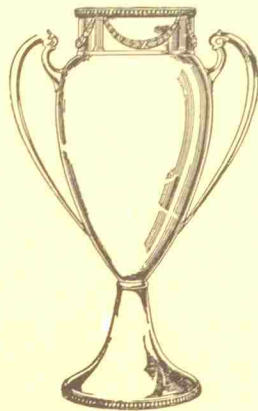


AWARDS FOR NATIONAL WINNERS



Wetmore National Trophy

We are offering a trophy to the high school that wins first place in the National Tournament of the National Forensic League with one of our readings (ordered from us).

This trophy is a silver cup, gold lined, and of very attractive design. Height, thirteen inches above base. For state winnings the Wetmore Trophy is of the same design (height, 10 inches above base).

Special Announcement

\$50 To the student who wins first place in the 1939 National contest of the National Forensic League with one of our readings (ordered from us), we will give fifty dollars.

\$100 Also to the dramatic department of the high school sending this contestant we will give one hundred dollars worth of readings, plays, stunts, pageants, musical readings, make-up, in fact, anything advertised in our catalog.

The above is in addition to the

Wetmore National Trophy

we offer to the high school that wins first place in the National Tournament of the National Forensic League with one of our readings.

Wetmore Declamation Bureau

1631 South Paxton Street
Sioux City, Iowa

The Rostrum



Official Publication of the National Forensic League

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THE ROSTRUM

Official Publication of the National Forensic League

KARL E. MUNDT, *President and Editor*

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Observations of YOUR President in Washington

Many of you have written me to inquire what a speech man thinks about here in Congress where free speech costs so little and much of it means no more! Verily this is a city of wagging tongues and more influence is wielded here **by word of mouth** than any other capitol in the universe.

Interesting, too, is the fact that an increasing number of Senators and Representatives are being selected from among those trained in the field of speech. It just happens that the first three men I met in Congress came here via the teaching route and two of them were one-time speech teachers. Josh Lee, in the Senate, was of course, former debate coach and speech director at the University of Oklahoma, and any skeptic doubting the importance of debate coaching can add to that the fact that Woodrow Wilson used to be a debate coach as a young professor and credited this training in logic with doing much to prepare him for his work as president.

Then, the other day I met the "baby of Congress"—Lindley Beekworth of Texas, who enters Congress at the age of 25. In talking with him, I discovered he used to be a debater in both high school and college and he credits his ability to express himself in public with having elected him at so young an age to the House of Representatives.

An innovation in the House chamber this year is going to make it more important to understand the art of speaking before undertaking the act of politics. A loud speaking unit has just been installed for this session of Congress. It is an aid to weak-voiced speakers and it amplifies their tones, but with the simple and unerring honesty of mechanical perfection it also magnifies the speech faults. Like a magnifying glass on an artist's canvass, it portrays the fineness of good work and the falsity of pretense with equal accuracy. Time alone will tell whether this voice-amplifier will win a permanent berth as standing equipment in the "World's Greatest Debating Society."

In March, Delta Sigma Rho comes here for its big Student Congress. Now if DSR doesn't reform Washington, maybe we can bring the NFL tournament here after the Californians get through feeding us oranges next June and **then surely** even the new voice-amplifier can not detect an error in speech or an inaccuracy in reasoning because the "World's best" will be in Washington.—K.E.M.

Radio City Tours in Hollywood

Available to All Visiting Contestants
Who Come to Beverly Hills June 19-23

The inner workings of Hollywood Radio City will be revealed to NFL-ers when the National Broadcasting Company inaugurates guided tours through the new Hollywood studio building the week of June 19, 1939.

Under the direction of trained guides, NFL visitors to Hollywood Radio City will be conducted through the mammoth broadcasting plant, and shown all the details of studio operation.

Beginning with the 200-foot long Sunset boulevard terrace, the tour will include an inspection of the four big audience studios, a control room, and the sound-proof corridors separating the studios. NFL-ers will be shown the sound traps, acoustically treated walls and other engineering features which have been incorporated in the new NBC building. The indirect lighting features and the windows set at an angle to deflect sound waves into the floors will be described and explained by the NBC guides.

The basement of Hollywood Radio City, containing exhibits showing every phase of studio and radio operation, will be the center of interest during the tours. NFL-ers will look through giant portholes into the 85,000 gallon water tank that serves the air-conditioning system.

Sound effects constitute a special display arranged for visitors. A booth containing innovations in sound effects equipment has been installed, and skilled technicians will demonstrate their operation.

With the exception of NBC's giant thunderdrum, which will be seen during a visit to one of the audience studios, equipment of almost every type will be available.

The ABC of Radio, an exhibit showing what happens to a radio program from the time it starts into the microphone in Hollywood Radio City until it arrives in the loudspeaker of a home radio, will be in operation in booths erected in the spacious basement. Diagrams, exhibits and motion pictures are combined in the display, which will be explained by the guide in charge of each tour. Plans have been made to include a tube exhibit, showing in enlarged form the working interior of a radio set. Television exhibits and other technical displays also will be added to the equipment installed in the basement.

Following their tour of the basement, NFL-ers will be shown the artists' corridor, 300 feet long, and the non-audience studios which open from it. Construction of the NBC organ studio, which is erected like a box hung out from the walls, down from the ceiling and up from the floor of the studio, so as to eliminate sound vibrations, will be explained in detail.

The studio tours will terminate in the main lobby. There, the operation of the master control panel will be explained, and NFL-ers will see the huge board through its partition of invisible glass, which allows inspection without interference by light reflections.

Chapters Ratify Amendment

Limit of Eight Contests Removed Credit Point Limit Substituted

By a vote of 3241 yes and 350 no the chapters have ratified Amendment XXIII proposed by the Executive Council in a special letter to them on Jan. 28th. So prompt were the chapter officers in returning their ballots that a majority of the votes had been reported to the national office on Feb. 8 and the amendment became effective on that day.

The amendment repeals the provision enacted last year stating that a student may report only eight contests a year for credit points. It substitutes instead a limit of 50 points a season, exclusive of district NFL and national tournaments.

Since a good student can usually gain from 20 to 30 points in a district tournament, this added to the limit of 50 still leaves him a possibility of 80 points a year. That enables a student to gain the degree of Distinction in two years. It also compares equitably with the points earned by a good debater in a full season.

Debate Not Affected

This amendment in no wise affects credit points for debate. Points are given the same as heretofore with the single exception that the extra point for team leader was removed on July 1. The minimum for winning debates is still two points; for other debates, one point.

To gain the maximum points for debate, chapters are again reminded that they should list winning debates first, then losing and

non-decision debates. Also, that if they wish to report early season practice or losing debates for the minimum of one point each, they may do so and then ignore such debates as "previous debates" in determining credit points for their wins later on.

Report Contests Promptly

With the passage of the amendment there is no reason now why chapters should not report all contests and debates as promptly as possible. Doing so will give their students immediate acknowledgment of credit points and also enable the national office to serve them better by avoiding the rush later on.

Flash!

Washington, D. C.—President Karl E. Mundt of the National Forensic League has rented P.O. Box 1232 for The Rostrum and requests that all papers and contributions for the Editor be sent to that address. Also, correspondents are asked to mark the forensic items in their school papers before sending them in or, even better, send only the clipping or a typewritten account of the event. Observance will facilitate those items being chosen for publication.

—NFL—

Orloue Gisselquist, 216 point student at Minnehaha Academy in Minneapolis was adjudged the outstanding debater at the University of Denver summer session for high school scholarship students.

How to Finance the Speech Program

C. M. Schindler of Shelby, Ohio, Reports an Interesting Survey

The data here presented is on the basis of answers to questionnaires returned by 27 of the leading NFL Chapters in 18 different states.

1. What costs should a school pay for its contestants?

	All	Part	None
Readings and debate materials	22	3	2
Meals	8	5	14
Transportation	18	3	6
Entrance Fees	20	0	7
Membership Fees	8	0	19
Overnight expense	12	3	13

2. What would be a safe maximum budget for the above items?

The average estimate of these season's expenses was \$310.

3. How much did these groups earn toward meeting their budgets? An average of \$133.

4. How did they meet the balance? In eight states, Board of Education grants are legal. Such groups receive average grants of \$186. In other instances, the discrepancy was met evidently by the contestants themselves.

5. What projects were undertaken to earn funds? In the following table the average amount realized is shown. The numeral indicates the number of schools using that particular method.

Homecoming program....	1	\$700
(Granite City, Ill.)		
Activity fund share.....	6	250
School carnival	5	127
Magazine sales	1	125
Football programs	1	125
Plays	7	92
Collection	1	90
Sponsoring movies	6	78
Candy sales	4	75

Stunt programs	7	69
Dances	1	55
Pay assemblies	2	55
Student council grant	1	50
Sponsor university players	1	50
Dues (\$1 a year)	1	40
School stickers	1	40
Book rental (Monessen, Pa.)	1	33
Debate admissions	5	32
Magician show	1	30
Magic slate sales	1	30
Rummage sale	2	20
PTA grant	2	20

6. Which of these projects seem best to use?

Many of these projects might be unsuited for your community or student body. Football programs or school emblem sales need a considerable athletic contest attendance or a large student body. Use your discretion. These are merely suggestions.

a. Try to persuade the school officials to adopt the activity ticket sales system. Participate in the sales campaign and request a share of the fund.

b. Hold a school carnival. Sponsor the event. Let out some concessions on a percentage basis. Get "Carnival Capers for Schools" (\$1.00 at Northwestern Press, Minneapolis).

c. Try magazine sales. Curtiss Publishing Co. give a 50% commission on their own publications, 30% on a long list of others. This might not be successful in a very large community.

d. Plays are usually good, and you have the talent. If you're not making out, it's your own fault.

(Continued on page 7)

Successful Alumni

Technical High of Memphis Has Them

You recall the story of Mohammed and the mountain? Without in any way designating which is which, Your Success Editor is glad to report that a personal conference with Mr. Russell Johnson of Technical High School, in Memphis, Tenn., has provided news of enough former Tech speakers to make Mr. Johnson swell with justifiable pride.

James Higshaw, jr., and brother, Robert Baker Higshaw, whose pater happens to be principal of Tech, have carried their forensic and scholastic achievements along with them to Princeton university. Both boys were valedictorian and senior class president in high school. James graduated from Princeton in 1935, also as valedictorian, Phi Beta Kappa, president of Clio, the oldest debating society in the world, and with an enviable record of oratorical and debating activities. Robert is now a senior at Princeton following in his brother's footsteps in debating activities, and also in the presidency of Clio.

Joe Epstein, who was a member of the Tech debate squad at the Sioux City national tournament, is on the regular staff of station WNOX at Knoxville as sports announcer. Maybe some of you heard him as he announced all of the Tennessee university games from Knoxville this season.

Frank Pack also a member of that debate squad that went to Sioux City attended Vanderbilt university. During his freshman year he won an oratorical contest that had never been won before by other than juniors or seniors.

Now Frank is fast becoming one of the south's leading Christian ministers.

Martha Jane Smith, who represented Tech at the national tournaments of 1933 and 1934 in humorous declamation, is now one of the leading teachers of dramatic art in Memphis.

Doris Bowden, a Tech graduate of the class of '32, attended Southwestern university in Memphis and later Louisiana State university. While she was at LSU Doris was discovered by a Hollywood scout. Now she is on her way to a screen career. Watch for her in "Always Goodbye," starring Barbara Stanwyck. It's to be released soon.

Only lack of space prevents us from continuing the saga of Tech. There's Gordon Lawhead, whose dramatic work has taken him to Pasadena Playhouse. There's Bill Terry, son of the manager of the New York Giants, who's radioing at WMC, Memphis. And there's the end of the page. Sorry!

Until March your Success Editor wishes you all De Baits, De Cisions and De Bacons.

—Elaine Tucker.

READ THE RULES

District Tournament rules provide that:

1. All participants hold or have applied for NFL membership with fee paid to the national office at time of registration.

2. Registration must be completed with your district chairman one week before the tournament opens.

3. Chairmen must collect for the tournament fund a fee of \$1 for each late registration.

See page 12.

Outstanding Freshmen of 1938

Robert Schinderle
Mayville, Wis.

Varsity debater, school extemporaneous speaking representative, Senator from Wisconsin to the National Student Congress, Progressive Party Floor Leader at the National Congress—these are the qualifications of Robert Schinderle, acquired while a freshman at the Mayville, Wis., High School. As a member of the freshman-sophomore debate team, he and his colleagues tied for first place in both the Mayville and Shawano tournaments for such teams. Through his speech efforts his total of NFL points stood at 145 at the end of his freshman year.

In addition to speech work, he was a member of the varsity football squad and won a minor letter. He was also a member of the championship varsity basketball squad until he decided to devote all of his efforts to speech. He is a Star Scout, and leads his class in scholarship!

Wood Butler
Abilene, Texas

Wood Butler, Abilene High School, is the only NFL'er in the Texas District to achieve the Degree of Distinction (old requirements) as a freshman, and in but three months' time! He received this ranking during the 1937-38 season. Debating in Brownwood, Abilene, and Cross Plains, Wood received some 50 of his 103 points, and made up the rest of them by winning the district and regional meets in declamation, and the \$100 scholarship in the Abilene Christian College Tourna-

ment for Declaimers.

Active not only in declamation and debating, Wood was president of his class as a freshman, has been in several plays, and won second place in an amateur contest with a humorous reading. It seems that he is headed in the right direction, and that a National championship may indeed be in the offing!

* * *

If there are other present sophomores with better records than the above, your editor regrets not being in possession of the proper information to feature the owners of the records. We hope to make this an annual event, but to run it earlier in the school year, say September or October. Will you, therefore, if you have a promising freshman in your chapter, keep an accurate record of achievement, and if the student has compiled over 100 credit points, send in that record at the end of the school year. Thank you.

—Ralph N. Schmidt.

Financing Speech Program

(Continued from page 5)

Ticket sales campaign and advertising must be pushed to the limit. The town enjoys home talent. Shelby can make \$125 on a three-act, \$25 royalty play.

e. Stunt programs are always good. Use roughnecks and popular students. Don't try for talent displays. Appeal to the student body.

If this report helps anyone on to California or into the balanced budget, I shall feel that the effort is justified.

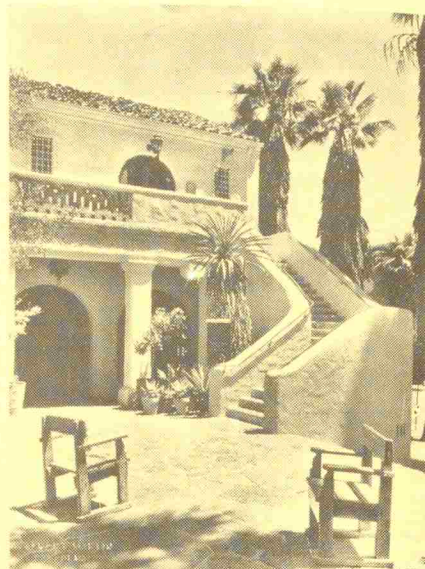
Pasadena Playhouse Plans Special Performance For NFL

Mr. Charles F. Prickett, General Manager of the Pasadena Playhouse, invites the participants in the National Speech Tournament to attend a special and exclusive performance at the Playhouse Friday afternoon, June 23 at 2:30 p. m.

NFL contestants will be guests of the management. Tickets will be obtainable at registration time. In addition to this courtesy refreshments will be served and guides will conduct the visitors through the Playhouse. Mr. Prickett regrets that the name of the play cannot now be announced, but such is the high reputation of that organization that we know we shall have the rare privilege of seeing an excellent performance.

At its humble beginning some 22 years ago this group had the reputation of being a leader in the Little Theatre and Community Playhouse movement. Now, with a modern plant and equipment valued at \$600,000, with an auditorium seating 832 persons, with a wardrobe of 800,000 costumes valued at \$35,000, it has the distinction of being "the most prolific drama producing organization in America," with the highest standards of production and acting.

It is a non-profit making organization, financed by box office receipts, memberships and gifts. Its staff of 65 employees is headed by Mr. Gilmor Brown, nationally known as a gifted director. The other members of the Playhouse consist of the non-professional "actors" of the community who



love the theatre; the professional actors who value it as a "show case for their talents" or the motion picture actors who want to test and feel the warmth of audience response; and the students of the School of the Theatre established in connection with the Playhouse in 1928. Sometimes, too members of the staff "double" as actors.

The Playhouse is true to its function in that its object is not merely to entertain, but to "contribute to the cultural development of the community and to advance and preserve the traditions of the spoken, living drama." It offers in the field of education and recreation, lectures, courses and programs. Students find it an excellent source of training and experience, and "the shortest road to Hollywood." The guest players

get through their contact with the Playhouse fresh inspiration and enthusiasm.

In the field of drama, the Playhouse performs an equally valuable service. By its very nature it is not limited in its choice of plays as are the commercial theatres. In the Laboratory Theatre, which last year won the "Stage" magazine "West of Broadway Palm" for the "most significant innovation of the season," experimentation is possible. The unusual, the spectacular, the less known, can be tried here and if found good, add to the richness of the theatre-goer.

So appreciated is the work of the Playhouse that the State Legislature in 1937 named it the State Theatre of California.

We are deeply grateful to Mr. Prickett and the staff for so generously opening the doors of the Playhouse to us. And that is another reason why it will be worth your while to come to California for the 1939 National Speech Tournament if you qualify—and we hope you do.

—NFL—

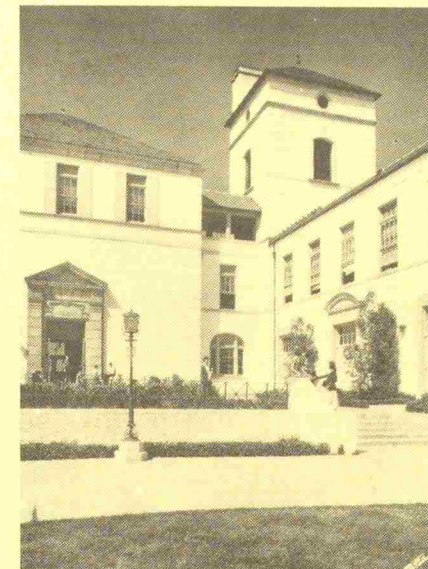
Members for Ten Years

2813 Arthur W. Jorgensen, Columbus, Wis., May 26, 1928.

2987 Mary Blackburn, Granite City, Ill., Nov. 19, 1928.

—NFL—

Mr. J. Fred McGaughy of Central Texas School of Oratory reports a fine tournament held there in which 45 teams competed. Abilene chapter won second in the boys' division and Central Texas School of Oratory Chapter first in girls' debate. Abilene won first in both extempore divisions.



Beverly Hills High School

Beverly Hills Unified School Dist.

Dear Mr. Jacob:

As President of the Beverly Hills Board of Education I take great pleasure in extending a very cordial invitation and also a welcome from our Board to the student delegates who will attend the National Speech Tournament to be held in Beverly Hills, June 19-23, 1939.

You can be assured that the committee in charge of this important event will do everything in its power to make the meeting a great success—in fact, the best that has ever been held, and I feel sure that a very large representation from all the states will also desire to visit the Pacific Coast at that particular time so as to include a visit with the Golden Gate International Exposition at San Francisco.

I was privileged to visit the Exposition grounds last Wednesday with a group of citizens headed by the Mayor of Los Angeles, so can assure you that it will be a revelation to everyone. Its location on Treasure Island is particularly attractive.

Cordially yours,

SETH M. BOND, President.

Debate News

W. Francis English

Have You Read?

In the "Nation" of Jan. 14 "Democracy Wins in Chile" by Freda Kirchwey.

For Jan. 21: "Pacifism Means Suicide," Aurel Kolnai; "What Happened at Lima," Hubert Herring; "Asia for the Japanese," Ernest O. Hauser; "Major Eliot's Defense Plans," Keith Hutchison.

For Jan. 28: "America Has the Power," Eliot Janeway; "Peace and the Liberal Illusion," Reinhold Niebuhr.

For Feb. 4: "We Arm the Dictators," Eliot Janeway; "Bewildered Britain," Aylmer Vallance; "Our National Defense," Editorial.

"Events," December: "Straws in the Wind in Britain," Herbert Heaton; "London in War Scare Times," Elswyth Thane.

Scholastic, Feb. 11: "Hitler Rattles Sword Over Europe," "Behind the Headlines—a New Foreign Policy," by Ryllis and Omar Goslin et al.

"Harpers," December: "The Road to Munich," Willson Woodside.

Weekly News Review, Feb. 6: "Nazi's System Increasingly Resembles Russian Set-up"; "Talks to Students," Walter E. Myer.

"Our Times," Jan. 23-27: "Is Appeasement Policy at a Dead End"; "Isms' Offered America in 'Tainted Money' Days."

Public Policy Pamphlets, University of Chicago Press: "From Versailles to Munich," Bernadotte E. Schmitt.

"Fortune," January 1939: "Pub-

lic Opinion and the War Problem."

"Cosmopolitan," March, 1939: "Keep Your Powder Dry," Stuart Chase; "The Ramparts We Watch," by George Fielding Eliot, Reynal and Hitchcock, Inc., New York.

The last two are summarized in the Readers Digest for February.

Oklahoma City Holds Tourney

The sixth annual invitational debate tournament sponsored by the Oklahoma City High Schools drew 242 teams from Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Louisiana. For the first day there were five rounds of debate for each team. That meant about 121 debates going on simultaneously.

The thirty-two highest ranking teams went into the elimination rounds on Saturday. In the final debate Seminole, Okla., won from El Reno, Okla. Betty Libbin and Lee Fortner were the Seminole debaters. The final debate was broadcast.

The individual contests in oratory, oratorical declamation and extemporaneous speaking were won respectively by Audrey Adams of Lexington, Mo.; Harold Kester of Enid, Okla., and a three way tie among Oliver Aubrey of Capital Hill, Oklahoma City; Paul Swinford of Ada, Okla., and Jimmie Blair of El Reno, Okla.

Nine debaters from Duke, Oklahoma, brought their pigs some 200 miles to market, sold them for enough to cover the expenses of their trip, parked their trailer on the edge of the city, and attended the tournament.

Elect Honorary Members

Chapters are reminded of the provisions of Regulation 18 authorizing the election of chapter honorary members. Each chapter may elect one such member for each 25 members and degrees on its total record, but not more than one a year.

In many instances, superintendents, principals, or other members of the faculty while not directly coaching debate teams or speakers do give very considerable help in carrying on the speech program. The same is often true of doctors, lawyers, merchant chiefs. They are in fact an integral part of the NFL Chapter activity. It is appropriate therefore that they be recognized as a member of that chapter. Honorary membership conveys that recognition.

There are also in every community some outstanding personages who by the excellence of their own speaking serve as models for the high school speakers, illuminating by specific performance the abstract concepts of good speech taught in the classroom. It is fitting that at least one such citizen in each community should be attached to the local chapter as its honorary.

Blanks for the election of honorary members may be obtained from the national office—just send a post card. The regular membership fee applies, but it includes a personal subscription to the Rostrum. A special gold key is available carrying the designation "Chapter Honorary." Its procurement is optional and the cost is nominal, \$4.00.

A good many chapters have elected honorary members. If

yours has not, do so at once—unless, of course, the chapter is so new that it does not have 25 members and degrees on record. In that case bring your membership up-to-date as early as possible and then include your honorary member with the regular new members inducted this year.

The people you elect will appreciate this mark of appreciation of their interest in speech work and your chapter will be stronger because of their affiliation with your group.

Provision is also made for the election of one state honorary member by your district. If you have a candidate to propose, suggest his election to your district chairman and he will contact the other chapters in the regular manner to consider his election.

New Chapters

The charter committee announces the granting of charters to the following schools:

Windsor, Vermont
Emmett, Idaho
Peru, Indiana
Cloquet, Minnesota
Prestonburg, Kentucky
East Chicago, Indiana
Eustis, Florida
Bessemer, Michigan
Lima-South H.S., Ohio
North Platte, Nebraska
Casey, Illinois
Breckenridge, Texas
Dalmatia, Pennsylvania.

The chapter at Windsor will be the first in Vermont. Eustis will be the second in Florida.

—NFL—

The editor's address is "The Rostrum, Box 1232, Washington,

From the Secretary's Desk

About Tournament Rules

Two provisions in the district tournament rules are frequently misunderstood or misinterpreted by our chapters. It is hard to state the rules any clearer, so perhaps elaboration will be helpful.

Membership Required

All participants must hold NFL membership or have filed application and fee in the national office. If the student has insufficient credit points or no points at all, file the application and fee just the same. The certificate of membership will be issued as soon as the points are earned and reported. If such student leaves school without completing the requirements, the fee may be transferred to some other student at that school.

The membership or application, however, must be in the national office at least one week before the tournament opens. Such applications can not be filed with the district chairman as they were in many cases last year. He needs his time when the tournament opens to run that tournament, not to look after membership applications.

Register Early

Registration for the tournament must be made with the district chairman at least one week before the tournament opens. This is to give him time to set up the opening rounds, post the assignments, make up the ballots, provide judges, etc. Those who simply must register later will contribute \$1.00 for each contestant (maximum \$5 a chapter) to the tournament expense fund for the extra work such late registration causes.

Previous Winners Ineligible

Students who are already qual-

ified to enter the national tournament by winning a state or NFL district tournament are ineligible to enter the district tournament again in that particular contest. They may enter any other contest.

The rule applies only to students who won eligibility. It does not include students who entered the National through some special provision such as receiving the distinguished service award, or the like. Nor does it apply to 1937 or 1938 debate teams, for they do not remain eligible to enter the 1939 national unless they again earn the right this year.

The whole purpose of the rule is to remove from competition in the NFL district tournament those students who already have the right to go to the national in a certain contest and so to give others the chance to qualify. It also encourages these students to try their abilities in different events and so to diversify their accomplishments.

With these considerations in mind, application of the rule should not be difficult, but if uncertainty persists, the secretary will be glad to apply the rule in any given case.

Wanted: An Editor

Our Congressman President Karl E. Mundt wishes to be relieved of the duties of editor of *The Rostrum* at the close of the year. He will receive applications from any interested and qualified NFL instructor. The position carries no salary, but does have an allowance for clerical help and postage of about \$60 a year.

Another NFL-er in Congress!

Added to President Mundt and Robert Corbett of Coraopolis can be placed the name of Clyde T. Ellis of Bentonville, Ark., when listing the NFL members in the present Congress.

President Mundt reports that while walking down the hall of the Congressional cloak-room the other day, he saw a man coming toward him with a NFL key swinging from his watch chain, and he discovered it was Congressman Ellis who used to coach debate in Arkansas high schools and had a team represented in the Sioux City tournament.

If the 1940 NFL tournament goes to Washington, D. C., there will now be at least three members of Congress willing to vote to adjourn Congress and turn the Capitol and the White House over to the tournament guests during the conclave!

—NFL—

Delbert E. Nixon, who received membership No. 1816 at Toronto, O., in 1928, is ordering new key and certificate to replace the items lost in the 1936 flood. He is president of the Stratton Board of Education and his envelope bears the interesting return "Ohio House of Representatives, Delbert E. Nixon." Another NFL member is making use of his abilities.

—NFL—

Mr. N. W. Williams of Lexington, Ky., chairman of the Southern District, issued an interesting news letter to the Southern District chapters in November. Those southerners have plans to do real things in speech this year.

Joyce Gregory Writes Rejoinder

Actuated by a discussion of non-decision debating heard in a recent speech convention, Miss Joyce Gregory, speech instructor of West High school, Minneapolis, Minn., and District Secretary of the Minnesota NFL District, had an article in a current magazine giving full credit to Decision debating and speech Contests for the part they play in motivating speech work and in bringing out excellency in speech performance. It was an effective answer to critics of contest speech work and indicates at least one reason why the West High School speakers are setting up such a remarkable record in speech activities.

—NFL—

C. C. Diettert Writes Article

The February, 1939, issue of the *Nation's Schools* contains an article called "The Principal May Be Wrong" by C. C. Diettert, our executive council member from North Judson, Ind. The article deals with personnel problems arising between teacher and principal in secondary schools.

—NFL—

New York is getting the tournament habit, too. In 1937 Dwight School sponsored the first such tournament in New York City. Only private schools were invited. Six entered. Last year the tournament was larger and this year there were 80 teams. Congratulations, Dwight Chapter! Wm. T. Hade our good Tau Kappa Alpha friend and national secretary, is sponsor. The East is moving. Hold on to your seats, Oklahoma.

Statistical Page

District Standings

Rank	Up or Down	District	New Chapters	Members per Chapter	Leading Chapter	Members & Degrees
1.	0	Pennsylvania		22.4	Monessen	88
2.	0	Ohio	1	21.3	Wooster	73
3.	0	Texas	3	19.7	Abilene	75
4.	0	Wisconsin	1	19.0	Mayville	63
5.	0	Oklahoma		17.3	Classen	39
6.	+2	Iowa		16.4	Hawarden	61
7.	0	No. Illinois		16.1	Maine	71
8.	-2	So. Illinois	1	15.8	Lincoln	68
9.	0	New York	1	15.2	Poughkeepsie	90
10.	0	Colorado	1	14.7	Casper, Wyo.	39
11.	0	Indiana	2	14.2	Ft. Wayne-North	61
12.	+1	California	1	12.8	Beverly Hills	37
13.	-1	Nebraska	1	12.6	Omaha-Benson	46
14.	0	Kentucky	1	10.6	Lexington	25
15.	+3	Tennessee	2	9.5	Dickson	22
16.	-1	Missouri		9.3	Watertown	40
17.	-1	Kansas		9.0	Salina	35
18.	-1	South Dakota		8.6	Carrollton	28
19.	0	Minnesota	1	8.5	Minneapolis-West	37
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