

WETMORE READINGS WIN

Our readings (all classes—humorous, dramatic and oratorical)—are the readings that have won the contests year after year. It is well known that we have more first place State and National winners of high school declamatory contests than are listed by all other companies combined.

Our orations have made a truly astounding record. We are listing in our 1938 catalog the following high school contest winnings for our orations alone:

WETMORE ORATIONS HAVE WON

73 STATE 12 INTER-STATE 9 NATIONAL

We mention here a few of our outstanding orations:

- WILLARD WILSON. 12 min. Won one state and the National, 1937. 50c
- THE MONSTER IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE. Grossman. Won a state, an inter-state, and the National, 1937 (original oratory). 50c
- THE BIG PARADE. Carty. 12 min. Has won nine state contests, two tri-state, and the National, 1936, and placed twice in the finals of the National, 1937. 50c
- YOUTH AND WORLD PEACE. Cook. 8 min. Won the National, 1936 (original oratory), and a state and an inter-state, 1937. 50c
- ARMAMENTS FOR PEACE. Breen. 8 min. Won the National, 1936 (in extem.). 50c
- THE SUPREME MENACE. Dunbar. 10 min. Won six state, three tri-state, and two National, 1931, 1933. 50c
- CRIME ITS OWN DETECTOR. Webster. 8 min. Won a state and the National, 1932. 50c
- A CHALLENGE TO AMERICAN WOMEN. Kincaid. 9 min. Won a state and the National, 1935 (original oratory). 50c
- ROPES. Clinton. 11 min. Has won eighteen state contests and two tri-state. 50c
- MASTERFUL MAN OF THE AGES. Robison. 10 min. Has won six state contests. 50c
- YOUTH AFLAME. Holth. 12 min. Won Minnesota Contest for Colleges, 1934, and has won two state high school contests and one inter-state. 50c
- BUILDERS OF DESTINY. Goldstein. 8 min. Won Minnesota Intercollegiate Peace Contest, 1933, the National, 1933, and has won two state high school contests and placed in the finals at the National, 1935. 50c
- THE CONSTITUTION. Wenig. 9 min. Won the National High School Oratorical Contest on the Constitution, and the International, 1926. It has since won two state contests. 50c
- THE CRISIS IN CHARACTER. Anderson. 10 min. Won first in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Contest, 1937, and first in the National Intercollegiate Contest, 1937. 50c
- THE UNFINISHED WORLD. Hendricks. 10 min. Won the Indiana Intercollegiate Contest, 1937, and second in the National Intercollegiate Contest, 1937.

WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU

1631 South Paxton Street - Sioux City, Iowa

The Rostum



Official Publication of the National Forensic League

VOL XII

FEBRUARY, 1938

NO. 6

NFL Calls National Student Congress to meet in Wooster, Ohio, at the Eighth National Tournament, May 2-6



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.

Office of Publication: Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin.

Subscription Price: 50 cents a year; 25 cents for additional copies. Contributions should be sent to The Rostrum, Box 223 Madison, S. D. Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Ripon, Wisconsin, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Any item herein may be reprinted or quoted by crediting the source of publication.

An Experiment Worth Repeating

Under the guidance and as a result of the inspiration of Dr. Elwood Murray, the University of Denver, Denver, Colo., last summer conducted an interesting experiment in practical speech education. A summer conclave of students and coaches of NFL schools was held as part of the University's summer session and the intimate problems of practical debating and effective platform speaking were discussed and examined in a laboratory-like situation in which pedagogues and pupils mingled on an equal basis and each learned from each. It was the pleasure of your editor to serve as Director of this laboratory in language, last summer, and so I am particularly pleased to learn from recent correspondence that it is "an experiment about to be repeated."

Dr. Murray is already making plans for next summer's session of NFL-ers who will gather at Denver University for a week or two of intensive and highly practical study and practice in the processes, principles, policies, and pedagogy of all that goes to make up an effective and efficient debate and speech-training program in high school circles. Again, students will sit shoulder to shoulder with instructors and again the educational stimulus will flow BOTH WAYS instead of the customary "trickle down" process which too frequently exists in the formal school room where the "teacher tells 'em" and the "learner listens" (or does he?). Dr. Murray is one of the most progressive professors of speech in the country today; he has a yen for uncharted seas and the blood of an educational explorer courses through his veins. He is constantly striking out for the newer and better method. In his summer conclaves of coaches, teachers, debaters, students, and outside lecturers and conductors he is pointing the way toward a better realization and appreciation of what is sound and sensible in speech education. His method subjects the tried to the test of logic and the untried to the test of experience. It is the method of science rather than the process of tradition. It offers a stimulating opportunity for the development of new ideas and the improvement of old methods. It is in tune with modern education.

Students and coaches interested in plans for the 1938 conclave which is held in conjunction with the National Forensic League and a

part of the League's established policy of helping to stimulate the speech education program of America, can get details and data from either Dr. Murray in Denver or Bruno E. Jacob, National League Secretary, in Ripon, Wisconsin. It is hoped that the "experiment about to be repeated" will become an Establishment Always to Be Renewed!

—Karl E. Mundt.

Debaters should remember that they are playing a game—not re-making the World! No Atlas, they, with the world on their shoulders; it therefore follows that a trace of humor, a flash of human interest material, a witticism, or a pleasing figure of speech is as acceptable in debating as in any other type of speaking and will go far toward filling empty seats which frequently fail to attract auditors because of the seriousness and the strain of orthodox debating with its solemnity and its syllogisms. Coaches who judge and judges who coach can help enliven and enrich contemporary debating if they will commend instead of condemn student debaters who break new ground by putting something into their speeches which the audience enjoys hearing as well as retaining something which the auditors should know and which might help them to arrive at decisions.

—Karl E. Mundt.

National Tournament to be at Wooster

This issue of the Rostrum was delayed so that it might contain the long-awaited announcement of the location of the 1938 National Speech Tournament. It will be Wooster, Ohio, scene of our third national in 1933.

At its annual meeting in December the Council tentatively accepted Detroit's third annual invitation subject to satisfactory determination of detail of facilities to be made available. As time passed on to January 31, without meeting these provisions and the discovery that most of the previous assurances were based upon misunderstanding, it became evident that further negotiations were futile.

In the short time remaining it seemed that a previous host familiar with national tournament requirements would be best able to provide for them. The Secretary sent letters to four such hosts and in two days had invitations from Jacksonville, Wooster, and

Sioux City. Topeka which is entertaining the Pi Kappa Delta college national in late April could hardly be expected to accommodate two large tournaments within ten days of each other.

The choice between Sioux City and Wooster was a hard one for the Council to make. Both cities enthusiastically offered every requested item of support and coöperation. Perhaps the fact that three tournaments have been held in the west, two central and two east might be regarded as the final determining factor. However, the ready response from Sioux City Chamber of Commerce, the school administration, and John F. Schmidt, speech director, assure that the Iowa city is definitely in line for a return engagement of the National Tournament.

The March Rostrum will be devoted to national tournament details and will come out as quickly as the pertinent data can be assembled.

NFL Calls National Student Congress

Legislative Speaking and Practice to Be Featured at 1938 National Tournament

"The Chair recognizes the Senator from New York."

"The Committee on Foreign Affairs reports."

"The ayes have it and the resolution is adopted."

These will be familiar echoes at the 1938 tournament of the National Forensic League in Wooster, Ohio, when the first National Student Congress for high schools assembles to discuss national problems of social and economic importance.

Senate and House

The Congress will consist of two houses. Each NFL District will be entitled to select two Senators. District Chairmen will conduct the elections of Senators and alternates during March.

Each Chapter which has 50 votes (members and degrees since its founding) will be entitled to seat a Representative. Certificates of election will be sent presently to the 180 chapters which have already met this requirement and to other chapters as they do so between now and April 1. In order that the House might not be too large, especially this first year when the procedure will be new to nearly everyone, seating, however, will be limited to the first 100 Representatives certified to the national office by the eligible chapters.

National Problems for Legislation

Bills, resolutions, and amendments to the federal constitution

will constitute the items of business for consideration. The subjects may deal with any matter upon which the Congress of the United States might act. Parallel- ing the situation wherein Congress also acts as a City Council for Washington, so the Student Congress will also serve as a forum for NFL policies and formulate recommendations to the Executive Council relative to the NFL as a whole, the National Tournament, or the Congress itself.

Parties and Committees

Each Member of Congress will indicate his party affiliation and the committee on which he prefers to serve. All bills will pass through appropriate committees before coming to the floor of either house. These committees will be: Agriculture, Appropriations, Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Judiciary, Military and Naval Affairs, Social Welfare, Ways and Means, National Forensic League.

Congress Constitutes Tournament Entry

A seat in the Congress will constitute a tournament entry, and the rule limiting a student to participation in two events will therefore apply. Sessions of congress or its committees will run concurrently with the tournament contests from Monday, May 2, to Thursday, May 5. A student need not be entered in a contest to be a Member of Congress and it is

hoped that a majority of the members will not be in any other event, but give undivided efforts to congressional deliberation and speaking. A Citation of Service will be given for entry. The Council will determine the credit points to be given for this form of speaking.

Bills Introduced in Advance

Each Senator may introduce two bills and each member of the House one bill in advance of the session. If these are sent to the national office before April 15th they will be mimeographed and distributed to all registered Congressmen for their advance information. Bills should be simply phrased without encumbering details and limited to 200 words or less.

President and Vice President Will Assume Regular Roles

The Congress will be opened by a joint session of Senate and House to hear "The President's Message" from NFL President Karl E. Mundt. He will also sign or veto bills as his judgment dictates. Vice President T. C. Bond will preside over the senate, but a student will be elected President pro tem and wield the gavel much of the time. For this year until experienced personnel is found, the Speaker of the House will not be a student congressman, but an instructor chosen by the Council. A student, however, will be elected Speaker pro tem and preside during much of the time under the Speaker's watchful eye.

Congressional Speaking Growing

Student congresses are not altogether untried. Several eastern universities have conducted such sessions for the past few years

and the Kansas colleges held their fourth annual congress in Topeka in December. Pi Kappa Delta, national college forensic fraternity, will hold its first national congress in connection with its 25th anniversary convention in April. Our Chapter at Logan, Utah, reports enthusiastic participation of its students in four sessions for Utah schools.

As an educational device a student congress has possibilities worth developing. It affords a real opportunity to integrate knowledge of history, government, economics, and sociology. It presents an opportunity to make skill in debating, in extemporaneous speaking, in oratory, more than abstract attainments to secure the approval of judges, but a matter of real value in attaining an immediately practical result—passage or defeat of pending legislation. The student who can combine all his knowledge and his abilities will be the successful one in the congress—and so it is in life, too. There will be no medals—as there are few in life—but for those who participate an experience which should stand out helpfully for years and mark perhaps for some at least the beginning of notable careers in public service and leadership.

WANTED: A SPEAKER

The Council will receive applications for the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives from NFL instructors who wish to attend the Congress. Intimate knowledge of parliamentary procedure is required. Experience as member of state legislature or other deliberative assembly preferred.

Apply to the National Secretary at once with full statement of qualifications and amount required for expenses. The salary is \$1 a year.

California in 1939?



Feb. 5, 1938

Dear Mr. Jacob:

Recently I learned that the Beverly Hills High School has invited your organization to hold the National Speech Tournament in the city of Beverly Hills for 1939. It is an honor for me to be able to add my own cordial greeting.

I wish I could visit each of the 500 N.F.L. Chapters and tell the boys and girls personally how much pleasure it would give Californians to have the best speech students of the nation meet at Beverly Hills High School next year.

Sincerely,

DEANNA DURBIN.

If you wish to accept the invitations extended above by Miss Deanna Durbin to visit Beverly Hills next year, you may also like to know about tourist attractions that will provide a liberal education for out of state delegations.

You will undoubtedly want to see the \$20,000,000 San Francisco World Fair with its Treasure Island and priceless art exhibits imported from Europe. In proximity to Beverly Hills you may like to see the United States battle fleet, based in San Pedro, world's largest man-made harbor; the Douglas Aircraft Corporation; the Griffith Park Planetarium; the prehistoric fossils recovered from the La Brea Tar Pits; the Los Angeles County and the Southwest Museum; the Huntington Art gallery; the Pasadena Community Playhouse; the California Institute of Technology, where the world's largest reflecting mirror for the Mount Palomar Observatory is being ground; and, of course, the

Fox, Warner Bros., and Universal motion picture studios.

State of California
Governor's Office

Feb. 2, 1938

Dear Mr. Jacob:

I am happy to join with the citizens of Beverly Hills in extending to the students and members of the National Forensic League a cordial invitation to hold the 1939 National Speech Tournament in Beverly Hills.

In addition to California's pleasant climate and many places of historic interest and scenic beauty, your delegates will have the opportunity to view the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, to be on the man made Treasure Island located in San Francisco Bay.

May I commend the National Forensic League for its efforts to stimulate an interest in the development of the art of self-expression and public speaking among the young people in the schools of this Nation.

With kindest regards and best wishes I am,

Very sincerely yours,

FRANK F. MERRIAM,

Governor of California

FFM:pa

Why?

Mr. Charles F. Wright of Beverly Hills High School says:

"We shall be able to secure the talent scouts of the major studios to hear the finals in dramatic declamation, and this will mean that those who show outstanding talent will be guaranteed screen tests.

"In what other locality could NFL receive greater publicity for its splendid efforts than in Beverly Hills, Calif.? What other area could give NFL the advantage of newsreel publicity? Where could the student contestants get a better view of the motion picture studios? Fox Studio is directly in back of Beverly Hills High school.

"Would not the holding of the tournament in this vicinity produce educational advantages that could be found in no other section of the United States?

"Perhaps the distance is great, but the tournament has never been held west of the Rockies. The tournament may not be held out this way for another nine or ten years. However, once in a decade, give NFL a different location from the middle west, desirable as that location is for the great majority of tournaments.

City of Beverly Hills
California

Dear Mr. Jacob

The City Council of the City of Beverly Hills has adopted a resolution authorizing the appropriation of the sum of \$1,000 for the purpose of defraying certain necessary expenses in connection with the annual contest of the National Forensic League for the year 1939.

Please advise if this will be satisfactory, and when the first payment will be necessary.

RICHARD C. WALTZ,
City Attorney.

University of Southern California
Dear Mr. Wright:

I am delighted at the possibility of holding the National Forensic Tournament in the City of Beverly Hills in 1939. Needless to say that the University of Southern California and the School of Speech in particular, will be most happy to cooperate in every way possible. We have, as you know, the largest speech program in the entire West and we shall be most happy to help stimulate the activities of this tournament.

Yours very truly,

RAY K. IMMEL,

Director, School of Speech

"In addition to Dr. Immel's assurance of support in providing judges, similar assurances are given by Egbert Ray Nichols, well known author and Professor of Speech at Redlands University; by Dr. W. K. Karr of the University of California at Los Angeles; Professor Russell Johnson of Stanford University; and Dr. Charles F. Lindsley.

"These five institutions of higher learning could provide all the competent judges we could reasonably need. The University of Southern California at its annual tournament provided sufficient judges to relieve the coaches of 43 debate teams and 150 contestants from serving as critics at a single contest.

"If the tournament is held in June, there are 13,000 teachers at the University of Southern California and the University of California at Los Angeles summer sessions. Judges would be plentiful.

"Other organizations in the speech field are rapidly breaking down geographical isolations. The National Junior College Tournament was held at Long Beach, Calif.

How You Can Reach California in 1939

By Charles F. Wright

The National Forensic League is growing!

The United States is shrinking!

When the first "iron horse" replaced the covered wagon and cut the time to California from weeks to days, California started moving east. Newer, faster transportation has kept it moving east until today Southern California, even from New York, is just overnight by plane, 2 to 3 days by train, and 5 to 7 days by automobile or bus. Consider Table 1:

Time to Southern California

From	Plane Hrs.	Train Days	Auto or Bus Days
New York	18	2	4 to 7
Chicago	13	1	3 to 6
New Orleans	16	2	3 to 5
Seattle	8	1	2 to 4

Truly, modern improved transportation has brought Southern California nearer to other sections of the United States than ever before. It has made the trip pleasurable, too. Most transcontinental trains are today completely air-conditioned, cool, clean and quiet. Air conditioning of busses, many already equipped with berths, is being completed rapidly. Splendid paved highways and plentiful accommodations en route make motoring an easy way to get here.

NFL delegates who desire to come by bus to California in 1939 will be interested in Table 2:

Greyhound Bus Costs

From	Round Trip to Hollywood
Oklahoma City	\$38.25
Kansas City	43.20
Cleveland	49.50
Chicago	49.50
New Orleans	49.50
St. Louis	49.50
New York	68.85

NFL-ers who prefer to come to Beverly Hills in 1939 by train may well investigate the reasonable round trip fares from key points described in Table 3:

Railroad Costs

From	Round Trip to Los Angeles
	1st Class Tourist
Houston	\$ 70.45 \$ 56.40
Kansas City ..	72.00 57.60
St. Louis	81.50 65.20
Memphis	85.15 68.15
Chicago	86.00 68.80
St. Paul	86.00 68.80
Atlanta	100.75 83.75
Cincinnati ..	101.35 85.05
Buffalo	116.10 98.90
Washington ..	126.20 109.00
New York	138.35 121.15
Boston	144.25 127.05

The Union Pacific, Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads give transcontinental transportation service to the State of California.

NFL contestants who wish to drive to California in 1939 should remember the experience of the Grossmont High School students who participated in the National Tournament held at Jacksonville last year. Grossmont is a small but active forensic school located near San Diego. Last year, was Grossmont down-hearted when the Rostrum announced that the "Tournament will be held in Illinois"? They were not! They got to work. They found a way. Under the splendid leadership of Mr. L. A. Smith, a group of six motored to Jacksonville; they were away less than two weeks, at an average cost of but \$50 per person which included some hotel expenses!

However, if your chapter plans a transcontinental tour a la Grossmont, it will be wise to ponder

these recommendations:

1. No extra mechanical equipment is needed for your car.

2. It is not necessary to carry extra gas, oil or water for your car.

3. The roads are generally excellent, marked and well graded. Mountain driving is easy these days.

4. Tourist cabins, particularly west of the Mississippi, are excellent and inexpensive, furnishing complete accommodation. It is possible to drive to California by any route and spend each night in a fine, modern hotel.

5. You can average 300-400 miles a day if your car is in reasonably good condition; 500-600 if you want to push hard.

How Can We Do It?

Having given the NFL membership a preliminary survey of the low costs of coming to California, the next step is to suggest possible answers to the stock query:

"Yes, we'd like to visit Beverly Hills in 1939, but how will our Chapter raise the necessary money?"

The answer to this question varies with circumstances, but these ideas may prove that your obstacles are perhaps more imaginary than real:

1. Read carefully the publicity that will be sent to your Chapter detailing the educational and entertainment advantages of seeing Beverly Hills and the surrounding attractive areas for tourists.

2. Generate morale and enthusiasm in your Chapter membership.

3. Get a grant of money from your board of education.

4. Arouse the interest of your community newspapers, the American Legion, the Chamber of Commerce, civic and fraternal organizations, and the Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions clubs. Your civic and fraternal organizations, if properly approached, will cooperate.

5. Stage a benefit play performance for financing the trip to Beverly Hills in 1939.

6. Hold auction sales in the school to raise revenue.

7. Set up a coöperative NFL fund in your state to finance or aid in financing possible state qualifiers. Chapters could thus pool their resources.

8. Determine if parents can supply any part of the aid necessary to get to the National Tournament.

9. Use any combination of the aforementioned methods.

10. Don't procrastinate; make your decision; get busy!

From time to time your Chapter will receive additional material setting forth the desirability of the National Tournament for California during 1939.

The members of your Executive Committee believe California has earned the right to the National Tournament for 1939. They want, however, to know if you will back them if they announce that the locale of the 1939 Tournament is to be in Beverly Hills. They want to know this now, a year in advance, in order to help you to plan your work and work your plans.

Decide to come to Beverly Hills in 1939.

Council Proposes Amendments

Aim at Higher Standards for Degrees and Equalized Credits for Various Contests

Following the virtually unanimous expression of sentiment at the Jacksonville convention last May, the Executive Council has framed four amendments to the NFL constitution for submission to the Chapters for ratification. These amendments are based upon the composite recommendations of the District Chairmen, the discussions in New York in December and the advice of a special committee appointed by President Mundt to report on the matter of points for individual contests. This committee comprised Miss Mary Blackburn of Granite City, Ill.; Mr. E. J. Diller of Chaney High in Youngstown, Ohio; and Mr. Levi Osterhus of the Roosevelt High in Minneapolis.

Amendment XVIII

To amend Art. III, Sec. 7 so that the requirements for degrees shall be as follows:

Degree of Merit.....	20 points
Degree of Honor	50 points
Degree of Excellence	100 points
Degree of Distinction.....	150 points

This amendment proposes to effect a slight increase in the requirements for membership and a substantial increase in the requirement for advanced degrees. Now a student can get 15 points and NFL membership by appearing in three practice no-decision debates. The new rule would require five.

Raising the requirements would not affect the degrees already granted to members on the basis of present requirements.

Of 100 graduates last year picked at random from the NFL files, 30 held more than 100 credit points—qualified for the Degree of Distinction under the present requirements. That is clearly too large a proportion if the degree is to be a real distinction. Of this number 18 had earned 150 points and would have earned the highest degree under the proposed rule. That seems a sounder proportion.

Amendment XIX

To amend Art. IV, Sec. B, by eliminating the words "team leader, one point extra."

The change is advanced to simplify the schedule and minimize errors in reporting debates. A large number of chapters persist in adding this point after the minimum number of points for debate has been reached, contrary to the Constitution and Manual. This means correcting such reports at the national office, disappointment for the students not receiving the points applied for, and needless correspondence to explain the rule.

Other Chapters defeat the intent of the rule by giving the extra point once to one debater, next time to the other. Still others ignore the provision altogether. In the interest of simplification the council proposes the amendment.

Amendment XX

To amend Art. IV, Sec. B.

1. By basing credit points on a maximum of eight schools in a contest instead of ten.

2. By giving only one extra point for Original Oratory instead of two.

3. By limiting credit points for any student to eight contests a year in addition to official NFL district and national tournaments.

To amend Art. IV, Sec. C by adding the words, "and reduce credit points for practice tournaments."

This amendment is designed to prevent the accumulation of exceedingly large totals of points by mere repetition of a contest after contest and to tend to equalize points gained in individual contests with those gained in debate.

Last year three students received 265, 373, and 386 credit points in one year in individual contests. The highest debaters earned 154, 158, and 160. Two of these were White and Nedved of Classen High, the national champions. Clearly, individual contests enable a student to acquire more credit points than even the very best debater, each of whom participated in over 60 debates last year. If our belief is correct that debating on the whole requires greater effort and skill, the credit points system does not sustain it.

The discrepancy is most clearly demonstrated by Dwight Croessman of DuQuoin. Dwight was on the national championship debate team in 1936 and in the debate semi-finals last year. Last year he also won the national championship in extempore speaking. Evidently a superior speaker in both situations and deserving of his place as the highest credit point lad in the NFL. He received 499 points last year, but look how they were divided. For 42 individual contests he received 373 points; but for 41 debates he got only 126.

The purpose of this amendment is both to reduce the high totals of points now acquired so that they will not overshadow so completely the Degree of Distinction; and to make more nearly equal the points given for achievement in contests and achievement in debate.

Since a student could pick his best eight contests to be recorded, in addition to all of his rounds in the district and national tournaments, the change would only slightly effect the great majority of students, but would restrict points for those who engage in 30, 40 and even 60 contests a year.

Since the Council has authority to grant, and does grant, additional credit points for excellence in the national tournament where competition is most keen, the amendment proposes to give the council authority also to reduce credit points for strictly practice tournaments where by mass participation even a mediocre student must often be placed first.

Amendment XXI

To amend Art. IV, Sec. D, by adding: Whenever any instructor attains 1,000 points, the points then on record for all instructors shall be reduced one-half.

Fifteen coaches now hold more than 500 points. That testifies to a lot of work training hundreds of students preparing to speak. But it also means discouragement to a coach just entering the NFL. No matter how successful a teacher and how able a coach, he cannot hope to take a place among the credit point leaders for eight or ten years.

The amendment would reduce that handicap in half, but still leave the veteran with an appropriate advantage. It is true, the newer coach would lose half of his points, but where he would lose 50 of his 100,

the older coach would lose 500.

Degrees already held by instructors would not be removed by subsequent reduction of their credit points.

It has taken 12 years for anyone to approach the 1,000 mark. The amendment therefore would come into operation only at several year intervals, but it would keep points within reasonable numbers and give newer coaches a chance to attain the places their abilities might entitle them to.

Amendments Effective July 1

Upon ratification by the Chapters the amendments herein proposed will become effective on July 1 with respect to all reports and applications filed at the national office after that date.

Ballots for All Members

Each Chapter is being sent as many ballots as it has active members and degrees now on record. Additional ballots will be mailed as new memberships and degrees are applied for. Each Chapter can therefore increase its influence in passing on these amendments by building up its chapter membership now rather than later in the year.

The amendments require a majority vote for adoption. The poll will be closed and the votes tabulated as soon as "a quorum is present," that is, as soon as a majority of the members have voted.

Return your ballots early, but remember none of the amendments ratified take effect until July 1.

All contestants in Major NFL District Tournaments this year must hold NFL membership or have applied for it at the time of registration. Applications for students with insufficient points may be submitted and certificates will be issued when required points have been gained.

Registration for your district tournament must be made with your District Chairman at least 7 days before it opens. You will have a better tournament if your chairman knows definitely in advance how many judges, rooms, and timekeepers will be required. Late registration will NOT be accepted.

NFL Honors —

Eleanor Bishop, Abilene, Texas

A scholar by nature, and a debater by choice, Eleanor Bishop has been a four year member of the Abilene High School debate squad and thirteen times the honor roll leader.



Beginning debating in the sixth grade and extemporaneous speech in the fifth, she has continued with them through high school and she intends to make her profession coaching debate.

A petite, brown-eyed brunette, Eleanor is interested in all types of sports; she is a member of the Radio Guild and the National Honor Society, a two year debate letterman, and winner of a number of writing contests.

"I believe that the N.F.L. is the best organization in the United States for promoting good speech," said Eleanor, speaking in the capacity of membership chairman of the Abilene chapter.

Eleanor was a member of a girls' debate squad that won two years in district and region and one year third in state. They also ranked first two successive years in the North Dallas state-wide invitation tourney. She has 324 credit points.

The luckiest event in Eleanor's debate experience was not being one one trip during which the entire squad was injured in an automobile accident.

William Butler, Jennings, Mo.

Bill has been participating in debate for three years. During that time he has been a member of several championship teams in the Greater St. Louis area. In 1935-36 he was a member of the championship team of Missouri State High School Debating League and was selected as outstanding individual debater in the state. Last spring in first attempt at extemporaneous speaking went to district finals. Bill is also interested in music and dramatics; won a track letter and played basketball, but dropped athletics because of the conflict with forensics. Intends to be a lawyer.

Bill had 263 credit points at the close of his junior year.

NFL

Membership certificate No. 18,000 is issued to Eileen Keapock, Menasha, Wis.



From the Secretary's Desk

May Enter Nearest District Tournament

The Executive Council has authorized chapters to participate in a district tournament other than their own if definitely advantageous from the point of travel. Thus chapters in Western Nebraska may enter the tournament at Fort Collins, Colo., instead of traveling 400 miles east to Omaha. If your chapter finds itself in a similar situation, apply to the District Chairman in the nearer district if you wish to transfer. If this tournament is not too large already he will accept your entry.

New Chapters

The Charter Committee announces the granting of charters to these schools:

Alexandria, Louisiana
Bolton High School
Orlando, Florida
Ranger, Texas
Shelby, Ohio

The Orlando Chapter will add Florida to the list of states in the NFL roster of 41 states.

Tournament directors are again reminded that the national office has available simplified blanks for reporting tournaments other than debate. Using them will facilitate recording credit points for all participants. Ask for a supply if you are sponsoring such a tournament.

The Southern District NFL tournament will be held at the Virginia Intermont College in Bristol on April 1-2.

Notice of National Election

Prospective candidates for National Director are reminded that nomination papers must be filed at the national office before Mar. 31.

Degrees of Distinction

Jimmy Wilson, Houston, Tex.
Dorothy Roper, Casper, Wyo.
Constance Booth, Wichita Falls.
George Meisel, E. Cleveland.
Jim Briggs, Wyoming, Ohio
Chester Price, Wyoming, O.
Pauline Sorenson, Wyoming.
Julius Pewowar, Hammond
Virginia Zuern, Mayville, Wis.
Mildred Uzelatz, Mayville,
Colin Yacks, Mayville, Wis.
Bobby Rounds, Cheyenne, Wy.
Jo Ann Steiner, Aurora-West.
Betty Thomson, Columbia City,
Paul Riddick, Columbia City,
Walter Minder, Wooster, O.
Harlan Dix, Wooster, O.
Jack Bushnell, Wooster, O.
Bill Barton, Shreveport, La.
Fred Griffith, Poughkeepsie
Marie Hart, Poughkeepsie, NY.
Chas. Harding, Mpls.-Rsvlt.
Katherine Crofts, Ft. Wayne, N.
Dick Reed, Hammond H.S., Ind.
Marilyn Holton, Plymouth, Mich.
Robt. Salvesen, LaGrange, Ill.
Edwin Herzog, N. Judson, Ind.
Grant Jacquot, Littleton, Colo.
Alvin Gilbertson, Watertown.
Helen Orosz, Youngstown-Chan-
Josephine Torquati, Youngstown,
Eleanor Israel, Niles, Ohio
Harold Peterson, Mpls.-West,
Homer Montgomery, Abilene,
Geo. Washington, Abilene, Tex.
Frank Holmes, Mayville, Wis.
Vilas Germer, Mayville, Wis.
Betty Fisher, Milwaukee, St. Johns
Wm. Kenney, Milwaukee, St. J.
Patricia Metter, Milwaukee, St.
Robert Gates, Columbia City, Ind.
Edgar Ferrey, Columbia City, Ind.
Edith Baker, Bakersfield, Calif.
Harriet Graham, Lincoln, Ill.
Chas. Grabske, Independence, Mo.
Warren Cannon, Independence,
Mabel Bird, Abilene, Texas
Freda W. Champe, Ronceverte,

Statistics Show

District Standing

Rank	Up or Down	District	Members per Chapter	Leading Chapter	Members & Degrees
1.	0	Southern Illinois	19.8	Du Quoin	64
2.	0	Ohio	15.7	Wooster	79
3.	0	Wisconsin	15.4	Mayville	68
4.	+2	Texas	15.2	Abilene	67
5.	-1	New York	14.5	Poughkeepsie	81
6.	-1	Northern Illinois	13.0	Maine Township	58
7.	+1	California	12.8	Fresno-Roosevelt	34
8.	-1	Colorado	12.5	Casper, Wyoming	39
9.	0	Nebraska	12.0	Norfolk	35
10.	0	Indiana	11.0	Hammond H.S.	32
11.	0	West. Pennsylvania	10.9	Monessen	70
12.	0	Iowa	10.0	Hawarden	44
13.	0	Missouri	9.5	Joplin	43
14.	0	Kentucky	8.9	Mt. Sterling	24
15.	+1	Michigan	8.3	River Rouge	36
16.	-1	Oklahoma	7.9	Enid	39
17.	+1	Tennessee	6.3	Memphis-Messick	23
18.	-1	South Dakota	6.2	Lennox	27
19.	+1	Minnesota	6.2	Mpls.-Roosevelt	28
20.	-1	Kansas	5.9	Wichita-East	36
21.	0	East. Pennsylvania	5.5	State College	12
22.	0	New England	4.8	Portland, Maine	18
23.	0	Western	4.1	Logan, Utah	17
National av.			10.4	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	81

Our Decalet of Leaders—The Second Ten

Coaches	Students
T. C. Bond, Niles, Ohio	281
Russell L. Caldwell, Wooster, O.	240
S. Stanley Knapp, North Dallas	239
E. L. Kimball, Chgo. Eve YMCA	235
Alb. L. Swank, Peekskill, N. Y.	233
Helen M. Hall, Passaic, N. J.	232
A. E. Melzer, Sheboygan, Wis.	229
F. W. English, Carrollton, Mo.	228
Mildred V. Dunham, Hornell, N.Y.	229
John D. Davies, Kenosha, Wis.	228

Going Up

	New	Total
Chapters	4	495
Members	168	17,864
Keys	39	9,309
Reports	888	67,399
Degrees of Honor	88	7,435
Degrees of Excellence	32	4,112
Degrees of Distinction	27	2,216

Comittee Reports on Royalty Waivers

In order to raise the literary standards of Humorous Declamation this committee appointed for that purpose last fall suggested a list of authors from which readings should be taken. The committee has written to the authors or publishers and asked permission to use their works without the payment of royalty fees. Their answers are published for your information.

No royalty fee charged—

William Shakespeare

Permission Granted—

George Kaufman

Kate Douglas Wiggins

O Henry

Booth Tarkington

Richard Sheridan

Irving S. Cobb

Roark Bradford

Permission Refused

Mark Twain

Request Unanswered—

Clarence Day

Stephen Leacock

Joel Chandler Harris

Alice Hager Rice

Robert Sherwood

Noel Coward

Lady Gregory

Owen Davis

George Kelly

Rachel Crothers

Lynn Riggs

Each time a student reads any portion of any selections from any of the above authors he should acknowledge the author, the source, and the publisher.

—Mary Blackburn, chairman.

Note: Recommending this list of authors does not mean that humorous readings by other authors may not be used. Readings may be procured from any publisher or source.

UNICAMERALISM IN PRACTICE

The Nebraska Legislative System

By H. B. Summers

A new debate book (Reference Shelf Vol. II, No. 5) on the N. U.E.A. question for 1937-38—Resolved: That the several states should adopt a system of unicameral legislation. This is a supplement to Unicameral Legislatures by Professor Summers, published in November, 1936. It contains an account of the first Nebraska Legislature with comments on its effectiveness, a detailed listing of types of legislative bodies in existence in the principal nations of the world, and selected articles on unicameralism and bicameralism. It also includes a supplementary bibliography.

270p. Cloth Postpaid 90c

THE H. W. WILSON CO.

950 University Ave.

New York