

The Red River Aggie



Top Row — COACH AVERY, SANDAL, C. WIDSETH, HOLE.
Bottom Row — JOHNSTAD, FLETCHER, ERICKSON, KNUTSON.

Debate

DEBATE seems to have stirred up more interest this year than usual, except in the literary societies. Attendance there has been small, and debate has lagged. In the regular classes more than usual snap has been shown. The classes are organized as debate clubs. A member of the class presides and learns the accepted method of conducting debate. The teams, three on a side are appointed at the beginning of the term and come into action in a regular order.

The debaters do not hesitate to tackle real questions as shown by the following which have been used during the year: The World War Debt Question; Installment Buying; Nicaragua; and Capital Punishment. The installment buying question has seemed to be the most popular, most of the debaters coming to the conclusion that installment buying is a good thing.

The inter-school debate will be held March 9, too late for the results to be published in the Aggie. Enough ambitious debaters turned out to make a double squad. Four of them have had experience in inter-school debating before. The question is: Resolved, That the United States should construct an All American Great Lakes Waterway, or other than cooperate with Canada in the St. Lawrence Great Lakes project. This is the same question used by the Minnesota High School Debate League. Material for reading and study, especially for the affirmative has been rather scarce, but thru the kindness of Congressman Selvig we have had enough.

In one of the debate sections the question was, Resolved, that capital punishment should be abolished. One of the speakers on the negative gave two quotations from the Bible, one from Genesis and one from Numbers prescribing the punishment of death for murder, and naming Moses as the author. The Affirmative immediately countered by quoting the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill" and claiming the point on the ground of highest authority, since the commandment was written by God. The judges, however, who were members of the class, concluded that Moses knew more than Jehovah about murder, and gave the decision to the negative.