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## Forensics

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# FORENSICS

## **TO THE STUDENTS AND ALUMNI OF THE CHICAGO KENT COLLEGE OF LAW**

Public speaking is an essential adjunct to the study and practice of law. Because of this your college has sought to build up and maintain as a part of its facilities for the promotion of public speaking, a debating department which will be unexcelled throughout the country. A regular debating coach is retained who has charge of this department. At the commencement of the school year debating tryouts were held in each class. Nine men were carefully selected and now form the teams who will represent the college in inter-collegiate debating contests.

Five inter-collegiate debates constitute the debating schedule this year. One of these debates has already been held. Three of the remaining debates will be broadcast over the radio through the courtesy of the Chicago Daily News. The other debate will be held at Lexington, Kentucky, with the University of Kentucky as the opponent.

In selecting a subject for an inter-collegiate debate every effort is made to secure one of national interest and importance. This is especially true when the debate is to be broadcast. By broadcasting these debates, the public is afforded an excellent opportunity to listen to a high class educational program. The students taking part in these debates spend a great deal of time in research work. From the material thus gathered the most important arguments are selected. The radio listener is thereby

given a chance to hear the most important arguments on both sides of the question being discussed. It is for these reasons that the radio debates are the means of communicating valuable educational material to those who tune in. The radio debates further provide excellent experience for the students who take part in them. They are provided with an audience composed of thousands of people. While it is true that these audiences are invisible, the fact still remains that they are talking to a multitude of people from every walk of life who react in different ways to what they are saying.

Ever since the creation of a separate department for debating, the debating teams of your college have shown marked improvement, so much so that they have received national commendation. Many of the letters received after the last debate, praised the speakers very highly and requested more radio debates. It does not seem presumptuous, therefore, to assume that the broadcasting of intercollegiate debates for the purpose of providing worth while educational programs has been of real value to many people. The college therefore desires to continue this policy in the future. To do so several things are necessary. In the first place the students best able to debate must be carefully selected. This phase of the work will be adequately taken care of by the debate coach. Secondly, these students must necessarily give generously of their time and efforts. Past performances indicate conclusively that they gladly do so. Thirdly, the students and alumni should do everything they can to assist those who are

taking part. Where the decision is being given by the radio public, all who listen to the debate should send in their decision and comment. Their decision should be impartial. The students representing the Chicago-Kent College of Law do not resent it when an alumnus or student votes against them, rather they are pleased to know that their efforts on behalf of their college received serious consideration.

The debaters who take part in these contests are receiving excellent training which will make them better lawyers, a friendly spirit of rivalry is developed which is beneficial to them and through the medium of the radio you as well as many others are afforded an opportunity to receive accurate information on subjects of importance. With these excellent objectives to work for the debating department seeks your support and cooperation.

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### **OKLAHOMA-KENT DEBATE BIG SUCCESS**

The University of Oklahoma represented by a strong debating team, journeyed to Chicago on December 10, 1926, to meet the Chicago-Kent College of Law debating team in a forensic battle that will go down in the history of the college as one of the best student events ever promoted. Chicago-Kent was very ably and efficiently represented by three veteran debaters, namely Gray Phelps, Harold Fishbein and Harold Keele.

A number of things contributed to the success of the debate. The subject, "Resolved that the 18th Amendment to the Constitution should be modified to permit the sale of light wines and beer under Governmental supervision," was a very timely and popular one. Through the courtesy of the Chicago Daily News the debate was broadcast over WMAQ, thereby enabling thousands of people to hear it. Both teams were composed of excellent speakers and were every evenly matched.

The radio listeners were asked to judge the debate. Seven hundred ninety-five people accepted the invitation and forwarded their ballots to the radio station. Of this number, four hundred and fifty-nine voted for the University of Oklahoma who had the affirmative side, and three hundred thirty-six cast their ballots for Chicago-Kent who advanced the negative arguments, thereby enabling the Oklahoma boys to annex the victory. The large number of ballots received, indicates the tremendous interest manifested by the radio public in the debate. Elsewhere in this issue of the review are copies of several letters which were received and which are typical letters showing the attitude of those who tuned in.

Many of the replies received indicate that the debating teams of Chicago-Kent are becoming nationally known for their excellency in the forensic field and that the debates they take part in over the radio are eagerly looked forward to by the radio public.

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### **CHICAGO-KENT COMPLETES DEBATING SCHEDULE**

Tentative arrangements which have almost been completed indicate a very active debating season.

On February 4, 1927, the second inter-collegiate debate of the season will be held and like the first debate, will be broadcast over WMAQ. Iowa State College will in all probability furnish the opposition. The subject under consideration for this debate is, "Resolved that the present day press exercises a more harmful than beneficial influence on the community." Iowa State College will uphold the affirmative and Chicago-Kent will advance the negative arguments.

Following this debate, the Chicago-Kent boys will engage in a dual debate with the University of Kentucky on March 4. The Kentucky boys who journey to Chicago will advance the affirma-

tive arguments of the subject, "Resolved, that the five day week in industry will advance the social-economic condition of the country." The home team representing Chicago-Kent will dwell on the negative arguments. This debate will be broadcast over WMAQ. On the same evening a team from the Chicago-Kent College of Law will be at Lexington, Kentucky, propounding the affirmative arguments of the same question and the home team from the University of Kentucky will take the negative stand. The Chicago debate will be judged by the radio public while the Kentucky debate will be judged by three expert judges.

The final debate of the season will be held on the 25th day of March and gives promise of being a fitting climax to a busy year. Negotiations are under way to bring a team from the University of Michigan to Chicago for a radio debate on that date. For many years the University of Michigan has maintained an enviable reputation in debating circles. Should this debate materialize, Coach William M. James has promised to have Chicago-Kent represented by three veteran debaters, all members of Delta Sigma Rho, and gifted with extraordinary ability as orators. They are Messrs. Irving Toplon, Gray Phelps and Harold Keele. With these three men grouped in one team opposed to an equally strong team from Michigan, it is not unreasonable to assume that the radio public will have an opportunity to listen to a discussion which they will remember for a long time to come.

"Does your wife object when you stay out late nights?"

"Does she? She couldn't file more objections if she were a corporation lawyer."—Pittsburgh Post.

Cimarron, Kansas  
Dec. 11, 1926

Station W.M.A.Q.  
The Chicago Daily News  
Chicago,  
Ill.

Gentleman:

I listened to the debate on modifying the eighteenth amendment. I am voting for the affirmative.

I think the Oklahoma University debaters had much the best end of the argument.

Yours truly,  
John T. Cox.

P. S. We enjoy your programs very much.

THE KANSAS  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
OF HAYS

WILLIAM A. LEWIS, LL. D.  
PRESIDENT

PHILOSOPHY AND BIBLICAL LITERATURE  
CHARLES F. WIEST

Hays, Kansas,  
December 11, 1926.

Station W.M.A.Q.  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sirs:

A group of eighteen students were at my house last evening listening in to the Radio Debate from your station. They will send their separate ballots to you in due time. These students all belong to debate teams; they came with their notebooks and made extensive notes as they listened. Reception was very good. **Thank you.**

Below is my ballot:

I believe the most effective debating was done by the **NEGATIVE** team (Chicago-Kent College of Law).

Charles F. Wiest.  
Hays, Kansas.

"If a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of society. Its art is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world."—Cardinal Newman.

**ATTENTION, SENIORS!**

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