

## *Notes From the Secretary's Desk*

### THE EXTEMPORE SPEAKING TOPICS

For men: Democracy—or what?

For women: Careers for 20th Century Women.

This year the extempore topics were selected by the National Council, the Governors of the Provinces, and the Chairmen of the Extempore Speaking Contest Committees. Fourteen different topics for men and the same number for women were suggested by the group. These were listed and sent back for a vote. Each member of the committee was asked to select a first, second, and third topic for men and the same for women. Counting three points for a first, two for a second, and one for a third choice the vote came out as follows:

For Men		Points	First places
First: Democracy—or what? .....	23	4	
Second: Our Neutrality Policy .....	20	3	
Third: Our Present Political Revolution .....	16	2	
Fourth: The Outlook for the Present Generation of College Students .....	15	2	
For Women			
First: Careers for 20th Century Women .....	28	5	
Second: The Consumer in Modern Business .....	17	3	
Third: Education for Marriage .....	16	4	
Fourth: The Trend of American Civilization in the 20th Century .....	15	3	
The other topics proposed received a few scattering votes.			

The lowest key number issued recently was No. 228. This was a replacement key for Vera Buck, now Dr. Buck, a member of Colorado Beta Chapter. She is now head of the Modern Language work at Albion, Michigan.

The Georgetown, Kentucky, Pi Kappa Delta members believe in "making hay while the sun shines," only they "sold hot-dogs while the football game raged," their objective being the raising of funds for the trip to Topeka.

The National Secretary's pet peeve: "If local chapters would only answer correspondence promptly!" This fall when he sent the call for the active membership lists which he collects every year in order to check records in the national headquarters against those in the local chapters, he got two-thirds of the answers back. Then he had to send a second call to the other third. This call brought in only a few more replies.

Robert Sheran, Special Distinction member of Minnesota Epsilon at College of St. Thomas, and a member of the national championship men's debate team in 1936, is now coach of debate at The College of St. Catherine, St. Paul. He is interested in getting a chapter of Pi Kappa Delta established at St. Catherine.

One of the most interesting key orders that we have ever placed came in recently. It was a Christmas present for A. D. Sutherland, of Ripon College, whose membership number is 151, taken out in 1913. The key was ordered by Mr. Sutherland's son Albert. They live in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin.

We still have "shingles" made for any members who desire them. Recently we sent six of them to members of the Mississippi Beta chapter. Any member who wants one should order directly from Secretary Finley. They come at fifty cents a shingle.

A recent letter from our publishers, Noble & Noble, New York City, states that Volume II of Winning Debates, Orations, and Speeches is now out of print. They still have a supply of all the other volumes from I to VI. Every "prospective winner" for the 1938 contests should own at least one of these volumes so that he may see what sort of speeches won in the past.

Richard C. Reager of Hastings, Nebraska Delta. Here is what one of our "old-grads," is doing in Rutgers University, a Tau Kappa Alpha college: "Since leaving Hastings in 1924, I have been on the staff at Rutgers—heading the speech department and being director of debate. We use a pure extempore system here—and have aroused interest in the activity to such an extent that we average better than one hundred students each year at the call for candidates and have for the past seven years used at least 50 men in actual intercollegiate competition. The past year we participated in 97 intercollegiate debates and gave opportunity to 67 undergraduates to represent their school in forensic work. For the past nine years the Seniors in their



annual senior poll have voted debating the most worthwhile activity on the campus. In 1936-'37 our teams travelled over 4000 miles and in 1937-'38 I plan a tour through the mid-west—taking with me sixteen seniors—all of whom are honor men—letter winners in varsity sport—campus leaders in one field or another. This trip will be tied up with the alumni program—meeting with various alumni groups in key cities throughout the two weeks we shall be away."

Arthur V. Huffman, a member of Illinois Theta, McKendree, writes to subscribe for *The FORENSIC*. He says he misses the old magazine.

Gabriel S. Hauge, formerly coach of debate at Concordia College, is now at Harvard at work on his doctor's degree.

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## HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS AT TOPEKA

Continued from page 50

Rooms without bath.

Single .....	1.50	"	"
Double .....	1.00	"	"
3 or 4 in room .....	.75	"	"

There is running water in all rooms.

Second: You should make your reservations as soon as you know what accommodations you will want. *Note: Send your reservations to the hotel, not to me.* Because this will probably be our largest convention, we may have some difficulty housing everyone in the accommodations requested. Consequently, first registered, first served.

Third: In making your reservations, make it perfectly plain how you want your group divided. Specify how many rooms you want, and how you expect to divide your group. This may not seem important to you, but it is to us in making the most efficient use of the hotels' facilities.

Fourth: If after making reservations you find a change necessary, notify the hotel immediately. Otherwise, last minute changes may be difficult to make in the housing arrangements, after you arrive.

See you in Topeka. Good luck.

FORREST H. ROSE.

## EDITOR'S PERSONAL PAGE

Where inconsistencies cease from troubling and logic is at rest

"He Gets the Customers," an article in the last FORENSIC was re-published in the *Rostrum*, the magazine of the National Forensic League.

"At any point where the spoken words do not agree with the genuine convictions there is danger to the integration of personality." Professor W. H. Kilpatrick.

"I could tell she was a lady as soon as she spoke. Her voice, her language, her manner, her graciousness—she didn't have to tell us about herself. There was the evidence."

"I enjoyed The FORENSIC from "kiver to kiver," as is my wont when each issue drops into my office."—Roy C. Brown, Virginia Intermont College. Former national president of Phi Rho Pi.

The friend who speaks to you in a pleasant and sincere voice is like the man commended in the Bible for giving a cup of cold water. It is a small service, but it is much appreciated by the recipient.

Speak the speech, I pray you, as I pronounce it to you, trippingly on the tongue; but if you mouth it, as many of your players do, I had as lief the town-crier spoke my lines. Nor do not saw the air too much with your hands, thus, but use all gently; for in the very torrent, tempest, and, as I may say, whirlwind of your passion, you must acquire and beget a temperance that may give it smoothness. O, it offends me to the soul to hear a robustious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundlings, who for the most part are capable of nothing but inexplicable dumb-shows and noise. I would have such a fellow whipped for o'er-doing Termagant. It out-herods Herod. Pray you, avoid it.—*Hamlet*.



# THE FORENSIC

OF PI KAPPA DELTA

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ALFRED WESTFALL, Editor

G. W. FINLEY, Business Manager

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*The Gavel of Delta Sigma Rho* for November, 1937, carried as an editorial a report of the Mid-West Debate coaches' conference at Evanston, Illinois. This report proposed that all forensic organizations unite under the chairmanship of some one selected by the National Association of Teachers of Speech to select a question for nation wide use. It suggests that the question be selected in the spring to give the institutions more time to prepare and to make possible the production of a better handbook. The report suggests that the Pi Kappa Delta question has become of such influence that all institutions find their programs affected by it.

Pi Kappa Delta could tell other organizations much from what it has learned in its eighteen years of selected official debate questions. At its third biennial national convention held at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, April, 1920, the society adopted a plan of selecting the most popular question as the national question to facilitate the scheduling of debates. Some questions were named in 1920. In 1921 as its official question the society selected: Resolved that the principle of the closed shop is justifiable. It has been in the official question business ever since. Forensic associations the nation over use the Pi Kappa Delta question, await its announcement eagerly, and commend the type of proposition selected and the service the society does in making it possible for many colleges to unite in discussing one subject.

Selecting an official question, however, is not all beer and skittles. It means a lot of work and requires a lot of machinery. Under our system every chapter is invited to suggest questions. A com-



mittee then selects the most popular questions, words them carefully, and as soon as possible after the opening of school in the fall, sends a list to each chapter for a final vote. Many individuals and organizations with axes to grind, handbooks to sell, and advantages to gain, try to influence the selection of the question.

At one time the question was selected in the spring. This had a tendency to extend the debate season over too long a period and encouraged making debating a year round activity. The chapters themselves voted to delay the selection of the question until fall. Apropos of the time for selecting the question, the delegate assembly of Kansas Educational Association recently considered some resolutions which would not allow debating to begin before November 15 nor to continue after January 17. While this has to do with high school debating, the criticisms which inspire it are also leveled against college forensics. Over-emphasis will not help debating. Educational rather than commercial considerations should dictate its program.

There is much legitimate criticism of the forensic program centered too much around one question. It is hard to get audiences to attend repeated discussions of the same question. Some institutions have given up the attempt to interest audiences. They train a few contest debaters and send them to one tournament after another in a quest for cups. These people learn how to win decisions, but they do not learn to address people and influence them. The educational advantages of such a program may be seriously questioned.

Today a number of forensic associations select their own official question. The Mid-West conference usually names its question in advance of Pi Kappa Delta. The Ohio conference is debating the closed shop. Instead of attempting to force all associations to unite on one question, it would be better to try to keep several in the field. If the high schools have one question, Pi Kappa Delta another, state and regional associations still others, we shall have more of a variety, have more ways of interesting audiences. If the other forensic societies would select official questions, with the National Association of Teachers of Speech also naming one, we should have some powerful influences working for diversification.

The official question is Pi Kappa Delta's baby. As the society has reared the child from infancy to its present maturity, it naturally has some parental pride in its lusty offspring. It has learned a lot in its years of responsibility. There have been heartaches as well as pleasures. Those who have not had the experience of rearing a baby of their own, would do well to try it. They will miss a lot if they try to take a short cut and adopt a full grown child, especially when that child has a home of its own.



## MEMBER OF PI KAPPA DELTA DIRECTS BUREAU OF AIR COMMERCE

Magazines and newspapers have recently featured stories about Dr. Fred D. Fagg, Jr., director of the Bureau of Air Commerce. His picture appeared in the *American* and there was a long story about him in *Time*.

Dr. Fagg graduated from Redlands, California Alpha, in 1920. He was active in debating and represented Redlands at the third national convention at Morningside, Iowa Delta, in 1920. Dr. Fagg has taught at Harvard, Southern California, and Konigsberg, Germany. In 1929 he founded and headed the Institute of Air Law while teaching at Northwestern. The government borrowed him to straighten out the Bureau of Air Commerce in Washington. Then President Walter Dill Scott of Northwestern got him back by offering him the deanship of the school of commerce, the second largest in the nation, with 7,650 students.

"Naturally, I enjoyed most thoroughly my association with the Pi Kappa Delta group, and since my college days have had the pleasure of meeting many other members of the fraternity," stated Dr. Fagg in a letter to the FORENSIC. "I know of no other organization that attempts a finer piece of constructive work in the development of an individual during his collegiate days, and my only regret is that more of the college students do not avail themselves of the splendid training which is afforded through the various contests sponsored by the organization. I shall always personally be grateful to Prof. E. R. Nichols for his inspiration and training to those of us who were fortunate enough to be associated with him."

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Hastings College debaters are conducting a series of debates on the high school question which concerns the unicameral legislature, with Denver University, Creighton University at Omaha, Kansas State Agricultural College, and Yankton College. Some of the debates are the dialogue speaking type; some are cross examination heckling type; and some are the conventional type. The speakers were trained by Dr. Leroy T. Laase, head of the speech department, and Edward Betz, assistant debate coach. Eight first-year college debaters, all of whom are members of the argumentation class, will participate, appearing before fifteen different high school audiences.



## THE WINFIELD TOURNAMENT

The twelfth annual Inter-State Debate Tournament was held in Winfield, Kansas under the auspices of Southwestern College on Friday and Saturday, November 26-27. As usual it was under the direction of Dr. J. Thompson Baker, who originated the invitation tournament idea and who annually conducts this, the largest inter-state tournament in the United States.

Last year the tournament was too large and unwieldy, so this year efforts were made to decrease its size by limiting the number of teams which each school might send, as well as limiting the enrollment of extemporaneous oratory. This was accomplished by inviting only those colleges which participated last year. In fact only one new college, which asked for an invitation, participated.

Thirty orators participated in extemporaneous oratory. One hundred forty debate teams, from forty-five colleges in eight states participated. There was a total of 446 debates.

Plans were somewhat changed this year. The first four rounds were non-decision, while the last four were judged. Thus each college had an equal number of debates.

No prizes were given, except that certificates of award and ranking were given to all teams winning all, or all but one debate. The teams winning all debates were ranked "Superior," while those winning all but one were ranked "Good." Of senior college teams, eight men teams and four women teams went through undefeated, while five junior teams also had a clear record. No "championship" teams were selected.

It was definitely decided to lessen the number of non-decision rounds of debates next year, and automatically increase the number of decision debates.

Extemporaneous oratory also will be continued.

In order to keep the tournament so it may be handled efficiently, it has been decided to announce and strictly adhere to this plan for next year. The first forty-five colleges enrolling will be entered; then the enrollment will be closed and no more accepted. This made something over 400 visiting debate folks at the tournament this year; and that is just about as large as can be efficiently handled in such a tournament.

The fact that the same colleges return year after year, and that of the forty-five colleges here this year, forty-four of them were here last year, speaks best for the value placed on this tournament.



## PRESIDENT TOUSSAINT RECEIVES DEGREE AND MOVES TO COLORADO

Our national president should now be addressed as Doctor S. R. Toussaint, Colorado State College of Education, Greeley. He received his Ph.D. degree in speech from the University of Wisconsin in December. The title of his thesis was "A Study of Annoying Characteristics and Practices of Public Speakers." He has moved to Colorado and at the beginning of the winter quarter became a member of the faculty of the State College of Education. This is the institution with which our national secretary, George Finley, has been so long associated. With the president and the secretary on the same campus, the transaction of the business of the organization should be greatly simplified.

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Dr. Monroe C. Lippmann, former speech instructor in Southwest Texas State Teachers College, has gone to Tulane University to assume the headship of the speech department there. Coming to San Marcos as the Speech-Dramatics Director is Hugh F. Seabury, who holds a M.A. from Iowa University, and has completed all academic work for a Ph.D. in Speech at Columbia University. Mr. Seabury will have charge of debate work, and his assistant, principally in the field of dramatics, will be Dallas Williams, M.A., from Louisiana State University.

The national demonstration radio debate on the high school question of unicameral legislation was given during the fall. The affirmative speakers were Miss Peggy Dunn, former Virginia Intermont College debater, now a student at Northwestern; and Professor Bower Aly of the University of Missouri. The negative was presented by the presidents of Delta Sigma Rho and Pi Kappa Delta, Dr. H. L. Ewbank, University of Wisconsin, and Dr. S. R. Toussaint, Colorado State College of Education.

Edmund Mottershead of Macalester, Minnesota Alpha, who last year won the state Peace oratorical contest, was awarded second place in the national finals. The orations were not delivered in the finals, but were judged solely on content.—*The Mac Weekly*.



## MISSOURI THETA CHAPTER HOST TO TOURNAMENT

A highly successful pre-season speech tournament in Kirksville, Missouri was brought to a close Saturday noon, December 4, with a delightful luncheon at which 200 contestants and coaches took part.

Theta chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, Kirksville, Missouri was host to 23 visiting schools from 4 mid-western states. Contests were held in men's debate, women's debate, junior college debate, poetry reading, and after-dinner speaking.

Debaters were ranked according to the percentage of wins and losses. In the division of men's debate, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, and Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, tied for first place with 1000 points each. In the women's division, Augustana College was first with 1000 points, and in the Junior College division, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, tied for first place with Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Mo. Each team had 800 points.

In the After-dinner Speaking contest which was held in conjunction with the luncheon, Hudnall Harvey of Missouri Valley College, and Roger McShane of Wheaton College tied for high honors.

The outstanding feature of the contest was the presentation of the Ted Malone cup for the best reader of poetry. Fourteen students competed in a preliminary contest, reading any chosen selection. These readers were ranked and the 3 ranking highest were competitors for the cup. They were Catherine Kennedy, Wm. Woods College, Fulton, Missouri; Janet Leslie, Kirksville State Teachers College, Kirksville, Missouri; and Pauline Shepherd, Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa. In compliance with Ted Malone's directions, these three girls were judged upon their ability to sight read. The selections were chosen by Mr. Malone and handed to the reader as she reached the platform. Winner of the Malone Cup was Catherine Kennedy, Wm. Woods.

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Hastings, Nebraska Delta, met Park, Missouri Beta, in a panel debate program which, according to Prof. Weston McIntosh, the Park debate coach, marks "a new era with a different philosophy of approach toward early season debates." Friday was spent in a planned discussion in which both teams expressed views and exchanged facts in a mutual study of the question. Saturday morning several formal debates were held between the two squads.—*The Park Stylus*.



## OKLAHOMA ZETA TOURNAMENT AT CHICKASHA

Twenty-six colleges in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and Missouri sent 42 men's and 34 women's teams to the tournament sponsored by Oklahoma College for Women. Baylor, Texas Iota, was represented by 6 men's and 6 women's debate teams, 6 extempore speakers, two orators, and five judges. Baylor won the men's debate tournament. In the women's tournament the first five teams were from Baylor. Baylor also won the women's oratorical contest. In men's oratory speakers from Missouri Teachers and Drury, both in Springfield, won the honors. Oklahoma University and Oklahoma College for Women won the women's extempore. Alva Teachers and Tulsa, Oklahoma Delta and Beta, won the men's extempore.

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Prof. John Welker, former head of the English Department at Culver-Stockton, Missouri Zeta, is now teaching at Shurtleff, Illinois Lambda. Prof. Cedric Crunk has taken over the speech work at Canton.

On Saturday, January 15, Hiram, Ohio Gamma, will hold its fifth annual Novice Tournament, open to debaters participating in debate for the first year. Colleges may enter as many teams as they please. Robert Hubbell, secretary.

Linfield, Oregon Alpha, writes that it plans to take in as many tournaments as possible this fall and spring. It will go as far east as Washington and New York before getting to Topeka. In order to finance its activities, the chapter produces an annual play. This year it is a melodrama, *The Drunkard*.

Augustana, Illinois Xi, won some high honors at the Cape Girardeau, Missouri Iota, tournament December 10-11. Miss Victory Pearson was ranked first in women's debate. Edward Baker and John Reinemund were third in men's debate. Hastings and Missouri Central tied for squad honors.—*The Augustana Observer*.

The Dixie Tournament at Winthrop, South Carolina December 2-4, attracted 252 delegates from 31 colleges. Fifty-one debate teams competed in 198 debates. There were 130 affirmative as against 68 negative decisions. There were contests in harangues,



problem solving, after-dinner speaking, impromptu, extempore, oratory, peace oratory, and debate. Bob Lucas and Paul Harkey of Durant, Oklahoma Theta, were named among the ten outstanding debaters of the tournament. Harold Zekaris of South Carolina State, won one oratorical contest. Helen Bryant of Winthrop won the Peace contest. The champion Dixie debaters were Mary Barnes of Winthrop and John Willetts of Dartmouth.

Barbara Hall and Perry Hultin, Minesota Delta, were among the nine Hamline University students elected to the student *Who's Who*.—*The Hamline Oracle*.

The Minnesota colleges are getting an early start in debating. St. Thomas, Epsilon, met Macalester, Alpha, during December. It also engaged Augsburg in a double debate.—*The Aquin*.

E. W. Randall, a member of the board of trustees, gives a hundred dollars annually to be distributed in three prizes in oratory at Hamline. This year seven students entered.—*The Hamline Oracle*.

Karl Mundt was featured in the Southwestern Wisconsin Teachers Association Convention. His address of the year before was called "the highlight of the convention."—*Wisconsin Journal of Education*.

Edwin Mottershead of Macalester, winner of last year's Minnesota Peace oratorical contest, is teaching freshman argumentation and debate at New York University and coaching extra-curricular debate activities.

Past president George McCarty made two addresses before the North Central Division of the Oklahoma Education Association. He made the two thousand mile round trip by plane and was absent from South Dakota less than two days.

The fifth annual Red River Valley Intercollegiate Forensic Tournament is scheduled for Concordia College, Minnesota Zeta, February 4-5. Already 30 colleges have entered 45 women's and 33 men's teams. A new feature of the tournament will be an extemporaneous speaking contest for both men and women. United States Senator Gerald Nye will make the final selections of the subject.



Resolved, that the contest type of debating be abolished in favor of the convention type. This is the question chosen by the University of Virginia for the state high school debates.

Richard Poll, Texas Zeta, was elected president of the Texas Christian University student body. Poll, C. H. Richards, and W. E. Welch, all forensic stars, were among the fifteen elected for listing in the 1937-38 *Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges*.—*The Skiff*.

Representatives from twenty colleges and universities in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas, met in the state Capitol in Oklahoma City, November 19-20, for a two day student legislative assembly. Jack Hays of Tulsa, Oklahoma Beta, was elected speaker on the Good Government ticket. The assembly was opened by Governor E. W. Marland. J. T. Daniels, Speaker of the House, addressed the delegates. The students discussed questions of national importance.—*The Tulsa Collegian*.

A new "radio division" of the University of Maryland's Department of Speech was dedicated over the Columbia network November 5. Dr. Ray Ehrensberger, Professor of Speech, is in charge. He will be remembered as a former debate coach at Doane and Franklin, Nebraska Gamma and Indiana Alpha.

The first annual Invitational Oratorical and Extemporaneous Speaking Tournament at Wesleyan, Illinois Alpha, brought together forty contestants from eight institutions. Wesleyan ranked first in men's and women's extempore and in women's oratory. Macomb, Illinois Nu, was first in men's oratory.—*Eureka College Pegasus*.

Malcolm Ross, Director of Publication of the National Labor Relations Board, Washington, D. C., writes that he has received over two hundred letters from college undergraduates requesting debate information. "It would be of great interest to me to follow the course of the debate in a general way," he adds, and asks to have the FORENSIC sent to him.

Karl E. Mundt, former debate coach at Madison Teachers, South Dakota Theta, is now actively associated with the Izaak Walton League of America, and has an editorial or article in each issue of *Outdoor America*, the official publication of the League. He lacked only a few votes of winning a seat in Congress at the last election. He has been mentioned as a gubernatorial candidate. South Dakota Republicans are hoping to have him in the political race at the next election.



Debate plans at Texas Christian, Zeta, include an invasion of Canada.—*The Skiff*.

Prof. Thomas A. Houston, debate coach at Southeastern Teachers, Oklahoma Theta, was elected president of the Southeastern division of the Oklahoma Education Association.—*The Southeastern*.

Park, Missouri Beta, sponsored a Speech Festival to discover forensic material by contests in reading, oratory, and extemporaneous speaking. The contests were popular and the competition close.—*The Park Stylus*.

The thirteen Wheaton, Illinois Mu, students selected for Who's Who include Kenneth Taylor, McShane, Delle Mackenzie, and Grace Vanderpoel, from the forensic squad.—*The Wheaton Record*.

Michigan State, Delta, defeated the University of Michigan in a demonstration debate on the unicameral question before four hundred high school debaters attending a clinic at Ann Arbor, October 23.—*Michigan State News*.

A meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers at Tulsa closed with a debate between students from the University of Tulsa, Oklahoma Beta, and the University of Oklahoma on the question of whether the Diesel type engine may be more desirable than the gasoline engine for automotive equipment.—*The Tulsa Collegian*.

The sophomores at Macalester, Minnesota Alpha, have challenged the freshmen to a debate. The Pi Kappa Delta chapter will award a bronze plaque to the winning class. The freshmen have been offered their choice from the following three questions: That President Roosevelt's Chicago speech was a detriment to peace; that the Bratt Liquor Control system of Sweden should be adopted in the United States; and that present world affairs foreshadow the decline of democracy.—*The Mac Weekly*.

Carlyle Beyer, who has just gone from Hamline, Minnesota Delta, to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, describes a debate before the Oxford Union on the question, Resolved, that recent history has proved that collective security cannot be effectively applied to the situation in the Far East. Three students in evening dress spoke fifteen minutes in support of each side. Other members spoke from the floor. The speaking lasted two and a half hours.

England was much excited over President Roosevelt's Chicago speech and wanted assurance that the United States would stand with her in the fight against fascism. A large meeting at Oxford condemned Japanese aggression.—*The Hamline Oracle*.



Hastings, Nebraska Delta, debated the unicameral question with Creighton before a number of service clubs and other organizations.—*The Hastings Collegian*.

At Centre, Kentucky Beta, the Ernst Debate, organized in 1907, offers a prize of twenty-five dollars each to the three members of the winning team.—*Centre College Cento*.

A Forum at the College of Idaho conducted a series of debates on the question, Resolved, that the principle involved in mercy killing should be approved.—*The College Coyote*.

Sixty-three debate teams from high schools in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri, attended the invitational tournament sponsored November 19-20 by Kansas Theta, at Pittsburg Teachers.—*The Collegio*.

Marie Nichols and Doris Hancock representing College of the Pacific, California Delta, won the senior division of the debate tournament sponsored by Bakersfield Junior College November 11-13.—*Pacific Weekly*.

Should Black be allowed to sit on the Supreme Court bench and Should the College of the Pacific play big time schools in football are some of the questions used in the Pacific Debate Forum and for broadcasting.—*Pacific Weekly*.

Heidelberg, Ohio Beta, won the Ohio Conference debate tournament with a final double victory over Wittenberg, December 15. Nineteen colleges participated. The debates were on the proposal to adopt the union closed shop in American industry.—*The Kilikilik*.

George Greenfield and Robert Smylie, since the days of chivalry are past, defeated Charlotte Stone and Marjorie Miller in the finals of the Walters debate at College of Idaho. The winners won twenty-five dollars while the girls had the experience.—*The College Coyote*.

St. Thomas, Minnesota Epsilon, met the Anglo-Scottish team November 5. John Flanagan and Martin Crowe represented the American institution against David Sealand-Jones of the University of Wales and Harold H. Munroe of the University of Glasgow. The subject of discussion was that the preservation of English and American interest demanded a free hand for Japan in China. In its second international debate of the year Charles Lawless and James Shaffer represented St. Thomas against an Australian team discussing American isolation.—*The Aquin*.



## Book Reviews



*Intercollegiate Debates*: Volume XVIII. (The year book of college debating). Edited by E. R. Nichols. New York: Noble and Noble Publishers, Inc. 1937. Pp. xiv, 385. \$2.50.

This volume contains nine debates on some of the outstanding questions of the year: policies of the C. I. O.; Minimum wages and maximum hours; Government ownership of electric utilities; Crop insurance; Balancing of federal budget; Government ownership of commercial banking; Reorganization of the Supreme Court; The Extension of Consumers' Co-operatives; and the St. Lawrence waterway. All sections of the United States are represented. Each debate is complete with bibliography, and has been selected as a good example of modern debating. Every debater and coach who wants to know how debates are being conducted today should make frequent reference to this volume.

*Unicameral Legislatures*. Edited by E. C. Buehler. New York: Noble and Noble Publishers, Inc. 1937. Pp. viii, 340. \$2.00.

A well prepared handbook on the high school debate question. It contains an analysis of the issues, a good brief of the question, and reprints of some fine articles on the question. A good debate can be constructed on the evidence between its covers.

*Essential of Debate*. John R. Pelsma. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell. 1937. Pp. viii-176. \$1.00.

"One may have the facts of an encyclopedist and the alluring voice of a siren, and yet not be a convincing debater," states Prof. John R. Pelsma, of Pittsburg Teachers, Kansas Theta, in his new text. A debater also needs the technical knowledge of logic and argumentation that a good textbook supplies. After twenty-five years of debate coaching, Professor Pelsma simplifies the theory into one small, compact volume. It is all there, in this text designed to be sufficient for classroom needs "for the next twenty years." The superfluous is discarded. The brief presentation of essentials is the book's excuse for appearing.

This is Professor Pelsma's second book. It is evidently the work of an experienced teacher who has learned to discard non-essentials. Teachers of argumentation should examine it carefully.



*Unicameralism in Practice, the Nebraska legislative system.* Compiled by Harrison Boyd Summers. New York: The H. W. Wilson Company. 1937. Pp. 294. 90c.

This follows up Professor Summers' volume of last year, *Unicameral Legislatures*. It reviews the accomplishments of the first year of Nebraska's unicameral legislature. This volume gives an up-to-the-minute record of history in the making. The two together give a complete coverage of the national high school question. Good roads have made better automobiles possible. Much of the improvement in debating can be traced to the *Reference Shelf* series published by the H. W. Wilson Company. These volumes have provided the small high schools with all-weather roads to the best library facilities.

*Modern Group Discussion.* Lyman Judson and Ellen Judson. New York: The H. W. Wilson Company. 1937. Pp. 198. 90c.

"Based on sound practice, this is the Baedeker in the discussion field." The public forum and the group discussion are being emphasized today as important tools in adult education. This volume guides the way, from the history and benefits to the forms and methods.

*Prize-Winning Orations.* Volume IX. Edited by E. E. Anderson. New York: Noble & Noble, Publishers, Inc. 1937. Pp. x, 293. \$2.00.

I have enjoyed reading this book. It contains some serious thinking and vigorous writing. I am glad to recommend it to any one who is pessimistic about modern college youth. It contains thirty-two orations which have won prizes in college competition. They are about everything from Wallie and the King to Higher Education. They take up the problems of society and try to solve them. Some of their solutions are as naive as the golden rule. Of course the man of the world will sneer at the innocence of those who advocate the golden rule for the social problems of this hard boiled age, but who has anything better to propose?

*The Speech Personality.* Elwood Murray. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1937. Pp. xii, 516. \$2.75.

This text presents a new and original approach to speech problems. The emphasis is on the personality of the speaker. Dr. Murray is an ardent disciple of the integration school in education. While his approach seems to me subjective, he is objective in his applica-



tion of all the modern equipment of recording machines and motion pictures to the speech laboratory. His theory seems to be that if he can get the student to take an objective view of himself and his problems—which include all of his relations to society—he will be at peace with himself and the world, all of his resources will integrate into one dynamic personaity, and he will speak effectively.

Dr. Murray has made a brilliant success of his work at the University of Denver. He is in touch with the most progressive educational movements, and he dares to pioneer. There is a healthful and refreshing spirit in his text. The approach through personality integration has great possibilities.

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“The Speech Tournament and Intercollegiate Forensic Experience Progression” is what the official announcement called the debate tournament held in connection with the ninth annual convention of the Western Association of Teachers of Speech in Denver, November 25-27. “Speech as a social integrator” was the theme of the whole convention. The students wound in the “Forensic Strand” which dealt with the “Preservation of Democratic Liberties.” It was not the usual debate tournament which some condemn for its lack of educational values. The students in this tournament met to state their question, analyze it, limit its scope, and then to break up into smaller groups to pursue their discussion. They were not trying to win debates, They were trying to find out what dangers threaten our democratic liberties and what they could do to preserve them. This is a new and effective type of debate tournament.

The *Congressional Digest* issued a special number devoted to a discussion of the Pi Kappa Delta question. The December, 1937, issue took up the compulsory arbitration of labor disputes.

The *National Forensic Handbook*, volume 1, edited by J. Kendrick Noble, Noble and Noble, Publishers, Inc., New York, is the first publication attempting to supply handbook information about the leading forensic organizations of the United States. Eight pages are devoted to Pi Kappa Delta, more than are given to any other organization listed. State and national, high school and college forensic organizations are listed.