

THE

Forensic

ΠΕΙΘΩ ΚΑΛΗ ΔΙΚΑΙΑ

OCTOBER, 1966

National Council with Edna Sorber — Whitewater, August, 1966



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of Pi Kappa Delta

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10. Province of the Northwest—Roy D. Mahaffey, Linfield College
11. Province of the Northeast—William Teufel, Grove City College

National Council Meets in Wisconsin

The members of the National Council of Pi Kappa Delta met for the biennial summer business meeting August 22-25, 1966 at Steringworth Motel, Elkhorn, Wisconsin. All members including students Marlys Prigge of Wheaton College and Stephen Dickman of Whitewater were present for all seven sessions beginning Monday evening August 22nd. A total of 24 hours were devoted to planning for the 1967 Convention and to policies pertaining to the general welfare of Pi Kappa Delta. In addition to the consideration of many routine matters of business, the sessions were organized around a study of suggestions which came to the Council by way of the 1965 Convention Evaluation Committee, recommendations made by the Governors and ideas growing out of some of the Provincial Conventions last spring.

It is difficult to present a brief abstract of the proceedings during those seven sessions and make them sound very exciting. The reason is that most of the long hours of work were just that—work, designed to develop the best possible convention in 1967, and to foster the growth of the local chapters and the Provinces.

Some diversion was provided on Tuesday afternoon when the Council visited the campus of Wisconsin State University, Whitewater, and met with University personnel relative to details of housing, meals, contest facilities, registration, etc. Dr. Edna Sorber was most helpful in arranging for these conferences

and guiding us through many of the buildings which should completely take care of our convention and contest needs.

The first session was devoted to the presentation and discussion of the annual reports of Council members. Copies of the annual reports are kept on file in the national office. The financial items in the report of the Secretary-Treasurer are to be found elsewhere in this issue in the Financial Report of Chapters and in the Secretary's Page. The total membership at the end of the year was 39,904. The number of new members for the past year was 1,091. It was most encouraging that only 40 colleges failed to send in any membership applications for the year and many of these 40 did get applications in early in August but after the books were closed for 1965-66. Only 16 chapters admitted an Honorary member. Sixty-eight chapters ordered 239 keys, a slight increase over the previous year. The Council continues to give strong emphasis to the importance of purchasing a key at the time of acceptance to membership. The change in key prices for the year 1966-67 affects only those keys with diamonds. There has been a substantial increase in the cost of diamonds. A new *yellow* key order form became effective on September 1, 1966. A copy will be included in the annual Fall letter to chapters. Chapter evaluation letters were written to Presidents of colleges during the early

part of summer. Some chapters are still sending in only seven dollars instead of ten for membership fees which causes delay in issuing membership cards.

Province Coordinator, Harold Larson reported on the suggestions made by Governors for strengthening the Provinces. Convention Chairman, Roy Murphy presented a brief report on proposed features of the coming convention. Les Lawrence, reporting on the activities of the Editor of the Forensic, directed discussion to ways and means of obtaining articles from sponsors and students. Also, the need exists for Chapter Notes and Alumni News from a greater number of chapters. President Georgia Bowman reported on the work of the National Questions Committee and announced the meeting for all Pi Kappa Delta members to be held at the Speech Association of America Convention in Chicago on Wednesday, December 28, 1966 from 5:15 to 7:00 p.m.. H. Francis Short, chairman of the Charter Committee, announced that eleven charter applications had been approved in the past year with others pending. Attention was directed to chapters on probation and chapters which should be reminded of the convention attendance requirement and the minimum chapter membership requirement of five active members as of May 15th.

All suggestions made by the 1965 evaluation committee were introduced for discussion by James Grissinger, Marlys Prigge and Stephen Dickman. Appointments of Convention Contest Committees were made and the complete committee personnel will appear in the January Forensic following acceptance of the appointments.

Since the 1965 Convention requested a revision of the Constitution, the Council allocated a considerable amount of time to the proposed changes submitted by Ted Karl, Chairman of the Constitution Revision Committee. Most of the proposed changes were suggested to the Committee by Province officers as a result of discussions at spring conventions.

Most of the suggestions were made in the interest of up-dating rather than the making of any extensive revision. All proposed amendments will be printed in the January Forensic parallel with the current copy of the constitution.

The suggested extempore speaking topics will be submitted to the chapters in the annual Fall letter from the Secretary for a preferential vote. The winning topic will be announced on a post-card sent to chapter sponsors about December 1st. The card will also serve to remind sponsors of the December 28th meeting in Chicago.

Three decisions made by the Council should be of more than a little interest to members. First, sweepstakes points will be awarded in the Open Cross-examination division of debate but no championship will be declared. This division is open to men, women or mixed teams. This is the only division open to mixed teams. Points won by men's team in this division will be credited to men's sweepstakes. Points won by a women's team will be credited to women's sweepstakes. Points won by a mixed team will be credited equally to men's and women's sweepstakes. Second, the package price for convention fees is \$33.00. This includes registration fee, lodging and meals including the banquet. The meal and lodging fees have been calculated on the basis that all delegates will be staying on campus. There will be the usual \$1.00 deposit for a room key. There are no hotels or motels available in Whitewater and facilities for eating are likewise limited to the campus. Campus housing and meals should prove to be excellent and will provide limited contact with March weather in Wisconsin. Third, the Council was unanimous in supporting the formation of Graduate Chapters provided for in the Constitution. It is anticipated that charters will be presented to some Graduate Chapters at the 1967 Convention. Graduate Chapters wishing to apply for a charter may submit a petition form, which may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer,

to the Chairman of the National Charter Committee. Each graduate Chapter is urged, but not required, to send a delegate to the National Convention. This delegate will have the right to speak on the convention floor but not to vote. Graduate Chapters will not pay a charter fee and members will not be issued new membership cards since they already hold membership in an undergraduate Chapter. Further suggestions for forming a Graduate Chapter may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer or any other member of the National Council.

A final decision is one which is re-

peated from year to year with ever increasing emphasis. It is this: we cannot offer more than sympathy—and little of that—for chapters getting their entries in late. Entries must arrive in the National office no later than Monday, February 27th. The same holds true for late registration in Whitewater on Monday, March 27th. Registration closes at 6:30 p.m. on Monday so the contest committees can meet their deadline for the first rounds. Everyone who runs a tournament knows that late entries and late registrations are almost unfor-giveable. Use the phone when memory fails or the unexpected occurs.



Members of Pi Kappa Delta at the College of Idaho pose in the Kau Kau Room at the Saratoga Hotel with their host, A. I. Myers, seated center, former debater at the University of Nebraska, and their coach, Dr. Lester McCreary, right, head of the C. of I Speech Department. Richard Laver is seated at left. Standing, from left, are Steven Anthony, Marie Corlett (PKD secretary-treasurer for 1966-'67),

Mike Montgomery (winner of the A. I. Myers scholarship for most outstanding forensics student, 1965-'66), Judy MacInnes, Martin Meiggs, Judy Smith (PKD President for 1966-'67), Don Young (PKD Vice-President, 1966-'67), Louise Wolfe, Keith Hatcher, and Tom Throop. Mr. Myers sponsors the annual dinner for the speech students. (PKD members not pictured are Penny Malafront and Greg Washington.)

PI KAPPA DELTA CONVENTION PROGRAM

March 27 - 31, 1967

Wisconsin State University, Whitewater

MONDAY

8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. Business meeting:
Charter presentation
Announcements

TUESDAY

8:15 a.m. Oratory I
9:45 a.m. Debate I; Discussion I
11:30 a.m. Convention Picture
12:00 noon Past Presidents and National
Council Luncheon (informal)
Extemp Drawing I
1:00 p.m. Extemp I; Oratory II
2:30 p.m. Debate II, Discussion II
4:00 p.m. Business Meeting; Elect
President, Vice-President
7:30 p.m. Province Meetings
9:00 p.m. Student Meeting and
Committee Meetings

WEDNESDAY

8:15 a.m. Extemp Drawing II
9:15 a.m. Extemp II; Oratory III
10:45 a.m. Debate III; Discussion III
12:00 noon Province Governors' Luncheon
12:30 p.m. Extemp Drawing III
1:30 p.m. Extemp III
3:00 p.m. Debate IV
4:30 p.m. Business Meeting; Elect National
Council; Constitution Revision
7:00 p.m. Student Meeting and Committee
Meetings

THURSDAY

8:15 p.m. Extemp Drawing IV
9:15 a.m. Extemp IV; Oratory IV
10:45 a.m. Debate V
12:00 noon Lunch, Old and New Council and
Province Governors
1:30 p.m. Debate VI
2:30 p.m. Business Meeting; Convention
Speaker; Constitution
7:30 p.m. Talent Night

FRIDAY

8:15 a.m. Debate VII; Discussion IV
9:45 a.m. Student Meeting
10:45 a.m. Additional Business Meeting, if
Necessary
12:00 noon Lunch, Special Distinction mem-
bers, and Old and New Council
1:00 p.m. Debate VIII
2:30 p.m. Business Meeting; Reports;
Constitution
7:00 p.m. Banquet — Distinguished Alum-
nu Award; Announcement of Re-
sults; Pictures.

The President's Page

It's a temptation to begin by writing in capital letters, PLEASE READ THIS, for the opening of school brings much business that needs our attention.

First, let every chapter make plans to attend the National Convention and Tournament next spring. Wisconsin State University at Whitewater has dormitory space for 3000; contest rooms far beyond the required number; a spacious new gymnasium where 1000 can banquet together; a Union with snack bar, bookstore, and recreation; and best of all, a hospitable and gracious spirit among the speech staff and university administration who are already going all out to make us welcome.

The dates are March 27 through 31 (registration all day Monday and the opening Charter Service Monday night.) The costs are so modest that a coach and team—three persons—can pay for all registration fees, five nights' lodging, and fourteen meals, including the banquet, for less than

\$100. The National Council met at Sterlingworth Motor Inn, a few miles from Whitewater, in late August to draw up detailed plans. Almost all of the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee have been put into effect. More time has been allotted for student meetings, and the business sessions have been arranged to permit adequate consideration of the revised constitution, which the Council studied in rough draft form.

Full details and contest rules will appear in the January *Forensic*, but one new contest item may be of considerable interest. This year, results in the open cross-examination division of debate will be counted on sweepstakes: points for men's teams will go to men's sweepstakes; for women's teams to women's sweepstakes; points of mixed teams will be equally divided.

Now for some specific requests. The fall letter from the national Secretary-Treasurer demands your attention and must be answered. It contains a ballot on the proposed extemp topic; please vote preferentially. The results will be announced in January. Particularly important is the request for your college zip code. Postal regulations require zip codes on bulk mailings after January 1, so if yours is not reported, you can receive no more *Forensics*. Our national office has a zip code book, but this does not suffice for cities where there is more than one zone and we do not know the exact location of your institution within the city.

All former Prvince Governors take note here and come to the rescue. We are in the process of preparing a Governor's Manual which should be ready by convention time. Will all past governors take a few minutes and write down suggestions that you think might be useful for other governors, and then send them to the president? All contributions will be credited and will be helpful in enabling future Pi Kappa Delta governors to do a better job.

Let me thank those of you who have been so cooperative in answering previous questionnaires and returning ballots. A total of 172 chapters voted



GEORGIA BOWMAN

either one or both ballots on the debate propositions—a good record in view of the fact the first ballot came out just at the close of school and the second one during the summer. The vote this year was decisive, and your responses helped make it so. Your answers on the budget questionnaire enabled us to put together a summary appearing in this issue which should be of interest to every forensics director.

Best wishes to each chapter for a successful season—not counting success only in number of trophies and certificates brought home from tournaments, but rather in terms of the enrichment of your own minds and spirits by honest investigation, clear thinking, and friendly association with others of sincere purpose.

REPORT ON BUDGET STUDY

Georgia Bowman

How far does your forensics dollar go? Because the universal plaint of debate directors seems to be that there is never quite enough money in the budget, it appeared that a survey of Pi Kappa Delta budgets and a compilation of results might be useful for directors who wish to compare their funds and practices with those of other schools.

The following figures were obtained from the questionnaire in the May *Forensic*, together with data gathered at the tournament of the Provinces of Illinois and the Upper Mississippi last spring. That study was compiled by Roger Mosvick and provided by Province Coordinator Harold Larson. While the *Forensic* questionnaire returns were not numerous enough to provide statistically significant information, good cooperation by coaches did bring in enough answers to make the study interesting. Every conclusion, however, must be tempered by the realization that a tremendous difference in the size of schools makes it difficult to claim valid comparisons on the adequacy of budgets.

Returns were grouped geographically: East—east of Ohio; South—south of the Ohio River and the southern borders of Missouri and Kansas; West—west of the Rocky Mountains; Middle West — all other states.

In the over-all study, the largest school reporting enrolls 18,000; the smallest 750, both of them in the middle west. The two largest budgets are \$7500

—one of these from the largest school. The smallest is \$400, where it is probably safe to say the director must be doing a superhuman job in getting 19 students to 10 tournaments. One school involves 105 students in the program; another utilizes only 9, marking the smallest squad. In spite of this wide range, the average squad size is quite consistent from area to area and comes to 21 students on a nationwide basis.

Tables show some interesting comparisons.

	Budget	Range	Average
East _____	\$3800	\$1600	\$2620
Middle West _____	7500	400	3046
South _____	5000	1300	2800
West _____	4900	1600	3250

A high average in the west is to be expected, since most schools travel long distances for competition. Conversely, in some sections of the middle west a school can maintain a busy program yet travel only a few hundred miles.

Budget allocations can be calculated in several ways: the amount per student enrolled which is allotted for forensics; the investment per participating student; per tournament cost; expenditure per round of competition. The questionnaire was not sufficiently detailed to permit tabulation on the latter basis, but figures on the other three methods are given.

Variations in enrollment are so extreme that adequacy of budget cannot be judged by the per capita allotment. Thus a large school may devote a com-

paratively small amount per student to the forensics program, yet provide handsome financing for the squad. The highest ratio per student enrolled was \$2.65; this was in a college of 1000 students with a debate budget of \$2650. In an institution of 16,000, the ratio dropped to 19 cents. On the average, for each student enrolled in the college, 93.5 cents is allotted to the forensics program.

Consider cost - per - tournament and cost-per-participant.

Cost Per Tournament		Cost Per Participant	
EAST			
High	\$173	High	\$188
Low	121	Low	88
Average	148	Average	126
MIDDLE WEST			
High	\$277	High	\$326
Low	40	Low	21
Average	171	Average	151
SOUTH			
High	\$300	High	\$156
Low	113	Low	102
Average	206	Average	118
WEST			
High	\$544	High	\$355
Low	200	Low	87
Average	291	Average	165

The foregoing figures are meaningful only in context. A school in an area where nearby one-day tournaments are readily available may have a broader but cheaper program than one which must travel 600 miles to the nearest tournament. A squad which flies to several tournaments may seem to have a high per-participant cost but may save on expenditure of student time away from class. Nor is a flat per participant expenditure a reliable indicator of program spread, for one debater may attend but one tournament, while another goes to 10, yet the average per debater expenditure will appear to be the same.

The ideal distribution of expenditures must be left to the forensic director, for it will depend on his philosophy and that of his institution. This may stress wide participation by many students or intensive competition by a small squad only; emphasis on colorful, distant tournaments, or preference for small "neighborhood" meets; a budget devoted largely to tournament competition, or one allocated heavily toward intramural pro-

grams and high school service tournaments.

The important question is, what does your forensic budget buy? Are you getting the most for your money? After reading this you may want to take stock. If in the middle west where most schools are averaging under \$200 per tournament and you are spending \$300, perhaps you'll want to cut out some of those steaks! But if you're trying to train 30 debaters on a \$1000 budget, maybe you should show this article to the dean and the bursar—and better luck next year.

Who Should Be An Officer of Pi Kappa Delta

William H. Bos

At the conclusion of our recent province convention, the just-retired governor, the newly-elected governor, and some students were enlivening the return home by a discussion of the election of new province officers. This, in turn, led to the raising of the philosophical, and very important, question: Who should be an officer in Pi Kappa Delta in chapter, province or national organization? We concluded that, at whatever level he might serve, there were four important characteristics that any officer should have.

I. He should have a genuine, keen interest in Pi Kappa Delta.

Pi Kap is a unique organization in its philosophy. In a time when increasing stress is being put upon the competitive aspects of forensic activity, and the "win at all costs" or "winning is all that counts" approach seems to be all but overwhelming, Pi Kap stands strongly for the proposition that forensics must first and foremost be a means of enriching the education of participants, rather than a means of increasing the school's collection of "hardware." In a society in which everyone wants to be a "first place" winner, Pi Kap recognizes cate-

gories of superior, excellent and good performance, believing that the pursuit of excellence is much more realistic and rewarding than the greedy, frustrating and educationally indefensible effort to add to the charm bracelet or fill the trophy case.

This interest must go beyond acceptance of a philosophy, to an active support of the program of Pi Kappa Delta. This means willingness to assume responsibility, doing the menial but all-important tasks that must be done if the wheels of progress are to continue turning. This means the demonstration of loyalty to the organization and what it stands for, despite occasional personal inconvenience or sacrifice. And it means a willingness to take responsibility for, and the consequences of, a sometimes unpopular but necessary decision or course of action.

This interest must be demonstrated in the form of an appreciation of the personnel of Pi Kappa Delta. One does not willingly follow the lead of an officer whom he does not appreciate; a leader cannot lead unless he has willing followers.

II. *He should have administrative competence.*

That seems ambiguous, but certainly includes at least three traits. First, he must be an organizer, capable of planning and preparing in advance, with foresight enough to anticipate needs and problems and to provide for their ready satisfaction or solution. In turn, this requires a kind of adaptability to circumstances, and a willingness to compromise when the need arises; though never at the cost of abandoning his ideals or moral principles. And all of this demands an uncommon degree of emotional stability, sometimes called self-control.

III. *He should be sociable.*

A misanthrope or a "loner" seldom finds happiness in the company of others, nor does his company impart happiness to others. But Pi Kap's sole function is to be enjoyed by all members, including officers. It would seem, then,

that an officer should be one who enjoys being with, and working with, others. This does not mean that an officer must like all members equally well, but it does mean that he must be one who makes friends easily, and keeps them.

IV. *He should be a leader.*

This seems to belabor the obvious, but it is the sine qua non of a good officer. He must be a sort of visionary, a perceptive observer, a clear thinker, an initiator of new ideas. One does not really lead simply by being first in line; he leads by blazing a trail over new territory—though he must, at the same time, beware of getting so far ahead of the group that he out-distances them, and in effect relegates the true leadership to the next in line.

He must be energetic, a persistent worker. All natural bodies are characterized by inertia before they are activated by an outside force. The same is true of human organizations. Only the initiating energy and the dogged persistence of a leader can produce a group that is "going places."

Finally, a true leader is a person of faith. He has faith in his own goals as desirable, not only for himself, but for the group as well. He has faith in his own abilities as a leader, self-confidence, but never arrogance. And he has faith in his colleagues, fellow officers and members alike; faith in their capacity to do all that may be required of them, faith in their loyalty to the society and what it stands for, faith in their loyalty to him as their leader.

Who should be an officer in Pi Kappa Delta? Not just anyone who is willing to take the job. Not the most popular personality in the group. Surely not the currently inactive member, in the hope that new responsibilities thrust upon him will revive his interest; they won't! Every officer should be carefully chosen for his qualifications, especially those mentioned here. Both the present and the future of Pi Kappa Delta rest in the hands—and hearts—of those whom we choose as our officers. May we always choose wisely. Long live Pi Kap!

COACHING ORATORY

William Schrier

A speech presented at Spring Conference, Michigan Speech Association, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, May 8, 1965, by Dr. William Schrier, Chairman, Speech Department, Hope College, Holland, Michigan.

I accepted this invitation for one reason only, to be helpful. I'll dispense with all preliminary persiflage, cover as much as possible in the time allotted, and save five minutes for fielding any and all questions. Oratory as a forensic activity has been under attack within recent years. Eleven years ago, in an article entitled "College Oratory As I See It," in the January, 1954 issue of *The Forensic*, I wrote myself free in answer to the criticisms. I call it my Oratory Bible. We were asked to prepare hand-outs and since that magazine isn't readily accessible to high school coaches, I brought 40 mimeographed copies. Not all of the article is germane to the assigned topic; most of it is.

Getting people to come out for oratory is as much a chore for me as it must be for some of you. Personal conferences with likely prospects I uncover in Fundamentals of Speech classes is one way. A well-publicized public fall meeting with interested persons is another. In addition, since 1947 I've had a class in Oratory each fall which carries two hours of credit, not repeatable, and which requires at its close participation in either the local "Old-line" or Peace Oratorical Contests. We use *Winning Orations* for the preceding year as a text, require a notebook in which students record the gist and outstanding qualities of a selected reading list of excellent past college orations. Numerous subjects are explored in some depth, just before mid-semester each narrows some

three choices down to one, and from that point on, proceed to writing. Obviously, a coach tries to have each person get a subject suited to the orator's personality, one he's absorbingly interested in to the point of wanting to communicate it to an audience. If I were pinned down to select some one single thing to which I would attribute our above-average success in oratory, it would be my filing system. But that's another and a long story. In the closing week of the first semester, each person submits a final file copy of his speech. The local contests are then held, usually before either a school or outside organization audience. I accept the verdict of a board of five or more judges who decide the winners.

So now we have selected our orators for the year and are ready to coach. By this time the speeches are good enough to deserve a hearing by a public audience. But we're never satisfied; we start from scratch, assume they need changes, that they can be improved, and proceed to work together on the composition. At times this may involve further reading in depth in an expanded bibliography because surely every one knows that what appears in an oration is like an iceberg — only about one-seventh appearing above the surface but having a broad six-sevenths base beneath the surface. It may involve limiting the scope of the speech, considering a specific slice of bread rather than an entire loaf.

In an "Old-line" oration with an 1800-word limit, I suggest the orators write themselves free and go as high perhaps as 2300 words, put arabic numbers at the beginning of each paragraph, dou-

ble-space and by all means count the words—that's their job, not mine—so that I know how many words we need to cut.

I'm attempting, in the process of saying "multum in parvo" to follow chronological order and therefore at about this stage, I quote myself from my Oratory Bible, the Jan. '54 *Forensic* article.

When a local winner is declared, and we start preparation for a state contest, the orator and I have a little chat. In effect I say, "In some circles there's considerable stress upon winning. Let's just forget about that; let's do the very best job we can to prepare something worthwhile, and my experience is that winning or losing will take care of itself. One never knows about competition; it's unpredictable. This year you may be up against some extremely good orations in this tough league. That's neither here nor there; your job is to get over the message, not to win. If you go at this job with that attitude, I'll be happy and satisfied and you should be. From this point on, don't expect me to say another word about the competition you'll meet, the winning aspect. And don't look for me to give you a last-minute pep talk. I just don't do that. I think it does more harm than good, and it would be evidence that my mind is on what yours shouldn't be, viz., winning the contest." It would be a gross exaggeration to imply that in every case I succeed fully in communicating this attitude to all my contestants. But the degree to which they do or don't absorb this philosophy is often the measure of their success or failure in winning contests. If one has this motivation, if the major stress is to get over the message, if we forget about the contest element, the results will take care of themselves. That is, having a fair amount of material in your school, you'll win your share of contests; we have. You'll sometimes lose when you expect to win, and sometimes may even win where you expect to lose.

Coming back now to where I interrupted me, we return to consider COMPOSITION. Anyone who thinks an orator just dashes off a speech in the spare time of a rainy afternoon is all wet. On composition, I certainly have no secrets not known to all of you. An intriguing curiosity-arousing title, an attention-catching opening illustration epitomizing the entire speech, perhaps a back reference to it in the conclusion, good

organization so the oration is easy for the audience to follow, remembering that one test of any good speech is "the discernibility of the framework," figures of speech, balanced sentences, concrete vivid image-producing language—all these are considered as we work together.

I do attempt to be on the lookout for an effective climax, the kind I call a "goose-pimple" conclusion, one which if effectively and earnestly delivered makes the audience — and in a contest situation that includes the judges—so absorbed and enraptured by the message that they forget their surroundings, in other words, the kind of experience a single critic judge sometimes has when in reporting results he says: "This person won because I just was too absorbed and thrilled to take notes," and then proceeds off the cuff to cite its excellencies.

Time forbids examples of these many compositional factors. Here's a one-sentence example from an oration "The Age of Paradox" which I heard at a Pi Kappa Delta national convention. Speaking on the theme of the need to relieve the world's hunger, Miss Carole Lowery said: "While an American farmer watches the sleek rat devour the surplus grain, in India a farmer watches his gaunt son greedily devour the rat!" To my mind, that's "delicious" rhetoric!

One procedure in our compositional work together may be of interest. Since "instant intelligibility"—Charles Henry Woolbert's expression, I believe—is the sine qua non of all good oral discourse, this sometimes happens. I say: "This sentence, Jim, just doesn't register with me. I don't know exactly what you mean. Now tell me, just what are you trying to say?" Thereupon he tells me and I immediately say: "Quickly now, grab a pen or pencil and write that down just as you said it and we'll use those exact words in the script."

There are times in composition where the original copy gets so interlaced with

arrows, brackets, deletions, becoming so undecipherable that we sometimes have as many as six retyped copies. We never destroy any of them, though, for one never knows when we'll go back to recapture a phrase or expression we had in the first draft.

Now some highlights on DELIVERY. Usually we try to reserve about three weeks for that. I have a standing rule that I refuse to rehearse until the orator has thoroughly memorized his piece. To do so wastes his time and mine. The first step is to hear the piece in its entirety while I'm taking notes. Then the orator sits at my side, and we discuss those notes in detail—they include both favorable and unfavorable comment. Sometimes I hop up to demonstrate a point—on posture, movement, gesture or whatever is needed. We take up little matters as well as big ones—the tilt of the head, the lift of an eyebrow and such elemental matters as sloppy enunciation such as “becuz”, “gonna”, “git” and “proably.” There is no substitute for drill, drill, drill. We work sometimes on what may appear to be trifles but I'm a firm believer in the statement attributed to Michelangelo: “Trifles make for perfection and perfection is no trifle.”

After that first rehearsal, we go over the speech again by blocs, sometimes stopping in the middle of the speech and resuming where we left off, the next day or the day thereafter. About at the end of the first week, to avoid repetitive rehearsals, we put the speech on tape, and may spend an entire hour in a play-back and discussion. Of course what we discuss depends upon the needs of the individual. With Jacob Ngwa, who as you know won the “Old-line” MISL last year and went on to win the Interstate Contest and this year won the MISL Peace Contest and won 11 first places and one second in four rounds of oratory at the recent Pi Kappa Delta Convention, it was a matter of cutting down on his speed and prolonging his vowel sounds. Sometimes we work daily, sometimes every other day, rarely no

more than an hour at any one time, depending upon the progress being made.

One thing I've sensed a lack of in many orations is pause. I think it's almost a neglected art. Pause is more than the cessation of utterance—you're still talking when you're pausing, allowing the audience time to have your ideas sink in, especially at transition spots and changes of ideas. In that connection, sometimes in the dramatic climactic close, if you have the right person who can do it without being “arty” or overdramatic, one can be effective. For example, in an oration “The Clock” dealing with the problem of the atomic bomb, the orator's closing words were: “Tick tock! Tick tock! ———! ———!” About 25 years ago, an orator, speaking on “The Lamp of Freedom,” had the timing just right in asking at the close “Will you help keep that lamp burning? Will you? ——— ———?” We thought we'd try something like that with this year's man orator who pleaded for the abolition of the House Un-American Activities Committee. But it just didn't fit his personality so we settled for having him blurt out: “Think it over!”

We wind up delivery practice with a dress rehearsal, literally that, at least two days before a contest. I never rehearse the day before. Anything I might say of an adverse nature couldn't be mastered in a day; hence, it could only depress the orator, not impress him. At this stage, in a final talk, I remind him that earnestness covers a multitude of sins, that getting over the message is the most important thing. I ask him to remember “teeny weeny” things like enunciation if he can, but tell him in the same breath to forget them, remembering that after all these are little things compared to communicating the ideas.

Upon the assumption that every orator has something to say which deserves a public hearing, we seek out opportunities to have him speak before audiences both before and after a contest. Sometimes I attach more signifi-

cance to those appearances than I do to the contest itself. For example, last year Jacob Ngwa had just won the "Old-line" MISL contest and the following week the Provincial Tournament was scheduled for Grove City, Pennsylvania. I thought it was far more important for him to keep his prior commitment at the Grand Haven Rotary Club on their International Affairs Day than to use him in the Provincial to give his speech three times before mostly empty class-rooms and three critic judge.

Now, chronologically, I've brought you up to the contest. How to act at it, how to accept decisions without complaint—it's all here in my Bible, i. e., in my *Forensic* article. We use the coach-judge system in the MISL. You can roam all over the United States and nowhere find a better spirit than among us in the MISL. In a speech to the Holland Rotary Club back in 1958 entitled "Behind the Scenes in Oratory," I've born public testimony to this when I said: "While to the average person it might seem that this system lends itself to abuse, in that one coach could rank very low a person he thought was giving his own entrant a close run, I really don't know of a single incident where the traditional cry of the defeated boxer was ever heard: 'We wuz robbed!' We all respect each

other; we recognize that it's entirely possible in a close contest for one judge to give a man first and for another rate him last."

Now to conclude. You remember the story of the gran'pa hearing his grandson preacher preach his first sermon. Asked by the young man for his appraisal, gran'pa said: "Well, first you read it; second, you didn't read it well, and third, 'twarn't worth readin'." Perhaps all three apply here. But I'm breaking a vow today in talking with you at all—at St. Mary's fall conference in 1963, I resolved never again to tackle such huge subjects in so short a space of time. But here scarcely one and a half years later I find myself trying to compress into 15 minutes two years of participation as a high school orator, four years of participation in college and university, and 41 years of coaching. But as I said at the outset, my only intent is to be helpful. If what I've said has been, I have 40 copies mimeographed of what I've said. Maybe this will be my swansong and hereafter I'll graduate to become one of those characters known as a "resource person"! If I haven't covered what was in the mind of those who extended the invitation, I've reserved five minutes for questioning and am ready to entertain them.

CONVENTION FEES

Package Price

\$ 8.00	Registration fee.
\$14.00	Meals. Monday evening through Saturday breakfast, including the banquet.
\$11.00	Lodging for 5 nights. (Single rooms, if available, will cost \$2.00 a night more.)

\$33.00

Note: A \$1.00 dormitory key deposit will be collected from each delegate at the time of registration.

The registration fee is paid by one coach and all students representing each chapter.

All delegates pay the \$14.00 for meals and \$11.00 for lodging.