculty took part in the Institute, which was held during four days in the Labor Temple. Professors Selig Perlman, Walter Morton, and Elizabeth Brandeis spoke at the general sessions of the Institute, while Prof. Harold M. Groves lead discussions.

The winter Labor Institutes are planned under the direction of Miss Alice Shoemaker, executive secretary of the Wisconsin school for workers in industry. A second Institute is to be held in Milwaukee later in the winter, while several more are now being planned for up-state cities.

Three graduates of the University of Wisconsin school of journalism had articles in recent issues of two nationally-known magazines, it was revealed today. They are M. W. Childs, of the editorial staff of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, who graduated in 1923; and Johan J. Smertenko, '19, both of whom had articles in Harper's magazine; and Reuben Levin, a graduate of 1926 and now on the staff of the Milwaukee Sentinel, who had an article in the Nation magazine.