

THE FORENSIC

OF PI KAPPA DELTA

ALFRED WESTFALL, Editor
G. W. FINLEY, Business Manager

CLIFTON CORNWELL, Associate Editor
DANA T. BURNS, Associate Editor

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Intramural Forensics: One Solution to Our Wartime Problems

Wayne N. Thompson
Bowling Green State University, Ohio Eta



Maintaining interest in forensics when traveling makes intercollegiate competition difficult, unpleasant, and sometimes impossible is a problem challenging most chapter sponsors.

The purposes of this article are to outline the program that one Pi Kappa Delta university developed to meet this situation, to summarize the methods used in promoting the program, and to make a brief evaluation of intramural forensics.

I

Possible intramural activities fall into six classes: discussions, debates and debate tournaments, speech festivals, individual contests, legislative assemblies, and speakers' bureaus. Because of space limitations, the present article will be confined to the first three.

The Extempore-Discussion Contest Series. The first semester at Bowling Green we sponsored a series of four contests in extempore speaking and group discussion. These features we found to be sound and workable:

1. Each of the four contests consisted of two stages: preliminary and final.

2. The preliminary contests, which were not open to spectators, were thirty-minute discussions with the judge, a faculty member, serving as leader.

3. The final contests were in three parts: six five-minute extempore speeches, a thirty-minute discussion with a faculty chairman, and a period for audience participation. The extempore topics were

selected and arranged so that the six speeches would provide an orderly analysis of the question for the evening.

4. In the first contest, the results of the preliminaries determined the six finalists. Thereafter, the three winners advanced to the next final, and three additional students were chosen through new preliminaries. Letting the victors continue made winning seem worthwhile and improved the quality of the public programs by insuring the continued participation of good speakers.

5. The winner of each of the four finals received a small amount in war savings stamps. Awards for the contest series were books to each of the three highest ranking contestants and war savings stamps to the first place winner. The basis for determining the outcome of the series was the total number of points earned in the finals with five points going to the first place winner, three to the second, and one point to the third.

6. The topics were as follows: "What is the best way of insuring peace for ourselves and for our children?" "Is the New Deal endangering free enterprise?" "What is the best way of dealing with strikes in time of war?" "What are the best ways of building good will between the United States and its Latin American neighbors?"

7. Six persons judged each final contest, three rating the speeches and the other three evaluating the discussion. The judges ranked all contestants in order, and the six rankings were cumulated.

In retrospect the writer feels that the extempore-discussions were valuable. Forty different students took part in one or more of the preliminaries, and the more than three hundred persons who attended the finals were attentive and interested. Among the favorable comments was that of one faculty member who said to his wife, "I guess that we have been missing something by not coming to the rest of these."

Intramural Debate Tournament. Since the general procedure for conducting a debate tournament is well known, this discussion will be limited to certain specific practices that we employed in holding a tournament for the benefit of those who, in this year of difficult transportation, were getting but little intercollegiate experience.

Some experienced debaters served as partners for novices who had no colleagues, and others entered as needed to make the same number of teams on each side. To equalize competition, veteran speakers in some instances shifted sides (for a Saturday afternoon) of the question. Announcing the tournament three weeks in advance enabled the students to eliminate all conflicting plans. As a result, the two rounds of debates for sixteen speakers were held as scheduled. The intramural tournament, we hope, was as carefully planned and drama-

tized as one involving several colleges. A general assembly at which the schedule was revealed preceded the first round, and results were withheld until a final meeting. Small awards and appropriate newspaper publicity added significance to the event.

Speech Festivals. Just as many colleges and universities have evenings set aside for intersorority songfests, so may evenings be planned for intersorority (and interfraternity) speech festivals. Some suggestions for holding such an event are as follows:

1. Hold competition in extempore speaking, interpretative reading, and festival attendance, scoring eight points for first place, five for second, three for third, and one point for fourth. The basis for judging festival attendance should be the percentage of the group present.

2. Permit each organized house group to enter one person in each individual contest, and permit unaffiliated students to qualify for the festival through preliminaries conducted by the Speech Department.

3. Make individual awards to each contest winner, whether affiliated or independent. Whenever war priorities permit, present a trophy to the organization securing the most contest points. The trophy, which should be suitably engraved, should become the permanent possession of the first organization to win it three times.

Obviously the speech festival cannot be evaluated before it has been tried. The above principles, which appear to be sound, are the ones that we hope to put into practice. We are purposely restricting the events to the two in which women students have shown the most interest, but we hope to add other contests in future years.

II

Planning an intramural forensic program is not enough; the program must be sold to the students.

Some human desires that one may try to energize in securing participants are these: self-improvement or the desire to gain the educational values inherent in such contests; self-advancement or the desire to become an intercollegiate competitor by doing good intramural work; self-importance, satisfied, in part, by appearing before a fairly large audience in a contest conducted with some ceremony and dignity; self-respect or the desire to show that one can succeed in diverse activities; adventure or the desire to enter different types of forensic events; prestige gained through participating, winning, and receiving publicity; loyalty or the desire to promote the welfare of the organization to which one belongs; altruism or the desire of veteran debaters to make intramurals successful, thereby helping all who participate.

Overcoming inertia is the primary problem in motivating students

to enter intramural activities. At Bowling Green we used these media in promoting each of the extempore-discussions: mimeographed information mailed to a selected list of about 150 students; letters to fraternity, sorority, and open-house presidents; notices on bulletin boards; advance stories in the student newspaper; oral announcements by one of the V-12 officers to his men; announcements to classes; personal contacts and telephone calls culminating in the question "Shall I put your name down?"

Wartime difficulties have made intramural forensics a necessity for the healthy survival of extracurricular public speaking; certain values in the intramural program, however, should result in its continuance after the war.

AN UNBROKEN RECORD OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE

Standing before a microphone in the studio of WHUB were two members of the Tennessee Tech chapter of Pi Kappa Delta. These students, anxious and impatient, but very confident and capable, were waiting to present the first in a series of Red Cross radio programs. This was a new and exciting experience for them. Soon each member of the chapter was to participate. This program was a skit which showed the radio audience the need of the Red Cross drive and how and where the funds were to be used. This first program was presented on February 23, 1943.

Since this date, more than one year ago, the members of Pi Kappa Delta have given a weekly radio program for the local chapter of the Red Cross. These fifteen-minute programs consist of skits, individual discussions, interviews, and forum groups, which require as many as five persons.

Through the participation on the Red Cross radio programs, three Tennessee Delta members have received employment in radio stations. Two members of the WHUB radio station are inactive members of Pi Kappa Delta—Grady Lemmons, the station director, and Mary John Lee, an announcer. One staff member, Joe Golden, an announcer, is an active member.

Editing, arranging, and rehearsing a weekly radio program for a chapter of our size is no small task, but the Tennessee Delta members feel that they are amply repaid for any effort they put into the project. In the first place, all who participate have the satisfaction of knowing that they are making a real patriotic contribution. They also know that they are getting some excellent radio experience. Finally, they are becoming familiar with the work and activities of a great organization—the American Red Cross.

PEGGY POINTER, Tennessee Delta.

MAJOR GENERAL RALPH C. SMITH

The only general who wears a Pi Kappa Delta key, as far as we know, is Major General Ralph C. Smith, who commanded the 27th Division in the recent invasions of the Marshall Islands.

General Smith attended Colorado State College, graduating in 1917. He debated the question of compulsory military service with Oklahoma Aggies. General Smith holds the 163rd membership card issued by the society and key no. 61.

While in college General Smith entered Battery A of the National Guards. He was commissioned in November of that year. In 1917 he served on the Mexican border. In 1917 he went to France with the First Division. He was wounded in the Argonne, and later served in the army of occupation at Coblenz.

After the war he was an instructor at West Point, at Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia; and at General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. In 1935 he graduated from the Army War College in Washington. He took the course at L'Ecole de Guerre in Paris, France. He served as Chief of operations branch, military intelligence division, the War Department General Staff, in 1938. In 1940 he was made executive officer of the military intelligence division.

In 1942 he was made a Brigadier General and assigned to the 76th Division. He was commissioned Major General in the fall of 1942 and sent overseas in command of the 27th Division. This division participated in the invasion of the Marshalls and the action at Tarawa.

"I didn't know I was going to be a soldier when I entered debating," said General Smith. "But forensics has proved to be excellent training for what I have been doing in the army."



MAJ. GEN. RALPH C. SMITH

President's Page

"Forensics suspended for the duration"—thus reads the report from a few of our Pi Kappa Delta chapters. If such reports continue to be received from an increasing number of chapters, we will be facing the death-knell of Pi Kappa Delta. Never before in the history of the world was free speech as necessary as it is today. Our colleges and universities have the definite obligation to produce men and women who can think and express themselves clearly in every situation. Our speech and forensic programs have a most important function to perform in achieving that objective. Certainly in the time of greatest need for the type of training which we help to provide, we are not justified in "suspending activities for the duration."

In contrast with the warning signal voiced in the above-quoted report, a most encouraging sign for the future of Pi Kappa Delta is observed in the report of one of our women debate coaches as she writes in the last issue of THE FORENSIC: "Although we have lost our old members to the army, we plan to keep functioning during the war. I cannot bear the idea of not having an active chapter of Pi Kappa Delta on the Georgetown campus." And four or six new members will be added to that chapter roll even though the school year opened with only one active member besides the debate coach. Too, we have sufficient reason to be optimistic about the future of Pi Kappa Delta from Secretary Finley's recent report that more new membership applications have been sent to his office during the current school year than were sent by the corresponding time last year. North Central College, Illinois Iota, surpassed last year's maximum of thirteen by sending in membership blanks for eighteen new members.

May we also keep in mind that Pi Kappa Delta's opportunities for service are particularly extensive in this war period. An excellent example is the splendid success of the Kansas Zeta Chapter at Emporia Teachers in conducting a drive which sold over \$100,000 in War Bonds during the Third War Loan campaign last fall. This chapter staged a considerable variety of programs in its successful campaign.

As this is the season of the year in which the Provincial conventions are convening, I hereby send you my most cordial greetings and well wishes for a profitable and pleasant convention. I commend to each of you a careful study of Professor Hohn's excellent article in the last issue of THE FORENSIC on "The Function of the Province in Pi Kappa Delta." Let's accept this challenge and make each Province a tremendous power in assisting Pi Kappa Delta.

DESPITE LOSSES, SETON HILL CARRIES ON

The Seton Hill Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta has participated in varied forensic activities despite war restrictions.

The district contest under the auspices of the American Council of Education and part of the national competition sponsored this year by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs was held February 6 at Seton Hill. By vote of a faculty board of judges, Miss Martha Halleran and Miss Anna Marie Chirico, two Seton debaters were chosen to represent the college in the regional contest sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, at which students from the University of Pittsburgh, Mount Mercy College, Duquesne University and Carnegie School of Technology participated. She was awarded a prize of twenty dollars by the Pittsburgh Office of Inter-American Affairs.

On February 12, thirteen Seton debaters entered a tournament at Mount Mercy College, Pittsburgh to discuss the Pi Kappa Delta question. Both experienced and inexperienced teams participated.

In addition to Round Table discussions and debating conferences, members of the team have discussed such contemporary problems as *Nationalism in the Far East*, *College Women and the War*, *College Students and Summer Work* and *Psychology and the War* over Station WHJB in Greensburg. This regular series of broadcasts occurring every week insure public speaking experience for debaters and students of speech as well as intelligent and varied programs for the listening public.

Our local chapter feels the loss of two of our faculty advisers in debates and speech, Captain Buchanan Rollit who is serving with the Canadian Army in London, and Major Paul Mahady serving in the Quartermaster Corps of the United States Army in this country. Professor Paul Kromer, of the Department of History and a member of Pi Kappa Delta is now assisting our coach in carrying on the work.



PANEL DISCUSSION ON INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Seton Hill College, February 6, 1944

Speakers—Left to Right around table: Anna Marie Chirico, Mechtild Ackermann, Jacqueline Moyer, Consuelo del Campo, Professor Paul Kromer, Rita Keenan, Florence Sabitini, Martha Halleran and Jacqueline Spagnol.

EDITOR'S PERSONAL PAGE

Where inconsistencies cease from troubling and logic is at rest

The bore was a man of few words, but he used them over and over.

President Roosevelt lost the debate when he went on the defensive. Senator Barkley vehemently denied that he had ever been a party to enacting legislation to benefit the greedy at the expense of the needy. The President had to explain that he did not mean to question the honor or the motives of the members of the Congress. I have seen the same thing happen on the debate platform time after time. A cool debater strikes at the weak statement in his opponent's argument. The speaker has to explain what he meant and what he did not mean. And he has lost the debate. It does not matter whether it is in Washington or on the local campus.

So all my best is dressing old words anew,
Spending again what is already spent.

—*Shakespeare.*

“. . . applying myself also to logic, began to argue apace. I was so much in love with dispute, that I stopped passengers, known or unknown, and proposed arguments to them; and sometimes meeting with Hibernian geniuses, who were very glad of the occasion, it was a good jest to see us dispute; by our extravagant gestures, grimace, contortions, our eyes full of fury; and our mouths full of foam, one would have taken us for bedlamites rather than philosophers.”

—*Le Sage, The Adventures of Gil Blas of Santillane.*

Still another lawyer comes up to the rostrum and this man pours forth a stream of language such as I have never heard before in my life. He is as mad as a fighting cock. He yells at the judge, at the scribe, at me, at the accused women, a harsh, never-ending stream of Arabic words, full of raucous consonants and harsh aspirations. He never stops for breath and, as he raves and splutters and waves his arms like a man fighting a swarm of hornets, he comes closer and closer to the judge, on the theory, I presume, that the nearer he comes the greater weight his argument carries. Finally the scribe has to ask him to step back a little as he is “causing it to rain on the court documents.”—*Pierre Van Paassen, Days of Our Years.*

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OCCUPATIONAL STIGMATA

And almost thence my nature is subdu'd
To what it works in, like the dyer's hand.

Sonnet 111, Shakespeare.

The other night I listened to Allen Michie hold a capacity audience in wrapt attention for an hour and twenty minutes while he discussed "The Strategy of Victory." Allen Michie is one of the roving editors of the *Reader's Digest*. At twenty-eight he has already established himself as the author of four widely read war books, reporter, and lecturer. He was at Dunkerque, Pearl Harbor, in Greece, on Crete, and followed the fighting along the Mediterranean. As I followed his address, I could not help but note the technique of the debater. There were the analysis and definitions of the first affirmative speaker, the outline of the plan, the refutation of anticipated objections.

When he finished, I said, "Didn't you debate when you were in college?"

In reply he pulled out his watch from which dangled Pi Kappa Delta Key 9,232. "I debated under Prof. Boody at Ripon college. The training I received there has helped me to analyze, to test facts, to organize, to reason logically. In reporting, speaking, or writing my forensic training comes in handy."

In Congress, in the Army, in the pulpit, in educational circles you may see them, former college debaters, still bearing the marks of their training in their passionate devotion to the truth, in the logical orderly procedure of their thinking, in their forceful presentation, in their ability to organize what they have to say.

PROVINCE OF THE PACIFIC

The Province of the Pacific held its tournament January 28-9 at the University of California at Los Angeles. The following colleges sent representatives: Redlands, California Institute of Technology, College of the Pacific, George Pepperdine, and College of Idaho.

The results of the various contests were as follows:

Debate: Men's: Emmett Long and Frank Cope, Pepperdine, first; Warren Christopher and Robert Cathcart, Redlands, second.

Women's: Juliette Vinocur and Juliana Ray, Redlands. Marjorie Sewell and Eunice Helper, Pepperdine.

Oratory: Men: Reginald Armstrong and Robert Feinerman, both U. C. L. A.

Women: Wardean Rippey, Redlands; Patricia Corwin, College of the Pacific.

Extempore: Men: Emmett Long, Pepperdine; Leon Trilling, Cal. Tech.

Women: Barbara Merrill, Redlands; Eunice Helper, Pepperdine.

Impromptu: Men: Myrick Land, U. C. L. A.; Robert Cathcart, Redlands.

Women: Eunice Helper, Pepperdine; Juliette Vinocur, Redlands.

Interpretation: Juliana Ray, Redlands; Virginia Rice, Pepperdine.

Because distance made it difficult for the northern chapters to attend, they will hold a tournament in conjunction with the Linfield, Oregon, tournament, March 13-15.—*Batsell Barrett Baxter.*

Ann Manning and Reba Clair Graham were selected to represent Southwest Texas Teachers in the Inter-American Discussion contest. They were the survivors from a field of a hundred twenty-five. The chapter entertained a group of University of Texas students for a discussion on Inter-American problems and a debate on Western Hemisphere union. These subjects are of vital interest to these people along the Rio Grande. Local students recently sold \$30,000 worth of bonds at the San Marcos Army Air Forces Navigation School.—*P. Merville Larson.*

Audrey Schulz, Cora Lane Harris, Mary Louise Collins, and Dr. Forrest H. Rose represented Southeast Teachers, Missouri Iota, at the Normal, Illinois Eta, tournament January 14. The debaters were in the inexperienced division.—*The Capaha Arrow.*

Normal University plans to be represented by two teams at the University of Nebraska Debate and Discussion Tournament February 25-26.—*F. L. D. Holmes.*

DIRECTORY OF PROVINCE MEETINGS FOR 1944

1. Province of the Plains; McPherson College, McPherson, Kansas, March 30, 31, and April 1.
 2. Province of Missouri: Northeast State Teachers, Kirksville, Missouri, March 24-25.
 3. Province of Illinois: Northern State Teachers, DeKalb, Illinois, March 24-25.
 4. Province of the Pacific: Pepperdine College, Los Angeles, January 28-29.
 5. Province of the Sioux: South Dakota State, Brookings, March
 6. Province of the Lower Mississippi: Sam Houston College, Huntsville, Texas, April 21-22.
 7. Province of the Lakes: Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, March 25-25.
 8. Province of the Upper Mississippi: Gustavus Adolphus College, April 8.
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Dr. Verton M. Queener, who so successfully conducted the forensic work at Maryville, Tennessee Alpha, is in government service in Washington, D. C. Prof. A. F. Pieper, the freshman coach, who succeeded him, is now a lieutenant in the Marines. We are trying to keep alive the deep interest in forensics. We have sponsored a contest on the National Discussion Question.—*David H. Briggs.*

Augustana, South Dakota Eta, held an invitation practice tournament January 15. Some forty contestants participated. They represented Yankton, University of South Dakota, State College, Eastern Normal, Southern Normal, Sioux Falls, Dakota Wesleyan, and the home school.

On January 8, in the midst of a Kansas blizzard, McPherson College held an invitation debate tournament. It was attended by twenty-two teams from eight colleges in two states. Southwestern, Kansas Delta, came through with two undefeated teams; Nebraska Wesleyan, with one.

Dr. Strawn who has been assisting with forensics at Kearney, Nebraska Zeta, joined the Navy February 10, as Lieutenant, second grade.

The Florida State Debate Tournament was held at John B. Stetson University, February 4-5. Attendance was down fifty per cent.

Damarise C. Kitch is chairman of the Speech Department of Doane College, Crete, Nebraska.

The Oregon state Peace oratorical contest was held February 23.

CALIFORNIA NOTES

The debate season in California has been proceeding according to plans made early in the season at a meeting held at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Three tournaments were planned. The first was held November 26-27 at Fresno State College. About thirty teams from Northern and Southern California were present and contests in oratory, extempore and impromptu speaking, and interpretative reading were held. The chief point winners were U. S. C., Redlands, Pepperdine, and College of Pacific. U. C. L. A. won the men's debate and the sweepstakes, with Redlands second.

The second tournament was held January 28-29 at U. C. L. A. At this meet all contestants present except from College of Pacific and College of Idaho were from Southern California. Sweepstakes points were taken by Redlands, with U. S. C. and Pepperdine extremely close second and third. The men's debate was won by Pepperdine and the women's debate by Redlands.

At this tournament a Pi Kappa Delta meet or province tournament was held within the larger tournament. Redlands led in points, with Pepperdine second and U. C. L. A. third. The Pi Kappa Delta colleges competing were: Redlands, U. C. L. A., Pepperdine, Caltech, College of Pacific, and College of Idaho.

The third tournament is still to be held and is scheduled for April 7-8 at the University of Southern California. At this meet the debate subject will change from the national college question to the national high school subject: Resolved that the United States should join in reconstituting the League of Nations. Contests in oratory, extempore, and impromptu speaking and possibly in interpretation will be held.

Prof. Owen P. McElmeel, formerly of the College of St. Thomas and host of the last Pi Kappa Delta National Convention, is now director of debate at Loyola University, Los Angeles. He appeared at the U. C. L. A. tournament and helped with the judging. He plans to get teams ready for the next tournament.

In Southern California, the colleges have met the difficulty of debaters leaving for government service at the end of each term, and consequently the squads at each college have grown smaller and smaller. The spring tournament still to come may be the last one it will be possible to conduct, unless new debaters arise to take the place of those leaving. High school debating, upon which college debating relies for new recruits, is decreasing rapidly in Southern California. The reason seems to be that the coaches are all gone to war or into defense work or other more lucrative jobs.

For the second annual occasion a debate team from the University

of Southern California journeyed to Redlands on one of the rainiest days of the year to meet a team from Redlands in a debate for publication in the UNIVERSITY DEBATERS ANNUAL. The subject used this year was the national high school question. Representing U. S. C. on the affirmative were: John Tice and Robert Meyer. On the negative Robert Cathcart and Warren Christopher appeared for Redlands. Meyer and Cathcart probably took part in their last college debate on this occasion as their V-12 course is completed.

Cathcart was formerly at Pepperdine and came to Redlands in the Naval V-12 unit. Meyer is a Marine at U. S. C. in the V-12.

Prof. J. H. Baccus of Redlands, Editor of WESTERN SPEECH, went to Denver, Colorado, to take part in the University of Denver Speech Meeting of February 17-19. The eastern section of the Western Association of Teachers of Speech was scheduled to meet in connection with the annual meet at the University of Denver. The Southern-Western section will meet at Los Angeles at U. S. C. in connection with the tournament to be held there April 7-8. The Northern section is meeting at Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon, in connection with the annual Linfield tournament to be held this year March 16-18. The above plans are the Western Association solution to the transportation and hotel difficulties the war has brought to the West. Sectional meetings, if supported, will tide the Association over until the Post War period.

There are only two other institutions within three hundred miles of College of Pacific, California Delta, which are participating in forensics. Through generous student body support, our small squad will attend both the northern and southern provincial tournaments. I offer these observations for what they are worth: 1. At the recent Provincial at Los Angeles there were more men than women. Cal. Tech, alone entered ten men's teams. 2. The calibre of debating is not up to the standard of last year; there is a greater tendency to use more verbalisms and less evidence. 3. The colleges of the Pacific provinces feel that tournament activity is worth while and would support a national tournament at the very earliest opportunity.—*Ed. Betz.*

Although College of Idaho has no experienced debaters this year, we sent a team to the Provincial at Los Angeles and expect to send a couple to the Linville tournament.—*Erwin H. Schwiebert.*

Representatives from six colleges met in the Eastern Ohio Student Congress at Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio Alpha, January 22.—*Bee Gee News.*

ALABAMA BETA NEWS

No home schedule! No tours! No State tournaments! But Alabama Beta plans to "muddle through" with a fairly good season. A group of eight contestants will be entered in the Southern Association of Teachers of Speech Tournament to be held at Jackson, Mississippi; a group of at least four will be entered in the Grand Eastern Tournament to be held in Charlotte, N. C.; and these same four will enter the Southeastern Provincial Tournament which will be held in Charlotte along with the Grand Eastern. Plans for the Provincial are that the preliminary contests will be held as separate adjuncts of the Grand Eastern with finals in all contests being held on Saturday, April 8, after the Grand Eastern. This will give the Provincial tournament a degree of separateness.

At present it appears that seven or eight chapters of the Province will participate in the Provincial Tournament. While this is not as good a showing as we would like to make, it nevertheless does enable us to have a tournament, and the Provincial officers are determined to have that tournament even if only two Chapters enter.

At least one campus debate between our own teams will be held, and some radio debates and discussions have also been arranged. At least three of the squad will qualify as new Pi Kappa Delta members.

KENTUCKY ALPHA

At the present time we have four people ready for membership in Pi Kappa Delta; these students have been giving speeches according to the new regulations for membership; and they have discussed the background of the International Police question or have participated in the discussion contest on "Cooperation for Permanent Peace among the American Republics."

On February 23, two of the students, Durwood Weldon and Mary Newman will speak at the Kiwanis Club on some phase of the Inter-American Cooperation.

As yet we have had no debates; but we are discussing the background reading for some, for which we hope to get dates in March.

Southwestern, Texas Alpha, won ten out of thirteen debates at the Texas Kappa tournament, January 21-22, and first place in after-dinner, extempore, and radio speaking. On February 8, it held a non-decision assembly debate with a team from the University of Texas. The chapter has just sent in three applications for the degree of special distinction; three for honor, and three for new members.—*Angus Springer.*

ILLINOIS XI CHAPTER GOING STRONG

The Illinois Xi Chapter has participated in three forensic events thus far this season: in the University of Iowa Discussion and Debate Conference in December, in the Illinois State Normal University Tournament in January, and in the invitational Debate and Discussion Tournament sponsored by Wisconsin Epsilon at Whitewater, Wisconsin, in February. The Illinois Xi representatives won the permanent possession of the sweepstakes trophy at the Whitewater Tournament, having previously won it in 1939 and 1940. By winning 9 out of 10 debates the Illinois Xi debaters also won the trophy for the senior division. In addition Miss Ruth Harriett Koch won the first-place trophy in the discussion contest, and also won a medal for the most effective debater in the senior division.

The Illinois Xi chapter will also be represented in the invitational debate and discussion conference at the University of Nebraska, and will participate in debate, oratory, and extempore speaking at the Illinois State League Conference and in similar events in the Illinois Provincial Convention.

Congressman Lyle H. Boren, East Central Teachers, Oklahoma Eta, was pictured in the news the other day with three of his colleagues urging President Roosevelt to rescind his order that any member of Congress who joined the armed forces would have to resign. These members wished to serve in our armed forces with the right to return to Congress when the war was over without losing their seniority rights on committees and appointments. Congressman Boren went to Washington in 1937 as the youngest member of Congress.

Capt. O. W. Rush, former debate coach at Northwestern Teachers, Oklahoma Delta, writes that he is now stationed in China, at the end of the longest communication line in the world. "Your letter was the first mail that has come through for some time. The Japs are on three sides of us and the Himalayas behind. I shall not wander far. The Jap comes over and tries to blast us out every now and then. We sold scrap iron to him, but he drops it on us free. Possibly it was a good business deal."

Hamline, Minnesota Delta, held its Randall Prize Oratorical contest February 4. Jeanette McDonald, the only Pi Kappa Delta member left in the student body, won first. Charles Latvala was second. These two will represent Hamline in the State Oratorical contest at Carleton, March 10.—*Charles Templer.*

Seattle Pacific, Washington Beta, is sponsoring a tournament February 25-26.

During the past calendar year Kent debaters have not finished lower than third in any tournament competition. Beginning with a first in the Pittsburgh College Forum in January, 1943, and continuing with another first in the 1944 tournament of the same forum, the Ohio Iota speakers have won, placed third in the Manchester tournament, second in the Ohio conference, and first in both men and women's debate in the Provincial. We were hosts to eight schools in the Buckeye tournament February 19. Alice O'Sickey is a lieutenant in the WAC. The Ohio conference is still operating a complete program and the Northeast Ohio Debate Conference has been able to increase its program by this year adding a legislative assembly.—*James N. Holm.*

The Ninth Annual Whitewater Debate Tournament and Discussion Contest was held February 11-12, with representatives from eleven colleges competing. Ruth Harriett Koch, Augustana, won the mixed extempore. Frances Horner of Carroll and Janes Lewis of Eau Claire were second and third. Augustana won the senior men's debate; Dekalb the junior. Wheaton and Mount Mary were second and third in the senior division; Mount Mary was second in the junior division with Eau Claire and the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee tied for third.

The forensic picture in Tennessee is none too good this year. The state and Smoky Mountains tournaments have fallen through. Tennessee Polytechnic and Carson and Newman are the only colleges participating as far as I can learn. We participated in the Dixie tournament at Charlotte, winning ten out of fourteen debates. We plan to enter the Grand Eastern in April. I don't believe we shall discontinue forensics here at Tennessee Epsilon as long as the school carries on unless we simply can't get debates scheduled.—*John A. Hood.*

Frederick Ralph of Central Michigan College won the State Extempore Contest. Former members of the Michigan Theta chapter are widely scattered. Hi Wood is in China. Emery Freeman is in England. Ann Teel who helped with the women's debate tournament at the 1941 provincial is a WAC in North Africa.—*Wilbur E. Moore.*

We have received greetings recently for our Whitewater, Wisconsin Epsilon, tournament from men in Panama, Hawaii, England, North Africa, and from numerous posts throughout the United States. We have 37 now in service from the Forensic Association, out of a total of 713 from this college.—*E. H. Evans.*

Prof. George McCarty, South Dakota State, spoke before a meeting of the Western Illinois Teachers Institute early in February.

Ouachita debaters participated in two tournaments early in December, the Mid-South held on their own campus and the Millsaps Tournament at Jackson, Mississippi. Twenty-three teams from four states were in attendance in the former and thirteen teams from four states in the latter. Ouachita's senior men's team composed of William Kersh and Daniel Grant, both juniors, placed first in their division in both tournaments. A team of Ouachita freshmen, Carolyn Blenden and Ben Gaston, placed first in the Battle Royal division for inexperienced debaters in Mid-South and first in the Junior Division at Millsaps. Misses Edna Mae Pugsley and Alma Mae Ward, Ouachita sophomores, placed first in the Junior Women's debate in the Mid-South. The Mid-South this year followed the policy of former years in being limited wholly to competition in debate. There were several individual contests in the Millsaps meet all of which were entered by comparatively large groups.—*R. C. Daily.*

To economize on transportation, three forensic events have been crowded into the last week of March at McPherson. On Wednesday evening, March 29, Kansas Omicron entertains the Kansas Intercollegiate Peace Oratorical Contest. During the day of Thursday, the men's and women's tournaments of the Kansas Intercollegiate Debating League will be held. Thursday evening, March 30, Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1 have been set aside for the Convention and Tournaments of the Province of the Plains. More than half of the chapters of the Province are making plans to attend and enter contests in debate, extempore, oratory and discussion.

Upton S. Palmer, Redlands 1928, recently dropped in at the Alma Mater to visit with his old debate coach, E. R. Nichols, and others. Palmer is a second lieutenant in the Army Aviation division and is stationed at the Santa Ana, California, air base. He is residing in Laguna Beach. Palmer is on leave from Bowling Green College, Ohio, where he was professor of public speaking and debate coach.

Kansas Omicron of McPherson took four teams of men and four teams of women to the Bethel College Invitation Debate Tournament on December 4, 1943. Men No. 1, Wayne Geisert and Wayne Parris, and women No. 1, Maxine Reuhlen and Blanche Geisert, were undefeated in five rounds.

The new debate coach at McPherson College is Prof. James M. Berkebile, replacing Dr. Desmond W. Bittinger, who assumed his new duties as Editor of the *Gospel Messenger* at Elgin, Illinois, late in January. Professor Berkebile is an applicant for membership in PKD. His squad has six members now holding or eligible for Special Distinction.

The Twelfth Annual Invitational Debate Tournament at Normal University, Illinois Eta, was held January 14-15. There were two divisions; a decision tournament for experienced teams, and a no-decision contest for the inexperienced. In the experienced group eleven colleges were represented by twenty-six teams. Jane Beekman and Frances Horner, Carroll, Wisconsin Beta, came through undefeated. Augustana, Wheaton, and Loyola were tied for second. There were thirteen teams in the lower division. A/S James Koch, Indiana State of Terre Haute, ranked first among the fourteen in the oratorical contest. Patricia Weldon was first among the eighteen in the discussion contest. The Illinois Intercollegiate Debate League will hold its ninth annual debate tournament in conjunction with the Illinois Intercollegiate oratorical contest at Bradley Polytechnic, Illinois Delta, March 10-11.—*F. L. D. Holmes.*

Nebraska Wesleyan is carrying on a full forensic program. It began with the Omaha tournament in December, and continued with the McPherson Economy tournament in January, and the Red River Valley meet in February. Also scheduled are The University of Nebraska conference February 25-26; the Savage Forensic at Durant, Oklahoma, March 9-11; the Nebraska state at Kearney, March 30-April 1; and the Province of the Plains at McPherson about the same time. Clara Jo Hopkins and Everett Miles will represent the college in the state oratorical contests. Dolores Coulter will be the Peace orator.—*Clara Jo Hopkins.*

The Twelfth Annual Rocky Mountain Speech Conference was held at the University of Denver, February 15-17. More than twenty students from seven colleges participated in the college section. They represented Oregon State, Montana State, Utah University, Nebraska University, Coe, Colorado State, and Denver. There were discussion progressions on the general subject, Should the United States Advocate some form of International Police Power for the Post-War Era? The conference was combined with the meeting of the eastern division of the Western Association of Teachers of Speech.

Norbert Dreiling, a freshman at Hays Teachers, Kansas Nu, won the annual state oratorical contests sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas at Topeka, January 28. At the banquet of the association he was awarded a copy of Bartlett's "*Familiar Quotations*" by Governor Andrew Schoeppel. The book was autographed by the Governor and Senator Capper.

Corporal Clifton Cornwell, Jr., Missouri Theta, was a member of the rescue squad which helped bring out of the mountain the squad of a wrecked B-17, near Las Vegas, Nevada.—*Teachers College Index.*

The Minnesota Zeta chapter, Concordia College, sponsored the Eleventh Annual Red River Valley Forensic Tournament on February 4-5. Nine colleges from four states sent sixteen debate teams—nine of them men's—nine orators, and twelve extempore speakers. This was the smallest entry list in eleven years. The majority of the men were in uniform. Although a large proportion of the speakers were beginners, there were some veterans. There is not another tournament within eight hundred miles. The success of this one has justified plans for another one next year.—*Peter Anderson.*

The Fourteenth annual Linfield, Oregon Alpha, tournament will be held March 13-15. This is one of the three oldest tournaments in the country. The northern division of the Western Association of Teachers of Speech will meet in Salem at the same time. The Linfield tournament will be run in three divisions, upper, lower, and one man style. There will be competition in oratory, debate, extempore, impromptu, after dinner speaking, interpretative reading, and speech of occasion. The Old Line state oratorical contests will be held in March.

The debate career of Apprentice Seamen John Battistoni and Robert King will stretch from coast to coast when they attend the South Atlantic Forensic Tournament March 2-4. They began their college debating at Bakersfield Junior College, California; they were transferred to Westminster, Fulton, Missouri. Ordinarily V-12 trainees have only 48 hour leave, but Battistoni and King will take advantage of the break between terms to attend Lenoir Rhyne's tournament at Hickory, North Carolina.—*John W. Randolph.*

Park, Kirksville Teachers, Cape Girardeau Teachers, and Wentworth Military Academy met at Westminster, Missouri Alpha, February 18-19 for a discussion-debate meet. There were four rounds of debate with an hour between debates for a full analysis and criticism by the judge. At the conclusion of the debates there was a forum on the question with the coaches constituting the panel.

Prof. Pelsma of Pittsburg Teachers, Kansas Theta, writes that forensics there have reached an all time low. Last fall the college entered four debaters in the McPherson tournament. In February it entered two in the St. John's junior college tournament. There were seven teams, three of them from the home town. That ends debate. There are no orators or extempore speakers.

A debate win brought victory to the Philadelphia society in the 83rd annual contest with the Wrightonia Society at Illinois Normal University. The competition included contests in music and speech.—*The Vidette.*

Washington Gamma's forensic group has found itself limited in transportation this year and as a result its program has not been extensive. A smaller team of fifteen, in place of the usual thirty, has aided in curtailing Coach Veatch's debating plans. Eight debates in a triangular series with Northern Idaho Teachers, Linfield, and WSC; sixteen with Whitman College, U. of Idaho, and WSC; and sixteen in the Inland Empire tournament between Northern Idaho Teachers College, U. of Idaho, and WSC add up to a total of forty debates for Washington Gamma thus far with approximately four more tournaments in the offing. Janice Loschen, Junior College debater, was one of two college speakers selected to speak at the fourth annual law enforcement conference on the causes and cures of juvenile delinquency. Doris Pierson, Varsity debater, was the WSC representative at the National Discussion Contest on Inter-American Affairs.

Twenty Linfield, Oregon Alpha, students took part in the 4th War Loan drive. They gave more than fifty five-minute talks before civic groups. The County chairman listed them as one of the strongest factors in putting the drive way over its quota. Twenty-five are now preparing for work in the Red Cross drive.—*Roy Mahaffey.*

Pvt. Waldo Braden, former coach at Iowa Wesleyan, writes that he is now stationed at Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming. Mrs. Braden is handling his forensic work. The Iowa Alpha chapter is attempting only victory speaking, but the "victory speakers have met an enthusiastic reception in the community."

The Heidelberg, Ohio Beta, girls tied with Ohio University for first place in the Ohio Women's State Tournament at Capital University, Columbus. Although there are no men in the chapter at present, there are men on the campus who are preparing to qualify for membership.—*Jean Young.*

Northern Teachers, Illinois Pi, has received more requests from local organizations for panel discussion and debates than in pre-war days.—*The Northern Illinois.*

The Southwest Teachers, Texas Lambda, entertained visiting University of Texas debaters in a series of contests February 4.—*The College Star.*

Bowling Green, Ohio Eta, tied with Western Michigan College of Education for first place in the tournament at the latter institution January 22.

Eighteen teams participated in the twelfth annual high school debate tournament January 21.—*College Chips.*

CASUALTIES

Nebraska Teachers at Wayne, the Iota chapter, has no debaters. We have a few coming on from the prep schools if Uncle Sam and the school boards will allow them to attend college. We shall enter one orator in the Nebraska intercollegiate Forensic Association tournament in March.—*Lenore P. Ramsey.*

Chadron State Teachers, Nebraska Eta, has decided to remain inactive in forensics for the duration.—*Wiley G. Brooks, President.*

Oklahoma College for Women has given up intercollegiate contests. Our girls are making a few speeches in Bond Drives and giving readings and skits to entertain soldiers. For the latter purpose musicians are more popular than speakers.—*Clarice Tatman.*

Sorry, but I am unable to give you any worth while information on debating here at Carbondale, Illinois Upsilon. At present we are in a transitional stage. We have lost our coach and are uncertain as to future plans.—*Douglas Lawson.*

Franklin, Indiana Alpha, has been obliged to forego debate for the past two years. This was made necessary because of the dearth of men and the lack of interest among the women. Oratory however has simmered. We recently won second in the women's division of the state oratorical contest. This is the only forensic activity of the college.—*J. Daniel Kocher.*

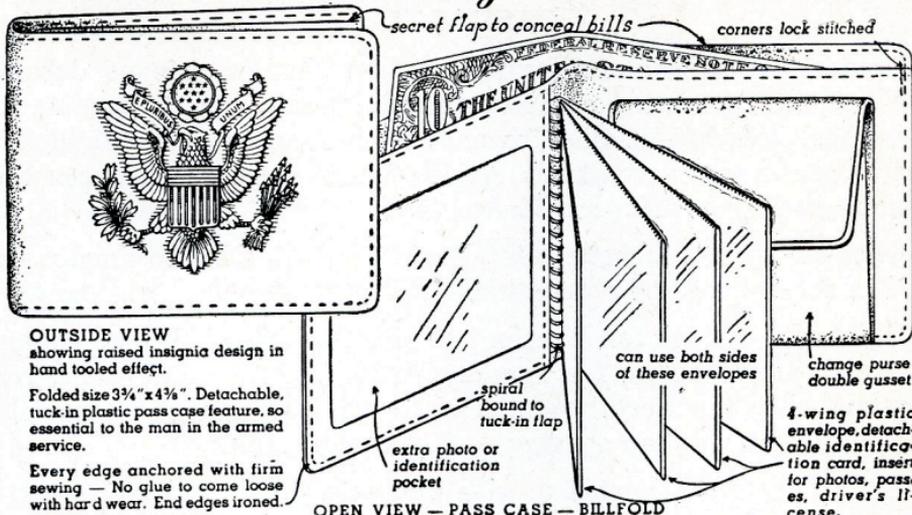
A very large A. S. T. P. program at Ripon, Wisconsin Alpha, has resulted in the suspension of our intercollegiate debate activity. Along with seven other colleges we shall participate in the Mid-West Student Senate which will be held in the Wisconsin State Capitol March 10-11. The National Forensic League, of which I am secretary faces the same problem the colleges face. Chapters are inactive and others will become so as the draft takes our instructors. We are trying to carry out as complete a program as common sense will allow. By adapting to circumstances, we hope to survive the war without too great injury.—*Bruno E. Jacob.*

Henderson, Arkansas Alpha, lost all Pi Kappa Delta men before the close of last year. We couldn't even enter the state tournament.—*Otis Whaley.*

It has proved impossible to send teams from Western State, Colorado Gamma, to any debate meet. Coach Ralph Holly was drafted in 1942. Dr. Alan Swallow then took over, but the Army took him too. We are having intramural debates, but for women only.

Mrs. L. L. Carlisle reported that there would be no debating this year at Kansas Wesleyan.

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