

New Contest Readings

(From our Spring List)

HUMOROUS

- AMATEUR HOUR.** Luella E. McMahon. 12 min. A radio program. 60c
AS JIM SAYS. Carol Houghton. 7 min. A woman monolog. 50c
BINGO. Carol Houghton. 12 min. An Englishman visits the fair. 60c
 Several good characters.
THE DERBY LEAGUE. Luella E. McMahon. A program reading. 60c
 12 min.
MA'S DOLLAR DAY. Leota Hulse Black. 12 min. 60c
MR. PRICE'S PRESSED PANTS. Pauline Phelps. 7 min. 50c
OH SOLE MEOW. Leota Hulse Black. 10 min. The mother of
 "At the Declam Contest" fame, listens to Jennie sing (or try
 to) over Amateur Hour. 60c
THE RADIO FAN. Agnes Galbreth. 8 min. A boy gives an
 imitation of various radio stars. 50c
SUSIE AT THE SHOW. Leota Hulse Black. 10 min. 60c

DRAMATIC

- BALLAD OF HERBIE SHAUGHNESSY'S WINGS.** Blanche
 Kendall McKey. 7 min. A dramatic poem concerning a little
 cripple. 50c
I AM HIS SON. Cora Jane Montgomery, author of "Blessed
 Damosel." 8 min. 60c
MISSISSIPPI MAGIC. Carl Weber. 14 min. 60c
RIDERS TO THE SEA. From the play by J. M. Synge. 9 min. 60c

ORATIONS

- ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH STRUGGLE.** George W. Maxey.
 Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. 5 min. 40c
THE CONSTITUTION—A CITADEL OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
 Justice George W. Maxey. 10 min. 50c
THE FALSE PHILOSOPHY OF THE VALUE OF MONEY.
 L. F. Chapman. 6 min. 40c
FREEDOM IN OUR SOCIETY. Dorothy Thompson (Mrs. Sinclair
 Lewis). 6 min. 50c
THE GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY. Franklin D. Roosevelt. 7 min. 45c
LINCOLN, THE LAWYER. Dr. John Wesley Hill. 10 min. 50c
THE LUXURY OF CRIME. L. F. Chapman, Supt. of Florida
 State Prison. 12 min. 50c
THE PUBLIC. Bruce Barton. 11 min. 50c
THE REMAKING OF HUMAN SOCIETY. Justice George W.
 Maxey. 12 min. 50c
VALLEY FORGE. Justice George W. Maxey. 10 min. 50c

Send for our free catalog of readings, plays, and other entertainment material.

Wetmore Declamation Bureau

1631 South Paxton Street
 Sioux City, Iowa

The Rostrum

Official Publication of the National Forensic League

VOL. X

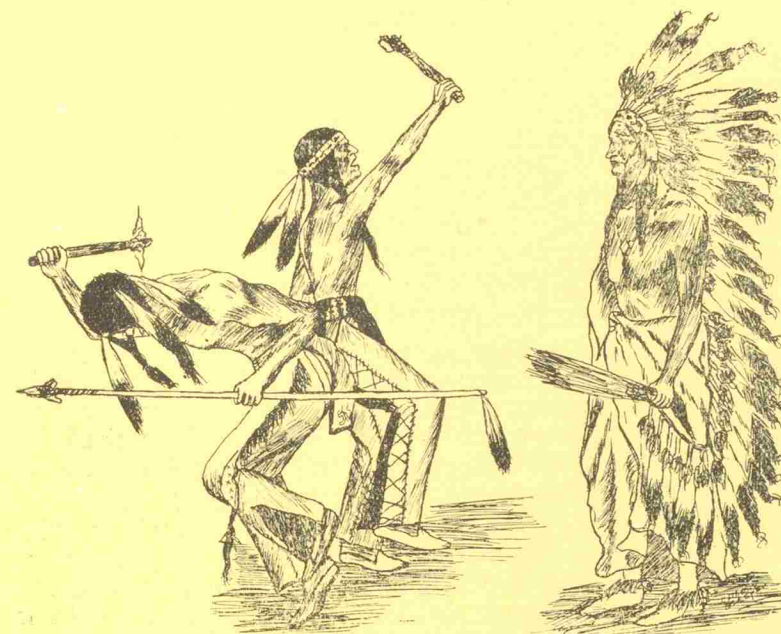
MARCH, 1936

No. 7

Sixth National Speech Tournament

Oklahoma City

May 4-8, 1936



THE ROSTRUM

Official Publication of the National Forensic League

Karl E. Mundt, President and Editor. Bruno E. Jacob, Secretary

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Oklahoma in May!

Since the first national speech classic was held in Ripon, Wisconsin, in 1930, the idea of holding this annual event to select national champions in this most important phase of the extra-curricular program has steadily grown more popular until it is today recognized as the ultimate goal toward which all outstanding high school speakers point when they begin their year's forensic program. Not only do the high school speakers and their coaches look ahead to this annual May tournament, but the public at large has become vitally interested in the speech-training program of the American High School and anticipates with interest the annual chain broadcasts of the championship debate and the winners of individual speaking events.

Just as these national tournaments have grown in size and significance during the past five years, they have also grown in scope and in opportunity. Last year at Kent, Ohio, the procedure was definitely adopted of adding educational features as a regular part of the annual meeting thus making it what might more adequately be described as a "tournament-convention". Students and coaches not only match their abilities against the best forensic talent in America but they participate in discussions and training conferences which definitely stimulate and increase their abilities so as to make them better forensic leaders in the future.

The Oklahoma City tournament will include all of the educational features of the great meeting held in Kent, last May. Outstanding speech educators of national reputation will be in attendance and regular periods will be set aside from the tournament eliminations to provide opportunity for learning more about the speech arts from these national leaders.

Lucky indeed are the schools and the students whose abilities qualify them for attendance at the Oklahoma City tournament as it is expected that this year's meeting will establish a new record in achievement and reach a new goal in its educational value to the entire high school speech program of America.

—Karl E. Mundt.

The Sixth National Speech Tournament

The tournament of Oklahoma City will be the sixth annual national speech tournament for American high schools. Beginning in 1931 they were held successively at Ripon, Wisconsin; Sioux City, Iowa; Wooster, Ohio; Topeka, Kansas; and Kent, Ohio. Altogether 313 different schools from 30 states have engaged in one or more of these national events. Eligibility is restricted to keep the tournament from becoming too large.

Eligibility

The general plan of eligibility is to admit winners of first and second places in the established state-wide contests. Winners of first place in the larger NFL tournaments are also admitted and winners of second place may enter if either of the state winners do not register.

In the events other than debate certain entries are provided for NFL Chapters. The ten students ranking highest in contest credit points on April 25th may enter one event each. A Chapter receiving the Distinguished Service Award may send a contestant to the tournament to receive the award and participate in a contest. Whenever a Chapter has completed the enrollment of 100 members or degrees it may also enter a student in any contest except debate. Oklahoma City is permitted one entry in each event including debate and each past tournament host may enter two of the individual contests.

Special Invitations

While the Executive Council reserves the right to extend special invitations, the provision is primarily reserved for use in cases in which other means of qualifying have not been available.

Requests for special invitation must be submitted simultaneously to each member of the Executive Council early enough to permit determination before the members leave for the tournament city. Contestants whose eligibility is not clearly established are cautioned not to travel to the tournament city in the expectation of being admitted to contests by special invitation.

NFL Membership Not Required

The tournament is open to any qualified contestant in any secondary school. Membership in the League is not required, but a differential in fees is fixed to equalize in part the support of the tournament between member and non-member schools. Registration fee for debate is \$15; for other contests \$7.50; for Chapter schools \$5 and \$2.50.

In explanation of the difference may it be understood that fees cover approximately only the direct expenses of the tournament. The indirect expenses throughout the year are borne by NFL chapters through their national organization, whether they participate in the tournament or not. It seems only fair therefore, that when these schools do qualify contestants for the national event they should pay a lesser fee than those schools supporting the project only when they have a team or contestant to enter.

Oklahoma City Welcomes You

Oklahoma City greets you, welcomes you, members of the National Forensic League. We are delighted that you are honoring our city with the Annual Speech Tournament for 1936.

We shall not designate you as the "Brain Trust" of America, but may we allude to you as the brains to which we shall trust America soon? Indeed we are grateful that you are coming to our city. Our city and our schools are at your disposal and our citizens are ready to serve you.

We hope that much good comes from this convention and that every one is benefitted by it. We anxiously await your arrival, that we may serve you in every detail.

Ira W. Baker,
Principal, Classen High School.

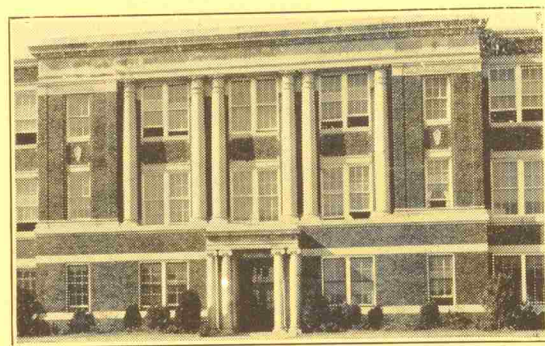
Travel Arrangements

No convention rate railroad fare has been sought for the reason that nearly all lines grant the same low fare on ten-day return tickets. Contestants from the area of high fares—generally north of the Ohio and east of Illinois—should purchase tickets to the nearest point at which the low fares are obtainable and then buy their round-trip tickets to Oklahoma City.

Those traveling by automobile are reminded of the fact that nearly all liability insurance becomes void if the car is carrying passengers for hire or on an expense-sharing arrangement. Special ten-day policies are available to cover such trips and give full protection to the passengers as well as the owner of the car.

Tournament Rooms

All contests will be held at Classen High or in a group of adjacent church buildings. Special lounges for judges and for contestants will be equipped for their comfort. The excellent bulletin boards provided by Kent last year will be duplicated. Special Western Union station will be



View of Classen High School

installed and a separate Press room set up to handle tournament news.



Ira W. Baker, Principal

Oklahoma City Will Serve You

Rooms

The Parent-Teacher's Association of the city will provide free rooms for all contestants and coaches. Mrs. J. E. Barnett is in charge. Assignment will be made on Sunday afternoon beginning at one o'clock. A limited number of rooms will be available for those who arrive on Saturday. They should phone Mrs. Hampton Tucker 4-5344.

Meals

The Classen High School cafeteria will provide breakfasts and luncheons during the entire tournament, and evening dinners on Wednesday and Thursday. Twenty-five cents will provide a fine meal.

Banquets

Informal banquets will be set on both Monday and Tuesday evening in the Shrine Temple. Good food and fast service is guaranteed. The moderate charge of 75c will include the entertainment following each banquet.



Mrs. Hampton Tucker

Entertainment

Real Indians in ceremonial costumes will stage their tribal dances at one of the banquets. Contestants will be guests at the playing of a three-act comedy at the Classen Auditorium on Monday evening and at a dance on Tuesday evening.

The Superintendent Says

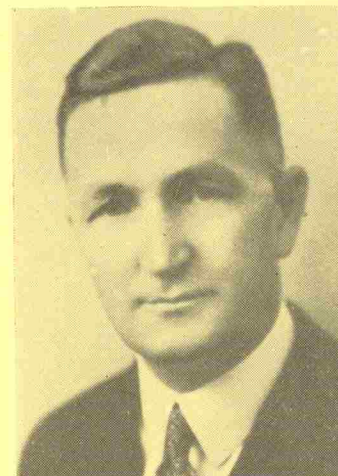
As an organization the National Forensic League is not only a splendid thing for the development of high school speech talent, but this meeting is a step forward in equipping the youths of America for future problems.

Oklahoma City is glad of the opportunity to give these young people a chance to further their ambitions.

We congratulate you upon your entrance into national competition and wish you success in this and other future enterprise.

When you leave Oklahoma City may you take with you memories of a pleasant visit. We hope you will have gained a broader insight and inspiration to go on with the excellent work you have begun.

C. K. Reiff, Superintendent
Oklahoma City Schools.



Write ahead

So This Is Oklahoma

That is what you will say when you reach this new state and its magnificent new-born metropolis of 200,000 people that doubled its size in ten years. You will be impressed by its newness; by the fact that it is the South-West—the region where the South and the West come together. Its people, its climate, its industries and agriculture carry out that idea. The cotton of the South and the wheat of the West are its major crops. Its oil wells have gushed forth millions. Some are within Oklahoma City itself. Mineral resources are stupendous—79 billion tons of coal and enough granite to supply the nation. Take time as you drive to or from the tournament to observe first hand some of the fascinating developments of this state which just a few years ago was known as Indian Territory.



You Will See Indians

Oklahoma, the home of the Redman, today is the home of more than thirty different Indian tribes. Students from the Indian boarding schools frequently give programs of the dances and songs that are a part of their tribal traditions. The priceless costumes of soft doe-skin, trimmed in feathers, shells and beads, are handed down from generation to generation and are worn only on rare occasions. Visitors to the tournament will have an opportunity to meet some of these First Americans.



Points of Interest

If you care to visit the State Historical and Indian Museum, Lincoln Park, the State Capitol, Packingtown and Stockyards, the Oklahoma City Oil Field, Nichols Hills Residential District or Oklahoma City University, transportation and guides will be furnished free.

Recreational Opportunities

Tennis courts and golf course will be free to tournament guests and horseback riding will be available for a small charge. The swimming pool at Classen High will be opened at certain hours for refreshing dips between contests.

All contestants must register in person at Classen High School before 9 p. m., Sunday, May 3, or confirm their registration by telegraph stating time of arrival.

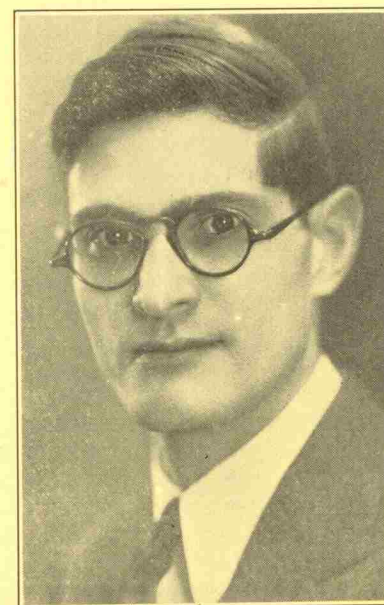
Oklahoma Has Good Judges

In a state in which debating is carried on so extensively and on such a high plane as in Oklahoma there naturally must be more than the average number of persons qualified by experience to judge speech contests. And there are. Mr. J. D. Hoover, speech director at Capitol Hill High School in Oklahoma City has been placed in charge of procuring their services for the national tournament and submits the following preliminary list of judges who have consented to serve.

Mr. O. W. Rush, Northwestern Teachers College, Alva; Mr. Loren N. Brown, Central State Teachers College, Edmond; Miss Edith Leonard, East Central State Teachers College, Ada; Miss Ola Beckett, Northwestern State Teachers College, Taliquah, Mr. T. A. Houston, Prof. Geo. F. Totten, Southwestern State Teachers College, Durant; Miss J. C. Barnett, Miss Elsie Shoemaker, Southwestern Teachers College, Weatherford; Mr. Edwin Walton, Mr. Leo Van Boshirh, Phillips Univ., Enid; Mrs. Clifford Peterson, Dean Emily Smith, Altus Junior College; Dr. Chas. P. Green, Prof. J. M. Riley, Prof. Perill M. Brown, Prof. W. Wright, Prof. John Dunn, Prof. Rupel Jones, University of Oklahoma, Norman; Mrs. Sylvia Mariner, Dr. J. J. Hayes, Prof. Wayne Campbell, Oklahoma City University; Miss Effie Jorns, Bartlesville; Miss Annie Bell, Junior College Toulawa, Oklahoma; Dr. J. Thompson Baker, Prof. J. E. Hardy, Northwestern College, Winfield, Kansas; and Prof. Geo. R. R. Pflaum, Teachers College, Emporia, Kansas.

The services of more than 25 additional judges will be secured before the tournament opens. Visiting high school coaches will be used to a limited extent in those contests in which they are experienced, but in which they have no contestants in the national.

Prof. S. R. Toussaint of Monmouth College, Illinois, first vice-president of Pi Kappa Delta and a veteran of four NFL national speech tournaments will assign the judges during the tournament. His acceptance of the responsibility assures the contestants of the highest degree of competent and conscientious service in this important task. Mr. Hoover will work with him throughout the tournament.



Prof. S. R. Toussaint

The National Forensic Award

A National High School Forensic Award will be presented at Oklahoma City to the Chapter which at the conclusion of the tournament has the best record in sustained excellence in national speech activity. The award will not be based on the winning of the greatest number of tournament medals, but on the number of rounds of participation.

One point is recorded to the credit of a school for each round in which one of its students participates. The record begins with the first national tournament in 1931 and the points gained by a school accumulate from year to year receives the trophy.

Topeka Has Lead

Topeka which has qualified its debate team for national entry five times in six years and has entered 16 contestants in the individual events leads in the number of participation points. Granite City, winner of four national contests, ranks second. The leading chapters are:

Topeka, Kansas	129	Cicero, Illinois	61
Granite City, Ill.	106	Canton, Ohio	60
Wooster, Ohio	91	Webster Groves, Mo.	53
Peoria-Central, Ill.	88	Ravenna, Ohio	51
Mpls-Roosevelt, Minn.	72		

The participation record of the Chapters is given on the next page and since the points are carried forward from year to year, even the lowest ranking chapter can look forward to receiving this highest award in time if it continues to develop creditable speakers.

Tau Kappa Alphas to Present Trophy

The trophy will be presented by Tau Kappa Alpha, a college forensic honor society of which Lowell Thomas is president. A special trophy is being signed to fittingly acknowledge the highest speech honor obtainable by an American high school. A representative of national Tau Kappa Alpha will be in Oklahoma City for the presentation of the award.

Other Trophies and Medals

The customary plaque, a gold figure on a mahogany panel, will be given to each first place winning school. Gold medals will also be given the winners for first place, silver medals to winners of second and third places, and bronze medals to all other contestants in the final contests. These are being provided by the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

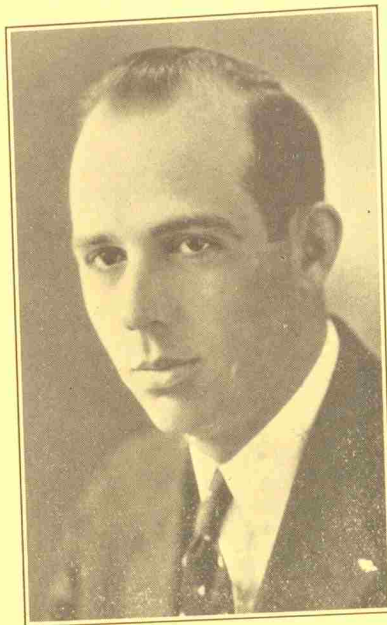
These Chapters and 157 other non-member schools have participated in one or more National Speech Tournaments. The number of rounds of participation is indicated for each Chapter.

Granite City, Illinois, Roosevelt High in Minneapolis, and Webster Groves, Missouri have been represented every one of the five years. Freeport, Ill., Peoria-Central, Ill., Topeka, Kans., Luverne, Minn., Omaha-Central, Omaha-Technical, Nebr., Bluffton, O., Wooster, O., Charleroi, Pa., Clarksville, Tenn., Mayville, Wis., and Shawano, Wis., have participated in four of the past five national tournaments.

National Tournament Participants

Alabama	Kentucky	8 Kent-State
4 Tuscaloosa	4 Covington	6 Marietta
Arkansas	17 Mt. Sterling	11 Newark
8 Hot Springs	Maine	12 New Philadelphia
4 Pine Bluff	8 Leavitt Inst.	9 Niles
California	Massachusetts	51 Ravenna
40 Bakersfield	8 Brookline	10 Troy
11 Grossmont	9 Williamsburg	7 Wadsworth
9 San Bernardino	Michigan	91 Wooster
Colorado	7 Dearborn	13 Youngstown-Chaney
15 Fort Morgan	31 Muskegon Hts.	Oklahoma
Idaho	7 Negaunee	12 El Reno
8 Caldwell	20 Paw Paw	32 Enid
3 Lewiston	21 River Rouge	35 Miami
Illinois	Minnesota	39 Oklahoma City-Classes
15 Aurora-East	9 Aitkin	Pennsylvania
8 Aurora-West	6 Chaska	10 Ambridge
4 Chicago Day Y	45 Chisholm	36 Brownsville
61 Cicero	11 Eveleth	32 California
24 Dupo	38 Luverne	2 Centerville
47 DuQuoin	72 Mpls-Roosevelt	31 Charleroi
16 Dwight	8 Mpls.-West	24 Corapolis
44 Elgin	11 Stillwater	9 Glassport
28 Freeport	Missouri	6 St. Vincent's
106 Granite City	31 Carrollton	11 Monessen
2 Hinsdale	23 Fayette	8 Uniontown
36 Jacksonville	25 Independence	17 Waynesburg
14 Kewanee	42 Joplin	13 West Newton
31 Lincoln	10 Maplewood	South Dakota
41 Mendota	15 Marshall	3 Gregory
7 Olney	8 Nevada	7 Highmore
5 Pekin	14 Plattsburg	9 Huron
88 Peoria-Central	24 Salisbury	26 Rapid City
5 Potomac	8 Springfield	36 Sioux Falls
11 Rankin	53 Webster Groves	3 Sisseton
8 Sandwich	Nebraska	22 Watertown
4 Watseka	57 Omaha-Central	Tennessee
4 Wood River	52 Omaha-North	15 Baxter Seminary
Indiana	45 Omaha-Technical	26 Dickson
10 Columbia City	New Hampshire	10 Dyersburg
5 Ft. Wayne-Central	14 Laconia	6 Kingsport
4 Ft. Wayne-Elmhurst	North Carolina	4 Memphis-Messick
8 Frankfort	4 Greensboro-Curry	16 Memphis-Technical
6 Hammond	New Jersey	Washington
2 Kewanna	7 Passaic	6 Wenatchee
6 North Judson	New York	West Virginia
Iowa	4 Albany	7 Clarksburg
8 Cherokee	14 Ilion	9 Moorefield
4 Clear Lake	3 Ossining	Wisconsin
5 Elkader	23 Poughkeepsie	6 Eau Claire
7 Emerson	8 Rome	6 Hartford
23 Fairfield	15 Saratoga Spgs.	47 Kenosha
16 Muscatine	8 Schenectady	4 Manitowoc
45 Sioux City-East	14 Syracuse-Central	18 Mayville
12 Webster City	Ohio	12 Milwaukee-Washingt'n
Kansas	11 Ashland	27 Oconomowoc
10 Atchison	35 Bluffton	17 Shawano
33 Hutchinson	60 Canton	44 Sheboygan
24 K. C.-Wyandotte	15 Dayton-Oakwood	22 West Allis
4 Pittsburg	22 East Palestine	Wyoming
129 Topeka	7 Euclid-Shore	6 Gillette
8 Wichita-East	8 Fremont	

National Contest for Coaches



T. M. Beaird

The sponsor of the coaches contest in 1932 and its director each year thereafter, T. M. Beaird of the University of Oklahoma, will be in charge. Mr. Beaird is also serving as Advisory Chairman to the Oklahoma City tournament committee and will assist in the direction of the tournament itself as he has done each year.

Special Papers

The Daily Oklahoma will provide a tournament feature page in the Sunday, May 3, issue with pictures of contestants. Send photographs and achievement story of your contestants to Mr. Harold Netherton, Central High School, Oklahoma City.

Faculty to Serve as Chairmen

Classes will be dismissed at Classen High School on Monday and Tuesday so that the building will be available for the exclusive use of tournament.

Members of the Classen faculty, with Harold Netherton of Central High School in charge, will serve as contest chairmen and otherwise help to administer the tournament efficiently.

The annual contest for coaches will be conducted as an after-dinner speaking event this year. Any high school instructor may enter. Preliminaries will be held on Monday and Tuesday and the four best speakers placed on the banquet program Tuesday evening. The judges for the final contest will again be 21 high school students from 21 states.

General topics for discussion will be announced, but the speakers will be given wide latitude in their treatment of them. Only semi-serious discourse will be expected as the purpose of the after-dinner speaking is primarily to provide a high type of entertainment through the use of the spoken word. The speeches will be eight minutes in length. The entry fee will be \$1.00 and medals will be awarded to all speakers on final program.



Harold Netherton

The National Champions



Miss Mary Elizabeth Perkins
Herbert Shapiro Carl Lundquist

Sioux Falls, South Dakota won the national championship in debate last year and Los Angeles High School, California placed second. Central High of Oklahoma City and Topeka tied for third. Central High of Omaha, Nebraska; Jacksonville and Dwight, Illinois, were the next highest ranking schools. Forty-four teams from 21 states entered the debate tournament.

Mr. F. M. Keslar was the coach of Edward Freutel and Arthur Guy comprising the Los Angeles team.

Miami, Oklahoma won the first national title in 1931 by defeating Topeka, Kansas. North High of Omaha won from Rapid City, S. D. in 1932; Altus Okla. won from Hutchinson, Kansas in 1933; and Central High of Oklahoma City won from Elgin, Ill. in 1934.

Original Oratory

For the first time in national tournament history this contest was won by a girl—Eleanor Kincaid of Joplin, Missouri. Miss Kathryn Moran was her coach.

The other final contestants were Homer Ogle, Freeport, Illinois; Jack E. Wilson, Enid Oklahoma, who was the Oratorical Declamation winner in 1934; Jack Croessmann, DuQuoin, Illinois; Duncan Mackintosh, Crawfordville, Indiana; and Philip Buchen, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

In previous years Howard Wilson of Granite City, Harold Livingston, Kingman High of Peoria, and Gene Davis of Morton High in Cicero, all Illinois, and Harvey Schaufler of Glassport, Penn. were the winners.



Eleanor Kincaid

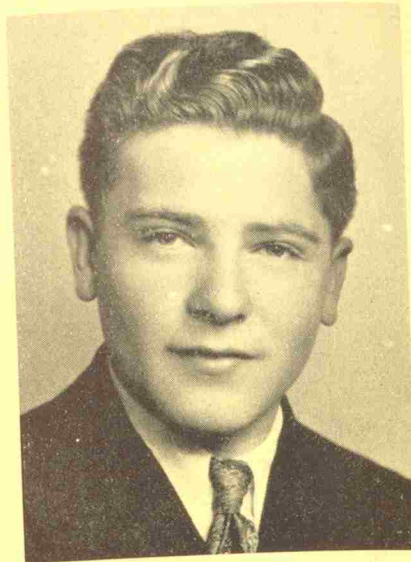
Extemporaneous Speaking

In a brilliant contest in which three of the 1934 finalists were again entered, David Goldberg of Bakersfield, California converted his third place of that year into first for 1935.

South Dakota which twice won this contest was represented in the finals by Carl Lundquist, of the championship debate team. Gordon Dupee of Oconomowoc, high credit point student for the year, represented Wisconsin, the state furnishing the first national winner in 1931.

Bill Musser of Classen High in Oklahoma City who won fourth place in 1934, took second. Al Godwin, also of Classen High; Dwight Croessmann, DuQuoin, Illinois and Janett Miller, Topeka, Kansas; were the other final contestants.

Edward Manthei, West Bend, Wisconsin, won in 1931; Parnell Mahoney, East High, Sioux City, Iowa, in 1932; Bob Dunham, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 1933; and Newton Marguiles, Rapid City South Dakota, in 1934.



David Goldberg

Dramatic Declamation

A new standard was set for a difficult contest when Mary Ann Porterfield of Topeka won first place with a reading she herself wrote for this particular tournament, "Mary Queen of Scotland." Dorothy Jane Deuell of Peoria Central High School, Illinois and Marion Conrad of West Allis, Wisconsin placed second and third. In fact, all three were tied with indetical low scores until the provisions for re-ranking were applied.

Lester Gross of Maplewood, Missouri; Harriet Goldstein, Brownsville, Pennsylvania; Lorraine Waggoner also of Peoria Central; and Edward Hansen, Harlan, Iowa were finalists.

Previous winners were Kathryn Harney, Peoria Manual High,

Illinois; Pauline Crockett, California, Pennsylvania; Denton Snyder, Humboldt, Iowa; and Donald Swanson, Webster City, Iowa.



Mary Ann Porterfield

Humorous Declamation

The winning of the national contest in Humorous Declamation by Caroline Groves of Webster City, Iowa marks the first time the trophy has been claimed by a girl. Karel Visser of Granite City, Illinois won it in 1934; Caryl Arnold of Grand Rapids, Minnesota in 1933; Francis Perkins of Kingman High Peoria in 1932; and Ramsey Wieland of Virginia, Minnesota in 1931.

It also sets a unique record for Webster City and for Miss Adeline Halversen who coached the winner. No other school has won first in both of these events. This was also the first year the contest was not won by either Illinois or Minnesota, but Ann Sullivan of Chisholm, Minnesota

narrowly missed returning the trophy to that state.

Other finalists were Betty Jo Larison, Lincoln, Julia Pitchford, Granite City, Margaret Lund, Peoria-Central, Virgil Gaines, Dupo, all in Illinois; and Edwin Townsend of Luverne, Minnesota.

Oratorical Declamation

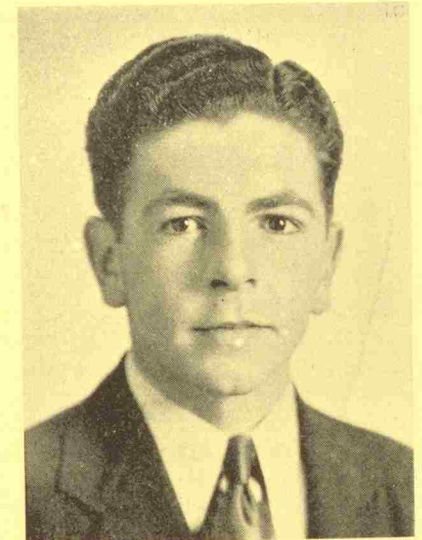
The largest individual contest event was again won by a boy from Oklahoma when Russell Black of Central High in Oklahoma City upheld the record of his state set last year by Jack Wilson of Enid.

James Harper of DuQuoin, Illinois placed second and he is still in school with an opportunity to try for first this year. James Barnum of San Bernardino, California; Wayne Wilson of Enid, Oklahoma; Eugenia Hawkins of Salisbury, Missouri; Harvey Swenson of Luverne, Minnesota; and Charlotte Howard of Harlan, Kentucky were the other finalists.

Howard Wilson, Granite City, Illinois, won this contest as well as the one in Original Oratory in 1931, and Harold Stark of the same school won it in 1933. Howard Smathers of Lexington, Kentucky was the 1932 winner.



Caroline Groves



Russell Black

National Tournament Rules

General Rules

1. **Time and Place.** The Sixth National Speech Tournament shall be held at Classen High School, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, May 4 to 8, 1936.

2. **Eligibility.** All contestants shall be bona fide undergraduate students under 21 years of age at the beginning of the tournament.

General eligibility shall be limited to winners of first or second places in state final contests, winners of first place in NFL district contests in which twelve or more chapters participated; to one entry in each event from the 1936 host school; and to schools invited by special action of the Executive Council.

Special eligibility is provided for entry in one event other than debate for: each of the ten NFL members ranking highest in credit point totals on April 25th; for each chapter receiving the Distinguished Service Award; for two contestants from each previous host to the national tournament; for each Chapter having completed the enrollment of 100 members or degrees; and for all contestants eligible to compete in previous national tournaments who are still undergraduate high school students under 21 years of age whether they entered such previous tournaments or not.

Alternates. Winners of second place in NFL district contests in which twelve or more chapters participated and winners of first place in such contests of lesser number shall hold the status of alternates whose entry shall be accepted if either state winner has not registered for the national tournament one week before its opening.

3. **Proof of Eligibility** shall be established by certification by the high school principal or superintendent.

4. **Registration.** Contestants shall register with the National Secretary by mail or telegraph before 8:00 p. m., May 2nd.

5. **Registration Fee** for debate shall be \$15, for other contests \$7.50. For NFL Chapters these fees shall be \$5 and \$2.50 respectively.

6. **Appearance.** All contestants shall appear at the time their contests are scheduled or forfeit such contests.

7. **Judges.** All preliminary contests shall be judged by three judges, final contests by five, except that single critic judges shall be used in the first five rounds of debate unless otherwise requested by representatives of the participating schools.

8. **Protest of Judges.** Judges assigned by the tournament official shall be final unless protested before the contest. In event of protest, the members of the Executive Council present shall hear the protest and their decision shall govern.

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

and remain standing for the judges to note the over-time, but that shall not disqualify the contestant.

10. **Conflict.** No contestant shall be permitted to compete in more than two events nor twice in one event. The tournament committee shall make the necessary arrangements to permit a contestant to appear in two contests scheduled simultaneously if eligible to compete in both.

11. **Disputes.** The members of the Executive Council present shall have full power to adjudicate any disputes or interpretations of the rules.

Debate

1. **Question.** The question for debate shall be: "Resolved; That the several states should enact legislation providing for a system of complete medical service available to all citizens at public expense."

2. **Teams.** Each school shall uphold both sides of the question with two speakers for each side. It may or not use the same students on both sides of the question at its option.

3. **Time.** Each speaker shall be allowed ten minutes in constructive argument and five minutes in rebuttal. In the final debate the limits shall be nine and four minutes. Speakers shall alternate affirmative to negative; the affirmative opening the constructive argument, the negative opening the rebuttal. Rebuttal shall begin immediately upon conclusion of the constructive speeches.

4. **Sides.** As far as arrangements will permit, a school shall alternately uphold the affirmative and negative in successive debates.

5. **Pairing.** In each round the first school on the list of entries shall uphold the affirmative against the second school; school No. 3 the affirmative against school No. 4, and so on. After each round the first school shall be placed at the bottom of the list. If an odd number of schools have been entered, the last school on the list shall draw a "bye" for that round. No school shall twice draw a "bye".

6. **Exceptions** to this procedure shall be made to prevent, if possible, a school from meeting another school from the same or adjacent state during the first four rounds, or from the same state at any time, or from meeting the same school twice in this tournament.

7. **Scouting.** The tournament will be open and debaters will not be prohibited from attending other debates.

8. **Letters.** Personal letters will not be admissible as evidence in any of the debates.

9. **Elimination.** A school shall be eliminated when it has lost two debates or loses one debate after the seventh round, but all school shall participate in the first four rounds without announcement of decisions.

Oratory

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

2. **Subject.** The orations may be on any subject appropriate to an oratorical contest.

3. **Length.** Orations shall require not more than ten minutes for delivery.

4. **Quotations.** Not more than 100 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing. A typewritten copy of the oration with quotations indicated shall be filed 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 contestants shall be in any one group.

6. **Speaking Order** shall be determined by lot drawn by the tournament committee.

7. **Regrouping.** After each round the orators shall be regrouped in such manner that as far as possible they will meet with different contestants in the next contest.

8. **Ranks.** The judges shall rank each contestant first, second, third, etc., according to excellence. In the preliminary contests all ranks of each contestant shall be totaled and the places awarded according to the sequence of lowest totals.

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 contestant having the lowest total shall be given first place. First place having been determined, the judges' ranks of the remaining contestants shall be renumbered and second place determined in the same manner; similarly for third place, but thereafter the order of low totals shall determine places.

In the event of a tie, the ranks given by the judges in that round to the contestants so tied shall be considered, and the one having the preferred ranking by a majority of the judges shall be given the place.

9. **Elimination.** A contestant having twice placed fourth or lower shall be eliminated, but all contestants shall compete in the first three rounds without announcement of places being made. Elimination shall continue until there remain seven or less contestants for the final contest.

It is a real pleasure for me, on behalf of the people of Oklahoma, to extend to the National Forensic League a most hearty welcome to Oklahoma for its national tournament.

It is a fine thing for a thousand boys and girls from the high schools of the nation to gather to debate important questions.

Oklahoma, and the southwest, is proud to have you as our guests and we are pleased that Classen high school of Oklahoma City was selected as the host school for this year's tournament.

E. W. Marland
Governor of Oklahoma.

Extemporaneous Speaking

1. **Subjects** shall be drawn from topics discussed in the Literary Digest, Time, Forum, and Review of Reviews, published since Sept. 1, 1935. Each member of the Executive Council shall make a list of thirty suitable topics and mail them to the National Secretary. All subjects appearing on two lists shall be taken for tournament use. Neither the topics chosen nor those not chosen shall be made known before the tournament.

2. **Drawing.** One hour before the contest is to begin, the contestant to speak first shall draw three subjects, choose one, and return the other two. For the first three rounds the other contestants shall draw likewise at intervals of eight minutes. For subsequent rounds they shall draw at intervals of one minute. A contestant 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 will be permissible.

4. **Notes.** No speaker shall take to the platform more than 50 words of notes, and the chairman shall see that this rule is enforced.

5. **Time.** Contestants shall speak not less than five minutes nor more than seven.

6. **Questions and Answers.** Beginning with the fourth round all contestants shall enter the contest room together. After all have spoken, the chairman shall recall each in turn to the platform and direct one of the other contestants to ask that one a question pertaining to his speech. Reply shall be limited to two minutes. In that manner each contestant shall question and be questioned by one of the other contestants. Judges shall evaluate the original speech, the pertinence of the question, and the effectiveness of the answer.

7. **Rules 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 for Oratory** shall also apply to this contest.

Declamation

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

2. **Time.** The time limit for all declamations shall be 12 minutes.

3. **Rules 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 for Oratory** shall apply to these contests.

For information concerning the National Speech Tournament communicate with Bruno E. Jacob, at the University of Denver until April 30th, thereafter for the duration of the tournament at Classen High School, Oklahoma City.

Instructions to Judges

Debate

The decision shall be awarded to that team which demonstrates the greater proficiency in the art of debate. Proficiency in debate shall include Knowledge of the question, Organization of material, soundness of Argument, Adaptation to opponents' case, force of Rebuttal, and effectiveness of Delivery. No definite percentage of value need be assigned to these factors, but together they shall determine the decision.

Judges are especially reminded that the teams are debating each other, and should not be expected to meet arguments occurring only in the mind of the judge; that a well constructed, well supported comprehensive argument is as valuable as good rebuttal; that they should punish severely any misrepresentation of evidence or of opponents case either by misquoting or by drawing unwarranted conclusions from what really has been said; and that the debate is held not to settle a question of policy, but simply to reveal which of the two teams has shown the skill in debate.

The Judges should judge the **debating** rather than the **debate**. The decision should not be given to the **side** winning the debate, but to the **team** doing the better debating. The judge should not answer the question, "Which side won," but "Which team debated better?"

Original Oratory

Since these orations have been written by the contestants delivering them, the judges should consider Thought, Composition, and Delivery. However, as this is a contest in speech rather than in essay writing, the emphasis should be placed on the speech phase. Thought and composition should be considered primarily in the way they are employed to make effective speaking possible.

The orator should not be expected to solve any of the great problems of the day. Rather he should be expected to discuss intelligently, with a degree of originality, in an interesting manner, and with some profit to his audience, the topic he has chosen. He should be given wide latitude in the ideas he expresses, but held closely accountable for the manner in which he expresses them.

The composition should be considered carefully for its rhetoric and diction. The use of appropriate figures of speech, similes and metaphors, balanced sentences, allusions, and other rhetorical devices to make the oration more effective should be noted especially. Use of English should be more than correct; it should reveal a discriminating choice of words and altogether fine literary qualities. It should be especially adapted to oral presentation.

Delivery should be judged for mastery of the usual mechanics of speech—poise, quality and use of voice, and bodily expressiveness; and for the qualities of directness and sincerity which impress the oration upon the minds of the audience.

No particular style of delivery is to be set up as the one correct style to which all contestants must conform. Rather each contestant is to be judged upon the effectiveness of his delivery, free to choose or develop whatever style will best give him that effectiveness with his particular oration.

Extemporaneous Speaking

The contestant in extempore speaking should be held accountable for:

- (1) Strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic he has drawn, and severely discounted for shifting to some other phase of the topic on which he might prefer to speak.
- (2) Well-chosen information relative to the subject as presented in current periodicals.
- (3) Organization of this material according to some logical plan to produce a complete speech within the time allowed. Speeches are to be not less than five nor more than seven minutes in length.
- (4) Effective delivery, including thereby all the mechanics of speech—poise, quality and use of voice, bodily expressiveness, directness, and the ability to enlist and hold the interest of the audience.

The extempore speech is not to be a memory test of the material contained in any one particular magazine article, but rather an original synthesis of current fact and opinion on the designated topic.

Tournament Administration

Executive Council

Karl E. Mundt, Madison, S. D. President
T. C. Bond, Niles, Ohio Vice-President
Bruno E. Jacob, Univ. of Denver Secretary
J. C. Aldrich, Webster Groves, Mo. Director
L. D. Schreiber, Charleroi, Pa. Director

Tournament Committee

C. E. Grady, Classen High Local Chairman
T. M. Beaird, Univ of Okla., Advisory Chairman
Prin. Ira W. Baker, Classen Contest Rooms
Mrs. Elaine Tucker, Classen Entertainment
J. D. Hoover, Capitol Hill HS Judges
S. R. Toussaint, Monmouth College Judges
E. J. Diller, Youngstown, O., Debate Assignments
W. F. English, Carrollton, Mo. Results
Mrs. J. E. Barnett Guest Rooms
Harold Netherton, Central HS Contest Ch.
C. K. Reiff Superintendent of Schools
Dean Ralph Dennin, Northwestern Univ.

Educational Features

Dr. H. L. Ewbank, Univ. of Wisconsin

Honorary Member



C. E. Grady

Oratorical Declamation

This contest comprises orations delivered at some other time and place by their authors. The test of the present orator, therefore, is the ability to reproduce not only the words, but also the thought, emotions, and effect of the original orator. Subject matter is not to be judged except as to its appropriateness for a contest of this nature. It may be either new or old.

The mechanics of speech must be observed faithfully: Poise, quality and use of voice, effectiveness and ease of gesture, emphasis, variety, and perfect enunciation. In addition the contestant must be able to interpret the full meaning of the oration and be able to carry the interpretation over into the minds of those who hear him. He must be able to interest the audience, to hold their interest, and to make them feel so thoroughly the vital message of his oration that they incline to forget the contest in their aroused enthusiasm for the object of the oration's appeal.

No particular style of delivery should be demanded of the orator; rather he should be free to select or develop his own style and then be judged according to the degree of perfection he has obtained and his effectiveness in influencing the audience addressed.

Dramatic and Humorous Declamation

The art of declamation is to be regarded essentially as one recreating the characters and story of the selection presented. The selection itself is not to be judged except as to its appropriateness in the contest and its suitability to the particular contestant delivering it.

In addition to the usual mechanics of speech—poise, quality and use of voice, ease and appropriateness of gesture, inflections, emphasis, pronunciation, enunciation—the contestants should be observed for their ability to impersonate or interpret characters correctly and consistently. The true artist transforms her whole personality into the personality of the characters and thereby makes them seem living and real before the audience.

Narrative should be vivid and animated so as to be an interesting and integral part of the story rather than just "filler" between the portions of dialogue.

The final test of superior declamation is the ability to use all the factors so successfully and unobtrusely that the hearer really forgets that this is a contest, and in perfectly created atmosphere is carried away to the time and place of the story being unfolded.

Due consideration shall be given to the literary value of the selection used.

Schedule for Sixth National Speech Tournament

Sunday, May 3

- 1:00 Registration of contestants, assignments to rooms.
9:00 Registration closes.

Monday, May 4

- 9:00 General Assembly, announcements and instructions.
10:30 Debate, Round 1.
12:00 Luncheon, Meeting of Executive Council, Board of District Chairmen, and Committees.
1:30 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
2:00 Oratory and Declamation, Round 1.
2:30 Extemporaneous Speaking, Round 1.
4:00 Debate, Round 2; Humorous Declamation, Round 1.
6:00 Banquet. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards District Chairman Badges and Honorary Memberships.
8:00 Social Hour, arranged by Classen High School.

Tuesday, May 5

- 9:00 Debate, Round 3; Humorous Declamation, Round 2.
10:00 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
10:30 Oratory and Declamation, Round 2.
11:00 Extemporaneous Speaking, Round 2.
12:00 Luncheon. Meeting of Council, Chairmen, Committees.
2:00 Debate, Round 4; Humorous Declamation, Round 3.
3:00 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
3:30 Oratory and Declamation, Round 3.
4:00 Extemporaneous Speaking, Round 3.
6:00 Banquet. Educational Address. Announcement of Results: Coaches' After-Dinner Speaking Contest.
8:00 To be filled later.

Wednesday, May 6

- 9:30 Business Meeting and Educational Conference.
2:00 Debate, Round 5; Humorous Declamation, Round 4.
2:30 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
3:30 Oratory, Declamation and Extempore Speaking, Round 4.
7:00 Debate, Round 6; Humorous Declamation, Round 5.
7:30 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
8:30 Oratory, Declamation and Extempore Speaking, Round 5.

Thursday, May 7

- 9:00 Debate, Round 7.
10:30 Finals in Oratorical Declamation.
1:30 Debate, Round 8.
2:30 Finals in Dramatic Declamation.
4:00 Finals in Original Oratory.
7:30 Debate, Semi-Finals.
8:00 Finals in Humorous Declamation.
8:00 Drawing for Extemporaneous Speaking.
9:00 Finals in Extemporaneous Speaking.

Friday, May 8

National Championship Debate, time to be arranged.

From the Secretary's Desk

New Chapters

The Charter Committee is pleased to announce the granting of charters to these schools:

Fort Scott, Kansas
Memphis-Humes H. S. Tenn.
Excelsior Springs, Mo.
Mellen, Wisconsin.
Norfolk, Nebraska
Roncerverte, W. Va.
Greenbrier H. S.
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Clyde, Ohio
Longmont, Colorado
Jonesboro, Arkansas
Lennox, South Dakota
University City, Mo.
Sparta, Illinois
Houston, Texas
San Jacinto H. S.

Distinguished Service Awards

Chapters and members who hold the required number of Citations to receive the Distinguished Service Award are reminded to file those Citations at the national office before April 15th if the Award is to be available for presentation at the tournament banquet in Oklahoma City.

District Chairmen Badges

Special badges will be presented to Chairmen at the tournament banquet according to the ranks their district hold on April 25th. The chairman of the highest ranking district will receive a gold badge; the chairmen of the next three districts, silver; and the next nine, bronze. Help your chairman to receive the highest rank by getting your membership and degree application in well in advance of the dead-line.

Degrees of Distinction

Richard Fowler, Hurst Twp., Pa.	Marg. Johnston, Ft. Wayne-No.
Arthur Langeland, Doland, S. D.	Robert Pratt, Oconomowoc, Wis.
Dan Potter, Omaha-Technical	Miss Sarah A. Ryan, Omaha-Cen
Richard Cosway, Newark, Ohio	Robert Elliott, Oskaloosa, Iowa
Emerson Cammack, Miami, Okla.	James Morrow, Oskaloosa, Iowa
Pauline Evans, El Reno, Okla.	H. Harold Aull, Smithville, Mo.
Josephine Fusco, Niles, Ohio	Georgiana Burnside, Cherok', Ia.
Betty Benedict, Niles, Ohio	Virginia Rice, N. Little Rock
Shirley Donovan, Casper, Wyo.	Rob. Quittmeyer, Peekskill, N.Y.
Mary Ann Porterfield, Topeka	Virginia Buth, Mayville, Wis.
Hart Spiegel, Topeka, Kans.	Miriam G. Gaines, Frankf't, Ky.
Corrine Hobbs, Topeka, Kans.	Lucille Maaske, Mayville, Wis.
Betty Warren, Topeka, Kans.	George Lehner, Mayville, Wis.
Elbert S. Cone, Central Texas	William Smith, Douglas, Wyo.
School of Oratory	Richard Abernathy, N. Dallas
Betty Koop, East Pike Run, Pa.	Martha Lyman, Niles, Ohio
Prudence Billingsley, E. Pike	Clare O'Brien, Niles, Ohio
Betty Slosky, East Pike Run	Grace Claiborne, N. Little Rock
Kathryne Beiersdorf, Emerson	Wilma Hansen, Emerson, Nebr.
Lillian Rockwell, Emerson, Nebr.	Theo. M. Welton, Omaha-Benson
O'Linn McGuire, Omaha-Benson	Mr. J. A. Nelson, Omaha-Benson
Thelma F. Shore, Blunt, S. D.	Phyllis Norman, Anacort', Wash.
Marg. Mains, Johnson City, Ten.	Mr. Warren Kingsbury, Wichita

Statistical Diet

		District Standing		Leading Chapter	Members & Degrees
Rank	Up or Down	District	New Chap. Av. No. Memb's		
1	0	New York	3	14.6	Poughkeepsie 84
2	+1	Nebraska	1	11.6	Emerson 25
3	-1	Indiana		10.5	Bloomington 28
4	+2	Wisconsin	2	8.8	Mayville 39
5	0	Missouri	4	8.0	Joplin 51
6	-2	Pennsylvania	1	7.8	Charleroi 44
7	+2	Ohio	1	7.2	Niles 62
8	+2	California	1	7.2	Bakersfield 21
9	-2	Michigan		7.0	River Rouge 19
10	-2	Illinois	3	6.4	DuQuoin 35
11	0	Texas	2	6.4	Enid, Oklahoma 35
12	0	Kansas	2	5.8	Topeka 48
13	+1	South Dakota	2	5.5	Sioux Falls 29
14	-1	Iowa		5.3	Oskaloosa 29
15	+2	Colorado	3	4.7	Fort Collins 16
16	-1	Washington	1	4.5	Lewiston, Idaho 36
17	-1	Minnesota	1	4.1	Mpls-Roosevelt 28
18	0	Southern	3	3.7	Moorefield, W. Va. 13
19	0	New England	1	1.7	Dover, Me. 8
		National	31		Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 84

Our Decalet of Leaders

Coaches	Students
Kathryn Moran, Joplin, Mo. 693	Harriet Goldstein, Br'nsville 442
L. D. Shreiver, Charleroi, Pa. 676	James Harper, DuQuoin, Ill. 341
C. H. Beem, Perry Iowa.....666	Mary A. Porterfield, Topeka 311
William Row, Pittsb'g, Kan. 656	Clifton Stratton, Topeka.....307
J. E. Mayer, Topeka, Kan.....617	Ann Pullman, N. Dallas.....306
Levi Osterhus, Minneapolis 584	Dwight Croessmann, DuQu'n 304
J. C. Aldrich, Web. Groves 561	Hart Spiegel, Topeka.....282
Hazel A. Hatch, Enid, Okla. 559	Wayne Wilson, Enid, Okla. 262
Lucile Stephens, P'ghk'psie 506	Curtis Larson, Minneapolis 261
E. L. Kimball, Chic. Eve Y....491	Helen Ward, E. Palestine, O. 259

The students who rank in the Decalet on April 25th may enter any one event in the National Speech Tournament.

Going Up

Chapters	14	461
Members	119	13,284
Keys	14	7,642
Contest Reports	692	49,399
Memoranda of Points	1165	51,611
Degrees Granted:		
Degree of Honor	55	5,915
Degree of Excellence	26	2,509
Degree of Distinction	15	1,303

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