

Coaching the Contest Oration

PHILLIP K. TOMPKINS AND ELDON E. BAKER

Abraham Lincoln once jokingly defined an orator as one "who throws back his head, shines his eyes, and leaves the consequences to God!" In working with orators—at both the high school and college levels—we soon recognized a paucity of practical literature on directing oratory. This article purports to offer five practical suggestions, primarily for oratory coaches of limited experience, in the hope that Lincoln's definition will not fit their orators.

I. SELECTION OF A TOPIC

The first suggestion we have to offer is concerned with the first step in preparing the oration, the selection of a topic. A famous speech educator once examined one hundred high school contest orations; only twenty-five of these dealt with what he considered appropriate and significant topics. The main difficulty here seems to be that the student picks topics which are "miles away" from him and his experiences. He should select one that is close to him, lends itself to research, and reveals a problem which directly affects him and the people to whom he will speak. This is not a suggestion that the orator speak to the predispositions of the judge; nor should it give comfort to those who feel that sensationalism ("I was a dope addict for the F.B.I.") is necessary for successful oratory.

Two brief criteria for evaluating the selection of an oration topic are: (1) Does the topic allow the student to realistically point out its relationship to himself at the offset of the oration? and (2) Does the topic allow the student to demonstrate early in the oration *why* his listeners should be concerned?

II. RESEARCH AND SUPPORT

The debater is often called on to do double duty by entering oratory, extemp, etc. He does research for the debate question and extemp topic, but he may approach the oration with this thought: "At last, a speech in which I can tell them what

I think. No more bibliographies and evidence cards!" Many contest orations fail because of this approach; such a misconception results in agonized listeners suffering from glittering generalities and unsupported assertions. The orator should do research for his topic just as he would in preparation for either debate or extemp. He should use the information gathered in research to expand, clarify, and lend support to his ideas by use of any, or any combination, of the following: explanation, definition, comparison, factual and hypothetical illustrations, specific instances, statistics, and expert testimony. A. Craig Baird and Franklin Knowler have written that the speaker must use such techniques if his "talk is to be comparatively free from abstractness, from unsupported assertions, from vague thinking, and from dull, uninteresting treatment. . . ."

III. ORGANIZATION

Experimental research indicates that audiences comprehend significantly more information from the well organized speech than from the poorly organized speech. Comprehension—or communication—can be called an important prerequisite to persuasion, the goal of oratory.

Frequently the orator is asked to throw together an oration including introduction, body, and conclusion. What does this mean? It means an arbitrary tripartite classification of what the speaker would have prepared without such advice (and the speech may or may not be well organized). We have found the introduction, body, and conclusion system of organization too vague to be functional.

The inexperienced coach of oratory may be unaware of several specific and functional (therefore instructive) methods of organization. It is not our purpose to summarize in this article these organizational patterns, but to simply cite two sources where they can be found in full development. The three patterns of organization are Monroe's "motivated sequence," Briggance's "logical" and "this-or-nothing" orders.

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The motivated sequence was developed by Alan H. Monroe in his book, *Principles and Types of Speech* (Scott, Foresman and Company). It is a synthesis of the logical and psychological approaches to persuasion (attention, need, satisfaction, visualization, and action). Monroe's development of this five-step formula has the advantages of *specificity and simplicity*.

William Norwood Brigrance's "Functional Outline of the Logical Order" may be found in *Speech Composition* (Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., see pp. 98 ff.). It is similar to Monroe's system in that it attempts to present an outline which corresponds to Dewey's steps of the complete act of thought. This is a four-step system: attention, problem, solution and action.

Brigrance also offered a "This-or-Nothing" order based upon the newer nonsyllogistic logic of Bosanquet. "It develops a situation from which, if the hearers accept the facts, *one and only one conclusion can emerge. . .*" This method of implication is impressive, but it requires a more sophisticated ability of organization from the speaker.

The reader who is opposed to a "formula" approach may be reluctant to teach these patterns of organization to his students. These systems are not *the answers* to organization; they sometimes require modification and always require invention and originality. We should like to suggest, however, that it might be wise for students to be exposed to rules before being allowed to break them.

IV. WORDING THE ORATION

One of Franklin D. Roosevelt's speech writers once summed up a section of a speech dealing with social security by saying, "We are trying to construct a more inclusive society." Roosevelt changed this to say, "We are going to make a country in which no one is left out." We fear that most contest orators would prefer the former to the latter; they seem to believe that a six-syllable word is more effective than a three-syllable word even though both words express the same concept. You must impress upon your students that a word should be chosen for its denotation and connotation, not for its number of syllables. You must impress upon your students that the first considerations of speech language are *clarity* and *simplicity*. This is because speech

language must be instantly intelligible; the listener has not the opportunity to consult a dictionary or re-read a passage as does the reader. This does not mean that primer style is the best; an outstanding example of a speech that is clear without being oversimplified is Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, a speech of 265 words, 195 of which are of one syllable.

The composition of an oration is not "dashed off" in an afternoon. It requires perpetual editing and re-writing. Have your students go back over the manuscript, eliminating all unnecessary words such as "very." Brigrance writes of one method proposed by W. A. White:

William Allen White, who thought *very* to be the most over-worked word in the English language, once told



ANOTHER IMPORTANT HOST—Dr. Fred Twell is the debate coach at Oklahoma State University, as such he will have a vital role in the preparations leading up to the National Convention. Dr. Twell is shown here viewing some of the trophies won in recent years by Oklahoma State debate teams, proof enough that those who draw teams from the host school in the debate tournament will have worthy competition.

Franklin P. Adams how to eliminate it. "Instead of *very*, write the word *damn*," he said. "The proofreader will knock out the *damn*—and there you have a right good sentence.

The oration should contain fresh, descriptive metaphors rather than the usual dull clichés.

V. MEMORIZATION

Speakers have always suffered from the fear of forgetting part of a memorized speech and the resultant embarrassing silence. This is often caused because the speaker hurriedly and silently memorized the oration as if "cramming" for an exam. Our suggestion here is to have your students commit the oration to memory by oral reading. Have them deliver the oration from the manuscript until it is no longer needed and can be thrown aside. This will help the speaker learn the "total" speech, not just a collection of memorized paragraphs. Oral reading in memorization gives additional practice in delivery that silent reading does not offer, and Quintilian advised that this

practice would serve to keep the mind "alert by the sound of the voice, so that the memory may derive assistance from the double effort of speaking and listening."

The order in which these suggestions were offered seems to be the best order to follow in preparing the oration. Instruct your students to (I) Select an appropriate topic; (II) Do research and gather supporting materials for the oration; (III) Organize the materials and use this framework in . . . (IV) Wording the oration; (V) Memorize the oration by oral reading.

Remind your students that some tournament directors require a copy of the oration—always keep an extra copy available.

These suggestions were meant to help you direct the contest orator. Perhaps no one needs to be reminded of our final admonishment, but the student is not a ventriloquist's dummy; he is only served by creating his own speech. A sincere delivery is best accomplished when the speaker expresses his own ideas and beliefs. *Direct* the oration; don't *dictate* the oration.

Extemporaneous Speaking Topic

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S DIVISIONS

National Pi Kappa Delta Convention March 26-31, 1961

THE UNITED NATIONS

The following areas of study will be used in each of the four rounds of speaking:

- I. The history of the United Nations.
- II. The status of the United Nations today.
- III. Present obstacles to effective United Nations action.
- IV. The future of the United Nations as an instrument for peace.

A Tradition in Oratory

THOMAS L. FERNANDEZ

Speakers invited to Westminster College in recent years invariably have given reference to the history making speech Sir Winston Churchill delivered here in 1946. The most current allusion was made on December 8, 1960, by Walter McQuie, City Attorney for Montgomery City, Missouri. Mr. McQuie remarked that he could not understand his wife's lack of enthusiasm when he reported to her: "The same people who invited Winston Churchill to speak have just invited me."

The "Iron Curtain" speech has come to denote, for many persons, the beginning of an interest in public speaking on this campus. Those who trouble to investigate more carefully, however, will recognize that the Churchill speech is eloquent testimony to the emphasis Westminster traditionally has placed upon public speaking.

On December 7, 1960, the Dobyns Oratorical Contest, one of the keystones of this tradition, celebrated its 50th anniversary. An examination of the history of this event revealed that the Dobyns is more than just another speech contest; it has become an institution of the college. Of the 39 surviving winners of the Dobyns prize, 19 responded to inquiries about their experience in the competition and gave an evaluation of the event. Their letters, more than any other source, suggest why the Dobyns has continued to flourish after a half century.

The roots of the Dobyns can be traced to 1879, when Professor W. H. Marquess established an award for student orators at Westminster College. Charles F. "Dog" Lamkin, the college historian, reports that the Marquess prize was a volume of Thomas B. Macaulay's *Life, Letters, and Miscellany*. The book award was later replaced with a \$25.00 prize offered jointly by the Philaethian and Philologic literary societies.

Cash or book, however, the evidence is clear that the prize itself was a secondary consideration. Students of this earlier pe-

riod seemed genuinely convinced of the importance of developing skills in public speaking. The student editor of the *Westminster Monthly* wrote in 1910:

It is said that reading makes a full man, writing an exact man, and speaking a ready man. . . . And the only way to become a fluent and forceful speaker is to learn to think on one's feet; to feel at home on the platform.

The writer went on to point up the many professional uses to which training in public speaking could be put and urged his readers to participate in the activities of the literary societies.

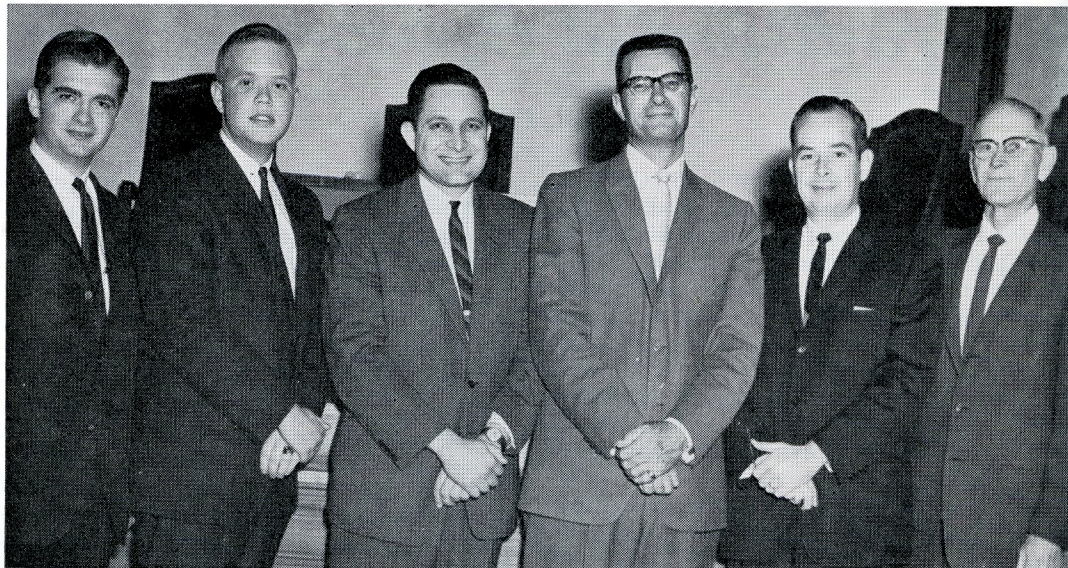
Student enthusiasm in speaking activities probably reached an all-time high in January, 1910, when the *Westminster Monthly* carried a full page advertisement seeking, "One-hundred students, to attend the best oratorical contest that has been held in this state for years." The ad offered a round trip excursion from Fulton to Kansas City for \$2.50. Subsequent issues of the *Monthly* indicate that students occupying two private railroad cars eventually made the trip.

The occasion for all this excitement was the annual state oratorical contest, which was the goal of every student orator at Westminster. College publications are filled with reports of the keen competition for the privilege of representing Westminster in the state event. The winning of the Dobyns prize was the prerequisite for this opportunity. An interesting comment in the 1912 *Westminster Bulletin* reveals where student emphasis centered:

The literary societies hold an oratorical contest, in December each year, to choose the Westminster representative for the annual contest of the Missouri College Oratorical Association. The winner also receives the prize of fifty dollars.

At the 1910 commencement exercises of Westminster College, President Kerr announced that \$1,000 had been received to provide an endowed prize for oratory.

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DOBYNS WINNERS, PAST AND PRESENT—Mark Mitchell, Platte City, Missouri, second from left, 1960 winner of the Fiftieth Dobyns Oratorical Contest at Westminster College, is flanked by five previous winners, covering a span of 33 years of the contest. Others, from left, are Gerald Jenkins, Oklahoma City, 1956 winner; the Rev. T. Chalmers Henderson, Kirkwood, Missouri, 1944; Harold Karandjeff, Granite City, Illinois, 1941; John Ryan, Kansas City, 1951; and Eugene F. Kimbrell, College athletic director, 1917 winner.

“Dog” Lamkin reports the endowment was received in this unusual fashion:

One day Dr. J. J. Rice was traveling on a railroad train with a gentleman who had formerly attended Westminster, and, when here, had boarded in the home of Mr. Edward Dobyns. In order to perpetuate the names of Mr. and Mrs. Dobyns, Dr. Rice was given the sum of \$1,000, the interest of which sum was to be given annually as a prize in oratory, the award to be forever called the Dobyns Prize.

On January 16, 1911, Mr. Bert C. Riley, who is now Director of the University of Florida General Extension Service, became the first winner of the Dobyns Prize for oratory; the tradition was established.

The celebration of the 50th Dobyns competition was highlighted by the attendance of six of the former winners, who represented a span of forty-three contests. The presence of these men on this occasion signified their respect for the experience the Dobyns had given them. The volume of correspondence from others who could not attend confirms the contribution this oratory contest has made during the past fifty years. For example, Atty. J. Robertson

Clagett of Kansas City, Missouri, commented: “I can recommend the Dobyns Contest to all undergraduates regardless of what they intend to do upon completion of their education.” Dr. Randle Elliot of Dutchess County, New York, made this reply:

I have often commented that the world of the future belongs to the young men who know how to say quickly and simply what they want while in the presence of busy executives, and then get out while the words are still ringing in the hearer’s ears. This can only come about through training in both oral and written English.

One man who would be hard pressed to forget his Dobyns experience is Ronald L. Somerville, an attorney in Chillicothe, Missouri. Mr. Somerville’s letter included this statement:

It was my privilege to win the Dobyns Oratory Contest in 1941. It may strike you as both interesting and amusing to know that the local Fulton paper gave me equal billing with the Japanese Invasion of Pearl Harbor. I will always remember the headlines because there was a three column head-

line on one side of the front page to the effect, "Somerville Wins Dobyns Oratory," and on the other side of the front page, and with the same size headline, was "Japanese Bomb Pearl Harbor."

The significance of the Dobyns was best summarized, however, by F. L. McCluer, president of Lindenwood College, when he wrote:

The Dobyns contest has served to emphasize for students of Westminster the value of honest and effective expression of one's thoughts, and certainly it has been of great help to those who have participated in the contest.

The rules for the Dobyns have undergone several changes during the history of the contest. In the fall of 1910 the question of whether or not students who were experienced ministers should be allowed to compete stirred up considerable debate. Lamkin reports the college administration was finally forced to settle the controversy by ruling that there would be no contest when men of experience were pitted against the average college student. As a result, every man who had "practiced and received pay for public speaking" was barred.

Early contestants had to submit numerous copies of their oration well in advance of the speaking. These manuscripts were scrutinized by the judges and any variation in the orator's presentation was sufficient ground for his disqualification. More recently, however, this practice has been dropped, and there are no artificial rules imposed upon the speakers. The speeches are to be no longer than 10 minutes. Contestants are permitted to use manuscripts or notes as they choose, with the understanding that an oration is considered to be any persuasive speech.

Dr. John Randolph, who has been responsible in recent years for administering the Dobyns, recalls that many of the current contest rules can be directly attributed to the 1940 state oratory contest, when Harold Karandjeff was Westminster's representative. Mr. Karandjeff read his oration and thereby touched off an explosion among the state's speech directors. The incident resulted in a major overhauling of the state contest rules, and these are reflected in the current Dobyns regulations.

The Golden Anniversary contest was judged by three former winners: the controversy-provoking Mr. Karandjeff, T. Chalmers Henderson, 1943; and John B. Ryan, 1951. From a field of five contestants, the judges selected Mark Mitchell of St. Joseph, Missouri, as the fiftieth Dobyns winner. Other participants included Brad Kent, Kirby Greene, Gene Hamilton, and Bill Owens. All of the former winners of the Dobyns prize agreed that the level of competition in this year's contest was high.

With its outstanding history, the interest and enthusiasm shown by former winners for the value of the event, and the challenge it presents to improve skills in public speaking, the Dobyns Oratorical contest seems destined to remain an important part of the academic training of students at Westminster College.

A couple of years ago, while returning from the TCU Tournament, the Ottawa University debate squad composed the following team fight song. (They claim that after that tournament they needed one!) Here is the composition, which is sung to the tune of the "Caisson Song," and which is printed for the general good of the order.

Over fist over frown we will shout opponents down

As our file box goes rolling along.

With a gleam in our eye and a quote card waving high

We will prove that we never are wrong. So it's Hi Hi Hee, you MUST concur with me!

Shout out rebuttal loud and strong; YOU'RE WRONG!

So where'er you go you will always know that the O.U. debate squad is strong; That the O.U. debate squad is strong!

THE COVER PHOTO

Shown on the cover are four members of the Oklahoma State University chapter making plans for the National Convention next March. From left to right they are debate secretary Adelia Castor, publicity chairman Jim Hughey, Pi Kappa Delta president Dale Stockton, and Randy Jones. Randy has been named to the important post of Student Representative on the National Council. During the Convention he will meet with the Council and vote on all matters that arise during the session.

Chapter Notes

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

Sophomore Brad Kent received the highest ratings given to leaders at the Grinnell Discussion Conference and was picked on that basis to act as moderator of the final session . . . teamed with classmate Mike Linihan to become the only undefeated team in the junior division of the Midwest Speech Meet in Kirksville in December. . . . "Resolved: that co-education is no education" the topic of the debate between all-male Westminster and co-ed University of Missouri . . . juniors Paul Vassar and Russ Kercher upheld the affirmative for Missouri Alpha . . . both sides claimed the victory, claims which marred efforts at fraternization after the internecine conflict. . . . Plans being made, naturally, for a full representation at Stillwater, as well as for other tournaments during the new year. Senior Jerry Jenkins, returned to Westminster after two years at college in Oklahoma, got a superior at Grinnell also.

GROVE CITY COLLEGE

The Pennsylvania Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta at Grove City College wishes to extend sincere congratulations to its four new members, Russ Thomas, Ted Blair, Jan Machen, and Dan Zerfoss. . . . Initiation was followed by a banquet held at the Penn-Grove Hotel in Grove City, on Sunday, December 11. (Although night brought a blizzard with it, no casualties were reported.) . . . Everyone is working hard and looking forward to a fabulous time in Oklahoma—see you there!

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Coach Wayne Thompson back on the job after a semester on sabbatical leave . . . a period spent studying "Aristotle's System of Communication" . . . fifty new student debaters greeted him in the fall. . . . Illinois Psi officers for the current year are Eugene Sterbis, president; Earnest Kundert, vice-president; David Kahn, secretary; Eileen Markham, treasurer.

Twenty-seven participants in the thirteenth annual intramural tournament. . . . Ernie Kundert winner of the Insalata award as top speaker with a rating of

182.00. . . . The National Contest in Public Discussion moves into its tenth year with Dr. Arnold succeeding Dr. Thompson, who founded the event, as national sponsor . . . president of the UIC Debate Alumni is William Haase. . . . Next item on the debate agenda the ISNU varsity and novice Tournament, January 6-7. . . .

IDAHO STATE COLLEGE

Largest debate class in the history of the school off to a good start reports Reporter Susan Herzog. . . . Pi Kap members held practice sessions on individual events during the summer so as to keep in trim. . . . Fall events featured three tournaments, the Columbia Valley Tournament at Pullman, Washington, and the Western States Speech Conference at Corvallis, Oregon, being the two off-campus events. . . . Nov. 4-5 the dates of Idaho Gamma's own event, the Gem State Jamboree . . . attended by ten schools . . . and featuring a nine-round round robin, after which the debaters judge themselves . . . the Negative and Affirmative teams judged the best by all the other teams having a run-off debate to determine the winner. . . . B. Y. U. being this year's winner. . . . Plans laid for many more tournaments, including the Treasure State Tournament at Bozeman, Montana; the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs . . . and, of course, the Pi Kap National at Stillwater, Oklahoma.

LOS ANGELES STATE COLLEGE

The California Lambda chapter of Pi Kappa Delta reports. . . . New officers are Mary Paxson, President; John Pridonoff, Vice-President; Linda Wolf, Sec.-Treas.; Bette Woodruff, Corresponding Sec.; and Cathy LaCourreya, Historian. . . . Sponsor Howard Holladay elected President of the Western States Speech Association. . . . Won several honors at the Western States Speech Ass'n Tournament and Alternate: Milt Klein, first in Senior Extemp; Mary Paxson, first in Senior Women's Oratory; Cathy La Courreya, second in Senior Oratory; Tim Mahan, first in Junior Men's Oratory; Tal Jones, third in Junior Men's Oratory; teams of Klein-Browning and Greenspon-Paxson tied for third in Senior Debate; eleven awards of excellence and

two awards of superior. . . . Topped this by taking the School Honor Award for Sweepstakes in Senior Division. . . . Entire forensics squad will participate in exhibition debate program sponsored for the local high schools.

Correction: In its October issue, THE FORENSIC incorrectly assigned new members numbered 33594 through 33604 to Pasadena College, when they should have been listed under Los Angeles State College. Our apologies to all concerned.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE COLLEGE

Missouri Iota was represented at the 21st annual Midwest Debate Tournament at Kirksville, Missouri, by three teams who won 11 debates and lost one. The women's team of Elizabeth Maring and Linnea Hawkinson and the senior men's team of Bob Doolittle and Rondal Bowen were undefeated in four rounds of debate.

HARDIN SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

Texas Theta has attended four tournaments this fall: At Texas Tech had only undefeated team there, girls Linda Hair and Linda Inlow . . . with superior in poetry by David Deaton. . . . At Texas Christian . . . participated. . . . At Texas A. and M. took third place in the senior division . . . at Southwestern, Kansas, gained a first place in junior women's debate. . . . More tournament competition planned after Christmas, including the Pi Kappa Delta National Convention.

This year a movement underway to coordinate the Speech Club of the campus (open membership to interested students) with Pi Kappa Delta . . . members of the Speech Club, therefore, are being encouraged to participate in the Speaker's Bureau of the Club with the idea of approving some of the participants for Pi Kappa Delta. This would encourage non-tournament speaking of the original variety . . . if such speaking seems worthy, the local chapter of Pi Kappa Delta plans to approve some speakers for membership . . . strong administrative backing being given to this sort of realistic and communicative forensics. . . . Director of Forensics DeWitte Holland would like to know if other chapters accept non-tournament speakers into membership . . . believes this permissible under the national constitution.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Coach Holland is right. Such students are admitted to Pi Kappa membership in the order of oratory.)

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the March issue of THE FORENSIC is March 1, 1961. Please try to get your copy to the appropriate editor as much in advance of that date as possible. Naturally, much of the March issue will be filled with the report of the National Convention, and this material can be handled at the last moment. Other material must be processed before the Convention. Send in your chapter news, alumni items, and feature material early.

RESULTS OF THE REFERENDUM TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

Proposed Amendment: (Addition to Article V, Division C, Section 2 (c))
"A third term of two years is possible upon the unanimous recommendation of the National Council and a two-thirds vote of the National Convention."

The vote was:

Yes (accept the amendment)	135
No (reject the amendment)	5

This represents an affirmative vote of 96% and exceeds the constitutional requirement of 75%. On the basis of this vote, the amendment is declared passed.

HARVEY CROMWELL
National President
Pi Kappa Delta

Alumni News

All of this first section of our alumni news comes from the University of Illinois at Chicago, which seems to have a better system than most of us have for keeping in touch with former students.

Sam Evins ('56) is an attorney in Chicago. He has his own practice and also does trial work for other attorneys.

Jeanette Sikora Serowiecki ('55) wrote in part in February: "Dan and I have been quite busy with our new jobs. We are now employed with the Stineway chain of drug-stores." In July Jeanette and her husband wrote in part: "We got bored of working so here we are in Acapulco. . . . We visited and toured Mexico City and Monterey last week and hope to see quite a bit of Mexico's western coast this coming week."

Bernard Baum ('56) spent two weeks in June at Camp McCoy. In addition to his other work for his law firm, he is assisting his employer in preparing two books for publication. On August 16 Bernie and Barbara Barron were married. They live in Evanston.

Tom Thompson ('56) has recently gone to Kansas City as a member of the debate team for the Chicago chapter of the American Institute of Banking. He also was sent by his bank to Boston as an observer at the national convention.

Edward Auxer ('56) now is a radio announcer for station WLIP, Kenosha, Wisconsin. He and Dr. Thompson had a pleasant conversation between acts of a play which both were attending at Northwestern University.

Bill Haase ('57) wrote in part in September: "I am attending DePaul U.'s Graduate School of Business at night, where I am taking six hours per semester toward my M.B.A. Joan and I are expecting our first child some time in October, and my work at Arthur Young & Co. keeps me busy. By the way, I am active in our company's chapter of Toastmasters International." Later Bill sent an announcement of the birth of Linda Sue on September 18. Mrs. Haase is the former **Joan Kaiman** ('58).

Richard Fischmar ('57) was ill this fall and was absent from work for more than a month. He is employed by the Inland Steel Company in Chicago.

Irwin Rosen ('58) is now in charge of de-

bating at West Morton High School, which is located in Berwyn. Last summer Irwin was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army National Guard. He graduated from Urbana last spring.

Bill McVittie ('58) now resides in Los Angeles.

Willard Shonfeld ('51) was married in September of this year and now lives in Skokie. Bill is an attorney in Chicago.

John Insalata ('54) on April 1 became an assistant legislative counsel for the National Automatic Merchandise Association. He resigned from his position with the Social Security Administration, but will continue in private practice as time permits. John is the author of two recent magazine articles—"The Pause That Regresses" in *The Toastmaster* and "The Persuasive Use of Evidence in Formal Argument" in *The Forensic*. John is now chairman of the Committee on Legal Communication of the NSSC.

Terrell Schwarz ('54) wrote in part in March: "On the twenty-third I completed one year and one month of active service. I expect to be discharged from active duty on 23 February 1961. I have been stationed at Fort Des Moines since the middle of September, 1959. My duties as a personnel psychologist assistant consist of administering that battery of capacity and performance tests which the Armed Forces require of enlistees and draftees, and then to interview any of them about whom any question of lack of capacity or dishonest behavior in the testing situation has been alleged."

Rita Goran Siegel ('53) wrote in part in September: "Bud and I have been terribly busy as Bud has recently formed Budd Engineering Company—a group of consultant engineers with specialties in product and machine design. . . . Our little boy, Normie is 1½ years now and the apple of both our eyes. I can tell already he has the makings of a great debater." Rita and her husband and son live in Chicago.

Eric Vesely ('54) has moved twice this year. He and Mrs. Vesely (formerly **Ruth Perls**) bought a home in Lisle, Illinois, early in the summer, but in the fall Eric changed jobs. They now live in Decatur.

Merwin Sigale ('55) phoned in July

shortly after returning to Chicago following six months in the Army and a brief vacation visit to Mexico City and Acapulco. Merwin received the M.A. in political science at Urbana in February, 1960, the day before leaving for Fort Leonard Wood. His thesis "Press Coverage of the Illinois Legislature" presents material including his observations of the legislature and the legislative correspondents for a month. Merwin now is in New York City as a temporary employee of the American Broadcasting Company.

Edward Neteland ('54) according to the Jan., 1960, issue of the Northwestern University *Alumni News*, received his M.A. from that institution in 1957 and until recently was an elementary school principal in Highwood, Illinois. According to this same source, Ed left in January, 1960, for Lahore, Pakistan, to become assistant administrator of the Graduate School of Punjab University. This mission is under the U. S. Point Four Program.

Gerald Reese ('51) in late February joined the staff of the Orange Crush Company as head of direct mail advertising. He also will have other duties in the general area of advertising and promotion. Gerry and Mrs. Reese now have two children, aged four and two.

Dr. Richard Newman ('52) wrote in September and sent two bulletins pertaining to the debate resolution. Dick's present location is the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C.

A number of alumni added distinction to the gathering at the annual speech banquet. Present were the following: **Richard Lenoir** ('55), an assistant foods buyer for Marshall Field's; **John Insalata**; **Nick Beeler** ('59), who graduated from Urbana in June; **Jeanette Serowiecki**; **Joseph Wenzil** ('56), who is instituting a program in forensics at Hunter College, New York City, this fall; **Roland Cassata** ('53), a law clerk; **William Haase** and his wife **Joan**; **Charles Goldstein** ('59), who, with Nick Beeler, was on last year's state championship debate team; **Ed Campbell** ('59), now a student at Urbana; and **Richard Klein** ('56), now an accountant in Chicago.

Dr. James Hunter ('50) is now a heart specialist with offices in the Loop. He is on the staffs of Illinois Research, Presbyterian, Augustana, Illinois Masonic, and Hines Veterans' Hospitals.

Kent Kirkwood ('54) is employed by the Social Security Agency. **Nick Biro** ('50) is Midwest editor for *Billboard Magazine*. **Paul Rothstein** ('57), a senior in the College of Law, Northwestern University, is editor of the Northwestern University *Law Review*. **James Montgomery** ('52) has been for the last twenty months on the staff of the Assistant United States District Attorney.

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The forensic seeds planted at Baylor University at Waco, Texas, by **Glenn Capp** are certainly potent: The Baylor Ex-Debaters Association is promoting a unique plan. The group met for a breakfast at homecoming on October 22, 1960, and voted to start a campaign for \$60,000 to endow the school's forensic program. The program has been named the Glenn R. Capp Endowed Forensic Society in honor of their leader, who has completed his twenty-sixth year as Baylor's forensic director. It is novel. It is terrific. It is altogether fitting and proper.

* * *

Here is a vignette on an alum from Missouri Iota at Southeast Missouri State College: the Honorable **Albert M. Spradling** has been elected to the position of president *pro tem* of the Missouri Senate. He has also been named lieutenant governor and will act as chief state official at the inauguration of the new administration.

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From Tennessee Delta at the Polytechnic Institute at Cookeville comes word that after high school teaching experience **Faye Derryberry Julian** is doing graduate work in speech and assisting in the debate program at the University of Tennessee. Faye won two superiors and one excellent at Bowling Green in 1959.

Hugh McHenry is doing graduate work in mathematics at Peabody College on a scholarship grant.

Hugh Denny is doing graduate work at Georgia Tech in electrical engineering on a scholarship grant and is serving as a research assistant.

The two Hughs were team mates while in college and in high school. They won excellents at Bowling Green.

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Our friend **Lenore P. Ramsey**, long-time mentor and P. K. D. booster at Nebraska

State College at Wayne, reports on two alums doing well in politics and in academics. **John Kyl** ('40) of Bloomfield, Iowa, has been elected as representative from District Four of Iowa to the Congress of the United States. Dr. **Harrell F. Beck** ('42), currently of Lexington, Massachusetts, and a professor at Boston University, conducted a seminar on the Middle East from May to July, 1960. He delivered the summer commencement address at his alma mater on August 1, 1960. His brother, **David Beck**, received a master's degree at this commencement.

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Dr. **Harold Ahrendts** must be conducting a pre-law clinic at Kearney, Nebraska. He writes that, in looking over the alumni of Nebraska Zeta at Nebraska State College, it appears that a major portion of the P. K. D. alums have become active lawyers. Special Distinction holder **John Mitchell** and ex-champion debater **Jim Knapp** are practicing in Kearney; **T. K. Ford** is an attorney in Iowa; **Bob Zimmerman** is practicing law in Lincoln, Nebraska; **Jim Harding** is with the U. S. government in a legal capacity in Washington, D. C.; and Miss **Sharon Hackett** ('60) is now studying law at the University of Nebraska. Harold comments that many more names could be mentioned of Kearney P. K. D. alums who are lawyers, and that the legal profession has many debaters who got their start at Kearney.

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An organization man in action—

Bill Corbin, sponsor of Idaho Gamma at Idaho State College at Pocatello, is really on the ball. He has tried to contact all forensic alums by sending addressed, stamped postcards to be returned. He has had considerable success.

Each holiday season a mimeographed compilation of news, letters, notes, and addenda pertinent to Pi Kappa Delta and to Alpha Psi Omega is prepared and sent to all speech and drama alumni. Included in this are two important listings: one, names and addresses of those "found"; two, names of those still "lost." Sooner or later, it is hoped that all the strays will be found.

Here is a sampling of what some of the ex-Idaho Staters are doing. **Jeanne Clark Skinner** ('49) is covering Nyssa and Vale, Oregon, as a news reporter for the *Boise*

Statesman newspaper and is doing some feature writing. . . . **Ralph Swisher** ('49) is attending the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh. . . . **Pomipe Johnson** ('49) is in the executive and administrative division with the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, specifically as a methods and procedures analyst. He lives in Los Angeles, California. . . . **David F. Hubbard** ('49) is with the TV and film department of Pitluck Advertising in San Antonio, Texas. . . . **Ray J. Davis** ('49) is an associate professor at the Law School of the University of Arizona, Tucson. . . . **Charles McDevitt** ('50) is a member of the law firm of Richards, Hoga and Eberle of Boise, Idaho. He was active with the Young Republicans and is making a name for himself in the courtroom. . . . **William H. Patterson** ('51) is Director of Budget and Finance of the Metropolitan Police Department, St. Louis, Missouri. . . . **Jay R. Lowe** ('52) is principal of the Pocatello L. D. S. Seminary. He received his master's in political science from Brigham Young University in 1960. He is also a member of the Mutual Fund Brokerage Corporation in Pocatello. . . . **James M. Rupp** ('54) is Southern Regional Manager, American Research Bureau (TV ratings), Washington, D. C. He is in charge of sales and client service for 13 Southern states. Home base is Laurel, Maryland. . . . **Lloyd Guderjohn** ('57) is teaching debate, speech, and English at the Wallace High School, Idaho. . . . **Carolyn Fishburn Bradley** ('58) is active in the community of Wells, Nevada, where husband Glenn is a forest ranger on the Humboldt National Forest. . . . **John Clawson** ('58) is Assistant Manager of the Credit Department with the Idaho Bank and Trust Co. in Pocatello. . . . **Roger Walters** ('58) is coordinator of educational television at Sacramento State College. . . . **Judy Elder** ('59) is working at KID-TV, Idaho Falls, Idaho. . . . **Calvin Smith** ('60) is doing graduate work in speech with an assistantship at Southern Illinois University.

Discretion of speech is more than eloquence; and to speak agreeably with him with whom we deal is more than to speak in good words or in good order.

—Aristotle