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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.

September 6, 1933

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Vol. 29, No. 10

Wisconsin Aids Its Unemployed to Make Most of Education

Methods of Retraining Offered
to Jobless Are Enumerated
by Extension Official

How Wisconsin is meeting effectively the educational wants of thousands out of work who need further training before finding another place in the economic world was described by Dean Chester D. Snell, of the University of Wisconsin Extension division, in a talk over WHA. Reference was made to the changes and readjustments in business and industry which are forcing many to learn new trades or vocations. The state's educational system, the official showed, has made it possible for many sufferers from the depression to obtain the needed re-training at little or no cost.

Through cooperation of vocational schools, the university extension class program has been enlarged to enable unemployed persons to obtain college grade courses in all of the larger centers. For persons in smaller cities and country districts, correspondence courses have been made available in both vocational and cultural subjects. This enlarged program was made possible by the recent legislative grant of \$30,000 for free scholarships for unemployed. The fund is administered through the Industrial commission.

Special Courses Offered
The Extension division, according to Dean Snell, also is offering certain special courses useful for citizens in general, such as the course in investment principles, given by correspondence for the benefit of many who have suffered from an unsound financial policy, and others wanting a broader knowledge of personal finances.

Note also was made of correspondence courses helpful in preparing for certain vocations. They include secretarial training, business management, estimating construction costs, the gasoline automobile, narrative writing, the short story, library practice for apprentices, and numerous teaching subjects and other cultural courses.

As a contribution to the recreational needs of unemployed, the Extension division has developed plans to provide a motion picture service to small communities deprived of such entertainment since the advent of the talkies. The bureau of dramatic activities is developing plans for historical pageants in selected communities.

First in Adult Education

No state, Dean Snell declared, is in better position than Wisconsin to supply adult educational opportunities. He described the Wisconsin vocational school system as the finest in America, and the university extension services, dating from 1907, were credited with playing a productive part in meeting the economic as well as the educational problem.

"The vocational schools, under the Wisconsin plan," he said, "provide educational opportunities for adults, covering the broad expanse from the most elementary work up to the college level. The University Extension division covers the college and university fields. It is fortunate that early educational leaders saw to it that costly duplication of effort was not allowed to develop in these fields. This policy of cooperation, rather than of duplication, is being strengthened today."

Rural Plays, Songs, Games Took Stage at State Fair

Fully 800 rural people from all over Wisconsin sang and presented folk songs and dances in the Little Theatre on the State Fair Grounds at West Allis last week.

Their programs were some of the free attractions provided for Wisconsin State Fair goers by the management and the various groups contributing. Not only did the state exposition provide opportunity to see some of the best Wisconsin cattle and grain, but also some of the finest farm folks of Wisconsin were heard in programs of song and instrumental music.

Another feature of the state-wide exposition of interest to both rural and urban Wisconsin was the rural athletic tournament in which teams from the various counties of the state took part. Easily one of the outstanding features in the athletic tournament was the contest in diamond ball, a game which is growing in popularity throughout the state, with thousands of teams playing in Wisconsin this year. A. F. Wileman, of the state college of agriculture, who has charge of the rural groups, reports that in one Wisconsin county alone there were organized more than a hundred teams playing diamond ball the present year.

Wisconsin Grad To Head Foreign Farm Service

Paul O. Nyhus, formerly stationed in the Orient, is serving as the chief of the Foreign Agricultural Service Division of the United States Department of Agriculture. During the period while Mr. Nyhus was in the Far East, he served as Commissioner of Agriculture in the consulate office in Shanghai.

Mr. Nyhus is a native of Chippewa county, Wisconsin, and immediately after graduating from the Wisconsin College of Agriculture accepted a position as statistician in the State Department of the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington.

Minerals in Honey Help Build Body, Blood, U. Man Says

American stomachs and digestive organs would probably function better if the people of this nation, each of whom now consume more than 100 pounds of sugar each year, would eat less sugar and more honey, according to H. A. Schuette, professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

In an article on "A New Respect for an Old Sweet", recently printed in the Wisconsin Beekeeping magazine, Prof. Schuette declares that honey is "our oldest sweetening agent". The gathering of wild honey as a food was practiced back in the Stone Age, and it was practically the only food that satisfied the "sweet tooth" of ancient Greece and Rome.

Aids Blood Stream

Honey is a natural, unrefined syrup from which nothing having nutritive value, particularly its mineral matter, has been removed, Prof. Schuette explains. The major constituents of honey are the sugars dextrose and levulose, both of which are directly absorbed by the blood stream without any previous tax upon the digestive system in so far as bringing about any necessary chemical changes to the end that they meet the body's requirements.

"Among the mineral matter in honey is found practically all of those chemical elements which are part of the human skeleton," Prof. Schuette asserts. "Future research may contradict such a sweeping statement as this, but speaking in the light of current knowledge on the subject, it is probably correct."

Contains Iron, Copper

Particularly would I like to call attention to the presence of those newer essentials, copper, iron, and manganese, of which there seems to be a larger quantity in dark honeys than in light kinds," he explains. "Iron is important from a nutritional standpoint because of its relation to the coloring matter of the blood, known as hemoglobin.

"This hemoglobin, which we build out of the food we eat, has a certain power of carrying that all-important oxygen to the tissues of our bodies. If it were not for its iron content, hemoglobin would not have this property of holding oxygen.

"Copper seems to unlock the therapeutic powers of iron in restoring the hemoglobin content of the blood of patients afflicted with anemia," Prof. Schuette says. "In other words, copper promotes the action of iron. We do not yet fully know the advantages of including manganese in the diet, but we do now know enough about the subject to appreciate that it is a valuable adjunct to the diet."

Is Health-Giving

The ancients, as well as modern physicians, appreciated honey for its health-giving flavors, he points out. Modern physicians admit that honey is a very concentrated and nutritious food article. It is a good emollient, soothing, vitalizing and energizing agent, and is very beneficial in diseases of the pharynx, larynx, kidneys, and bladder.

"We Americans have been accused of eating too much sugar, far more than our actual needs," Prof. Schuette says. "Because honey passes into the blood stream more rapidly than does sugar, it satisfies the appetite quicker. And because of this greater speed of action, there is little danger that one will over-eat of honey. Might not a wider use of honey reduce our per capita consumption of sugar to within that range which physiologists say is best for us?"

Latest Depression Beater Puts Mammals on U. Museum Walls

The latest method of "beating the depression", especially in the case of such institutions as museums, has been invented by an enterprising curator at the University of Wisconsin—and as a result, a number of large mammals are now literally roaming the walls of the state University's Geological museum.

Faced with a sharply reduced budget, but at the same time finding it necessary to keep the Wisconsin geology museum up-to-date, Gilbert O. Raasch, curator, and Fred Wilhelms, geologist, hit upon a plan by which they could illustrate the geological history of past ages, and at the same time economize on both space and funds.

Instead of erecting huge skeletons of the strange and gigantic creatures that stalked the earth in the past, they are making miniature models of these huge animals in their natural surroundings.

Pictures of these animals—the mastodons, mammoths, and dinosaurs—have been reconstructed in plaster plaques on which the animals were modeled in relief and the whole tinted in appropriate colors. These plaques are now hanging on the walls of the museum and serve to illustrate for students and citizens the natural history of the past.

Two of these huge pre-historic animals—the mammoth and the mastodon—once roamed the forests and fields of Wisconsin, since their bones have been dug up within the borders of the state, Curator Raasch explained.

The system of language attainment tests inaugurated several years ago at the University of Wisconsin has resulted in a saving for about 285

Broader Training Is Urged in Fields Of Public Address

Educators Emphasize Values of
Platform Skills as Aid
to Success

Every Wisconsin high school was enjoined to offer training in public address in 1933-34, looking to the competitive values afforded by the contests of the Wisconsin High School Forensic association, in a message this week by George J. Balzer, Milwaukee, association chairman. In the News-Letter, quarterly journal of the association, Mr. Balzer urged all schools to begin in September a program in forensics.

"In the year before us," he counseled, "every high school in the state should use the force of the public address extensively. The multitude of economic and social problems before the American people for solution in 1933-34 offers rich fields for discussion and other forms of public address."

Work is on High Plane

In quality of work, the chairman said, the past year was the association's best season. The debates, despite a difficult question, were pronounced the best of any year, and the dramatic work was so expertly done that the judges faced difficulty in determining the winning groups.

The membership of the association last year was 363 schools. This was 19 fewer than the year before, due to limited funds in many areas.

Hereafter, by a change now in effect, member schools may participate in any speech contest conducted by members of the educational profession, upon receiving permission from the association's directors.

Changes Are Proposed

At the annual meeting in Milwaukee next fall, the following proposals for constitutional amendments will be offered: Providing that the annual debate question shall be announced in August; permitting coaches to act as judges of interscholastic contests, an economy measure; and substituting Current History for another magazine in the extemporaneous speaking contest.

An amendment will be presented to provide for two types of declamatory contests—humorous and dramatic.

The speech training offered by high schools, as evidenced by the state contests at Madison last spring, was lauded by several educators. O. H. Plenzke, assistant state superintendent, referred to the "increasingly high caliber of forensic work in Wisconsin" and to the "remarkable ability of interpretation" in many cases.

Dean C. L. Christensen, of the college of agriculture, called for the training of agriculture's own spokesmen so that its leadership need not be the "borrowed" kind, which he said is usually expensive.

Agriculture's Need

"In the past," the dean said, "we have often left it to sensational writers and selfishly motivated speakers to supply not only the general public but ourselves with information concerning our various projects of economic and social importance. Agriculture needs its own spokesmen to create favorable attitudes and wholesome reactions upon the part of other groups. Discussion encourages understanding."

Speech training should become more than an extra-curricular school activity, Prof. A. T. Weaver, chairman of the University's speech department, declared. Instead of an advantage only for the few who elect to take it, classroom training in speech should be provided for every boy and girl in high school, he maintained.

Should Reach All Pupils

"We need to realize," said Professor Weaver, "that all pupils from the poor to the excellent depend to a large degree upon speech for whatever measure of success they may be able to win in life. We cannot give the mass of high school boys and girls of Wisconsin the needed training in speech until we awaken among school boards, superintendents, principals, parents, and students a genuine interest in an adequate program of speech training for all."

The annual meeting of the forensic association will be held on Nov. 3 at Juneau hall, Milwaukee auditorium, it was announced. The association works in cooperation with the department of debating and public discussion of the University Extension division.

Milwaukee Club Agent Goes to Health Retreat

Upon doctors' recommendation, E. B. Hauser, Milwaukee county club agent, will reside at the Muirdale Tuberculosis sanitarium while regaining his health. Mr. Hauser has had more than 5,000 relief gardens planted under his direction this spring and summer.

Adams County Agent Is Named Land Appraiser

A. C. Bartness of Friendship, Wisconsin, has recently accepted an appointment as an appraiser with the Federal Land Bank of St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been county agent of Adams county since June, 1930.

Students who have passed them of 325 semesters or about 1,000 credits of study. This would mean an actual cash saving of about \$7,000 to the students.

Wild Game—Another Wisconsin Product

"Twenty centuries of 'progress' have brought the average citizen a vote, a national anthem, a car, a bank account, and a high opinion of himself, but not the capacity to live in high density without befouling and denuding his environment, nor a conviction that such capacity, rather than such density, is the true test of whether he is civilized. The practice of game management may be one of the means of developing a culture which will meet this test."—Aldo Leopold, Game Manager, Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Report Brisk Demand for Graduates Trained in Home Economics Work

"Recovery" is being felt in the demand for home economic trained persons along various lines.

Already 18 young women who have completed the home economics course at the University of Wisconsin have been placed in teaching positions, and other similar positions are still to be filled.

"During the summer we have had a number of requests for persons to teach home economics in colleges," reports Miss Abby L. Marlatt, director of the home economics course at the University.

"Most of these requests specified graduate training, and required either a master's or a doctor's degree. Requests have come in, too, for home economics extension workers in different sections of the country. For these, young women from farm homes, or those with extension experience, are given preference."

"Several of the students who have majored in textile study are filling positions with large wholesale houses. Those who plan to do hospital dietitian work have been placed in accredited hospitals for their student dietitian training."

Those who have been placed in teaching positions this summer are: Miss Helen Briggs, Dane county, at Two Rivers; Miss Mabel Bushnell, Green county, at Monroe; Miss Cynthia Ruth Eubank, Marquette county, at Albany; Miss Harriet Gleason, Dane county, at Rhinelander; Miss Katherine Gundlach, Dane county, at Gilmanton; Miss Irene Haan, Milwaukee county, at Rock Island, Illinois; Miss Agnes Jackman, Marinette county, at Sevastopol.

Miss Mildred Knopse, Buffalo county, at Marinette; Miss Marie Linck, Columbia county, at Livingston; Miss Marjorie McDowell, Waukesha county, at Almond; Miss Gabriella McMillan, Columbia county, at the Wausau Vocational School; Miss Alice Morgan, Rusk county, at Ladysmith; Miss Emma Niendorf, Dane county, at Mazomanie; Mrs. Julia F. Hofsker, Dane county, at Wisconsin high school, Madison; Miss Phyllis Mae Olson, Dane county at Waterloo; Miss Helene Pease, Dane county, at Port Washington; Miss Ethel Reid, Genoa, Illinois, at Warren, Illinois; Mrs. Harriet West, Trinidad, Colorado, at Milton Union high school.

Prof. Commons Returns from England to Finish Work on New Volume

Rested and anxious to get back to his work, Prof. John R. Commons, internationally-known economist at the University of Wisconsin, returned recently from a trip to England which he took at the demand of hundreds of his former students.

Prof. Commons has taught economics for 30 years—almost a generation—at the State University. When he reached his 70th birthday anniversary last fall, hundreds of his former students scattered throughout the nation contributed a total of \$1,500, and "ordered" the beloved professor to take three months off and go to Europe for a rest.

The gift was presented to Prof. Commons at a birthday party celebrating the economist's 70th anniversary last Nov. 18 at the University. More than 250 persons, most of them former students, were in attendance, and telegrams were received from throughout the country. In presenting the gift, the students told their former teacher that "they had obeyed him long enough, and that they were now going to give him orders" to rest from his labors.

Prof. Commons came to the University in 1904 as a professor of political economy. A year ago, when he reached his 70th birthday, the University board of regents abrogated the rule which automatically retires faculty members when they reach the age of 70, in order to permit Prof. Commons to continue his work at Wisconsin.

Already widely known as an author in the field of economics, Prof. Commons is now putting the finishing touches to another volume on "Constitutional Economics". This book will be a continuation of a work which was published a few years ago, on "The Legal Foundations of Capitalism," he said. The manuscript is to be completed by November, and the book will be off the presses by next May.

Prof. Commons will teach several advanced courses in economics at the University during the coming year, and will have charge of a great deal of graduate work, especially among students studying for their doctor of philosophy degrees in economics.

State Labs Test 65,666 Specimens in Disease Search

Report of Hygienic Lab at U. W. Tells of Microbe Hunting in State

Wisconsin's nine hygienic laboratories, in which most of the state's microbe hunting is carried on, examined a total of 65,666 specimens in their search for suspected germs and disease in the state during the past six months, it is revealed in a report filed today with Pres. Glenn Frank by Dr. W. D. Stovall, director of the central laboratory at the University of Wisconsin.

The specimens are sent into the laboratories by medics throughout Wisconsin. These medics obtain the specimens through their daily work of diagnosing human ills, and in cases where there may be some doubt as to the disease, the specimens are sent to be examined in certain medical tests in the laboratories maintained by the state.

Control Disease

In this way, a certain central control over disease is exercised in Wisconsin, even to the extent of possible epidemics, and citizens of the state are given a much greater measure of protection.

Of the total of 65,666 specimens examined by the nine laboratories during the past six months, 37,442 specimens were examined at the central laboratory at the State University, while 28,224 were examined in the eight branch laboratories in different parts of the state. These branch laboratories are located in Beloit, Green Bay, Kenosha, Oshkosh, Rhinelander, Sheboygan, Superior, and Wausau.

Among the branch laboratories, Kenosha lead in the number of specimens examined, with 5,752 tests made. Number of examinations made at other branch laboratories is as follows: Beloit, 1,684; Green Bay, 2,861; Oshkosh, 4,286; Rhinelander, 4,323; Sheboygan, 2,781; Superior, 3,449; and Wausau, 3,088.

Test Water, Milk

Analyses for the detection of gonorrhea, diphtheria, tuberculosis, and impurities in water, milk, and urine formed the leading activities of the laboratories during the period, the report reveals. Of the total number of examinations made, 12,171 were gonorrhea