

THIRTIETH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIRST BUSINESS MEETING

The first business meeting of the Thirtieth Biennial Convention of Pi Kappa Delta was called to order by President Evan Ulrey at 8:15 PM, Friday, March 18, 1977.

Following the national anthem with Jim Clymer at the organ, the pledge of allegiance was led by Tana Johnson. The invocation was given by John Baird. President Philip Phibbs of the University of Puget Sound, a former Pi Kappa Delta member, gave very generous welcome remarks on behalf of the five sponsoring institutions.

The President ordered the roll call, to which ninety-seven chapters responded.

The President expressed thanks on behalf of Pi Kappa Delta to the five sponsoring institutions' representatives: University of Puget Sound, Seattle Pacific University, St. Martin's College, Western Washington State College, and Pacific Lutheran University.

A necrology service, prepared and read by H. Francis Short, was read in memory of George Pflaum, deceased in January of 1977. This was ordered to be printed in the *May Forensic*.

General announcements were made by members of the National Council and committee members of a housekeeping nature. Jack Starr, chairman of the Constitutional Revision Committee, read and made the motion to adopt the amendment affecting Article V, Division C, 2, Paragraph 1, of the Constitution as mandated by the 1975 Convention. Since the amendment had been paraphrased to some extent, the motion was declared out of order and so ruled.

Vice-President James DeMoux, assisted by President Ulrey, presented four charters to the following new chapters: University of Arkansas — Fayetteville, Shippensburg State College, Wilkes College, and Glassboro State College.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

SECOND BUSINESS MEETING

The second business meeting of the Thirtieth Biennial Convention of Pi Kappa Delta was called to order at 7:45 PM on Sunday, March 20, 1977, by President Evan Ulrey.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee, Fred Goodwin, described the procedures and put in nomination the candidates for president and vice-president. Prior to the roll call he yielded the floor to Vice-President James B. DeMoux who for personal reasons declined to be a candidate for any office on the Council at this time. The President then ordered the roll call of chapters for the purpose of balloting for the office of president and vice-president.

Bob Derryberry reported for the Site Selection Committee and following the report, which was presented in a dramatic way accompanied by organ music, made the following motion: "That the 1979 Convention of Pi Kappa Delta be held in St. Louis, Missouri, the exact site to be selected from three possibilities by the president and/or his designated representative, the suggested dates being as near as possible to March 21-25, 1979." Motion seconded and carried.

Adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The President announced the result of the balloting as: president, Tom Harte, declared elected; vice-president, Jack Starr, declared elected; and secretary treasurer, Theodore O. H. Karl.

THIRD BUSINESS MEETING

The third general business meeting of the Thirtieth Biennial Convention of Pi Kappa Delta was convened by President Ulrey, Monday, March 21, 1977, at 12:45 PM.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee, Fred Goodwin, reported that the nominees for National Council were Phyllis Bosley, James Dockery, Gary Horn, Roger Hufford, James Reilly, and Harold

Widvey. Nominated from the floor were Roselyn Freedman and Larry Richardson.

The President ruled that for those nominated by the Committee a seconding speech of three minutes be allowed and for those nominated from the floor both a three-minute nominating speech and a three-minute seconding speech be permitted. This procedure was followed.

The balloting proceeded by roll call of chapters.

New charters were granted to United States Coast Guard Academy, Louisiana State University — Shreveport, Missouri Western State College, and L. A. Lawrence Alumni Chapter at Montana State University.

The Secretary Treasurer gave his official report.

The results of the balloting were announced, and a second ballot was required, containing the names of Phyllis Bosley, James Dockery, Roselyn Freedman, Gary Horn, and Roger Hufford.

Motion to adjourn at 2:00 PM.

It was later announced that Phyllis Bosley and Roger Hufford had been duly elected to the National Council but that a tie existed between Roselyn Freedman and Gary Horn. A run-off election was to be held on Tuesday at the fourth business meeting.

FOURTH BUSINESS MEETING

The fourth business session of the Thirtieth Biennial Convention of Pi Kappa Delta was called to order at 4:10 PM in the Spanish Ballroom by President Evan Ulrey.

The minutes of the three previous business sessions were read and approved as corrected.

Fred Goodwin, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the names of Roselyn Freedman and Gary Horn as the candidates for the one remaining position on the National Council.

Balloting was by roll call. At the time of adjournment of this meeting, 104 chapters answered the roll. Chapters absent were Georgia Southern College, Lewis & Clark College, and Black Hills State College.

The chairman of the Charter and Standards Committee, Jim DeMoux, reported as follows:

Report of the Charter and Standards Committee

Those present at this Thirtieth National Convention and Tournament have witnessed charter presentations to eight new chapters. In addition, four chapters are eligible to receive charters but were unable to travel to Seattle.

The Constitution of Pi Kappa Delta provides: "Any chapter failing to have a delegate at the first National Convention after the granting of its charter, or any chapter failing to have a delegate at two consecutive National Conventions, shall be placed on probation." An amendment to the Constitution, passed at Omaha, provides that chapters may petition to be excused from attendance at the National Convention.

The following schools have petitions pending to be excused from attendance at the 1977 Convention: Monmouth College, West Long Branch, New Jersey; Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio; Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio; University of Maine at Orono, Orono, Maine; Eastern Montana College, Billings, Montana; and Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.

The Committee recommends that the following schools be placed on probation for failure to have a delegate at the first National Convention after the granting of their charters: State University College of New York, Plattsburgh, New York; Hunter College, New York, New York; Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, West Virginia; Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee; and Pan American University, Edinburg, Texas.

The Committee recommends that the following schools be placed on probation for failure to have a delegate at two consecutive national conventions or for failure to maintain an active membership level of five persons: University of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona; California State University-Northridge, Northridge, California; California State University-Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California; Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado; Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois; Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois; Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois; Morningside College, Sioux City,

Iowa; Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa; Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa; William Penn College, Oskaloosa, Iowa; Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas; Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina, Kansas; College of Emporia, Emporia, Kansas; Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan; Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota; College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota; St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota; William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Drury College, Springfield, Missouri; Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska; Kearney State College, Kearney, Nebraska; Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico; State University College of New York, Geneseo, New York; State University College of New York, Brockport, New York; Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio; Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma; Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee; Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee; Texas Lutheran College, Seguin, Texas; McMurry College, Abilene, Texas; Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin; University of Wisconsin, Platteville, Wisconsin; Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin; and University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin.

The Committee recommends that the following schools be continued on probation: University of the Pacific, Stockton, California; Pepperdine College, Los Angeles, California; California State University-Chico, Chico, California; California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California; University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado; Stetson University, Deland, Florida; Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois; Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois; Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana; Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas; Fort Hays State College, Hays, Kansas; Louisiana College, Pinesville, Louisiana; Northwestern University, Natchitoches, Louisiana; University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota; Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi; Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri; Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Missouri; Midland College, Fremont, Nebraska; Dickinson State College, Dickinson, North Dakota; University of Akron, Akron, Ohio; Kent

State University, Kent, Ohio; University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio; Mount Union College, Mount Union, Ohio; Youngstown University, Youngstown, Ohio; Southeastern State College, Durant, Oklahoma; Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma; Panhandle State College, Goodwell, Oklahoma; Southern Oregon College, Ashland, Oregon; Yankton College, Yankton, South Dakota; Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, Tennessee; Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee; Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas; Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Texas; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas; Hardin Simmons University, Abilene, Texas; Baylor University, Waco, Texas; University of Houston, Houston, Texas; and Houston Baptist University, Houston, Texas.

After careful study and repeated attempts to contact and reactivate, the Committee recommends that the charters of a number of chapters be revoked. The following schools have repeatedly failed to meet the standards for membership in Pi Kappa Delta or have asked to disaffiliate with the organization: University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona; University of Redlands, Redlands, California; California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California; San Diego State University, San Diego, California; Loyola University, Los Angeles, California; U. S. International University, San Diego, California; University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, California; Sacramento State College, Sacramento, California; Adams State College, Alamosa, Colorado; College of Idaho, Caldwell, Idaho; McKendree College, Lebanon, Illinois; Principia College, Elmhurst, Illinois; Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Illinois; Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois; Luther College, Decorah, Iowa; Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa; Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas; Centenary College, Shreveport, Louisiana; Tufts University, Boston, Massachusetts; University of Detroit, Detroit, Michigan; Detroit Institute of Technology, Detroit, Michigan; Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota; St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota; Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi;

Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi; Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska; University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada; Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer, North Carolina; North Dakota State College, Minot, North Dakota; Malone College, Canton, Ohio; Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Southwestern State College, Weatherford, Oklahoma; Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Oklahoma; Portland State University, Portland, Oregon; University of Portland, Portland, Oregon; Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania; Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania; Lock Haven State College, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania; Huron College, Huron, South Dakota; Sioux Falls College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; South Dakota School of Mines, Rapid City, South Dakota; Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas; Whitworth College, Spokane, Washington; and University of Wisconsin-Superior, Superior, Wisconsin.

The Committee recommends that the following chapters be removed from probation by virtue of their attendance at the 1977 Seattle Convention: Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Upper Iowa University, Fayetteville, Iowa; Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa; McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana; College of Great Falls, Great Falls, Montana; University of Montana, Missoula, Montana; Dakota State College, Madison, South Dakota; Midwestern University, Wichita Falls, Texas; and St. Martin's College, Olympia, Washington.

The Chairman (Jim DeMoux, Boise State University), wishes to express his appreciation to the members of the Committee:

Arthur Prosper, Black Hills State College
Nonna Dee Dalan, Evangel College
Terry Cole, Appalachian State University
Nancy McMillan, South Dakota University
at Brookings

It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report of the Charter and Standards Committee be accepted.

The President announced the results of the balloting. Roselyn Freedman was declared elected to the National Council.

Jack Starr, chairman of the Constitutional Revision Committee, reported the following action:

1. Adopted unanimously Article V, Division A, 14 (Convention Attendance), Paragraph 1: Strike the entire first sentence and the first word of the second sentence. Insert the following lines: "All undergraduate chapters are required to attend the National Convention. Any chapter failing to have a delegate at the first National Convention following its installation shall be placed on probation. Any chapter accumulating two consecutive unexcused absences from attendance at the National Convention shall be placed on probation. Any chapter accumulating three consecutive unexcused absences from attendance at the National Convention shall forfeit its charter. Probationary status can be lifted. . ."

2. Amendment #2, as identified on page 24 of the January *Forensic*, was defeated. This dealt with an additional student National Council member.

3. Amendment #3, as identified on page 24 of the January *Forensic*, was defeated. This dealt with alternate means of amending the Constitution.

Ray Yeager, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported and presented the following motion: As of August 1, 1977, the membership fees for Pi Kappa Delta shall be \$15.00. Seconded and carried.

Marty Beasley, chairman of the Public Relations and Research Committee, reported as follows:

Report of the Public Relations and Research Committee

The Public Relations and Research Committee corresponded prior to the national convention, and four members of the Committee met during the convention. Member input was solicited through *The Key* and through discussions initiated by committee members. The following summary of recommendations comprises this report; a more complete discussion will be submitted for publication in the October *Forensic*.

General Recommendations: Committee Effectiveness

1. Consideration should be given to

restructuring the committee so that public relations and research functions are divided between two committees for task purposes, although liaison should continue. The committees should be broadened so that committee members have subcommittees or task forces for the accomplishment of specific projects authorized by the convention and/or National Council. A stronger liaison between the Public Relations Committee and the Convention Publicity Committee would result in greater coordination and continuity of effort.

2. Provinces should be encouraged to develop their own public relations committees whose work could be both province-oriented and national-oriented, through assistance to the national committee for specific tasks. For example, the Province of the Lower Mississippi has set up a Student Ambassador Committee for specific "promotion of Pi Kappa Delta" assignments.
3. Greater committee effectiveness should be sought through early appointment and continuity; we suggest that the committee chairman and some or all committee members be appointed at or soon after convention for the next two-year term and that a staggered system of appointments be used so that each new committee has at least two experienced members on it.
4. The past work of this committee has been hampered by lack of funds for mass mailings and other correspondence, telephone calls, printing, and other meaningful projects. We request funding to enable the committee to become more than a "paper tiger."

Public Relations Recommendations

1. Continue to implement recommendations filed by the previous Committee and reported in May and October 1975 *Forensic* issues by former Chairman Walter Murrish on behalf of the 1973-75 Committee.
2. Implement an idea exchange.

a. Survey and collect ideas and success stories of public relations activities from Pi Kappa Delta provinces and chapters on such activities as the use of the Pi Kappa Delta label or bumper stickers, T-shirts, tournament materials, and other items; Pi Kappa Delta sponsored high school tournaments, judging teams, instructor workshops, and other high school relations ideas; speakers bureau brochure exchange; campus-wide and community service programs; parent and alumni involvement; use of local lawyers and other friends of forensics for tournament assistance; and "press kit" information, including tips on photography, press release writing, and radio-TV formats for educational programs, special announcements and promotions, etc.

2. b. Compile, edit, and disseminate the ideas gathered (through item a., above) through *The Forensic*, a special chapter public relations kit, province and national convention bulletin boards and display areas, and/or other means.
3. Make special efforts to encourage chapters to develop adjunct assistance through good "reciprocal public relations" work with alumni, parents, honorary members, press organizations, campus organizations, other "friends of forensics" groups, and other means. We urge a strong push for alumni chapters as especially valuable public relations aids.
4. Secure a prominent and exciting national figure with forensic ties to deliver a media-coverage, worthy, and inspirational keynote address at each national convention.

Research Recommendations

1. Continue to implement recommendations filed by the previous Committee. (See item 1, Public Relations Recommendations.)
2. Do in-house research to provide materials on the values of forensics (from "success story surveys" and "quotable

quote surveys" among alumni, for example). Materials gathered in this way should be passed on to the Public Relations Committee, if the previously suggested split is implemented.

3. Urge departments of speech/communication to encourage research in forensics by hiring research-trained forensic directors, assistant directors, and graduate assistants in forensics; by allowing released time for forensic research; and by other means as appropriate.
4. Consider cooperation with other forensic organizations which are interested in forensic research. For example, we might seek to send a representative of the Committee or the National Council to the proposed 1980 National Development Conference on Forensics, cosponsored by the American Forensic Association and the Speech Communication Association (SCA). See research suggestions from the 1974 Conference in James McBath, ed., *Forensics as Communication* (National Textbook Co., 1975). Cooperation with forensic interest groups of SCA and regional speech associations, as well as forensic fraternities, might also prove worthwhile in promoting quality and quantity in forensic research.
5. Consider a research section in *The Forensic*, including such items as "Ideas in Search of a Researcher," "Research in Progress," and "Reviewed and Recommended" (brief annotation-critiques of published research).
6. Consider one convention meeting designed for both students and faculty as a "dynamic research" seminar.

The Committee requests the assistance of members, officers, chapters, provinces, appropriate national committees, and the National Council, as appropriate, in implementing the recommendations which you approve.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Beasley, chairman, Louisiana Tech University
Walter Murrish, University of Missouri-

Kansas City

David Evans, Wilkes College

David Svaren, Pacific Lutheran University

Upon motion of John Baird, seconded and passed, the following action has been ordered. Chapter dues of \$15.00 are to be paid annually to the national organization. As explained in the discussion, the Secretary/Treasurer was instructed to bill each chapter in the amount of \$15.00 as dues, in the fall of each year, starting in the fall of 1977.

Greg Gardner, chairman of the Evaluation Committee, reported, and the report was accepted as follows:

Report of the Evaluation Committee

The Evaluation Committee unanimously believes that the 1977 Convention/Tournament of Pi Kappa Delta has been a success. We would specifically commend the members of the National Council, the local hosts of the Province of the Northwest, and the student and faculty members of Pi Kappa Delta for your spirit and your service at this thirtieth meeting of our organization. For clarification, we have divided our report into two major areas: convention procedures and tournament procedures.

Convention Procedures

We believe the Site Committee should be commended for its choice of Seattle as the host city. While many of our fraternity members could not attend because of the distance from their respective universities, those of us in attendance surely recognize the benefits offered by a metropolitan, clean, attractive city like Seattle. Similarly, the management of the Olympic Hotel should be complimented for its accommodating attitude and service. However, when individual hotel rooms must be utilized for contest events, room assignments should be as equitably made as possible so that all convention members share in early morning risings at some time in the tournament; communication should be made to all participants that they should strive to leave rooms in the condition in which they were found.

The Committee would also recommend that all attempts be made to utilize all

available secretarial assistance and that such help should be made on a full-time basis, if possible, for the publication of *The Key*, for the compiling of schematics, and for aid in the control room.

We would also urge that all attempts be made to assure that registration lists and postings of contestants be as exact as possible; there were instances of student names being omitted from the postings of events in which they were entered. We must constantly strive to see that these situations are kept at a minimum.

Finally in terms of convention procedures, the Committee urges the National Council to explore the possibilities of Pi Kappa Delta members presenting position papers on areas of forensic concern at the convention so that our organization might maintain the educational and growth potential found in other conventions of our discipline.

Tournament Procedures

Secondly, in the area of tournament procedures, the Committee wholeheartedly supports the tournament concept and commends the event chairpersons, as well as the contest committees, for keeping all contests orderly and on schedule.

The Committee does believe, however, that more specific contest criteria or guidelines — perhaps of the sort printed on the judging guidesheets received with ballots — should accompany the contest rules printed in *The Forensic*. We have noted a lack of a firm understanding, for example, in the distinction between persuasive and informative speeches, in manuscript usage in the public speaking events, and in such matters as movement and script form in oral interpretation.

The Committee further urges that judging assignments for members of the National Council, for members of *The Key* staff, and for contest chairpersons be kept at an absolute minimum, unless they indicate otherwise, so that these members may perform their many duties at maximum efficiency levels.

We believe that subject areas for extemporaneous speaking and speaking to entertain should be kept sufficiently broad to coincide more with accepted forensic tournament practice, since ar-

tificial limiting of the events may have a deleterious effect on contestants.

The Committee recommends that discussion rounds be limited to five, since the present number seems exhausting for participants.

We further urge that the respective committee consider the possibility of separating oral interpretation into two events — oral interpretation of prose and oral interpretation of poetry — since there are three public speaking events, three debate events, but only one oral interpretation event.

The Committee strongly urges that the ten-minute rule in debate be adopted as standard practice as has been done by the rest of the debate community. Since the total preparation time is no different, the Committee believes the ten-minute rule allows for more strategic and useful time utilization, especially for first negatives and second affirmatives.

The Committee also strongly urges that in order to promote quality judging in all contest events, judges from each chapter and hired judges should be allowed to indicate on the entry form, or on separate forms, their contest preferences which are based on interest, training, experience, and expertise in each event. This information should be utilized by the judge chairperson and the contest chairpersons in making all judging assignments. In this way, we might better assure our contestants that they will be judged by critics who have interest and expertise in the event in which they have been assigned to judge.

The Committee applauds and strongly endorses all efforts to work with NDT planners to assure that Pi Kappa Delta members will never be forced to choose between our convention/tournament and district contests of the National Debate Tournament in future convention years.

Finally, the Evaluation Committee urges the National Council to strongly consider the worthwhileness of the aforementioned recommendations and to respond to them either in *The Forensic* or through other forms of written communication. These recommendations come not from this Committee, per se, but from the

membership of Pi Kappa Delta at large.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Gardner, chairman, Northern Michigan University

Dencil Taylor, Midwestern State University

Tim Anderson, West Chester State College

Ruth Brenner, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Bob Beagle, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, reported, and the report was accepted, as amended in Section Three, as follows:

Report of the Resolutions Committee

I. Courtesy

Whereas the Thirtieth Biennial Convention of Pi Kappa Delta has been assembled at the Olympic Hotel in Seattle, Washington, from March 18-22, 1977, and,

Whereas the success of any convention depends upon the cooperative efforts of many individuals, therefore be it resolved that:

This convention express its sincere appreciation and gratitude to:

The Province of the Northwest for hosting this convention;

The Local Hosting Committee: Larry Richardson, chairman, Carl Clavadescher, Jeff Wiles, Gary Peterson, Father Nicholas Rausch, Bill Hansen, and their many student helpers for their efforts in planning and arranging a successful and enjoyable convention;

National President Evan Ulrey and the entire National Council for their significant contribution toward the success of both the convention and our fraternity;

All contest and events chairpersons and their staffs for their tireless and efficient administration of the tournament;

National Secretary-Treasurer Theodore O. H. Karl and his wife, Betsy, for their tremendous hours of efficient and dedicated service;

Forensic Editor Carolyn Keefe and her staff, Bob Beagle and Ken Orton, for their dedicated efforts in publishing a Key worthy of Pi Kappa Delta; and

To the students, coaches, and judges from all over the United States who, collectively, made 1977 one of the finest Pi Kappa Delta conventions ever held.

2. Special Resolutions — External Affairs

Whereas, one of the goals of Pi Kappa Delta is the promotion of educational values through debate, and,

Whereas, debate is a vital tool of a democratic society, be it resolved that:

Local Pi Kappa Delta chapters assume a greater role in the sponsorship and direction of political campaign debates on an annual basis, and that

Local Pi Kappa Delta chapters be instrumental in promoting, on a local basis, oral advocacy on social issues.

3. Special Resolutions — Internal Affairs

Whereas Pi Kappa Delta is a fraternal organization including both men and women, be it resolved that:

The Constitutional Revision Committee shall alter all generic references in the Constitution, and

The National Council shall alter all generic references in the publication of official convention and contest rules.

Proposed amendment by Gayle Hardy of Montana Tech: All generic terms in the Constitution and other publications of Pi Kappa Delta shall refer to both sexes unless otherwise indicated by the context of the publication.

Amendment adopted. Resolution, as amended, was postponed indefinitely.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Beagle, chairman, Edinboro State College

Don Brownlee, North Texas State University

Suzanne Larson, Humboldt State University

Dennis Bell, Henderson State University

The 1981 Convention Invitation Committee reported the selection of cities in the order of preference as follows: 1) Nashville, Tennessee, 2) Atlanta, Georgia, 3) and Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Carolyn Keefe reported to the convention on the organization of the Special Task Force, including its objectives and time schedule. The task force is to present its findings at the 1979 Convention. In this issue, or later ones, the entire program is to be presented in detail.

Upon motion by Grace Walsh, which

was seconded and passed, a special vote of thanks was given to President Evan Ulrey, the National Council, and committees for their efforts at this convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore O. H. Karl
National Secretary-Treasurer

A Word From The Editor . . .

What could possibly reward anyone for valiancy in selling candles and candy and pretzels, pushing lotteries and baskets of cheer, writing all those Allisonian provincial newsletters and riding those on-again, off-again buses? You asked yourself that when you discovered that once down Seattle steeps you had to walk up again; when you brought one contestant and were assigned ten judging rounds; when



you found nobody out West did your brand of oratory; when at 8:30 PM you ached for food but had to wait for ballot returns; when that entrancing Southern beauty who had flirted with you in the elevator was eating strawberries in the coffee shop with a vested (and handsome) debater; when you were so weary that once outside the contest room you propped yourself against the scrolled Olympic wall.

Sometime, somehow, we who were there got the answer to that question. I

like to think that none of the straining things mattered much, certainly not negatively. The whole experience was of a piece — and such a piece it was! All those long talks with interesting people, the watery sights at command, the ships and shops and salmon, the unprecedented need for election run-offs (hats off to our abundance of leadership!), the Beards who radiated continuity, the treasured feel of a medal or certificate, and being a part of something quite good in a jaded society.

Of course, I'm only saying how I feel about Seattle — before, during, and after. I view the national tournament/convention as a lot like life — enough struggle to be challenging and so interesting I wouldn't want to miss it. And I guess that affirming these experiences is what motivates me to look ahead to '79.

After all, Kierkegaard did have a point.

Carolyn Keefe



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