The FORENSIC
OF PI KAPPA DELTA

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John W. Parker is professor of English at Fayetteville State Teachers College. He has published extensively in Negro, English and education journals. Those interested in pursuing further the study of Forensics in Negro colleges may be interested in:


Some Observations on Debate in the Negro College

by JOHN W. PARKER
Fayetteville, North Carolina
State Teachers College

The evolution and growth of debate in the Negro college has, for the most part, paralleled that in other American institutions of higher learning. Forensic innovations in the colleges resulting from changing campus and extra-campus influences have turned out to be more in degree than in kind, but the sharp reduction in school budget in colleges for Negroes has been reflected in the extent of their forensic activity, and sometimes, although to a small degree, in the character of the debate program itself. The design of the present investigation is to examine Negro college debating with respect to its inception; its development of forensic associations; its methods of rewards for excellence; the adequacy of the debate budget; and the recent tendency toward interracial debating. Likewise, the task is to inquire into the differences in emphasis, where such exists, disclosed by debate programs in Negro colleges and those in other American colleges.

Trailing by twenty-eight years America’s initial intercollegiate debate contest between the Phi Alpha Society of Illinois and the Adelphi Society of Knox College on May 5, 1881, the debate between Atlanta Baptist College (now Morehouse) at Atlanta, Georgia and Talladega College at Talladega, Alabama, on April 8, 1909 marked the inception of intercollegiate debate in American colleges for Negroes. From the outset, the idea met favorable reception; it took root quickly and sprang up almost overnight as one of the most popular of the non-athletic, extra-class activities. Like that in other American colleges, debate in the Negro college has drawn upon British and European antecedents, but has nevertheless developed as an American tradition.

During the early decades, the debate interests in Negro colleges were (and in a few cases still are) loosely held together by a network of debate leagues similar to the old Tri-State League (organized at South Carolina State College, Orangeburg, South Carolina, in 1918) which involves colleges in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia and by the once-famous Pentagonal Debate League whose member colleges included Johnson C. Smith University, Morehouse College, Talladega College, Knoxville College, and Shaw University. When in the mid-twenties debates became non-decisional affairs, interest lagged and this league like many others passed quietly out of existence. Likewise, the Intercollegiate Forensic League (Winston Salem Teachers College, Elizabeth City Teachers College and Fayetteville State Teachers College, 1

3 Ibid, p. 132.
organized in 1946 at Fayetteville, North Carolina, fell through for similar reasons after one year of operation. During the same school year, 1945-1946, with Lucius Gipson as Temporary National President and J. E. Andrews as Temporary Vice President, Gamma Delta Sigma, a debate fraternity modeled after existing regional forensic organizations, made its appearance at Albany State College, Albany, Georgia. But once again interest and enthusiasm were not forthcoming and Gamma Delta Sigma has become a faint memory in the annals of American forensics, while regional and national debate fraternities such as Pi Kappa Delta abound in American colleges and universities as a whole.

The impact of the debate leagues obviously stepped up the number of debates and necessitated an increased outlay of funds for debate materials and for travel. During the first decade or so of intercollegiate debate in the Negro college, these expenses were frequently met in part by a small admission charge or by a silver offering from the audience, but such schemes failed as other forms of entertainment took the audiences. Gradually the debate budget made possible in most instances by the institution, came into existence and debating in colleges for Negroes took another firm step forward. However, today the size of the debate budgets in colleges for Negroes scarcely lend themselves to favorable comparison with those in other American colleges.

Problems of budget were complicated by the advent of the “long debate trip” exemplified by the 1916 trip of the Columbia University debate team to Los Angeles, California, with debates along the way. Perhaps the most ambitious tour yet completed by an American college was that undertaken in 1939 by Le Moyne College, a Negro institution, in Memphis, Tennessee. The trip extended over six months during which time the coach and the debaters covered more than 30,000 miles, engaged in 36 debates, participated in over 40 radio broadcasts, and addressed about 320 meetings. This epoch-making tour carried them through the United States, British Columbia, Hawaii, Australia, and New Zealand. It turns out that the debate coach was a foreign-born in-

structor in English at the college. Debate trips that run to 400 or 500 miles are not uncommon, although the average debate trip covers less territory.

The tendency toward the long trip is linked with the attitude of Negro colleges on the selection of topics. While the topic of national significance has long been in common use in the Negro college, those of state and local interest are still employed on a limited basis. Of the thirty Negro institutions of higher learning surveyed in 1940, only six (or 20 per cent) of them held rigidly to the Pi Kappa Delta topic to the exclusion of all others. Topics less broad in scope are employed for diversity and for the stimulation of interest locally, but those of national interest obviously render it possible to secure debate contests in many sections of the country. Only occasionally are topics limited to Negro life in America chosen; the thinking is that in a period of growing social awareness, Negro college students might well be encouraged to become national and international in outlook. In respect to the selection of topics, then, the colleges for Negroes follow a pattern almost identical to that adhered to by other American colleges.

At a majority of the colleges for Negroes, varsity debaters receive awards at the end of the season, the gold key being the trophy most commonly given. One institution awards its debaters a cup, another letters, another provides a banquet, while still another college awards certificates, pins, or keys depending upon the experiences and efficiency of the individual debater. At yet another institution, varsity debaters automatically become members of the campus letter club on the same basis as do athletes.

Perhaps a noteworthy system of awards is that found in a college in Alabama where no award is made for one year of participation, a part scholarship is provided for two, a gold pin for three, and a gold key for four years of successful debating. Moreover, Morgan State College maintains an annual scholarship fund of $1,600 for the encouragement of forensic

activity. The individual scholarships range from $50.00 to $100.00 per semester. In his survey of extra-curricular activities, Dr. William H. Martin of Hampton Institute found in 1939 that debate and dramatics were ranked as the most popular of the non-athletic, extra-class activities in the Negro college.

It is understandable that with the increased intensity of the debate work, the question of school credit should have cropped up. Students came to feel that carrying debate was like carrying any other school subject. But academic credit for debate by faculty vote was never an assured fact, and the argumentation and debate classes that yielded normal college credit sprang up partially in response to this situation. Dr. Howard Jason, Director of Debate at Kentucky State College in Frankfort, pointed out in 1956 that college credit for debate participation might prove an inducement, but a preponderance of his fellow debate directors saw little, if any, virtue in providing academic credit for participation in college debate. Although opinion is divided on the matter, a majority of colleges for Negroes withhold academic credit for debate activity.

A relatively new forensic venture in Negro college circles is the parliamentary-Amercan debate. Although such debates have been conducted in this country since 1922, little headway was made in Negro colleges prior to 1930. During the 1940 season, nine colleges for Negroes held Parliamentary debates on their campuses, but only three of the nine regarded the Parliamentary type as superior to the American. A few Negro college debate directors have spoken out against Parliamentary debate as having a definitely negative influence upon debate contests in colleges for Negroes, pointing out that "they make for artificial thinking and for the loss of composure on the part of the participants." On the other hand, many are convinced that these debates have served as stimulation and diversion; they have broken the formal rigidities of traditional American debate, and have added to it humor, wit and repartee. Re-established at the end of World War II, the Parliamentary-American debate is again gaining a foothold in colleges for Negroes as elsewhere in American higher education. The advent of international debating has served likewise to increase the growing dissatisfaction with contest debating and to add meaning to the so-called "new schemes" in debate procedure.

Today, to one degree or another, a number of the experimental types of debate enjoy vogue in Negro colleges - the Oregon Plan, the Non-Decision Type, the Split-Team Arrangement, the Open-Forum Scheme, and the Problem-Solving Debate. The audience-decision contest is almost unknown in colleges for Negroes. In the case of both the Oregon and the Open-Forum Plan, many schools after beginning them have not employed them in consecutive years, a fact which may signify that they are studying the adaptability of these new systems to their local situations. And, interestingly enough, in nearly every instance the reasons given for the superiority of each of these new debate schemes are similar - consideration of the audience, stimulus to thorough preparation, and the promotion of critical thinking. The current trend is definitely away from college debate as the presentation of a set of "learned speeches" primarily for the purpose of winning a decision.

Perhaps the most discussed and not infrequently the most "cussed" venture in debate in American colleges for Negroes as in others is the intercollegiate debate tournament which in a great many instances turns out to be one segment of a many-sided forensic contest. For the most part, it had its genesis in the financial rigidities imposed by the depression thirties, lean years which saw debate budgets fold up overnight. The intercollegiate debate tournament provided something of a solution; through it a number of nearby schools were able to conduct debate contests inexpensively and in a short time.

Alfred L. Edwards, Director of Debate at Southern University, has found the intercollegiate tournament procedure to be a means of offsetting monotony on a small college campus where the same participants present essentially the same case week after week. And A. Russell Brooks,

__Notes__

2 Letter from Nick Aaron Ford, January 26, 1956.
4 Letter from Howard Jason, March 17, 1956.
Director of Debate at Morehouse College, insists that while tournament debating may have encouraged more canned, cut-and-dried debating than we have had heretofore, it also has encouraged thorough preparation such as we have not had before. "A team hardly goes to the top," he points out, "through accident or prejudice, although both of these elements play some part. The chances are that by the time a team reaches the finals, it has more or less earned its laurels, for it has been through the mill not only of a variety of opponents but of judges as well."

Perhaps intercollegiate tournament debating, more than any other one force, has accounted for the current up-surge in forensic activity in the Negro college since the war years. During this period from 1944 to 1948, debate contests in 29 Negro institutions of higher learning never exceeded 47 — less than two a year per school —, but during the five years following the war (1949-1953), these contests were stepped up almost progressively from 107 in 1949 to 263 in 1953.

It should be pointed out, however, that despite the increase in numbers, the "spread" was limited to a mere handful of colleges that had boosted their totals largely by their participation in tournament contests. Of the 1,314 debate contests staged during the ten-year period, 1944-1953, only six, or 21 per cent of the 29 institutions investigated, accounted for 802 or 62 per cent of the total. One of these schools, Howard University, engaged in 396 debates during the ten-year period — an average of 39 a year. Today the number of debate and forensic tournaments in colleges for Negroes is extremely limited as compared to those in operation throughout the country. The National Forensic Calendar for the school year 1953-1954, listed a total of 114 forensic tournaments in American colleges and universities; only six of these were confined to colleges for Negroes.

Inter-racial debate at the intercollegiate level is a relatively new wrinkle in the Negro college forensic pattern. The exact extent to which Negro institutions participate in state and sectional debate tournaments is not known. Kentucky State College is a member of the annual state-wide debate tournament for all colleges in the state of Kentucky, and Lincoln University in Pennsylvania takes part annually in two state-wide debate tournaments. Likewise, Dillard University holds membership in the New Orleans Collegiate Forensic League organized in 1955. The League provides for an annual inter-racial tournament debate that is state-wide in scope.

Since 1951 Alabama State College has competed in the West Point Regionals, the Azalea Tournament, the Southern Intercollegiate Forensic Conference contests, and has matched wits with Oxford University in England. At the Southern Invitational Tournament at Emory University in Atlanta in 1955, in which 18 colleges and universities participated, the Morehouse College debaters won first place among the novice teams and placed second in the affirmative group. And as a result of their winning the nod at the West Point Regional Debate Tournament, the Howard University debate group represented West Point District VIII at the West Point National Debate Tournament in 1954.

Dr. Nick Aaron Ford, Chairman of the Department of English at Morgan State College, affirms that 90 per cent of the debates in which his college participated in 1954 were inter-racial encounters. He takes the position that "inter-racial debate has given new life to debating in the Negro college. Competition among Negro colleges has not been keen and enthusiastic enough to keep it alive." Th employment of the tournament procedure and the stimulation afforded by inter-racial encounters have meant that during the past few years debate in the Negro college is finding the comeback trail.

In general, debating in Negro colleges, coming later chronologically, has followed traditions set in other American institutions. The long trip and the tournament were initiated after other schools had tried them. But Negro colleges have failed to establish strong forensic associations, have for the most part rejected college credit for forensic participation, and have em-

10 Letter from Raleigh L. Player, March 26, 1956.
13 Letter from Nick Aaron Ford, June 24, 1954.
ployed an assortment of methods in rewarding excellence. Further, Negro college debaters have clung to topics of national import as opposed to those concerned specifically with Negro life in America. The greatest stumbling block to forensics in colleges for Negroes has been the presence of forensic budgets that are smaller than those in most other colleges. The seeming decline in debating among Negro colleges may be explained in part by the increase in inter-racial debating in recent years.

INITIATES AT THE FIRST PI KAPPA DELTA INITIATION AT UIC — Front row, left to right, Joe Wenzel, Richard Klein, Richard Fischmar, William Haase, Morris Kaplan, John Insalata; second row, Edward Golub, Bernard Baum, Morton Kaplan, Ferdinand Pinnat, Phil Lieb, Alan Malkus, Richard Mora; third row, Martin Farrell, Mr. Rigler, Sheldon Grauer, Fred Richman, Prof. Dudley (Illinois College), Dr. Nystrom (Wheaton College), Dean Caveny; fourth row, Uldis Roze, Richard Sullivan, Jeannette Sikora, Tom Thompson, Richard LeNoir, Laurence Robbins, Sam Evins, John Peterson, Dr. Pitt, Dr. Thompson.

University of Illinois

CHICAGO UNDERGRADUATE DIVISION

UIC — short for University of Illinois, Chicago Undergraduate Division, is known primarily for its physical plant, its gymnastics team, and its forensic program. Less well known but probably more important is the serious nature of its student body, seventy per cent of whom are gainfully employed and many of whom are older than the typical undergraduate.

This account is not concerned primarily
with the gymnastics team, which once won the national championship and produced America’s top-ranking performer in the 1952 Olympics. However, the absence of big-time football and basketball has tended to increase the prestige and importance of debating and minor sports in the minds of administrators, faculty members, and students. While the unsubsidized, play-for-fun dribblers and batsmen struggle, often successfully, for honors against small and little-known local colleges, only the gymnasts and the debaters compete, again often successfully, for district and national titles with the giants in their respective areas.

The history of UIC goes back to 1946 when the flood of GI students threatened to engulf the University of Illinois campus in Urbana-Champaign. Dormitory facilities, in particular, were unavailable “downstate,” and the Board of Trustees came to the logical conclusion that the quickest, cheapest, and best solution was to establish an undergraduate division in Chicago, where students could live at home.

The most available place, given only a few months to build or remodel, was Navy Pier, constructed by the city of Chicago in 1916 and used in the thirty intervening years as an amusement park, a shipping warehouse, a naval post, a convention center, a warehouse for the War Surplus Administration, and headquarters for numerous city offices, including the one where Chicagoans paid their traffic tickets.

The decision to use a warehouse on a pier for a college led to what may be the most unique campus in the world — three thousand feet long and three hundred feet wide, surrounded by water on three sides, with water splashing beneath, and in two titanic lake storms with water also splashing inside. It is one of the few campuses in the world that offers a course with full laboratory facilities in Boating and Fishing (oddly enough no swimming is permitted), an opportunity for students to pay their traffic tickets between classes, and a chance for hungry freshmen and sophomores one golden week each spring to eat their way, slightly hampered by Kane guards, from one end of the National Restaurant Show to the other.

One of the largest buildings in ground floor space in the world, Navy Pier, Chi-
cago, is so large that it has taken care of as many as 4,600 college students in one-third of its area and had room left over for detachments of Marines, Air Force, and Army Reserve, for the Chicago Traffic Department and other municipal agencies, for a major warehouse used by one of the daily papers, and for a convention exhibit area adequate for such major organizations as the American Medical Association and the International Trade Fair.

And since summer, 1956, the railroad has run through the middle of the house — a step looking forward to big-time shipping with the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Whether the construction of a railroad smack dab down the center of the Pier inspired the popular song is uncertain.

But back to debating, which being essentially like debating on other campuses, is less novel than the campus itself.

Supervised forensic activities began in the fall of 1947, when Executive Dean C. C. Caveny, a true friend of the activity throughout its history, called a meeting in his office. Associate Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences H. W. Bailey, a member of Pi Kappa Delta and one-time debate coach; Dr. Ernest Van Keuren, who was Chairman of the Division of Humanities, and Dr. Wayne N. Thompson, Head of the Speech Staff, were the others present. The most significant decision at that meeting was to make forensics a part of the educational program and not a student activity. Finances were to come from the educational budget, and the program was placed under the responsibility of the Executive Dean.

Coaching, research, and practice soon were underway and on January 8, 1948, William Dwyer, Glenn Felner, William Arnold, and Irving Miller went to the University of Chicago for two nondecision engagements. Just to make sure the date was memorable, Dwyer and Felner had their car commandeered by a gunman and were late in arriving! Cornell College on January 10 was the first school to visit UIC.

The first tournament on February 14, 1948, at Northwestern was a heartless Valentine for UIC speakers, who made the most inauspicious beginning possible by losing eight of eight. Competitively the
fortunes of UIC, which has never had a losing season, turned soon, and they have remained good ever since. The next time out the team won six of eight, the time after that they won seven of eight to tie for first place in the Junior Division, University of Wisconsin, and they finished that first year with a 5-3 record in the tough competition of the Chicago Area Debate League Tournament.

The following January UIC passed another milestone when Bill Casteel and Douglas Picht were runners-up at the Bowling Green State Tournament, as they lost to Northwestern in the finals, establishing the right of UIC speakers to compete with the best in the Midwest and indeed the nation. Victories of importance were to come with some regularity after that. In 1951 UIC was admitted to the Illinois Intercollegiate Debate League and within the hour of formal admission Spencer Johnston and Bill Metzger, undefeated in six rounds and one point up on the only other undefeated unit (Augustana), took home the first-place trophy. In 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1956 UIC speakers qualified for the national championships at West Point, and there, excepting 1952, they survived the seeding rounds to reach the final day of competition. The total program at UIC runs fifteen to eighteen tournaments a year, about two hundred debates with about thirty participants in the intercollegiate program.

Most of the visiting institutions are neighbors, but such schools as Cornell, Army, New York University, Texas Southern, and Cambridge have provided an intersectional and international flavor. An audience of 2,200 for the Cambridge debate was the largest that Messrs. Post and York had had up to that time on their trip; it was also one of the largest audiences ever to attend a UIC Convocation.

Activities other than debate include after-dinner speaking, oratory, discussion, extempore speaking, and appearances before community forums. UIC is the headquarters for the annual National Contest in Public Discussion, which Dr. Thompson originated in 1951-52. UIC also sponsors an annual freshman-sophomore tournament for thirty to thirty-five colleges in seven states and an annual high school tournament.

Equal to its pride in the achievements of its outstanding students is the satisfaction that UIC takes in its policy of never turning away anyone who wishes to debate. As early as the second year of the program an Assistant Director of Forensics was appointed to take care of non-tournament debating, and each year a full schedule is maintained for those lacking the time or ability to meet the top performers of other colleges.

The annual banquet that closes each year’s activities provided the setting for the installation of the Illinois Psi Chapter. Professor Lloyd Dudley, Governor of the Illinois Province, was the installing officer with Professor Clarence L. Nyström, Wheaton College, assisting. Twenty-four members were initiated, and Executive Dean C. C. Caveny was the first honorary member.

The future of forensics at the University of Illinois, Chicago Undergraduate Division, seems secure. The lake winds may blow, convention trucks rumble, and the railroad runs through the middle, but it appears that four thousand and more students, mostly of high seriousness, a Speech Staff of eight at present, and an administration well aware of the values of forensics will continue.
A letter from the author explains the reasons for presenting this article to readers of The Forensic. Wrote Dr. Schrier: “I went through my voluminous files recently and ran onto a speech I had delivered as long ago as November 22, 1933. As I indulged in the doubtful luxury of spending time reading it, the thought did occur to me that the points made in defense of intercollegiate debating and citizenship were as relevant today as twenty-three years ago.”

Intercollegiate Debating and Citizenship

Address delivered before the Grand Forks Kiwanis Club
Wednesday, November 22, 1933

WILLIAM SCHRIER, Hope College

We are, as you know, faced with many problems today. On some of these my opinions have reached the status of convictions and, at times, I have the urge to win converts to my point of view. I shall not do that: this noon, however, before you people, all of whom are older than I am. Rather, like a good cobbler, I shall “stick to my last”, and speak to you, not in an argumentative but in an explanatory way, about something relating to my job. My subject is “Intercollegiate Debating and Citizenship”, and I propose to show how the one promotes the other.

Before enumerating the advantages of intercollegiate debating, I would like to dispel from your minds a common impression that many laymen have about the effects of intercollegiate debating upon the participant. It does not develop in him a bickering and contentious spirit which makes him ready and willing to argue about anything and everything at the drop of the hat. You all know the type I mean, the kind of fellow who is not at all suggestible, whose main reason for saying “no” is that you’ve said “yes”; who constantly carries an “I’m from Missouri” chip on his mental shoulder. I sometimes wonder which is the bigger nuisance, the chronic disagreeer or the acquiescing “yes” man.

Let us come to the positive advantages of debating. In the first place, a college debater gains an intelligent and a continuing interest in current affairs. If education is to prepare young people for citizenship, and that will scarcely be denied, then surely students should be reasonably conversant with public affairs. I think it is quite foolish to be studying ancient and mediaeval history and to be completely dead to the events of history in the making. John Dewey, in a radio address a couple of years ago, after enumerating a number of the unsolved social and political problems confronting us, said, “Unless education prepares its future citizens to deal with these problems our civilization may collapse.”

Now I am an apologist for college students. I think they are a much maligned group. Sometime I plan to write a speech on, “Is There Any Hope For The Older Generation?” However, there is one fault I find in them, not only here but also at other places where I have taught, St. Louis University and the University of Colorado. That fault is: College students are woefully ignorant of current events.

It has been my practice for a number of years to give current event quizzes. Less than two weeks ago I asked my students to identify twenty prominent men, men whose names had appeared in newspapers and magazines the last six months. Professor Roy Brown of the Political Science Department at our home Sunday thought that the average student should identify seventeen of them. My own guess was that twelve would be a fair average. Out of one hundred and seventeen students the average for the class was 4.72!

Some of the responses were quite humorous. I was told, for example, that Col. Louis McHenry Howe was the head of
the United States Army, that Hitler was a Congressman from Minnesota, that Ferdinand Pecora was the exiled King of Spain, and another said of him, "A big shot in the Cuban Government." These answers were exceptional, but the general run of replies was not encouraging.

When we come to the intercollegiate debaters, however, their ratings are away above those of the average college student. These debaters no longer debate the type of questions prominent in the old literary societies such as, "Resolved: That the pen is mightier than the sword", or "That the search after knowledge is of more importance to the searcher than the knowledge." Rather, they debate on such subjects as the cancellation of war debts, government control of industry, fixing of prices for staple agricultural products, and such live present-day problems.

It should not be necessary to belabor the obvious and to show the connection between this and citizenship, for surely in the process of solving problems one of the first steps is an awareness of their existence and nature.

In the second place, the intercollegiate debater becomes equipped to combat the propaganda with which he and all of us are beset on all sides. He learns something of the laws of reasoning, of evidence, of fallacies. He learns something about authorities, and that Henry Ford, for example, while admittedly competent in one field, is not thereby qualified to testify in another. He learns something of statistics and the need of them, but, at the same time, he learns how they can be garbled, and, also, that sometimes a wrong interpretation can be placed upon them as was certainly true in the family where there were three children and the parents hoped there would not be a fourth because statistics showed that every fourth person born to the world was a Chinese!

Let us be more specific and analyze in two fields, advertising and politics, just what we mean. We all know that in the good old days a merchant was permitted a certain latitude in advertising his wares, a "puff" we used to call it. Hence the rise of the legal doctrine, caveat emptor, "let the buyer beware."

No one of course would be so absurd as to insist upon 101% truth in advertising, for example, so that a correspondence school should advertise: "You may never amount to much — only one in a thousand persons is a success, but if you want to take our course you may; we may as well get your money as the bootlegger!" At the same time, we know that there are products being advertised on billboards, on car cards, and over the radio which claim to cure almost everything from housemaid's knee to halitosis and cancer, and that the problem has become serious enough for our government to contemplate doing something about it in the next Congress. My point is, that if a person can detect fallacies in these advertisements he certainly is less liable to "fall" for them.

Now take the field of politics. We all know what a tremendous power for good or evil newspapers are. I never realized quite enough the tremendous power of the press until some time back when I read in a country weekly: "Owing to the crowded condition of our columns a number of births and deaths are unavoidably postponed this week." Now the college debater is not enslaved to print. Print doesn't hold for him the magic it does for some. While it isn't supposed to be done according to the ethics of the profession, he knows that frequently the headlines and news stories are colored to suit the editorial policy of the paper.

In the second place the college debater isn't so likely to "fall for" the tendency to indulge in symbols. I refer to the effort frequently made in politics to clothe ideas in the garb of a word full of emotional significance. He is not satisfied with the charge that so and so is "un-American", or that such and such is "Bolshevistic." He wants to know why, and in what respect it is that. In short, he does not suffer from "wordfright."

This tendency to indulge in the use of symbols was so well illustrated by Walter Lippman in his book Public Opinion that I could not resist jotting down a few sentences to illustrate the point and reading them to you:

"The question of a proper fare on a municipal subway is symbolized as an issue between the People and the Interests, and then the People is inserted in the symbol American, so that finally in the heat of a campaign, an
eight-cent fare becomes un-American. The Revolutionary fathers died to prevent it. Lincoln suffered that it might not come to pass, resistance to it was implied in the death of those who sleep in France.

The tendency I'm talking about was what Dr. Samuel Johnson had in mind when he said "Patriotism is the last resort of a scoundrel."

Then, too, we know of the tendency in politics to indulge in ad hominem personal attacks. George Creel, in an article in the Woman's Home Companion last year, said in effect that this type of attack still carries more weight with the American people than pure reasoning, and from his activities in the Public Information Service during the war he certainly ought to be qualified to speak on the workings of the mass mind. William Rainey Bennett, in a Convocation Address last year deplored the fact that the American people are too ready to believe the stories about a man in public life having been "caught with a blonde." All of us are familiar with the whispering campaigns of politics.

Now I recognize full well that all of us are subject to prejudice, that we often read to confirm our prejudices, that all the influences that come to us are conditioned by our past experiences. But at the same time I feel that the college debater, knowing of the dangers of prejudice, does his utmost to fight it, and that, for the most part, he is less susceptible to, and more immune from, some of these malign influences.

Talking about whispering campaigns leads directly to the third advantage accruing from intercollegiate debating. The college debater does not indulge in personalities. He recognizes that there are two distinct fields, the field of issues and the field of personalities. We will concede that sometimes there is a sort of twilight zone which makes it seem difficult to talk about issues without touching upon personalities. But it isn't considered good form in debating any more to be calling each other liars. It is said of Senator Borah that he always confined himself to issues, that during his long protracted fight against the League of Nations he never once made a slighting personal reference against President Wilson. I was reading an article not long ago telling how Woodrow Wilson was riding along Pennsylvania Avenue in the declining days of his life. Seeing Senator Borah on horseback, he turned to his companion and, pointing a bony finger at the Senator, said: "There is one irreconcilable whom I can respect." That thrilled me.

Or, let's come down to date. Let's take Carter Glass and President Roosevelt, good Democrats both. Carter Glass just couldn't see these inflationary powers that were voted to the President. He delivered a very impassioned speech against the measure in the 100 days Congress. At the same time he said: "It is painful for me to disagree with the occupant of the White House whom I love and respect."

I believe that in the field of controversy there is a tremendous opportunity for the application of the Golden Rule. Too many of us are like Deacon Stebbins whom Glenn Frank tells of in one of his speeches. When a quarrel was developing in the church, the Deacon said, "I ain't made up my mind what side I am gonna take but when I do I'm gonna be awful bitter."

Now if I seem to be talking in riddles and about things far away, I suggest a few names: Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his "forgotten man" speech, was accused of being a demagogue. Herbert Hoover had the expression used about him, in connection with the charge that he was a foreigner, that he should go back to England "where reside his victims and his friends."

The fourth advantage from intercollegiate debating is this: the debater learns to acquire the proper attitude toward controversial questions. And by attitude I might just as well put in a synonym and call it tolerance. I think a little more tolerance in this funny old world would go a long way anyway. Sometimes we try to outdo ourselves in intolerance as was the case with the two merchants. One of them put up a sign "We are one hundred per cent American; we hate Negroes, Jews, and Catholics," and the other, not to be outdone, put up a sign, "We are two hundred per cent American; we hate everybody."
I realize very well when we talk of tolerance and use words like "broadmindedness" and "narrow-mindedness", I am on quite shaky ground. Whole volumes have been written on the subject, and for lack of time it is so easy to be misunderstood. I am inclined to think that perhaps one of the most narrow-minded of persons is the one who is too ready to call the other person narrow-minded. Let us, like a good debater, define terms and dissect tolerance as I am speaking of it into its component parts.

The college debater recognizes that "there is much to be said on both sides." It isn't considered good form any more to prove anything "beyond the shadow of a doubt." The debater knows that controversial questions have to be settled, as do questions of civil law, according to the preponderance of the evidence. He learns also to hold suspended judgments in such cases where immediate decision is not required. He does not jump at conclusions. Jumping at conclusions isn't good exercise anyway as the dog found out when he jumped at the conclusion of the mule! Next, he constantly investigates with a receptive mind and, lastly, he changes his mind when occasion demands, and he doesn't do it either with the attitude of one man who said, "I can change my mind all right, but I'd like to see the man who can make me do it."

Now, in all this, I am not urging that we do not espouse causes vigorously. I do not urge a nonchalant Light-a-Murad failure to take a side just because there is much to be said on both sides. I am not urging that we pull our punches and hedge as did the minister who took liberties with the gospel and preached on the amended text, "Except ye repent to a degree, and be converted in a measure, ye shall be damned to an extent." Consider the fiery, zealous speech of Patrick Henry, which enabled many of us to win first prize in declamation, the one climaxced with the impassioned "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" There certainly was no pulling of punches there, and yet, that speech began with these often forgotten words: "No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as the ability of the two worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the house."

Now I am fearfully afraid of being misunderstood at this point, and I don't want to be. In my imaginative ear I can just hear someone say to me, "Young man, you've got a lot to learn. You stress tolerance too much. Remember truth is eternal. There can be no compromise with wrong. We must have the courage of our convictions." I agree to every word of it. There is nothing irreconcilable in this with the attitude of tolerance I urge.

We all appreciate the lone voice calling in the wilderness ahead of his time. We all recognize that "the heterodoxy of one generation is the orthodoxy of the next," and nowhere is this more apparent than in the present peaceful political revolution we are undergoing at the present time. We know that Holy Writ opposes the Laodician lukewarm, neither-hot-nor-cold attitude. We thrill at the memory of the martyrs who would not recant their faith.

But I'm involved in no inconsistency. Here is how I would explain that. There are certain things in the moral law that all of us are agreed upon. There is unanimity among all right-minded citizens on such points as: sexual immorality is reprehensible; temperance is desirable; murder isn't the best of form in civilized countries.

The kind of thing I've been talking about is in the field of controversial questions. These are questions upon which honest men may, can, and do differ. Truth there need not be defended; truth isn't known; it is in process of discovery. We don't debate such questions as "Resolved: That a judge should not accept a bribe." It is a mistake to talk about the "right" and "wrong" of some of these debatable questions.

Now in telling you these things I am not deluding myself into thinking I'm saying anything new. I make no pretense of saying anything original. Aristotle in his Rhetoric long before Christ pointed out that "Just causes may, at times, lead two wise men to take different sides." But I do think that the seat of many of our difficulties today lies in our forgetting this old truth. There is a tendency on the part of many to take things out of this one category of controversial questions, to invest them with halos of right and wrong
and to move them into the other category, and then to feel righteous about doing so, and to vent indignation and wrath upon the opposing issues and the people who hold them.

I believe that some of those who boast of having the courage of their convictions in reality have nothing but the cowardice of their prejudices. This is a world of give and take, and there are people who instead of being deserving of praise are just plain mule stubborn.

These, then, are the contributions of intercollegiate debating to citizenship. Some of you will readily detect that college debaters do not have all of these qualities, especially the last two points, avoiding personalities and possessing a tolerant attitude. They are perhaps more observed in the breach than in the observance. But they are reasonably good guide rules which all educated men try to observe with regard to questions of controversy.

We face many problems today. The age itself can be characterized by the characterization of Professor William James of a new-born baby, "A bloomin', buzzin' confusion." What shall we think of Hitler's rise in Germany, of the N.R.A., of the activities of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, of the recent repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment? All of these are subjects clamoring for attention and calling for solution. It is a time, too, of turmoil and stress, of strain, of fretting and fuming, of irritability, and of jangled nerves.

Now my thought in closing is just this: If we apply these two guide rules toward all our questions of controversy, then it may be that this country on the road to its destiny may not solve its problems faster, although I think it will; it may be that these problems will not be solved more accurately, although I think they will be. But one thing is certain, we shall have a happier, kindlier, gentler time while we are on the way.

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Student Representatives

The constitution of Pi Kappa Delta provides for two student members of the National Council. Article V, Division C2, paragraph 4 states: "The Student Members shall be elected in the following manner: The Chapter which is to be host to the National Biennial Convention shall elect, not later than the Fifteenth of October prior to the convention, a Student Representative on the National Council. The second Student Representative who shall be of the opposite sex, shall be elected from one of the other chapters in the host province, the election being held not later than the fifteenth of November, following that of the first Student Representative." In the same section, paragraph 9 reads: "The Student Representatives shall be regular voting members of the Council. They shall perform such duties as shall be assigned them by the National President. They shall hold office only while undergraduates." We present on this page your student representatives on the National Council for the Brookings Convention.

Robert Maek, a junior chemistry major at South Dakota State College, Brookings, South Dakota, is completing his third year of competition in discussion and debate, his second year in extempore speaking. He holds the Degree of Proficiency. He is one of six national recipients of a $1000 scholarship grant by the National Association of Manufacturers and has recently returned from an all-expense trip to the Congress of American Industry, New York City.

Beverly Jones, a junior speech major at Huron College, Huron, South Dakota, is now in her third year of collegiate competition in discussion, debate, and oratory. Last year she won the State Contest in Women's Oratory and represented South Dakota in the Interstate at Evanston, Illinois. Miss Jones holds the Degree of Honor and is secretary of her chapter.
Ridin’ the Provinces

This writer is one of those demented people who enjoys playing with numbers. It was sheer joy to know that our Secretary-Treasurer shares some of the same mania. Out of my curiosity and D. J. Nabors information this column grew. By examining the rolls of Pi Kappa Delta back to 1921 at approximately five year intervals we were able to dig out some information about the nature of the growth of our organization by chapters. It shows partly that our organization has followed the national population trend in its growth. However, this is not all, for human personality and sectional attitudes toward debate is also a factor.

In the early years Kansas, the state of our founding, had the largest number of chapters. However, by 1935 the force of population gave Illinois a lead which she has never relinquished. Today, counting charters that are currently being processed, Illinois has 21, California 13, Kansas, Missouri and Texas 12; Iowa, and Oklahoma 10, South Dakota 9 and Minnesota, Ohio and Washington 8. Ignoring California and Washington which will be discussed later, we see that the pattern of our strength has been in the populous Middle West (Ohio to the Missouri River) and the much less populous plains states (from North Dakota to Texas). These plains states were so strong that in 1921 they were almost equal to the more industrial areas of the Middle West and they still run a strong second ahead of the rising west (from the Rockies to the Pacific). The lack of population, not interest in forensics, has held back the colleges of the Great Plains.

The westward population movement is probably reflected in the growth of the number of chapters in the West. It poses the only real challenge to the second place position of the Plains. Washington, for instance, has added five chapters since 1945 to take its place in the top eleven states. California added two chapters at the last convention, will add two more this year and has one more in process. In part this can be attributed to the natural growth.

(Please turn to Page 95)
"Oulosts 17"

South Dakota College
BRNGS
President's Letter

Within a month Pi Kappa Deltans from all over the United States will be on their way to our Twentieth National Convention in Brookings, South Dakota. I am happy to report that all signs indicate that everything will be in readiness for a banner convention. We are exerting every pressure on the weatherman to give us sunny skies and moderate temperatures. No final assurances have been given at this date, but we are encouraged by the mildness of the winter we have had so far. But no matter what the weather, the warmth of our fraternal spirit will keep us comfortable. If everyone does his part, nothing can keep us from having an enjoyable and profitable time as guests of South Dakota State College.

In a former letter on this page, I suggested that the National Council is trying to create a real convention atmosphere during our Brookings meeting. I would like to tell you here about several special events that are deserving of emphasis. One of our distinguished guests will be Senator Karl E. Mundt of South Dakota. He will deliver the pre-discussion address on Monday afternoon, April 15th. This feature has been introduced as a means of accentuating the significance of the discussion event in our program. Senator Mundt is an able speaker whose familiarity with foreign policy legislation will add much to our realization of the significance of this year's discussion question.

Senator Mundt will also receive Pi Kappa Delta's first Distinguished Alumni Award. Your National Council decided at its summer meeting to single out one or more of its distinguished alumni every biennium for this award. We felt that it was a good thing to recognize in this way those men and women who have applied the talents of public speaking in the service of their fellow men. We are certain that our membership will endorse this new venture of our fraternity. We are grateful to our Public Relations and Research Committee who have worked out the details of the citation and the award.

Another feature of our Brookings Convention will be an address by Professor Robert T. Oliver of Pennsylvania State College on Wednesday at 10:30 in the morning. Professor Oliver comes to us with a wide background and experience as a speech educator and as a prolific writer in our field. He also has performed significant work for our government, including a recent assignment in South Korea.

Our convention program also includes several entertainment features to break the monotony of forensic competition and the educational diet. Several movies have been arranged by the host chapter to help relieve the tension that mounts as competition stiffens. The host province entertainment on Monday evening, the Pi Kappa Delta talent night on Wednesday, and the convention dance on Thursday evening will give delegates a chance to further their social interests.

Several new Pi Kappa Delta chapters will receive their charters during the Sunday evening convocation. To the delegates and directors of these schools we extend a warm hand of fellowship. To these groups our Twentieth Convention will be a memorable one. To all of us it will be the highlight of this forensic season. To all of you, on behalf of the National Council and all the committee members who have been, and will be, working on the many phases of the convention, I extend a hearty welcome to Brookings.
Secretary’s Page

Less than a week after the entry blanks for the National were mailed several had been filled out and returned to this office. As this is being written, the deadline for entries is still two weeks away and it is impossible to give an accurate report on attendance at the National, but all indications point to an increase in attendance over our other post-war conventions.

Several petitions have been received by the Charter Committee by those trying to make the deadline for the Convention. Ten or more new charters will be presented at South Dakota State.

Many chapters have stationery made to order by local printers. In an attempt to standardize Pi Kappa Delta stationery, the Balfour Co., our official jewelers, has been designated as official stationers. Samples and prices may be received by writing directly to the Balfour Company. Some interest has been manifested in a ring for Past-Governors and the Balfour Company has been asked to submit possible designs for such a ring.

Take advantage of the opportunity while at the National to replenish your supply of rituals, membership application blanks, key order forms and other supplies while at the Convention. A delay of several days can be avoided by placing your order while at South Dakota State. Occasionally we receive a rush order for a key by someone who assumes that we have them in stock ready to be mailed. All keys are made on special order and two or three weeks should be allowed for delivery during the early part of the year while as much as six weeks may be necessary during the months of April and May.

When Pi Kappa Delta resumed its National Conventions after the close of the war the National Council passed a resolution to the effect that it: program should be in keeping with the general aims of education and speech education in particular, and that its program should be re-evaluated from time to time to keep it in step with those aims. Much effort has been expended during the months since the 1955 convention with this purpose in view. Old-timers in PKD convention attendance will note that the features which have stood the test of time have been retained while new features have been added. The schedule of events has been changed to provide a more balanced schedule with the adjournment by Friday noon. Thus there will be no Friday afternoon contests to overlap the Good Friday observance. This will be free time for worship services, listening to the Good Friday broadcasts or travel for those desiring an early start on the return trip home.

Bring your copy of the Pi Kappa Delta Constitution to Brookings. Due to the number of new chapters the supply of constitutions is low. Another printing will not be made until after the National in order to make the changes that may result from action at Brookings.
ADAMS STATE COLLEGE

The Adams State College speech squad recently received notice of approval by the national office of Pi Kappa Delta. The squad was organized three years ago under the direction of Mr. Bill Turner. Bad luck in the form of drop-outs caused slow progress with the group until this year. Although handicapped by the fact that few high schools in the area from which the college draws its students ever participate in speech work, the squad has grown. Interest is at a high level. Novice debaters have much to learn, but the group puts in long hours and members have developed quickly. A point of stable participation seems to have been reached.

This year the squad has participated in speech meets at Colorado University, Colorado State College of Education, Denver University, and Colorado College. All members anticipate the journey to South Dakota State where the Pi Kappa Delta charter will be officially granted.

The ASC squad might be called “cosmopolitan.” One student, Munir Ibrahim, is from Iraq; another, Lisa Krupka, is from Czechoslovakia and the director, Bill Turner, was born in England. In addition, a Spanish boy participates as an orator.

ALABAMA COLLEGE

Alabama College forensics lost its international flavor this year as Samira Khaki, who represented the college in numerous discussions of Near Eastern Affairs, graduated in January and returned to her home in Cairo, Egypt. Raquel Szantal, from Bogota, Columbia is also unable to compete this spring.

The recently-elected chapter officers at Alabama Beta are Geneva Bryant, President, and Gloria Bell, Secretary.
BETHEL

The Kansas Xi Chapter is carrying on an extensive program to revive interest in forensics activities and Pi Kappa Delta on the Bethel College campus. On September 21 a discussion and social was held for all prospective members as well as alumni of the local chapter to promote interest in the coming season of forensic activities.

Besides the usual participation in intercollegiate tournaments the chapter replenished the treasury by managing the publicity and ticket sales of the fall play in cooperation with the school's drama department.

A special spring responsibility of the Chapter is the 1957 Kansas Conference forensics tournament to be held on the campus in March.

During intervening months several projects were discussed and investigated as Pi Kappa Delta promotions. The school library received several suggestions as to needed source material for debate. Also a spring initiation banquet was discussed.

The most concentrated effort of speech promotion included publicity for all activities of the debate squad in various publications. This included the latest and most successful debate of the season for the Bethel squad at Pittsburgh State College, February 1 and 2. Leonard Goering and Ivan Harder were ranked as one of the top four teams but met defeat in the semi-finals. Jim Juhneke and Mary Ann Lagree had a three win, one bye, and two loss record. Winona Walmr ranked third in oratory.

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

The Illinois Delta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta is involved in a busy season of intercollegiate forensic activities. Forty-one Bradley undergraduates will participate in twenty speech tournaments this season. The local undergraduate membership of Pi Kappa Delta now stands at eighteen.

On March 30, two British debaters, encountered two Bradley debaters in a public debate. The Bradley Pi Kappa Deltans again sponsored the annual Bradley Invitational Speech Tournament last November. Other activities of the chapter include introduction of all speakers appearing in the lecture-arts program, the publication of an annual brochure on forensic activities of the year, and the selection of a speaker of the year from the local area, who is given honorary membership in Delta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta. Last year Senator Everett M. Dirksen was the Chapter choice.

CENTRAL COLLEGE (Iowa)

Eight schools met at Central College on Saturday, February 9, for the annual Turn-of-the-Semester tournament. Twenty-eight teams competed from Cornell College, Drake University, Iowa State College, Iowa State Teachers College, Missouri State College (Kirksville, Mo.), Simpson College, Wartburg College, and Central College.

The three Central teams competing were Shirley Groendyke and Carolyn Coleman, John Reynen and Neal Busker, Bethene Ohm and Larry Sunken. Two of these three teams competed again in the Nebraska University tournament at Lincoln, Nebraska; the State University of Iowa tournament at Iowa City; the Iowa Forensic Association tournament at Cornell at Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and in the National Pi Kappa Delta tournament at Brookings, South Dakota.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE

Michigan Theta claims to be the only chapter with two Province governors. Dr. Gilbert Rau, who was elected to the office of Governor of the Province of Missouri, is now at Central Michigan College assisting Dr. Emil Pfister, who is Governor of the Province of the Lakes, with the discussion and debate program. Under the direction of these two men Central Michigan College has been very active this first semester. They served as hosts of a high school debate tournament as well as promoted intercollegiate speech activities on campus. The alumni files are being brought up to date and about a hundred Pi Kappa Delta calendars were sent with Christmas greetings to alumni scattered all over the nation.

Theta Chapter consists of twenty student members and eight faculty members. The first semester and sixteen new members were initiated in February 24. This raised the chapter to an all-time high in
The treasury also is in excellent condition since each member donates to the Chapter their first fee earned in judging high school debates. Plans are being made for Theta Chapter to be represented in all events at the National Convention.

Twenty-eight of Central’s debaters have participated in forty-seven decision debates so far this year winning thirty-seven and losing ten. Two Central freshmen-sophomore teams won the second place trophy at the Freshmen-Sophomore Tournament at the University of Illinois, Navy Pier, losing only to Notre Dame. Central’s senior debaters coached the novice teams which won 12 out of 18 debates at the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League Novice Tournament. They have also been debating “teacher merit rating” before various teacher’s clubs all over the lower peninsula of Michigan. They have enjoyed the audience situation so much that it will be difficult for them to go back to tournament debating.

CENTRAL COLLEGE (Missouri)

Central College, Missouri Gamma Chapter made a “flying start” with seven wins in eight debates at the Midwest Speech Festival at Kirksville, Missouri. Partly responsible for the good beginning were such new additions to the squad as Bill Hughes and Roberta Woodvinton who teamed with Pi Kappa Deltans Ronald Unser and Stanley Geiger. The squad numbers sixteen debaters. Non-decision debates with the University of Missouri squad are now regularly scheduled.

Gamma’s faculty adviser, Harold C. Svane, former governor of the Province, is leading a second tour of Europe this summer. Traveling with him and Mrs. Svane will be approximately thirty students and friends of the college.

COLLEGE OF IDAHO

Beginning with two active members in the fall, Idaho Alpha of the Province of the Northwest has now added ten new members to its chapter at the College of Idaho.

Under direction of Dr. Lester McCrery, who came here last fall, the forensic program at the college now lists 18 students taking part in various activities. Before coming to Idaho, Dr. McCrery was director of forensics at California Institute of Technology where he piloted California Gamma members through three national conventions.

Twelve members of C of I’s forensics squad attended the Columbia Valley practice tournament at Pullman in October. Two men’s teams attended the Western Speech Association at Stockton in November where one team went into quarter finals in debate, and where Jess Armas, freshman, took second place in extempore speaking. In December the students pictured on this page were first winners of the Ada County Bar Association rotating tri-college debate trophy. In December, also, Idaho Alpha sponsored a third dis-

TEN NEW MEMBERS were added to Idaho Alpha of the Province of the Northwest this year. Shown above with their newly-acquired Ada County Bar Association debate trophy are the following: standing, left to right, Dave Spilker, chapter president; Mark Wordsen, Bill Van Every, Jess Armas and Fred Grant; seated are Donna Liechty, Dr. Lester McCrery, Donna Grant and George Forschler. Not in the picture are Lavonne Skalsky, Phyllis Redfield, and Earl Neumeister.
strict high school debate tournament on the campus at the College of Idaho.

Getting in trim for the national this year, C of I debaters will take part in the Idaho Speech Conference at Idaho State College in February, and in the Linfield College tournament in Oregon in March. At the Idaho Speech Conference last year Fred Grant, shown in picture, won first place in oratory, extemore speaking, and debate.

CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE

The Culver-Stockton College Chapter has had strong debate teams the last five years but has done little in the other fields of speech. Four seniors graduated last year having excellent ratings in debate. Barry Williams and Roy Griggs are now in the College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky, working toward B.D. degrees. Harold Martin entered the Medical School of the University of Missouri, and Carol Budorick has entered business in a bond agency in Chicago. They feel their experience in debate was very helpful.

This season Culver-Stockton has one senior men's debate team, Gary Glick of Brentwood, Missouri, and Jack Barnes of Kansas City. They have won half of their debates this year and will represent the college at the National Convention. Three beginning teams who will be heard from in the future.

DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE

The Tennessee Theta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta has participated in three debate tournaments this season: The Western Kentucky Tournament at Bowling Green on November 17, 1956, the Millsaps Tournament at Jackson, Mississippi, on January 11 and 12, 1957, and the All South Agnes Scott Tournament at Atlanta, Georgia on January 12, 1957. David Thomas and John Barton won first place in the Western Kentucky Tournament, and a team group composed of James Vandiver, Charles Trevathan, Marlin Connelly and Phillip Slate took the first place award at the All Southern Tournament in Atlanta, Georgia.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

The Drake University Debate Team, composed of Bill Jasper, Will Hefter, Neal Leas, and Larry Torgerson, is actively preparing for the coming semester's forensic activities. The team has won the Iowa Debate Championship two years in a row and last year won the Iowa Sweepstakes Trophy which covers all forensic events in the tournament. So far this year, they have debated and discussed at Grinnell and Simpson Colleges and Omaha, Bradley, and Northwestern Universities. At Bradley, the team compiled a record of 4 superiors and 13 excellents. Having been quite successful this year they are eagerly awaiting the State and National Speech Tournaments.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE COLLEGE

East Tennessee State's President Burgin E. Dossett was made an honorary member of Pi Kappa Delta last year as Tennessee Gamma chapter initiated eight members. Ten new members will be initiated into the chapter this year. The officers for this year are Bill Hammond, president; Roy Bledsoe, secretary; Wayne Davis, historian; Hugh Johnson, representative to the Student Senate; and Jack King, chaplain.

Last year in addition to presenting panel discussions to various groups and high schools and judging in the high school tournaments, the group traveled 4200 miles to five tournaments including the Southern Speech Association in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

During this year, under the direction of Dr. Chase S. Winfrey, the group has presented panel discussions to various organizations and over television and participated in an intercollegiate debate tournament the Appalachian State Tournament, at Boone, North Carolina. The group tied for second place in debating with the University of South Carolina and won third place.

GROVE CITY COLLEGE

The Pennsylvania Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta at Grove City College is carrying out an extensive program of activities during 1956-57. The officers who are leading this program are: Tom Ordi-
way, president; Lynn Payne, vice president; Marilyn Lanyon, secretary-treasurer, and John Werren, corresponding secretary. Dr. James Paton III is the chapter sponsor.

An original oratory contest was sponsored by the members of Pi Kappa Delta in November to promote speech in other departments. Prizes were: first place, $10.00; second and third places, $5.00 each. Members of the faculty served as judges and Pi Kappa Delta members were ineligible to participate.

A speech festival was held on campus in January in connection with the drama department at Grove City College. Pi Kappa Delta put on a demonstration debate which was open to all members of the college community. Following the debate a coffee hour was held. On the following day the Rodgers Memorial Oratory Contest was held. Prizes for this contest were donated by an interested member of the community. They were: first place, $25.00; second place, $15.00; and third place, $10.00. All members of the student body including the members of Pi Kappa Delta were eligible to participate.

The debate teams are busy working in preparation for the coming tournaments. Practice sessions were scheduled with neighboring schools during the month of January. Al Davidson was elected as captain of the varsity team this year.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

The fifteenth annual Buckeye debate tournament was scheduled for Saturday, February 9, 1957. The participation of 27 schools makes this Buckeye tournament the largest in recent years.

The Kent State University debaters, composed of all newcomers but two, will travel about 5,000 miles during the season. Having already covered some of this distance, the debaters have won one novice tournament and the Ohio Conference Women’s Debate Championship. The women’s championship debate team is composed of two freshmen and two sophomores. One of Kent State’s extemporaneous speakers won the Ohio State Invitational Tournament on January 26.

One of the brightest campus forensic events of the year will be a debate between a British team and K. S. U. speakers, and it is scheduled for April 4.

LINFIELD COLLEGE

The Oregon Alpha chapter of Pi Kappa Delta will be sponsoring two annual tournaments this year. The one for high schools was on February 21, 22, and 23. The other, for colleges, is on March 7, 8 and 9. This is the silver anniversary of the high school tournament and the twenty-seventh continuous year for the college meet. The college tournament began as an official province tournament its first year.

We also have scheduled trips to other tournaments and on campus some Pi Kappa Delta activities, including a movie for the entire student body.

Wallace Cory, chapter president, has won the State Extemp Contest, and the State After Dinner Speaking Contest so far this year. The other Linfield representative, Betty Allen, also took second in the women’s division of the after dinner speaking contest.

McPHERSON COLLEGE

Forty-two teams from sixteen colleges participated in the annual Economy Debate Tournament on Saturday, January 5, sponsored by the Kansas Omicron Chapters of PKD. States represented at the tournament were Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

McPherson teams have participated in tournaments this year at Wichita University, Southwestern College at Winfield, William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, and their own Economy Tournament.

Dr. Maurice A. Hess, long distinguished in the fields of debate and oratory, is retiring from the teaching faculty of McPherson College at the close of this semester. The Kansas Omicron Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta was founded in 1942, with Hess as sponsor, and he remained its sponsor until 1956. He also helped found the Kansas Intercollegiate Debating League and served as its General Secretary for many years, retiring in 1956.

For eighteen years, Dr. Hess served as head debate coach at McPherson College, and even longer as advisor in debate. During the period of his coaching his teams won nine state championships; many times they were in second place. In the field of speech many championships or near
championships likewise are to be attributed to his coaching. These include a national first and a national second in peace oratory. He served as governor of the Province of the Plains division of Pi Kappa Delta for a total of five years, an honor not held by any other person.

Dr. Hess is a graduate of Ursinus College. He received the A.B. degree from that institution in 1914. The A.M. degree was conferred upon him by the University of Pennsylvania in 1917, after which he continued his studies at the University of Chicago. His major field of study was Latin. His name is listed in Who's Who in American Education and in the Directory of American Scholars.

Dr. Hess will retire to live near his daughter at Knobnoster, Missouri, R.F.D. 2. He will be missed, not only in forensic organizations and activities, but by all who have had occasion to be under his influence during his successful teaching career at McPherson College.

MIDLAND COLLEGE

The Midland Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta held its annual forensic tournament on January 25 and 26. Sixteen schools sent 28 senior and 10 junior division teams to compete in five rounds of debate; a large number also participated in extemporaneous speaking and original oratory competition. Midland debaters participating in the tournament were Nancy Hoppel, Linda Mann, Jacque Janecek, and Mary Jane Thompson. Midlanders competing in original oratory were Mary Jane Thulin, Verne Wilson, and John Price. Delmer Anderson and Nancy Hansen entered extemporaneous speaking.

For the second consecutive year, debaters from Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, returned home with the annual Midland College debate tournament trophy. The top debate team members were Norman Lefstein and Dick Johannessen. Top individual honors went to the following: Bill Chittick, South Dakota State, extemporaneous speaking; Barbara Rolins, St. Olaf, original oratory; and Phillip Hubbard, Augustana, top individual debater.

Mr. Donald Wolfarth, debate coach at Midland, was general director of the tournament. Judges for the debates included members of the Midland faculty and local townspeople.

As a stimulus to the Midland student body, a recent convocation period was devoted to a 6 and 3 debate on the question: "Resolved: That the Federal Government should subsidize higher education for qualified students." Taking the affirmative stand in the debate were freshmen Jacque Janecek and Nancy Hoppel. The negative case was presented by Nancy Hansen, sophmore, and Mary Jane Thompson, freshman. A shift-of-opinion ballot was handed to the members of the student body. It was a close match; the affirmative team won by 12 votes of over 350 cast!

MORRIS HARVEY COLLEGE

The West Virginia Gamma Chapter at Morris Harvey College is presently engaged in the most ambitious forensic program in the history of the college. In addition to the Annual Morris Harvey Forensic Meet the college has participated in the Ohio Wesleyan Tournament on January 12, two tournaments at Ohio State University on January 19 and 26, respectively, and the Marietta College Invitational Tournament on February 2. The next competition will be at the Marshall-Wythe Tournament at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, followed by the North-South Tournament at Morgantown, West Virginia, the Grand National Forensic Meet at Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Virginia, and the Pi Kappa Delta Tournament at the National Convention, Brookings, South Dakota.

In addition to regular tournament debating the college debaters have completed one "barnstorming" trip during which they met seven colleges and universities. A second such trip is contemplated which will enable the debaters to spend two days in the Washington, D. C. area, two days in the New York area and two days in the Boston area.

NEBRASKA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE (Kearney)

The Nebraska Zeta Chapter has had a lot of activity over the last two months. Four new members were admitted to the
ranks of one of the Midwest’s most active chapters of Pi Kappa Delta. The new members include Miss Jane Miller, freshman, order of debate; Miss Judy Pollock, sophomore, order of oratory; Miss Donna Siebler, junior, order of debate; and Mr. Larry Lechner, freshman, order of debate.

Also included in Chapter activity were a number of tournaments. The members have faired very well so far this season. At the tournament held on January 19, 1957, at Colorado State College of Education at Greeley, Colorado, the team of Bill Milldyke and Larry Lechner took the championship in the Novice Division, while the senior team of Gary Weeks and Bob Pottinger won three out of four rounds in their division.

The Chapter plans a high school tournament to be held soon on the campus of Nebraska State along with much activity to promote the field of Forensics on the campus.

NEBRASKA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE (Wayne)

The outstanding achievement of last year’s squad was the selection of Miss Donna Lage, who is the retiring president of the Nebraska Iota chapter, to represent the state of Nebraska in the Women’s Division of the Interstate Oratorical Contest at Evanston, Illinois, last April. This year, in addition to regular competition the chapter conducted an Invitational Tournament on December 1, 1956. One hundred and eighty-five students from fourteen colleges participated.

This year Professor C. Loyd Shubert, who with Miss Lenore Ramsey has sponsored the forensic program at Wayne State Teachers College, is attending the University of Nebraska. He will return to the Wayne State campus in the fall of 1957. This year the officers of Nebraska Iota are: President, Bill Wollenhaupt; Vice President, Bill Taylor; Secretary-Treasurer, Jo Springgate.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

The Missouri Theta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta has had representatives attending tournaments at Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois; William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri; Pittsburgh Teachers College, Pittsburgh, Kansas. The local chapter sponsored the sixteenth annual Kirksville tournament December 7 and 8, 1956. Missouri Theta Chapter will plan to attend tournaments at Lincoln, Nebraska; Pella, Iowa; the State Tournament at William Jewell College; and the national tournament at Brookings, South Dakota.

PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE

The Pacific Lutheran College chapter of Pi Kappa Delta held their fourth annual Washington State High School Debate Tournament February 22 and 23. Representatives from thirty-five high schools participated. Owing to the popularity of this tourney, contestants are limited to ten from each school. In addition to debate, individual events of extemporaneous and impromptu speaking, oratory and interpretative reading were offered. Earlier in the season PLC’s chapter sponsored one of the first West Coast debate tournaments of the year when fifteen colleges and universities participated. The two-day tourney included debate and individual events.

An International Debate in December featured the Oxford team of Roy Dickson and Alex Grant from London, England. Two PLC senior debaters met them on the national debate topic before an enthusiastic college and community audience.

In November, a ten-man debate squad left for College of the Pacific and the Western Speech Association tourney there. Eight members received certificates of excellence and participated in the final events. Four of the five teams took part in the qualifying rounds of debate with the senior women’s team tying for third place. The same squad earlier visited Washington State College tournament which featured debate. PLC’s senior women’s team tied for first place in their division while the junior women’s team tied for second place. In the Men’s Championship flight, PLC’s senior men tied for second place. The junior squad won five of ten first places at Seattle Pacific College’s tournament for Junior Division debaters. PLC’s men and women swept first place in both divisions of debate. At the recent College of Puget Sound Tyro tournament, PLC garnered three firsts and five seconds to place third in line for the sweepstakes award.
SEATTLE PACIFIC COLLEGE

Five neophytes are being accepted as members of the Washington Beta chapter at Seattle Pacific College: Geneva Ensign, Jeannette Lechelt, Ewing Stringfellow, Emice Vordahl, and Roger Wilder. Plans are being made for them to be formally installed at a semi-formal banquet this spring. Barbara Carter was recently elected president of the chapter. The other new officers are Jo Anne Pearson, vice-president, and Al Braden, secretary-treasurer. Professor Paul Rosser and Professor Glyndon Riley are the advisers.

Seattle Pacific has sponsored two speech tournaments recently: the Northwest Invitational Tournament for college students, and a high school tournament. In addition, they have attended practice tournaments at the College of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran College, the Washington State College debate tournament, and the tyro tournament at C.P.S. Future plans include the annual Tournament of Champions at Linfield College and the National Pi Kappa Delta tourney at Black Hills State Teachers College. The club is selling picture certificates to earn money for the National.

SIMPSON COLLEGE

Iowa Epsilon Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta held pledging ceremonies for six students on January 12 at the home of their Pi Kappa Delta sponsor, Miss Elizabeth White. Pledges are: Paul Brown, freshman; Jack Vertling, junior; Elizabeth Reed, freshman; Shirley Schwartz, freshman; Jerry Willis, freshman; and Stephen Tyler, senior. Dale Goodhue, midyear graduate, was presented a gavel to commemorate his four years of work in debate with the Simpson squad, during which time he achieved the degree of Special Distinction in debate. In addition to the pledges, Simpson has an active chapter of eight members this year. They are: Larry Banks, president; Tadd Hall, vice-president; Adrianne Ames Thornburgh, secretary; and Dale Goodhue, treasurer; Gwen Groonies, Dick MacFarland, Roberta Lamb and Loah Grabill.

The Simpson Chapter was host to the Drake and Central debate teams for one round of debate with critiques and a coffee hour on Wednesday afternoon, November 7. Eight teams in all participated in the debating.

Simpson participated in the Bradley Tournament at Peoria, Illinois, on November 16 and 17 with three debate teams, three interpretative readers, two extemp speakers and three discussants. Stephen Tyler received a superior in discussion; Larry Banks, excellent in extemp; Paul Brown and Ken Ross, excellent beginning debate team; Elizabeth Reed, Shirley Swartz, and Paul Brown, excellent in interpretative reading; and Jerry Willis, excellent in discussion.

Other tournaments which Simpson has attended or plans to attend this year include: The Ft. Dodge Debate Tournament on December 15 in which the team of Stephen Tyler and Larry Banks gave a demonstration in Oregon Style debate with the University of South Dakota.

Three teams participated in the Blizzard Tournament at William Jewell on January 12. Three teams debated at Central, Iowa, on February 9 in the Turn-of-the-Semester tournament.

Simpson debaters will journey to Iowa City March 1 and 2 for the State University of Iowa's Intercollegiate Forensics Conference.

On March 8 and 9, the Iowa State Forensic Tournament at Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, will be attended. The season will be climaxed on April 14 to 19 at the National Pi Kappa Delta Convention at Brookings, South Dakota.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

The Southern Illinois University debate squad (Illinois Upsilon) completed the fall quarter of the 1956-57 school year with a total record of 77 wins and 23 losses. A total of 22 SIU debaters were used in the five tournaments attended so far this year.

The team of Joseph Selement and Richard Rieke compiled a record of 16 wins and 1 loss in winning both tournaments they attended this year. They won the championship trophy at the Northwestern University Invitational Tournament at Evanston November 30 - December 1. After winning five of their six preliminary rounds they defeated the University in the quarter-finals, Marquette in the semi-finals, and the University of Illinois in the final.
Joe Selement, DuQuoin, Illinois, left, and Richard Rieke, Carbondale, top debaters at Southern Illinois University, display the championship trophy they won at the Northwestern University Invitational Tournament in Evanston December 1. The two posted an 8-1 record in the tournament, defeating the University of Illinois for the championship. Their single loss was to the University of Nebraska in the preliminaries. Some 35 schools were represented in the meet.

round. Thirty-four colleges and universities from 12 states participated in the competition.

The following week (December 7-8) Selement and Rieke captured the championship trophy in the senior men’s division of the Southwestern College Tournament at Winfield, Kansas. They were undefeated in the five preliminary rounds. In the eliminations, they defeated Peru Teachers in the quarter-finals and the University of Oklahoma in the semi-finals. They then took a 3-0 decision over Southwest Missouri (Springfield) in the final round of the tournament.

Both of the women’s teams from Southern Illinois University survived the preliminary rounds at Winfield. The team of Shirley McCluskey and LaDonna McMurray were undefeated in the first five rounds. In the quarter-finals they won from East Central College of Oklahoma. They lost to St. Olaf in the semi-finals. The other SIU women’s team of Regina Miller and Marsha Wiehn was defeated in the quarter-finals by Kansas State.

The team of Ted Foster and Peter Morris won five out of six debates at the Northwestern Tournament and four out of five at Winfield.

While the “A” squad was competing at Winfield, three more SIU teams attended the Midwest Speech Tournament held on the campus of Northeast State College at Kirksville, Missouri. These three teams won 11 debates while losing one. Robert Holton-Ray Canterbury were undefeated in the senior division while Richard Huntaker-Harry Lux won all four debates in the junior division. The husband and wife team of Harold and Nancy Allen won three debates in the four rounds of competition in the mixed division.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE COLLEGE

The Stephen F. Austin State College Chapter is engaged in an extensive debate schedule for the current year. The schedule calls for ten tournaments including the Southern tournament and Student Congress at Athens, Georgia, sponsored by the Southern Speech Association. The longest
trip of the year, of course, will be to the National Tournament at Brookings. Competition in the squad is strong for this trip.

Stephen F. Austin has the largest debate squad this year that the school has had in several years, all together about twenty-five students are participating.

As usual Stephen F. Austin is holding its annual Piney Woods Debate Tournament March 15 and 16. This is the ninth consecutive year for this tournament and competition again promises to be strong.

A valuable addition to the staff is Miss Edna Sorber who has been debate coach at Southern in Winfield, Kansas. She is assisting Dr. Robert B. Capel, the head of the department, with the squad this year.

STERLING COLLEGE

Kansas Lambda is getting ready for several major tournaments. February brings the Rocky Mountain and Emporia State tournaments, March the St. Johns tournament and then on to Brookings. On February 5th our chapter was augmented by the addition of six new members.

ST. MARY’S UNIVERSITY

The charter petitioners of St. Mary’s University were happy to hear that they had been awarded a chapter, Texas Pi. Phill Pickett was elected as the first president. Even before learning that their petition had been granted, the group conducted the first annual Bexar County Student Congress, a unicameral practice legislature for high school students that proved quite popular and very successful. The event is to be sponsored annually. On Sunday, January 27, Pi Kappa Delta was featured by the chapter in a half-hour television program over WOAI-TV, San Antonio’s oldest television station.

TENNESSEE TECH

Debaters and discussers at Tennessee Tech have attended three tournaments this season and have had a good year in forensics so far.

On Thursday, November 1, five representatives from Tech traveled to the three-day discussion tournament at the University of Alabama. Twenty-six colleges and universities from about ten states were represented at the tournament. Ganelle McClure was the only woman to receive the superior rating. For two years in a row Tech has been the only school in the tournament to place a woman in the superior group. Faye Derryberry received a rating of excellent, the score given to the highest ten percent.

Four debate teams attended the Western Kentucky State College Debate Tournament at Bowling Green, November 17. Faye Derryberry was presented the cup for the best individual debater.

Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, Georgia, was the setting for Tech’s most recent tournament. The school won second place in over-all debating. The affirmative team, consisting of William Harris and Ed Bondurant, won one-half of their debates, and the negative team, Ganelle McClure and Faye Derryberry, won five debates and lost one.

Other tournaments scheduled for this season are the West Georgia Tournament, January 31 - February 1-2; the Tennessee Intercollegiate Forensic Tournament, Carson Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee, February 8-9; Smoky Mountain Tournament, Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee, February 22-23; Magnolia Tournament, Mississippi State College for Women, March 1-2; South Atlantic Forensic Tournament, Hickory, North Carolina, March 7-9; and the National PKD April 14-19.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

The Illinois Psi Chapter opened the 1956-1957 academic year with six members of Pi Kappa Delta. Martin Farrell was elected president and Richard Mora secretary. The group set up a booth at the Registration Mixer to promote debating among new students and later manned a booth complete with signs, promotional literature, public address, and recordings in the front lobby of the building. Another service of the chapter was filling in debate records on the application blanks of former UIC students seeking Pi Kappa Delta graduate memberships. As a service to the entire college, the forensic group, under the supervision of Miss Lenore Evans, sponsored a series of split-team
debates on issues in the 1956 Presidential campaign. Members of the chapter have also taken a prominent part in the forensic activities for the entire campus. Twenty-six students participated in a four-round intramural tournament in November. Prior to Christmas UIC had participated in tournaments at Bradley, Northwestern, and at home, had engaged in a number of non-decision debates, and had competed in intercollegiate contests in discussion, oratory, extemporaneous speaking, and after-dinner speaking. The Ninth Annual UIC Freshman-Sophomore Debate Tournament attracted 192 debaters from 35 colleges in nine states for a record total. Tied for first place with seven wins and one loss were Eastern Illinois, Wisconsin State College at River Falls, Central Michigan, Loyola, Notre Dame, and Marquette. The tie was broken by tabulating speakers' ratings. The first-place trophy went to Notre Dame and the second-place trophy to Central Michigan. Richard Fischmar brought his string of consecutive debate victories to fourteen before losing to Wisconsin State College at Eau Claire.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

On January 13th, Lester Reid and Richard Barter participated in a television debate with Colby College on the national proposition. The program, carried as a part of the University of Maine's regular series — "In Search of Knowledge," was aired over Station WABI-TV, Bangor, Maine. On February 15-16, the 9th annual Maine Debate Tournament for high schools was held on the campus in Orono. The University of Maine has participated in tournaments at Bates College, University of Vermont, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dartmouth College, and Boston University. About twenty students are participating in the program. Pi Kappa Delta officers for the current year are: President, Joan Williams Hutchinson; Vice-President, John Lymburner; Secretary-Treasurer, Betty Buzzell, and Reporter, Lester Reid.

WESTMAR COLLEGE

So far the two debate teams representing Iowa Iota in Pi Kappa Delta competition have a four-out-of-six record, win-

ning from South Dakota State College, Northwestern College, and Black Hills Teachers College (twice) while losing to South Dakota State College and Southern State Teachers College. Although only recently re-vitalized and re-established on the national Pi Kappa Delta roll by its coach and advisor, Mr. Robert E. Dorrell, the Westmar chapter of Iowa Iota feel that there is a bright horizon to be crossed if they can solve one primary shortage now present in the forensic program: WOMEN.

Layen Adelmann, Wendel Thompson, William Geiger, Mr. Robert E. Dorrell (Coach), Robert Koth.

WHITMAN COLLEGE

Forensic activity on the Whitman campus this year began with the annual intramural tournament. Teams were entered by the fraternities, the sororities, and the independents. The winner in the men's division was Phi Delta Theta. In second place was the independent men. The independent women won the women's division with Alpha Phi second.

The chapter continues its steady growth. Members are Othal Lakey, President; Evelyn Robinson, Vice-President; Betty Vaughan, Secretary-Treasurer; Larry Lutcher, James Joy, Byron Ehle, Bert Tucker, Tim Hill, Patricia Gowan, and Barbara York. Those who have become eligible for membership during the first semester are Dennis O'Brien, Mike Hagan, Bruce Campbell, Kenneth Irvine, Edwin Cof, Ron Knutson, Dick Powell, Iam Tervet, Kirsten Johnson, and Marietta Stark. They will be initiated in the spring with those becoming eligible in the second semester.
In a tournament at Pacific Lutheran College in November, O'Brien and Hagan won first place in the junior men's division. They have won sixteen of eighteen debates so far this year. Lakey was winner of second place in senior men's oratory, and placed third in extemp. O'Brien tied for third in extemp. The entire squad had a two-thirds win record in debate. In the Washington State College tournament, which was for debate only, Vaughan and Robinson tied for first place in senior women's debate, and Johnson and Stark tied for second place. O'Brien and Hagan tied for second place in the junior men's division. The seven Whitman teams entered had a win record of sixty-four percent. At the University of Idaho meet for freshmen and sophomores, the teams of Vaughan and Robinson, and O'Brien and Hagan tied for second place in debate, the only tournament event. The squad had a sixty-seven percent win record.

WISCONSIN STATE COLLEGE
(Eau Claire)

Wisconsin Zeta has been carrying on its wide variety of forensic activities. At the Northwestern University tourney held in Evanston on November 30 - December 1, the Eau Claire team of Jocelyn Gilbertson, last year's winner of Interstate Oratorical, and Rose Pribil, who debated in 1956 final rounds at West Point, was one of two undefeated teams. Southern Illinois was the only other undefeated team. Eau Claire bowed to Marquette in the quarter finals and Southern Illinois was the winner of the final debate.

On January 12, Eau Claire played host to the 13th Annual Interstate debate tournament for high schools. Thirty-three schools sent 440 debaters and judges to participate in the annual high school classic. Duluth Denfeld won the plaque for first place in the "A" division of the tournament and South St. Paul won the trophy in the "B" division. Two hundred college students assisted the busy members of Pi Kappa Delta with various duties connected with this mammoth project.

Junior members of the squad participated in the River Falls "B" tourney on January 19. Eau Claire's troop of eight participating teams topped all guest entries. Jim Johnson with a first place in after dinner speaking joins Tom Holter, Dick Siler and Ralph Zimmermann in giving Eau Claire four wins in five years.

February events include the trip to Red River Valley Tournament at Moorhead, Minnesota, where Eau Claire will attempt to retain women's sweepstakes won last year and Eau Claire's Thirteenth Annual Speech Meet on February 14, 15 and 16.

Ridin' The Provinces

(Continued from Page 79)

and in part it must be attributed to fine leadership in the province.

The statistics on the Southeast are astounding. From 1921 to the present, the Plains area increased its number of chapters by a two-one ratio, the Middle West by three to one, the West by five to one, but the Southeast increased at the rate of TWELVE TO ONE. A good example of how statistics lie. In 1921 there were only two chapters; today there are twenty-four, the same number as was on the rolls in 1939. By 1945 the area had risen to twenty but has since fallen back to twenty-four. Thus, in the early years there were few chapters in the Southeast but the thirties brought a rapid increase which ended with World War II and has remained dormant for almost twenty years. Tennessee and Louisiana are the bright stars in this area having shown steady growth, but the rest of the states have fallen off. These two states with six chapters each make up fifty per cent of all the chapters in this ten state area.

It is in the East that Pi Kappa Delta has been weakest from the beginning. In 1925 there were three chapters between Maine and West Virginia and today there are only four. This may be a reflection of the fact that there is stronger organization of Delta Sigma Rho in the area, but Delta Sigma Rho and Tau Kappa Alpha are both strong in the Middle West where Pi Kappa Delta is also strong. It may be the fact that the Mid-Continent orientation of Pi Kappa Delta has not been conducive to Eastern growth. There can be no doubt, however, that this is a great potential area of expansion even if it means missionary activity.
Fourteen states have no Pi Kappa Delta chapters. Nine of these (Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, Utah and Vermont) have never had chapters and five others (Connecticut, Florida, North Dakota, South Carolina and Virginia) had chapters but lost them through inactivity. Only one of these, North Dakota, is from the Plains or Middle West and only three, Utah, New Mexico, and Nevada, are from the West. All four are lightly populated as compared with the ten states on the Atlantic seaboard who make up a sizeable proportion of the nation’s population but do not have a single Pi Kappa Delta chapter.

Despite amazing growth in the West and a healthy organization of 182 chapters Pi Kappa Delta is not as large as 1951 when there were 191 chapters. We are now at the size we were in 1945 before the post-war gain and the house-cleaning of inactive chapters. Professor D. J. Nabors says that our present rate of increase should put us over the 200 mark in three or four years.

There are some questions which come to mind when examining the records of the past few years. For instance, why are Iowa, Illinois and Missouri among the top six while Michigan, Wisconsin, and Indiana have not produced a correspondingly significant number of chapters. This is particularly true of Indiana. One would suspect that osmosis from Illinois alone would give it more than the single chapter it has had since the beginning. It might be interesting to know what is behind the clean lines that differentiate one area or state from another. In the case of Indiana it may be Tau Kappa Alpha’s strength; in another it may be personalities.

Pi Kappa Delta like the little girl with the curl in the middle of her forehead has been either very, very good or horrid. The East Coast has been held by a small stockade in Maine, one in Pennsylvania and one in West Virginia just recently been increased to two. On the other hand it’s almost impossible to think of an Illinois school outside the three large universities that isn’t Pi Kappa Delta. While the distance from the Middle West and Plains States to be the Southeast is no greater than to the West, the difference between these two regions in the extent of Pi Kappa Delta’s growth has been astounding. The Southeast seems to have given up the lead it had over the West without a fight. The West, on the other hand, has had a steady growth which since the war has, like its population growth, tended toward geometric ratios. The presence of E. R. Nichols and Charles Battin, Pi Kappa Delta founders, on the West Coast may account in part for this in growth.

If you have read this far you can at least confirm the fact that some people will do anything to get into print. But then what do you write for people who are meeting at a National Convention? President Nelson and many others will tell you of the real growth of Pi Kappa Delta in terms of its service to education and to the best of persuasion. They will tell you of the many who learned and, having learned, served. Perhaps the skeletal outline in terms of numbers will indicate some basis for asking how we can serve better. Are there other colleges in our area who should have Pi Kappa Delta chapters? Are there other Pi Kappa Delta people we know of in areas of small Pi Kappa Delta strength who can help us to build?

It is not the purpose here to suggest what to do. However, it is worthwhile for all of us to look at the facts. The Plains, land of our origin, and the Middle West are the bulk of our strength. The West is rising fast. The Southeast has not moved in some time and seems to be biding time. The East has always been our weakest spot. Our present status has been a product of the original homes of our first chapters, the expansion of population to the West and the nature of the leadership in particular areas. In specific spots competing organizations, local prejudice and population density may cause a lack of interest in Pi Kappa Delta. There are many factors which may come to us from these figures. This column will welcome any comments about what this may mean to our organization.