

The President's Letter

The May issue of the *Forensic* comes to you during the closing days of another college year. For some, it will be the last of four stimulating years of forensic experience. The old battered debate box, with its dangling hinges is about to take its last trip — to the closet shelf. As you sort out the many accumulated notes, papers, themes, etc. which have been stored away in the bottom drawer of your desk, you many come across the oration you wrote in your sophomore year, the speaking notes for the extemp talk you gave at the Redlands Convention, or the double columned sheets of paper on which you took down the debate cases during this year's provincial tourney. Some nostalgia may come over you as memory images of these forensic events pass over your mind. Time and again, in the years of your future, these memories will return to color your recollections of college life.

To you, then, the Pi Kappa Delta graduates of '56, this letter is dedicated. Our fraternity will miss you next year! As we watch the pairs of debaters strolling to the next round of competition at forthcoming tournaments, your familiar shuffle will be gone. But we do not want you to leave us before we have had a chance to express our appreciation.

You have been the central core of our organization during these four years. Your membership applications and advanced degrees have helped sustain our treasury. Collectively you have been a large share of our membership — you have really been much of Pi Kappa Delta. Your work and leadership have maintained the activities of the local chapters and the provinces. Your speaking has been the evidence of our program in the many contests which our fraternity has sponsored. Your votes have guided our policies in the assemblies of our National Convention.

We hope you feel that this giving of yourselves to us actually has been reciprocally advantageous. We hope you can recognize in your present maturity many qualities that bear the imprint of Pi Kappa Delta. More confidence and poise in coping with speaking situations, greater skill in analyzing problems, keener discrimination between valid and invalid arguments, finer insights into person, to person interactions, and more objectivity in controversial situations are some such qualities that you now may possess in greater measure.

But how about your relationships with Pi Kappa Delta hereafter? We invite you to retain your interest and loyalty to the fraternity. You may do this in several ways. Ask our National Secretary to send you the *Forensic*. This will keep you informed of what we are doing. Come back often to visit your local chapter, and pay a visit to our Provincial and National Conventions. Wear your Pi Kappa Delta key, and explain, when occasion arises, what it represents and means. Encourage young speakers planning college careers to qualify for membership in the organization. And when your "ship comes in" why not set aside substantial donations to Pi Kappa Delta for scholarships, trophies, and other worthy causes!

All these activities will help to maintain interest and loyalty. But even more significant will be your use of "persuasion, beautiful and just" in your chosen vocation and in your activities as a citizen. Your whole lifetime can be a testimony to Pi Kappa Delta's purposes and ideals. Whenever you support worthy causes with high level methods, you are performing the most important service in promoting our program. The society you are about to enter poses many tangled and complicated problems. In the near future, many of you will stand in positions of responsibility, and what you have learned in our fellowship should help you to speak wisely and persuasively in the decision-making councils of our nation. The best of luck to all Pi Kappa Delta graduates of '56!



CENTRAL COLLEGE (Iowa)

Miss Cunera Van Emmerik, Governor of the Province of Missouri was honored by the Iowa Forensic Association at their State Tournament at *Coe College*, March 16 and 17, for her service to the association. Following her talk at the luncheon, on the history of the association (in which she has had a considerable part) she was presented with an orchid. This more than deserved recognition came as Central Speakers were doing well in the tournament.

Joyce Bennett received a superior in Poetry Reading and Carolyn Coleman won a superior in discussion. Inta Simsons and Shirley Groendyke won awards of excellent in discussion. Robert Borgman, Miss Simsons and Miss Coleman all won excellent awards in debate. Borgman was rated excellent in extemp. Gerard Van Dyke received a rating of excellent in oratory.

Earlier on February 11 Central College sponsored an invitational forensic tournament which climaxed in an exhibition debate between the two teams judged best. In this debate Grinnell defeated *Simpson*. Those attending were, *Central*, Cornell, *Drake*, Grinnell, Iowa State Teachers, Iowa State, *Simpson* and Wartburg. Debaters from Central College won six of eight debates. The teams of Coleman and Borgman and the team of Simpons and Groendyke were each rated excellent.

Central also participated in the Nebraska University Tournament February 24 and 25 and the Iowa University Tournament March 2 and 3. At the latter Meet Miss Coleman was rated excellent in discussion.

GREENVILLE COLLEGE

Illinois Chi members have had a busy season that has included sponsoring two tournaments, an oratorical contest, several debate tournaments and qualification for the West Point Tournament.

In the sixth annual Greenville College Tournament, *Southern Illinois University* won the trophy by out-pointing Washing-

ton University of St. Louis, who matched SIU.s 6-2 record.

The High School Tournament, again under the sponsorship of the local Pi Kappa Delta chapter, proved quite successful



Shown is Milo Kaufmann, president of Illinois Chi Chapter presenting the trophy award to the victorious Du Quoin High debaters at the Annual Greenville College High School Tournament.

with five Illinois high schools represented. DuQuoin High swept undefeated to the championship. Second place was taken by University High, Carbondale.

An oratorical contest was sponsored on an intramural basis as part of an effort to stimulate speech interest and activity among the student body. Pi Kappa Delta members were not eligible to participate. Trophies were awarded to the winners.

A high point in the season for the chapter was the winning of the DePauw University Tournament. This is the second victory in three years for the chapter at the DePauw Tourney, Ron Werner rated as high speaker for the second consecutive year.

After DePauw, the Greenville group out-pointed *Augustana College* to win the sweepstakes trophy offered at the annual *North Illinois State College* Tournament. The second place winner was 16 points behind the victors.

At the Illinois State Tournament two Greenville teams tied for first place in a strange multiple-school tie that split the championship four ways.

High point of the season for the Illinois Chi members came when their team earned

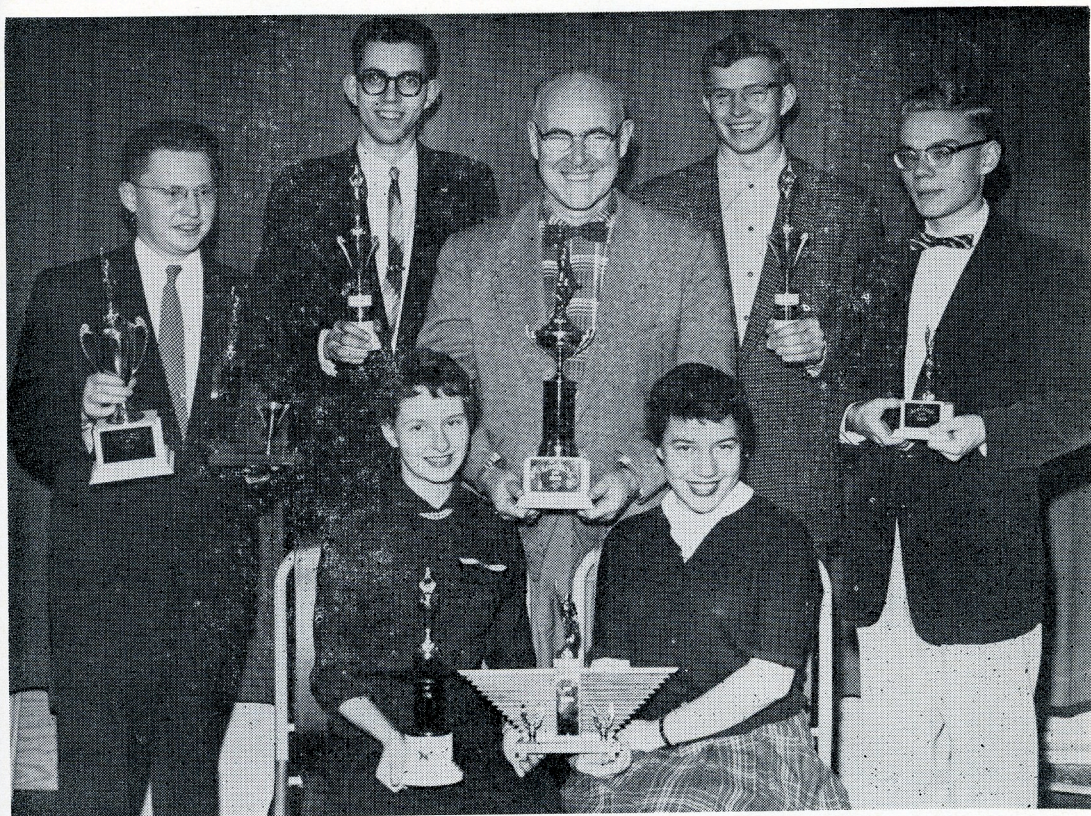
the right to attend the Annual West Point Tournament as a delegate from the fifth district. The West Point team is composed of Ron Werner and Gary Cronkhite, both from Pueblo, Colorado.

Graduating seniors include Milo Kaufmann and Lowell Billings, who figured strongly in the Chapter's success at the Depauw, Northern and State tourneys. Kaufmann has accepted a graduate fellowship in English literature and Billings is entering the ministry of the Free Methodist Church.

LINFIELD COLLEGE

Five hundred people representing thirty-seven schools and seven states attended this year's Linfield Forensic Tournament. This was the twenty-sixth edition of the annual event.

Al Cave and his partner, Wally Cory, who attended the National at Redlands last year, won four out of six debates in the senior men's division this year. In addition, Al won the senior Lincoln-Douglas debate, first in extemp, senior men, and second in impromptu, senior men. Bill Anderson won first in radio. Fred Minifie, who with his partner Jim Gunton attended the National last year as freshman, won four out of six in the junior men, and Fred took second in junior Lincoln-Douglas, first in salesmanship, third in after-dinner, and also a finalist in impromptu. Terry Olson won first place in storytelling. Sonja Jessen and Dixie Johnson have won first place in women's debate in the last two tournaments, having won 15 straight debates without a loss. Sonja also won first place in impromptu.



Pictured are Linfield College speakers, left to right: Al Cave, Bill Anderson, R. D. Mahaffey, Fred Minifie, Terry Olson, Sonja Jessen, Dixie Johnson.

MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN

Students from ten colleges and universities in four states participated February 10-11, in the annual Gulf States Speech Festival at Mississippi Southern College. The only undefeated debate team in the senior division was *Millsaps College*. The senior debate teams from the University of Alabama and Tulane also won superior ratings. In junior debate the only undefeated team was Tulane. Superior ratings were also received by *Mississippi Southern* and *Millsaps College*.

Superior ratings in individual events were as follows: Original Speaking, Senior Women-Martha Jo Ashley, *MSCW*; Lane Wells, *Louisiana Polytechnic Institute*. Senior men-Arthur Hastings, Tulane; Jimmy Staggs, University of Alabama. Junior Women-Anne Hendrickson, *Louisiana Polytechnic Institute*. Junior Men-Phillip Schaffner, Perkinson Junior College; Keith Tonkel, *Millsaps College*. Interpretative Reading, Senior Division-Arthur Hastings, Tulane; Jimmy Staggs, University of Alabama; Alton Boyd, *Millsaps*. Junior Women-Ida Loving, *MSCW*; Marian Perrone, Meridian Junior College. Junior Men-Calvin Wilson, Pensacola Junior College; Keith Tonkel, *Millsaps*. Extempore Speaking, Senior Division-Talmadge Littlejohn, *Mississippi College*; Lane Wells, *Louisiana Polytechnic Institute*. Junior Women-Kay Cowan, University of Alabama. Junior men Clyde Buzzard, Tulane; Jim Waits, *Millsaps College*. After-Dinner Speaking-Peggy Lack, *MSCW*; Arthur Hastings, Tulane. Radio Speaking-Alton Boyd, *Millsaps College*; Jimmy Staggs, University of Alabama; Calvin Wilson, Pensacola Junior College.

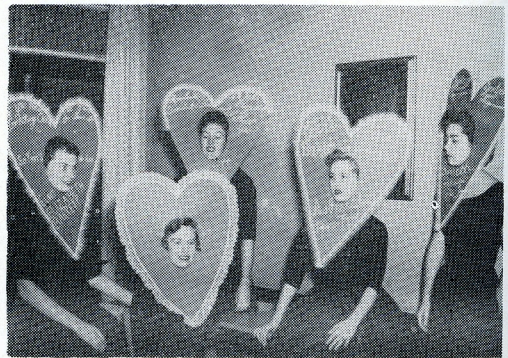
MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Five members of Mississippi Gamma received the best campaign award and eight ratings of superior at the annual Mississippi Youth Congress held in the State Capitol Building in Jackson, December 2-3. Although this was the fourth time in five years the *MSCW* girls have been voted

the best campaign award, a woman has never been elected president pro-tem of the Senate chamber. This year's campaign to elect Mary Elizabeth Barrett was based on the love sonnet, "How Do I Love Thee" by Elizabeth Barrett Browning included A Sonnet to the Senate, "How I can Serve Thee", a guide for using parliamentary procedure; and nomination and acceptance speeches in verse. Individual superior awards were as follows: Barrett, acceptance speech, parliamentarian and bill; Glenda Pevey, nomination speech and a bill; Martha Jo Ashley, Carolyn King and Peggy Lack for bills.

At the Deep South Debate Tournament at Mississippi College, Jimmie Meese and Pat Moore received a rating of superior in debate and Ashley in oral interpretation. Debating teams consisting of Ashley and Lack and Ida Loving and Meese were eliminated in the quarterfinals of the Millsaps College debate tournament. Loving received a rating of superior in oral interpretation, Ashley in original speaking, Lack in after dinner speaking, and Loving and Meese won three of four debates in the Mississippi Southern College speech tournament. *MSCW* sponsored the Magnolia Speech Tournament and attended the Southern Speech Association Tournament and the PKD Provincial.

Pledges to PKD are Ruth Sykes, Margaret Boyles, Loving, Moore, Meese, and Tommie Dale.



"A Sonnet to the Senate" featuring *MSCW*'s Mary Elizabeth Barrett (second from left) campaign for president pro-tem of the Mississippi Youth Congress. Sonnet supporters are, left to right, Carolyn King, Glenda Pevey, Peggy Lack and Martha Jo Ashley.

Northeast Missouri State Teachers College

The Missouri Theta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta has been active this year. They attended a Tournament at *Bradley University*, Peoria, Illinois. The next tournament was held on the campus at Kirksville on December 2 and 3. Then on January 6 and 7, the squad members attended a tournament at *Illinois State Normal University* at Normal, Illinois. On January 14, the squad attended a tournament at *William Jewell College*, Liberty, Missouri. On February 3 and 4, the local chapter took part in a tournament at *State Teachers College*, Pittsburg, Kansas. The debate squad attended a tournament at *Nebraska University* at Lincoln, Nebraska, on February 24 and 25, followed by the State Tournament which was held at Warrensburg, Missouri. The Provincial, which was a joint meeting of the Illinois and Missouri Provinces, was held at *William Jewell College*, Liberty, Missouri.

In 1924, the Board of Regents at the Teachers College set up an annual award of fifty dollars to the winning debate team on the campus at the college. This is called the Regents Award in Debate and is an intramural tournament. It is open to any student who has not been a winner in this tournament. Last year Bob Shearer and Glen Easterday won the award and were not eligible to participate this year. This year the winning team was Ruth Black, a freshman, and Aubrey Britt, a junior.

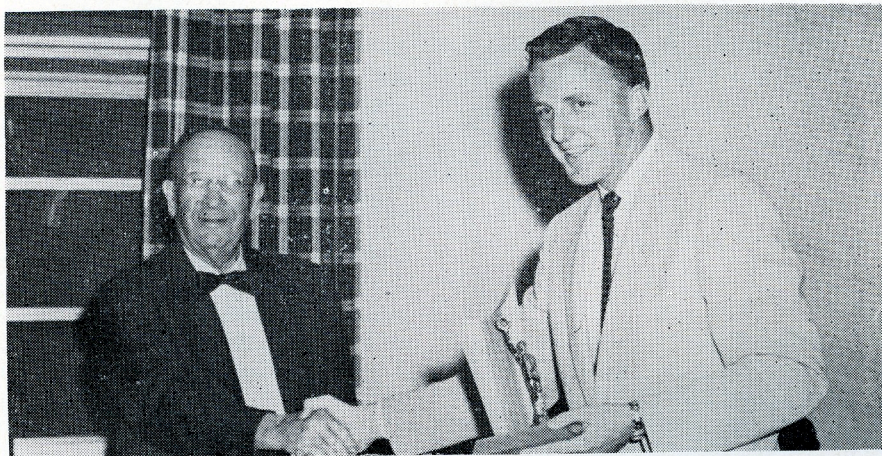
Southeast State College, Durant, Oklahoma

The twenty-seventh consecutive Savage Forensic was held at Southeastern State College, Durant, Oklahoma, on March 1, 2, and 3. This forensic is a living monument to the life-long interest in debate and related forensic activities of T. A. Houston, the founder of the forensic tournament who conducted it for twenty four years until his retirement in 1952.

In 1934, which also marks the year Pi Kappa Delta was installed on the campus, Houston began a coaching career which reached its zenith with the winning of the first West Point Invitational Tournament in 1947 with the team of Scotty Nobles and Jerry Sanders.

Beginning with this year, the T. A. Houston Oratorical Award has been established as an annual award by M. Ruth Hatchett who succeeded Mr. Houston as debate coach and director of the Savage Forensic. The award is presented to the winning contestant in the senior men's division of oratory. This year's winner of the Houston award is Douglas Manning of Southwestern State College, Weatherford, Oklahoma.

Nine states and thirty-four colleges and universities sent contestants to this year's Savage. Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Alabama, and Oklahoma were represented.



Presentation of the T. A. Houston Oratorical Award at Savage Forensic, Southeastern State College, Durant, Oklahoma, March 1-3, 1956. Houston founded the Forensic in 1930. Left: T. A. Houston Right: Douglas Manning, Winner.



Place winners in the twelfth annual Eau Claire Speech Meet held at Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire, February 16-18. From left to right: Wayne Tallakson, St Olaf, After-Dinner Speaking; Jocelyn Gilbertson, Eau Claire, Oratory; Janet Kauffman, Mankato State, Folktale Telling; Karlyn Kohrs, Macalester, Extemp Speaking; Barbara Sachs, University of Wisconsin, Group Discussion.

Southwestern College, Kansas

The following new members were elected to Pi Kappa Delta at Southwestern College:

Kent Garhart	Don Mohlstrom
Jeanette Campbell	Fred Baker
Bena Brewer	Sheryl Strohl
Frank Barnett	Dennis Barratt
Roger Daeschner	Mary Carttar
Frank Davis	Larry Montgomery
Gene Hemphill	Richard Near

St. Olaf

St. Olaf College won the sweepstakes for the second year in a row and the third time in recent years at the Eau Claire Speech Meet February 16, 17 and 18. This gave them permanent possession of the trophy. *Wisconsin State College* at Eau Claire tied with St Olaf for sweepstakes

but lost out by virtue of St Olaf's two first places to Eau Claire's one.

St Olaf won first in second division debate and Wayne Tellikson won first in After-Dinner speaking for the Norsemen. The award in first division debate went to *Augustana College*. Barbara Sachs of the University of Wisconsin was first in discussion. Janet Kauffman of Mankato State Teachers College won first in folktale telling. Jocelyn Gilbertson of *Wisconsin State* at Eau Claire won first and retired the trophy in oratory.

Other Pi Kappa Delta winners were: *Eau Claire*, third in first division debate; *St. Olaf* fourth in second division debate; *Macalester*, third; in discussion, Patricia Litsheim, *Eau Claire*, second; in oratory, Henry Ruff, *Macalester*, second and Larry Hennemann, *River Falls*, third; in extemporaneous speaking, Patricia Litsheim, *Eau Claire*, second; in after-dinner, Larry Hennemann,, *River Falls*, second.

Ridin' the Provinces

I spent a long evening last Friday with Advisor Bob Cathcart and the California Lambda Chapter revising and passing a new local constitution. It's difficult enough to get a constitution through any group but with a group of debaters it is almost impossible. "The Great Debate" was over the question of a grade point requirement. The chapter finally agreed on a 1.5 (in a three point scale) requirement for membership. This is in keeping with the recommendation, which was tabled, at the Redlands Convention. Perhaps it's about time we all thought again about this problem so that we don't need to pack our six guns when we leave for the Bad Lands next spring. There is also the question of the order of Curricular Speech and the future of Group Discussion in the National Convention which we all need to review. This last matter is reviewed in this and the March issue of *The Forensic* and the other two will be reviewed in next fall's issues, but perhaps the local chapters and provinces would profit by a discussion such as California Lambda had last Friday.

Forensic publicity has always been interesting to me. The whole move of educational forensics has been toward eliminating the first, second and third classification in the various events. Thus, the Pi Kappa Delta tournaments recognize superior and excellent performances. But no matter what system is used, campus journalists are difficult to control.

Occasionally, I am able to read the school papers of other colleges and see how they write up the tournaments we both have entered. More than once in a while I see a report that indicates a sweep not borne out by the actual results. We have all seen National Championships claimed after Pi

Kappa Delta Conventions and sweepstakes for tournaments with no such award. In order to avoid the injunction that "he who is without sin, cast the first stone" let me point out that similar reports have appeared in local papers about my teams. I understand that a study was even made by a Western Conference school after one of their tournaments showing a difficulty in recognizing the tournament from the school newspaper reports.

A little gilding is not bad. Naturally, we want to play up the achievements of the local squad. This is essential to local prestige and if it produces more money in the budget so that more can participate in forensics the next year, good has been served. But, deliberate falsification, or tricky manipulation of statistics (an easy job for debaters) is to be deplored because it indicates an emphasis on winning which is detrimental to an educationally sound forensic program.

Rarely is this the fault of the forensic director. Occasionally, though all too often, it is caused by overeager debaters. The greatest problem is with the local journalists. These Johnny Cubs are not interested in the educational aspects of debate; they *want a story*. After the recent Pacific Province Tournament I had difficulty with the local press over the difference between two superiors out of four in oratory and first and second place. "You people," the local editor told my debater who wrote the story, "write so that no one can understand you. What does superior mean? What does excellent mean?" It's a legitimate question. Maybe we can keep our accuracy and avoid bad feelings by some education. We need always to educate coaches and debaters about the real importance of intercollegiate forensics and we need to do more to educate the campus

journalists and students about what we are doing and why.

Perhaps with careful education we can write stories such as appeared in the March issue of the *Central Ray* — "Forensic Teams Win Four of Eight." Such courageous accuracy is a product of a forensic program built to serve a useful purpose over many years of outstanding leadership. I look forward to the day when we all are as accurate and maybe even write the heading — "State College Clobbered in the State Meet."

In another section of this issue is an article by Governor Grace Walsh on the history of the Upper Mississippi province. When your editors asked her to write this article it seemed like an easy job. But it wasn't. Most chapters keep little history and at least one province (and probably all) keep no history. Governor Walsh commented in a letter to this editor that she was going to see to it that this lack was remedied in the future. There is no need here to embark on a long dissertation on the significance of historical study. This case is carefully explained other places. The challenge that "those who can't remember the past are condemned to live it again" applies to forensics. Intercollegiate Forensics has gone through many experiences in its history. We have seen the time when debates, like basketball games, were times for cheerleaders and occasional riots. We have seen a variety of judging schemes tried, dropped and tried again. We have seen debate's angry opponents stamp it out, switch to non-decision, substitute discussion-symposium and then we have seen it return stronger than ever. But, this is not a happy ending story. Things don't just get better and better. Just recently we had to face the attack of secondary school administrators. We can expect our excesses and other's

misunderstandings to develop new attacks. It will be for us to know what happened last time and the time before. Similar conditions arise in the understanding of the nature of debate, oratory and other forensic events. Add to this the pure enjoyment and intellectual stimulation that comes from knowing what our origins are and you find a real justification for chapter and province histories.

Noticing a newspaper account of the article "The First Debate Tournament" (The Forensic, March, 1956) J. Thompson Baker wrote a lengthy and newsworthy letter to the editor of The Forensic. Readers of this article will recall that Mr. Baker, forensics coach emeritus of Southwestern College, Kansas, was cited as the founder of the intercollegiate debate tournament. Mr. Baker, now past 81 and still quite active, sent along additional data about the history of forensics. We quote the following from his letter of April 9, 1956:

"The Practice Tournament I modestly can claim as a child of my brain. But an even more important incorporated element has not been given notice. I refer to the *debating both sides of the question*. This idea was born in Literary Society in my college days, probably back in 1894 or 1895. We had engaged in the customary weekly debate. The losing team were not good losers; and chimed out "Oh, anybody could win on that side. We had the losing side". Immediately we got the floor and proposed a motion: 'Move that next week we have the same subject, the same debaters, but reverse sides'. Passed, unanimously; and the next week we beat them worse than ever. I nursed that idea for many years, and finally proposed it both in high school leagues and in Pi Kappa Delta. It met violent opposition, first

in my own debate classes. Some refused to debate both sides, so were refused place on our teams. The idea met with more friendly response in Pi Kappa Delta, and, given trial, proved its value for many reasons not necessary to name now.

When I insisted on debating both sides in high school debating, there came, both face-to-face and by letter, the most violent resistance. I was accused of imbecility, and the declaration that it might be all right for college folks, but impossible for high school debaters. My reply was that the tournament would run on the basis of each team debating both sides, alternating; either plan that or your teams cannot enter. The most violent opponent debate coach, who said that he would not bring his teams if we insisted on such debating, did bring his teams, and he became my strongest supporter of the system.

It is true we "flew in the face" of most eminent debaters and statesmen. Theodore Roosevelt contended it was

utterly wrong for anyone to uphold and debate what he did not believe. My answer was and is, 'Debating is not based on personal belief.' And really, personal belief is not argument. One of the best debaters I ever had did not want to debate a certain side of a question. But that once done, even personal belief and personal opinion was wholly changed, by the wholesome and convincing arguments found and presented. (I wish some of our politicians were compelled to debate both sides. We might have more seemly debate, and more honest men.)"

Dr. Robert S. Cathcart who writes in this issue in defense of discussion as a contest activity is an active Pi Kappa Delta member. He holds the degree of Special Distinction for his participation at Pepperdine and Redlands. He was a charter member of the Pepperdine Chapter. Presently he is advisor for the Los Angeles State College Chapter. He holds a BA and MA degree from Redlands and a Ph. D. from Northwestern University.

—MALCOLM SILLARS

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Degree	Miniature (with pin)	Small (Lavalier)	Large (Fob)
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DEBATE (Pearl)

Fraternity (Ruby)	4.70	5.26	6.10
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Honor (Emerald)	4.98	5.54	6.38
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Fraternity	5.54	6.10	6.94
Proficiency	4.70	5.27	6.10
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Special Distinction	8.34	13.94	17.02

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Fraternity	8.62	14.22	17.30
Proficiency	7.78	13.38	16.46
Honor	8.90	14.50	17.58
Special Distinction	11.70	22.34	27.76

INSTRUCTION (Emerald)

Fraternity	5.83	6.39	7.22
Proficiency	4.98	5.54	6.39
Honor	6.10	6.66	7.50
Special Distinction	8.90	14.50	17.58

HONORARY (Sapphire)

Fraternity	5.26	5.83	6.67
Proficiency	4.42	4.98	5.83
Honor	5.54	6.10	6.94
Special Distinction	8.34	13.94	17.02

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