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THE SPEAKER
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EDITOR—Bert E. Bradley, Jr., University of Richmond; ASSOCIATE EDITORS—Theodore Clevenger, Jr., University of Illinois; Charles Helgesen, Western Michigan University.

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TKA

FOUNDER: Oswald Ryan............................................................Washington, D.C.

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COUNSEL: George Lamb........................................................Pennsylvania Building, Washington, D.C.

PRES. OF STUDENT COUNCIL: Richard Roberts .........................University of Kentucky
The 1959 Conference of Tau Kappa Alpha held at Rutgers University was another successful venture in the series that we have been conducting for approximately 20 years. The facilities were excellent and the activities were conducted in such a manner as to make the event a worthwhile one in every way for all those who attended. That the National Conference is an important part of the program of TKA, we are all agreed. However, there are problems that must be faced and this is a good time to face up to the fact that we are not utilizing this event to its maximum potential.

What are these problems and what can we do about them? The first and most pressing problem is that of attendance. During the past decade there are approximately one-fourth of our chapters that have not been represented at a single National Conference. There are chapters that have been issued charters during this period that have never attended a National Conference. That every chapter can attend every year is a goal to be desired but one that is hardly realistic; however, as I have checked over the list of schools that have not attended, I am amazed to discover that there are many that have made longer and more expensive trips than many of the TKA conferences that they have missed would have been. In other words most schools with an active forensic program manage to make the trips that they really want to make. It is obvious that the National Conference of Tau Kappa Alpha has not been on the list of those tournaments or events that many of our schools desire to attend. Why is this the case? What is wrong? What can we do to correct this situation? We must face up to this problem. If changes must be made to correct this situation, then we must make the changes necessary to bring about a change of attitude on the part of many of our chapters toward our National Conference.

A special committee was appointed at the Council Meetings at Rutgers to study the many problems of our National Conference. It is hoped that we will be able to correct many of the problems with which we are now faced. This committee is composed of the Regional Governors, Mr. Donald Sprague of the University of Miami, and Mrs. Annabel Hagood of the University of Alabama as Chairman. The committee will report to the Council at its meeting in Washington, D. C. during the SAA Convention in December.
The committee needs your help. They need to know what you would like to have at our National Conference. What activities should we sponsor? What events should be included? What are we doing now that you like or don't like? How can we improve the conference? In short, what kind of conference would you like to make a special effort to attend annually. Or, should we consider the possibility of the biennial conference? This pattern has been adopted by two of the societies. Your reactions to the questions above and to other matters are important. It is your conference and it is up to you to have your say in the kind of event it will be. If there are to be changes, we hope that they will reflect the wishes of as many of the chapters as possible. I hope that the students through the National Student Council will give us their help in this matter. We need and must have the point of view of the students in our consideration.

I am sure that we would all like to see our National Conference the most important Forensic event in the nation. We can make it this if we will give the matter our serious study and work at the job. Give this matter an important place on the agenda of your chapter deliberations and at your regional conferences. Most important of all give the members of the committee the benefit of your thinking. Important decisions are going to be made. We want you to have a voice in these decisions.

ANNOUNCING

THE TWENTIETH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

of

Tau Kappa Alpha

University of Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah

March 21, 22, 23, 1960

Professor George A. Adamson, Director
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Tau Kappa Alpha climaxed the Golden Jubilee Year by presenting Distinguished Alumni Awards to eight of its truly outstanding members. This award was initiated by action of the Executive Council at its 1957 meeting and was continued this year by council action taken at the Lexington meeting in 1958. The purpose of the award is to recognize in a special way the achievements of alumni of Tau Kappa Alpha. To date the fraternity has so honored eighteen former college debaters who by their accomplishments since leaving college have brought prestige and honor to themselves and thus to their colleges and Tau Kappa Alpha chapters.

The recipients this year are some of TKA’s most distinguished and, in at least four cases, oldest members. It is an honor to present them to you.

NICHOLAS M. CRIPKE
Chairman, Distinguished Alumni Committee

After his admission to the Indiana Bar in 1912, Adams practiced law in Indianapolis until 1926. He also served as Prosecuting Attorney for Marion County, Indiana in 1919-1920.

In 1926, Mr. Adams turned his attention to insurance. His success in this new field is attested by the many significant posts which he has held. He is President, The Ohio State Life Insurance Company; Past President, American Life Convention; Former Director, Life Insurance Association of America; Former Director of Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau; Former Director of the Life Insurance Medical Research Fund; Former Chairman of the Joint Committee on Federal Income Taxation of Life Insurance Companies, and at present holds the post of Executive Vice President and General Counsel of American Life Convention.

CLARIS ADAMS

Claris Adams, one of the founders of Tau Kappa Alpha, was born in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, on February 8, 1891. He was a student at Hiram Preparatory School, Hiram, Ohio, 1904-1907. He then earned an A.B. degree at Butler University, 1910, and an LL.B. degree at Indiana Law School, 1912. While at Butler University he was a member of Phi Delta Theta social fraternity.

A member of numerous professional and honor societies, Mr. Adams has also been active in civic affairs. He is a Past President of the Community Chest of Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio, and was Campaign Chairman in 1941 and 1948. He has also served as Director of the Regional Board of Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia for the Boy Scouts of America.
W. Norwood Brigance was born in 1896 in DeSoto County, Mississippi. He grew up on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in western South Dakota. Although he never attended high school, Professor Brigance entered the University of South Dakota in 1911 for a preliminary year to determine whether he could take college work. He was admitted as a freshman in 1916, and participated as an intercollegiate debater for two years. In 1916 he won the First Annual Extemporaneous Speaking Contest, a contest which is now approaching its forty-fifth year. He was the recipient of the Philo Sherman Bennett prize in political science and was chosen as student commencement speaker at the graduation of 1916. Dr. Brigance was awarded the M.A. by the University of Nebraska, 1920, and the Ph.D. by the University of Iowa, 1930.

Except for two years, 1936-1938, when he was on leave of absence to act as Professor of Speech and Chairman of the Department of English, University of Hawaii, Dr. Brigance has served as Professor of Speech in Wabash College since 1922.

One of the outstanding members of the Speech profession, Professor Brigance was editor of the Quarterly Journal of Speech, 1942-1945, and President of the Speech Association of America in 1946. He is the author of fourteen books on speech, history, and biography.

This is not the first time that Tau Kappa Alpha has recognized the abilities of Dr. Brigance. In 1951, he received the Tau Kappa Alpha award as the Speaker of the Year in Education and Culture in the United States.

Between 1926 and 1956, Professor Brigance lectured at conferences and institutes at colleges and universities in all sections of the country. In 1952 he was elected as a Phi Beta Kappa Associate, which is limited to 200 of the 150,000 living members.

**LAWRENCE E. DeVORE**

Born in Greenacastle, Indiana on May 31, 1887, Lawrence E. DeVore was educated in the public schools of Crawfordsville and was graduated from the local High School in 1907. He then entered Wabash College and was graduated in 1911. While in Wabash College he was one of the founders of Tau Kappa Alpha and was a member of Phi Delta Theta social fraternity.

After graduating from Wabash College, Mr. DeVore entered the farm loan business and became a member of the firm Evans-DeVore and Company. This firm made farm loan investments for the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company for the states of Indiana and Ohio. On May 1, 1936, he became man-
ager of the Branch Office of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company and serviced the farm loan investments of that company in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois until his retirement on May 1, 1953.

On January 13, 1953, Mr. DeVore was elected President of The First National Bank and Trust Company of Crawfordsville and served in that capacity for three years. In January, 1956, he was elected Chairman of the Board of the Bank and served until January, 1958.

Mr. DeVore was a Trustee of Wabash College for 18 years and acted as Chairman of the Building Committee when a number of the buildings were constructed. He was also a member of the Board of Trustees of Wabash College Foundation from January 1, 1933 to December, 1956.

He served as a Director of the Crawfordsville Country Club for thirty-six years and acted as President for three years. He is a member of the Methodist Church and was a member of the Board of Trustees of his church. Mr. DeVore is a member of the Rotary Club and held the post of President one year.

Herbert James Herring was born in Pender County, North Carolina on December 11, 1899. He attended Duke University which awarded him a B.A. degree and a Phi Beta Kappa key in 1922. In 1929 he earned an A.M. degree from Columbia University.

Except for two years, 1922-1924, of teaching in high school in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Mr. Herring's teaching career has been devoted to Duke University. From 1925 to 1943 he was a teacher of speech. During that time he also served as Assistant Dean, 1924-1935, and Dean of Men, 1935-1942. In 1942 he was advanced to the
position of Dean of Trinity College, a position he held until 1956. Since 1946 he has been the Vice President in the Division of Student Life.

Professor Herring's contributions to the field of education have extended beyond Duke University, however, for he has been a member of the Committee on the International Exchange of Persons; a member of the Committee on Leaders and Specialists of the American Council on Education; a member of the Educational Advisory Committee to the Committee on Education, House of Representatives, 78th Congress; a member of the Board of Trustees of Louisburg College; and a member of the Executive Committee on the North Carolina College Conference. In addition, he has served as President of the North Carolina Association of Collegiate Registrars, President of the North Carolina College Conference, and Chairman of the Academic Deans of the Southern States.

Still Mr. Herring has found time for an active civic life. He is past Grand Praetor of Sigma Chi social fraternity, past president of the Rotary Club, past president of the Executives Club, past Chairman of the United Fund Campaign for Durham and Durham County, and is presently President of the United Fund of Durham and Durham County. In 1951 he was honored for his outstanding work as a Bible Class teacher in the Trinity Methodist Church of Durham.

EDWIN W. LAWRENCE

Edwin W. Lawrence was born March 27, 1881, at Rutland, Vermont. He received the A.B. degree Cum Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Vermont in 1901. In 1955 he was awarded an honorary degree by Middleburg College.

He was admitted to the Vermont Bar in October, 1902. Then came a long succession of honors and services: November, 1902, appointed Assistant Clerk of Committee on Agriculture in United States Senate; May, 1903, appointed assistant Attorney for Post Office Department; August, 1905, became Assistant Attorney in Department of Justice; June, 1906, entered law office of Simpson, Thacher, and Bartlett, New York City, during which time he was admitted to the Bar of New York State; August, 1908, appointed Special Assistant to the United States Attorney General; November, 1908, returned to Rutland to become General Attorney of Rutland Railroad Company and is still serving as such; 1923-1927, served as Senator in Vermont Senate; 1917-1941 and 1953-1957, acted as Trustee of the University of Vermont. In addition to engaging in general practice of law since 1912, Lawrence has served as Di-
rector and Vice President of the Killington Bank and Trust Company, Director of Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, and Director of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.

For twenty-five years Mr. Lawrence has manifested interest in collegiate debating by donating substantial funds to the University of Vermont and Middlebury College. Most of the money is to be held in trust with the income to be used to promote debating. Mr. Lawrence believes that debate activity contributes greatly in developing character and ability and in preparing students to become outstanding leaders in their communities.

WALTER H. LINN

Walter H. Linn, a graduate of Wabash College, was one of the founders of Tau Kappa Alpha. He served as the first Treasurer of the society.

WALTER R. MILES

"Speaking pieces" at school, church sociables, and Fourth-of-July celebrations was a favorite sport in which many parents of the 'gay nineties' era trained their offspring. Oratorical contests and debates in academies and colleges then claimed as much attention as athletic meets. So it was in Western Oregon where Walter R. Miles, one of the founders of Tau Kappa Alpha, had his early education at Pacific College. He successfully represented his school in debates and oratorical contests. One series included a national contest held in Indianapolis in 1904.

He received his B.S. degree from Pacific College in 1906 and by this time had become interested in psychology. Earlham College was found to have a psychological laboratory and furthermore was willing to grant a scholarship to a Western lad who had formed the habit of winning contests. The educational-oratorical game was continued at Earlham with the support of Professor Edw. Trueblood, and a fair success achieved. The A.B. degree was granted in 1908. That year was also important in other ways, in that the young psychologist married and began his teaching career. In 1909, he began to do graduate work in psychology at Iowa University under the direction of Professor Carl E. Seashore. By private coaching in debate and public speaking, serving as part-time 'student-pastor' for a village church nearby, and serving laboratory assistantships, the young graduate student managed to support his family and earn his M.A. in 1910 and his Ph.D. in 1913.

Dr. Miles then was appointed Associate Professor of Psychology at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, and taught there from
1913-1914. He then accepted a position as Research Psychologist at the Carnegie Nutrition Laboratory, Boston, close neighbor and colleague of the Harvard Medical School. After eight years of research work there on various problems, some of them related to World War I, he accepted the Professorship of Experimental Psychology at Stanford University in December 1922. In 1920, while representing the Carnegie Institution, Dr. Miles made an extended European tour of research laboratories and lectured at some of them. As a Stanford professor, he continued to travel and lecture frequently. In addition to teaching elementary and graduate classes and supervising doctoral candidates, Dr. Miles conducted a program of studies on the psychological changes associated with aging in human adults.

In July 1931, Dr. Miles became Professor of Psychology at Yale University, with assignment to the Graduate and Medical Schools. His wife, Dr. Catharine Cox Miles, was appointed Clinical Professor of Psychology, also at Yale, and they took up residence in New Haven in June, 1932. They both worked in the Institute of Human Relations, and as attending psychologists at New Haven Hospital and Dispensary from 1932-1954. During World War II, Dr. Walter Miles was much involved as a civilian in National Research Council committees on Aviation medicine and psychology, and for some months was a consultant to the Royal Air Force in Great Britain. He served as Chairman of the Division of Anthropology and Psychology of N.R.C. in 1946. He was given the Presidential Certificate of Merit, 1948, and the Howard Crosby Warren medal in 1949. A member and officer of several scientific and professional societies, including the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, he was President of the American Psychological Association in 1932 at the 40th anniversary of its founding. He has served as U.S. delegate to international congresses and in 1944 was a National Sigma Xi Lecturer.

After becoming Emeritus Professor at Yale in 1953, he served the Republic of Turkey as Professor of Psychology at Istanbul University 1954-1957, coming in the latter part of that year to his present position as Scientific Director, at the Naval Medical Research Laboratory, Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut.

Dr. Miles has published many scientific articles and several monographs in the field of physiological psychology. He is a Quaker, a Democrat, and a member of the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C.

HUGH SCOTT

Hugh Scott was elected to the United States Senate from the state of Pennsylvania in November, 1958. Prior to his election to the Senate, Senator Scott served for sixteen years in the House of Representatives from the Sixth District of Pennsylvania. From 1926 to 1941 Mr. Scott served as the Assistant District Attorney of the city of Philadelphia.

The value of Hugh Scott to the Republican Party is demonstrated by the significant jobs he has performed. He has acted as General Counsel, Republican National Committee; National Chairman, Republican Party, 1948-1949; Chairman of the regional organization, Eisenhower campaign, January-July, 1952; Eisenhower personal staff, July-November, 1952; and Chairman, Eisenhower Headquarters Committee, 1952.
While there he visited American soldiers and sailors in Great Britain and France, and interviewed Prime Minister Churchill on a Normandy beachhead. He also saw active service with the United States Navy in World War II. His duties included service with the North Atlantic Patrol and participation in the Occupation of Japan with the Third Amphibious Force.

An active member of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and American Bar Associations, Senator Scott is the author of two books: Scott on Bailments and How to Go into Politics. He is also an Honorary Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

Senator Scott attended the University of Pennsylvania in 1918. He was awarded an A.B. degree, along with a Phi Beta Kappa key, from Randolph-Macon College in 1919. In 1922, he earned the LL.B. degree at the University of Virginia. Scott has also been awarded honorary degrees by Randolph-Macon College and La Salle College.

Hugh Scott

In 1944 Scott enlisted incognito as a merchant seaman on a tanker carrying high octane gasoline to Great Britain.
SUMMARY OF THE 1959 NATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF TAU KAPPA ALPHA

MR. KARL M. MOLL, Director

The 1959 National Conference of Tau Kappa Alpha, concluding the special activities of the Golden Anniversary year, was held on the campus of Rutgers—the State University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, on April 23-25.

The most significant highlight of the Conference was the gathering together of TKA members from all over the United States. All parts of the United States were, for the most part, well represented with schools coming from such far-flung corners as California in the west, New Mexico in the southwest, Florida in the south, and Vermont in the north. There were a total of 47 schools attending, representing 21 different states. These schools brought a total representation of 260 students and faculty to participate in the various events. The four-man debate event had the greatest participation with 120 students entered from 30 different institutions. The second most diversified event was the public speaking contest in which 27 schools entered 49 participants. The two-man debate event had 40 entrants from 20 schools, while discussion was represented by 13 schools having 28 participants.

Following TKA's motto of "honor for merit" this conference was, as the others have been in the past, a time for honoring those groups and individuals who have distinguished themselves in forensics. Not only were those students and schools who distinguished themselves in the various forensic events cited at the conclusion of the conference, but the conference banquet was highlighted by the presentation of awards to distinguished alumni and "Speakers-of-the-Year." It was indeed a great pleasure to have had Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, recipient of a Speaker-of-the-Year award, to give the major address at the banquet.

While all of the items mentioned above will be described in considerable detail on other pages of this SPEAKER, it is suggested that all members of TKA examine the statistics and reports that are to follow to help us plan a bigger and better conference for next year.
NATIONAL STUDENT OFFICERS, 1959-1960

President................................................. Dean Ellis, University of Utah
First Vice President................................. Tom Read, Brigham Young University
Second Vice President......................... Robert Canary, Denison University
Secretary-Treasurer................................. Lessley Decker, University of Kentucky

Left to right—Lessley Decker, Robert Canary, Dean Ellis, Tom Read
TWO MAN DEBATE

HAROLD CHINN, Morgan State College, Director

1. University of Alabama: Craig Bamberger, David McCaleb
2. University of Vermont: David Gale, Kenneth Dannett
3. Brigham Young University: Tom Read, George Clendenin
FOUR MAN DEBATE

RAYMOND BEARD, Cortland (N.Y.) State College, Director

1. Butler University:
   John Stark, Priscilla Thomas, Sam Stegman, Seth Lewis

2. Vanderbilt University:
   Tom Templin, Joe Roby, Joe Sills, Chester Burns

3. University of Vermont:
   Jane Sherman, David Curtis, Robert Ronan, Charles Tierney

4. University of South Dakota:
   Cynthia Selebert, Mary Pat Barstow, Duane Rasmussen, Dick Frieberg
DEBATE INDIVIDUAL AWARD WINNERS

Seated, left to right—Priscilla Thomas, Nancy Gasperlin, Alberta Dayhuff. Standing, left to right—Fred LeClerq, Dick Frieberg, David McCaleb, Seth Lewis, Kenneth Dannet, Blas Herrero, Jr.

TOP TEN DEBATE SPEAKERS

1. Fred LeClerq—University of South Carolina
2. Robert Hanna—University of New Mexico
3. TIE: Dick Frieberg—University of South Dakota
   Priscilla Thomas—Butler University
5. David McCaleb—University of Alabama
6. Nancy Gasperlin—St. Cloud State College
7. Kenneth Dannet—University of Vermont
8. Alberta Dayhuff—Capital University
9. Blas Herrero, Jr.—University of Miami
10. Seth Lewis—Butler University
DISCUSSION AWARD WINNERS

Seated, left to right—Suzanne Wilson, Charles Hast, Mary Kirincich, Marietta Foraker. Standing, left to right—Donald Sinclair, Bruce Eisner, Anne Whitaker, Joe Pellish, Sam Speck, Pauline Rose (substituting for Jose Asumendi).

DISCUSSION

ANGUS AUSTEN, Rutgers University, Director

1. Jose Asumendi—Lynchburg College
2. TIE: Charles Hast—Muskingum College
   Mary Kirincich—Rutgers University
4. Marietta Foraker—University of Kentucky
5. Suzanne Wilson—Muskingum College
6. Anne Whitaker—University of Kentucky
7. TIE: Bruce Eisner—Rutgers University
   Joe Pellish—Mankato State College
   Donald Sinclair—Alma College
10. Sam Speck—Muskingum College
The Student Congress has for the past several years been a part of the TKA National Conference. With the belief that this Congress provided unusual opportunities for realistic, practical experience with the legislative process, it was felt that some steps should be taken to improve this activity which seemed to be dying out. It was with this idea in mind that Rutgers University instituted several modifications for the 1959 Congress. It was hoped that these changes would enhance student interest and participation and allow the Congress to provide the optimum opportunity for this type of experience.

The first change that was made, as directed by the Student Council, was to use only one topic. The topic selected was that of the debate question, which was felt to be better understood by the greater number of students. This topic, in turn, was divided into two sub-topics for work by each of the committees. Furthermore, each school was asked to commit itself in advance of the conference as to its topic preference and come prepared to submit twenty copies of a bill that they had prepared. This, it should be noted, was done to encourage members of the Congress to prepare ahead of time and to speed action on the bills throughout the committee sessions.

The second major change was the provision for political activity. Here again the members of the Congress were requested to commit themselves prior to registration as to their preference for membership in the “Conservative” or “Liberal” party. To organize and control the political activity of the Congress, time was provided in the schedule for caucusing of the two political parties. This was done to allow each of the political groups to determine and solidify their party lines on each of the questions that would eventually be posed before the Congress. To make this type of activity as realistic as possible, party headquarters were established and maintained for each of the groups and identifying ribbons were provided for each party member.

The results of all these modifications are probably yet to be determined. A great deal of oral evidence was presented to the Director which indicated overwhelming enthusiasm for the revised Congress activity. This was substantiated by a questionnaire concerning the Congress that was distributed by the Student Council. The results of this questionnaire will be officially reported by your Student Council at some later date.

Since the Congress must, if it is going to be a worthwhile experience, occupy a large portion of time during the National Conference, I think it behooves all TKA members to give thoughtful consideration as to what might be the role of the Congress in future National TKA Conferences.
AWARD WINNING CONGRESSIONAL SPEAKERS

Seated, left to right—Sarah Seidel, Tex Fitzgerald, Joe Pellish. Standing, left to right—Craig Bamberger, William Wagstaff.

CONGRESS

Sam Pritchard, Albany Teachers College, Director

1. Tex Fitzgerald—University of Kentucky
2. Joe Pellish—Mankato State College
3. Sarah Seidel—University of Utah
4. William Wagstaff—Morgan State College
5. Craig Bamberger—University of Alabama
PUBLIC SPEAKING AWARD WINNERS

Seated, left to right—Joseph Krakora, Dean Ellis, Alan Fox. Standing, left to right—Douglas Rogers, Sam Speck.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Merritt Jones, New York University (Wash. Sq.), Director

1. Dean Ellis—University of Utah
2. Joseph Krakora—Denison University
3. Alan Fox—University of Southern California
4. Sam Peck—Muskingum College
5. Douglas Rogers—Indiana State University
The 1959 meeting of the National Student Council was called to order by the President, Dick Roberts. He introduced Prof. Huber as our advisor.

The first topic discussed was that funds be provided to allow one national officer to attend each Regional Conference for the purpose of making sure elections are properly held and delegates properly elected. Discussion brought out that actually a need did not exist for this action to be taken, but the sentiment of the group was that Regional Presidents should be present at these regional affairs, and further, that correspondence between regional officers and national officers should be more frequent and should be centered around the idea of keeping chapters active and in touch with one another. It was further suggested that the Secretary and the President should work closer together to further these aims.

It was then moved and seconded “that the National Student Council recommend to the Executive Council that funds be provided to assist and encourage the National Student Council officers to go to the winter convention.” The motion was defeated.

Moved and seconded “that the National Student Council go on record as approving the idea that in all tournaments strength be matched against strength to facilitate the method of determining the winners.” Joseph Leo, Rutgers University, mentioned that due to certain physical plant handicaps all schools might not be able to do this. The motion was defeated.

The motion was then made and seconded “that power matching be used at all Tau Kappa Alpha events including both national and regional events, and further, that it be encouraged at all tournaments where feasible.” The motion was passed by a 12-1 vote of the council.

The council went on record last year as supporting the idea that only one Speaker-of-the-Year Award be given, and that the winner be at the banquet to receive his award. Motion was made and seconded “that the stand of the previous year be re-affirmed.” Questions arose during the discussion that the President thought could be answered better by Dr. Charles Redding, Chairman of the National Board of Award. Dr. Redding was asked to join the Student Council in order that these questions might be answered. Dr. Redding pointed out that the primary problem is not financial but is that of processing the candidates. After his talk, a five minute questioning period was allowed.

Prof. Huber then suggested that an agenda be drawn up as a guide for the remainder of the Student Council meeting.
President Dick Roberts then stated that the following problems must be covered at the next session:

1. Speaker-of-the-Year Award.
3. Consideration of staggering National Conference with Regional events.
4. Events at the National Conference.
5. Consideration of the section concerning the “upper 35% of the class.”

The meeting was then adjourned until the luncheon meeting on March 24.

The luncheon meeting on March 24 was opened with the announcement by President Roberts that the Executive Council had decided to limit the Speaker-of-the-Year Award to one person. He also stated that it was the belief of the Executive Council that the person chosen would not be able to attend the banquet to receive the award. The motion of the previous meeting, “that only one Speaker-of-the-Year Award be given and that it be recommended that the recipient be at the banquet to receive the award,” was amended to read, “that only one Speaker-of-the-Year Award be given.” The motion was carried 8-4.

Moved and seconded “that the National Student Council recommend to all Regional Governors that Regional Tournaments be held in the first semester of each year, and that it further be recommended that Discussion be included in Regional Conferences.” The motion passed 8-6.

Moved and seconded “that the Council go on record as favoring that steps be taken to make Discussion more effective at the National Conference level.” Amended by a 10-4 vote to read “that Discussion groups not be in conflict with debates in Regional and National Conferences.” The motion passed by a 12-1 vote.

The motion was made and seconded “that the Student Council go on record that it wishes that no action be made to drop Discussion as a Conference event without consultation with the Student Council.” Motion was passed unanimously.

Moved and seconded “that the Student Council go on record as favoring an annual National Conference and annual or biennial Regional Conferences as the local desire may be.” The motion was amended to read, “that this Council go on record as favoring an annual National Conference and annual Regional Conferences.” The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

Dr. Redding then spoke to the group concerning the Executive Council’s decision on the Speaker-of-the-Year Awards. The Student Council voted to give Dr. Redding a round of applause in order to show our appreciation for his time given to us.

Moved and seconded “that Student Council representatives in the future not be members of the caucuses and committee meetings of the Student Congress.” Motion was defeated.

Moved and seconded “that the host school allot sufficient time for such meetings as the National Student Council feels necessary.” A substitute motion, “that the Conference director correspond with the President of the National Student
Council as to how much time he feels will be needed,” was offered. The substitute motion was passed.

Moved and seconded “that the National President be instructed to submit an agenda to all members of the National Student Council at least two weeks in advance of the National Conference.” The motion passed.

The President then recommended that all members of the Council attend the session of the Congress in the afternoon in order to help them evaluate it at the next meeting.

Prof. Huber, the advisor, next suggested that the Council consider the idea of setting up a committee to try to codify and set up a structure for future meetings, decisions, recommendations, and motions. He suggested that this be done in order to make the procedures and operations as a whole more meaningful to incoming officers.

The meeting was then adjourned until after the election of new officers following the banquet.

Respectfully submitted,
Dottie West
University of Maryland
Acting Secretary

An informal meeting was held at noon, March 25, in a smaller dining room in the main Commons. Dick Roberts, Student Council President, presided.

Dr. Huber started discussion by suggesting that the Council make sure that the new Council is set up on time. Dean Ellis, the new President, suggested that a committee be formed to assure that the names and addresses of all the new members be available by December. Dick Roberts appointed the following to this committee: Dean Ellis, University of Utah, Chairman; John Paylor, Randolph-Macon College; Lynn Zeller, New York University; Bob Canary, Denison University; and Tom Read, Brigham Young University.

Discussion was then shifted to the Student Congress. John Safko suggested that (1) there should be more than two committees within the Congress, and (2) there should not be forced splits within the committees.

Following much debate on these and other suggestions, Joe Sills, Vanderbilt, moved “that the Student Council recommend that the congressional topic be a current and lively topic rather than that of the debate or discussion topic.” This motion was withdrawn when Dr. Huber offered the idea of voting on various questions that concerned the Congress. The following questions were set up and voted upon:

(1) Should the Congress adopt a topic other than the debate or discussion topic? Yes 13; No 1.

(2) Should there be only one topic discussed? Yes 12; No 2.

(3) Should there be more time allowed for the Congress? Yes 13; No 1.

(4) Should the Congress be divided into two houses? Yes 7; No 6.

(5) Should there be party affiliation? Yes 11; No 2.

(6) Should there be pre-set party platforms? Yes 4; No 7.
Fred LeClercq, University of South Carolina, suggested that the Student Council recommend to the Executive Council that public speaking be replaced by extemporaneous or impromptu speaking or both. Discussion followed and a vote of the twelve members present was taken. It was as follows:

1. Public Speaking? Yes 3; No 9.
2. Extemporaneous Speaking? Yes 10; No 0.
3. Impromptu Speaking? Yes 5; No 0.
4. Oratory? Yes 5; No 0.
5. After Dinner Speaking? Yes 7; No 0.

The National Student Council meeting for 1959 was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lessley Decker
University of Kentucky
Secretary

MINUTES OF TAU KAPPA ALPHA NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Rutgers University
March 23, 1959

1. The National Executive Council of Tau Kappa Alpha met from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. March 23, 1959 at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Present at the meeting were:

   President: Dr. Earl E. Bradley, Southern Illinois University
   First Vice Pres: Prof. Annabel Hagood, University of Alabama
   2nd Vice Pres: Dr. Victor Powell, Wabash College
   3rd Vice Pres: Dr. Robert Huber, University of Vermont
   Sec. Treas.: Dr. Ralph Y. McGinnis, Montana State University
   Editor, The Speaker: Dr. Bert Bradley, University of Richmond

Regional Governors:
   I. Northeastern: Dr. Raymond S. Beard, Cortland State College
   II. Mideastern: Dr. Karl Moll, Rutgers University
   III. Virginia: Dr. Bert E. Bradley, University of Richmond
   IV. Southern: Dr. Joe C. Weatherby, Duke University
   V. Ohio-Kentucky: Dr. James McIntyre, Case Institute of Technology
   VI. Midwestern: Dr. Nicholas M. Cripe, Butler University
   VII. Western: Prof. George Adamson (Acting Gov.), University of Utah

Member at Large:
   Prof. Donald Sprague, University of Miami

Chairman of Standing Committees:
   I. Standards: Dr. Wayne C. Eubank, University of New Mexico
   II. Finance: Dr. Victor Powell, Wabash College
   III. Expansion: Prof. Annabel Hagood, University of Alabama

President of Student Council: Richard Roberts, University of Kentucky
Vice Pres., Student Council: William Zinn, Denison University
2. The application of Rochester Institute of Technology for a chartered chapter of Tau Kappa Alpha was submitted to the Council with the unanimous recommendation of the members of the Standards Committee. The Council approved the application.

3. The President introduced a discussion on the subject of TKA finances by reading the following quotations from a letter from the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

A. Membership per school. Although TKA is relatively stronger now than a year or two years ago ("dead" chapters have been deactivated), the average number of new members per school remains low. In 1956-57 the average was 2.4. In 1957-58 the average was 2.7. About half of our chapters initiate only one or two new members per year. Yet some of these same schools have over 100 debates per year with 20 or more debaters participating. Apparently some potential TKA members are not being initiated.

B. Finances. Aside from the small royalty payments from the TKA Textbook, the only source of revenue for Tau Kappa Alpha is in the membership fee from new members. Thus, if the number of new members per year does not increase proportional to the increased costs of the fraternity, we shall be forced in the future to draw upon the fraternity savings in order to meet operating expenses.

C. Costs. Expenses are increasing. For example, the cost of printing and distributing the last four issues of The Speaker exceeded the entire income from new memberships for a full year. Costs of postage, printing (of letterheads, membership cards, etc.), and office supplies, have all increased during the past year. National Council appropriations for Committee Activities and for Awards (such as Alumni Awards) have increased greatly. The aims, services and programs of TKA are very laudable. But the increased costs must be balanced with increased income.

D. New Chapters. One way of safeguarding the financial stability of TKA is to encourage the establishment of new chapters. In this regard, the present attitude by the National Council toward Institutes of Technology might be reappraised.

E. New Members. Another way of maintaining a balanced budget, in view of the increased activity and services of TKA, is to increase the average number of new members per chapter per year.

F. Chapter Membership Fee. Another suggestion for financing the new and proposed services of TKA is to assess each chapter a small ($5 or $10) annual chapter fee, whether or not a chapter initiates any new members.

G. Raising Individual Membership Fees. This proposal might help. Other Honorary Fraternities charge more than $8.00 per member. However, letters from some TKA sponsors have indicated that eligible members do not join TKA because they cannot afford the cost.
The Secretary-Treasurer reported that the TKA Savings account with the Western Montana Building and Loan Company on December 31, 1958 was $7,894.53. The Secretary-Treasurer further reported that the cash balance in the open account at Montana State University would easily pay all financial obligations of the fraternity through the 1958-59 school year. However, he further reported that if present expenses of about $30,000.00 per year and present incomes of less than $28,000.00 per year continue into the next school year, the resulting unbalanced budget will require a withdrawal from the Savings Account for operating expenses.

Moved by Powell, seconded by Cripe "that an annual chapter fee of $10.00 be charged each chapter of Tau Kappa Alpha."

Moved by Sprague, seconded by Eubank, to table the previous motion until the Council meeting the next day, March 24, 1959, at 1:00 p.m. The motion was PASSED.

4. Dr. Charles Redding submitted a detailed report for the Committee on Speaker-of-the-Year awards. He recommended that the entire program be reappraised and that one of the four following plans with regard to the future of the awards should be adopted by the Council:

A. Continue the status quo (costing about $200—very little publicity or research or presentation ceremony).

B. Discontinue the Awards.

C. Operate a moderately expanded program (costing probably $400 to $600 a year) (e.g.—the reduction of Award areas to three or even to one, or the retention of all five areas with only one selected each year for an Award; plus somewhat expanded research and duplicating facilities, plus more concentrated efforts on national publicity, and personal presentation ceremony to winner(s) in connection with National Conference).

D. Operate a really major effort (costing at least $800 to $1,000 a year) (greatly expanded research and consultation facilities; major presentation ceremony in person to one or more winners at National Conference; major publicity, involving releases to all wire services, major papers, news-magazines, photographs, radio-TV, etc.).

Moved by Hagood, seconded by Beard, "that if the Council can finance the program, the National Council should adopt a moderately expanded program (Program C above) beginning with the 1959-60 school year." The motion was PASSED.

Moved by Huber, seconded by Weatherby, "that the five areas be retained; that each year the Speaker-of-the-Year Awards Board make a preliminary survey and determine the most promising area of the five for such an award; that the Board shall then make a definitive study of the chosen area and determine the Speaker of the Year Award; and that the Board be permitted to make no award should their definitive study bring that conclusion." The motion was PASSED.
Moved by Hagood, seconded by Sprague, "that if appropriate financial support cannot be provided, the Speaker-of-the-Year Award should be discontinued." The motion was PASSED.

5. The President called for invitations for holding the 1960 Annual Conference and received the following recommendations:

A. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah—March 21-23 (Mon.-Wed.) 1960.


C. University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida—any time, any year.

The President appointed the following members to a Conference Time and Place Committee:

Dr. Wayne Eubank, Dr. Joe Weatherby, Dr. Raymond Beard. The Committee was instructed to report on Tuesday, March 24 by 2:00 p.m.

6. The President read a letter from Prof. Hagood relative to the annual Student Congress at annual events of the Conference. Moved by Huber, seconded by Sprague, "that the Council consider at its Tuesday meeting, March 24, 1959, a re-evaluation of the Student Congress and Discussion contests as activities of the annual conference.

Moved by Cripe, seconded by Huber, "to amend the motion to include the recommendations and opinions from the Student Council." The Amendment was PASSED. The original motion, as amended, was PASSED.

7. The President read a letter from Dr. David Potter, Editor of the TKA Textbook, Argumentation and Debate. Considerable discussion centered around the fact that Holt & Company, publishers of the textbook, failed to list it in their advertising on Speech books. Dr. Charles Redding was appointed by the President to meet with representatives of the Holt Publishing Co., New York City, to learn on what basis the book will be advertised and sold in the future.

8. The President reported that the Alumni Awards Committee had granted eight such awards for 1959. Such awards would be announced at the Conference Banquet, March 24.

Moved by Huber, seconded by Powell, "that the National Council continue the policy of recognizing from time to time outstanding Tau Kappa Alpha alumni." The motion was PASSED.

9. The President read a letter which proposed the formation of a Forensic Educators National Conference. The matter was recommended for consideration at the Council Meeting the next day.

10. The National Council adjourned until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 1959.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1959 - 1:00 p.m.

11. The motion regarding an annual chapter fee of $10.00 was taken from the table. The motion was PASSED.

Moved by Hagood, seconded by Moll:
A. "That each Chapter be billed by the National Secretary-Treasurer on
October 1 of each year for the $10.00 Chapter dues.

B. That this amount may be paid
   To the National Secretary-Treasurer, or
   To the Director of a Regional TKA Tournament, or
   To the Director of the National TKA Conference.

C. That if the Chapter dues are not paid within twelve months from the date
   of billing, the Chapter be deactivated."

The motion was PASSED.

Moved by Hagood, seconded by Weatherby, "that registration fees, deter-
mined by the National Council, be charged for each National Conference,
and that any profit on the conference be deposited in the national treasurer."
The motion was PASSED.

12. Moved by Eubank, seconded by Sprague, "that the National Council allocate
   a maximum of $500.00 per year for the activities of the TKA Speaker-of-the-
   Year Board of Awards. The motion was PASSED.

13. The Time and Place Committee reported that Alma College had extended
   an invitation for the 1960 National Conference for either April 4-6 (Mon-
   Wed.) or for April 7-9 (Thurs.-Sat.).
   Moved by Sprague, seconded by Cripe, "that the National Council accept
   the invitation of the University of Utah for the National Conference on the
dates March 21 (Mon.) -23 (Wed.), 1960." The motion was PASSED.
   The Time and Place Committee was asked by the President to continue to
   serve for 1959-60 and to receive invitations for the 1961 and 1962 national
   conferences.

14. Dr. Huber reported from the Student Council the proceedings relative to
   the Student Congress and the Disussion contests at national conferences.
   Moved by Weatherby, seconded by Moll "that the National Council postpone
   until the 9:00 p.m. meeting and final evaluations relative to these two activ-
   ities." The motion was PASSED.

15. Moved by Eubank, seconded by Powell, "that the National Council be fav-
    orably disposed toward the Forensic Educators National Conference proposal
    and that we will participate in a meeting to explore further the possibilities
    of such an organization."
    The motion was PASSED.

16. Moved by Huber, seconded by Eubank, to adjourn the meeting until 9:00
    p.m. The motion was PASSED.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1959 - 9:00 p.m.

17. Dr. H. L. Eubank, TKA representative to the Association of College Honor
    Societies, submitted his annual report to the TKA Council on the Activities
    of the Executive Council (of which he is Secretary) of the ACHS.

18. The matter of evaluating the Student Congress and the Discussion Contest
    at the annual National Conference received considerable attention. Moved
by Hagood, seconded by Weatherby, "that the President appoint a committee to study and report to the Washington, D. C. meeting of the National Council December 27-28, 1959, recommendations with regard to re-evaluating the activities of the Annual National Conference." The motion was PASSED. The President appointed the following members of the Committee: Hagood, Chairman; Sprague, and the seven regional governors.

19. The President urged regional governors to request chapters to initiate all eligible members before the end of the school year.

20. The Secretary Treasurer reported on the status of several applications for Chartered Chapters of TKA. Also, he received several suggestions, from various members of the Council, of colleges and universities which might be interested in receiving literature relative to obtaining a chartered chapter of Tau Kappa Alpha.


Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Ralph Y. McGinnis
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Tau Kappa Alpha
March 25, 1959

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

If your address will change before November, please fill in the form below and return it to the Editor of The Speaker, Department of Speech and Dramatic Arts, University of Richmond, Virginia.

PLEASE CHANGE MY ADDRESS FROM:

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NEW CHAPTERS OF TAU KAPPA ALPHA IN 1959
Bellarmine College

First row, left to right—William Barnett, James Marquardt, Edward O'Rourke.
Back row, left to right—John Tichenor, Charles Thieman.

Tau Kappa Alpha's new chapter at Bellarmine is at one of America's newest colleges. In 1950 Bellarmine admitted its first freshman class; two years ago it was fully accredited, as a strictly liberal arts institution, by the Southern and American associations. The enrollment is 1250 students this session.

The Bellarmine debate program was launched in 1956, with the debaters entering sectional tournaments. Last year the debate schedule was expanded to fourteen tourneys including the National Invitational at Xavier University and the TKA National Convention contest. This year's schedule of eighteen tourneys included six major national tourneys. In March Bellarmine sponsored its third annual novice debate tournament.

From the beginning the forensics program has had the most solid support from the Administration of the College. The honorary faculty charter members of the new chapter are the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Alfred F. Horrigan, president of the college; the very Rev. Msgr. Raymond J. Treece, vice president and business manager; the Rev. John T. Loftus, dean; and the Rev. Hilary H. Gottbrath, director of student personnel. The six student charter members initiated March 14 are leaders in many student activities, four of the initiates being listed in this year's WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.
Benson S. Alleman, faculty sponsor, became a member of TKA in 1923 during his junior year at Roanoke College. The first Virginia State Secretary of TKA, he later introduced debating at the Mississippi State College for Women, coached the debate teams at Emory and Henry College, and was Chairman of the Department of Communication and debate coach at the American University (Washington, D.C.) before coming to Bellarmine as Chairman of the Department of the Arts and Director of Forensics.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Front row, left to right—Leona Perry, Lascelles Anderson, Ella Mizell. Back row, left to right—Professor Anne Jenkins, Arthur Bennett, Timothy Jenkins, Samuel Banks, Professor Osborn T. Smallwood, Chapter Sponsor.
Forensic activities had their beginning at Howard University in 1905, with the organization of the Kappa Sigma Debating Society. Prior to 1947 the policy was to engage in a limited number of debates each year, not more than eight or ten, with each debate being an outstanding event. In 1948 a new policy was adopted, according to which the society began to compete against a larger number of schools and engaged as many as one hundred and four (104) debates a year. Tournament debating was introduced in 1948, and since that time the Kappa Sigma Debaters have participated in seven to twelve tournaments a year.

Outstanding accomplishments of Kappa Sigma debaters are as follows:


2. Third place, John Hopkins University Invitational Debate Tournament, Baltimore, Maryland, 1954.

3. Twice won the honor of representing District VII in the West Point National Invitational Debate Tournament, 1952 and 1954.

4. Winner of persuasive speaking contest conducted in connection with the University of Maryland Capitol Hill Debate Tournament, 1957. Miss Ella Mizzell won in the finals conducted in the Caucus Room of the United States Senate.

During the current school year Kappa Sigma debaters have participated in debate tournaments at the following colleges and universities: American University, New York University, Temple University, Morgan State College, North Carolina A. and T. College, John Hopkins University, and Georgetown University. Including on-campus and tournament debates, Howard debaters have competed in eighty (80) intercollegiate debates.

Kappa Sigma Society is affiliated with the Maryland-Washington Forensic Conference and the Eastern Forensic Association. For the past ten years the debate program has been directed by Dr. Osborn T. Smallwood, Associate Professor of English. He is assisted by Miss Anne Jenkins and Miss Chloe Wofford, both of whom are instructors in the English Department.

Professor Karl Moll installed the Howard Chapter of Tau Kappa Alpha on Friday, May 8. The following eleven charter members were initiated:

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THE SPEAKER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARDS:
THE TENTH YEAR

by W. CHARLES REDDING, Purdue University

Chairman, National Board of Award

Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, came to the campus of Rutgers University a few weeks ago to be honored as a Speaker-of-the-Year 1958 by Tau Kappa Alpha. Two other men, also selected as Speakers-of-the-Year, were unable to come to Rutgers because of previous commitments; but they received, in absentia, the same recognition as that extended to Secretary Benson. They were Mr. Lowell Thomas, a former President of Tau Kappa Alpha, and the Reverend Hazen G. Werner, Methodist Bishop of Ohio.

At a banquet meeting the evening of March 24, a large audience, composed of student and faculty delegates to the 19th National Conference of the Society, enjoyed the rare opportunity of hearing a Speaker-of-the-Year address TKA members in person. Demonstrating a lively awareness of his audience, Mr. Benson combined humor, persuasion, and vigorous speech delivery in his address of acceptance. Listeners of all shades of political convictions were heard to say that it was easy to perceive that the Secretary exemplified the three basic criteria of the Awards: effectiveness, intelligence, and ethical responsibility.

As most readers of this journal will recall, the Society has been empowered, since the founding of the Awards in December of 1949, to issue citations to as many as five speakers each year. The rules provide that no more than one Award winner may be announced in any of five areas, established for the purpose of classifying various types of public address according to broad subject-matter fields: (1) National Affairs; (2) Business and Commerce; (3) Labor; (4) Religion; and (5) Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Activities. For the year 1958 the National Board of Award, charged with the task of selecting Award winners, made selections in only three of these areas: Secretary Benson in National Affairs, Bishop Werner in Religion, and Lowell Thomas in Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Activities. After a careful study of sixty-seven candidates (screened previously from a much larger number), the Board did not feel justified in honoring speakers from more than these three areas. While recognizing that many able speakers are to be found both in Business and Commerce and in Labor, the Board was convinced that (without duplicating previous winners) the year 1958 failed to reveal speakers in these areas, of national stature, who really met all three criteria. It seems fair to report that the fourteen Board members arrived at an unmistakable consensus: that in these two areas, in 1958, there has been much skillful speaking, and much intelligent speaking; but there has also been far too much “special pleading” for narrow interests, slighting the welfare of the whole nation.

The first group of Speakers-of-the-Year were announced in March of 1950—for the year 1949. This, then, marks the end of a decade. During these ten years Tau Kappa Alpha has honored nine speakers in National Affairs; nine in Business and Commerce; five in Labor; nine in Religion; and ten in Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Activities: a total of forty-two individuals. There can be little doubt
that this group of forty-two represents a roster of almost all the really distinguished speakers in America between 1949 and 1958.

Surely no similar roster exists for any comparable period in modern history. The names on it have not originated in fancy, whimsy, or partisan pride. For every one of the last ten years, a group of competent rhetorical critics, working quietly but conscientiously, have carefully screened scores of candidates; nominees have been proposed by undergraduate and faculty members of the numerous TKA chapters; a series of elimination ballots have been conducted under rigorous rules of procedure until a valid consensus of Board of Award members emerges for each of the five areas. This consensus has always been for one of two decisions in each area: either a single speaker is selected as the winner, or it is agreed that no award will be made.

The fourteen members of the Board of Award for 1958-59, each appointed for an indefinite term by the President of TKA, are listed below:

E. E. Bradley, Southern Illinois University (ex officio, President of TKA), Carbondale, Illinois

Paul D. Brandes, Mississippi Southern College (until September, 1958); now at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

W. Norwood Brigance, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana
Nicholas M. Cripe, Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana
Wayne C. Eubank, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
T. Earle Johnson, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
George P. Lamb, attorney, Washington, D. C.
Charles R. Layton (retired), Dean, Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio

Wilson B. Paul, Michigan State University, East Lansing
Rex Robinson, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan
Oswald Ryan, Founder of TKA, formerly chairman, Civil Aeronautics Board, Washington, D. C.

Lorin C. Staats, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
Joseph Wagner, Long Beach State College, Long Beach, California
(W. Charles Redding, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, Chairman of the Board)

Acting upon recommendations made by the Board members and various officers of Tau Kappa Alpha, the National Council at its Rutgers session in March enacted new legislation providing that hereafter only a single Award winner will be selected each year, from any one of the five existing areas. There will be no stipulation concerning the choice of area; the Board of Award will remain free to make its citation in any one of the areas in any year.

It is hoped that, by thus simplifying our procedures, it will be possible to complete the balloting at such a time the year's winner will have several weeks or months in which to arrange his schedule so that he may appear in person at the National Conference. Of course, the Board will still be free to omit an Award whenever, in its judgment, no speaker for a given year meets the criteria.
The time and expenses required to execute a thorough job of selecting winners in five areas each year have strained the necessarily modest resources of a society like Tau Kappa Alpha. By concentrating our efforts upon only one area in any single year, we should be able, not only to perform a more painstaking study of the candidates, but also to provide a more suitable Award presentation to the winners than we have been able to accomplish at any time during the past decade.

(Appendix: Members of Tau Kappa Alpha will probably be interested in having a complete list of all Speaker-of-the-Year Award winners for the last ten years. Such a list is given below.)

**Winners of Speaker-of-the-Year Awards (1949-1958)**

### In the field of National Affairs
- 1949—Harry S. Truman
- 1950—Paul Douglas
- 1951—Dean Acheson
- 1952—Adlai Stevenson
- 1953—Dwight D. Eisenhower
- 1954—Clifford P. Case
- 1955—Adlai Stevenson
- 1956—John F. Kennedy
- 1957—Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.
- 1958—Ezra Taft Benson

### In the field of Business and Commerce
- 1949—Eric Johnston
- 1950—Paul G. Hoffman
- 1951—Michael V. DiSalle
- 1952—Clarence B. Randall
- 1953—Henry Ford II
- 1954—Merle Thorpe
- 1955—Harlow H. Curtice
- 1956—Erwin D. Canham
- 1957—George Romney
- 1958—(No Award)

### In the field of Labor
- 1949—James B. Carey
- 1950—Walter Reuther
- 1951—(No Award)
- 1952—John L. Lewis
- 1953—George Meany
- 1954—(No Award)
- 1955—George Meany
- 1956—James P. Mitchell
- 1957—(No Award)
- 1958—(No Award)

### In the field of Religion
- 1949—Ralph W. Sockman
- 1950—Fulton J. Sheen
- 1951—Louis H. Evans
- 1952—Fulton J. Sheen
- 1953—G. Bromley Oxnam
- 1954—Norman Vincent Peale
- 1955—George Buttrick
- 1956—James A. Pike
- 1957—Abba Hillel Silver
- 1958—Hazen G. Werner

### In the field of Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Activities
- 1949—Robert Maynard Hutchins
- 1950—Ralph Bunche
- 1951—W. Norwood Brigance
- 1952—James B. Conant
- 1953—Edward R. Murrow
- 1954—Frank C. Baxter
- 1955—Eleanor Roosevelt
- 1956—Eric Sevareid
- 1957—Norman Cousins
- 1958—Lowell Thomas
PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER OF YEAR IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS

(At a banquet meeting of the 19th Annual National Conference of Tau Kappa Alpha; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey; March 24, 1959. By W. Charles Redding, Chairman, National Board of Award of Tau Kappa Alpha.)

Mr. Secretary: we of Tau Kappa Alpha, in all humility, honor you for the speaking you did in 1958, in the field of "National Affairs." Facing, as you did, vigorous (indeed, sometimes insulting) opposition, and standing in the very vortex of heated controversy, you have consistently demonstrated a superb ability to get your message across—while at the same time, retaining your own composure and sense of proportion. You have shown yourself a master of the art of adapting ideas to a wide diversity of audiences; but in all your speaking you have never compromised your true convictions for the sake of momentary expediency. Whether we—or others—always or necessarily agree with your conclusions is not here at issue. The important thing is that you have earned for your ideas a fair hearing; you have made people listen, and think. Your speaking has reflected a firm grasp of the complex facts of modern life—both on and off the farm. You have combined firmness with resiliency; high seriousness with good humor; and communicative skill with moral purpose.

This Certificate, Mr. Secretary, is merely the visible expression of the conviction of Tau Kappa Alpha that you are a man who embodies our ideals of effective, intelligent, and responsible speaking. For 1958, we hail you, Ezra Taft Benson, Speaker-of-the-Year.

EZRA TAFT BENSON

In the Field of National Affairs

Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, was born in Whitney, Idaho, on August 4, 1897. After studying at Oneida Stake Academy, Preston, Idaho (1914-1918), and Utah State Agricultural College (1918-1921), he received a B.S. degree from Brigham Young University in 1926 and an M.S. from Iowa State College in 1927. From 1923 to 1930 he operated a farm in Idaho. From 1929 to 1938 he was employed by the University of Idaho Extension Service, first as a County Agricultural Agent and later as a marketing specialist in charge of economic and marketing work for the state of Idaho. During this period he became interested in farm cooperatives, organizing and serving as secretary of the Idaho Cooperative Council (1933 to 1938), as Executive Secretary of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (1939-1944) and vice chairman (1942-1949) and chairman (1952) of the board of trustees of the American Institute of Cooperation. From 1940-1943 he was a member of the National Farm Credit Commission and during World War II served on the National Agriculture Advisory Committee. In 1946 he traveled to London as U.S. delegate to the First International Conference of Farm Or-
ganizations. From 1946 to 1950 he served as Director of the Farm Foundation. Since 1953 he has been United States Secretary of Agriculture and the administration's principle spokesman on agricultural affairs.

Mr. Benson has been an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. From 1921 to 1923 he served as missionary to the British Isles and Europe. He was president of the Boise Stake (1938-1939), the Washington (D.C.) District Council, Eastern States Mission (1939-1940) and the Washington Stake (1940-1944). In 1943 he was ordained an Apostle and became a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles. He served as president of the European Mission of the Church in 1946 and is a member of the General Church Board of Education and the board of trustees of Brigham Young University.

Mr. Benson has long been active in the Boy Scouts of America and since 1948 has been a member of the National Executive board. In 1951 he received the Scouter's Silver Antelope Award and in 1954 the Silver Buffalo award. He has been awarded honorary degrees from the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, University of Utah, Bowdoin College, University of Maine, Michigan State College, Rutgers University, and Brigham Young University. He is a member of the American Marketing Association, the Farm Economics Association, Delta Nu, and Alpha Zeta.

LOWELL THOMAS

In the Field of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Activities

Lowell Thomas, news commentator, author, and lecturer, was born April 6, 1892 in Woodington, Ohio. He earned a B.Sc. degree from the University of Northern Indiana in 1911 and a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Denver in 1912. For the next two years he taught oratory at Kent College of Law in Chicago and served as a reporter on the Chicago Journal. From 1914 to 1916, while an instructor in English at Princeton University, he continued his education, receiving an M.A. from Princeton in 1916. During this period he lectured widely on Alaska. As a result of these lectures, President Wilson appointed him chief of a civilian mission sent to Europe to prepare an historical record of World War I. While on this mission he prepared his second film-lecture (on Lawrence of Arabia and General Allenby in Palestine) and in the years following the war presented this lecture thousands of times. From 1919 to 1923 he was associate editor of Asia Magazine and in 1930 he began his long career as a radio commentator. For a few years he also was a television news commentator and in 1957 prepared and narrated a television series, "High Adventure with Lowell Thomas." Since his trip to Alaska in 1915, Mr. Thomas has traveled to many of the remote corners of the world and has written and lectured widely on his experiences. He has authored hundreds of articles and over 40 biographical and travel books, some of the latest of which are The Seven Wonders of the World (1956) and History as You Heard It (1957). Mr. Thomas has received honorary degrees from Grove City College, Albright College, Lafayette College, Washington and Jefferson College, St. Bonaventure, Franklin and Marshal, Clark University, Boston University, Union College, Temple University, and Olivet College in Michigan. He is a member of the American Geographic Society, Royal Geographic Society, Association of Radio News Analysts, Kappa Sigma,
Tail Kappa Alpha, Phi Delta Phi, Sigma Delta Chi, Alpha Epsilon, and an honorary life member of the English Speaking Union. His clubs include the Masons, the Princeton Explorers and the Overseas Press Club of New York City.

HAZEN G. WERNER
In the Field of Religion

Hazen G. Werner, Bishop of the Methodist Church, was born in Detroit, Michigan, July 29, 1895. He earned an A.B. from Albion College, Albion, Michigan, in 1920 and a B.D. from Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, in 1923. He was ordained in 1924 and served as pastor of the Westlawn Methodist Church, Detroit (1924-1927), the Cass Avenue Methodist Church, Detroit (1927-1931), the Court Street Methodist Church, Flint (1931-1934), and the Grace Methodist Church, Dayton, Ohio (1935-1945). From 1945 until he was elected Bishop of Ohio in 1948, he was head of the Department of Practical Theology at Drew University. In 1951 he was sent as a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference in Oxford, England. Among the many church offices he has held are: Chairman, National Conference on Family Life (1951 and 1954), General Chairman of the Family Life Committee of the Methodist Church, member of the Board of Social and Economic Relations of the Methodist Church, Chairman of the General Committee of the Advance, member of the Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief, member of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. He has received an honorary D.D. from Albion College (1934) and Ohio Wesleyan (1941) and an LL.D. from Mount Union College (1949). He is a member of Alpha Tau Omega, the Masons, and Kiwanis. Bishop Werner has written many booklets and pamphlets on Christian living, including The Pastor and Pre-Marriage Counseling, The Marks of A Christian Home, When The Family Prays, And We Are Whole Again (1945), Real Living Takes Time (1948), and Live With Your Emotions (1951).
On Making Awards in Discussion Contests

William C. Seifrit

On October 31 and November 1, 1958, Western Michigan University entertained the 17th Annual Midwest Regional Conference of TKA. At the meeting of the Regional Council, one of the more important questions raised concerned the wisdom of making awards to students engaging in contest discussion. Several of the coaches present criticized the practice. Their criticisms and the ensuing discussion gave rise to this paper.

The purpose of this essay is to (1) examine the criticisms of those who condemn the practice of making awards in contest discussion, and (2) show that such awards are justified.

There are four criticisms with which I would like to concern myself. The first of these is an accusation that when debaters participate in discussion, they tend to cause the discussions to become argumentative and competitive. Closely related to this is the second criticism that discussants often enter the activity to seek the award rather than to engage in fruitful discussions. The third criticism is that contest discussion turns out to be an individual rather than a group activity. Finally, ballots are often criticized because they are supposedly inadequate. This criticism arises when judges who attempt to evaluate a group's progress toward a solution are required by the nature of the ballot given them to rate and rank individuals. On the other hand, judges who are more interested in an individual's contribution to the group may be required to use a group process oriented ballot.

These criticisms seem to be founded on the assumption that (1) discussion is (at its best) not a contest, i.e., no one wins or loses, and (2) argumentativeness is out of place in discussion. Let us consider the criticisms in light of these basic assumptions.

The first criticism has to do with the quality of participation in contest discussion. There are those who claim that allowing debaters to participate in the "co-operative deliberation" of discussions tends to produce discussions characterized by argument and contentiousness. This criticism is, in part, justified. It is plainly evident that discussion, properly conducted, is not a contest in the sense in which we consider other speech forms which have been set in the contest framework. Debate, oratory, extempore speaking, after-dinner speaking, etc., are typical of the speech forms which have been set quite easily in the contest framework. They become, in this setting, essentially competitive.

Discussion has certain esoteric characteristics which differentiate it from other speech activities. Some of the more obvious differences are the use of group thinking, the search for the solution (or solutions) to a common problem, and co-operative action by the members of the group. In a process such as discussion, personal competition among the members of the group would be of decidedly little value.

* Professor Seifrit is Director of Forensics at Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana.
However, the criticism that is generally made seems to be directed not just at personal competition between members of the group but at any differences of opinion whatever.

To believe that agreement and lack of argument will always prevail is illogical. Consequently, honest differences of opinion which have their basis in the subject for discussion should be encouraged. The very purpose of group discussion demands the evaluation of criteria for solutions to a problem and the selection of a solution meeting these criteria. These purposes require that men and women serving as discussants make decisions. Only rarely are decisions made and received with complete agreement. Honest statements supported by reasoning and evidence are vital to discussion, just as they are vital to all other forms of oral communication; such statements are especially important in problem solving.

The second major criticism has to do with award-motivated participation in contest discussion. Admittedly, the motivation in contest discussions can become the desire for the awards. This is true in all speech activities, not just discussion. This frequency of award-motivated participation does not justify itself, however. The winning of awards should never become the sole nor even the primary reason for entering a contest. After all, the purpose underlying speech contests is education; it is to provide educationally sound speaking experiences for our students that we should enter them in speech contests. In this connection, I feel that those who criticize the practice of giving awards in discussion have overlooked several important considerations.

First, the techniques of discussion, like those of debate, oratory, etc., are teachable. Since this is so, it must follow that these techniques can be learned satisfactorily. By the same token, these techniques can be poorly taught and inadequately learned. Finally, reward is a function of learning; its use can make training more adequate. If we accept these obvious truths, then how can we condemn the practice of rewarding achievement in a learned skill? We make awards for excellence in debate and other more obviously competitive speech activities. These all require some degree of skill in specialized though not identical speech and thought forms. The same is true in discussion. Excellence in the proper use of discussion techniques can and should be rewarded. We as teachers and tournament administrators must make certain our students are participating for educational purposes and that they understand the criteria on which they are being judged.

The third and fourth criticisms may be considered collectively. Considerable criticism has been directed to the ballots which are used to rate discussants. Some speech teachers feel that discussion is essentially a group process and that the group must be judged as an entity. Other teachers feel that a group concept of discussion is inadmissible; a group is no more than a collection of individuals and should be evaluated as such. When teacher-judges at contests find that they must evaluate discussants and/or groups by criteria with which they do not agree, criticism results.

The concept of discussion to which a teacher adheres is largely a matter of training and personal choice. To attempt to resolve major differences in discussion theory would probably be futile. There are, however, certain fundamentals
which should be acceptable to everyone. First, discussion is a group process which is designed to facilitate co-operative problem solving. Some, obviously, will have greater command of the skills required than others. Does it seem too much to ask that a contest judge be required to rate and rank discussants on the basis of who did more to help the group move toward its goals? True, discussion is not a contest with victor and vanquished the result. However, some of the discussants will be better at discussing than will others. If these students are consistently better in their use of discussion skills, they should be rewarded. The skill of individual discussants must be evaluated since the success of the group depends upon the effective participation of individuals. It logically follows that the quality of an individual's contribution to the success of the group effort must be weighted heavily in the evaluation.

In this essay I have attempted to provide answers for four of the major criticisms of giving awards for excellence in contest discussion. The real answer to the problem which gave rise to the criticisms lies with us as teachers and directors of tournaments. We should look to ourselves to see that our students have a greater mastery of discussion techniques. More emphasis on the co-operative characteristics of the group process would be in order. The fact that many of our discussants are also debaters should not act as a deterrent. Discussion and debate are essentially different, but they are not opposites. The skills of both are teachable; they can be learned. However, the skills are not generally interchangable. What succeeds in debate will probably be out of place in discussion.

As directors of tournaments, we can keep awards in proper perspective. The discussion awards should be made on the basis of excellence of performance—not frequency of participation. The construction of ballots based more accurately on the essentials of good discussion as it is furthered by individual contributions would aid in achieving this aim. We must realize that discussants cannot all be equally successful in discussing. We have the right or rather the responsibility to judge and award those who achieve greater mastery of discussion skills than others.

In conclusion, I feel that awards for excellence in discussion are justified. The bases upon which these awards are made need to be thoughtfully considered by every speech teacher and tournament director.
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