



**CONVENTION PLANS ARE MADE** 

### JANUARY 1963

## The FORENSIC

#### OF PI KAPPA DELTA

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#### Contents

The President's Page	3
Fiftieth Anniversary Convention Pro- gram	4
Convention and Contest Committees .	5
Convention and Contest Rules	6
Revising Our Constitution	10
Selecting Topics for Debate and Dis- cussion	13
Prizes Announced for Public Discussion Contest	15
Professor Boody Pointed My Nose To- ward the Stage	16
Chapter Notes	17
Alumni News	28
Chapter Reports	30
Pi Kappa Delta Directory	35
In Memoriam: Dana T. Burns	35

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10. PROVINCE OF THE NORTHWEST

Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington. N. W. Corbin, Idaho State College, Pocatello, Idaho



**Raymond Yeager** 

### The President's Page

A New Year is here—and the Golden Anniversary Convention is almost upon us. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to plan your entries. Our goal is to have every chapter of Pi Kappa Delta represented at the convention. If for some reason your chapter can't send a carload of students, remember that either one student or one faculty member can attend as your official delegate. A student delegate could also participate in individual events. Costs at the convention are held

as low as possible in order to encourage maximum attendance.

We will want to recognize schools that have the largest representation, and also those that came the farthest distance. The site of the convention was deliberately chosen so that it is centrally located for most chapters of Pi Kappa Delta. The facilities of Southern Illinois University are superb, and our hosts are going "all-out" to make this convention the best ever. Your number one New Year's Resolution ought to be, "Represented at the Golden Anniversary Convention in Nineteen Hundred Sixty Three."

What other New Year Resolution should we make? As believers in "Persuasion—beautiful and just" could we not put more emphasis upon the "just"? Through our experiences in forensic activities and classroom theory and practice, we gain skill in persuading others. But Pi Kappa Delta would have us always ask ourselves the question, "Persuasion to what end?" Is it to win at all costs? Of course not, there are ethics involved, you say. But are we stressing enough that the best speakers are GOOD men?

The good man seeks the truth recognizing that it is not always obvious, and that the other fellow may have a piece of it, too. The good man proposes ideas that will hold up in the light of history—not just for today. In other words, the integrity of his ideas is paramount. The good man is compassionate, forgiving, willing to admit that he may be wrong, seeking enlightenment rather than dogma. He recognizes that the principles of debate by their very implication decry the use of force to settle arguments. Opponents are to be *won* over, not run over.

The ideal speaker of Pi Kappa Delta is one who is not only skilled in speaking, but one who has also learned to respect other persons—and particularly other ideas differing from his own. It appears to me that in our political life we are more and more vilifying the opposition, attacking the man rather than his argument. I believe Adlai Stevenson put into a nutshell what it is America stands for: "A democracy is a society where it is safe to be unpopular."

Let us resolve that in 1963 and in the future, our persuasion will not only be beautiful—but just.

# Fiftieth Anniversary Convention Program

CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS March 19-23, 1963

#### **TUESDAY**, March 19

1:00 p.m.-8 p.m. Registration

8:00 p.m. Business Meeting: Charter presentation; Election of Editor and Sec.-Treas.; Speaker

#### WEDNESDAY, March 20

8:15 a.m. Debate I, Discussion I

- 9:45 a.m. Debate II
- 11:15 a.m. Oratory I
- 12:00 noon Province Governors Luncheon
- 1:30 p.m. Extemp Drawing I
- 2:30 p.m. Extemp I
- 4:00 p.m. Convention Picture, Stadium
- 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting: Elect Pres. and V-P
- 9:00 p.m. Province Meetings

#### **THURSDAY**, March 21

8:15 a.m. Debate III, Discussion II

- 9:45 a.m. Debate IV
- 1:00 p.m. Extemp Drawing II
- 2:00 p.m. Extemp II

3:30 p.m. Business Meeting: Elect Council; Recognize Past officers

8:00 p.m. Convention Dance

#### FRIDAY, March 22

- 8:15 a.m. Debate V, Discussion III
- 9:45 a.m. Debate VI
- 11:15 a.m. Oratory II
  - 1:30 p.m. Extemp Drawing III
- 2:30 p.m. Extemp III
- 4:00 p.m. Oratory III
- 7:00 p.m. Convention Banquet: Golden Anniversary Awards; Speaker

#### SATURDAY, March 23

- 8:00 a.m. Debate VII, Discussion IV
- 9:30 a.m. Debate VIII
- 11:00 a.m. Oratory IV
- 1:00 p.m. Extemp Drawing IV
- 2:00 p.m. Extemp IV
- 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Announcement of Results, Picture of Winners

4

## Convention and Contest Committees

#### **Convention Committees:**

- 1. Convention Committee
  - Convention Chairman: Harvey Cromwell, Mississippi State College for Women Local Chairman: Jack Parker, Southern Illinois University
- 2. Province Coordinator

Harold Larson, Carroll College (Wisconsin)

3. Parliamentarian

Ted Nelson, St. Olaf College

4. Nominations Committee

Sherod Collins, Chm., Northeast Missouri State Teachers College George McCarty, University of Dayton

- Clara C. Lee, Augustana College (South Dakota)
- 5. Resolutions Committee

Evan Ulrey, Chm., Harding College William Stites, Arizona State College Jon Hopkins, Eastern Illinois University

6. Convention Invitations Committee

Glenn Reddick, Chm., North Central College (Illinois)

William Corbin, Idaho State College

- H. Francis Short, Kansas State College (Pittsburg)
- 7. Committee on Convention Evaluation

William DeMougeot, Chm., North Texas University Harold Sampson, Nebraska Weslevan Uni-

versity Gilbert Rau, Central Michigan University

8. Committee on Convention Publicity

John Randolph, Chm., Westminster Frank T. Alusow, MacMurray College L. A. Lawrence, Montana State College Gilbert Rau, Central Michigan University

9. Constitutional Revision Committee

Ted Karl, Chm., Pacific Lutheran University Glenn Capp, Baylor University Cunera van Emmerick, Central College (Iowa) 10. Charter Committee

Georgia Bowman, Chm., William Jewell College

Clarence Nystrom, Wheaton College Glenn Capp, Baylor University

#### Contest Committees:

1. Contest Chairman

Roy Murphy, Southwest Louisiana Institute

2. Judging Committee

Roy Mahaffey, Chm., Linfield College Les Breniman, Southern Illinois University Charles Parker, Louisiana College

3. Men's Debate Committee

Stan Rives, Chm., Illinois State Normal University Otto Bauer, Bowling Green State University

4. Women's Debate Committee

Ted Johnson, Chm., Western State College Marguerite Schriver, Southwestern College

5. Mixed Debate Committee

Jack Howe, Chm., University of Arizona Hollis Todd, Mississippi College

6. Men's Extempore Committee

Robert Smith, Chm., Hope College Robert Carr, Wisconsin State College (Oshkosh)

7. Women's Extempore Committee

Fred Goodwin, Chm., Southeast Missouri State College Brock Brentlinger, Greenville College

8. Discussion Committee

James Ladd, Chm., Phillips University Donald Wolfarth, Midland College

9. Oratory Committee

Edna Sorber, Chm., Wisconsin State College (Whitewater) H. H. Wells, South Dakota School of Mines Paul Winters, University of the Pacific

### Convention and Contest Rules

#### GENERAL

1. Each student and one faculty director of forensics from each college attending the convention must pay a registration fee of \$7.50. This covers the banquet ticket, admission to all meetings and contests, and the semi-formal dance. The wives of faculty members will be issued banquet tickets at cost and will not be charged the registration fee. Also, each college that has not already done so, shall pay at the time of registration the \$25.00 fiftieth anniversary observance assessment.

2. Each student delegate to the convention and each participant in the contests shall be a bona fide undergraduate student who has not already had four years of forensic participation previous to 1962-1963 and who is carrying a minimum of twelve hours of college work with passing grades at the time of the convention. He shall be a member of Pi Kappa Delta or shall have filed a membership application with the National Secretary and sent in his initiation fee.

3. All entries in convention contests must be sent to the National Secretary so as to show a postmark not later than February 19, 1963.

4. There shall be separate divisions for men and women in all events except discussion and the mixed division of debate. Men and women will discuss together in the discussion event but their ratings will be tabulated separately for the purpose of determining awards at the conclusion of the convention. Gold medals will be awarded to winners of Superior rating in each contest; certificates to those winning Excellent rating. Certificates will be awarded to the school for students who receive ratings of Superior and Excellent.

5. Certificates of "Superior" will be awarded to the 10 per cent of the chapters with the most points in men's contests and to the 10 per cent of the chapters with the most points in women's contests. Certificates of "Excellent" will be awarded to the next 20 per cent in each division. Those in the next 30 per cent will be rated "Good" but will receive no certificates. Points will be given in the men's and women's divisions of debate as follows: Superior rating, 10 points; Excellent, 8 points; Good, 6 points; participation, 2 points. No points shall be given for ratings received by teams participating in the mixed division of debate. In extemporaneous speaking, oratory and discussion a rating of Superior will be given 5 points; Excellent, 4 points; Good, 3 points; participation, 1 point.

6. All contest arrangements not covered by the rules shall be in the hands of the individual contest committees and the Director of Tournaments. Questions concerning any interpretation of contest rules should be directed to Mr. Roy D. Murphy, Department of Speech, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana.

#### JUDGING

All competing chapters must provide at least one faculty member who is a qualified judge and who will accept his assigned service as outlined by the judging committee. Individual adjustments in that assignment will be made by the chairman of the committee. Chapters entering discussion and all three divisions of debate must provide at least two qualified judges. No college will be permitted to enter the convention tournament without providing a judge unless the delegation is limited to one student representative. No student member of the delegation will be permitted to serve as a substitute for a faculty judge. A college which cannot meet the requirements of this section or whose faculty representative feels that he cannot meet his judging assignments is requested not to enter the contests. A two dollar fine shall be imposed for each judging assignment not fulfilled. No results will be announced or awards presented to schools whose judge fails to meet his judging obligations.

#### HIRING OF JUDGES

Ten qualified judges, one from each province, will be hired by the National

Council to assist with the judging of convention contests. Two judges shall be hired from the same province only if some provinces fail to supply a qualified judge. JUDGES HIRED MUST BE A SECOND QUALIFIED FACULTY MEMBER AT-TENDING THE NATIONAL CONVEN-TION. Judges hired by the National Council will receive five dollars for each round they serve. Each hired judge will be guaranteed a minimum judging assignment of ten rounds. An applicant for assignment as a hired judge should apply to his Province Governor by February 5, 1963. The Province Governor will recommend to the National Secretary by February 19, 1963, the judge to be hired from his province.

#### ORATORY

1. Contestants. Each Pi Kappa Delta chapter may enter one orator in the men's and one in the women's contest. All contestants must be present at the beginning of each round and remain until the contest has been concluded.

2. Orations. Orations shall contain not more than 150 words of quotations. The length of orations shall not exceed 1,300 words. (Total word count.) All quotations shall appear definitely as such in the manuscript. All orations must be certified by the coach as being the original work of the contestant. The orations shall be memorized and delivered without notes. The reading of orations from manuscripts shall be prohibited. Each orator shall bring two typewritten copies of his oration to the national convention. One copy shall be presented to the National Secretary of Pi Kappa Delta at the Convention Registration desk on March 19, 1963, and one copy shall be presented to a judge at the beginning of one of the rounds of oratory. The oration delivered in the contest must conform to the manuscripts submitted. The manuscript presented to the National Secretary will not be returned.

3. Contests. The contests shall be held simultaneously, the number of such contests being determined by the number of contestants entered, it being provided that not more than seven speakers shall appear on one program. Each orator shall appear in four rounds.

4. Method of Judging. Three judges shall be appointed in each contest. Each judge shall rank only the three highest ranking speakers, first, second, and third. In tabulating the results, all other speakers in each contest will be given a ranking of four. No judge shall tie two speakers for first, second or third places. The judges may comment on the speakers at the close of the round, but should not reveal their decisions.

5. Rankings. The orators ranking in the upper 10 per cent will be rated "Superior"; those in the next 20 per cent will be rated "Excellent"; and those in the next 30 per cent will be rated "Good."

#### **EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

1. Contestants. Each Pi Kappa Delta chapter may enter one speaker in the men's and one in the women's contest. All contestants must be present at the beginning of each round and remain until the contest has been concluded.

2. Subject: Freedom vs. Conformity (Subareas: Round 1, Our heritage of freedom; Round 2, "The Organization Man"; Round 3, Contradictions in our society; Round 4, Strengthening our freedom).

3. Sub-topics. The contest committee shall arrange for the securing of sufficient and suitable sub-topics for each of the four areas.

4. Drawings. One hour before the time of speaking in each contest, the contestant shall draw by lot for a subtopic. It is expected that the speech will be prepared by the student without the assistance of anyone.

5. Contests. The rules for these contests shall be the same as those for oratory.

6. Length of Speeches. Speeches shall not be more than six minutes. Each speaker shall be given a warning by the timekeeper at the expiration of five minutes.

7. The Question Period. Each speaker shall be asked one pertinent question by a judge at the close of his original speech. The speaker must answer this question impromptu; maximum time for the answer, two minutes.

8. The Method of Judging. The method of judging shall be the same as for oratory.

9. Ranking. The method of ranking shall be the same as for oratory.

#### DEBATE

1. Each Pi Kappa Delta chapter may enter one team in the men's division, one team in the women's division, and one team in the mixed division.

2. Substitutions. There may be free substitution of debaters from round to round providing the names of those to be used are included in the entry lists.

3. Question. The proposition for debate shall be, Resolved: That the non-communist nations of the world should establish an economic community.

4. Speeches. Each debater shall have two speeches, one of ten minutes and one of five. The affirmative shall introduce the constructive and the negative shall introduce the refutation speeches.

5. Rounds. All teams will take part in eight rounds of debate, the pairings of which are to be arranged by the contest committee and posted from round to round.

6. Sides. Each college must debate both sides of the question, having an equal number of affirmative and negative debates.

7. Decisions. Decisions will be rendered by single judges, who may comment on the debate but who should not announce their decisions to the debaters.

8. Rankings. Both team ratings and decisions will be taken into account in determining awards. All teams winning all or seven of the eight rounds shall be declared "Superior" teams regardless of their proficiency ratings. All teams with a rating of from 4.5 to 5.0 shall also be declared "Superior" teams even though they may have won fewer than seven debates. All teams winning six of the eight rounds shall be declared "Excellent" teams regardless of their proficiency ratings. All teams with a rating of from 4.0 to 4.49 shall also be declared "Excellent" teams even though they may have won fewer than six debates. All teams winning five of the eight rounds shall be declared "Good" teams regardless of their proficiency ratings. All teams with a rating of from 3.5 to 3.99 shall also be declared "Good" teams even though they may have won fewer than five debates.

9. Drawing. In order to avoid a pairing in which strong teams will meet only strong teams and weaker teams meet only weaker teams, every fourth team will be seeded on the basis of performance earlier in the year. Under this plan every team (including every seeded team) will meet two seeded teams and two only during the course of the eight rounds. Ratings of various colleges shall be determined by the Debate Committee with the assistance of the Province Governors and qualified Pi Kappa Delta members in the respective areas.

#### DISCUSSION

1. Subject. What should be the role of the Federal Government in regulating the economy?

2. Procedure. There will be four rounds. Each of the four rounds shall have a maximum time limit of one and one-half hours.

Round I. Definition and delineation stage. (What is the nature, extent, and significance of the problem? What terms of the discussion question need defining?)

Round II. Problem—analysis stage. (What are the probable causes of the problem? By what criteria should probable solutions be measured?)

Round III. Solutions stage. (What possible solutions are there? What is the best solution for the problem? Use criteria for evaluating and eliminating solutions.)

Round IV. Solutions stage. (Continue evaluation of solutions.)

3. Discussion leader. A discussion leader shall be appointed by the Discussion Contest Committee for each section of Round I. At the conclusion of Round I, II, III, and IV, the members of each section shall elect one of their members to serve as the discussion leader for the following round.

4. Participants. Each Pi Kappa Delta chapter may enter one man and one woman student in discussion. Men and women will discuss together but their ratings will be tabulated separately for the purpose of determining awards at the conclusion of the convention.

5. Judging. A faculty observer will sit with each section. It shall be his function to check attendance, serve as a guide in procedure, and evaluate the participants. The faculty observer shall evaluate each participant on his knowledge of the discussion question, his use of critical thinking, and his cooperation with other members of the group. Also, all sections shall be observed by a panel of five traveling judges. Each of the five traveling judges will spend a minimum of fifteen minutes with each section. It shall be the function of the traveling judges to compare and evaluate the quality of work being done by the sections they visit. Each member will receive the average evaluation awarded by the traveling judges for his section. At the conclusion of Round IV, each participant will complete an evaluation for each member of his section. Each participant's final score will consist of the sum of the evaluations awarded him by the faculty observers ( $662_3$  per cent), the evaluation awarded his section by the traveling judges ( $162_3$  per cent), and the average of evaluations given by the members of his section ( $162_3$  per cent). Faculty observers will use a different rating scale for evaluating discussion leaders and discussion participants.

6. Ranking. The discussion participants ranking in the upper 10 per cent will be rated "Superior"; those in the next 20 per cent will be rated "Excellent"; those in the next 30 per cent will be rated "Good." Men and women will be ranked separately at the conclusion of the convention. Students must participate in each of the four rounds to be eligible for a final rating.

#### Official Entry Blank PI KAPPA DELTA GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois March 19-23, 1963

The Chapter 1	ocated at					
will send delegates to the Convention consisting of faculty members,						
men students and women students.						
Coaches attending						
Our voting delegate (s) will be:						
We will have entries in the following events:						
Men's debate Men's oratory	Men's extemporaneous speaking					
Women's debate Women's oratory Women's extemporaneous speaking						
Mixed debate Men's Discussion Women's discussion						
Our entries will be selected from the following:						
Men	Women					
	••••••					

It will not be necessary to indicate the name of your contestants until you register at Carbondale. List all those who may be used and indicate your final choice at the National Convention.

Every contestant must be a member of PKD or must have sent a tentative membership application blank and the initiation fee to the National Secretary. All entry blanks must be mailed to show a postmark not later than Feb. 19, 1963. Free substitution of speakers in debate may be made from round to round if all names are included on this blank. Each contestant in Oratory must bring two typewritten copies of the oration to the National. One copy, which will not be returned, must be turned in at the time of registration.

Do not send fees with this blank. The contest entry fee has been combined with the registration fee and all delegates will pay one fee of \$7.50 at the Convention.

We have read the rules governing these contests as published in THE FORENSIC and certify that our contestants are eligible under these rules.

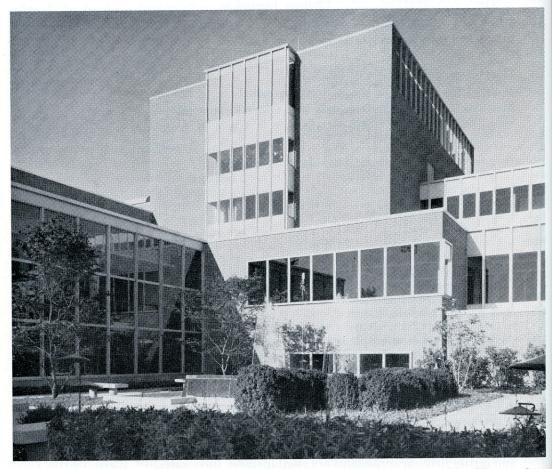
Signed .....

# **Revising Our Constitution**

#### THEODORE O. H. KARL

One of the multitudinous problems discussed at the National Council meeting in August at Carbondale, Illinois, was the matter of constitutional revision. The Council decided that every effort should be made to see to it that the convention would be advised in advance of proposed constitutional revisions in order that the delegates might be instructed by the local chapters,

Ted Karl is not only Director of Forensics at Pacific Lutheran University and a member of the National Council but also Chairman of Pi Kappa Delta's Constitutional Revision Committee. and that every opportunity must be given for the proposal of constitutional revisions at the business sessions of the convention itself. In preparation for the convention at Carbondale and the participation of the members and delegates in the operation and control of the affairs of Pi Kappa Delta, the chairman of the Constitutional Revision Committee was instructed to present, through the columns of THE FORENSIC, a plan which might present the greatest possible opportunity for deliberative consideration, both prior to and during the conven-



The Fountain Court, University Center, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. Convention headquarters will be here.

#### PI KAPPA DELTA Constitution Revision Proposal

TO: Constitution Revision Committee FROM: (Name of Chapter-Province-Governor-National Council)

Statement of Proposal— (Be sure to identify article, division, section, and paragraph. Also be sure that wording is as desired.)

Supporting Material: (Reasons for proposing the revision)

(Attach other sheets for additional information)

Instructions: Send five copies to Professor Theodore O. H. Karl—Chairman, Committee on Constitutional Revision—Chairman, Department of Speech, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma 44, Washington. Feel free to consult other members of the Committee. They are:

Professor Cunera Van Emmerick, Director of Speech, Central College, Pella, Iowa Dr. Glenn R. Capp, Director of Speech, Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Action of Committee on Constitution Revision:

Approved ...... Revised ..... Action number .....

tion. It was the considered opinion of the Council that the question of constitutional revision has taken on greater importance in the past few years. The plan to be discussed here was approved by the Council, and it is the hope of the Constitutional Revision Committee that all chapters will actually take time to examine the constitution and present for the consideration of the convention such revisions as they feel would be constructive measures and changes for the success of Pi Kappa Delta.

The committee would ask then that all of the chapters give consideration to the matters of the constitution, and that the procedure outlined below be taken into consideration and followed in order that these important matters may be taken care of decently and in order.

On the next page will be found a form which will be used to present all such constitutional revisions. No constitutional changes will be considered unless presented on a form with all of the items included. Any proposed constitutional revision may be sent in on such a form as of the date of this publication, also up to and including the business sessions of the convention.

During the convention NO amendment proposal will be acted upon during the session at which it is presented. The chairman will rule that discussion will be allowed, and amendments to the proposal will be allowed, but that action will be delayed until the following Business Session. The proposal will be reported to the proper business session by the committee and attention will be called to any other parts of the constitution that might be affected by such a proposal. The committee will study the wording of the proposal with the individuals proposing the change, and as well explain to the convention the import or effect of such a proposed change. Thus newly proposed amendments will be entertained at all business sessions with the exception of the final business session of the convention. Room will be made on the agenda of the final session to consider previously proposed changes.

Please notice on the form on the preceding page the instructions and how the proposed revisions are to be handled. The requirement of five copies is only to be invoked for those proposals which in coming years are sent in advance for publication in THE FORENSIC. At the time of the convention only two copies will be required: one to be retained by the proposer and the other for the Constitutional Revision Committee's perusal and study.

Copies of this form will be available at the registration desk at the time of the convention and as well at the rear of the hall at all Business Sessions.

The council feels that this plan will give each and every chapter and delegate the opportunity to prepare for the convention in the area of constitutional revision, and as well at the time of the convention to be very sure that they understand all of the implications and possibilities of any such proposal.

The committee asks for your cooperation and interest and hopes that the result of this procedure will be a considered and orderly procedure for any amendments which you feel would be an advantage and a stimulus for the future of our fraternity.

#### OPEN LETTER TO PROVINCE GOVERNORS

Governors of all of the provinces should plan to attend the luncheon scheduled for them during the convention. This is a good time to share ideas and make plans toward coordinating efforts of the various provinces. In addition, it is a fine opportunity to again meet Pi Kappa Delta brothers for an hour of fraternal enjoyment. Come prepared to discuss special questions that might be of interest to the governors.

Incidentally, the governor of each province is in the best position to encourage strong attendance at the convention. Special steps should be undertaken between now and the convention date to encourage all chapters to attend. If I can be of help, be sure to let me know.

> HAROLD C. LARSON Province Coordinator

#### COVER PHOTO: CONVENTION PLANS MADE

Planning Pi Kappa Delta's Golden Anniversary convention at Southern Illinois University are SIU debate coach Jack Parker, center, and student members of Pi Kap. From left: Jeff Barlow, Philip Wander, Parker, and Annette Mulvaney.

# Selecting Topics For Debate and Discussion

**ROY D. MURPHY** 

Ι

Probably every intercollegiate debater and his coach have been tempted, at one time or another, to file a complaint with the National Questions Committee regarding the nature of the debate proposition or discussion question. Many have yielded unto that temptation!

After having served as Pi Kappa Delta's representative for one term, it is my opinion that the work of the SAA Committee on Intercollegiate Debate and Discussion Activities meets with the wholehearted approval of nobody, including its members.

This year's committee members are not completely satisfied with the topics they phrased into debate propositions and discussion questions. Others share this dissatisfaction in that complaints have been voiced by students, publishers, labor leaders, and educators, including those actively concerned with forensic activities.

This article has a threefold purpose: to comment on a proposed amendment to the "Revised Plan for Procedure of SAA Committee on Intercollegiate Debate and Discussion Activities"; to review the part played by Pi Kappa Delta in selecting the current national debate proposition and discussion question; and to urge Pi Kappa Delta members to be more active in suggesting topics and in voting for the debate proposition and discussion question.

Most of the complaints registered with the Pi Kappa' Delta National Questions Committee representative were in objection to the foreign trade proposition as it appeared on the SAA preferential ballot.

This is understandable because practically every chapter that submitted suggestions for topics had included one on foreign trade. A vast majority of them proposed the "European Common Market." An economic community of non-communist nations was not mentioned. Even so a European Economic Community proposition did not appear on the SAA preferential ballot and the proposition for debate is, Resolved: "That the non-communist nations of the world should establish an economic community."

It might be well to observe in passing that only four Pi Kappa Delta chapters recommended the Connally Reservation topic and it appeared on the SAA preferential ballot.

This matter was discussed at the 1962 Summer Meeting of the National Council. Members of the National Council seemed to be of the opinion that the majority of those concerned with intercollegiate forensic activities should have a more forceful voice in determining the topic areas to be phrased into the debate propositions and discussion questions that are submitted for preferential vote.

A proposed amendment to the "Revised Plan for Procedure of SAA Committee on Intercollegiate Debate and Discussion Activities" was drafted and forwarded to the committee chairman.

The amendment under consideration is to add to Article 5 the sentence, "At least three propositions for debate and at least three questions for discussion chosen and phrased by the committee members shall be drawn from the topics most frequently mentioned by those canvassed for suggestions."

If amended, then Article 5 would read as follows: "The chairman immediately after receiving the fraternity and other suggestions to circulate the lists among the committee members for considerations. The committee members (or a subcommittee) to meet for one or two days as required in May or June to choose and phrase three to five propositions for debate and three to

Roy Murphy, Director of Forensics at Southwest Louisiana Institute and National Vice-President of Pi Kappa Delta, is also the fraternity's representative on the committee which selects the national debate and discussion questions each year.

five questions for discussion. At least three propositions for debate and at least three questions for discussion chosen and phrased by the committee members shall be drawn from the topics most frequently mentioned by those canvassed for suggestions."

If the proposed amendment had been in force this year, then the national proposition for debate probably would have been, Resolved: "That the United States should join the European Economic Community."

This would have been an unusually good proposition according to Wayne N. Thompson. In his article, "Criteria for Choosing a National Debate Topic," appearing in the October, 1962, issue of THE FORENSIC, Dr. Thompson is of the opinion that the EEC proposition would satisfy his criteria in that "... it would be significant ...; ... it would present opportunities for far-ranging research and for a number of relevant affirmative cases ...; ... it would provide ample opportunities for research ...; ... [it] should be reasonably stable; [and] ... [it] seems fully debatable..."

#### Π

Progressing from the proposed amendment it seems to be evident that Pi Kappa Delta played an active part in selecting the current debate proposition and discussion question in that topics were suggested by fifty-seven chapters.

Practically all of the fifty-seven chapters submitted foreign trade for a debate topic. A majority of them suggested that the topic deal with the "European Common Market."

The Pi Kappa Delta chapters contributed other debate topics in the following order of preference: Red China, House Un-American Activities Committee, United Nations, Non-United Nations International Governments, Military Policy, Liberty, Berlin, World Court, Foreign Aid, Farm Price Supports, Nuclear Weapons, Space Program, Education, Population Explosion, Labor, Federal Elections, Urban Affairs, Income Taxes, Monroe Doctrine, Art and Culture, and fourteen other miscellaneous topics.

The topics mentioned for the discussion question were quite varied. Included in the suggestions were topics in the following order of preference: Federal Aid to Education, United Nations, Communism, Foreign Relations, American States, Foreign Trade, Population Explosion, Disarmament, Culture, United States Economy, Free Enterprise and Government, Urban Affairs, Foreign Aid, Agriculture, Unemployment, Automation, Federal Control of Radio and Television, Outer Space, Alliance for Progress, and twenty-eight other miscellaneous topics.

A total of 130 Pi Kappa Delta chapters participated in the SAA preferential vote as follows: 123 valid ballots, 3 spoiled ballots, and 4 late ballots.

The chapters of Pi Kappa Delta concurred with the results of the preferential vote in that they ranked first both the debate proposition and discussion question for the current forensic season. Five other forensic groups also participated in the preferential vote.

#### III

Even though the members of Pi Kappa Delta made a significant contribution in selecting this year's debate proposition and discussion question, it seems that the some two hundred chapters of Pi Kappa Delta could have been more active in suggesting topics and in voting on the propositions and questions listed on the SAA preferential ballot.

All Pi Kappa Delta Chapters are urged to participate in selecting the debate proposition and discussion question by suggesting topic areas and by voting. If adopted, the proposed amendment to the "Revised Plan for Procedure of SAA Committee on Intercollegiate Debate and Discussion Activities" will make it imperative for our chapters to submit topics in that the three most frequently mentioned debate topics will be phrased into propositions and the three most frequently mentioned discussion topics will be phrased into questions.

#### IV

In conclusion, it seems that Pi Kappa Delta could be even more active in the future than it was this year in helping to select the national debate proposition and discussion question. It is obvious that Pi Kappa Delta made a significant contribution in this connection this year. If the proposed amendment to the plan for procedure of the SAA Questions Committee is adopted, then complaints about topics may be reduced somewhat.

As a final thought, it may be safe to assume that the debate proposition and discussion question will meet with the unqualified approval of all concerned whenever all of those engaged in forensic activities are completely satisfied with judges.