

Union College
Schenectady, New York

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Kappa Nu House
40 Union Ave
Schenectady, N.Y.
October 8, 1941.

Manager of Debate
Bennington College
Bennington, Vt.

Dear Manager:

Two years ago Union became one of the first colleges in the country to completely abandon formal debating in favor of an informal type of debating which we felt would have many more distinct advantages and which would eliminate certain shortcomings of the formal style. We attempted to set into operation a system which would make possible discussion on the subject in an informal manner, viewing it in a full perspective and injecting the element of cross-discussion. Thus we were able to relegate and quash oratory and tactics designed to produce confusion or to mislead the opposition; we were also able to organize a question for purposes of thorough analysis.

Through the operation of round-table debating we have been able to discuss topics with full subjectivity and objectivity, the primary purpose being to arrive at conclusions based upon accurate information, reasoning, and discussion. Viewing debating in this light, we feel that we have been able to raise the standard and quality of debating in the intellectual and practical realms.

Happily, this project has been successful. Last year we had the pleasure of participating in debates with eighteen colleges and universities, and all of them conceded that our style and techniques have a great advantage and create an opportunity for more precise discussion and for arrival at general conclusions in an informal, friendly atmosphere.

It has been Union College's pleasure in previous years to conduct forensic relations with
At the present time we are preparing our schedule for the year, and we should like to include you on our schedule. I trust that we shall hear from you soon.

With best wishes for a successful season, I am

Cordially yours,

Harvey Fishbone
Harvey Fishbone
MANAGER OF DEBATE

HF/1

I - should this go to Ann Mills?