CONSTITUTION OF THE CENTRAL DEBATING LEAGUE.

Article I. - Name.
Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Central Debating League and shall consist of the following Universities: The University of Michigan, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago.

Article II. - Object.
Section 1. It shall be the object of this League to foster an interest in debating by holding annual contests as herein provided for.

Article III. - Officers.
Sec. 1. Each University of the League shall create a Debating Board the majority of whom shall be members of the faculty.
Sec. 2. A Graduate Council of three members shall be constituted as follows: Each university of the League shall elect one alumnus residing in Chicago to sit in this Council.

Article IV. - Duties of Officers.
Sec. 1. Each Debating Board shall have general supervision of local debating matters, shall pass upon the eligibility of debaters, shall name the university's member of the Graduate Council, and shall cooperate with the Graduate Council in selecting questions and judges, as provided for in Articles V and VI, respectively.
Sec. 2. The Graduate Council shall decide all cases of appeal,
SECTION 1. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]

SECTION 2. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]

SECTION 3. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]

SECTION 4. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]

SECTION 5. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]

SECTION 6. \[\text{Large handwritten text, unclear content.}\]
shall select the questions for debate, according to Art. V, and shall submit a list of judges as provided for in Art. VI, Sec. 3.

**Article V. - Selection of Question.**

Sec. 1. Each Debating Board shall submit to the Graduate Council, not later than May 15, one question properly stated for debate. The Council, by June 1, shall submit these questions to the universities who shall designate their choice by percentage on the scale of 100, marking no question lower than 90%; and shall also rank them 1, 2, 3, in the order of their preference. This vote shall be sent to the Graduate Council by June 10, and shall remain sealed until Sept. 26. The Council shall then determine the choice of question as follows:

(1) If any question be marked first by two of the universities it shall be the choice;

(2) If no choice is made by the first method that question shall be chosen the sum of whose ranks is lowest;

(3) If no choice is made by either the first or second method that question shall be chosen whose total percentage is highest.

The Graduate Council shall report the decision to the officers in charge of debating at each university, by Sept. 26, but it shall not be made public until Sept. 25.

**Article VI. - Judges.**

Sec. 1. Three judges shall be secured by the Debating Board of the university at which the debate is to be held at least one month before the contest.

Sec. 2. Each Debating Board shall submit to the Graduate Council not later than May 15, the names of twenty persons whom they
consider eligible to act as judges.

Sec. 3. The Graduate Council shall by June 1 send a full list of nominations for judges to the several Debating Boards. Three Boards shall check off such as are considered undesirable and shall return the names to the Graduate Council by June 10. From the list not objected to the Council shall select and report to the several Boards, by Sept. 26, eight nominations for each debate from whom three judges shall be chosen.

Sec. 4. No resident of the State of Michigan or Illinois, no relative of any contestant, no alumnus of any university participating, and no person who holds or ever has held any official relation with any of the contesting universities, shall be eligible for appointment as judge. A copy of this section shall be sent to each person who is invited to serve as judge.

Sec. 5. Judges may be removed upon protest of any university in the League, provided that such protest be made in writing to the Graduate Council at least three weeks before the contest. Otherwise the appointment shall stand.

Article VII. - Contestants.

Sec. 1. Each University shall send to a contest in which it participates three representatives.

Sec. 2. Any student who is regularly enrolled in one of the universities of the League for at least twelve (12) hours of recitation or lectures per week, may enter two contests but never twice against the same university.

Article VIII. - Contests.

Sec. 1. There shall be three annual contests in the League, on
the same evening - one at each university. These contests shall occur on the third Friday in January, beginning in 1907.

Sec. 2. The same question shall be used in all three of the contests. The visiting teams shall take the negative side of the question.

Sec. 3. In 1907 the contests shall be:

Michigan vs. Chicago at Ann Arbor.
Chicago vs. Northwestern at Chicago.
Northwestern vs. Michigan at Evanston.

In 1908 the contests shall be:

Michigan vs. Northwestern at Ann Arbor.
Chicago vs. Michigan at Chicago.
Northwestern vs. Chicago at Evanston.

Sec. 4. Each debater shall have seventeen minutes; twelve minutes for his opening speech and five minutes for rebuttal. The first speech in rebuttal shall be made by the negative.

Sec. 5. At the close of a contest each judge, without consultation with his associates, shall hand to the presiding officer his vote on the debate, duly signed and sealed. Each judge is to decide for himself what constitutes effective debating.

The presiding officer shall thereupon immediately open the envelopes containing the judges' votes, and shall declare that side the winner which is found to have received a majority of the votes.

Article IX. - Expenses.

Sec. 1. The University at which a debate is held, shall make full arrangements therefor; shall pay the expenses of the judges; shall procure the presiding officer and pay his expenses; and shall pay all other local expenses of holding the debate.
Dec. 5th, 1901.

My dear Mr. Angell:

I am much obliged to you for your kind note. I learned after writing you of the arrangement at the Club which had already been made for the evening of December thirteenth. I am sure that we can avoid such conflicts in the future.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I remain

Yours very truly,
Mr. Green, Mr. Wood:

I am much obliged to you for your kind note.

I trust you will write upon the management of the clip work you
already possess more in the manner of December first seriously. I am sure
that we can each much contribute in the future.

Yours ever truly,

[Signature]
I simply regret that your note relative to the meeting of Dec. 13th was not received earlier.

The club has already made a contract with Mr. Herriman for a recital in that currency. I hope that similar conflicts can be avoided in the future.

Jasper E. Ayres

Munday
The University of Chicago

I have been informed that I

should be transferred from

the School of Physical Science

to the School of Commerce.

Under American conditions, we therefore...

I am...

[Signature]
Dec. 2d, 1901.

My dear Mr. Angell:—

I am writing to suggest that unless it is too late, and unless there is something of a special character on hand, we try to keep the evening of Friday, December thirteenth, free for the Annual University Debate. I have thought that perhaps you might be willing to keep the evening clear at the Quadrangle Club in order that we might concentrate the interest of the University on this particular evening. The Debate henceforth is to be an annual event, and there seems to be every reason why, from the University point of view, the members of the staff should unite to make it a strong and important occasion.

Sincerely hoping that we may have your co-operation in this matter, I remain

Yours very truly,
Dec. 8th, 1901

My dear Mr. Angel:

I am writing to express that opinion of you,

for I am sure you have a thorough appreciation of the

value and importance of a scientific and practical

basis for the training of a lifetime in the

history of the University of London. I have

repeatedly thought that perhaps you might

be willing to read the evening class of the

Department of the

important occasion.

Science, hoping that we may have your co-operation in this

matter. I remain

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
January 23rd, 1904.

My dear Mr. Chandler:-

I am writing to congratulate you and the debaters in spite of the fact that we did not gain the victory. I shall be very glad to cooperate with you in doing something to show our appreciation of the men. Perhaps we can have a luncheon or a little dinner sometime. I have written a letter to the debaters. I wish to say to you how greatly we appreciate the spirit you have instilled into these men.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper
January 31st, 1947

Mr. Geo. H. Chapman:

I am writing to congratulate you and the Government on the fact that we did not regain the victory.

I am very glad to cooperate with you in holding some kind of a conference at the earliest possible time. Perhaps we can have a function at a little dinner sometime. I have written a letter to the President.

I wish to say to you how greatly we appreciate the spirit you have displayed into these men.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Hays
My dear President Harper:—

I thank you more than I can tell for your very kind note of appreciation in connection with the debate. The cordial sympathy which you have given me ever since I came here makes work a high privilege even when the immediate results of it are disappointing. I can only regret that I have not more to show; fewer defeats, more victories. At the same time I feel an advance has been made. Every year I think I can see that the students of the University are supporting debating more strongly, there are more men too actively at work at debating now and the general standard of speaking among these men is higher than it was two years ago.

I can only keep working, wait patiently, and hope that in time this advance will be more conspicuously manifest and will bring us a larger share of victories in intercollegiate debates.

Chicago, January 26, 1914.
While I thank you for myself, I cannot omit to say that the men on the team appreciate your kind words to them very warmly. Your suggestion of a luncheon or dinner is a very thoughtful one. I know that the men would be greatly pleased if we could carry it out. But whatever that is done, I want to say that we are all warmly grateful for the encouragement you have given us already, and shall look forward to the next campaign with set kindled devotion to the University.

Yours very sincerely,
Henry Butterfield
The University of Chicago

[Handwritten text appears to be a letter or note, but the content is not legible due to the handwriting style.]

[Signature appears to be present but is not legible due to the handwriting style.]
June 21st, 1904.

Mr. E. N. Trousdale,

Grundy Center, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

The question of the arbitration of the labor disputes has never been discussed in an intercollegiate debate at this University. The question of the same subject, however, was debated between Chicago and Northwestern last winter. I think that by writing to Mr. J. S. Barnes, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois you could obtain the verbatim copy of that debate. The price is one dollar I think.

Yours truly,

H. P. Chandler
Secretary to the President
Has the following question or a labor question similar to it been debated in your school within the last few years? Resolved, that the adjudication of disputes between employer & employee should be made a part of the administration of justice. If this or any labor question has been debated, would you please inform me. Also state if the debates are in book form for sale & the price of same.

Respectfully,

E.H. Trousdale.
and the Graduate Schools. But, whatever plan is followed, you may be fairly certain that the preliminary trials will occur about the first of November.

Through Mr. Sulcer I sent you the question, but I repeat it in case it did not reach you: "Resolved, that Mr. Charles C. Parsons,

Norris, Montana.

My dear Mr. Parsons:

I cannot tell you definitely just how trials for the debating team will be conducted this year, because in my opinion the plan which has been followed heretofore has not worked very well, and I am in favor of a change. But I shall no longer have charge of the debating. My successor has not been appointed, and so details for the coming year have not been arranged.

In the past, however, there have been separate trials for the Junior College candidates, Senior College candidates, and candidates from the Law, Graduate, and Divinity Schools. What I favor is gathering these four or five sets together into just two groups,—the Colleges and the Graduate Schools. But, whatever plan is followed, you may be fairly certain that the preliminary trials will occur about the first of November.

Through Mr. Sulcer I sent you the question, but I repeat it in case it did not reach you: "Resolved, that the United States should continue its present policy of opposing the combination of railroads."

I am very glad you are thinking of trying for the
I am still waiting for the confirmation on the application. I hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,
[Signature]

Mr. Clarke

Mr. Jones

To:

From:

Date:

Subject: Application Confirmation
C. C. P. #2.

team. The inquiries I have received promise greater interest and more spirited competition this year than heretofore.

Yours very truly,
July 26, 1904.

Mr. Chandler,

The University of Chicago,

Chicago.

My dear Mr. Chandler:

If it is not too much trouble, would you please let me know the way in which trials for the debating team are conducted. Also, let me know the date of the first of the preliminary trials.

Yours very sincerely,

Charles C. Parsons.
Mr. Chancellor,

The University of Chicago

July 26, 1900

My dear Mr. Chancellor:

If it is not too much trouble, I would be pleased if you would let me know the way in which your forces are to keep the negative teams in the connected areas. Also, let me know the date of the first of the preliminary papers.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]
March 16, 1916.

Henry P. Judson,

Dear Sir:

Realizing no doubt that you are busy with affairs of your own, we nevertheless address this inquiry to you with the hope that you will not consider it an imposition on our part.

We are debating at the present time the question Resolved That further immigration to the U.S. should be restricted by an educational test. What we would like to know is whether or not this question can be interpreted to mean that said test may be applied after the immigrant is a resident here, say for five years, during which time the immigrant is given ample educational opportunities, or does the question demand that said test be applied at port of entry.

In case both interpretations can be made, may we ask what is your personal opinion with regard to the merits or demerits of the respectful scheme. Just a short pertinent reply will be appreciated.

And again, when we speak of the educational test in this country, do not we mean the literacy test?

Thanking you in advance for these favors,

I remain,

[Signature]

North-Western College,
Naperville,
Ill.
Chicago, March 21, 1916

Dear Sir:—

Your note of the 16th inst. is received. May I say that in my opinion the exact interpretation of your question ought to be decided by those concerned in the debate in advance of the debate itself, and not left to the interpretation of others? So far as opinions on the various schemes are concerned, I am always inclined to point out to young men engaging in debates that debates should be settled on the merits of the question, and not on the weight of those who may think one way or the other about it.

Very truly yours,

R.P.J. - L.

Mr. Arthur Talman,
Naperville, Illinois.
Dear Sir:—

I am not yet at the office, but I am writing to say that I have received your letter of January 6th and I have not yet had an opportunity to read it carefully. I can only say that it was sent for information and not for action. I am glad to see that you have decided to act upon the suggestions I made in my last letter.

I trust that your view of the matter is correct and that you will take the necessary steps to prevent any further action being taken.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
November 6, 1924

Vice-President James H. Tufts
Harper Library

Dear Dr. Tufts:

It has been customary in recent years to appoint a debating coach at a salary of $400 a year (the charge being to an account called "Education, Administration, General Expense") and to award scholarships for members of debating teams to a total value of $1125 a year.

The debating has been of a very dour and formal type, its main expression being a triangular debate, one of our teams meeting Michigan, while the other met Northwestern.

These plans have been working very badly. I have found notes by Mr. Robertson indicating his opinion that such debating might well be discontinued; and my own observation last year led me to the same conclusion.

Membership in the debating teams has been sought in some cases more for the sake of the financial reward than for the interest and honor of the activity; and failure to make the team has brought upon the coach charges of injustice due primarily, in my opinion, to financial disappointment.

Members of the team have been chiefly Jews. The audience at the joint debate here last year was small and predominantly Jewish.

I have talked the situation over with Mr. Nelson and with a number of other men, faculty and students, who are concerned in the development of debating as a real interest here, and have found that there is general agreement to this effect: (1) that the present formal type of debating should be abandoned in favor of experimentation designed to develop a greater readiness in speaking of a more extempore character, and on the part of a much larger number of students; and (2) that the awarding of scholarships to members of the debating team should immediately cease.

I have communicated with Michigan and Northwestern, and find that they are willing to release us from the debating agreement.

In view of these suggestions, I recommend the appointment of Mr. Harold Lasswell as director of debating for the present year, with a salary of $400, on the understanding that he will carry on experiments along the lines suggested above. Mr. Lasswell is well qualified by experience and interest to do this work; and the suggestion of his appointment has the hearty approval of Mr. Nelson. Mr. Lasswell has agreed to serve if appointed. Last year's coach, Mr. Montgomery, would not serve this year in any case.
Dear Mr. Tate:

I have been appointed to receive and to give a certificate of discharge to those entitled thereto. The certificate is issued on the recommendation of the President and is signed by the President and the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. The certificate is delivered to the person entitled thereto, and the name of the person is recorded in the minutes of the Board of Trustees.

I have been authorized to give this certificate in the name of the Board of Trustees, and I have signed it in that capacity.

[Signature]

[Date]
I recommend also that the awarding of scholarships to debaters be discontinued for the present year at least. There appears to be no satisfactory reason why we should give financial reward for this activity, when we do not give such financial reward for other activities of equal importance and much greater interest to the student body. This year, in any case, there will presumably be no regular debating teams. Mr. Plimpton feels that we are perfectly free to discontinue the scholarships, as no student has been given any basis for expectation that he would receive such a scholarship. Such discontinuance of scholarships would save the University $1125 this year.

Very truly yours,

Ernest H. Wilkens

Dean of the Colleges
December 3, 1924

Mr. Harold Lasswell,
Faculty Exchange

Dear Mr. Lasswell:

At the meeting this morning of the Committee of Expenditures, I was authorized to arrange with you to carry out the experiment in debating, concerning which you have had a conference with Dean Wilkins and myself.

The Committee voted to appropriate $400 to cover your work with the team in preparation for the Oxford Debate and such further work during the year as would be proper for the remainder of the same.

I had thought in a general way that about $100 might be considered as appropriate for the work with the team for the Oxford Debate, leaving $300 for the work for the rest of the year. If this meets your approval, please let me know and confer with Dean Wilkins as to details.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Tufts

JHT: H
My dear Mr. Tufts,

I am quite willing to proceed upon the basis indicated in your note of December 3rd, and I will communicate with Dean Winkins immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Harold D. Lasswell
H. Van. S. Tuck

I agree with your amendment.

It provides necessary good standards.

I will communicate with Mr. Dean.

Handwritten signature: