



COLLEGE REPORT

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Across the nation, these days, we hear of students' demands for more and more dialogue—conversation, if you will—in order that they, their professors, alumni, and other groups associated with higher education can better understand each other.

The most appealing cry, however, appears to me to stem from students' need to understand one another. Students of a past century felt the same need, and they had their own way of satisfying it.

During the latter half of the 18th Century and all of the 19th Century, the literary and debating societies held a distinguished and powerful place in American higher education. They are considered today as having been one of the most important forces promoting student interaction over problems of the times. These societies operated without faculty supervision and at little expense, meeting once a week on campus. Their problems, in essence, provided the opportunity for students to participate frequently in speech activities and encouraged a systematic attempt to criticize the performances constructively.

THE MOST significant point to be made here, however, is that the debating societies' exercises generally included in their activities fully one quarter of the student body, with effective participation—something a modern forensic program could never hope to manage.

As we advanced into the present century, the literary and debating societies fell into a state of decay from which they never recovered, and, for all intents and purposes, became completely extinct on most American campuses.

The basis for their decline was not an obscure one. The whole character of American life was rapidly changing to something very different from that which gave birth and sustenance to the societies. The advent of the automobile, the motion picture, radio and finally television meant entertainment, amusement, and even instruction of all sorts. Students no longer had to provide their own diversion—the question became not one of what to do, but rather what to choose.

STUDENT LIFE reflected this change of the outer world as it became more a counterpart life at large than formerly was so. Curriculum adjusted to the demands of an industrial, rapidly changing society; and the campus became merely home base for a student body on wheels selecting entertainment from an ever-increasing storehouse of canned fun. The rise of social fraternities and sororities with their colorful and attractive advantages had much to do with the decline of the societies.

It is not difficult to realize that much of the attraction of the debating societies must have sprung from the desire of the students for social prestige on campus. Being a member gave one a definite position in the college community, with all the identification, fellowship, and feeling of belonging that could be desired; that is, until the social fraternity came along and offered this and "something more."

THE LITERARY and debating society was unable to compete and many, in order to survive, gradually adjusted their functions and purposes until they, themselves, evolved as social fraternities. Such was the case with my own undergraduate fraternity.

As debating societies went out, departments of public speaking came in; and shortly after, as a result of student interest, debating squads as we know them today began to form. Thus the intense intracollegiate forensic activity which went on between campus groups involving hundreds of students was replaced by intercollegiate competition with its highly train-

Collision Injures Children

Three small children were rushed to the hospital Saturday night after the car in which they were riding collided with another vehicle at the intersection of Sepulveda Boulevard and Western Avenue.

The youngsters are Elena Molini, 2, who suffered a three-inch laceration on her forehead; Ann Marie Molini, 3, who sustained bruises; and David Molini, 5, who sprained his right knee.

The children were riding in a car driven by their mother, Mrs. Delores Ann Molini, 27, of 1918 W. 237th St.

The Molini vehicle collided with a car driven by Janice Lucas, 19, of Gardena. Both cars sustained severe damage.

ARMED FORCES

Warrant Officer Candidate Leo A. Diemer of 3133 Opal St., was assigned as a radio relay operator with the 1st Infantry Division May 15 near Lai Khe, Vietnam.

1st Lt. William T. Hedgecock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Hedgecock of 16720 Yukon Ave., is on duty at

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Joe Post	Los Angeles	Mildred Shoults	1000 Oaks	Albert Cech	San Diego
Dixie Shields	Las Vegas	Fannie Distefano	San Fernando	Paul De Hato	Long Beach
Albert Riola	Long Beach	Mary Wainwright	Los Angeles	Maurice Morgan	Las Vegas
Rosemary Crocker	La Mesa	Robert Baird	Coronado	Carolyn Morgan	Camarillo
Mabel Wrench	San Diego	Geneva Burch	Fellows	Brenda Holt	Taft
Helena Koehn	Shafter	Ethel Smith	Las Vegas	John Boyd	Santa Monica
Anna Van Erp	Saugus	Pauline Branom	Garden Grove	M. Westman	Los Angeles

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Fresh Fryers
U.S.D.A. Grade A U.S. Govt. Insp. **29¢** lb.
Pump, Tender and Meaty. Check This Low Price Tool—WHOLE BODY—
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Rib Steaks
U.S.D.A. Choice Graded Beef **89¢** lb.
Safeway Fully Aged and Trimmed Tool—Ideal Individual Steak.

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Pork Sausage Dubuque Pure 1-lb. roll **39¢**

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Ham Center Slices To Pan Fry—Ideal **99¢** lb.

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Round Steak Full Center Cut Boneless USDA Choice **98¢** lb.

Pork Chops Center Cut Rib Eastern Porkers **89¢** lb.

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• Luer's Iowa Farms
1-lb. pkg. **59¢**

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