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With the Chapters...

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With the Chapters . . .

AMERICAN

"We have two teams at the present time; three of our four debaters are freshman women. Participation in the Mason-Dixon Conference is still a bit vague at the time of writing, but two debates have already been held— with Wake Forest and with George Washington—and others have been scheduled (all, so far, on the Federal World Government question) with the University of Pennsylvania, William and Mary, Georgetown, Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Pennsylvania State, and Washington and Lee. Most of our debates this year will be held in Washington. Herb Wood, pre-war Delta Sigma Rho member at American University and now Instructor in Government, and Gordon D. Brigham, Assistant Professor of Speech, are coaching the team."

BOSTON

"With over one hundred students answering the call for new debaters, the Boston University Debating Society is planning one of its biggest programs for the 1947-48 season. Although most of the first semester was devoted to training new members and to a large number of Junior Varsity debates, Varsity meets took place with Boston College, M. I. T., Tufts, McGill, Harvard, Holy Cross, Middlebury and others. A trip to the New York area also took place in December when Boston debaters met Brown, Fordham, New York University, and Columbia. At the conclusion of the first semester Boston had won decisions in over 85% of its debates.

"To assist him in carrying on this year's program Coach Austin J. Freeley selected three of his seven managers from the ranks of Delta Sigma Rho, they are: Frank Colbourn, Manager; Paul Fargo, Co-Ordinator; and Bernadette Martocchio, Host Manager.

"Traditionally the second semester is the most active in Boston University's forensic program, and this year is no exception. A number of public service events are planned in which University debaters will present both intra-club and intercollegiate debates before various civic groups, a large number of radio debates are planned, and at least three Junior Varsity debates are scheduled for each week during February, March, and April.

"In the latter part of March or early April, Boston debaters will make their first trip into the Mid-west since before the war.

"Highlight of the season will come February 13th and 14th when the Second Annual Invitational Tournament will be held at Boston. Invitations have been issued to a number of Eastern and Mid-Western teams, and this event will be considerably enlarged over last year's. As winner of the 1947 Tournament, Boston will be defending the rotating trophy. Competition is expected to be keen as almost all of the top teams from the first tournament will be present together with other very capable forensic groups.

"An interesting sidelight of the tournament will be the Valentine Day Tournament Dance which will follow the final round. This dance, at which all participants in the tourney will be guests, is sponsored for the Debating Society by four of the leading social organizations on the campus.

"In addition to these events, trips are planned for women's and Junior Varsity teams. Boston will also be represented at several tournaments and model Congresses to be held in the late winter and spring."

IOWA

The evening of the 7th of November a capacity audience of over a thousand people in MacBride Auditorium heard University of Iowa debaters in their twentieth international debate, and the fifth with Oxford University. David Cornell and Mel Baker of Iowa teamed with Sir Edward Boyle of the Oxford squad to uphold the affirmative of the "all-purpose Anglo-American alliance" question against the Honorable Anthony Wedgwood Benn and David K. Harris of Oxford, joined by Charles Guggenheim of Iowa on the negative. The audience vote "on the question" was for the negative.

The following fifteen universities and colleges were guests on the Iowa campus December 3-6 for the Iowa Intercollegiate Conference on Post-War Problems: Illinois State Normal, Indiana University, the universities of Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Notre Dame, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Marquette University, Michigan State College, Northwestern, Purdue, Ohio State and the United States Military Academy. More than one hundred fifty students took part in four rounds of debate, discussion, extemporary and after-dinner speaking, original oratory, and a parliamentary session.

Conference results showed the West Point Cadets in first place in debate with eight wins and no defeats. Of the Iowa debaters Richard W. Peterson and Charles Guggenheim were rated "superior" debaters. Rated "excellent" were Virginia Rosenberg, Harlan Hockenberg, Roger Oleson, and George McBurney. The following Iowa disussers received ratings of "superior": Elaine Lenney, Walter Berg, Harlan Hockenberg, William Shuttleworth, Edward LeClaire,
Charles Guggenheim, Don Lay, and Georgianna Edwards. Iowans rated “excellent” in discussion were: Yale Gerol, Evaline Fisher, Eleanor Kistle, Francine Robbins, Walter Johnson and Evan Hultman. Iowa’s extempore speaker, John Elliott, and after-dinner speaker, Charles Guggenheim, both received ratings of “excellent”.

The State University of Iowa’s second major forensic conference of the year will be held February 27-28, when another group of colleges and universities will send representatives to the Iowa campus to debate, discuss and speak on post-war problems.

As member of the Western Conference League, Iowa will participate during the months of January and February in a series of “home-and-away” debates with other schools in the Big Ten. On January 15, two University of Wisconsin women will come to the Iowa Campus, and a week later, January 22, two Iowa women will travel to Minnesota to debate on the national intercollegiate question. Similarly, during February, Iowa will entertain a men’s team from the University of Illinois and will send another men’s team to the Michigan campus.

MINNESOTA

“At the first meeting of the year, the Minnesota chapter adopted a full calendar of activities and selected a new slate of officers. Elected president was Earl Pollock; vice-president, Jack Burnstein; and secretary-treasurer, Arlene Anderson. The three-fold program adopted at the meeting will include public service, educational, and social activities.

“The first major event of the year was a Delta Sigma Rho banquet, which we hope to make an annual affair. Our guests at the dinner included members of the speech faculty, the varsity debate team, and the freshmen on the squad. Speaker for the evening was Professor Frank Rig, chairman of the Speech Department, who delivered a provocative address on ‘Need a Speaker Think?’

“The Minnesota chapter also undertook the sponsorship of the appearance on campus of the Oxford debaters. On November 6, members of the Minnesota team met Oxford in a debate on ‘Resolved that the economic and social arguments for the nationalization of basic industries are overwhelming.’ Earlier in the day, representatives of both schools participated in an open forum on ‘Should Basic Industries Be Nationalized?’ The latter event was especially designed for the students enrolled in Speech Fundamentals classes. In all, over 1000 students attended the debate and discussion.

“Among the many activities planned for the year by the Minnesota chapter is a series of lectures delivered by prominent members of the Minnesota speech faculty. These lectures, planned for campus-wide interest and attendance, will cover such subjects as argumentation, speech research, pathology, and radio. The opening lecture will be delivered by Dr. William S. Howell, who will speak on ‘Critical Thinking in Everyday Life.’

“Over sixty students are actively engaged in debating activities at the University of Minnesota. A novel method of judging try-outs for the varsity team was utilized this year. Each aspirant participated in a discussion on the national intercollegiate question. These discussions were recorded and later played back for judgment by veteran members of the squad.

“In preparation for an intensive schedule of activities, the entire varsity squad participated in an intramural tournament which has just concluded. Each team debated four times, twice on each side of the question.

“The first intercollegiate tournament attended by Minnesota this year was the annual University of Iowa Debate and Discussion Conference, held on December 5-6. Besides three individual ‘superior’ ratings in debate, discussion, and extemporaneous speaking, the four debaters who represented Minnesota at the meet averaged 4.4 and 4.3 in debate and discussion, respectively, out of a possible 5.”

MISSOURI

The Annual Extemporaneous Speaking Contest at the University of Missouri will be held January 13. All University students except first-semester freshmen are eligible to compete. First prize will be a $25 savings bond and second prize, $5 in savings stamps.

Announcement has been made of a debate to be held with the University of Hawaii at Honolulu during the Easter vacation, about March 25-29. An open tryout will be held to select one team for the trip. The University of Hawaii debated at the University of Missouri last spring.

Nearly a thousand people attended the debate on campus with Oxford University, England, November 11. Mack Hency and Gordon Parks represented Missouri on the negative of the question, “Resolved: That the nationalization of basic industries is overwhelming.”

Fielding H. Lane and Robert E. Yocom, Varsity Debate Squad members, discussed the question of Compulsory Arbitration negatively with Washington University in St. Louis November 13, before the South Side Lions Club and before the Missouri State Teachers’ Convention.

Mr. Lane and Mr. Yocom also debated the Labor question with the University of Kansas in an assembly program at
North Kansas City High School, November 21.

December 5-6 five debaters, accompanied by Dorothy Friend, assistant director of Forensic Activities, participated in the Intercollegiate Forensics Conference on Post-War Problems, held at the University of Iowa. Debating Federal World Government affirmatively were Robert L. Varner and William M. Bosie. Wayne W. Waldo and John Gibson debated the negative. Thomas K. Bamford participated in public speaking and discussion. Mr. Varner was Missouri’s after-dinner speaker, and John Gibson entered in extempore speaking. All of the men were in discussion.

Also on December 5-6, the Missouri High School Forensics Conference was held at the University of Missouri. At one of the sessions, Ray D. Jones, Jr., and Willard A. Larsen debated the affirmative. Vernardel and John Amaker debated the negative. Mr. Varner was Missouri’s after-dinner speaker, and John Gibson entered in extempore speaking. All of the men were in discussion.

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NORTHWESTERN

After doing two CBS discussion programs and meeting Western Reserve University teams before eight high school audiences in Cleveland and Chicago, the Northwestern squads have specialized in audience and tournament debating on the World Government proposition.

Six freshman men and two sophomore women entered a tournament for varsity teams of small colleges at Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois, on November 14 and 15. They won 11 of their 15 debates and placed first among the twelve delegations. One team was awarded the only "superior" rating.

On November 18 one of the varsity men’s teams met a University of Chicago team before a campus audience composed of organizations interested in the United Nations and world government. Later in the week, two other men’s teams met Chicago teams before student audiences on the Midway. Two women’s teams debated on the Mundelein College campus on November 24.

The November 28 "Opinion Please" program on CBS featured a Chicago-Northwestern argument on the question of Intercollegiate Athletics. Northwestern’s representatives included a football player and a debater.

On December 5 and 6, four men, including three sophomores and a junior, participated in the annual tournament at the State University of Iowa. The Northwestern group was awarded one of three "superior" debate team ratings, one of several "superior" individual ratings in discussion, and one "superior" and three "excellent individual ratings in debate. Twelve beginners participated in a four-round novice tournament at Mundelein College on December 13. The school delegation placed first with 14 wins and seven losses. Two Northwestern teams were undefeated.

Future events include individual debates for high school and adult audiences and tournament competition at Illinois Normal University and the University of Wisconsin. Inter-sectional debates with the University of Denver, Stanford University, and Canisius College are being arranged. Plans are also being made to entertain a one-day tournament in late January or early February. A Chicago metropolitan league for beginning debaters from Chicago, Loyola, Mundelein, DePaul, and Northwestern is being formed.

OHIO STATE

"On October twenty-eighth, Oxford University met Ohio State in two debates. In the afternoon they staged an English style debate with ten colleges from central Ohio participating. That evening there was an American style debate before a capacity audience. The topic was, "Resolved that the Danger of War Can Be Averted by an All-Purpose Anglo-American Alliance." Eight of our debaters participated in the tournament at Denison University a week later on the Federal World Government question.

"Five debaters went to the University of Iowa Intercollegiate Conference on Post-War Problems, December fifth and sixth. We wish to congratulate Dr. Baird and his co-workers for such an efficiently managed tournament. It was a very worthwhile experience.

"The Western Conference Home and Home Series began for our debaters when two men visited Purdue University. They defeated Purdue in a debate presented over the University radio station. The judges were Indiana high school debate coaches. These same two teams presented a debate before the Ohio High School Speech League, December the eleventh.

"The women’s team will begin the Series by traveling to Madison for a debate with the University of Wisconsin on January the sixteenth.

"Three members initiated last June are continuing their education in graduate programs. Edward Bagley is now a graduate student in the college of Commerce, and has been appointed student manager of the Speaker’s Bureau. Burton Williams is now studying law at Harvard, and Gwyn Meyers is attending law school at the University of Michigan."

PENNSYLVANIA STATE

"There are again this year approximately thirty upperclass women on the Penn State women’s varsity debate squad. We are planning a program similar to last year’s when we engaged in approx-
imately fifty debates, attended two tournaments and a convention. We hope to be able to debate the schools we debated last year, which included the men from Dickinson, Geneva, Gettysburg, Grove City, Lehigh, Mount Saint Mary, Muhlenberg, Penn, Princeton, Rutgers, Saint Vincent, Shippensburg, Slippery Rock, Susquehanna, Swarthmore, Temple, Washington and Jefferson, Westminster, West Virginia, and the women from Allegheny, Gettysburg, Misericordia, Mount Mercy, Seton Hill, Shippensburg, and Susquehanna. We hope, too, that new opponents will be added to our schedule this year. We are now negotiating with the men from Drew and Saint Joseph's for debates this season, while Ohio State University has invited the Penn State women to Columbus to engage the Ohio State team in a series of debates and discussions before high school audiences and service clubs, as well as over the air. We also have extension debates scheduled at Brookville and Reynoldsville.

"May we take this opportunity to invite all who might be interested in scheduling debates with the Penn State women to write to Miss Dorothy Lees, Manager of Women's Debate, Department of Speech, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pennsylvania. We prefer the national topic, non-decision, cross-examination style, before audiences, against either men's or women's teams. We do not have a first team, second team, and so forth, but use the squad system in all collegiate debate."

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STANFORD

"At the first chapter meeting of the current scholastic season, the following officers were elected to lead the chapter's activities for the year: Marshall L. Small, President; Gordon F. Levy, Vice-President; Malcom Barrett, Secretary-Treasurer; Morley P. Thompson, Historian."

"Plans are being made for a Delta Sigma Rho-sponsored all-campus debate tournament to stimulate student interest and participation in debate. This tournament is traditionally sponsored by Delta Sigma Rho, and arouses considerable interest on the campus."

"The latest initiates to the Stanford Chapter are: Malcolm Barrett, Robert Bennett, and Frank Church (now at Harvard)."

"The total roster of membership of the Stanford Chapter at the present time is as follows: Charles E. Allen, Robert Bennett, James Frolik, Laurence Grannis, James Kessler, Gordon Levy, Carol Mihaylov, Marshall Small, Joseph Soares, Thomas Steege, Morley Thompson, and Robert Vallier."

"Several members of the chapter have been and still are notably active on campus. Morley Thompson, not only a fine debater, is also a first-string varsity basketball player, President of the Block S society, and head of Quarterdeck, the NROTC society, among other activities. Laurence Grannis and another student were sent as Stanford's representatives to Europe to inquire into the state of educational institutions in that part of the world. Grannis and his companion also brought back first-hand information on the attitude of European students toward the United States. Their reports were highly praised and publicized in this area."

"Thomas Steege and Frank Church are the two current Delta Sigma Rho members who are winners of the annual Joffre debate, the traditional debate between Stanford and the University of California, the history of which extends back over more than a half-century. Steege won the contest as a sophomore in 1946, and Church won in 1947, putting Stanford one victory ahead in the series."

"Former members of the Stanford chapter have also done well for themselves after graduation. Miss Virginia Schwartz graduated with honors from Cornell law school, after making the law review, and is now a member of a law firm. Miss Schwartz was a member of the Joffre team in 1944. Mrs. Mary Gray, a member of the 1945 Joffre team, is now studying at the Pacific School of Religion. Miss Victoria Sellens, also a member of the 1945 Joffre team, is now completing her studies at the Yale School of Nursing. Miss Carol Newton, a member of the 1946 Joffre team, is doing graduate work in physics at Stanford."

"Dean of Students Lawrence Kimpton, a former Delta Sigma Rho undergraduate at Stanford, was quite active in debating during his studies here. Dean Kimpton came to Stanford recently from the University of Chicago, where he was Vice-President and Dean of Faculties."

SYRACUSE

"Fifty-three men and women have joined the Syracuse University Debating and Discussion Society, the central organization for all forensic work on this campus. The chief purposes of this year's activities, as outlined by Steve Patrick, president, are to give as extended participation to all interested students as possible and to gain recognition for debating and discussion as a major campus activity."

"The philosophy of debating at Syracuse University is one that emphasizes student participation and control and de-emphasizes decision contests per se. The only tournament entered so far—and the only one on the 1947-48 schedule to date—was the annual invitational meet at the University of Vermont, December 12 and 13. The two teams—"
THE GAVEL

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Harvey L. Weisberg, "Louis Nizer's Approach to Public Speaking", pp. 21-23

Thorrel B. Fest, "It Doesn't Trickle Down", pp. 44-45

Lionel Crocker, "Public Speaking and Current Affairs", pp. 44-45

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Wayne

"Many changes have been made in the staff of the Department of Speech at Wayne University. Mr. James McMonagle, former faculty member of Forensics, and is assisted by Mr. George Hinds, who comes from the University of Denver. Other staff additions include Dr. Paul Rickard from Fresno State College in California now in charge of Radio here. Dr. Rickard has his Ph. D. from Northwestern University, and is a charter member of Wayne's chapter, Delta Sigma Rho. Dr. George Bohman (who comes from Dartmouth College, and has his Ph. D. from the University of Wisconsin) has also joined the staff as Professor of Speech, and is Chairman of the Graduate Committee of the department. Dr. Rupert Cortright (Albion chapter) has been Chairman of the department since last April, when Dr. Preston Scott resigned that responsibility to become Director of Community Relations for the University."

Whitman

"Capturing three first and winning several other final rankings, Whitman speakers gave good account of themselves in the 15th annual tournament of the Western Speech Association, held at Whitman College December 4, 5, and 6. The big meet involved 19 schools and some 240 participants, of whom about 40 were Whitmanites."