

# NEWSLETTER of the WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION

## Coming Events

Lake Shore High School Debate Tournament ---Dec 6  
University Extension Division, Milwaukee

State Drama Contest, New College Theatre ---Dec 13  
Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire

Speech Ass'n of America Convention ----- Dec 29-31  
Cincinnati, Ohio

High School Debate Tournament ----- Jan 10  
Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire

Mock United Nations Assembly ----- Feb 12  
Wisconsin State College, Whitewater

College Speech Meet ----- Feb 20-21  
Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire

State Debate Contest ----- Feb 28  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Inter-Center Forensic Tournament ----- Mar 6-7  
University Extension Division, Sheboygan

Delta-Sigma Rho Discussion and Debate Conf---Mar 13-14  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Spring Meeting of Board of Control-WHSFA----Mar 19  
Memorial Union Building, Madison

Wisconsin Idea Theatre Conference----- April 10-12  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

State Speech Contest ----- April 11  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Wisconsin Ass'n for Better Radio and ---- April 11  
Television, Madison

Central States Speech Ass'n Convention ---April 17-18  
Chicago

AFFILIATED WITH  
BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND PROGRAM SERVICES  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EXTENSION DIVISION  
1327 University Avenue, Madison 5, Wis.  
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VOL. XXIV

NOVEMBER, 1952

NO. 2

## Latest Dates for Contests

	<u>Drama</u>	<u>Debate</u>	<u>Speech</u>
League Contests ---	Nov 15 --	-----	March 14
District Contests---	Nov 22 --	Feb 7 --	March 28
Sectional Contests--	Dec 6 --	Feb 24 --	-----
State Contests-----	Dec 13 --	Feb 28 --	April 11

Please try to avoid scheduling school activities which conflict with the above dates.

See back cover for additional dates of interest to speech and drama teachers.

Remember to send in your annual dues on or before December 15th.

## BOARD OF CONTROL

### Northern Section

BARRY E. ROBINSON  
Eau Claire

*Eau Claire District*  
C. L. DODGE  
Mondovi

*River Falls District*  
DARYL K. LIEN  
Amery

*Superior District*  
H. F. CONNORS  
Hurley

### Central Section

E. C. MARQUARDT  
Wausau

*La Crosse District*  
K. A. CURRAN  
Cashton

*Oshkosh District*  
E. A. MOEDE  
Oconto Falls

*Stevens Point District*  
A. D. WICKLUND  
Nekoosa

### Southern Section

NEIL D. GREENE  
Muscola

*Milwaukee District*  
N. E. COLBY  
West Bend

*Platteville District*  
EVERETT J. HILL  
South Wayne

*Whitewater District*  
J. A. BYRGE  
Whitewater

H. F. CONNORS, *Chairman*  
Hurley

PROFESSOR A. T. WEAVER  
Advisor in Speech  
University of Wis.

ROBERT H. SCHACHT, *Sec'y-Treas.*  
University Extension Division

PROFESSOR ROBERT E. GARD  
Advisor in Dramatics  
University of Wis.

## Table of Contents

1952 Election Results -----	3
Board of Control Officers -----	3
Highlights of November Board Meet -----	4-5
Minutes of 26th Annual Ass'n Meet -----	6-7
State Drama Contest -----	8
One-Act Play List -----	8
Introducing New Play Librarian -----	9
The Debate Question -----	10
Loan Packages on Debate Question -----	10
Reviewing Stand Program -----	11
Certificates of Merit Announcement -----	11
Proposal to Change Rating of State Debates -----	12
Extemporaneous Reading Contest 1952 -----	13
Reading Catalog Available -----	13
Stanley High Goes to State Speech Contest-----	14-15
Amendment to Copyright Law -----	16
New Speech Books by Wisconsin Authors -----	17-18
New Speech and Drama Films -----	18
The Almere L. Scott Memorial Fund -----	19
The Harry W. Adams Forensic Scholarship -----	19
Coming Events -----	20

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### 1952 Election Results

We are happy to announce the reelection of Mr. N. E. Colby as Chairman of the Milwaukee District, Mr. A. D. Wicklund as Chairman of the Stevens Point District, and Mr. H. F. Connors as Chairman of the Superior District.

We welcome the following new Board members and Chairmen:

J. A. Bjorge, Chairman of Whitewater District  
Barry Robinson, Chairman of Northern Section  
Neil D. Greene, Chairman of Southern Section.

Our sincere thanks go to the retiring board members for their unselfish service in furthering the cause of high-school forensics in Wisconsin. They are:

Mabel Nelson, Chairman of Northern Section  
A. C. Jones, Chairman of Whitewater District  
A. J. Kriewald, Chairman of Southern Section

### Board of Control Officers

We are pleased to announce that Mr. H. F. Connors of Hurley, Chairman of the Superior District, has been elected Chairman of the Board of Control for the coming year. Mr. N. E. Colby of West Bend, Chairman of the Milwaukee District, has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the same period.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Highlights of November Board Meeting

At the November Board meeting, considerable discussion followed the financial report of the Secretary-Treasurer. After noting that the last increase in dues became effective in 1947, and that costs have risen considerably since then, the Board voted unanimously to amend the constitution to read:

Sec. 3. The annual dues shall be:

- 8.00 for schools with enrollment to 149
- 11.50 for schools with enrollment of 150 to 349
- 15.00 for schools with enrollment of 350 or more

This proposed amendment will be submitted to a referendum of all of the member schools during the coming months. If approved by a majority of schools voting in the referendum, it shall be submitted to the annual meeting of the Association in November, 1953. If it receives a majority of the votes cast there, it shall be declared ratified and become effective for the year 1954-55. A more detailed explanation of the need for the increase will be sent with the ballots.

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Mr. McPhee reported to the Board of Control on the five speech institutes held this fall, and noted a general decline in attendance over previous years. Possible reasons for the decline were discussed, and then the Board considered ways and means of increasing the effectiveness of our institute program. The following new pattern was suggested and discussed, with action postponed until the March meeting of the Board.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

To substitute for our present institute program three all-state institutes each year to be held in appropriate and rotating centers in the state at about the beginning of each season-- a drama institute, a discussion and debate institute, and a speech institute. These institutes would be structured to appeal to students as well as teachers and coaches, and would attempt to capitalize upon special events being held at the host institution.

For purposes of clarification and illustration only, let us look at how the plan might work. Next year, we might have a drama institute at Eau Claire, a debate and discussion institute at Whitewater and a speech institute at Appleton. The following year we would rotate the institutes, holding drama at Madison, debate and discussion at Antigo, and speech at Spooner (or at some other location in the general area of these three centers). The rotation would work similarly in future years.

We are genuinely interested in serving our member schools to the best of our ability. If you approve of this proposed change, or prefer to continue the present structure, or have other ideas, please write and let us--or your district or sectional chairman--know, so we have expressions of your opinion to consider at the March meeting of the Board of Control.

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Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

Minutes of the 26th Annual Meeting  
Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, November 5, 1952

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman H. F. Connors at 4:20 P. M. with 49 persons present.
2. The reading of the minutes of the 25th Annual Meeting of the Association was dispensed with.
3. The Chairman reported the results of the fall election and introduced the new members of the Board. The new members include:  
  
Neil D. Greene, Muscoda, Southern Sectional Chairman; J. A. Bjorge, Whitewater, Whitewater District Chairman; B. E. Robinson, Eau Claire, Northern Sectional Chairman.  
  
Mr. Rod McPhee was introduced as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.
4. The Chairman asked the Secretary-Treasurer to read a draft of a proposed rule change to modify the present procedure for determining the state debate champion. Miss Grace Walsh explained why she thought the proposal would eliminate some of the weaknesses of the present plan. Considerable discussion followed but no action was taken. (The proposed plan appears on page 12 of this News Letter.)
5. The Chairman asked the Secretary-Treasurer to report on rule changes for the current year. These changes are all indicated by italics in the September 1952 News Letter.
6. The Secretary-Treasurer reported that as a result of the last annual meeting, mimeographed

Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

copies of Aims, Purposes, and Definitions of contests have been sent to all member schools and to district and sectional chairmen.

7. The Secretary-Treasurer explained the new procedure which is to be followed in Extemp Reading. He referred coaches to the bibliography of North American Folklore on pages 18-20 of the September News Letter, and indicated that mimeographed sets of cuttings will be prepared for use in league and district contests.
8. The Chairman asked the Secretary-Treasurer to report on the highlights of the November Board meeting. These included the following items: (See details on other pages of this News Letter.)
  - a. Election of Mr. Connors as Chairman of Board
  - b. Proposal to increase dues
  - c. Proposal to change institute pattern in 1953
  - d. Report of Discussion-Debate procedure
  - e. Revision of one-act play listConsiderable discussion took place on items b, and c, with no action taken.
9. The Secretary-Treasurer announced that:
  - a. Copies of Planning Student Activities in the High School are still available for 25¢ in Wisconsin.
  - b. Your help is needed in selecting Discussion-Debate problem areas and in improving the official one-act play list.
  - c. The Speech Association of America will meet in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 29-31.
10. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 P. M.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### State Drama Contest

The State Drama Contest will be held Saturday, December 13, at the new College Theatre, Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire. Schools receiving "A" ratings in the sectional contests will automatically be scheduled for the state contest. Directions will be mailed to these schools as soon as we receive the results of the sectional contests.

Whether or not your play cast is eligible to enter the contest, everyone is welcome to attend the contest, observe the plays, and hear the comments of the judge. We are sure you would enjoy seeing the facilities of the new theatre at Eau Claire. No admission is charged.

### One-Act Play List

The Board of Control, at its November meeting, again asked the Wisconsin Idea Theatre to compile the official one-act play list for next season.

We are anxious to learn your reaction to this year's play list. Which plays should be omitted next year? Which new ones should be added? Now is the time to offer your suggestions for next year while you are reading, seeing, and judging many of the plays now on the list. As you come across good one-acts not on the list, let us know of them. Next fall will be too late! Please send your suggestions to: Ronald Gee, Wisconsin Idea Theatre, Stadium, Madison.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Introducing Our New Play Librarian

We're happy to announce that Mrs. Julia Mailer has accepted the position of Play Librarian at the Bureau of Information and Program Services.

Mrs. Mailer comes to us with a wide background of experience which will be helpful to her in her new position. She received her Master's Degree in Speech from the University of Wisconsin in 1944, and since 1945 has taught interpretation at the University. For seven years she has been a member of the Madison Theatre Guild, of which she is now President.

Many of you have already met Mrs. Mailer at our fall speech institutes. She joins us in urging you to continue to feel free to use the extensive services of our Play Library. We have 15,000 titles, all available for free examination purposes, upon request.

Mrs. Mailer replaces Miss Betty Jean Bender, who left us to marry Dr. Frank Nelson, of Colby, on October 25. Our best wishes are extended to Betty Jean.

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As many of you already know, Barry Robinson of Eau Claire High School, newly elected Chairman of the Northern Section, was stricken with polio this September. We are very pleased to announce that Barry left the hospital on October 31, and hopes to be back in school before Christmas. He is on the road to a complete recovery. We are sure all of you share our relief and happiness at this news.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### The Debate Question

The official Wisconsin debate question for 1952-53 was announced at the annual Wisconsin-Marquette debate at the Teachers' Convention, and post cards announcing the question have been mailed to those schools which checked debate on their registration cards. The question is:

Resolved, that the Atlantic Pact Nations should form a federal union.

It is interesting to note that several other states have also announced a topic, and are using the same question.

### Loan Packages on Debate Question

Loan Packages of information on the debate question are available, for return postage only, from the Bureau of Information and Program Services, 1327 University Avenue, Madison 5, Wis.

### Next Year's Debate Topic

Now is the time to be thinking about next year's discussion and debate topic. Post cards have been sent to those schools indicating an interest in debate on their registration cards. We urge you to return these postcards to us immediately giving your ideas on possible topics for next year. This is an opportunity for you coaches to have a voice in the selection of the topic with which you will have to work next year. If any coaches at schools that didn't check debate have any suggestions to offer, please mail them to us.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Reviewing Stand Program

The "Reviewing Stand" of Northwestern University, which had a broadcast on the discussion and debate question on Sunday, November 16, has discontinued its policy of selling printed transcriptions of the program. However, the NUFA Committee will publish a transcript of the program. We are purchasing enough copies of the transcript to supply each school, which checked debate on the registration card, with one free copy. Schools which desire more copies may order them directly from the NUFA Committee on Discussion and Debate Materials, Box 209, Columbia, Missouri. The charge is 20 cents for one copy, or 50 cents for four copies to the same person.

Station WHA has made plans to tape the program and make it available through its tape library. If you have a tape recorder, and would like to have a taped transcript of the broadcast, send a 7½ inches per second single-track tape with \$1.00 to Radio Station WHA, Madison, Wisconsin. Be sure to specify the program you want put on your tape.

### Certificates of Merit

Application forms for certificates of merit will be included with the February News Letter. Please hold your requests until then.

### With This News Letter (To Member Schools)

Two new declamations

One copy of Aims, Purposes, and Definitions of Contests.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Proposal to Change Basis of Rating at State Debate Contest

Miss Grace Walsh, Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire, has proposed a rule change affecting the state debate contest. On the basis of her long experience with the WHSFA as a debater, coach, and judge, she stated in making the proposal that the present system of rating teams on wins alone is not sufficient to declare a state champion. With only six debates, she advanced the contention that the luck of the draw is overly important, and that it is theoretically possible for the strong teams, meeting one another, to knock each other out of the running, while a mediocre team, meeting weaker opposition, could come through to the championship. To counteract this possibility she has suggested the following rule change:

In Section III, 8, c.

Change the last sentence to read:

"On the basis described below, the highest ranking school and all tied with it in the State tournament shall be considered the state champions, the second highest ranking school and all tied with it shall be given second place, and the third highest ranking school and all tied with it shall be given third place."

The winning team in each debate shall be given three points, the losing team no points. In addition, the judge shall give each team a rating of A, B, or C. Teams ranked A shall be given three extra points, teams ranked B two extra points, and teams ranked C one extra point. These points would be cumulative for each school throughout the three rounds of debate.

Please give this suggested change your careful consideration, and write the state office, or your district or sectional chairman of your reaction to it.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Extemporaneous Reading Contest

As was pointed out in the September News Letter, the rules for the extemp reading contest have been changed this year. The subject for reading is North-American Folklore in Prose.

Some of the questions raised at the institutes this fall indicate that there is some confusion in the minds of coaches as to the exact procedure to be followed. Many have asked when they will get material on folklore from the state office. As the contest is set up, schools will receive no cuttings from the state office. A Committee has been chosen to select, cut, and mimeograph selections, but these are for use in the league, district, and state contests only. Prior to these contests, each school is expected to use its own material for practice and for school contests.

In the September News Letter is a bibliography of of folklore materials. These books, and others on folklore, may be borrowed from the State Traveling Library, State Office Building, Madison, Wisconsin.

### Reading Catalog Available

The 1952-53 catalog of Recommended New Oral Readings by Marceline Erickson and Louise W. Hanley is now available. This compilation of newer readings was called to our attention by Professor Gladys Borchers, who suggests that coaches write to either of the two editors for a copy.

Address Dr. Marceline Erickson, Mankato State Teachers College, Mankato, Minnesota, or Louise W. Hanley, University Extension Center, Oausau, Wis.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Stanley High Goes to State Speech Contest.

Living some two hundred miles from Madison a one-day trip is much too tiring, so every year we have made it a two-day event. We also made it a learning experience. Usually the students are different ones each year so retracing the same route does not make for monotony.

We started out Friday morning early and arrived in Madison by early evening with plenty of time to visit places of scenic or historic interest. We took a different route going and coming so as to see as much as possible of Wisconsin.

This year we traveled eastward through Wisconsin Rapids, The Dells, and Portage. We had a picnic dinner in the little park at Portage and then went on to the State Game Farm at Poynette. Other times we have gone through the Fly-Tying factories and the State College at Stevens Point.

After we reached Madison we made a tour of the University Campus, watched the Badger boat crew working out on the lake, and visited the Memorial Union and the Historical Museum. By that time my happy crew was tired and hungry, so we checked in at our hotel. We always make reservations at the same hotel and park our bus in the parking lot across the street. At the hotel each youngster registered for himself and thus became familiar with that procedure. Some of them had never stayed in a large hotel and some had never been in an elevator. The contestants were sent to bed early, but the non-contestants were allowed to go out for the evening.

## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

Saturday was a busy day but we managed to make a tour of the State Capitol Building before leaving for home. We went home by way of Badger Village to see the Ordnance Plant and Wisconsin Dells. The youngsters seldom settled down. They sang everything from the "classics" to "I Wish I Was a Mosquito" and "I Eat Three Worms a Day!"

Such a trip is truly a learning experience, and each year there is much wishful hoping on the part of those who may become eligible to go. The bus is filled with all who have participated in inter-school forensic contests. They have had a double incentive—to win, and to be eligible for the trip to Madison.

So another year has ended for the Forensic participants. They have learned more than public speaking. Winning gold and silver medals is wonderful, but no one has felt that to be the entire aim of it. Such a trip has included learning in history, geography, geology, economics, industry, sportsmanship, and social adjustment. So please, Messrs. Board of Directors, don't ever break up the State contest at Madison! For those who attend, it is an experience that will be recalled with satisfaction for many years.

Henriette Bolon  
Speech Coach  
Stanley High School



## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### Amendment to Copyright Law

Section 1 of Title 17, United States Code, is amended to read:

"To deliver, authorize the delivery of, read, or present the copyrighted work in public for profit if it be a lecture, sermon, address or similar production, or other nondramatic literary work; to make or procure the making of any transcription or record thereof by or from which, in whole or in part, it may in any manner or by any method be exhibited, delivered, presented, produced, or reproduced; and to play or perform it in public for profit, and to exhibit, represent, produce or reproduce it in any manner or by any method whatsoever. The damages for the infringement by broadcast of any work referred to in this subsection shall not exceed the sum of \$100 where the infringing broadcaster shows that he was not aware that he was infringing and that such infringement could not have been reasonably foreseen:

Section 2. This Act shall take effect on the first day of January 1953. Approved July 17, 1952.

We will not attempt to give any legal interpretation as to how this might affect any activities of our Association. In general, it extends the protection of the copyright law to include "other non-dramatic literary work" and to cover the reading or presentation in public for profit.

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## Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

### New Speech Books by Wisconsin Authors

Professor Andrew T. Weaver, Advisor in Speech to the WHSFA and Professor Gladys Borchers of the University of Wisconsin Speech Department, along with Professor Donald Smith of the University of Minnesota, have recently published The Teaching of Speech. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. 1952. 480 pp. \$4.75.

The book is concerned with principles of secondary speech education. Part I analyzes the place of speech in the curriculum. Then it discusses the history and present status of speech education, the basic pattern of speech instruction, and classroom procedures. Part II describes specific ways of helping students to develop the skills necessary for effective speech: action, voice, language, meanings, social adjustments, and listening. Part III shows how to apply speech skills to conversation, interviewing, parliamentary procedure, public speaking, discussion, debate, story telling, reading aloud, and drama. An examination copy of this book may be borrowed by writing to the Bureau of Information and Program Services, 1327 University Avenue, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

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Professor Winston Brembeck, Director of Forensics at the University of Wisconsin is the co-author with Professor William Howell of the University of Minnesota, of Persuasion. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1952. 512 pp.

This book, written for college students, might serve as a valuable reference for teachers of speech. It is concerned primarily with the tools and the ethics of persuasion.

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### Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

Professor H. L. Twbank of the University of Wisconsin Speech Department, is the co-author with Professor Sherman Lawton of the University of Oklahoma of Broadcasting--Radio and Television. Harpers. 49 E. 33rd St., New York 16, 1952. 528 pp. \$4.50.

While this book is primarily written for college students, it is one that would be a valuable addition to every high school library. Many practical suggestions for those who are to broadcast are offered throughout the book.

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We would like to recommend, especially for junior high school teachers, Fun-Time Puppets, by Carrie Rasmussen and Caroline Storck. Childrens Press, Inc., Chicago. 1952. 41 pp. \$1.25. This book contains simple, graphic directions for many easy-to-make puppets. Children are encouraged throughout the book to use their own creative ideas. The authors, associated with the Madison schools, have based this book on their experience in creative work with children.

### New Speech and Drama Films

Several films of interest to speech teachers have been added to the BVI stock since Professor Brockhaus printed the supplement to his original list. We are simply listing title, running time, and cost. For complete description write to the BVI, 1312 West Johnson Street, Madison 5, Wis.

Public Opinion in our Democracy	10 min	\$1.75
Shakespeare: Background for		
His Works	13 min	2.50
How Not to Conduct a Meeting	10 min	1.75
Learn to Argue Effectively	10 min	1.75
Make-up--Straight and Old Age	20 min	.60
Parliamentary Procedure	11 min	1.75
Speech: Conducting a Meeting	10 min	1.75

### Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

#### The Almere L. Scott Memorial Fund

Many coaches and school administrators remember the outstanding contributions of Miss Almere L. Scott to speech work in Wisconsin. After her death in 1946 a Memorial Fund was established, the income of which was to be used to provide awards for excellence in speech in Freshmen speech contests held annually at the University. This fund is administered by members of the Speech Department.

Last year's awards went to John Burr of Ripon and Charles Nash of Port Washington.

#### The Harry W. Adams Forensic Scholarship

Four University of Wisconsin students are at present benefiting from a scholarship fund set up by a former Wisconsin Debater. Three of the students are freshmen and one is a junior. The freshmen are Beverly Randall from Wisconsin Rapids, Ruth Knight from Watertown, and Lee Ebben from Kohler. The junior is Robert Bruder from Portage. Each received a \$250 grant because of their outstanding forensic work while still in high school.

When Mr. Harry W. Adams, Beloit Attorney and manufacturer, presented his initial gift to the University of Wisconsin Foundation to promote public speaking activities at the University he said, "I have always considered forensics at least equally as important as many more glamorous student activities, including football. Training in public speaking and debate is of great benefit to young men and women as individuals and helps society by producing leaders. I am convinced that the education I received at Wisconsin in forensics through its debating societies is the most valuable part of my college experience."