

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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The Opposition Is Essential

JAMES N. HOLM
Kent State University, Ohio Iota



In a well-planned article in the January FORENSIC, Dr. Wilbur Moore has repeated many of the criticisms which have been leveled by others against the current pattern of debating. Despite the fact that logicians and rhetoricians alike will refuse to agree wholeheartedly to all he writes (that the so-called Aristotelian logic is entirely outmoded, for instance), most of us who are active in the field of debating will enthusiastically concur with Dr. Moore in his general criticism of the logic and language found in many intercollegiate contests.

But I must take issue with him when he reaches the eight specific suggestions for improvement of debating. I must disagree because if those suggestions, especially the first (to substitute a question for the traditional proposition), were carried into practice, then debate itself would disappear. For Dr. Moore has failed to distinguish between debate and discussion as distinctive forms of speaking, and the result of the changes he suggests would mean the abolition of debating in favor of discussion.

I look with favor upon discussion. It is a valuable form of speech endeavor, and although we at Kent are a Pi Kappa Delta school, our students have participated in every one of the national progression-discussion tournaments sponsored by another forensic fraternity. But we have not abandoned our efforts in traditional debate. The values of discussion need not blind any individual to the fact that basic debate is an integral part of our social structure, and that therefore we must not abandon the teaching of its techniques in favor of another form of speaking. Although discussion and debate are complementary processes, each at the same time has its own characteristics and each should find a place in the well-balanced speech pro-

gram. Failure to distinguish these peculiar characteristics must lead only to confused thinking and unsound conclusions.

Why is debate integral to our society? Wherein does it differ from discussion? Perhaps both of these questions may be answered at once.

The nation as we know it today, and the society in which we exist, are founded upon the parliamentary system. Our Congress, our legislatures, our councils follow parliamentary rules. Labor meetings, conventions, clubs, service groups, philanthropic societies—whatever organization is guided by democratic principles must depend upon parliamentary order. Observe now two fundamentals which are basic to this order: 1, *Majority opinion prevails*, and 2, *The motion is the basis of business*. It follows, then, that parliamentary order is based entirely upon a *yes-or-no division of opinion upon a given proposition*. This is the essence of debate.

It may at once be seen that debate is more than argument. He who argues is an advocate, a campaigner. The old style debate characterized by Dr. Moore as “a ridiculous ritual of repeating memorized speeches” was essentially composed of one set of advocates on each side of a proposition. Still there was frequently no debate because there was no direct *conflict of opinion*,—no actual grappling with the ideas upheld by an opponent.

From these observations it can be seen that the essence of debate is a yes-or-no division of opinion on a given proposition, from which division those representing each viewpoint must meet, confront, and handle the arguments and criticisms of their opponents. And since this is also the essence of parliamentary order, it follows that debate in itself is integral to our entire social fabric.

In addition to this fact, however, debate is indispensably necessary to our democracy because it is the only speech form which intrinsically provides all the conditions necessary to meaningful freedom of speech. What are those conditions? First must come the privilege of speaking, speaking to those who may or may not agree with one's views. Second there is the *obligation to speak*, for of what avail is the privilege unless it be used? And finally, freedom of speech is virtually useless unless there is an *obligation to listen to those who differ with one*. Debate meets these conditions. It provides the privilege and opportunity, it obligates an opposition, and it makes mandatory that each side listen to its own critics.

And what of discussion? It provides the opportunity to speak—yes. It obligates a speaker to listen to his critics—yes. *But it does not necessarily provide the critics*, since in discussion it is not obligatory for any participant to take issue with, or even mildly to suggest

changes in, the stand of any other speaker. Discussion stems from a *question*, not a *proposition*. There is no necessity for division of opinion. Debate by appointment provides both spokesmen and critics, discussion does not. Because of this fact debate is one speech form which is inherently and distinctively vital to a democracy.

If the matter of the appointed opposition seems trivial, let us reflect that it is our basis for justice under law. When an individual is charged with crime the proposition (indictment) is made clear and a yes-or-no division of opinion is at once established. And if the defendant is unable to provide his own counsel *the law provides one by appointment*. And while there are those who will point to an increased use of discussion methods outside of court in the settlement of legal cases, there are few yet who advocate the abolition of trial by jury with opinion confronting opinion in open court—the unalterable right of free men.

So when Dr. Moore suggests that we begin changing our pattern of debate by abolishing the proposition in favor of a generalized question, he suggests at the same time that we drop the speech form which is basic to debate, basic to parliamentary law, and basic to trial by jury. In essence he would put all his eggs in the basket of discussion. He would make the opposition a matter of choice, not of necessity. To this I cannot agree.

Let us improve our debating. Let us think more keenly, temper our inference-by-Aristotelian logic with inference-by-dynamic logic, avoid semantic pitfalls, and stop trying to substitute unrestrained prediction for careful cause-and-effect relationships. Let us above all improve our debate coaching and our judging of debate contests. But let us not give up the fundamental proposition, the yes-or-no division of opinion, the obligation to provide an opponent and critic. Let's keep democracy in parliamentary law. Let's keep trial by jury.

As Walter Lippmann says: "The only reason for dwelling on all this is that if we are to preserve democracy we must understand its principles. And the principle which distinguishes it from all other forms of government is that in a democracy the opposition not only is tolerated as constitutional but must be maintained because it is in fact indispensable."¹

¹"The Indispensable Opposition." The Atlantic Monthly, August, 1939.

The Cash Value of Speaking Ability

By BENJ. FRANKLIN



More money was spent in 1942 for public speeches in the United States than during any previous year in history. This was true in each of the two great fields of paid public speaking, radio and personal platform appearances.

Not only does each of the four great radio networks, National Broadcasting Company, Columbia Broadcasting Company, The Mutual Network, and the Blue Network, have its nationally known "experts" and "advisers" and commentators such as H. V. Kaltenborn, Edward Tomlinson, Upton Close, Raymond Gram Swing, and William Shirer; but every important radio station now has its own news analysts and commentators and the nationally heard commentators who are well paid. Rumor has it that Mr. Swing receives over \$1,000,000 per year. Certainly several others receive from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year from about 100 broadcasts (they usually speak about twice weekly) of fifteen minutes each—which figures out to a neat \$100 to \$200 per broadcast of fifteen minutes.



Benj. Franklin is one of the charter members of Pi Kappa Delta. He graduated from Washburn College, Kansas Beta, in 1913. He was one of the forensic students who worked with Prof. E. R. Nichols in establishing the society. He holds the degree of special distinction in debate and oratory. His membership is number 22 and he wears key number 12. From 1933-37 he served as State Business Manager for Kansas. At present he is president of Associated Executives Clubs, Inc., a national organization of over one hundred clubs scattered in cities from coast to coast. These clubs bring to their home communities the outstanding speakers of the world. Through Mr. Franklin's office they annually engage speakers for more than 800 addresses. During the course of a year Mr. Franklin pays out more than \$75,000 for speaking talent.

Most of the local commentators and analysts receive from \$3,000 to \$10,000 yearly and they usually speak at least once each week day—sometimes twice or more daily.

In addition to the rich radio field—which after all is a limited and tremendously competitive field, where only small numbers of speakers can hope to find employment—there is a much larger but less highly paid group of speakers who speak from 10 to 300 times yearly in personal appearances. While there are no exact figures available, it is probable that between 2,000 and 3,000 speakers appear for pay rather

regularly, and as many more receive an occasional "honorarium" — the technical term for a speaker's fee.

Many of these speakers who make personal appearances arrange their dates through lecture managers or lecture bureaus. There are about fifty such recognized managers or bureaus—most of them small and serving a limited area, but several doing a regular business throughout most of the United States. Of these the largest at present are W. Colston Leigh, Inc.; Harold Peat, Inc.; The National Concert and Artists Bureau; and William B. Feakins, Inc.

In most cases speakers managed by the larger bureaus are obligated to arrange all engagements through the manager. In other words the manager has "exclusive" direction of the speaker whose appearances can be secured only through that manager who usually has complete discretion to set the fee at whatever figure he chooses—and which he usually does set at the highest figure he thinks the traffic will bear.

In many cases speakers handled by smaller bureaus give their time to a different manager in each part of the country. In this way some speakers divide their time between six or eight regional managers.

Moreover many of the speakers handled by the smaller or regional bureaus will occasionally accept an invitation directly offered by a club or forum or convention or other group desiring to hear them. In such cases the fee ordinarily is not less than that charged by the managers—the entire fee, however, going to the speaker.

In addition hundreds of speakers "book direct"—they do not have managers at all. In most cases these speakers are either on the way up or the way down—that is they have not yet become generally known or they have covered the country pretty thoroughly, exhausted their publicity value, and no longer are attractive to the lecture bureaus.

The lecture managers usually receive one half the speaker's fee and pay the transportation charge—or they receive one third and the speaker pays his own transportation expense. Of course, percentages to the bureaus run both higher and lower than these figures in some cases—depending on the reputation of the speaker, the number of dates desired, whether or not the bureau offers a guarantee, etc.

In spite of the large percentage of the fee taken by lecture bureaus, most speakers find it profitable to have a manager, if their dates are in demand. Not only does it save them endless time and expensive correspondence, but the larger number of dates that can be secured by the bureaus which are in continuous touch with groups using paid speakers and the connecting up of dates to save time and travel-expense offset the percentages paid to the managers.

It is estimated that there are at least 15,000 clubs, schools, and other organizations in the United States which occasionally use paid guest speakers. Mostly these are women's clubs or men's civic clubs which use a paid speaker only at infrequent intervals—oftentimes for an annual dinner or party. Lecture managers say that not more than 300 or 400 groups are regular buyers of guest speakers using six or more each year. Women's clubs ordinarily pay very small fees for a daytime meeting, frequently from \$10.00 to \$35.00. Civic clubs for the most part use free speakers (usually local) for weekly luncheons—and even the larger clubs in the larger cities which use paid speakers seldom pay over \$50.00 for a thirty-minute noon speech.

Colleges and schools are notoriously close buyers—nearly always plead that they are hard up—and seldom pay over \$75.00 for a daytime speech—if they pay at all.

The large fees which occasionally get into the headlines generally go to internationally known celebrities—usually as the result of some exploit not connected with public speaking. Authors and reporters get these high fees more frequently than people in other professions. Thus Cecil Brown after his expulsion from Singapore and his presence on a British warship sunk by the Japanese, was sold for fees from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per date and probably received \$25,000 for a five-week tour (of which half went to his manager). H. G. Wells on an American tour just before the war received fees of from \$1,500 to \$2,500 per speech. Mrs. Roosevelt, during the height of her popularity received fees from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per address. William Shirer and Louis Lochner after returning from Berlin were paid from \$500.00 to \$1,000 per date. Eve Curie, Clair Booth Luce, Alexander P. de Seversky, Christopher Morley, Franklin P. Adams, H. R. Knickerbocker, and other “celebrities” have received similar fees for limited tours.

Widely known speakers who usually give part of each year to lecturing, such as Will Durant, Upton Close, Edward Tomlinson, Andre Maurois, Sir Hubert Wilkins, Maurice Hindus, etc., usually command an honorarium or fee of from \$200 to \$400 per date—more often the higher than the lower figure.

Not many public speakers are in demand unless they are personally well known, or have some unique background or an unusual story to tell. In other words there is no demand for good speakers as such. Fees are based on reputation rather than speaking ability. Consequently public speaking as a career is not financially attractive unless coupled with a flair for “showmanship” or ability to build an unique background of personal publicity. Every lecture manager is swamped with letters of application for, or recommendations of,

“local celebrities” or speakers who are heard with delight in limited areas. Such speakers are of not the slightest interest outside their own limited area—in which, to be sure, they are celebrities—and where they have a following.

Politicians, preachers, college teachers, lawyers, are almost universally avoided by the program committee of paid lecture groups. The usual feeling is that speakers from these professions (often excellent platform performers) are too commonly heard to attract a pay audience. It is practically impossible for men or women in any of these professions to get pay for speaking to clubs or forums or colleges—although an occasional convention does pay them.

In addition to the strictly professional public speaking fields mentioned above, perhaps a more lucrative opportunity is offered the ambitious public speaker in other business and professional fields. Frequently—perhaps usually—speaking ability is better paid in the law and politics or among business executives who use their talent to win cases, or carry elections, or sell goods, or inspire sales forces, or create good will in customers.

Most people are familiar with good jury lawyers whose fees commonly total five figures. Many—possibly most—of the great and well-known business executives of the country whose salaries were affected by President Roosevelt’s \$25,000 limit were good public speakers.

It is these men who provide in modern times the proof of the Biblical phrase “How forcible are right words.” We have heard a good deal in the last few years about Hitler’s powers of oratory. Few Americans enjoyed his style—even before he began to upset the world—but we recognize that it was his ability to mould public opinion in Germany through his speeches that made him a modern terror. In his *Mein Kampf* he says, “All epoch-making revolutionary events have been produced not by the written but by the spoken word.” Bruce Barton, who is better known for his writing than his speaking, though a great success at both, once said, “My observation is that generally speaking, poverty of speech is the outward evidence of poverty of mind.”

Public speaking ability does not pay generous financial dividends, but the rewards for professional platformists go to those who can add showmanship or an unique background or sought-for-knowledge to their speaking ability. Outside the field of professional public speakers probably even greater financial returns go to men or women who succeed in their chosen fields and use the power to sway an audience to add to their stature—or help develop their reputation and prestige in the field of science, business, politics, or the professions.

A Pi Kappa Delta Good Neighbor



John M. Lewis, Stetson University, Florida Beta, is one of the six American college speakers who last year were treated to a tour of Mexico and other Central American countries as regional winners in the National Extempore Speaking contest. The trip, which in-

cluded a period of study at the University of Mexico, was accomplished by the sextet during the summer months prior to the current scholastic year.

Lewis, a college senior at 21, started his collegiate debating and speaking career during the first weeks of his freshman year. It was then that he attracted initial attention to himself by seeking the floor in student government meetings at Stetson University despite his frosh status. This year Lewis commands attention at such campus meetings just the same, but officially now as president of the school's student association.

Victory in the state competition took the Stetson speaker to Atlanta for regional contests. Lewis came out on top in the Georgia rounds, and thence journeyed to New York City and Washington to join other regional winners in meeting the

sponsor of the nation-wide program, Nelson Rockefeller, outstanding advocate of hemisphere unity among the Americas.

Lewis and the other five winners of the government-sponsored contest on Inter-American affairs met in San Antonio June 4 and entered Mexico through Laredo. From there the group progressed to Monterey and Mexico City which provided headquarters for three weeks of subsequent travel.

Led by special Mexican guides, they went by auto to the Pacific coast, visiting silver mining centers and other places en route, and by plane to Yucatan. Lewis considered this trip and a visit to an



AT TEPOTZLAN
Joe Sterling, Mexican woman,
and John Lewis

experiment in rural reconstruction being conducted by the Y. M. C. A. in the village of Tepotzlan among the highlights of the summer. At Chichen Itza, the boys inspected the Mayan ruins, pyramids, and temples which are living relics of a civilization which flourished 400 or 500 years before the Spaniards came.

Two other trips were to Puebla, where the hidden convent of Santa Monica is located, and to Cholula, the "city of 365 churches." Another jaunt was to Guadalajara, and from there to Lake Chapala whose height above sea level is the greatest in this hemisphere. They also visited the Palace of Maximilian.

Beginning July 1, the winners attended the University of Mexico for six weeks. Lewis took courses in Mexican history, history of Latin America, and Spanish.

Mexico is predominantly Catholic, and its customs are based on Spanish heritage. Siesta is still observed every day from one o'clock to three-thirty o'clock in the afternoon. Mexicans turn out in full attendance for the bull fights.

In smaller villages peasants still wear gayly colored costumes, but the upper class dress as Americans, while in larger towns all classes attire themselves in modern fashion. One of the deeply rooted customs is that a young couple must be carefully chaperoned by members of the girl's family.

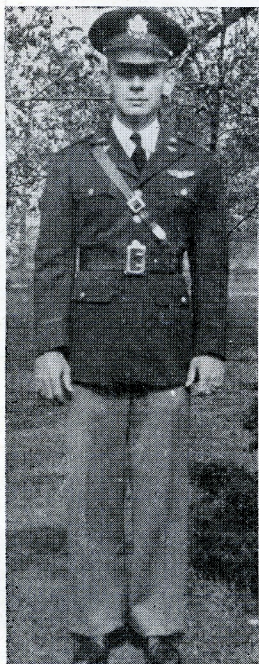
The young men were entertained several times at the American embassy. Programs of Mexican music, costume dances, and old Indian dances were presented at the school every Thursday afternoon and concerts given by the national symphony orchestra provided added entertainment for the group. The sextet came back by the Pacific coast through Nogales about August 15.

Primarily a ministerial student, Lewis has found the key to successful student ministerhood combined with general campus popularity. He is president of the state B. S. U. Council; an active member of the Mystic Krewe, men's leadership organization; an outstanding member of Phi Alpha Theta, honorary history group; a member of Theta Alpha Phi, dramatics fraternity; member of the Phi society, honorary scholastic group; and is an active member of Pi Gamma Mu, social science organization. He was elected most outstanding freshman; was president of Pi Kappa Delta, national honorary debate fraternity; and of the International Relations Club; was second vice president of the Southeastern Conference of I. R. C.; was listed two years in Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities; and has been a varsity debater since his freshman year.

FIRST PKD MEMBER MISSING IN ACTION

Lieutenant H. L. Sylar, Jr., a charter member of Tennessee Chapter, has been missing in action since June 16, 1942.

"H. L." or "Pete", as he was familiarly known at Tennessee Tech, entered that school in September, 1937, and remained for three full years. He majored in Business Administration. While at Tech, "H. L." was active in the business club, in sports, and in speech activities. He became interested in discussion and debating early in his sophomore year; soon made the varsity debating team and represented Tech in several intercollegiate contests. His interest, effort, loyalty, enthusiasm, and attainments led to his becoming a charter member of the Tennessee Delta Chapter.



LT. H. L. SYLAR, JR.

At the end of the academic year in June, 1940, he felt the call of his country for men in aviation. Shortly after taking his examinations, he enlisted in C. P. T. at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. In September he completed his course and received his pilot's license. He then enlisted in the Army Air Corps, and received his wings and commission in October. He was immediately sent to Wheeler Field in Hawaii, arriving about three weeks prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. In the Pearl Harbor engagement he participated as a fighter pilot. He was at

Midway during the battle there. On June 16, 1942, he was reported missing in action at sea. His assignment was a very important mission and the plane carried six others.

In the way "H. L." trained and fought and went about the business of helping to destroy the Axis, his associates at Tech feel that he certainly has made a real contribution towards helping to maintain a world where the high ideals and aims of Pi Kappa Delta can thrive and where the "art of persuasion beautiful and just" will prevail.

Southern Illinois Normal University

Illinois Upsilon



On May 21, 1942, the Illinois Upsilon chapter of Pi Kappa Delta was installed at Southern Illinois Normal University in Carbondale. The sponsor is Miss Dorothy B. Magnus, Director of Speech and Dramatics at the college. Five students and the sponsor were initiated in the presence of four members from other chapters, who are now on the S. I. N. U. faculty, and the installation officer with his delegation. Dr. Forrest H. Rose of Southeast Missouri State Teachers College conducted the installation. A delegation of students from the Missouri college accompanied him.

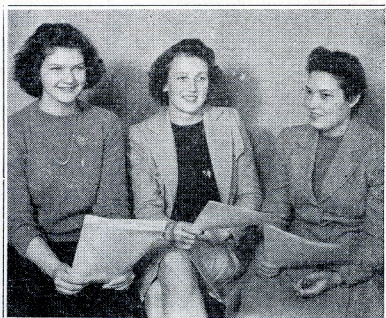
The ceremony was held on the stage of Little Theatre prior to the initiation banquet. After the ceremony, the group moved to the private dining room in one of the city's downtown restaurants. There the banquet and after-dinner speaking program took place. This was a fitting close to the season's forensic activities.

Southern Illinois Normal University was founded in 1874. It is a state supported institution devoted to teacher education with curricula leading to the degree of Bachelor of Education.

The top enrollment of the college was 2,181 in the Fall of 1940. Here as in other colleges the enrollment has suffered from the effect of the war. This year (1942) the Fall Term enrollment was 1,527.

Two charter members left the campus through graduation. A small but enthusiastic nucleus remains to carry on during the current year. The following students are officers: Ida Mae Jones, a Junior from Sesser, Illinois, president; Elaine Steinheimer, a Junior from Vergennes, Illinois, vice president; and Connie Laffoon a Sophomore from DuQuoin, Illinois, secretary-treasurer. The officers are looking forward to as active a season as transportation facilities will permit.

Southern Illinois Normal University is the only four-year accredited college in the area. It serves nearly a million people living in the southern section of Illinois. Carbondale itself is located fifty miles directly north of Cairo on the Ohio river and approximately one hun-



OFFICERS OF ILLINOIS UPSILON

WASHINGTON SPEAKING

As heard by Lt. E. C. Farkas, N. S. N. R.
Alumnus Ohio Alpha, Baldwin-Wallace College

"A toast to America needs must combine the physical and spiritual qualities which go to make up the land and its people, in the inscrutable wisdom of the Creator. What artist, may I humbly ask, could draft upon his canvas the pattern of all the rich sunsets which have spread their dyes over our heavens? What Raphael could portray America as we

have seen it, in its millions of facets, the mightiest land of promise ever given to man? What composer could translate to musical score the movements of the soul of this vast Nation? What Beethoven must we have to envisage majestic coronachs of a hymn to our country? And what orator, may I ask, is magnificent enough to utter the settled phrases and the balanced sentences in which to truly describe our country and the love we bear for it?"—Rep. John W. McCormack Before Charitable Irish Society. 3-17-1942.



Lt. E. C. FARKAS

"This generation of Americans has come to realize with a present and personal realization that there is something larger and more important than the life of any individual or any individual group—something for which a man will sacrifice, and gladly sacrifice, not only his pleasures, not only his goods, not only his association with those he loves, but

his life itself. In time of crisis, when the future is in the balance, we come to understand, with full recognition and devotion, what this nation is and what we owe it."—President Roosevelt Radio. 2-23-1942.

"We will muster every quality, every virtue and trait that is lofty and fine in the American inheritance. We will stand erect in the sight of God and man—fearing no one, ready in body and spirit to meet whatever challenge may come, and confident that a people of our inherent worth and with our just cause will inevitably prevail."—Frank Murphy, Associate Justice Supreme Court. Radio address. 1-23-1942.

"I beseech all of those who have any stake in freedom—industrialists, newspaper editors, columnists, radio commentators, churchmen and just plain citizens; I plead indeed to all men of good will. I ask that we rivet tight the armor of protection to our great trade-union movement and the institution of collective-bargaining. Let us now, on the threshold of an era packed with unknown peril to our Nation and our freedom, declare it to be a national policy that we will not tolerate the outstanding source of age-old tyranny in employer-employee relationships in the United States of America." Robt. M. La Follette, on floor of Senate. 4-4-1942.

The President's Page



Undoubtedly many of the men and several of the women in our various local chapters will have reported for active military service before this issue of *THE FORENSIC* reaches you. We salute those comrades of ours. We know that they will serve to the best of their ability and will bring honor and distinction to themselves in their new responsibilities. Their departure greatly increases the responsibilities of those of us who are still working on the home-front. But I feel confident that Pi Kappa Delta will continue to carry on a vigorous, active program on our respective local campuses despite our depleted ranks.

Perhaps many who have been active in our speech activities this year were called to active military service before they became members of Pi Kappa Delta. In that case, may I suggest that they be granted membership "in absentia", and that their membership fees be paid by the local chapters if the forensic budget for this year isn't already depleted.

During the ensuing months Pi Kappa Delta will be writing a most important chapter in its history. Certainly the contribution that our men and women are making in this great world struggle for the preservation of freedom and human rights should be accurately recorded. Therefore, I suggest that each local chapter keep a complete record of the war-time activities of all of its membership—student, faculty and alumni. It occurs to me that this historical document should include the particular branch of service—Army, Navy, Marine, Coast Guard, Air Corps, WAACS, WAVES, Nursing Corps, Medical Corps, etc.—in which each Pi Kappa Delta member has served; the particular rank each individual has achieved; any honor earned for distinguished service; name of the country in which the individual served; and a record of casualties among our membership. Too, it would be interesting to have for our permanent records a comprehensive summary of the various defense-speaking activities carried on by each of our local chapters. Thus I urge upon each chapter to select an historian now whose major responsibility will be to collect and preserve the above-mentioned data.

The matter of greatest immediate concern to Pi Kappa Delta is our Province Conventions. Secretary Finley reports that it looks now as though every Province intends to hold a Convention. Congratulations to all of you for that splendid evidence of courage and loyalty! My earnest request to each local chapter is that you put forth every possible effort to be represented at your Provincial Convention.

The Secretary's Office



DIRECTORY OF 1943 PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS

Province of the Plains: Kearney, Nebraska Zeta, March 26-7.

Province of Missouri: No announcement.

Province of Illinois: Normal, Illinois Eta, March 18-20.

Province of the Pacific: Linfield, Oregon Alpha, February 18-20.

Province of the Sioux: No announcement.

Province of the Lower Mississippi: East Texas, Gamma, March 26-7.

Province of the Lakes: Heidelberg, Ohio Beta, April 2-3.

Province of the Upper Mississippi: No announcement.

Province of the Southeast: Probably at Knoxville, but no dates have been announced.

These are not official announcements. They represent the latest and most reliable information that it has been possible for Secretary Finley and THE FORENSIC to gather. But all of these provincial convention dates and plans are subject to change on short notice. Chapters are warned to verify these dates through the provincial governors.

The National Intercollegiate Debate Question for 1943-44

Here is a poser; what can the colleges debate to best advantage in 1943-44? Does it seem to be too soon to begin thinking about it now? Well, you see between now and the middle of April you will be asked to name a good debate topic for next year. I hope each chapter will send in at least one subject.

What can we discuss with profit and interest? A general Federal Sales Tax, World Free Trade after the War, A Year of Compulsory Military Training for Every Man Between the Ages of 18 and 22, A Universal Price Fixing Program, etc. All impossible subjects, did you say? All right; you name a good one. That's just what I hope you'll do when you get the call for proposed subjects.

Below you will find a report of the work the General Debate Question Committee has already done. They are at work on the problem; let's help them all we can.

G. W. Finley, National Secretary.

Report of Christmas Meeting of Committee on National Intercollegiate Debate Question.

The meeting was held in Chicago in connection with the convention of the National Association of Teachers of Speech. It was