This was the scene as the Crandall family transferred its Wisconsin Dells properties to the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. Seated, l. to r. are Wallace Meyer, Chicago advertising executive; Dr. Ralph Connor, one of the former owners; Byron Harvey, Jr., president of the Fred Harvey concession chain; George I. Haight, president of WARF; H. Howard Musson, a former owner; and Doggett Harvey. Standing are Delond Robinson; Frank Ross, WARF attorney; WARF Managing Director Ward Ross; Stewart Harvey; Miller Adams; WARF member Howard I. Potter, who played a major role in negotiations leading up to the transfer; attorney Sam Orr; attorney Ray M. Stratton; George H. Brooks, who will manage the Dells operation for the Harvey group; and Ed Resten, operations director of WARF. Adams, Robinson, and the Harveys represented the Harvey chain.

Income Will Go
For UW Research

WARF Gets Dells Gift

THE TRANSFER of ownership of a major portion of the world-famous Wisconsin Dells, including many miles of beautiful scenic Wisconsin River shore line, from the Crandall family of Wisconsin Dells to the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation for the benefit of the University of Wisconsin, was announced last month by George I. Haight, president of the Foundation.

The transaction involves more than 1,000 acres in the popular scenic area, visited annually by hundreds of thousands.

Included in the transfer of the Upper Dells property is the Crandall Hotel and the Dells Boat Company, along with picturesque Stand Rock and the adjacent natural amphitheater where the Indian Ceremonials are held every night during the summer. Artist's Glen, the Narrows, and other spectacular rock formations known to travelers the world over, are included.

"Incidentally, it is not contemplated that these properties be removed from the property tax rolls," Mr. Haight said.

Owners of the property are Mr. and Mrs. H. Howard Musson and Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Connor. Mrs. Connor and Mrs. Musson are daughters of the late George H. Crandall, and granddaughters of Henry Hamilton Bennett, re-nowned pioneer photographer, whose early photographs and stereopticon slides of the Dells are nationally known.

Through the foresight of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Crandall, much of the natural beauty of the area has been preserved. As early as 1925, Crandall inaugurated a program of conservation with the planting of more than 140,000 pines.

Coincidental with the announcement of the transfer was the announcement that the nationally known Fred Harvey system will operate the Crandall properties under a lease from the Foundation.

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation is an organization not for private profit, which receives and administers properties and inventions voluntarily assigned. Income goes to the University of Wisconsin and is allocated to further research by the University Research Committee. Certain benefits from the annual income of the Dells operation will go to Mr. and Mrs.

(continued on page 38)

FEBRUARY, 1954

Last spring the Wisconsin crew staged an exhibition race on the Upper Dells. In the future, these would be more in the nature of "home waters."
WARF Gets Dells Gift
(continued from page 13)

Musson and Dr. and Mrs. Connor during their lifetimes.
"A new field of usefulness for the Foundation has been opened with this venture," said Mr. Haight, president of the Foundation. "We feel that we are fortunate in securing the Fred Harvey organization to assume the responsibility of operation. Its reputation for service and hospitality is based on many years of cooperation with the Santa Fe Railway and the National Parks Service. In cooperation with the Santa Fe, Fred Harvey operates in Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona, and in other areas of scenic and historic interest in the Southwest. This experience, and Fred Harvey's association with the Indians, augurs well for the future of this project."

Lois Crandall Musson and Phyllis Crandall Connor stated that "we have perfect faith that this magnificent heritage will be protected and maintained in all of its natural beauty... We feel that this conveyance will prove a continuing boon to the University of Wisconsin, which means so much to all of the people of the state in their daily lives."

★ ★ ★

"New Vistas", Says Pres. Fred

This statement was made by University of Wisconsin President E. B. Fred upon announcement of the gift of much Wisconsin Dells property to the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

Mr. George I. Haight's announcement that the people of Wisconsin, through their University, are the beneficiaries of the transfer of ownership of much of the Wisconsin Dells to the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation is, indeed, good news.

We are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. George H. Crandall who dedicated themselves to protecting the natural beauty of the Dells, and to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Musson and Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Connor who maintained this heritage and now have made it available to the Research Foundation for the benefit of the University....

The educational possibilities of this area open new vistas for the University.

The area has great historic interest: here, preserved in stone carved by glacial floods, is the geological history of the area; its waters figure in the legends of the Winnebagoes and the later stories of early raftsmen.

The area has great beauty: the forces and bounties of nature have combined to make this a mecca for those who seek the natural beauty of rocks cut by rushing waters, plant life in its native state, animals and birds in their accustomed habitat.

The area has great potentials for scientific investigation: the flora and fauna live undisturbed in a natural laboratory for the biologist.

The area is a center for conservation teaching: in addition to its own good lesson, the newly acquired property surrounds the University of Wisconsin's Upham Woods tract with Blackhawk Island, an area devoted to nature study; and within short driving distance of this center are Devils Lake State Park; the Sauk County Farm, where soil care is under study; Dells Creek Watershed, which demonstrates restoration of natural conditions which preserve streams; shelter belts which protect farm lands from wind erosion; industrial forests, a demonstration plantation, and Griffith State Nursery, which point the way toward saving Wisconsin's forests; and a game farm, which helps replenish wildlife....

The University of Wisconsin extends its sincere thanks to those who have made this possible—to all the people of the Wisconsin Dells area who have worked together to make this a beauty-spot of the state, to the former owners whose vision guided its development, and to the trustees of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, who now perpetuate it in the interest of the people of Wisconsin and their University.