

Outstanding Contest Winners

Dramatic Readings

ANDANTE. Coutts. 1936 cutting from the play. 12 min. The dramatic story of a violinist who loses one of his hands. Becoming unbalanced, he plans to end his life. The climax is reached when his son intervenes—the son who, with his father's help, can take his place in the musical world.—60c.

BEYOND THE LAST MILE. Gordon Morris. 15 min. Won the Wisconsin State Contest, 1936. The author has written this reading for the use of his brother, Chester Morris, of M.G.M. Studio.—60c.

THE BURGOMASTER. From the drama, "The Bells." 10 min. This cutting has won two state contests and placed in the finals of the National Contest, 1936.—50c.

CAMILLE. 14 min. This cutting of the play has won many contests, one of which was North Dakota State, 1936.—50c.

FOUR ON A HEATH. 12 min. 1936 cutting from the play recently written and produced by the Carolina Playmakers.—60c.

FEAR GOD AND TAKE YOUR OWN PART. Myron Brinig. 14 min. Has won two state contests. Characters: a Jew, his wife and son, and Theodore Roosevelt.—60c.

EYES. Leota Hulse Black. 12 min. Has won two state contests and one tri-state.—60c.

THE LIE THAT WAS UN-LIED. Annie Hamilton Donnell. 12 min. 1936 reading.—60c.

MARY STUART. 9 min. This arrangement of Schiller's drama has won two state contests and the National, 1935.—60c.

MERCEDES. Aldrich. From the play. 12 min. Has won one state contest and the National, 1931.—35c.

A MESSAGE FROM KHUFU. Cottman-Shaw. From the play. Won Illinois State, 1936.—60c.

SKY-FODDER. Reynolds. 12 min. 1936 cutting from the play. The characters are three fliers who are lost in a swamp.—60c.

SUBMERGED. Cottman-Shaw. 1936 cutting from the play. Its power grips like the steel of its own submarine.—60c.

THE MURDER OF KING DUNCAN. From Macbeth. Won Iowa State, 1934.—50c.

MISSISSIPPI MAGIC. Weber. 14 min. New this year, it has already won a state contest. At once weirdly beautiful and ominously portentous, this fantastic drama will be followed with breathless interest through to its impressive conclusion. Written in prose and verse.—60c.

Our free catalog describes these and many other winning readings. (Humorous, Dramatic, Oratorical.)

WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU

1631 South Paxton Street

Sioux City, Iowa

The Rostrum



Official Publication of the National Forensic League

VOLUME XI

DECEMBER, 1936

NUMBER 4



THE ROSTRUM

Official Publication of the National Forensic League

KARL E. MUNDT, *President and Editor*

BRUNO E. JACOB, *Secretary*

Published monthly from September to May in the interests of the National Forensic League and for the promotion of extended and improved speech activities in the high schools of America.

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An Answer to Critics

Critics of decision debating used to be both plentiful and noisy. Every generation turned out some noted statesman, writer, journalist, educator, or business man who would rise up in his might and at one time or another ponderously announce with owl's wisdom that decision debating was doomed; that it was antiquated; that it stressed competition instead of contemplation; that it trained people to be one-sided; that it developed a state of hopeless open-mindedness; that it substituted the mind of the coach for the mind of the debater and other statements of equal assinity and short-sightedness.

But time and the unprecedented development of decision debating has written its own answer to these critics. Today, more high school students are engaging in competitive debating than ever before; all but the most backward high schools are beginning to include speech training (and with it, experience in debating) as part of their regular curricula; and the debaters of a generation or two ago are the LEADERS in their communities today!

Debating is not a perfect educational experience; it is still subject to criticism and it is still improving as it recognizes the merit of legitimate criticism and perfects its procedures and refines its rules to take advantage of the lessons of experience. But "oral argument" which is the basic feature of debating still holds the spotlight as the best type of training for effective speaking in life's situations and no other device has even threatened the supremacy of decision debating.

Some day it is to be hoped, every student in high school will be given the benefit of the disciplined training to be received in preparing for and participating in an important decision debate. Every year additional high schools are making this important training available to more and more students; every year, additional students are eagerly joining debate groups so as to get the benefits which come from this training. NFL is proud and happy of the part it has played in giving impetus to the movement which has popularized debating; it is proud that it has helped write the irrefutable answer to critics—the fact that debating is today recognized as never before as the best device for combining the processes of thinking and speaking so as to develop a well-rounded and efficient speaking personality.

—Karl E. Mundt.

Annual Meeting of the Council

The mid-year meeting of the Executive Council will be held in the Hotel Statler in St. Louis on Wednesday, Dec. 30. Both time and place are set to coincide with the convention of the National Association of Teachers of Speech so that NFL members can attend both sessions. The NFL aims to be democratic not only in theory but in practice as well and the Council invites all who can do so to attend its meeting, bring their recommendations and take part in discussing the matters of business to come before it.

One of these matters is revision of national tournament rules. What changes, if any, should be made this year? Should it be held a week earlier? Can we permit the trend toward larger national tournaments to continue or must eligibility be further restricted? If so, how and to what degree?

Should ranking in the decalet of leaders continue to qualify for national entry, or does that encourage concentration of contest opportunities on one student in any effort to run up his total of points and so nullify our other efforts to spread participation?

Are the district tournament rules satisfactory? Some of these tournaments are becoming rather large, involving real problems in accommodations and judging. Should entry be mildly restricted and added provisions be made for funds to procure more judges?

In view of the small increase in degree applications this year, shall the plan of granting free degree coupons be continued at a loss of \$300 a year in revenue?

Shall we elect another national honorary member and if so who shall it be?

Several members have suggested that the policy of extending courtesy entries to tournament hosts past and present gives these schools a little too much of an advantage in securing the National High School Forensic Award. Is this true? If it is, what modification should be made?

These and other questions must be answered at this meeting and your participation will be genuinely helpful. Come to St. Louis.

NFL Banquet Tuesday

Chapters in the St. Louis area under the leadership of Webster Groves have also made arrangements for a banquet for Active and Alumni members of NFL. It will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 5:45 in the Downtown YMCA in St. Louis.

Appearing on the program will be National President Karl E. Mundt, National Honorary Member T. M. Beaird, Dwight Croessman, a member of the national championship debate team from DuQuoin, and one alumnus of the Webster Groves Chapter.

Reservations must be made with Julian C. Aldrich, Webster Groves, Mo., our immediate Past National Director. The charge will be only 75 cents a plate.

Joint Forensic Luncheon Thursday

The National Forensic League will join in a luncheon program with Delta Sigma Rho, Tau Kappa Alpha, and Pi Kappa Delta, the college forensic honorary societies. Dr. H. L. Ewbank, president of Delta Sigma Rho and one of our national honorary members, will preside. Another of our honorary members, Professor S. R. Toussaint, of Monmouth College, is national president of Pi Kappa Delta. The time is Thursday, Dec. 31st, at 12:15 and the place, Hotel Statler, St. Louis.

Distinguished Service Awards

We Intended to, Mr. Diettert

Mr. C. C. Diettert of North Judson wrote that he liked the NFL Directory, but suggested that it might have included the list of Distinguished Service Award recipients. Well, we had all of that material as well as the past national officers in type for that issue, but space simply kept it out. It is presented in this issue instead.

What other suggestions are there for improving the directory? Should it become an annual feature or could those pages be used to better advantage for feature articles and debate bibliographies? Let us have the reaction of your Chapter to guide editorial policy in this matter.

Distinguished Service Plaques

Karl E. Mundt, Madison, S. D.
Bruno E. Jacob, Ripon, Wis.
T. C. Bond, Niles, Ohio.
L. D. Schreiber, Charleroi, Pa.
Julian C. Aldrich, Webster Groves, Mo.

Distinguished Service Keys

The above named members and the following:
Ray Cecil Carter, Albany, N. Y.
R. N. Thompson, Pacific Beach, Calif.
Levi Osterhus, Minneapolis—Roosevelt H. S.,—Minn.
Mary Blackburn, Granite City, Ill.
J. Edmund Mayer, Topeka, Kans.
Hubert Teitelbaum, Charleroi, Pa.
C. C. Diettert, North Judson, Ind.
Earl Planty, Ilion, N. Y.

Chapter Awards

1933

Webster Groves, Mo.
Passaic, N. J.

1934

Granite City, Ill.	Enid, Okla.
Webster Groves, Mo.	Monessen, Pa.
Roosevelt H. S., Minneapolis.	Niles, Ohio
Charleroi, Pa.	North Judson, Ind.

1935

Nott Terrace H. S., Schenectady, N. Y.	
Lewiston, Idaho	Ilion, N. Y.
Mayville, Wis.	Olney, Ill.
Chaney H. S., Youngstown, Ohio	

1936

East H. S., Sioux City, Iowa	Charleroi, Pa.
Joplin, Mo.	Chicago Evening Y.M.C.A. H. S.,

Past National Officers

National President

Ray Cecil Carter, 1925-33—Albany, N. Y.
Karl E. Mundt, 1934-37—Madison, S. D.

National Vice President

Karl E. Mundt, 1925-33—Madison, S. D.
T. C. Bond, 1934-37—Niles, Ohio.

National Secretary

Bruno E. Jacob, 1925-38—Ripon, Wisconsin.

National Director

Harvey Pinney, 1925—New Richmond, Wis.
Henry Christofferson, 1926—Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Fred C. Scribner, 1927—Portland, Deering H. S., Me.
Shirley E. Greene, 1928—Laconia, N. H.
R. N. Thompson, 1929-30—Pacific Beach, Calif.
T. C. Bond, 1931-33—Niles, Ohio.
J. C. Aldrich, 1934-36—Webster Groves, Mo.
L. D. Schreiber, 1937-38—Charleroi, Pa.

National Director

Henry Christoffersen, 1925, 1927—Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Donald Stannard, 1926—Sheboygan, Wis.
Merwin W. Murphy, 1928—Phoenix, Ariz.
Donald P. Doane, 1929—Lucas, Kans.
T. C. Bond, 1930—Niles, Ohio.
R. N. Thompson, 1931-33—Pacific Beach, Calif.
Hubert Teitelbaum, 1934—Charleroi, Pa.
Walter Oelschlager, 1935—Monessen, Pa.
L. D. Schreiber, 1936—Charleroi, Pa.
C. C. Diettert, 1937-38—North Judson, Ind.

Do You Have It?

We lack the December, 1929, issue of the Bulletin. Any member who can supply this copy will be rendering a real service in completing an official file for binding. Miss Hatch of Enid supplied some missing copies last year, now who can fill in the last little gap?

NFL

Membership certificate No. 14,000 was issued to Margaret Zelle, Morton, Illinois.

Comments on Speech Activities

Lester R. Breniman, Eveleth, Minnesota

We are trying out the suggestion of an examination for our members elected last spring. I have added to the Rostrum's list of 16 questions so that we have 25. I am enclosing a copy. I think the initiates ought to know something about their local chapter as well as the national organization, so you will note that a number of the questions I have added concern the local group.

We held our third annual speech tournament in this section of the state last March 14. We put on the first tournament here at Eveleth two years ago as an experiment. My students were not participating in enough contests to suit me. For various good reasons other schools refused to hold dual contests with us. All schools were limiting expense money so I had to think of a plan that would cost little. With the coöperation and support of some of the other coaches I determined to try putting on a speech tournament in one day. The idea was a huge success. 140 contestants from 14 schools participated in eight different events. True, we ran behind schedule, but by 9:30 p. m. we had completed 48 contests and selected the winners in every event. We had emphasized the fact that this tournament was to give experience to the contestants, rather than to select winners and applaud them. Consequently no prizes were given. Any school might give its winners as much publicity as it desired, but that was all. In the first place we didn't want to emphasize winning and in the second place we realized it would be difficult to secure really competent judges for so many contests.

Getting the judges was the greatest task. Each school was asked to bring along as many competent judges as possible. Coaches were, of course, used and faculty members, lawyers, ex-school teachers and others who were best qualified were used for the additional judges. We offered to pay their expenses; nothing more. Not a one of them even took expense money. Only one judge, the critic judge for the final debate, was hired. There was no entry fee. The only expense to the schools participating was the transportation and two meals for each of its contestants and coaches.

We tried two new events besides the regular debate, declamation, original oratory, and extempore speaking. They were discussion and extemporaneous reading. Last year, at my suggestion an event was added which I consider to be one of the most practical and most interesting of the entire tournament. That is after-dinner speaking. A noon luncheon was held for all contestants and judges and the finals of the after dinner speaking were held at the luncheon. Atmosphere was provided for the speakers and the speakers provided entertainment for those at the luncheon.

This year a tenth event was added in the form of original pantomime. According to reports this event was very interesting and worth while. Another feature was also tried out. All contests were over by 6 p. m. At 8 p. m. a public program was held at which all first place winners, except those in debate, appeared. This gave everyone—contestants, coaches, judges, and the general public an opportunity to hear and see one good speaker in each event.

I'm "sold" on the idea of speech tournaments. It provides a large number of contests at small cost. By not emphasizing winning we have been able to develop a very fine spirit among the contestants and coaches. Though there are many things at which one might find fault, I have never yet heard a complaint made at any of the three tournaments we have held thus far. Coaches and school executives have commented time after time on this excellent spirit. One principal commented, "It more than counter-balances the bitter feelings that are aroused at athletic contests. I wouldn't miss one of these tournaments for anything." A typical judge's comment is, "I didn't know anything like this was ever held in this part of the country." Numerous judges after serving at one tournament without pay, have offered to serve again the following year because they are so enthusiastic about it. Students can hardly wait until the next tournament is held. Much more interest has been aroused in speech and contest work as a result of the tournaments. New NFL chapters are being formed and suspended chapters are being restored to activity as a direct result. My advise to the small schools who haven't enough contests is to invite contestants from some of the neighboring schools to come around Saturday morning and have contests and a general good time all day.

Grand Rapids Plans a Speech Program

[Editor's note—In presenting a petition to have the Grand Rapids (Minnesota) High School re-chartered in the NFL, Mr. Donald E. Bird submitted this outline of their program for the year. It offers a challenge to some of the older chapters in its completeness and scope. The charter petition has been granted.]

I. Objectives:

1. To provide elementary speech training for all students interested.
2. To discover and give preliminary training to students who will participate in interscholastic speech contests during the year.
3. To spread the benefits of participation in speech activities among as many students as possible.
4. To build up interest in speech among the students by making it an all-school activity.

II. Training Program: Meeting regularly on Wednesday evening of each week and in such special group meetings as may by common consent be called, the following topics will be discussed, and by means of practice exercises, each individual student will be given an opportunity to try out the principles discussed.

A. Fundamentals of Speech.

1. **Bodily expression**—posture, movement, gesture, facial expression.
2. **Voice**—Resonance, vibration, pitch, energy, quality, tempo, articulation, enunciation, inflection, emphasis.
3. **Words**—speech sounds, pronunciation, phrasing.
4. **Thought**—interpretation.

- B. Forms of Speech.**
1. Everyday conversation
 2. Story-telling
 3. Interpretative reading
 4. Pantomines
 5. Spoken drama
 6. Extemporaneous speaking
 7. Oratory
 8. After-dinner speaking
 9. Discussion
 10. Dramatic Declamation
 11. Humorous Declamation
 12. Debate
 13. Original oratory
 14. Original speech—formal address, welcome, response, installation, farewell, nomination, presentation, anniversary occasion.
 15. Parliamentary Procedure

III. Public Appearances: It is expected that members of the Speech Club will be active participants in the following speech events during the school year:

1. **Mock Political Campaign:** Eleven students representing two major and four minor parties will give five-minute speeches before the Senior High School Assembly presenting campaign issues and endorsing party presidential candidates.

2. **Christmas Seal Radio Contest:** Preparation of 800-word talks on "The Thirty Year Fight Against Tuberculosis." Local elimination contest is public program—winning talk to be entered in state competition.

3. **Intramural Speech Tournament:** All forms of speech. Finals in evening as public program. Probably in November between M.E.A. and Thanksgiving vacations.

4. **Speech Demonstration Groups:** Organized programs of convenient length in observance of special anniversaries such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Valentine's Day, Easter, Flag Day, etc., or as entertainment. Suitable for club programs, assembly programs, church gatherings, P.T.A. meetings, and meetings of fraternal organizations. Either commemorative or humorous.

5. **Minnesota State High School League Activities:** a. Debate—scheduled practice debates, tournament; b. Declamation—local elimination contest, interscholastic tournament, county declamation contest.

6. **Inter-state Debate Tournament—Superior, Wis.**—An annual event with competition between Minnesota and Wisconsin high schools. In 1935-36 six high schools from each state participated—Grand Rapids took second, winning 5 of 8 debates.

7. **All-Range Speech Tournament:** All forms of speech. In 1935-36 at Virginia there were 125 entries from 12 Range schools in eight different events. Grand Rapids took second in total pointage.

8. **National Forensic League District Contest**—Usually in Minneapolis. Only members of NFL may participate. You become eligible to join NFL by taking part in interscholastic speech competition. The eligible applicants for member in the local chapter, now being reorganized are: Gerald Kelley, Pete LeRoux, Henry Mohaupt, Tom Hall, Bill Betts, Mr. Bird and Mr. Olson.

Financial Statement for the Year Ending June 30, 1936

Profit and Loss Statement

Receipts	
Charter Fees (152).....	\$ 770.00
Membership Fees (2081)	3,121.50
Degree Fees (1,913)	649.00
(615 by coupons, 1,298 by cash)	
Annual Dues	105.00
Reinstatement Fees	34.00
Merchandise	32.54
Tournament Receipts	2,031.00
Registration Fees	\$1,031.00
Oklahoma City guarantee	1,000.00
Rostrum Advertising	268.83
Vouchers Not Presented	27.00
Total Receipts	\$7,038.87

Disbursements	
National Tournament	\$1,940.98
Judges	\$ 590.87
Trophies	406.91
Officers' Travel	438.21
Badges	85.50
Printing, postage	327.56
Miscellaneous	91.93
Clerical Help	478.20
Secretary's Salary	1,200.00
Printing	714.50
Postage	361.00
Travel	270.65
The Rostrum	807.98
Debate Material	134.04
Depreciation	199.43
General Expense	385.45
Charters	82.72
Interest	52.04
Office Supplies	80.07
Miscellaneous	85.62
Free Keys	85.00
Total Disbursements	\$6,492.23
Net Surplus for the year	\$ 546.64
Surplus from Last Year	458.70
Present Surplus	\$1,005.34

Balance Sheet

Assets	Liabilities
Cash in Bank	Trust Fund Deposits
Trust Investments	Trust Income Account
Fixtures	Vouchers Outstanding
	Accounts Payable
	Surplus
\$4,149.02	\$4,149.02

Trust Fund Account

Receipts	Disbursements
Balance July 1, 1935	Investments
Deposits by Chapters	Withdrawals
	With General Funds
\$2,588.00	\$2,588.00

Trust Income Account

Receipts		Disbursements	
Balance July 1, 1935	\$ 5.99	To pay Dues for 62 Chap-	
Interest from Investments..	116.10	ters	\$ 62.00
Interest from balance with		Remitted to Chapters	95.45
General Funds	26.94	Balance in Account	7.93
Unclaimed Vouchers	16.35		
	\$ 165.38		\$ 165.38

The Secretary's Comment

The foregoing annual statement shows a modest but gratifying increase in revenue from every important source. Charter fees and membership fees are significantly greater than for the preceding year and account for \$952 of the \$1146 increase in total income for the year.

The hoped for increase in degree applications in consequence of free degrees of excellence and distinction did not materialize. The revenue from degree fees dropped \$182. A total of 1,913 degrees were granted last year, an increase of 15% over the 1,663 granted in 1935. Of that number 615 were covered by free coupons and 1,298 by payment. That increase of 15% does not compare favorably with the 27% increase in membership applications for the same year. Perhaps the free degree with each membership application prompted more membership applications to be submitted, but this cannot be demonstrated.

The cost of publishing the Rostrum advanced, but the total pages for the year increased from 128 to 160. Since advertising revenue also increased the net cost was only \$116 over the previous year.

Tournament expenses were a little higher on every item, reflecting the larger tournament participation. The advance of \$157 in officers' travel to the tournament is accounted for in the circumstance that last year none of the officers resided near the tournament city; in 1935 three were within easy driving distance. Electrical recordings of the two network programs increased the miscellaneous tournament expenses by \$60. Altogether the tournament was again self-sustaining if a fair share of the general League administrative expense is not charged to the tournament account.

Other regular expenses last year were about the same as for 1935 except that printing was \$340 lower. In 1935 we needed to replenish quite a number of large stock items; in 1936 fewer replacements were necessary.

Debate material and free keys are two new items in the expense list for 1936. As these really represent a form of "surplus rebate" to the chapters, perhaps they should not be included in the expense statement at all, but deducted from gross surplus after only real operating costs have been charged against income.

A net surplus for the year of \$546 increased the total surplus to just over \$1,000 and places the League in the strongest financial position it has ever enjoyed. It is, however, not a sufficient sum to carry the League expenses from July until the following March, a period during which current revenue is inadequate to cover current expenses. The surplus should be steadily increased until it meets this need. If the rate of added membership applications set last year is maintained in 1937, that will be accomplished.

From the Secretary's Desk

Roosevelt Landslide Defeats Karl Mundt in Closely Contested South Dakota Election

National Forensic League members will be interested in the outcome of President Mundt's adventure in politics in the recent campaign in which he was the Republican candidate for Congress in the First District in South Dakota. Complete unofficial returns indicate that while polling a vote of approximately 110,000, Mundt will lack about 2,000 votes of being elected.

President Roosevelt carried South Dakota by about 40,000 votes so that the "power of speech" must have stood Mundt in good stead in spite of the Roosevelt landslide because he ran almost 38,000 votes ahead of Alf Landon in South Dakota and early election returns reported Mundt's election. Several weekly newspapers of the state carried his picture as "the newly elected Congressman" and a letter from Mundt states that he at least enjoyed the thrill of "being Congressman for a day" as it was not until late Thursday that final returns indicated his defeat.

Send the Editor Your School Paper

After his absorbing political campaign our National President is resuming the task of Rostrum editor and notes the scarcity of high school papers coming to his desk. So that important debate news from your chapter may appear in the Rostrum you should see to it that Mr. Mundt's name is placed on the regular mailing list for high school paper. The address is found on the editorial page. It takes just a moment to do this but it will insure your school's receiving deserved mention in the pages of The Rostrum during the year.

If you have students or teams who have achieved special success, send such story together with cuts or photographs to the Editor, too.

State Honorary Members

The Illinois Chapters have conferred honorary membership on Professor Gus W. Campbell of the State Teachers College at DeKalb and on A. D. Huston of the University of Illinois, secretary of the Illinois State Forensic Association.

Tennessee Chairman Elected

Mrs. Lottye K. McCall of the Messick High School in Memphis was elected chairman of the newly created Tennessee District. Mrs. McCall as assistant chairman last year directed the first NFL tournament in that area.

Members for Ten Years

926 Gladys Bookman, Phoenix, Ariz. (original membership at Sterling, Colo.), Sept. 1, 1926.

947 Mildred V. Dunham, Hornell, N. Y., Sept. 21, 1926.

961 Ruth E. Wells, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., Oct. 14, 1926.

991 Lucille Schwartz, Menasha, Wis., Dec. 1, 1936.

1000 Frank W. Cunningham, Lebanon, Kas. (original membership at Downs, Kans.), Dec. 10, 1936.

Summary of District Standing for 1935-6

In the following table the standing of the several districts is summarized for the past school year. The first column shows the final rank for the year which is based on the low-point scoring of the standing held for each of the ten school months. The next column compares the district's position with the position it held last year in a similar report.

Rank	Change	District	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	Tot.
1.	0	New York	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
2.	+2	Indiana	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	5	5	28
3.	+7	Nebraska	4	4	4	3	3	2	2	4	2	2	30
4.	-1	Missouri	3	3	3	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	48
5.	+1	Wisconsin	5	7	7	7	6	4	5	5	3	3	52
6.	-4	Pennsylvania	6	5	5	4	4	6	7	7	7	7	58
7.	0	Ohio	8	8	8	9	9	7	4	3	4	4	64
8.	0	Illinois	9	9	9	8	8	10	12	9	10	10	94
9.	+7	Oklahoma	7	10	10	10	11	11	8	10	9	8	94
10.	-5	Michigan	10	6	6	6	7	9	9	14	19	19	105
11.	+6	Kansas	15	11	11	12	12	12	10	12	11	11	117
12.	+1	California	13	14	12	11	10	8	11	15	12	12	118
13.	-4	Iowa	11	12	14	13	13	14	14	13	15	15	134
14.	-3	South Dakota	12	15	15	15	14	13	13	11	13	14	135
15.	-1	Colorado	17	17	17	17	17	15	15	8	8	9	140
16.	-4	Washington	14	13	13	14	15	16	17	19	17	17	155
17.	-2	Minnesota	16	16	16	16	16	17	16	16	16	16	161
18.	0	Southern	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	17	14	13	170
19.	0	New England	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	18	18	18	187

Citations of Service are granted to the District Chairmen according to this standing as authorized by the Executive Council as follows:

Three Citations

Miss Lucile Stephens, Poughkeepsie, New York
 Mr. C. C. Diettert, North Judson, Indiana
 Miss Sarah A. Ryan, Omaha-Central, Nebraska
 Mr. W. Francis English, Carrollton, Missouri
 Mr. O. A. Swanson, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

Two Citations

Mr. Leslie D. Schreiber, Charleroi, Pennsylvania
 Mr. E. J. Diller, Youngstown-Chaney, Ohio
 Mr. R. P. Hibbs, DuQuoin, Illinois
 Mr. S. Stanley Knapp, North Dallas, Texas
 Mr. Harold A. Dressell, River Rouge, Michigan

One Citation

Mr. J. Edmund Mayer, Topeka, Kansas
 Mr. Avery F. Olney, Phoenix, Arizona
 Mr. Joe W. Griffin, Newton, Iowa
 Miss Mary Elizabeth Perkins, Sioux Falls, S. D.
 Mr. James A. Tracy, Fort Collins, Colo.

Chairmen should file applications for the Citations authorized herein.

In order that the chairman of your district this year may receive the maximum number of citations possible, help him to advance the standing of your district and to keep it in a favorable place. You can do this by applying for membership early in the season for those who qualify, for the sooner the applications are on record the better will be the average standing of the district for the year. Witness the Colorado district which had a fine standing the last three months of the year but still had an average of 15th place due to the low rank it held for the first five months.

Next apply for all advanced degrees for which your members have qualified. The coupons granting degree of excellence and distinction free should make this possible for every chapter. Remember though, that these coupons are valid for only one year and must be used within that time or they become worthless. These coupons have been authorized only for 1936 and none will be issued after Dec. 31 unless the act is renewed by the Executive Council. If you have students who are now qualified for membership it would be prudent to complete their enrollment at the national office before the expiration of this special provision so as to be sure of getting the coupons entitling the chapter to a free degree with each membership application it now submits.

Finally, you can advance the standing of your District by assisting in the restoration of suspended chapters. These are counted as part of the district, but, of course, add nothing to the district's total membership on which standing is based.

Degrees of Distinction

Kenneth Browning, Bloomington	Anne Clymer, Denison
Norma Clevenger, Excelsior Spgs	Mr. Otis L. Hilliard, Denison
Anna Harhai, Monessen	Robert Sullivan, Salina
Leas Schwickert, Mankato	Laura Lee Waring, Salina
Mr. K. H. Harding, Mt. Sterling	Morton Block, Bakersfield
Catherine Curtis, Mt. Sterling	Ed Edmondson, Muskogee
Naida Bell Clarke, Enid	Terrel Covington, Muskogee
Harry Sucher, Santa Rosa	Wm. Shakelford, Muskogee
Virginia Moore, Independence, Ky.	Don Kirk, Muskogee
Aaron Witz, Denison	Mr. John M. Bowe, Syracuse Vo.
Frank Houghton, Denison	Rich. Collins, Omaha-Benson

Practice Tournaments

More chapters are taking up the idea of holding practice tournaments early in the season for the schools in their vicinities. The Greenbrier Chapter at Ronceverte, West Virginia and Longmont, Colo., were first to report such tournaments to this office.

Other chapters are urged to survey the situations in their areas and if a practice tournament would be helpful to sponsor one of these informal low-cost occasions for good speech practice. If debate is well provided for, take one or two of the other speech events and let each school enter a lot of contestants so that more students will have an opportunity to try their skills and learn to improve them.

Statistical Page

District Standing

Rank	Up or Down	District	Members per Chapter	Leading Chapter	Members & Degrees
1.	0	New York	10.7	Poughkeepsie	66
2.	0	Nebraska	10.2	Omaha—North	24
3.	0	Wisconsin	9.4	Mayville	29
4.	+2	Ohio	8.5	Youngstown, Chaney	37
5.	—1	Illinois	7.4	DuQuoin	42
6.	—1	Kentucky	7.2	Independence	17
7.	+2	California	7.0	Bakersfield	30
8.	+2	Pennsylvania	7.0	Charleroi	58
9.	—2	Texas	6.8	Denison	25
10.	—2	Indiana	6.6	Bloomington	17
11.	+5	Iowa	6.4	Oskaloosa	32
12.	+7	Oklahoma	6.1	Enid	33
13.	—2	Missouri	5.9	Joplin	43
14.	—2	Colorado	5.4	Casper, Wyo.	15
15.	—2	Minnesota	5.1	Mpls., Roosevelt	20
16.	—2	Kansas	4.9	Topeka	29
17.	—2	South Dakota	4.9	Presho	23
18.	—1	Tennessee	3.6	Jonesboro	12
19.	—1	Washington	3.3	Lewiston, Idaho	15
20.	0	New England	3.0	Portland, Maine	11
21.	0	Michigan	2.7	River Rouge	14
		National	6.5	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	66

Our Decalet of Leaders—The Second Ten

Coaches—	Students—
T. C. Bond, Niles	496 Warren White, Classen HS
R. P. Hibbs, DuQuoin	487 Jim Swanson, Holdrege
E. J. Diller, Youngstown	464 H. Christopher, Dwight
R. S. Cartwright, Elgin	459 Wilbur LeMasters, Ravenna
W. F. English, Carrollton	452 Rich. Abernathy, Benson
Helen M. Hall, Passaic	415 Ned Nedved, Classen HS
Sarah A. Ryan, Omaha, Cent.	387 Wayne Howell, Winchester
S. S. Knapp, Dallas	385 Harold Warner, Geddes
John D. Davies, Kenosha	382 Lorraine Barnett, Topeka
A. E. Melzer, Sheboygan	380 Eleanor Bishop, Abilene

Going Up

	New	Total
Chapters	0	456
Members	41	15,137
Keys	40	8,377
Reports	131	56,331
Degrees of Honor	21	5,785
Degrees of Excellence	17	3,088
Degrees of Distinction	9	1,623

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In a recent National Forensic tournament, 52 of the 97 humorous, dramatic, and oratorical selections used, were handled by the Ivan Bloom Hardin Company. For twenty years we have served the schools in their declamatory work, and in step with the present trend, we offer many play cuttings for this purpose. Here are a few of the new ones from our list of dramatic selections:

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The Brink of Silence	Jean-Marie
Camille	King John
Faith	King Lear
Mary Queen of Scotland	Mercedes
Minuet	Number Six
Peasant Wit	Riders to the Sea
Romeo and Juliet	Sabotage
The Violin Maker	Union Station

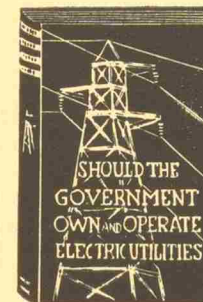
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