

1-1948

University of Missouri Forensics Conference...

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Recommended Citation

University of Missouri Forensics Conference... (1948). The Gavel of Delta Sigma Rho, 30(2), 34.

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deal, I am sure, to accelerate social advance, and to prepare the way for public consideration of vital social and economic questions."—Charles A. Sunderlin—1905.

6. A number of former debaters contended that all lawyers should be required to take debate.

"My personal opinion is that some similar course should be required of every law student."—Harold A. Prince.

"It is my opinion that debating might well be a prerequisite to the study of law."—Henry V. Broady—1935.

7. Some debaters claimed that debate taught them that there were two sides to every question.

"Debate impresses people with the fact that there is more than one side to a controversy."—Frank B. Morrison—1928.

8. Not too profound but a comment that many would subscribe to is that debate is fun.

"Fogg's Think Shop" created the basis for my most pleasant memories of life at the University of Nebraska."—O. A. Drake—1921.

"I'd love to gather up the old gang of 1942-44 and go on another debate trip to Denver or the Missouri Valley Tournament. Gee, we had good times."—Anne Wellensiek—1945.

"Many of my fondest memories of school are inseparably linked with debate."—Bernard Gradwohl—1924.

SUMMARY

The 163 people who returned questionnaires expressed the following attitudes toward debate:

1. 38.6 percent said "probably" and "yes" that their work in debate had a bearing on their entering their

present occupation.

2. 50.9 percent said "probably" and "yes" that they took debate because they were planning on entering their present occupation.

3. 95.7 percent said "probably" and "yes" they would advise people entering their profession to take debate.

4. 93.2 percent said "probably" and "yes" they would advise people entering their profession to take debate

5. 100 percent of the lawyers who answered four said that they would advise people entering the legal profession to take debate.

6. Questions one to four indicate that debate had a high occupational evaluation for those who returned questionnaires.

7. Over 78 percent said that their training in debate had helped them to take a more prominent place in campus and civic life. This would indicate that debate was valued by these people for its training in leadership.

8. 96.3 percent said "probably" and "yes" they would advise any interested capable person to take debate.

9. 94.4 percent said "probably not" and "no" debate had not affected their scholarship adversely.

This study reveals that we should not curtail debate activities in our schools, but we should develop programs that will enable people to take advantage of this training. This evaluation should make all educators aware that at least for those polled, debate had a high educational value.

University of Missouri Forensics Conference . . .

Under the auspices of Forensic Activities of the Department of Speech and the Missouri High School Debating League, the annual Forensics Conference was held on December 5 and 6. High School debaters from the entire state were University guests for this occasion.

The program consisted of addresses on various phases of the Compulsory Arbitration question (the national high school debate question) and on topics related to speech education, as well as demonstration debates presented by college debaters and practice debates participated in by the high school students.

Among the addresses on the debate question were the following: "Analysis of the Question of Compulsory Arbitration", Bower Aly, Professor of Speech and Director of Forensics, University of Missouri; "Affirmative Case", Burdette Thurman, Missouri debate squad; "Negative Case", Gordon Parks, Missouri debate squad; "Compulsory Arbitration and Labor Relations", Russell S. Bauder, Professor of Economics, University of Mis-

souri; "Industry's View on Compulsory Arbitration", Fred M. Karches, Director of Operations, Rice-Stix Company, St. Louis.

The addresses on topics related to Speech education included: "How to Receive Debating Congratulations Gracefully", Loren D. Reid, Chairman, Department of Speech, University of Missouri; "The Debater's Voice", Charlotte G. Wells, Director of Speech and Hearing Clinic, University of Missouri; "Radio Speaking", Elbert R. Bowen, Instructor in Speech, University of Missouri; "Today's Debate, Tomorrow's Decision", Donald C. Bryant, Professor of English, Washington University, St. Louis.

The demonstration debate on the proposition "That the federal government should require arbitration of labor disputes in all basic American industries" was presented by an affirmative team from the University of Missouri and a negative team from Washington University.