

Outstanding Dramatic Readings

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WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU

Sioux City, Iowa

The Rostum



Official Publication of the National Forensic League

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THE manner of speaking is fully as important as the matter, as more people have ears to be tickled, than understandings to judge.

—Lora Chesterfield.



THE ROSTRUM

Official Publication of the National Forensic League

KARL E. MUNDT, *President and Editor*

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THE ART OF PLEASANT DISAGREEMENT!

I saw a very important lady—her opinion, not mine—trying to crowd her way into a crowded place the other day. She had arrived late and the seats were full, but she had expected a reservation would be made for her. For fully five minutes she made everybody around her uncomfortable and uneasy while she fussed and fumed until she won her point. Probably I should say, she **secured** her point because she didn't "win" anything; in fact she lost the respect of all around her and the exhausted usher who returned from piloting her to her purloined place murmured, "If she's a lady, I'm a Chinese general," as he returned to his station.

Some of you may offer the rejoinder that such a person is not a "lady" but just a feminine hang-over of the days before Darwin and I refuse to take the negative in an argument like that. But here's an application for us all: many people, young and old, who would not think of substituting strong elbows for gracious demeanor are perfectly willing to voice opinions of absolutism in terms so strong and voice so positive that they permit of no sociable contradiction. And if such contradiction does develop, these apostles of authority beat it back with all the intolerance of an elephant trumpeting his way through a jungle. Intolerance is always bad taste whether it is manifest in public speaking or in polite society. The fellow who is always right is still definitely wrong in insisting that he is always right!

In these sorry days of the Big I-ams in totalitarian states and of tub thumping Americanos who blare forth what they represent to be the ultimate answer to all perplexing problems, students of speech should also be devout students of good manners. Listen in your community next week—you'll hear someone make an assertion that **you know** is false and futile. But **he knows** he is right! Be careful not to let two fools meet that day! So either cross the street and avoid him or cultivate the art of pleasant disagreement and while voicing your opinions honestly withhold your judgment of the other fellow and be tolerant of his views, his language, his color, or his flag, because there is just always the possibility that he might be right and even if he's wrong you are **always right** when your conduct is on the side of good manners, good judgment, and good taste. —Karl E. Mundt.

Executive Council Meets

Annual Meeting Disposes of Important Items of NFL Business

In an all-day meeting at Cleveland on Dec. 27, the Executive Council, all members present, acted on numerous matters pertaining to the League as well as the district and national tournaments.

Changes in District Tournament Rules

The distinction between major and minor district tournaments has been removed. Participants in all district tournaments must either hold NFL membership or have filed application and fee in the national office at the time of registration. This will eliminate the uncertainty as to whether a particular district tournament will be operated as a major or minor contest.

Instead of basing eligibility to attend the national tournament on the number of chapters represented in the district tournament, the new rule bases the determination on the chapters represented in each particular contest. If ten or more chapters participate in a district contest, both first and second place winners qualify for national entry; if fewer than ten, first place only. Thus is some NFL tournaments the larger contest may qualify two winners while the smaller will qualify only one.

The rule barring contestants not registered seven days before the opening of the tournament is modified by substituting a late registration fee of \$1 for each such contestant or a maximum of \$5 for all entries from each chapter. Failure to hold or to have properly applied for NFL membership at

the national office prior to registration will constitute "late registration" and the fee will apply. The fee will be paid into the district treasury for the operation of the tournament.

Few Changes in National Rules

While a number of changes in the national tournament rules were considered, most of them were laid aside until next year. The Council felt that since the 1939 tournament is already marked by two significant innovations—a June date and a west coast location—changes in rules should be deferred.

The change in eligibility from the district tournaments has been set forth. The Council also voted to remove the provision giving each previous national tournament host the privilege of two tournament entries each year. Instead, each of these hosts will receive an appropriate bronze marker for their high school building commemorating the national tournament held there.

Tournament Committees

The Council further appointed two standing committees to receive and consider suggestions for the revision of district and national tournament rules and procedure and to report to the Council at its next meeting.

The Committee on National Tournament will consist of R. S. Cartwright, Elgin, Ill., Chr., Thos. D. Reed, Hammond, Ind., and Joyce R. Gregory, West High, Minneapolis, Minn.

The Committee on District Tournament will be headed by E. J. Diller, Chaney High School, Youngstown, Ohio, and completed by E. E. Bradley, Goodwell, Okla., and James A. Tracy, Fort Collins, Colo.

Student Congress Continued

The Student Congress inaugurated at Wooster last year will be continued under substantially the same rules and procedure. While for this year, distance to California considered, students will be allowed to take part in both tournament and Congress if eligible to both, the Council urges that they confine their activities to one or the other, especially if serving as senator or entered in extempore speaking.

Election of National Officers

Ever since the 1938 election of national directors when both incumbent members were re-elected although five district chairmen were candidates to succeed them, the Council has considered ways and means of assuring to a larger number of our members an opportunity to serve on the governing body.

After carefully surveying the problem from many angles the Council concluded that the number of terms a member might serve should not be left either to his own self removal by voluntary retirement nor to a hard and fast rule applied to all alike. Neither should the League fall into a lock step system of promotion and retirement. Several compromise methods also were proposed, examined and withdrawn or rejected. Each case should be determined on its individual merits in a

Summer Speech Conclave Supported

The Speech Conclave at the University of Denver in which the NFL has joined for the past two years will this year be open to League members without payment of fees for the attendance of any of the sessions. The League will provide at least one or two of the principal speakers on the six day program and in turn the university sponsoring the conference will waive registration fees for NFL students or coaches for any of these sessions. For further information about this worthwhile summer training period write to the national secretary or to the Department of Speech, University of Denver.

democratic election by the NFL members as a whole. The problem seems to be to get frequent change through election. The tendency has always been to re-elect.

With these premises in mind the Council examined the results of the 1938 election and concluded that a considerable number of members did vote to give present district chairmen a place in the National Council. However, there were five district chairmen candidates among which those votes were divided. Consequently none of them received quite as many votes as either of the two directors candidates for re-election.

In a sincere effort to remedy this situation so that capable and deserving chairmen might be elected to the Council, the Council sets forth the election procedure for the next two years as follows:

1. In 1939 two members of the present council will be elected president and vice president for a one year term.

2. Thereafter four members of the Council will be elected in each even number year for a two year term. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes to be president, the next vice president, the third and fourth each directors.

3. To make more probable the election of district chairmen to council positions, a primary will be conducted among the District Chairmen to select two of their number to be candidates for national office.

With only two District Chairmen as candidates for national office the election of one should be most probable and the election of the other not unlikely unless all incumbent national officers have outstanding records of achievement. The method will assure the re-election of at least two old members but make more probable than now the election of one or two new members, it avoids any lock stepping promotion or retirement by arbitrary rule. The plan definitely merits a trial and the Council hopes it will entirely succeed.

Secretary Re-elected

The Council elected Bruno E. Jacob national secretary for a two year term and continued the salary of \$1,500. The position has become practically a full time one since Mr. Jacob devotes only six hours a week to teaching at Ripon college and that for only half of the year. The increasing NFL work completely takes up the rest of the time.

The Council also voted to limit to a total of \$750 the ex-

pense allowance for all members of the Council attending the national tournament, divided among them. The expenditures in excess thereof will be borne by each member personally.

—NFL—

Trophies and Prizes

An attractive trophy is again offered by the Wetmore Bureau of Sioux City to state and national winners in the field of declamation.

The trophy is illustrated in the Wetmore advertisement on the back cover of the Rostrum which also announces two other substantial awards to schools and contestants winning the national contests—\$50 cash to the fortunate student and \$100 in merchandise to his school department.

Who will be the fortunate—and diligent student to receive the prizes in 1939? Miss Rae Wetmore will undoubtedly be at Beverly Hills to hand him his check as she has been at each national tournament from the time it was held in Sioux City in 1932.

Incidentally this issue completes the fourth year in which the familiar Wetmore advertisement has appeared on the back cover of the rostrum. We say "Thank You" to the sponsors for the support which enables the Rostrum to carry three additional pages of reading matter thereby.

—NFL—

Now is the time to report your interscholastic debates to qualify students for membership necessary in order to enter the district tournament.

Report winning debates first. Remember the team leader does **not** receive an extra point. Also that 20 points are required for membership.

N.F.L. Honors These Coaches



E. J. Diller
Chaney H.S., Youngstown, Ohio

In this issue of the Rostrum we do honor to one of the truly great in NFL. Though he himself says, "I know that there are over a hundred NFL coaches more deserving than I. I can't imagine the basis of comparison used in making the selection." Those of us who know him, and have come under the influence of his magnetic personality, have no doubts as to the deserving, or the basis of comparison.

His own personal history reflects the principles and ideals for which NFL stands. Graduated from Pandora High School at 16, he spent one year in the Normal School at Bluffton College and then taught rural schools for five years. Advanced to the position of principal and athletic coach at Struthers Jr. H. S., a position which he served for another five years, he nevertheless had the courage to break with the known and seek the unknown. He worked his way through Bluffton col-

lege, receiving his B.A. degree in 1929. Chaney High School of Youngstown, Ohio, then offered him a position on its staff, and he has served the youth of Youngstown ever since. He has done post graduate work at Northwestern University.

His speech history likewise reflects those principles and ideals of NFL. Originally entering the field of speech to overcome a speech defect and timidity, he established himself as an able and forceful speaker at the very outset of his career. Though his first experience in debate came at Bluffton college with two other inexperienced students as colleagues, they were undefeated in the Ohio Conference. Probably the most "pleasant" afternoon as far as speech is concerned came to him in debating before the Lima Open Forum while the Communist Conference was in session in that same city. While presenting their anti-jury arguments, Mr. Diller and his colleague were constantly heckled by the Communists who adjourned their meeting to attend the debate. Needless to say, the house was packed!

Mr. Diller became coach at Chaney in 1930 and joined the NFL the same year. Since that time he has been Ohio District Chairman for six years. He managed the first District Tournament held and did such a good job that they've kept him at it ever since. In addition to these services he helps to organize from ten to twenty one-day tournaments each year in Ohio, thus spreading the doctrine of NFL. His abilities

have been nationally recognized in that he has arranged the debate schedule in the National tournament for the past four years. He also has the distinction of being the first District Chairman to issue a District News Letter, begun five years ago, and consisting of eight issues per year. Over a ten year period, his chapter has on the average been the most active in Ohio. It has participated in all but two of the National Tournaments, has won two distinguished service awards, and is one of the all-time leaders in N.F.L. Mr. Diller is one of the few men who have won the individual distinguished service award twice! His services to speech in the state of Ohio have further been recognized by his fellow workers in his election to the presidency of the Association of Secondary Speech Teachers of Ohio for two terms.

His speech philosophy, in his own words, sums up E. J. Diller, the man! "I hate popular music or speeches and movies that appeal to the emotion only. I like classical music, a good play, a good sermon or lecture, and am a fan(atic) for wider participation in speech contests, sports, etc. I believe the schools can use youth's natural instinct or desire for competition to develop a better democracy and a better race."

I think his colleagues in NFL will voice a Methodist, "Amen."

The following article on Miss Hazel Hatch of Enid, Okla., one of the outstanding NFL coaches, irrespective of sex, was written by one of her own students and done so well that we publish it verbatim. Miss Hatch is to be congrat-



Hazel A. Hatch
Enid, Oklahoma

ulated at inspiring such able and loyal devotion!

"Miss Hatch is now teaching her tenth year in Enid High School. During the first year of her work she took up the task of completing the organization of the NFL chapter. Although the Enid chapter received its charter 12 years ago, it has been in operation only ten years and yet ranks second among the chapters organized twelve years ago. The first year that Miss Hatch was in Enid High School her debate team won the state championship. Her debate team consistently qualifies for the state finals. In 1936 her debate team again won the state championship and third place in the national. Enid High School is one of two schools of the state to have won two state championships under the Oklahoma State High School Public Speaking

League, and the only one to have won these under the same coach. Since her students began their participation in the NFL contests in 1934, she has qualified contestants for entry each year and among the nine participants has had five finalists in individual contests and one national champion in oratorical declamation.

In Enid High School contests are not put first in the speech work for Miss Hatch believes that they are justifiable only as they grow out of a well rounded speech program. Miss Hatch takes as much interest in the backward pupil who advances as in the talented student who may emerge winner in a contest. She believes the mediocre student who is a consistent hard worker should be given an opportunity to participate in interscholastic contests.

Miss Hatch served two years as chairman of the Oklahoma District; has sponsored the organization of six of the chapters in Oklahoma (Classen, El Reno, Hobart, Ponca City, Shawnee, Guthrie); has qualified the Enid chapter for its second distinguished service award; has completed enrolment of 244 members and degrees.

Other activities in addition to NFL ones? Just lots of them. Directs three 3-act plays a year in addition to several one-act plays. Hobby? Just speech. She's always helping someone, students and townspeople alike, on a speech for a club, church, assembly, radio, etc.; or she may be hunting up a wig or costume for someone, or making up characters for an opera or a play, or answering questions over the telephone as to how this or that thing may be done.

"Speech" inclined from child-

hood. Began speech record before high school age, always busy at it in high school and followed it throughout her college career. Is a member of the Pi Kappa Delta fraternity. Spent five years teaching in Korea before she began teaching in Enid High School."



Russell L. Caldwell
Wooster, Ohio

Ohio, the state of the presidents would also seem to be the state of Distinguished NFL'rs. At least we have honored no slight number of them this year for their achievements in and for NFL. Russell Caldwell, of the Wooster High School NFL Chapter, is the third of the coaches to be honored in this issue. His efficient handling of the two National Tournaments held in "his" high school clearly indicate that he is a man who leaves nothing to chance, but clearly outlines the contingencies

which may arise. It is, therefore, only "fitting and proper" that we outline his achievements and those of the chapter under his guidance!

1. Age 34, native of Pennsylvania, graduated of Hiram (O.) college; M.A. from the University of Southern California; major, history, minor in speech.

2. Speech experience: three years a college debater; coach since then; last nine years in Wooster.

3. Started Wooster High in NFL his first year in Wooster. The school won eligibility for the first National tournament at Ripon, but did not attend. Has been eligible and attended every succeeding national.

4. Speakers have consistently ranked high enough in the nationals to put Wooster among the top three contenders for the Tau Kappa Alpha trophy. Have not taken a first in the national yet, but think it likely eventually. Feels the eastern and midwestern states are rapidly approaching the stature of the western states. Thinks Ohio is leading that parade.

5. Wooster chapter has taken the Ohio sweepstakes award two of last three years, was second the other time.

6. Debaters have won both the Ohio championships once—the State League, and the Ohio NFL. Were runners-up several times. In about three hundred debates, state and inter-state, have won 73%.

7. In the Ohio NFL have taken all the individual championships at least once. Winner of original oratory title four times, others two and three times.

8. Wooster chapter elected first Senator from Ohio to the first

National Student Congress—Harlan Dix. Dix was named outstanding senator of the congress.

9. Wooster chapter has played host to two national tourneys—in 1933 and 1938. Both successful financially and otherwise.

10. Wooster chapter had highest ranking chapter in the history of NFL last year. Ranks highest in Ohio this year.

11. Winner of Coach's Discussion contest last year. Third in Oklahoma City.

12. Pet peeves: people who frown on decision speaking. Thinks it would be about as smart to build a wall on the goal line in football. The new NFL ruling about limitation of competition to 8 rounds. Considers it reactionary. Is certain it cannot continue another year.

13. Received NFL Distinguished Service Award last year.

14. Thinks Beverly Hills tournament will top them all. Was there last summer, conferred several times with Beverly Hills coach. Says no state winner will ever regret the sacrifices necessary to get there. Wooster is already making its plans to attend, two speakers being eligible now.

Editor's note: Thus far there seem to be only two outstanding freshmen. Surely more present sophomores must have performed more than creditably last year. Please send in the record of the outstanding freshman of last year in your chapter. There must be several who won the Degree of Distinction last year!

—NFL—

Be sure to address Rostrum contributions to "The Rostrum, Box 1232, Washington, D.C."

California Getting Ready for June

Promise Shower of Stars for National Tournament

One of the many connections between the motion picture industry and the teaching of speech is illustrated in the photograph showing Charles F. Wright, president of the Speech Teachers Association of Southern California presenting the "Better Speech Award" to Claudette Colbert, Paramount actress, at the association's Christmas banquet. The award was given to Miss Colbert for the excellence of her voice and diction. Last year's "better speech award" went to Deanna Durbin.

In connection with this photograph Mr. Wright, who is also local chairman for the 1939 National Speech Tournament, says he is submitting it not because of any penchant for personal publicity, but to convince our NFL Chapters that when we meet in June, on both the entertainment and educational sides, Beverly Hills will present a "shower of stars."

Also that the candidates in reading should know that the talent scouts of the major studios have promised to come to the final contests.

Presently each Chapter will receive direct from Mr. Wright a full envelope publicizing the many features of genuine educational interest. The housing problem is already in hand. Any students already qualified to enter the 1939 National Tournament or the Student Congress and assured of attendance may so advise Mr. Wright and their reservations will



be made and address of their hosts given them.

Only five more months now until the big moment when you start "Off to California!"

Wanted: A Speaker

The council will receive applications for the position of speaker of the House of Representatives from NFL coaches who will be able to attend the Congress at Beverly Hills, June 19-23. Intimate knowledge of and experience with parliamentary procedure is required.

Apply before Feb. 28 to the national secretary, stating qualifications and amount required for expense allowance.

Successful Students

Missouri and Oklahoma Students Ring the Bell

The top o' the mornin' to ye all! And the best o' wishes for a most prosperous and profitable New Year! We'll start our 1939 with resolutions to get in touch with each NFL chapter in the country and find out what's happened to all of our former stars in the forensic firmament.

The morning's mail brings greetings from Missouri with good news from Mr. W. Francis English of Carrollton. He is just swelling with pride because Katherine Johnson, who was a finalist in debate and in Extemp. at the 1936 National Tournament, and who is now a member of the University of Missouri debate squad, was selected as one of the members of the team which debated against the visiting English team in November. This is the first time in history that a woman has made this team at Missouri. And, incidentally, Katherine is also the manager for the Missouri squad. Just get yourself a larger hat, Mr. English. You've a right to swell a little. We heard Katherine in that final debate, and in the extemp. finals, and we don't wonder at her further achievements.

Also from the Carrollton Chapter, Allen Pratt who was a member of the debate squad that went to the Topeka tournament, and is now a senior at the Kansas State Teachers' College at Pittsburg, is profiting from his forensic training by his job as announcer at a local radio station. Allen was state champion orator and a member of the state champion debate team last year. What's the Carrollton Chapter got that the rest of us

haven't — except perhaps Mr. English, AND the energy to write the good news to your Success Editor!

A newspaper headline from Bristol, Va., dated Dec. 6, proclaims, "Speakers Annex 16 of 21 First Places in Dixie Tournament." Four members of the forensic squad of Virginia Intermont College attended the Dixie Tournament at Rock Hill, S. C., and grabbed the lion's share of the prizes. It was no easy matter, with contestants from 35 colleges of the Atlantic coast states, ranging from Dartmouth in New Hampshire, to Stetson in Florida. The four young ladies—all former NFL members and all of them former contestants at a National NFL tournament, were (hold your hats, Oklahoma) Georgia Bayless of Miami, Okla.; Betty Lea Evans, Reba June Long, and Ann Settle of the Oklahoma City-Classen Chapter. Betty Lea participated in dramatic declamation in the 1937 tournament; Georgia, Ann and Reba June went to Wooster last June. Their honors in the Dixie tournament included everything from debate, oratory, extemp., after dinner speaking, impromptu, poetry, and, well—what have you. Reba June was the national champion in extemp. last year, remember.

Your Success Editor now wants to know how to get all of you interested in sending in news of yourselves so the Success column won't be confined to the great and near-great of the southwest.

—Elaine Tucker.

Rules For N.F.L. District Tournament—1939

The following rules have been established by the Executive Council for all NFL District Tournaments. A District Chairman may request specific changes to meet local situations and if approved by the National President or National Secretary, the changes become effective in that District as soon as the Chairman advises the chapters concerned thereof.

GENERAL

1. **Eligibility:** Any bona fide undergraduate student carrying 15 recitation periods of work per week in a school maintaining in good standing a chapter of the National Forensic League shall be eligible to participate in this tournament.

Participants shall hold or have applied for NFL membership at the time of registration.

2. **Entry:** Each Chapter shall be permitted two entries in each event; one in Debate.

3. **Registration:** Registration shall be filed with the District Chairman seven (7) days before opening of the tournament, giving name of each contestant and event entered. Late registration shall incur an added fee of \$1 for each contestant or \$5 for an entire chapter entry, paid into the district treasury. Failure to have applied and paid for membership shall constitute late registration.

4. **Fees:** A suitable registration fee determined by the Tournament Committee shall be paid at the time of registration for each student in each event entered. (Fifty cents minimum is recommended to provide funds for procurement of judges.)

5. **Forfeits:** Contestants shall appear at the time their contests are scheduled or forfeit such contests.

6. **Conflict:** A student may participate in two contests. If they are scheduled at the same hour he shall go to that contest in which he is to speak the earlier, and after completing his part there, proceed immediately to the second contest. If the turn assigned to him has been passed, he shall be the next speaker.

7. **Judges:** Preliminary debates shall be judged by single critic

judges; final debates and other contests by three judges unless otherwise agreed to by the participants or their coaches. If there have been more than three preliminary rounds in the individual events, then the final contest shall be judged by five judges.

8. **Protests:** Judges assigned by the tournament committee shall be final unless protested before the contest. If protested, the tournament committee shall hear the protest and its decision shall be final.

9. **Timekeepers:** Timekeepers shall be provided for all contests and each contestant may receive such notice of the passing of time as he may elect.

10. **Disputes:** The District Chairman and two associates designated by him as Tournament Committee shall have full power to adjudicate any disputes or interpretations of the rules.

11. **Trophy:** Each Chapter shall receive one point toward the tournament trophy every time one of its contestants or debate teams participates in a round of the tournament.

12. **Press Reports:** No Chapter shall refer to this tournament as a state tournament, state contest, state champion, state winner, or use similar term unless there is no other state-wide contest association in that event in the state. The tournament should be designated as "NFL District Tournament, Tournament for NFL Chapters, District Tournament of the National Forensic League, or e. g. Wisconsin NFL Tournament." The Executive Council reserves the right to revoke any honors or eligibility gained in the tournament by any chapter falsely publicizing its achievement.

13. **National Eligibility.** Winners of first and second places in each contest in which 12 or more chapters have participated shall be eligible to enter the national tournament. If less than 10 chapters participated, winner of first place only shall be so eligible.

14. **Ineligibility:** A student already eligible to participate in a specific

event in the national tournament shall be ineligible to participate in that event in the district tournament.

DEBATE

1. **Question:** The question for debate shall be "Resolved; That the United States should establish an alliance with Great Britain."

2. **Teams:** Each Chapter shall uphold both sides of the question with two speakers for the affirmative and two other speakers for the negative.

3. **Time:** Each speaker shall have 10 minutes for constructive argument and five minutes for rebuttal. Rebuttals shall begin immediately following the constructive speeches, negative opening.

4. **Pairing:** Schools shall be numbered in the order in which they register. In the first round the affirmative of school 1 shall meet the negative of school 2; the affirmative of school 2, the negative of school 3, and so on. In the next round the affirmative of school 1 shall meet the negative of school 3; the affirmative of school 2, the negative of school 4, and so on.

In the succeeding rounds the tournament committee shall draw lots for pairing and sides, avoiding if possible the meeting of schools which have met previously in the tournament. If unavoidable, they shall reverse sides upheld in the previous debate.

5. **Elimination:** A school shall be eliminated when it has lost three debates in the tournament.

ORIGINAL ORATORY

1. **Original:** This contest shall comprise only orations actually written by the contestants delivering them.

2. **Subject:** Any appropriate subject may be used.

3. **Length:** Orations shall require not more than ten (10) minutes for delivery. Timekeepers shall stand and remain standing at the expiration of the time limit for judges to note the overtime, but that shall not disqualify the contestant.

4. **Quotations:** Not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing and such quotations shall be indicated in a copy of the oration filed with the chairman at the time of registration.

5. **Grouping:** The orators shall compete in such manner of groups that not less than four nor more than eight shall be in any one group.

6. **Places:** The tournament committee shall by lot determine the order in which the contestants are to speak.

7. **Rank:** The judges shall rank the orators 1, 2, 3, etc., in the order of excellence. In preliminary rounds all ranks of each orator shall be totaled and places awarded according to the sequence of lowest totals. In the event of a tie, all contestants so tied shall be given the preferred rank. (If two tie for first place, the next highest rank is third.)

To the ranks given by the judges in the final contest there shall be added the places received by the contestants in each of the preceding rounds and the orator having the lowest total shall be given first place. In the event of a tie, the ranks of the orators so tied shall be considered, and the one having the preferred ranking from a majority of the final judges shall be given the place.

First place having been determined, the ranks of the remaining contestants shall be renumbered and second place determined in the same manner. Thereafter the sequence of low totals shall determine the remaining places.

8. **Elimination:** An orator having been twice ranked fourth or lower shall be eliminated. Such elimination shall continue until there remain seven or fewer contestants for the final contest.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

1. **Subjects:** The District Chairman shall obtain from a director of a college or university department of speech a list of 30 topics phrased for contest purposes and based on subjects discussed in standard periodicals during the current school year. The contents of the list shall not be disclosed except as contestants draw their topics therefrom.

2. **Drawing:** One hour before the contest is to begin, the first speaker shall draw three subjects, choose one and return the other two. The remaining contestants shall draw in like manner, in the order of speaking at intervals of 7 minutes. The entire list of subjects shall be used for the drawing in each group. A contest-

Debate News

By W. Francis English, Carrollton, Mo.

Debate tournaments crowd the map now. It would be interesting to have a map of the United States showing the places where high school debaters and individual contestants are getting together to discuss the debate topics and do other interesting things. The map would be dotted with places but that would not indicate at all the great variety of interesting things that are going on. Many of the meets are not contest affairs at all. The sponsors are emphasizing educational values rather than winners.

* * *

Are you finding much material on the debate question in the magazines and newspapers? Are you the kind of a debaters who wants to find your material bound up in a little handbook prepared by someone else? We have never had a question that is more timely than this one. Nearly every is-

sue of my daily paper gives me a comment from an authority or a news story on some international situation that affects my thinking on the question.

* * *

Have you read—the speeches delivered at Lima, Anthony Eden's remarks while in the United States, Senator Borah's statements carried in the daily press in mid-December, the statements of the best commentators on international affairs, the editorial pages of the best newspapers?

Have you read "Unser Amerika," and "Two Views of Munich" in the January Forum, "Great Britain's Europe" in the December Fortune, and the articles running on European affairs in "The Nation." These citations are merely suggestions. They are are to provoke you, not to tell you where the new material is located.

ant drawing a topic on which he has previously spoken in the tournament shall return it and draw again.

3. **Preparation:** As soon as he has chosen a topic the contestant shall withdraw and prepare his speech without consultation and without reference to prepared notes. Reference to books and magazines shall be permitted.

4. **Notes:** No speaker shall take to the platform more than 50 words of notes and the chairman shall be responsible for the enforcement of this rule.

5. **Time:** Contestants shall speak not less than 5 minutes nor more than 7 minutes. Timekeepers shall stand and remain standing to denote the expiration of time and at the close of the contest shall inform the judges of the names of contestants failing to speak the minimum 5 min-

utes. Failure to observe time limits shall incur no penalty except that expressed in the ranks of the judges.

6. **Rules** 5, 6, 7 and 8 for Original Oratory shall apply also to this contest.

DECLAMATION

1. **Contests:** Declamation shall be divided into Oratorical, Dramatic, and Humorous divisions and each shall constitute a separate contest within this tournament. Each contestant shall determine the category of his declamation.

2. **Length:** The time limit for declamations shall be 10 minutes.

3. **Selections:** Judges shall be instructed to consider the literary value of the selections used in the Dramatic and Humorous divisions.

4. **Rules:** 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 for Original Oratory shall apply to these contests.

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.....	20.4	Wooster	73
3.	+1	Texas	3.....	19.4	North Dallas	72
4.	-1	Wisconsin	1.....	18.1	Mayville	62
5.	+2	Oklahoma	.....	16.5	Classen	39
6.	+2	Illinois	1.....	15.6	Lincoln	69
7.	-1	No. Illinois	.....	15.5	Maine	72
8.	-3	Iowa	.....	15.4	Hawarden	61
9.	0	New York	1.....	14.2	Poughkeepsie	68
10.	+1	Colorado	1.....	13.6	Casper, Wyo.	41
11.	-1	Indiana	2.....	13.5	Ft. Wayne-North	55
12.	+1	Nebraska	1.....	12.8	Omaha-Benson	35
13.	-1	California	1.....	11.6	Beverly Hills	37
14.	+1	Kentucky	1.....	9.6	Lexington	25
15.	-1	Missouri	.....	9.3	Carrollton	28
16.	0	Kansas	.....	8.9	Salina	35
17.	0	South Dakota	.....	8.5	Watertown	46
18.	0	Tennessee	2.....	8.5	Dickson	22
19.	0	Minnesota	1.....	7.9	Minneapolis-West	35
20.	0	New England	1.....	6.0	Portland, Me.	21
21.	0	New Jersey	1.....	5.4	State College, Pa.	14
22.	0	Western	2.....	5.1	Spokane	20
23.	0	Michigan	1.....	4.7	River Rouge	19
		National	21.....	12.9	Monessen, Pa.	88

Our Decalet of Leaders—the First Ten

Coaches

L. D. Schreiber, Charleroi, Pa.	540
Wm. H. Row, Pittsburg, Kas.	474
R. P. Hibbs, DuQuoin, Ill.	463
Kathryn Moran, Joplin, Mo.	438
Hazel A. Hatch, Enid, Okla.	436
Lucile Stephens, Poughkeepsie	423
E. J. Diller, Youngstown, O.	419
R. S. Cartwright, Elgin, Ill.	419
Levi Osterhus, Mpls-Roosevelt	409
Russel L. Caldwell, Wooster, O.	376

Students

Ruth Lee, Duquoin, Ill.	440
John Brummett, Du Quoin	438
John Amott, Ft. Scott, Kans.	393
Kath. O'Brien, Bentleyville Pa.	357
Joe Mohr, Wellington, Kas.	345
Sam Goldenburg, Burlington, Ia.	338
Dick Goodman, Lincoln, Ill.	333
Joan Eichelberger, Ashland, O.	333
Robert Hine, Beverly Hills, Cal.	325
Loren Hotz, Shawano, Wis.	321

Going Up

	New	Total
Chapters	9	489
Members	103	20,259
Emblems	28	9,285
Contest reports	442	77,772
Degrees of Honor	46	9,138
Degrees of Excellence	25	5,274
Degrees of Distinction	13	2,901