

# Readings at National 1936

We call your attention to the following readings that were used in the National Contest at Oklahoma City.

## FIRST WINNERS

David Garrick (first in Humorous)  
The Big Parade (first in Oratorical Declamation)  
Youth and World Peace (first in Original Oratory)  
Armaments for Peace (first in Extemporaneous)

## HUMOROUS

David Garrick, 60c	The Cat Came Back, 60c
Let Brotherly Love Continue, 60c	Ladies' Aid at the Local Theatre, 60c
A Modern Sermon, 30c	X Marks the Spot, 60c
Before the Banquet, 60c	Hannibal's Wedding Belle, 60c
Brothers in Business, 60c	Jimmy Jones Studies Geography, 50c
Mrs. Cohen at the Amusement Park, 50c	Hey, Ma, 40c
A Successful Season, 50c	Just One Big Happy Family, 60c
Exit the Big Bad Wolf, 60c	The Yanks Are Coming, 60c
Simply a Matter of Love, 60c	

## DRAMATIC

The Fool Hath Said in His Heart, 60c	The Burgomaster, 50c
The Mad Man, 35c	Jean Valjean Reveals Himself, 25c
Mary Stuart, 60c	Eyes, 60c
Camille, 50c	

## ORATIONS

The War Prayer, 35c	Spartacus to the Gladiators, 25c
The Supreme Menace, 50c	All Embracing Americanism, 45c
Profit and Loss, 50c	Ropes, 50c
The Way to Peace, 50c	The Worth of the Jew, 50c
The American Ideal, 50c	The Integrity of Youth, 50c
Unknown Soldier, 25c	Homeless America, 50c
Bunker Hill Oration, 25c	Youth and World Peace, 50c
Armaments for Peace, 50c	
The Big Parade, 50c	

Send for our catalog listing these and many other State and National winning readings.

## WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU

1631 South Paxton Street  
Sioux City, Iowa

# The Rostum




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"et Your Speech Reveal Your Soul."





## THE ROSTRUM

*Official Publication of the National Forensic League*

KARL E. MUNDT, *President and Editor*

BRUNO E. JACOB, *Secretary*

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### Ours Is the Responsibility

Presidential campaigns are always unusually important from the standpoint of the speech students of America. As the school opens for the season of 1936, it might not be amiss to point out some of the highlights on the American panorama which are worth the careful study and discussion of students of the speaking art.

As never before, we find men of speech playing an important part in influencing the behavior of American voters. Some of these peers of the platform are men of doubtful eloquence, but unquestionable sincerity. Some combine eloquence with sincerity; some are undeniably eloquent! Men of the cloth; men of medicine; men of means and of methods; men of degrees and men of determination; men of the stage and men of the street—men of all manners and women, too—are drubbing the ears of American voters in hopes of conviction and conversion.

It is an encouraging sign that such phrases as, "his voice rings with sincerity," and "he speaks with conviction," and "his logic is sound" are replacing such shallow phrases as, "his gestures are impressive," and "his inflection is perfect," and "he has a wonderful voice." The magic of reason is rapidly replacing the mysticism of ranting in the mind of the American audience. All of this has a deep significance for those of us who are students of speech.

The miracle men of eloquence are giving way to the meaningful men of experience. Good speech is rapidly coming to be considered as the combination of fact and fervency rather than fancy and fluency.

Students of speech should watch the Big Show of 1936 with an eye for learning and an ear for knowledge. They should learn from both the effectiveness and the errors of those in the arena. They should start early and practice late the policy of first finding the fact and then speaking the word. Ours is the opportunity to increase our knowledge by observing the oddities and the oracles among the orators of today. Ours is the responsibility to develop speech practices which will elevate the speaking art to the pedestal of importance which it should have in a nation and which it must have in a democracy if self-government and the free interchange of ideas is to prevail.

—Karl E. Mundt.

## Mundt in Congressional Campaign

NFL members everywhere will scan their newspapers on Wednesday, Nov. 4 for South Dakota date lines to verify their belief that our editor and President will be elected to the national House of Representatives in the forthcoming election. Karl entered the primary for the Republican nomination last January, but his opponent withdrew and those who have met the NFL president at our national tournaments will agree that the opponent was wise to withdraw.

This half-size issue of the Rostrum is testimony to the vigorous campaign which Editor Mundt is directing against the Democratic incumbent opposing Karl's election to Congress. Although South Dakota is normally classified as a Republican state, it has elected Democrats for the past several years. As debate coach, commencement orator, NFL president, past-governor of Kiwanis, Izaak Walton League leader, and member of the state Conservation Commission, Mundt is well-known throughout his state and well qualified to speak for its citizens in Congress if elected.

Irrespective of party lines, NFL members know who South Dakota voters should send to Congress as their ablest representative and will have their congratulatory messages written in advance in anticipation of merited success.—Bruno E. Jacob.

### Demonstration Debate, November 19th

The annual demonstration debate on the national high school question, this year Electric Utilities, will take place on Thursday, Nov. 19, at 1 o'clock central standard time. It will be carried by the Red network of the National Broadcasting Company and affiliated stations.

The affirmative will be presented by Norman Thomas, candidate for President on the National Socialist ticket; author, lecturer, and leader in the movement for social reform. His colleague will be Dr. Harry W. Laidler, Executive Director, League for Industrial Democracy; writer, lecturer, and leader in the Socialist movement.

The negative will be upheld by William C. Mullendore, Executive Vice President of the Southern California Edison Company; Assistant to Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce; corporation lawyer and executive of large electric utilities corporations. Associated with him will be Professor Gustavus W. Dyer of Vanderbilt University, Nashville; nationally known author, lecturer, and opponent of the New Deal.

T. M. Beaird of the University of Oklahoma, the originator of these demonstration debates three years ago, and well-known to high school debaters for his work in founding the N.U.E.A. Committee on Debate Materials and as National Honorary member of the NFL, will be chairman of the debate.

To be sure that an NBC station in your area carries this program, Chairman Ingham of the N.U.E.A. Committee suggests that schools write to the stations in their area and ask for this feature.



### Verse Reading

By Mary Blackburn, Granite City, Ill.

For some years the students of Illinois under the leadership of Dean Dennis of Northwestern University have participated in verse reading. The educational and cultural value of this type of interpretation has been very evident. This past year at the National Tournament at Oklahoma City a group of students from Illinois demonstrated the type of verse used in their state. The schools represented were Peoria-Central, Wenona, Du Quoin, Freeport, and Granite City. Although the program was not presented in detail, a thorough analysis of each step was given. For the first reading each student read a cutting from Stephen Benets' poem, "John Brown's Body." This was followed by the reading of Shelly's sonnet, "Ozymandias." Some thirty minutes before the program began, the poem, "The Three Little Foxes," by Lew Sarett was given each student and the session ended with this bit of sight reading.

This year a group of poets, probably Robert Frost, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Carl Sandburg, will be submitted to the schools of Illinois and each student participating in verse reading must cut and memorize a five minute selection by one of these poets. They must also memorize a sonnet. Sight reading will be used at the contest.

Verse reading in Illinois does not take the place of any other previous type of contest. In all types the literary standards are being raised. This year only readings with literary backgrounds are to be used. Definite authors are submitted from which selections must be taken.

After all speech is taking its rightful place in our high schools and colleges; and if the teachers of speech in this country wish to see greater progress, types of interpretation which lend background and culture must be encouraged. Illinois hopes that verse reading will be added to our NFL program in 1936-1937.

(Secretary's Note: Chapters are urged to try Verse Reading contests of this kind or some other kind of their own choosing. If widespread interest develops there is no reason why the contest cannot be added to the national tournament. However, the national tournament could not properly include a contest held in just a few states and call it a national contest. Neither should the contest be included until experimentation has quite definitely settled upon a standard procedure and significant changes in the rules appear unlikely.

### DuQuoin Appreciates NFL

Dear Mr. Mundt:

The DuQuoin Debate Team and the Coach wish to thank you for your kind treatment and the pleasant things you said of them at Oklahoma City. You and Mr. Jacob deserve the deepest gratitude of those who engage in speech activities because only through the NFL, whose growth is due solely to your tireless efforts, have the highest honors in speech been made possible. All of our youngsters regret that they cannot vote for you in the South Dakota election. Sincerely,

R. P. Hibbs.

### From the Secretary's Desk

#### Your Patience Appreciated

The tolerant patience of so many Chapters in waiting for their debate material this year is especially appreciated. Two of the items to be included in the box did not reach the national office until Sept. 28. Not wishing to send out incomplete boxes and then later reshipe the extra items to nearly 300 chapters which were eligible to receive the material, we held up the mailing, from day to day expecting to receive the missing books. Chapters which have not yet returned their membership lists should do so at once and can now promptly receive their six pound boxes of debate and contest material.

#### State Honorary Members

New York Chapters have elected the Rev. Edward N. West of Ossining honorary member for the state of New York.

Wisconsin Chapters have elected Prof. Vernon A. Utzinger of Carroll College honorary member for the state of Wisconsin.

#### Chapter Honoraries

Robert Koerber, jeweler, Central High Chapter, Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
William Urban, principal, Sheboygan, Wis.  
V. E. Boardman, principal, Eveleth, Minn.  
C. R. Dustin, superintendent, Ravenna, Ohio.

#### Washington Chairman on Leave

Miss Lola M. Berry of Lewiston, Idaho, is serving as exchange instructor in the Cony High School, Augusta, Maine. Mr. Fred Ruiz of Nampa, Idaho, has been appointed District Chairman to fill the vacancy created by Miss Berry's absence. She will return to Lewiston next year.

#### NFL

Rosemary Larsen, Omaha-Central Chapter, received degree of honor No. 5,000.

#### The District Standing

On the next page appears the District Standing, a regular feature in the Rostrum each month. For the information of new members, it represents the relative standing of the various districts based on the average number of active members and degrees at each chapter.

The first column indicates the relative rank. The second column shows how this rank compares with the rank held last month, up or down, and how many places. "Members per Chapter" represents the total number of active members and degrees in that district divided by the number of chapters in the district on Sept. 1. The "Leading Chapter" is the chapter in each district which has the highest number of active members and degrees at the time and that number is given in the last column.

This table is prepared on the first of each month and represents the standing of the chapters and districts on that date rather than on the date the Rostrum is received. Enrollments of members and degrees after the first will show on the next month's standing.



## Statistical Page

## District Standing

Rank	Up or Down	District	Members per Chapter	Leading Chapter	Members & Degrees
1.	0	New York	9.3	Poughkeepsie	66
2.	+1	Wisconsin	8.8	Mayville	28
3.	-1	Nebraska	8.5	Omaha-Central	22
4.	0	Ohio	6.5	Niles	33
5.	+2	Pennsylvania	5.7	Charleroi	58
6.	+4	Illinois	5.6	DuQuoin	42
7.	-2	Indiana	5.5	Bloomington	17
8.	+4	California	5.3	Bakersfield	23
9.	-3	Missouri	4.8	Joplin	43
10.	-2	Texas	4.8	North Dallas	17
11.	0	Kansas	4.3	Topeka	28
12.	+1	Kentucky	4.3	Moorefield, W. Va.	14
13.	+1	South Dakota	4.1	Presho	23
14.	+1	Iowa	3.9	Mt. Mary	16
15.	+1	Minnesota	3.8	Mpls.-Roosevelt	19
16.	-7	Colorado	3.7	Casper, Wyoming	15
17.	-3	Tennessee	3.0	Jonesboro	12
18.	-8	Oklahoma	2.7	Enid	33
19.	0	Washington	2.5	Lewiston, Idaho	15
20.	0	New England	2.2	Portland, Maine	11
21.	0	Michigan	1.8	River Rouge	14

## Decalet of Leaders

Coaches	Students
L. D. Schreiver, Charleroi	Dw. Croessmann, DuQuoin
Kathryn Moran, Joplin	Jane Lieberman, Chaney HS
Wm. Row, Pittsburg, Kas.	Wm. Clark, Jacksonville, Ill.
J. Edmund Mayer, Topeka	Julia Pitchford, Granite City
Levi Osterhus, Minneapolis	Beat. Woodward, Charleroi
Hazel A. Hatch, Enid	Harold Mirvis, Wooster
Lucile Stephens, Poughkeepsie	Donald Eastvold, Eau Claire
Mary Blackburn, Gran. City	Robt. Johnson, Lincoln, Ill.
J. C. Aldrich, Webst. Groves	Sol. Kleinman, Milw.-Wash.
E. L. Kimball, Chicago Eve Y	Sarah Koontz, Marshall, Mo.

## Gong Up

	New	Total
Chapters	0	456
Members	82	15,023
Keys	16	8,324
Contest Reports	127	56,048
Degrees of Honor	15	5,735
Degrees of Excellence	11	3,060
Degrees of Distinction	6	1,608

## READINGS THAT WIN!

Some New and Some State and National Winners

## HUMOROUS

Abandoned Elopement	Gretna Greenhorns	Clarence, the Clerk
Anne of Green Gables	March of Schnitzelbaum	Hollywood Headache
At the Photographer's	Including Wings	Taming of the Shrew
What Price Beauty?	Kay, Queen of the	Bless Their Hearts!
Citizens of Tomorrow	Underworld	Pygmalion and Galatea

## DRAMATIC

Bells	Fair Weather Friends	Gallipeau
Camille	Laughter of Leen	Mercedes
Romeo and Juliet	The Show Must Go On	Reprisal
Riders to the Sea	The Man Who Sat	Faith

## ORATORICAL

Youth Speaks	Treason of Benedict Arnold	Willard Wilson
Ropes	All Embracing Americanism	A Way of Life
Big Parade	Strength, Sorrow Born	Pseudo Patriotism
Enough of This	Swastika Over Germany	Footfalls of Civilization

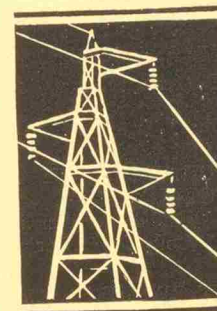
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