

THE FORENSIC

OF PI KAPPA DELTA

ALFRED WESTFALL, Editor
G. W. FINLEY, Business Manager

Issued four times a year, in October, January, March and May. Subscription price per year, \$1.00. Subscription free to all active members.

Entered as second class matter, October, 1928, at the post office at Fort Collins, Colorado, under Act of August 24, 1912.

SERIES 18

JANUARY, 1933

NUMBER 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

National Speaking Contest of the Youth of England.....	46
International Debate Staged At St. Paul.....	49
The Direct Clash Debate Plan.....	52
Plans For Province Conventions.....	57
Debate Tournament At Southwestern.....	66
Forensic Tournaments.....	68
Maine Beta Established At Bowdoin.....	70
Get-Together Tournament For Women.....	72
California Practice Debate Tournament.....	73
The Editor's Personal Page.....	78
Notes From The National Secretary's Office.....	79
High School Debate Questions.....	81
Here And There Among The Schools And Coaches.....	83
Radio Debates Popular.....	85
Among The Chapters.....	86

NATIONAL SPEAKING CONTEST OF THE YOUTH OF ENGLAND INTENSELY INTERESTING

It was our pleasure to be present last fall at the final National Speaking contest of the youth of England. Although the contest lasted from 2:00 p. m. to 6:30 p. m. and an additional forty-five minutes was consumed in criticisms by the judges and remarks by the chairman and others present—not one minute of the time was uninteresting.

The contest is sponsored by the National Conservative Party and is limited to members of the Junior Imperial League. This League also fosters contests in music and readings. The finals in these are held in April.



J. R. PEISMA
Pittsburg Teachers

In the final which was held in the Friends' Meeting House, Euston-road, London, Saturday, November 27, twelve teams competed; each team is composed of four members—a chairman, who is allotted five minutes, a principal speaker who has ten minutes, a proposer and a seconder of a vote of thanks, three and two minutes respectively. Thus each team has twenty minutes.

At the conclusion of the sixth team there was an intermission of fifteen minutes during which the judges and contestants had tea. Also, the six doors leading into the auditorium were opened, presumably to let the tobacco smoke escape making it possible to again see the speakers.

A "team" is, in miniature, an actual campaign meeting. Each team represented a political district and secured the right to compete through a process of elimination earlier in the fall. More than 1500 took part in these preliminaries. The age limit for competitors is thirty. The youngest was Master J. McEvoy, aged 15; the youngest girl, Miss Betty Owen, was 19—both from Cardiff. The average age was 23.

The subject of the principal speaker was the "King's Ad-

dress" at the opening of Parliament, November 11. The time of preparation for the final was less than a fortnight.

"Stop" and "Go" lights were in a small black box on a table in front of the speaker. White lights turned to green when only two minutes of the allotted time was left; then flashed red which meant finish. Some speakers seemed quite disconcerted when the green light appeared, and made valiant efforts to condense the remainder of their carefully prepared speeches—some were obviously memorized, others appeared quite extempore, using notes lying on the table in front of them. The use of copious notes seems also to have been copied from their worthy predecessors—Lord Stanley Baldwin, Lord Beaverbrook, Hon. Lloyd George, Hon. Ramsay McDonald, etc. All seem to prefer to have them on a flat table rather than to hold them in their hands.

Out of the 48 speakers, 28 were boys; out of the 12 principal speakers, 9 were boys.

The team from Wessex won first place, and was presented a silver challenge trophy offered by Sir Robert Horne, M. P.; each member of the winning team was given a small silver cup. Silver cups were also presented to the members of the team's ranking second and third. These were teams from Deptford of the London area, and Lowestoft, the Eastern area, respectively. The silver trophy has inscribed on it in Latin: "Speak your mind, and stake your life on the truth."

The chairman, Lord Stanley, M. P., qualified for the post in not extending his opening remarks, in beginning the program on time, and by announcing the winners in the sensible order—beginning with the winning team, then the second and third and not in reverse order. His introductory remarks ended with: "As is customary we hope the best team wins. However, knowing the qualifications of the judges, I can say that the best team WILL win." (In our judgment the BEST team—from Kent—didn't even place!) The judges were Lady Astor, M. P., Col. John Buchan, M. P., and Mr. J. D. Cassel, K. C., M. P. The judges sat together but there was no consultation. They were introduced after the winners were announced. Each responded with a few remarks, some offering constructive criticisms, others expressed the real pleasure they had in functioning as judges—all expressed themselves with such eloquence that one could not doubt that they were well selected for their task.

Although Lady Astor stated quite boldly and forcefully that the King's Address had little meaning and was of no importance,

it seemed quite adequate as a subject—providing a variety in interpretation not heard in the usual debate tournament. The writer cannot imagine a more appropriate contest for the English youth. It is immensely interesting and practical. A few contestants had taken the platform in the recent election.

Considering the fact that there are no departments of speech in the English Universities and no classes in public speaking outside of some private schools, the young men and women spoke remarkably well; although not on a par with the best in the United States. They seemed to sin, mostly in the awkwardness of their gestures.

Very little humor was attempted—each seemed in dead earnest to get his ideas “across the footlights.” Although the chairman warned the audience against applauding, stomping of feet, clapping of hands and cries of “Hear! Hear!” frequently interrupted a speaker and always greeted each speaker at the close of his speech.

There were about 400 present including some twenty members of Parliament and other political leaders. Admission was by ticket which could be had for the asking, but inconvenient to secure. The auditorium was about one-half filled. Many secured tickets and then failed to come. Only two papers ran a “news item” of the event.

The Hon. Ramsay McDonald has frequently deplored the fact that dialects in England are disappearing and advocates protection against “Hollywood” speech as well as the stereotyped speech of the B. B. C. announcers. He would have been greatly disappointed had he listened to these contestants. Nearly all spoke an excellent “King’s English.” Dialects were not particularly marked. One member from Chippenham had the broad vowels of the Wessex, and only the proposer of the vote of thanks of the Yorkshire’s team betrayed her origin. Lancashire had one obvious son, but there was no true Londoner in the team where a hint of Cockney might have been expected.

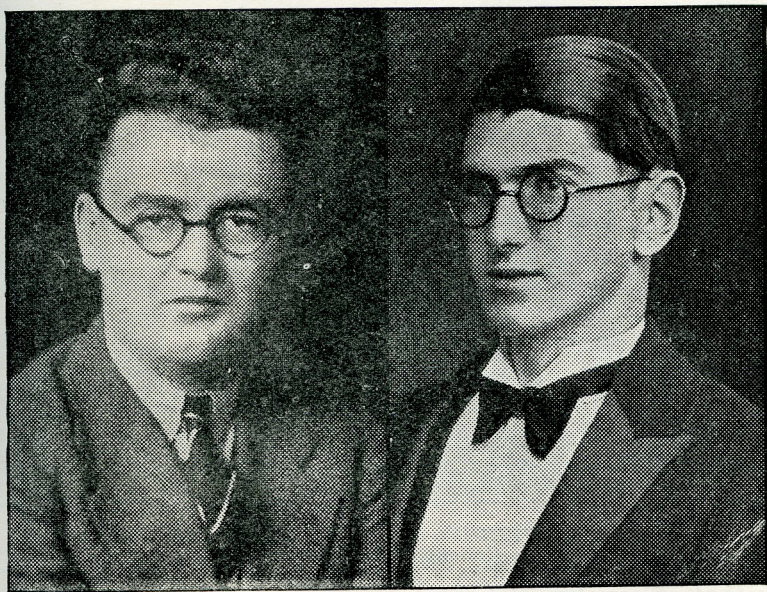
It was not a contest between college students, yet their thought, diction and delivery was of a very high grade. The convincing and persuasive eloquence of their elders, who obviously have had little or no training in speech, yet use a better diction than the American statesman, leads one to wonder just how much our own classes in speech contribute to platform eloquence in America.

University of London
December 1, 1931

J. R. PELSMA.
Kansas Theta.

INTERNATIONAL DEBATE STAGED IN ST. PAUL

The College of St. Thomas met the University of Dublin debaters in an international debate in the palm room of the Hotel St. Paul, October 25. The presiding officer was Hon. Samuel B. Wilson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Minnesota. The question for debate was the cancellation of war debts. The audience decision was heavily in favor of the home town negative.



JAMES JOHNSTON AUCHMUTY, B. A.

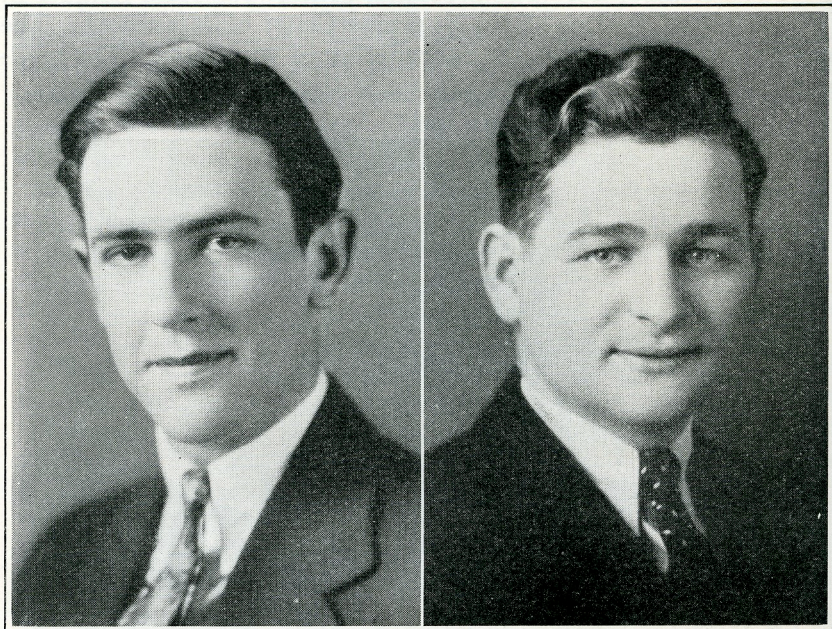
GARRETT EDWARD GILL, B.A., L.L.B.

With the visiting University of Dublin debaters presenting the European interests, it was truly an international debate. It was a debate, too, in which the personal convictions of the debaters played a conspicuous part.

Professor Owen P. McElmeel, the coach at St. Thomas, furnishes the FORENSIC with the following account of the debate.

"The Dublin men followed the typical English style of debating, to which those who have heard Oxford and Cambridge men have become familiar. They were informal, humorous, suggesting arguments rather than developing them through evidence massed in their support, as the American style demands.

Never over-serious, always respectful and good-natured and courteous, they took the audience into their confidence, paid not too much attention to the arguments of their opponents, did not concern themselves with team-work, exhibited no such disposition as our home debaters do to storm the audience with a charge



WILLIAM J. QUINN

College of St. Thomas

ARCHIE GINGOLD

like that of cavalry. They were easy, natural, direct, conversational, with no appeals to the emotions, and yet persuasive in their frankness and their close personal touch with the audience.

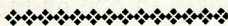
"Their style offers a correction to our over-strenuous method. I should not care to adopt their method *in toto*, but to infuse enough of it into our style to relieve it of its all but 'fierce' onslaught on the opinions and convictions of our audiences. American debaters almost dare their hearers to believe otherwise; the English-Irish debaters seem to concede the perfect right of their auditors to disagree with them, but aim to coax and beguile them out of their convictions by humor and sweet reasonableness.

"In analysis, plan of case, organization of proof, and in force and vigor of utterance, the American speakers of course far excel the foreign teams. Indeed, as has been intimated, the for-

eigners pay little attention to technique or form in the general plan of their argument. Their speeches may be regarded as sprightly conversations, carried on by the party of the first part only. I need not advert to the American style again, but merely express the opinion that that style would be greatly improved by introducing into it some of the leading features of the foreigners' casual and airy speaking."

The Dublin speakers were James J. Auchmuty and Garrett E. Gill, graduates of 1931 and 1930 respectively. Both are men of wide experience. Mr. Auchmuty was prominent in athletics and undergraduate activities. He was auditor of the College Historical Society, the highest position open to an undergraduate, corresponding to the presidency of the Oxford and Cambridge Unions. He has written a good deal on historical subjects. Mr. Gill had also been a prominent student and a leader in campus activities. He holds both the B. A. and L. L. B. degree. He has read papers before leading literary societies in his own country.

The St. Thomas debaters were William J. Quinn and Archie Gingold, who may best be described as college students of the undergraduate variety.



The College of St. Thomas, Minnesota Epsilon, announces its second annual debate tournament for February 28 and March 1. The invitation is to all colleges interested. Each institution may enter one or two teams of two members, men or women. Elimination will begin after the fourth round. The Pi Kappa Delta question will be used. There are no fees. The tournament will end with a complimentary dinner.

The national Forensic League, the high school honorary society, is planning to hold its next national tournament and convention at Wooster, Ohio, some time this spring.—*National Forensic League Bulletin*.

Professor Earl Huffer, Debate Coach at Texas Kappa, Sam Houston State Teachers College, and governor of the Province of the Lower Mississippi, recently underwent a serious operation. He has made a good recovery and expected to resume his duties when school reopened after the Christmas holidays.

THE DIRECT CLASH DEBATE PLAN

(NOTE: This article appeared in the November number of the Quarterly Journal of Speech.)

FOREWORD

During the debate season of 1931-1932, debate teams representing Wake Forest College, Asheville Teachers College, the University of Tennessee, and North Carolina State College, introduced a new plan of debating. This new form—called the Direct Clash debate—is intended not to supplant the present standard debate, but to give variety and greater interest to the forensic program of the season and to give opportunity for training not provided for at present.

During the past months, numerous requests have been received for copies of the rules. Debate directors, both in secondary schools and in colleges and universities, have agreed to experiment with this new plan in one or more debates during the 1932-1933 season, report its effectiveness, and suggest changes in the rules before publication in their final form. It is hoped that the readers of THE FORENSIC will find it desirable to use the Direct Clash debate in one or more inter-school debates, will report on its effectiveness, and will suggest any necessary changes.

RULES FOR THE DIRECT CLASH DEBATE

A. Number on each team. No more than five and no fewer than two debaters should compose each team. Unless so desired by the debate directors, the speakers need not speak in any fixed order, but no speaker may speak twice in succession and no speaker may initiate more than one successive clash. The numbers on the teams may vary—a two-debater team may meet a five-, four-, three-, or two-debater team, thus allowing the visiting team to limit the expense of travel and the home team to give more students an opportunity to debate. Or, by agreement, an equal number may debate on the two sides.

B. Decision or non-decision debate. A novel method of scoring, designed partly to arouse audience interest, is explained in Sections E and G. But only one change in procedure need be made to have either a non-decision or an audience-vote debate. Many of the debates already held under the Direct Clash debate plan have been non-decision debates.

C. The Proposition for Debate. The same type of proposition may be used that is used in standard debates.

D. Preliminary Period of Definition and Analysis. A speaker on the affirmative has either 5 or 8 minutes to open the debate. If he chooses the 5 minute period, his duty shall be to define the terms and to explain, in general, the "plan" proposed by the affirmative if one is necessary. A speaker on the negative shall then reply in a speech of equal length, in which he shall accept, deny, or qualify the affirmative's analysis. Or the negative speaker may use his time to question the affirmative speaker concerning his definition of the question or the details of his plan.

If the affirmative speaker chooses the 8 minute opening speech, he must also present what the affirmative believes to be the issues of the debate. The negative speaker then has 8 minutes to reply, in which he may indicate the issues which the negative accept for clash and those which they admit or concerning which they express essential agreement with the affirmative. The debate must then be limited to those issues upon which there is a disagreement. If it chances that the teams clash on only one issue, that one issue must be sub-divided into its constituent parts and these become the "issues."

By agreement before the debate, the two teams may accept either the 5 or 8 minute opening speeches. (If both are used during the year, please report which you find most satisfactory.)

E. The First Clash. A speaker on the affirmative has an opening speech of 3 (or possibly 4) minutes to present for his side an issue which he believes to be essential to proving the proposition. This "issue" need not be the broad general issue such as Need-for-a-change or Workability which are so convenient for the 8, 10, or 13 minute speeches of our standard debate form. The issue here presented may possibly be a major sub-issue of these general issues. But before the debate begins, the judge or judges are instructed to penalize heavily a team presenting petty or obscure points which are unimportant in proving the proposition.

The first speaker on the negative must answer the specific argument advanced by the first affirmative. His speech, and each of the speeches in the following clash, must not exceed 2 minutes. (Practice with this form will demonstrate that this

time will usually be adequate.) The speaker must not evade the issue nor turn to another issue unless he can show that the two issues are essentially the same.

The second affirmative must then answer directly the first negative and so on until each side has spoken three times. The affirmative then has 2 minutes to close and summarize. The maximum debate time, therefore, is 15 minutes for each clash—one 3 minute speech and six 2 minute speeches.

If three judges are used, they should be seated together, the one in the center acting as spokesman. At the end of each speech during the clash, after the first speech by the affirmative and the first by the negative, the chairman of the debate shall allow a pause until the spokesman of the judging committee signals that the clash is to continue. If at any time after the first two speeches, a majority of the judging committee decide that the speaker who has just finished has replied weakly to the preceding speech of the opposition, or has dodged the issue, or has shifted ground without showing cause, or, in general, has failed to answer the previous speech with one equally strong, the spokesman of the judging committee (or the expert judge if only one is used) shall declare the clash at an end and shall award one point to that side whose opponent failed to reply satisfactorily. The spokesman of the judging committee shall state in not more than 3 or 4 sentences the opinion of the majority of the judges.

Before the debate begins, the judges should be urged to stop a clash as soon as one side fails to reply satisfactorily. They must understand that the effectiveness of the debate depends upon their doing so. (Note that in the Direct Clash debate plan the task of the judge—and the audience—in following one issue which is “out in the open” is relatively simple compared with the task of the judge in the standard debate in which he is **supposed** to follow often as many as four or five issues which are discussed, dropped, and taken up at irregular intervals throughout a discussion of from seventy to ninety minutes in length. The Direct Clash debate, once understood, should make far more accurate judging.)

If, however, the clash is rather even, it may be allowed to run the full 7 speeches. At the close, the judges give their decision on the merits of the debating. A virtual tie shall be decided against the initiating team since they had the advantage of choice of issue, both opening and closing speech, and number of speeches. Also, the judges should be instructed to vote

against any team presenting an insignificant issue. They will naturally tend to penalize a team presenting issues which seem less vital to proving the proposition than the issue presented by the opposition. If the debate directors desire, the judges may be instructed to do so.

F. The procedure described in E is then repeated, except that the negative now initiates the issue, accepts the burden, and if the clash goes the maximum time, closes. No issue may be initiated twice in one debate. (As has already been explained, if only one major issue is under dispute, the sub-division of that issue becomes the issue.)

G. The affirmative and negative alternate in initiating issues until one side has won three clashes. That side is then the winner of the debate. If, however, the count becomes 2 to 2, a team must win two consecutive clashes—as in tennis when the score is deuce. By agreement the debate may be called a tie at 3-3 or 4-4, thus preventing the hair-splitting decisions now necessary. If a decision is imperative, as in a league or tournament debate, either the first team winning 4 clashes shall be called winner or the judges may be asked at 3-3 or 4-4 to give decision on general platform skill.

If the debate is non-decision, there will of course be no judging committee. Each side shall present 2 or 3 issues each (depending on the desire of the debate directors). Each clash shall go the full seven speeches.

If an audience-vote is desired, the audience may vote its convictions concerning the proposition both before and after the debate to show shift in opinion. Or the members of the audience may vote to determine which team won each clash. That team which receives the most audience votes shall become the winner of each particular clash, and that team which wins a majority of the clashes shall be declared victor in the debate.

H. Comments and Suggested Variations in the Rules. 1. Speakers shall speak from near the center of the platform, in their best speaking manner.

2. Obviously, most of the speaking must be extemporaneous or even impromptu. The coach-made speech is impossible.

3. The chairman should be instructed to keep the debate moving with promptness and vigor.

4. If possible, time-keepers should have stop-watches. One half minute warnings are usually best.

5. The following changes in the rules have been suggested: These and others may be tried.

a. The time of the speeches in each clash shall be lengthened and the number reduced. Practice will probably demonstrate that the debaters will soon be able to adjust themselves to the shorter speeches with profit to themselves and the audience. But some coaches who have used the Direct Clash debate believe that there should be one 4 minute speech and four 3 minute speeches to each clash.

b. As soon as the spokesman of the judging committee gives the signal that any clash is to continue, the member of the team about to speak shall be allowed to ask the preceding speaker from one to three questions which must be answered by the speaker without delay, the time used in reply not to be taken from the 2 minute periods allowed each speaker. This innovation, some believe, will introduce some of the training values of the Oregon Plan.

c. At the end of each of the debates, or at the end of each clash, in a non-decision or audience-vote debate, the members of the audience shall be allowed to question in alternating order the members of each team.

6. The Direct Clash debate may also be used in a one-man-per-side debate before luncheon clubs, school assembly programs, etc.

I. Your Report on the Direct Clash Debate. Please report your opinion of this debate form after having used it in actual competition; inter-school preferred. The future of debating will be advanced by the introduction of worth-while new forms, and you have an opportunity to do valuable pioneering work in experimenting with and helping perfect this new form. Of special interest will be the answers to the following questions:

1. Do the debaters like the Direct Clash debate?
2. Does the audience prefer it to the standard form? (If possible, ask the audience to ballot.)
3. What are its virtues?
4. Does it develop a new technique of debating?
5. What are its defects?
6. Did you use any of the changes suggested in H, 5? With what results?

7. What changes should be made in the final rules? Why?

Address all reports to Edwin H. Paget, North Carolina State College, State College Station, Raleigh, North Carolina.

PLANS FOR PROVINCE CONVENTIONS

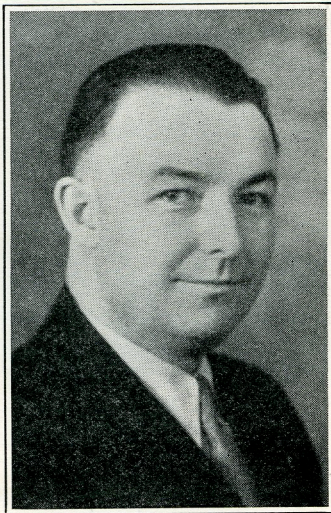
PROVINCE OF KANSAS

The Kansas Province will hold its tournament at the College of Emporia on March 31 and April 1, 1933. Participation in our tournament this year is to be limited to the thirteen chapters of the Kansas Province. We hope to have a full representation from every one of them.

We shall have contests for men and women in debate, oratory, and extempore speaking. Each college may make two entries in each event. Four rounds of debate will be had before elimination begins. Teams winning three or more debates will continue. Two defeats will eliminate. Professor J. H. Lawrence of the College of Emporia, who is lieutenant governor of the Province, will have charge of the tournament.

We plan to have a banquet the evening of the first day of the meeting. This, we believe, will insure a much better attendance than if the dinner were held the last night. Appropriate awards will be given the winners in the various events.

JAMES R. START, Governor,
Province of Kansas.



JAMES R. START
Hays Teachers

THE BEST PI KAPPA DELTA BOOK WE HAVE EVER PUBLISHED

VOLUME 4 WINNING DEBATES, ORATIONS AND SPEECHES

Those which won at the last Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament at Tulsa.

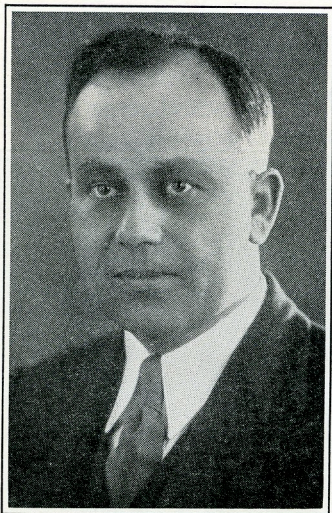
Pi Kappa Delta Price \$1.50. Regular Price \$2.00.

NOBLE & NOBLE, Publishers

76 Fifth Avenue

New York City

THE FORENSIC OF PROVINCE OF MISSOURI



E. L. McCLUER
Westminster

The Missouri Province of Pi Kappa Delta, consisting of seventeen chapters, will hold its provincial convention at Des Moines, Iowa. Chapters at Drake and Simpson College will be hosts to the convention. Plans are being completed for the usual contests in extempore speech, oratory, and debate for both men and women. Plans are also being made for an assembly debate in which twenty debaters, ten on each side of the question, will be called to order and conduct the argument as in legislative assembly. This type of debate has proved very popular both with the audience and debaters. The dates of the convention will be April 12, 13, and 14, or April 13, 14, and 15. The chapters are vot-

ing upon this matter now and the entire vote is not in. We hope to have every chapter represented and believe that we shall have a very fine convention.

F. L. McCLUER, Governor,
Province of Missouri.

PROVINCE OF THE PLATTE

The time for the convention of the Province of the Platte has not yet been definitely set. It has usually been early in March. The convention will be held at Doane College, Nebraska Gamma. There will be a men's and women's debate tournament, and contests for men and for women in oratory and extemporaneous speaking. The provincial governor, Professor W. B. Hunt, is from Doane College.

WISCONSIN-ILLINOIS PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

The convention will be held at Monmouth, Illinois, Monday to Wednesday, April 3-5. Plans call for the program to start at about one o'clock Monday afternoon, giving most of the delegates a chance to come that morning. The convention will end with a banquet on Wednesday evening at 5:30.

The debate tournament calls for four men and four women from each college—an affirmative team and a negative team. No speaker will be allowed to debate both sides of the question.

The questions to be used for debate are those chosen at the Mid-West Debate Conference: "Federal Regulation of Banking with Guarantee of Deposits" for the men; "A New Political Party" for the women.

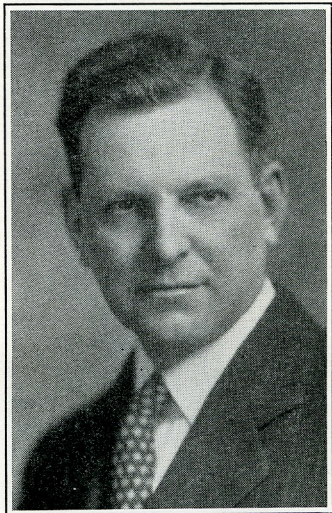
In oratory each college will be allowed to enter one man and one woman. The orations are not to exceed 1800 words.

Subjects for the extempore contests are to be selected by Professor A. T. Weaver of the University of Wisconsin. In these contests each college may enter one man and one woman.

Expenses will be kept at a minimum and a large attendance is expected.

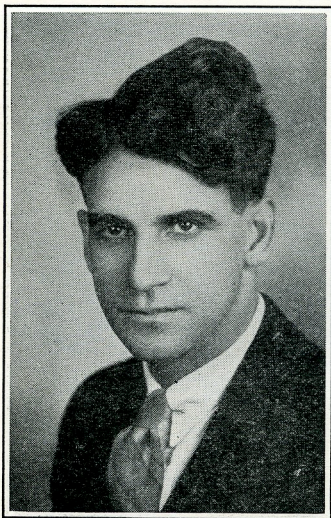
Details of the convention are being worked out as rapidly as possible. There will probably be six debates for each team. We shall probably arrange to give trophies for first and second place in each of the six events. The matters of judges, banquet speakers and program are all receiving very careful attention.

H. P. BOODY, Governor,
Province of Illinois.



H. P. BOODY
Ripon

THE FORENSIC OF PROVINCE OF THE PACIFIC



J. H. BACCUS
Redlands

The forensic tournament of the Province of the Pacific will be held at the College of the Pacific, March 23-25. All interested institutions are invited to enter. There will be a men's and a women's tournament in debating. If enough junior colleges enter, there will be a tournament for them. An institution may enter two teams in each tournament. There will be five rounds of debates before any teams are eliminated. Two defeats will eliminate. The Pi Kappa Delta question will be used in all debates.

There will be separate contests in oratory for men and women. Oration is limited to fifteen hundred words. There will be an entrance fee of three dollars for each debate team and one dollar for each orator.

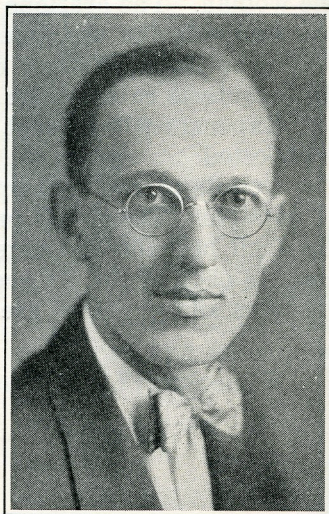
J. H. BACCUS, Governor.

PROVINCE OF THE SIOUX

The Province of the Sioux will hold its convention and contests at Jamestown College, North Dakota, at a date not yet determined. There will be a debate tournament and extempore contest.

In place of the old formal oratorical contest, there will be an After-Dinner Speech contest. The delegates from the Province of the Sioux who attended the convention at Tulsa determined to see what could be done with this new type of contest. It is hoped that it will develop a readier and livelier form of speaking.

JOHN W. PARLETTE, Governor,



JOHN W. PARLETTE
Morningside