

*The nature of Professor Sorber's commentary on the Province of the Plains tournament of last spring should be refreshing for those who have sweltered during the heat of the past three months.*

## A few paragraphs on the dust and snow . . .

EDNA C. SORBER, Kansas Southwestern College

Neither snow nor sleet—the Post Office department has nothing on the Province of the Plains. Where else could you find speakers running from a two-day car trip to a debate without changing their clothes—Hastings lost little of their dignity by arriving at 11:00 to find the first round of debate starting at 11:00. After all, they'd had a comparatively easy trip—one slide into a ditch, one tire rubbed smooth by ice, one tire blown out, one unscheduled overnight stay in Holyoke, Colorado. There were wilder tales than theirs going the rounds at the meetings of the Province of the Plains at Colorado State College of Education, Greeley, Colorado, March 19 and 20.

There was, for instance, the much shaken vice-governor, Charles Masten, of Emporio State, arriving six hours behind schedule, with his brave boys in tow. After battling Kansas dust, and pushing their car up at least one icy hill, they had gone through three Colorado road blocks where the police thought it would be safer if they stayed put.

To top that, there were the five schools who stayed overnight in Yuma, Colorado, a small town bulging with stranded travelers filling the restaurants, the movie house, and private homes. McPherson, and Washburn came on Friday morning, but some of the others turned back. Ottawa's story must be saved till last—theirs is the climax.

Pittsburg and Southwestern had only dust to contend with. Somehow the fact that they

couldn't see the road or even the front of the car for long stretches at a time doesn't sound so impressive as sliding on ice. To the dirty travelers, breathing through masks and wondering just where the ditches were, the trip was bad enough, however.

Miss Lenore Ramsey of Wayne State Teachers pointed out the most significant statistic. As first to arrive, she made it ahead of the storm. By Thursday night, when only seven schools had checked in—including CSCE—she discovered that the only four women coaches planning to attend were already present, while the men were mostly stranded along the way.

By now it's time for the climax—Ottawa's two cars became separated somewhere in Northwestern Kansas—the coach and his passengers stayed all night in Yuma and the others stayed 18 hours in a snowdrift before the occupants were rescued. After four hours, their gas ran out and they had to keep warm with the extra clothes they had brought. Through a complicated maneuver, the coach went back from Yuma to the victims, turned them back to Ottawa, while his original passengers hitchhiked the rest of the way to Greeley, arriving only a few hours before he returned.

The debaters may not all have gone home thoroughly sold on their debating ability; but, they did all go home thoroughly sold on their powers of navigation and determination.

The association seems to have been reasonably successful in motivating the orators of the member schools. True, there are orators in any contest who fumble their lines, but there are also orators who do not. And these Minnesota orators have won their share in the Interstate Contest. The record is as follows: Carleton College: three firsts, six seconds, and one third; St. Olaf College: three firsts and one second; Hamline University: one

first and two seconds; Gustavus Adolphus College: one first and one second. Some of these are recent. St. Olaf placed first in the men's division in 1950 and first in the women's division in 1952, and Gustavus Adolphus placed first in the men's division in 1953.

The Minnesota State Oratorical Association, together with the forensic societies in these schools, has sustained interest in oratory in this state.





Debaters of the College of Puget Sound. Left to right: Shiela Ryan, Frank Johnson, Ronald Usher, and Arlene Alexander.

## Chapter Notes

### COLLEGE OF PUGET SOUND

Four debaters for Washington Alpha established an enviable record during 1953-54. They participated in six tournaments, placing in the upper three in five and winning a total of nine trophies.

Frank Johnson and Ronald Usher won first and Sheila Ryan and Arlene Alexander won second in the Province of the Northwest tournament. Johnson, sophomore, and Usher, freshman, are majoring in economics and business administration. Ryan, the number one trophy winner of the quartet, is a sophomore and plans to become a high school teacher and debate coach. Alexander, freshman, has a record of three years of almost continuous wins in high school and college debating.

The group assisted Dr. Charles T. Battin, debate coach, prepare the forensic picnic he held at his summer home on Fox Island in

Puget Sound, May 16. The forensic squad of Pacific Lutheran College were guests at the picnic. The College of Puget Sound boat, capacity of 30 people, made three trips from Narrows Marina dock to transport the picnickers to Fox Island. Games, barbecued food, and a PKD initiation ceremony filled the day.

### PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE

The school year 1953-54 was an active one for the Pi Kappa Deltans of Pacific Lutheran College. The events sponsored by the Epsilon chapter included a student congress, High School Debate Tournament, and a international debate. The student congress, an annual event, is attended by students from the surrounding high schools. During the competitive debate season, the squad obtained the permanent trophies of the St. Martin's Rotation, St. Martin's men and women division, and the Linfield senior trophy.



The annual initiation which is held jointly with Alpha Psi Omega, the national drama honorary on campus, was held in May at the Greenwood Manor. The following graduating seniors were awarded inscribed cups: John Osburn, Janet Carson, John Val Rydgren and Edith Engel. Rydgren set a record at Pacific Lutheran with 16 firsts in intercollegiate forensics. The chapter is looking forward to the new year under the leadership of the following officers: John Holun, president; Tom Swindland, vice-president; Shirley Busching, recording secretary; Ruth Heino, corresponding secretary; and Joan Werle, interclub council representative.

### CONCORDIA COLLEGE

While speech work at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, has centered in Pi Kappa Delta activity since Minnesota Zeta became a member in 1934, "ancient history" of speech work reveals interclass and inter-society contests and a declamation contest in Norwegian which has been conducted up to the present day. Expense accounts from the

1930's show astounding fifty cent dinners and equally inexpensive lodging which explains how teams in earlier days could enjoy globe-trotting tactics associated with present day debate memories. Minnesota Zeta, launched under its first president Gabriel Hauge, now President Eisenhower's economic advisor, has sponsored the Red River Valley debate tournament since 1933. Each year this group also sponsors the Tri-State High School debate tournament which has become a high point in the high school debate season in Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

The debate season for the Cobber teams last school year began with the Women's Debate Tournament at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. The Red River Valley Tournament at Concordia was followed by the Rocky Mountain Speech Conference in Denver, Colorado, and the speech tournament at Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Following in quick succession were the Lincoln Invitational Debate Tournament at the University of Nebraska, the Northwest Debate Tournament at St. Thomas College in Minneapolis, and the University of Minnesota Speech Tournament.

Members of Pi Kappa Delta, Washington Epsilon Chapter, Pacific Lutheran College.







Concordia College PKD members. Seated, left to right, Coach Allwin D. Monson, Phyllis Burges, Jean Lovdoken. Standing, Clarence Cummins, LeRoy Ness, president of Minnesota Zeta, Roland Gandrud, Carl Lucky, Jr. Paul Dovre and Barbara Jones are not in the picture.

The men's team composed of Ronald Gandrud and LeRoy Ness ended the season by winning all six rounds at the Pi Kappa Delta Provincial meet at River Falls, Wisconsin.

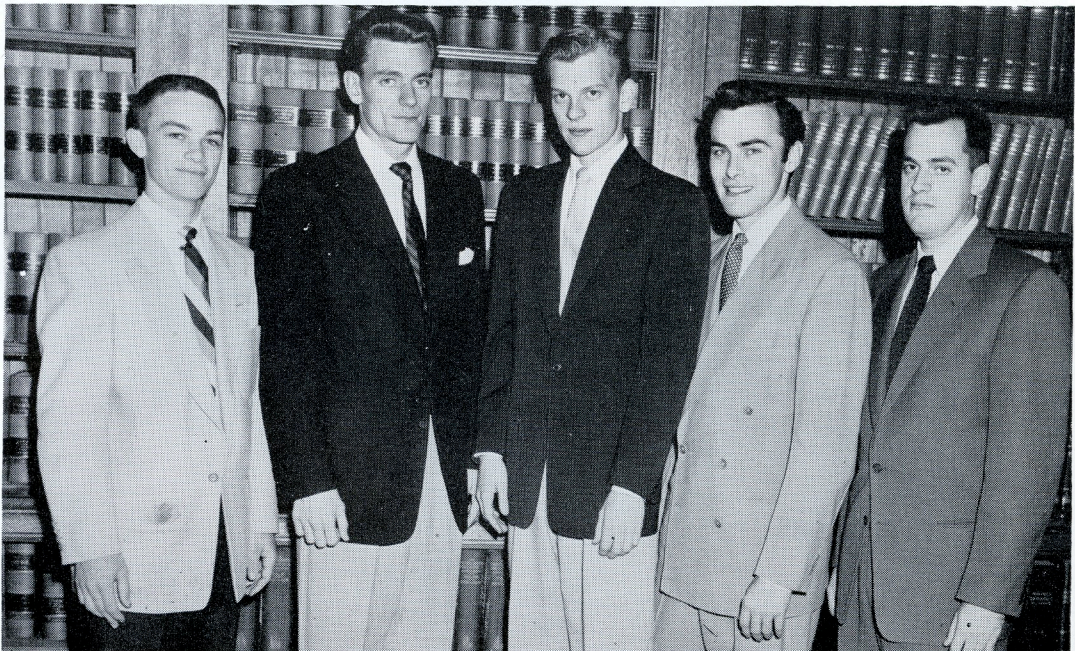
Besides the eight Concordia students who have attained membership in Pi Kappa Delta, eight more speech enthusiasts began the first of the two years of speech participation required by the Minnesota Zeta chapter for membership in Pi Kappa Delta.

### ILLINOIS COLLEGE

Five members of Illinois Phi Chapter during 1953-54 carried on the tradition of forensics established at Little Illinois College by its famous alumnus, William Jennings Bryan.

George Reilly, sophomore, placed first in the Illinois Oratorical Association, the Joint Missouri-Illinois Province and the Interstate Oratorical Association in men's oratory. John Schmidt, sophomore, and Dave Briick, senior, were undefeated in the Illinois Debate League and the Joint Province Tournaments, receiving a rating of superior in each of their six debates in the Province. They also qualified for the West Point Tournament where they had a four and four record. Dan Carter,

Illinois College Debaters and Orators, left to right: Dan Carter, John Woulfe, George Reilly, David Briick, John Schmidt.







Initiation banquet, Buena Vista College. Seated, left to right: Gary Fiscus, Jean Moe, Vicki Morton, Bill Fahan, Paul Koebele, Donna Fraser, John Hanson, Kay Schumacher. Standing: Sally Braunschweig, Gladys Kuehl, director, Carroll Sowin, Joanne Baumann, Dix Lohman, Margaret Nicolaisen, Al Sinek, Jo Mill, Jay Shelp.

junior, and John Woulfe, sophomore, received a superior rating in the Joint Province Tournament with a five and one debate record. Carter and Brück hold the degree of Special Distinction while Schmidt, with a winning percentage of 70 in two years of debating looks forward to the same degree next year. Woulfe, in his first year won 58% of his debates. The sponsor of Illinois Phi is Professor Lloyd P. Dudley, director of forensics.

#### **BUENA VISTA COLLEGE**

The Iowa Kappa Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta at Buena Vista College carried out an extensive program of speech activities during 1953-54 which included participation in eight intercollegiate tournaments and numerous local speaking engagements. Members of the Speakers' Bureau was especially active, appearing before service clubs, PTA's, and other community groups. The Iowa State forensic tournament was held on the Buena Vista Campus in March with the local chapter in charge of arrangements.

The fourth annual high school forensics conference was a highly successful venture with 35 high schools from Northwest Iowa participating in discussion, debate, extemp-

oraneous speaking, interpretative reading, and radio speaking. Advanced speech students, under the direction of Professor Gladys Kuehl, director of forensics, acted as judges and chairmen for the various events.

Judging of high school declamatory and forensic contests throughout the season was also an important activity.

The formal banquet for initiation of new members and installation of officers was held on May 11. Seven new members were initiated. They are Sally Braunschweig, Gary Fiscus, Paul Koebele, Vicki Morton, Jay Shelp, Kay Schumacher and Al Sinek.

New officers for 1954-1955 are, Paul Koebele, president; Gary Fiscus, vice-president; Kay Schumacher, secretary-treasurer; Vicki Morton, corresponding secretary.

#### **West Point Tournament**

Thirteen of the thirty-four teams participating in the annual West Point debate tournament were from PKD schools. They were: San Diego State, University of California at Los Angeles, Washington State, Oklahoma Central State, Louisiana College, Nebraska Wesleyan, South Dakota State, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire, Augustana College, Illinois College, Illinois State Nor-



mal, University of South Carolina, and Wake Forest. San Diego State and Oklahoma Central advanced to the semi-finals.

## NATIONAL CONTEST IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

The Fourth Annual National Contest in public discussion this year will deal with the topic, "How can the American educational system best meet the needs of our society?"

All colleges and universities in the United States are eligible to participate. A student "team" consists of four or five students, who must be full-time undergraduates. Entries should be sent to Dr. Wayne N. Thompson, University of Illinois, Navy Pier, Chicago 11, Illinois, by November 15, and the tapes should be ready for shipment by December 1. The entry fee is only two dollars.

The contest consists of preparing a twenty-five minute round table and recording it on single-track sound recording tapes at a speed of 7½ inches per second. These tapes are judged in regional centers with winners advancing to semi-final contests.

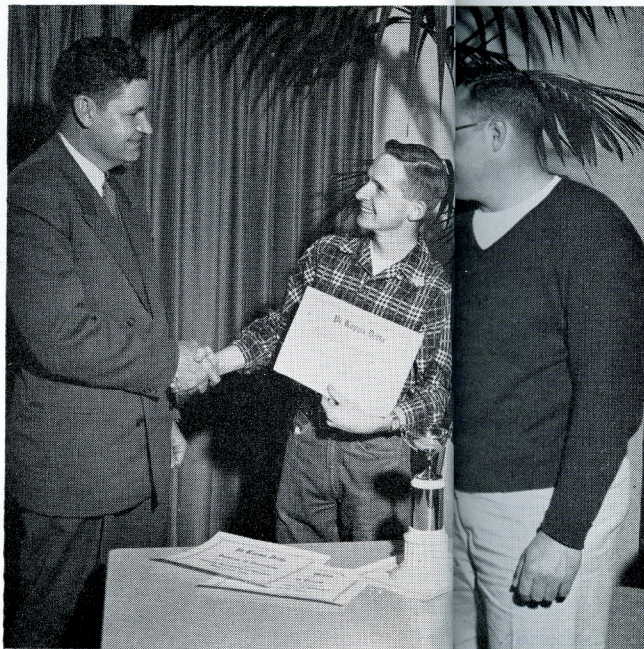
## HAMLIN UNIVERSITY

Two members of the Minnesota Delta, Russ Prickett and Jerry Jackson, brought the 1954 Hamline debate season to a successful conclusion by winning first place in the Upper Midwest Tournament at the University of Minnesota, April 9-10, and receiving a superior rating in the Upper Mississippi Provincial Tournament, April 13-15.

Dick Johnson, Sally Gronner, Alice Skewes, Bob Michener, Mike Flynn, and Jim Lackore were initiated into PKD last May.

## HOPE COLLEGE

The orators from Michigan Gamma enjoyed a very successful season during 1953-54. They participated in five state oratorical contests: men and women old line, men and women prose, and the Hearst Tournament of Orators, winning first place in four of them. K. Don Jacobusse placed first in two of the events and has spent the past summers in Spain as the Community Ambassador for the City of Holland and adjacent communities speaking on his experiences in Spain.



Coach R. C. Nelson, Colorado A&M, congratulates their superior ratings in the Province of the Plains Tournament. Left: Moshé Qucovsky, sweepstakes and debate; James Phelps,

Women Superiors, Province of the Upper Mississippi. Left to right: Beverly Domaika, River Falls; Nancy Adams, St. Catharines, St. Olaf; Margaret Helmer, River Falls.

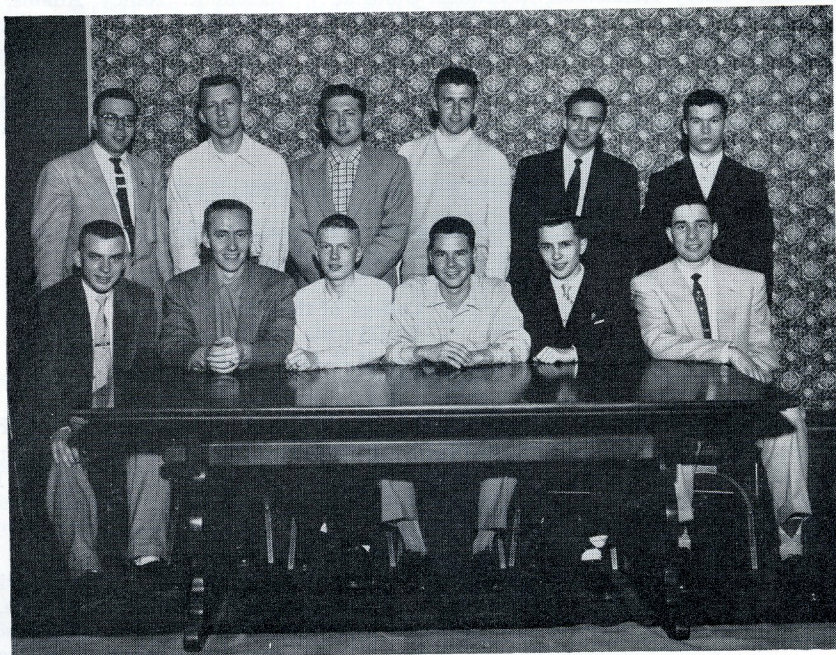






Superiors, Province of the Southeast Tournament. Seated, left to right: Jim Greene, Wake Forest; Helen Nash, Tennessee Tech; Joanne Aldridge, Appalachian Teachers; Mrs. John H. Melzer, Georgetown, Governor; Carwile Le Roy, Wake Forest; Bobbye Spears, Tennessee Tech. Middle Row: Gwendolyn Posey, Mississippi State College for Women; Dale Lindsay, Mississippi Southern; Minnie Jane Bowman and Kay Arant, Wake Forest; Laura Ann Wilber, Mississippi Southern; Virginia Pace, Mississippi State College for Women; Jane Dye, Tennessee Tech; Jo Ann Hardin, Appalachian Teachers. Back Row: Alex W. Nichols, Tennessee Tech; Joe R. Purdom, Centre; James N. Luton, Tennessee Tech; Forest Blount, Mississippi Southern.

Men's Superior Debaters, Province of the Upper Mississippi Tournament. Front Row, left to right: Ralph Zimmerman, Eau Claire; Clarence Cummings, Concordia; Wayne Tellesen, St. Olaf; Roger Witke, Simpson; Russ Prickett, Hamline; Larry Henneman, River Falls. Back Row: Norbert Tlachac, Eau Claire; Paul Dove, Concordia; Frank Nelson, St. Olaf; James Alexander, Simpson; Jerry Jackson, Hamline; Jerry Murphy, River Falls.





**Province of the Upper Mississippi**  
**MARION E. HAWKINS, Governor**

Wisconsin State College at River Falls

**April 13-15, 1954**

**Men's Division**

**Women's Division**

**SWEEPSTAKES**

1st Wisconsin State at Eau Claire  
2nd St. Olaf College  
3rd Wisconsin State at River Falls

1st St. Olaf College  
2nd Wisconsin State at Eau Claire  
3rd College of St. Catherine

**DEBATE**

Superior: Wisconsin State at Eau Claire, Concordia College, Hamline University, Wisconsin State at River Falls, Simpson College, St. Olaf College.

Superior: Wisconsin State at River Falls.  
Excellent: St. Olaf College, Teams I & II.

Excellent: Wisconsin State at Eau Claire, St. Mary's College.

**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Superior: Norbert Tlachac, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire, Wayne Telleksen, St. Olaf College.  
Excellent: Ron Brown, Gustavus Adolphus College, Bill Schoenwetter, Wisconsin State at River Falls; Roger Witke, Simpson College; Ralph Zimmerman, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire.

Superior: Nancy Adams, College of St. Catherine.  
Excellent: Lois Cooper, St. Olaf College; Margaret Helmer, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire.

**ORATORY**

Superior: Frank Nelson, St. Olaf College.  
Excellent: Larry Henneman, Wisconsin State at River Falls; Norbert Tlachac, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire.

Superior: Audrey Stolen, St. Olaf College.  
Excellent: Nancy Adams, St. Catherine; Jean Hoard, Wisconsin State at Eau Claire.

At the business meeting, a constitution was adopted for the Province and a committee appointed to study problems of transportation to the National Convention at Redlands.

**Province of the Pacific**  
**DEAN F. McSLOY, Governor**

College of the Pacific

**April 8-10, 1954**

Twenty-nine colleges and universities participated in the invitational PKD Provincial tournament. This tournament was begun originally as an invitational tournament. The 1956 provincial, however, will be restricted to chapters of the Province of the Pacific. Ratings received by the province chapters were as follows:

**SCHOOL RATINGS**

**Lower Division**

Superior: San Diego State  
Excellent: California Tech.

**Upper Division**

Superior: San Diego State, George Pepperdine College.  
Excellent: College of the Pacific.



# **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation to the National Convention at the University of Redlands is a major problem for many of us. Province governors have been asked to investigate the possible methods and report their results to their respective chapters. Emil Pfister, associate editor of THE FORENSIC will have a report in the January issue. The following information has been secured:

Round trip by train, coach, from Atlanta, Georgia, to Colton, California (seven miles from Redlands) is approximately \$115.00. Some of the railroads in the East and North offer Group Economy Fares for parties of three or more which means about a 25% saving on round trip fares. The Provinces of Illinois and Missouri report a chartered 50-passenger airplane from St. Louis is approximately \$130.00 per person.

## **MEN'S DEBATE**

Superior: California Tech.

Superior: San Diego State, College of the Pacific.

## **WOMEN'S DEBATE**

Superior: San Diego State.

Superior: George Pepperdine College.

Excellent: George Pepperdine College.

## **WOMEN'S EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Superior: Susan Vanderlaan, College of the Pacific.

Excellent: Jennie Jo Warriner, San Diego State.

Excellent: Elynor Moskowitz, San Diego State.

## **MEN'S EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Excellent: Ed Gray, College of the Pacific.

Excellent: Sheldon Nicolaysen, College of the Pacific.

## **MEN'S ORATORY**

Excellent: Paul Egertson, George Pepperdine College.

Superior: Othal Lakey, George Pepperdine College.

## **WOMEN'S ORATORY**

Superior: Aida Picaizen, San Diego State.

Excellent: Sara Longman, San Diego State.

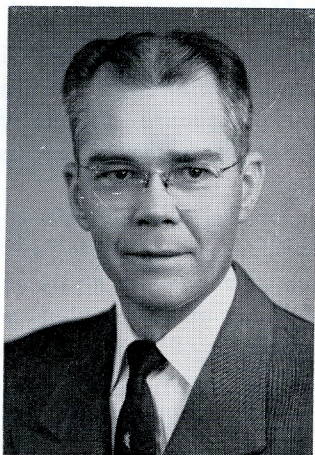
## **WOMEN'S IMPROMPTU**

Superior: Aida Picaizen, San Diego State; Carol Sneed, Redlands University; Helen Bustard, George Pepperdine College.

## **MEN'S IMPROMPTU**

Excellent: Bernard Segal, U.C.L.A.; Matt Strauss, San Diego State.





DR. HARVEY CROMWELL

# Meet the Governors

## **Dr. Harvey Cromwell**

Dr. Harvey Cromwell, Governor of the Province of the Southeast is head of the department of speech at Mississippi State College for Women. He is editor of *THE FORENSIC*, a charter member of Oklahoma Eta, and is beginning his twenty-fifth year as a member of PKD. He received the B.S. degree from Oklahoma East Central, the M.A. from Oklahoma University, and the Ph.D. from Purdue University.

Governor Cromwell has been active in forensics and debate since his freshman year in high school. Experience includes teaching speech in Oklahoma High Schools, insurance salesman, head of the department of speech at McMurry College, coordinator of instructor training for the Army Air Forces Technical Command, coach of men's debate at Purdue University, and summer visiting professor of speech at the University of Mississippi and Northern Michigan State College of Education. His major hobby is fishing.

## **Prof. Charles Masten**

Governor Charles Masten of the Province of the Plains is assistant professor of speech and debate coach at Kansas State Teachers at Emporia. Educated in the public schools of California, he is a graduate of the University of Redlands where he received the B.A. and the M.A. degrees. He has had additional study at Claremont Graduate College and is currently on leave of absence to complete work on the Ph.D. at the University of Southern California.

During the five years, Governor Masten has been at Kansas State Teachers, his debate squads have consistently ranked high in state, regional, and national competition. Both his men and women debaters were undefeated in

PROF. CHARLES MASTEN

