

# TO CHOOSE OTTAWA'S ORATOR IN DECEMBER

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THE CONTESTANTS IN THE PRIMARY VOTE FOR AN EARLIER DATE.

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Prof. Nichols May Organize Oratory Class—Plan to Select 1911 Orator Next June.

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Since last week it has been considered advisable to change the date of the holding of the local oratorical contest from January 7, the first week after the Christmas holidays, to the week before the holidays.

The evening of December 22 or 23 will probably be selected. At a future meeting of the Student Council a definite date will be decided upon.

The members of the oratorical committee, Messrs. Gilliland, Martin and Marsh, have sent out letters to prospective judges on thought and composition. No effort will be made to get judges from any one of the nine Kansas colleges in the Intercollegiate Association.

Copies of the orations will be sent to the judges two weeks before the local contest.

The desire to have the local contest before Christmas was manifested by the competitors, who met last Monday with the oratorical committee chairman and President Heritage of the Council. The orators feel that they could get their orations into shape by the date selected. They considered that the winner, who will represent Ottawa in the state contest at Wichita, probably on March 11 next, will need the opportunity for finishing off his effort during the holidays.

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Agitation has already been started to begin planning next term for the contest in 1911. Prof. E. R. Nichols, of the department of English, has in contemplation the organization of a class in college oratory, to begin work the second semester. This class would be open to juniors, sophomores and freshmen. Seniors, of course, would be eligible, but could not work toward the goal of representing Ottawa University in the Intercollegiate contest.

The class would probably be a three-hour a week subject, and ought to interest a sufficient number to insure a large number in the primary. This, it is planned, would be held be-

fore the summer vacation, probably as one of the commencement week attractions.

Prof. Nichols has consulted with Dr. Price, who is willing that the course should be given. Prof. Nichols gives assurance that it will be given, if he has the time open. Prof. Nichols is, at present, giving a series of lectures on oratory to an elective English class. He has some knowledge of oratory which has largely been gathered from practical experience.

In giving the course he will have in mind the future success of oratory in Ottawa University, as well as the immediate success of next year. He himself participated in two Indiana intercollegiate contests, representing Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana. It is a well known fact that the orators from Indiana have stood high in the interstate contests in the past, and the Indiana intercollegiate usually develops a higher degree of oratory than that exhibited in many states. Orators from a few colleges in each of the states of Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin have been singularly successful in capturing the highest places in the past few years.

Prof. Nichols may be persuaded to embody his lectures before the class in oratory—if such a class is given next spring—into a manual on oratory. This book, it is felt by those who know, would supply a want for such a treatise.

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