

Debates of the Washington Literary Society and Debating Union

- A lack of a date means that this is the second debate taking place in the same night.
- For most of the period 1890-1910 votes were taken regarding the merits of the question in addition to the best debaters. These merit-of-the-question results were recorded where possible; the decision on the merits of the debaters was otherwise used.
- The notation (H) signifies an explicitly humorous debate.
- The victor being "T" means a tie. "Abstain" means that there were more abstentions than votes for either side, and while technically one side lost, the real loser was the audience.
- Italics means that the actual resolution is lost, but the italicized words are whatever hints are available.

Date	Resolved:	Victor
1/10/1857	The regard for ones own welfare is the only motive of human action.	
10/8/1859	Are free institutions favorable to the progress of Literature and Sciences	
10/15/1859	Should Cuba be annexed to the United States	A
10/22/1859	Do the virtues of mankind increase with the progress of civilization?	N
10/29/1859	Is the American Union likely to be perpetual?	A
11/26/1859	Is Extension of (Senate ?) beneficial to this country?	A
12/3/1859	Should a Representative be bound by the will of his Constituents?	N
1/7/1860	Was the political career of Oliver Cromwell beneficial to Great Britain? (* see notes from 12/10/59 minutes - no political topics)	A
1/14/1860	Was Execution of Mary Queen of Scots just?	N
1/21/1860	Should a rail road, from the western border of Missouri to the Eastern border of California, be built at the National Expense.	A
2/4/1860	Has a State the right to secede.	A
2/11/1860	Was the execution of Marshal Ney (?) justifiable	N
2/18/1860	Has the Union of Ireland and England been detrimental to Ireland	A
2/25/1860	Would it benefit the English Government to Separate Church and State	A
3/10/1860	Should Capital punishment be abolished	N
3/17/1860	Was the English Government justifiable in Banishing Napoleon Bonaparte to the Island of St Helena	N
3/31/1860	Was the French Revolution of benefit to Civil Liberty in Europe	N
4/14/1860	Ought there to be a Southern Convention	

4/21/1860	Ought there to be a Southern Convention	
4/28/1860	Ought there to be a Southern Convention	
5/19/1860	Should the liberty of the Press be restricted	N
10/20/1860	Should foreign immigration be encouraged	N
11/3/1860	In case of the election of Lincoln should the Southern states secede	
11/10/1860	In case of the election of Lincoln should the Southern states secede	A
11/17/1860	Is every man the architect of his own fortune	A
11/24/1860	Who has exerted the greater influence on the destinies of Europe, Napoleon I or Napoleon III	A
12/1/1860	Ought capital punishment to be abolished	N
12/8/1860	Should a man obey the laws of his country which he feels to be morally wrong	N
1/5/1861	Have savages a full right to the soil	A
1/12/1861	Is the extension of territory favorable to a republican system of government	A
1/19/1861	In case of a dismemberment of the Union, is a Middle Confederacy desirable	N
1/26/1861	Are the Crittenden resolutions a sufficient remedy for the present state of affairs?	N
2/2/1861	Should the action of the state convention be referred to the people	
2/8/1861	Was Napoleon justly banished to the island of St. Helena	
2/16/1861	Is the tendency of England towards free institutions?	
2/23/1861	Is a Republican form of government favorable to the growth of literature?	
3/2/1861	Are females capable of the same degree of intellectual cultivation that males are?	A
3/9/1861	Would free trade be adverse to the interests of the border slave states in a Southern Confederacy?	A
3/16/1861	Do the interests of the Confederate States require the imposition of the further (?) political disabilities on foreigners than now (?) in the United States?	A
3/23/1861	Is slavery the only substantial basis of a Republic?	A
3/20/1861	Did the Crusades prove of any benefit to the world	A
	INTERREGNUM	
10/21/1865	Have men of thought been more beneficial to Society than men of action?	
10/28/1865	Was the impeachment of Warren Hastings just?	A
11/4/1865	Should foreign immigration be encouraged?	N
11/11/1865	Was the political career of Oliver Cromwell beneficial to Great Britain?	N

11/18/1865	Is nature, without the aid of revelation, sufficient to prove the existence of God?	A
11/25/1865	Should capital punishment be abolished	N
12/2/1865	Which makes the greater man, Genius or Application?	A
12/8/1865	Which deserves more the love of his country, the Military Hero or the acknowledged Statesman?	N
12/16/1865	Should the Monroe Doctrine be forcibly asserted?	N
1/6/1866	Is the fear of punishment or the hope of reward a stronger incentive to practice of Virtue?	A
1/13/1866	Is a Republican or Monarchical form of Government more favorable to the development of Literature	N
1/20/1866	Was the execution of Mary Queen of Scots by Queen Elizabeth justifiable?	N
1/27/1866	Which contributes most to neutral enjoyment, facts or fiction?	A
2/3/1866	Ought a property qualification to be required of voters	A
2/17/1866	Which exercises a more decided influence upon human action, conscience or public opinion	A
2/24/1866	Do anticipations of the future give more pleasure than the memories of the past	A
3/3/1866	Is the mind of woman inferior to that of man	N
3/10/1866	Is a lawyer justified in defending a bad cause	N
3/17/1866	Does increased wealth exercise a favorable influence on the morals of Society	N
3/24/1866	Were the Crusades beneficial to Europe	A
3/30/1866	Is the statement, 'Every man is the architect of his own fortune,' true	A
4/7/1866	Was the execution of Major Andre justifiable?	N
4/14/1866	Did justice demand the capital punishment of Aaron Burr?	A
4/28/1866	Is that Government strongest which places most power in the hands of its executive?	N
5/5/1866	Which renders a man more useful to society, a classical or scientific education?	A
5/12/1866	Is the existence of two great political parties in a country desirable?	A
10/13/1866	Does politics or Literature as a profession offer greater advantages in this country?	N
10/20/1866	Does the progress of civilization diminish the tone of martial glory	A
10/27/1866	Is custom or reason the greater guide to mankind?	A
11/10/1866	Has her union with England been detrimental to Ireland?	A
11/17/1866	Should a parent amass riches in order to have a rich inheritance for his children	N

11/24/1866	Would the U.S. Government be justifiable in preventing the Emperor of France from establishing a form of government in Mexico?	N
12/1/1866	Did the French Revolution aid the cause of liberty in Europe	N
12/8/1866	Which offers the wider field for eloquence, the pulpit or the bar?	A
12/15/1866	Is there more to be detested in the character of Aaron Burr, then in the character of Benedict Arnold	N
12/22/1866	Whether our greater pleasure lies in the pursuit or attainment of an object	N
1/5/1867	Was the execution of Mary Queen of Scots justifiable	N
1/12/1867	Does a man exhibit more courage in refusing than in accepting a challenge	A
1/19/1867	Should capital punishment be abolished	N
2/2/1867	Would it be more beneficial to the South that the U.S. should change its form of Government from that of Democratic to that of Monarchical	N
2/9/1867	In war does a nation owe more to the valor of her troops than to the wisdom of her statesmen?	N
2/16/1867	Do great eras make great men or do great men make great eras?	N
2/23/1867	Which is better, a liberal arts or a practical education?	
3/2/1867	Was Napoleon a true patriot?	T
3/9/1867	In the formation of a constitution ought a state be allowed to withdraw from the Union when in the opinion of its citizens they deem it proper?	N
3/16/1867	Should a representative of a Republican government yield to the instructions of his constituency?	N
3/23/1867	Was the execution of the Earl of Strafford justifiable?	A
3/30/1867	Did the crusades promote the advancement of civilization in Europe?	A
4/6/1867	Has the Catholic Religion been instrumental for good on the progress of Civilization?	
4/20/1867	Does the advancement of learning increase the love of liberty?	A
4/27/1867	Is national wealth unfavorable to national virtue?	A
5/11/1867	Which is the more necessary for success in life, genius or perseverance?	N
5/18/1867	Has the chivalry of the Middle Ages had a beneficial effect on Modern Civilization?	A
10/19/1867	Should a lawyer defend a bad cause?	A
10/26/1867	Does the study of philosophy do more harm that good to religion	A
11/2/1867	Was Cromwell a patriot?	A
11/9/1867	Is education essential to a ruler?	N
11/16/1867	Is the assassination of tyrants justifiable	N
11/23/1867	Has a union with England been detrimental to Ireland?	N

11/30/1867	Is the character of Benedict Arnold more odious than that of Aaron Burr	N
12/7/1867	Which is the more lasting: literary fame or military glory	N
12/14/1867	Which is more to be desired, the fame of the Poet or that of the prose writer	N
12/21/1867	Is Republicanism a failure	N
1/4/1868	Should capital punishment be abolished	N
1/11/1868	Which is the greater field for eloquence, the pulpit or the bar	A
1/18/1868	Was the execution of Mary Queen of Scots justifiable	N
2/1/1868	Was Bacon justifiable in the part he took in the prosecution of the Earl of Essex	A
2/8/1868	Should there be a property qualification for voters	A
2/29/1868	Is the existence of two political parties in a state beneficial	N
4/7/1868	Was Regulus right in returning to Carthage	A
3/14/1868	Is a Republic the best and most preferable form of government?	N
4/4/1868	Has the Catholic church advanced the case of civilization	N
4/25/1868	Should the penalty of death ever be inflicted	A
5/2/1868	Was Louis Napoleon justifiable in seizing the reins of government in 1852	A
5/9/1868	Which abounds most in eloquence, dead or living grandeur	A
5/16/1868	Which influences man most, Custom or Reason?	A
5/23/1868	Which has the most influence, love or money	
10/17/1868	Is there more pleasure in pursuit than in possession?	T
10/24/1868	Had the American Savage a full right to the soil	A
11/4/1868	Should universal suffrage be allowed?	A
11/14/1868	Was the execution of Mary Queen of Scots justifiable?	A
11/21/1868	Is the existence of two political parties in a state beneficial?	N
11/28/1868	Is Republicanism a failure?	A
4/17/1886	the Annexation of Mexico to the United States would be beneficial to the latter County	
10/23/1886	Coeducation of the Sexes should be the system of this State	N
10/30/1886	Does morality keep pace with civilization	N
11/6/1886	Is it compelled to a state to qualify aliens unnaturalized to vote for members of Congress and President of the U.S.	A
11/14/1886	Federal aid should be granted to the public schools	N
11/20/1886	A protective tariff is at present the true policy of the U.S.	A
11/27/1886	The colonization of the negro would be a benefit to the South	A
12/18/1886	Unlimited Immigration is beneficial to the prosperity of our Country	N
1/8/1887	The Jury system should be abolished	A
1/15/1887	Civil service reform would benefit this country	N

1/22/1887	Railroad and Telegraph businesses should be operated by the Government	N
2/12/1887	The separate property of married women is the best policy for Virginia	N
2/19/1887	The School of English should be included in the M.S. course	N
2/26/1887	The Government out to push its retaliatory measures against Canada in the Fishery question, even to the extent of War	A
3/5/1887	The election of U.S. Senators ought to be decided by the suffrages of the people instead of by the Legislature	N
3/12/1887	The theoretical man has done more for the world than the practical man	N
3/19/1887	Women should be allowed to vote in municipal elections	N
4/9/1887	The veto of the Dependent Pension Bill was a justifiable measure	A
10/15/1887	The government has a right to prohibit Mormanism	A
10/22/1887	Prohibition should be adopted in the U.S.	N
10/29/1887	The world is growing better	A
11/5/1887	The fundamental principles of the late civil war were wrong	N
11/12/1887	The fundamental principles of the late civil war were wrong	
11/17/1887	Suffrage should be granted to women	A
11/26/1887	Foreign immigration should be suppressed	A
12/10/1887	The negroes should be colonized	N
12/17/1887	The execution of Mary Queen of Scotts was justifiable	N
1/21/1888	Capital punishment is justifiable	N
1/28/1888	Inventions are beneficial to the labor classes	A
2/18/1888	The negro has more cause to complain of the treatment of the whites than the Indians	N
2/25/1888	Labor organizations are beneficial to the labor element	A
3/10/1888	Theatres are more beneficial than hurtful	N
3/17/1888	Duties shall be laid on imports for purposes of revenue only	N
3/24/1888	The signs of the times do not dictate the fall of our government	A
10/20/1888	The Chinese should be admitted	N
10/27/1888	The right of suffrage should be limited to the educated class	N
11/3/1888	The annexation of Canada to the U.S. would be beneficial	N
11/10/1888	There is more pleasure in the pursuit of an object than in obtaining it	A
11/17/1888	The U.S. should extent aid to Cuba	A
11/27/1888	Marriage is a failure	N
12/8/1888	The right to vote should be extended to women	N
12/29/1888	Napoleon (1 st) was a public benefactor	
2/2/1889	Mob law is sometimes justifiable	A
2/9/1889	Monopolies in trade should be forbidden by law	N
2/16/1889	The U.S. naval force should be increased	N
2/23/1889	The U.S. had no right to enfranchise the negro	N

11/2/1889	Students who attended the University during the session of 1888+1889 + are attending the present session have a right to vote in the coming election	A
11/16/1889	The coeducation of the sexes secures the best educational advantages	A
11/23/1889	The practical man has done more for the world than the theoretical man	N
11/30/1889	The sale of intoxicating drinks be abolished	
12/14/1889	Dueling is a good institution	N
1/18/1890	Every man is the architect of his own fortune	A
1/25/1890	The people of the U.S. should set apart a portion of the U.S. exclusively for the negro population on condition that they withdrew entirely from the other portions and each race be prohibited from migrating to the other's territory.	N
2/1/1890	Knowledge exerts a greater influence than wealth	N
2/22/1890	There should be a tariff for revenue only	A
3/1/1890	All peoples are capable of republican form of government	A
3/8/1890	The right of suffrage should have an educational qualification	N
3/15/1890	Protection does protect	N
3/29/1890	The rate of wages is determined by supply and demand	A
10/18/1890	Speaker Reed's rulings on the quorum of the 51 st Congress were correct	N
10/25/1890	The annexation of Canada to the U.S. would be beneficial to both countries	A
11/8/1890	Co-education of the sexes is beneficial to both	A
11/15/1890	The R.R. system of this country should be controlled by the Government	A
11/22/1890	The U.S. Senators should be elected by popular suffrage	A
12/5/1890	The Virginia Married Woman's Law should be repealed	N
12/13/1890	The Indian Territory should be opened to settlers	N
12/20/1890	Foreign immigration should be prohibited by law	
1/31/1891	A constitutional monarchy is the best form of government	N
2/14/1891	A man should defend his country right or wrong	N
3/4/1891	Womans suffrage be allows	A
4/11/1891	The negroes should be colonized in Alaska	N
4/18/1891	A limited monarchy is preferable to a republican government. (Debater's medal contest)	
11/7/1891	Women should be allowed to vote	N
11/15/1891	The negroes of the U.S. should be colonized in Alaska	N
12/12/1891	Aliens should not be allowed to hold lands in the United States	A
12/19/1891	Statesmen have done more for our country than warriors	N
2/13/1892	The annexation of Mexico is desirable to the U.S.	N

3/5/1892	The Ways and Means Committee should attack the present tariff by means of small bills, instead of a general revision.	A
3/26/1892	The Democratic party has been more beneficial to the country than the Republican	A
4/2/1892	The right of suffrage should be restricted to freeholders	N
10/1/1892	The young man in casting his first vote should cast it for Clev.	A
10/13/1892	Tariff should be for revenue	N
10/22/1892	A penal colony is the best way for punishing criminals	N
10/29/1892	The U.S. does wrong in observing the Columbian [Govt ?]	N
11/12/1892	An academic education is a desirable preparation for any profession	A
11/19/1892	The late Civil War resulted unhappily for the South	A
11/26/1892	The President of the U.S. be elected by popular vote	A
12/2/1892	The stage has a moral tendency	A
12/31/1892	Politics exercises a degenerating influence on literary societies	A
1/7/1893	A censor should be appointed for the public press	A
1/21/1893	Monarchy is the best for of government	N
1/28/1893	On the regular debate each debater shall have only one speech, except the principal on the affirmative and he shall close the debate	A
2/4/1893	U.S. Senators should be elected by direct vote of the people, instead of by the state legislatures	N
2/11/1893	Jury trial should be abolished	N
2/18/1893	Hawaii should be annexed to the United States of America	A
2/25/1893	Tammany Hall is detrimental to Society	A
3/18/1893	Women should be allowed equal rights with men	Abstain
3/25/1893	The government should own and operate the rail-roads	N
4/8/1893	The pardoning powers vested in the Executive is detrimental to the ends of justice	N
10/7/1893	Trial by jury ought to be abolished	N
10/14/1893	Men of action have been more beneficial to mankind than men of thought	N
10/21/1893	City life is preferable to that of the country	A
10/28/1893	High tariff raises the price of agricultural products	N
11/4/1893	Immigration should be restricted	N
11/11/1893	Safety of the Roman Government demanded the assassination of Caesar	N
11/25/1893	All children of a suitable age should be compelled to attend the public schools	A
12/2/1893	The 1 st half of the 19 th century afforded a better field for eloquence than the second half, in the U.S.	N
12/9/1893	The accumulation of wealth tends to immortality	N
12/30/1893	Environment more than natural ability makes men great	

2/17/1894	Independent voting is better than party allegiance in American Politics	N
2/24/1894	Ambition is an incentive to nobility	A
3/10/1894	Labor organizations are injurious to the interests of the United States	
3/24/1894	A man should be held accountable for crimes committed in a state of intoxication	
4/7/1894	The diverse interests of the different sections of the U.S. will finally cause the dismemberment of the union	
4/14/1894	The Blaud Bill should become a law	
9/28/1894	The inventions of the last century have improved the condition of the laboring classes	N
10/13/1894	Immigration be prohibited	A
11/3/1894	We should have free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1	N
11/10/1894	Men of renown are the product of great eras	N
11/17/1894	The U.S. should be subdivided into districts subject to different commercial and tariff laws	N
11/24/1894	Lynch law is sometimes justifiable in civilized countries	N
12/8/1894	The late Republican landslide was due to disapprobation of the conduct of Democrats rather than to approbation of Republican principles	N
3/2/1895	The Conquest of England by William of Normandy was beneficial to England	A
3/9/1895	U.S. Senators should be elected by popular vote	N
3/16/1895	Duelists should not be disqualified from holding governmental offices	A
3/23/1895	The proper solution to the negro problem is for a territory be set apart by the General Government for colonization by negroes and eventual admission into the Union	A
4/6/1895	The right of suffrage be extended to women	
10/19/1895	The Univ. of Va. should adopt the System of Co-education	A
11/16/1895	Environment more than natural ability makes men great	A
10/10/1896	The U.S. follow the Monroe Doctrine in the Venezuelan Question	N
10/24/1896	The increase in number of millionaires shows a proportional increase in the prosperity of the people	A
1/30/1897	U.S. Senators should be elected by popular vote	A
2/6/1897	The love of fame is a more powerful motive in human affairs than the love of money	N
2/13/1897	The law should require all persons practicing public professions to have regular diplomas	A
3/13/1897	The U.S. naval force should be increased	N
3/20/1897	The Arbitration Treaty now before the Senate should be ratified	N

3/27/1897	Pugilistic contests should be prohibited by law	A
4/3/1897	There should be an education qualification for votes in Virginia	N
10/2/1897	Lynching should be made a felony in all cases	
10/16/1897	Capital punishment should be abolished	
10/23/1897	Municipal corporations should own and control their street railways	
10/30/1897	All bachelors over thirty years should be taxed for the support of invalid old maids	
11/6/1897	The U.S. government should own and control the Nicaragua Canal	
11/13/1897	Excellent opportunities are a greater factor in success than excellent abilities	
12/4/1897	Women should be allowed to vote	
12/11/1897	We should have a compulsory school law	A
1/8/1898	the Civil Service Reform has been beneficial in raising the standard of government employees	A
1/15/1898	Hawaii be annexed	
1/22/1898	The jury system has outlived its usefulness	
1/29/1898	The self made man deserved more credit than the man born and reared in the lap of luxury	
2/5/1898	U.S. Senators should be elected by popular vote	
2/12/1898	The condition of affairs in Cuba warrants intervention by the U.S.	
2/19/1898	The term of the president should be increased to six years and that he should be ineligible for reelection	
2/26/1898	Government by injunction as practiced today is a menace to our free institutions	
3/12/1898	The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States should be repealed	
3/26/1898	Immigration to the U.S. be restricted	N
4/2/1898	Members of the Cabinet should be ex-officio members of Congress	
4/16/1898	The abolition of slavery was detrimental to the South	A
4/23/1898	The banishment of Napoleon at St. Helena was justifiable	A
10/8/1898	The U.S. retail all Spanish possessions in the Philippines	N
10/15/1898	The czar's disarmament proposition should be adopted by all civilized powers	N
11/12/1898	The U.S. was justified in declaring war against Spain	A
11/19/1898	U.S. Senators be elected by popular vote	N
12/3/1898	The rights to the Monroe Doctrine is overruled by the acceptance of the Philippines	N

12/10/1898	The disenfranchisement, by constitutional amendment, of the negro, in states where negro population is equal to, or greater, than the white, is justifiable	A
1/14/1899	The United States increase her standing army to one hundred thousand	A
1/21/1899	The United States pension the disabled Confederate Soldiers	A
2/11/1899	Members of the Cabinet be made ex-officio members of Congress	N
4/12/1899	Independent action in politics is better than party allegiances	
9/30/1899	All trusts should be abolished	
10/14/1899	The war by Great Britain and South African Republic is criminal aggression	
10/21/1899	We abandon the Philippines	
10/10/1899	Negroes should be disenfranchised	
1/13/1900	The United States should tender its good office to the British Government and to the Government of the Transvaal to arbitrate their trouble	N
1/20/1900	The United States adopt the full "Gold Standard"	
1/27/1900	The Constitution of the United States be so changed that the cabinet members be allowed the privilege of the floor of the House and Senate, respectively	
2/24/1900	The U.S. shall abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty & build the Nicaraguan Canal and operate the same independently at the earliest practical opportunity	A
3/10/1900	The United States should allow Puerto Rico free trade	A
4/12/1900	The Government should own and control the railroads	
9/29/1900	The President of the United States should order the American soldiers to immediately withdraw from China	N
10/6/1900	Labor organizations are detrimental to the people	N
10/13/1900	The appropriations to Negro schools, be confined to the taxes paid by the Negro	N
10/20/1900	Public school education be compulsory in the country	N
10/27/1900	Capital punishment should be abolished	A
11/3/1900	There should be an educational qualification to the rights of franchise	A
11/17/1900	Prohibition is practicable in this country	N
11/24/1900	U.S. Senators should be elected by popular vote	N
12/1/1900	A lawyer is justified in defending a criminal whom he knows to be guilty	
12/8/1900	The President of the U.S. should be elected for six years and be ineligible for re-election	A
1/5/1901	Edgar Allen Poe is entitled to a place in the Hall of Fame	
1/12/1901	The U.S. should adopt the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty	N

1/19/1901	The Democratic party made a mistake in nominating William Jennings Bryan for President July 4, 1900	A
2/2/1901	The proposed extension of the street railway will be an advantage to the University	A
2/9/1901	Music has more of a refining, enabling, and inspiring influence than poetry.	
2/16/1901	The Alumni system of coaching the football team should be abolished in favor of a professional coach system	A
2/23/1901	The U.S. will fall as the nations of antiquity fell	A
3/9/1901	The Boers are justified in their struggle for independence	N
3/23/1901	High license is the best method of regulating the liquor traffic	N
3/30/1901	The Boers are justified in their struggle for independence	A
4/20/1901	United State Senators should be elected by a direct vote of the people	
5/4/1901	A high tariff is injurious to the U.S.	N
5/11/1901	The Cubans should reject the demands of the U.S. as embodied in the Platt Amendment and the Army Appropriations Bill	A
10/5/1901	The utterance and publication of anarchistic opinions should be prohibited by law	N
10/12/1901	The Virginia Constitutional Convention should proclaim the Constitution	N
10/19/1901	The best interests of the University demand that it should have a president	A
10/26/1901	Millionaire capitalists are beneficial to the U.S.	A
11/2/1901	A college bred man is surer of success in life than a man without college training	A
11/9/1901	The establishment and support of small colleges in the U.S. should be encouraged	A
11/16/1901	A lawyer is justified in defending a client when he knows him to be guilty	A
11/23/1901	The world is growing worse morally	T
11/30/1901	Capital punishment should be abolished	N
12/7/1901	Women should be allowed to enter the University of Virginia	A
12/14/1901	Education does not increase the contentment and human happiness	N
1/11/1902	Public education in Virginia should be compulsory	A
1/18/1902	The right of suffrage should depend on education	A
1/25/1902	Telling a lie is sometimes justifiable	N
2/1/1902	The English are justifiable in their policy in South Africa	N
2/8/1902	The present unanimous consent for the jury should be abolished and a three-fourths majority should suffice	A
2/15/1902	The partition of China would be a benefit to the world	N

2/22/1902	An offensive and defensive alliance with Great Britain would be to the best interests of the U.S.	
3/1/1902	The Panama Canal route should be selected by the U.S. instead of the Nicaragua route	N
3/8/1902	The British are justifiable in their policy in South Africa	A
3/28/1902	The Virginia Convention should proclaim the Constitution	
4/19/1902	The President of the U.S. should be elected by popular vote	A
4/24/1902	Woman suffrage should be adopted	N
5/3/1902	It would be good policy for the U.S., by subsidy, to provide for an ocean mail service and the common defense and to promote commerce and the deep-sea fisheries	
5/17/1902	Congress should pass the Chinese Exclusion Bill	A
5/24/1902	The University of Virginia should adopt the system of alumni coaching in athletics	N
10/4/1902	The University of Virginia should have a President	A
10/11/1902	There should be a Federal ownership of the coal mines	N
10/18/1902	The U.S. should assume a protectorate over the Western Hemisphere	N
10/25/1902	Capital punishment should be abolished	N
11/1/1902	A school of oratory and debate should be established in the U. of Va., and that the work of a literary society should constitute part of the work of that school	A
11/8/1902	The U.S. is as much in duty bound to end the present wars in Latin America as it was to end the Cuban War in 1898	N
11/15/1902	The tariff should be abolished	A
11/22/1902	The U.S. should withdraw from the Philippines	A
11/29/1902	Instead of the present method of electing the Editorial Staff of the U. Va. Magazine, the Editor-in-Chief and the Business Manager shall be elected, one from each Society alternately, and these two shall fill the other positions of the Staff from the student body; in which case the Societies shall give only one of the medals offered in Article VII, Sec. 9, of the Constitution of the Washington Literary Society	N
12/6/1902	The University should give lectures 5 days in the week instead of 6	N
12/13/1902	An academic degree should be required for admission to the Law Department of the University of Virginia	N
1/17/1903	The canteen be restored	
1/24/1903	The judges of the Supreme & Circuit courts be appointed by the Governor to hold office during their good behavior	N
1/31/1903	The attempts of the labor unions to conduct the labor markets constitutes as great a monopoly as any commercial combination	N
2/7/1903	Capital punishment should be abolished where the prisoner is convicted on circumstantial evidence alone	N

10/6/1906	The United States should take immediate steps toward the annexation of Cuba	N
10/13/1906	Colleges and Universities are of more importance than public schools	N
10/20/1906	United States Senators should be elected by popular vote	N
10/27/1906	The United States Government should own and operate Railroads and Telegraph Lines	N
11/3/1906	Political parties are necessary to good government	A
11/24/1906	Further annexation of territory to the United States is not detrimental to the best interest of the American people	A
12/6/1906	A limited monarchy is a better form of government than a republic	N
12/8/1906	Further immigration from European Countries is detrimental to the United States	A
1/12/1907	The term of office of the President of the Unites States should be extended to six years	N
1/26/07	Negroes should be excluded from the Unites States Standing Army	A
2/2/07	Children under the age of fifteen should be excluded from public employment	N
2/16/07	The Federal Constitution should be so amended as to give the federal government exclusive power to regulate and control the marriage and divorce laws.	A
3/2/07	The municipalities of the U.S. should own and operate the Street Railways	N
3/9/07	The jury system should be abolished in civil cases	N
4/27/07	Adoption of the referendum in the U.S. is politically a good step	N
10/5/07	Theodore Roosevelt should be the next Republican nominee for President	N
10/12/07	Immigration should be further restricted by an educational qualification	N
10/19/07	The U.S. should retain permanent control of the Philippines	N
11/2/07	Virginia should prohibit the sale of liquor within her territory	A
11/9/07	The signs of the times indicate a decline of public integrity	N
11/23/07	Criminal executions should be public	N
12/7/07	United States Senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people	N
1/11/08	Government ownership is the present solution of the R.R. problems	N
1/18/08	Custom should sanction the proposal of marriage by women	N
1/25/08	National banks should be permitted to issue, subject to tax and government supervision, bank notes based on their general assets.	A

2/8/08	Present day conditions call for a more centralized government	N
2/22/08	Latin should not be required in the B.A. degree at the University of Virginia	A
2/29/08	The U.S. should have a navy equal to that of any power in the world	A
3/7/08	The U.S. should institute a system of postal savings banks	N
3/21/08	The U.S. has more to fear from internal than from external causes	A
3/28/08	Mr. Bryan should not allow his name to be considered as a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination	N
4/4/08	Church property should be subject to taxation	N
4/25/08	Improved machinery has been an improvement to the common machinery	A
4/28/08	The welfare of the U.S. demands an increase of Federal powers	
5/2/08	The U.S. should retain possession of the Philippines	N
5/16/08	The tariff should be revised during the present session of Congress	N
10/3/08	Present day conditions call for an increase in federal powers	N
10/10/08	Contribution to National Campaign Fund should be made public before the election	A
10/24/08	The time has come when the policy of protection should be abandoned by the United States	A
10/31/08	The government should guarantee National Bank deposits	
11/7/08	Women's suffrage is desirable	N
12/7/08	The Democratic Party will no longer be a leading factor in National Politics	N
1/9/09	The two-cent railroad rate should be abolished in Ga.	N
1/30/09	University of Virginia should be co-educational	N
2/13/09	A general system of compulsory education should be adopted in Va.	N
2/27/09	The Government should provide labor for the unemployed in times of financial stringency	N
3/20/09	Congress should pass an inheritance tax law	A
5/1/09	It would be advantageous to the South to divide her electoral vote.	N
9/25/09	The welfare of the United States demands an increase of federal power	N
10/9/09	The passage of the Payne-Aldrich Tariff bill sounds the death note to the protective tariff policy in the U.S.	N
10/23/09	Trunk lines of highways in the several States of the Union should be built by Federal Government rather than the state government	N
10/30/09	Universal peace is probable	N
11/6/09	U.S. Senators should be elected by popular ballot	A

11/20/09	The United States and Canada should have a general system of reciprocity	N
11/27/09	The necessary amount of bonds to build the proposed fourteen-foot water-way from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico should be issued by Congress	A
1/8/10	Women should have the right of the elective franchise	N
1/15/10	Government ownership of railroads is the solution of the railroad question	N
1/22/10	The English House of Lords should be abolished	N
1/29/10	Further legislation in respect to trusts & combinations is desirable	A
2/5/10	The jury system should be abolished	N
2/12/10	Capital punishment is justified	A
2/19/10	A commission should be instituted to regulate the Tariff	T
2/26/10	In regard to liquor traffic, high license is better than prohibition	N
4/9/10	The Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution should be repealed	A
5/14/10	It would be for the best interests of the students body and of the University if all students had to eat at one central place	N
10/1/10	The establishment of a college for women in connection with the U. of Va. would be for the best interests of the University	N
10/15/10	The best interests of athletics at University of Va. demand that five dollars be deducted from the contingent fee of each student	A
10/22/10	Labor unions are detrimental to the welfare of the country	N
10/29/10	It is for the welfare of the U.S. to elect Roosevelt president in 1912	A
11/19/10	The Federal Government should subsidize the merchant marine before the completion of the Panama Canal	A
11/26/10	Capital punishment should be abolished in Va.	T
1/14/11	U.S. Senators should be elected by a direct vote of the people	A
2/4/11	Statewide Prohibition is for the best interests of the State	A
2/11/11	The Reciprocity Treaty with Canada would be detrimental to the best interests of our Country	N
2/25/11	No student should enter the School of Medicine at U. Va. who had not already acquired the degree of Bachelor of Arts	N
3/4/11	Fortifications should be established at each entrance of the Panama Canal before its completion	A
4/1/11	The education of children between ages of seven and fourteen (inclusively) should be make compulsory by the State	T
5/6/11	The House of Representatives, by continuing the American policy of hostility to corporations, as evidenced by recent resolutions calling for an inquiry into the private affairs of corporations, is unduly disturbing the business conditions of this country	N

9/23/11	The national government should build and maintain its principal public highways	N
9/30/11	A system of compulsory education between the ages of seven and fourteen should be established in Virginia	A
10/7/11	Italy is justified in declaring war against Turkey	N
10/14/11	A uniform divorce law should be established by the federal gov.	A
10/21/11	The U.S. should control the R.R.s in the united states	N
10/28/11	President Taft was justified in vetoing the late tariff bill submitted to him by Congress on his plea that he wished for a report of the tariff commission	A
11/20/11	The jury system should be abolished	A
11/27/11	A uniform divorce law be established in the United States	N
4/27/12	Matriculates of the University of Virginia should hold an academical degree	A
5/11/12	The Tariff Board be made permanent	
9/28/12	Preferential primaries are preferable to the present way of choosing the Pres. of the U.S.	A
10/8/12	Preferential primaries are preferable to the present way of choosing the Pres. of the U.S.	A
10/12/12	A provision for the recall of Federal judges should be made a constitutional amendment	N
10/26/12	The states restoring suffrage should make no distinction as to sex	A
11/23/12	The State of Virginia should adopt the compulsory system of education	A
11/30/12	The fee system of paying clerks of courts and treasurers should be abolished in Va.	A
1/11/13	Without regard to the provisions of the Hay-Pauncefonte Treaty, the tolls from the Panama Canal should be the same for the merchant vessels of all nations [incl. the U.S.]	N
1/25/13	Medical sterilization under proper governmental control should be performed on imbeciles, idiots, and habitual criminals, under police powers of the state	N
3/1/13	A female college should be established in connection with the University of Virginia coordinate with the present institution	A
3/29/13	There should be a federal law in the United States, regulating divorces	A
4/5/13	The welfare of the state demands that houses of ill-fame shall not be tolerated	A
4/26/13	Labor unions are inimical to the best industrial interest of the U.S.	N
10/18/13	Newspapers should be liable for matter published on reasonable grounds and in good faith	N
10/25/13	An annual football contest should be held between the University of Virginia and Wash. & Lee Univ.	A

11/15/13	Hours during which the general library is open should be so adjusted as to include from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM	A
11/22/13	The United States should no longer pursue the dilatory tactics with Mexico but enter with an armed force	N
1/17/14	It is in the best interest of the University of Virginia for the medical department be moved to Richmond	N
1/24/14	The U.S. should not maintain her position as one of the leading naval powers of the world	A
2/28/14	A law should be passed compelling children between the ages of seven and fourteen to attend school unless physically unable	A
3/28/14	Applicants for marriage license shall be required to submit a medical certificate showing their fitness for marriage	A
5/16/14	Power of pardon should be taken out of the hands of the governor of Virginia and placed in the hands of a pardoning board	A
9/26/14	There are cases in which a representative in Congress should vote according to his own sober judgment, even though it be in opposition to the known will of his constituents	A
10/3/14	Capital punishment should be abolished	N
10/10/14	Germany was justified in violating the neutrality of Belgium	A
10/17/14	The President of the U.S. should be elected by a direct vote of the people	A
10/24/14	It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all	A
10/31/14	The Athletic interest at the University should be supported by an increase in the University fee and all games at the University be made free to every student	A
12/3/14	Absence makes the heart grow fonder	N
1/9/15	The possibilities of universal peace have been strengthened by the present European war	N
1/16/15	The United States should prohibit the exportation of munitions of war to the European belligerents	N
1/16/15	The Hobson amend should be made part of our constitution	
1/23/15	The policy of colonial expansion is desirable for the modern state	N
1/30/15	The short ballot should be adopted in state, county, and municipal elections	N
2/6/15	The conservation policy of this country should be left to the individual states rather than to the National Government	N
2/13/15	Attendance at college lectures should be compulsory	N
2/20/15	Strikes are productive of more harm than good to the working classes	N
3/6/15	The present conditions demand a change in the naval policy of the U.S.	A
5/8/15	The Filipinos be allowed to govern themselves	N

10/9/15	The circus is harmful to the community	N
10/16/15	The U.S. means of defense be increased to meet any emergency	A
10/13/15	Suffrage be extended to women of the U.S. by constitutional amendment	N
10/30/15	The Washington Literary Society go on record as endorsing President Wilson's Foreign Policy	A
11/6/15	The State of Va. should abolish the death penalty	N
11/27/15	In each community there shall be a committee whose duty it shall be to decide whether or not an afflicted child shall be saved by medical service	N
1/15/16	A woman's college coordinate with the University be situated on the east side of Charlottesville	A
1/22/16	The U.S. require every American male citizen to serve one year in military service between the ages of 18 and 25	A
1/29/16	The jury would be abolished in civil cases	N
2/5/16	The Philippines should be given their independence in four years	N
2/12/16	The Federal Government should own the railroads of this country	A
10/21/16	The modern type of theater does more good than harm	A
10/28/16	The Allies were justified in violating Grecian neutrality	A
11/4/16	Greece should abandon her neutrality in favor of the allies.	A
11/11/16	The U.S. should enter a federation of nations for preserving peace at the close of the European War	N
11/18/16	No immigrant who cannot read and write should be admitted to the U.S.	N
1/6/17	Congress should pass a law providing for compulsory arbitration of disputes between Inter-state railways and their employees (constitutionality granted)	A
1/13/17	Same as 1/6/17, except the sides switched	N
1/27/17	The teaching of Latin and Greek in public school should be abolished	N
2/3/17	The U.S. would be justified in declaring war on Germany	A
2/10/17	All protective tariff should be immediately abolished	N
2/17/17	The U.S. should declare war upon Germany immediately	N
2/24/17	The limitation of the membership of the Society would be detrimental to such an organization	A
3/3/17	Some form of universal compulsory military service is desirable	N
3/31/17	The establishment of a republic at the present time would be to the best interest of the Russian people	A
4/7/17	There be an unwritten law that justifies a husband in taking the life of a man, who violates the sanctity of his home, where the wife is an unwilling victim	A

4/14/17	The army to be raised by the U.S. should be raised on the principle of universal service rather than on the principle of volunteer enlistment	A
4/21/17	The double standard of morals existing in the U.S. is justifiable	N
4/28/17	Women should vote on the same basis as men (leaving out whether women wanted to vote or not)	A
9/29/17	The government should use every possible means to suppress the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)	A
10/14/17	All forms of athletics be continued at the University of Va in spite of the war	N
10/27/17	All friendly aliens be subject to the selective draft	N
11/3/17	The President of the U.S. be given unlimited power in the control of all measures directly or indirectly bearing on the progress of the present war, such power to cease when the U.S. declares herself at peace	A
11/17/17	Free speech be limited during time of war to any extent the government sees fit	N
12/1/17	Members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps shall be dismissed from Univ when brought before the faculty committee on military discipline for the second time	A
1/12/18	An Allied council be selected to consider peace terms with Germany	A
1/19/18	The U.S. Government assume ownership and control of the Railroads	N
1/26/18	After the close of the war the government of the United States shall relinquish the control of the Railroads assumed by her during the war.	A
2/2/18	The Government of the U.S. should conscript each resident of this country who is not engaged in military duty for such other service during this war as the government shall deem each best fitted to perform	
2/16/18	The suffrage qualifications be defined by the national congress rather than the various state legislatures	N
2/23/18	A committee of three men appointed by the President of the United States be given power to administer the affairs of war	N
3/2/18	Bow-legs are better than knock-knees	A
4/6/18	Japan was justified in landing troops in Siberia	
4/27/18	The U.S. after the close of war should enter a league to enforce peace	A
5/9/18	All public school teachers in the United States should be placed in deferred draft classification	A
5/18/18	The United States should enter a league to enforce peace at the close of the present war	

11/2/18	Political campaigns, as they have been waged in the past, should be discontinued for the duration of the War	A
12/14/18	The Peace Conference should take steps toward the creation of a World Federal State	A
1/18/19	The Allies should send an expedition into Russia to create order there	N
1/25/19	The Allies should enforce a commercial boycott of Germany for a definite period of time after peace has been concluded	N
2/1/19	German peace delegates should be admitted to the Peace Conference	N
2/8/19	The German colonies should be given to the care of England, France, Italy, and the U.S.	A
4/5/19	A clause guaranteeing to all nations racial equality should be incorporated in the covenant of the League of Nations	N
4/26/19	(H) It is better to be born lucky than rich [note: this is the first explicitly humorous debate]	A
10/4/19	The state pass an anti-strike law	A
10/11/19	The League of Nations covenant be adopted without reservation	A
11/1/19	The representatives of labor were justified in withdrawing from the industrial conference.	A
11/8/19	The next session of the Virginia Legislature should ratify the equal suffrage amendment to the Constitution of the U.S.	N
11/22/19	The University of Virginia should resume athletic relations with Washington and Lee University	A
11/29/19	The State Superintendent of Public Instruction should be appointed by the State Board of Education	N
12/6/19	The unmarried male citizens of Virginia above the age of thirty-five should be taxed for the benefit of the female citizens of like age and status	N
1/17/20	Women as well as men should be admitted to the Graduate and Professional Departments of the University of Virginia	A
1/24/20	The professional coach should be selected by a popular vote of the student body rather than by the Faculty committee	A
2/14/20	Life imprisonment should be substituted for capital punishment	A
2/21/20	The Federal Government should pass legislation to enforce compulsory arbitration of labor disputes on public utilities	
3/2/20	Every student at the University of Virginia should pay two dollars as part of his registration fee; one dollar going to the G.A.A., fifty cents to the Virginia Union, and fifty cents to be divided between the two literary societies.	A
4/24/20	The Washington Society should exclude Bolshevines [co-eds] from membership	N
5/8/20	The single moral standard should be internationally accepted	A

10/9/20	The Supreme Court of the U.S. should be denied the power to declare unconstitutional an act of Congress	N
10/16/20	Party politics – Democrats vs. Republicans	D
10/30/20	The U.S. should adopt a uniform divorce policy	N
11/20/20	The University of Virginia should adopt the West Point plan of compulsory participation in athletics of all students	N
2/5/21	The U.S. Cabinet members should have seats in Congress with the same status as territorial delegates	N
2/12/21	Optional attendance should be allowed on all University lectures	N
2/19/21	American interests demand the immediate adoption of a high protective tariff policy instead of a tariff for revenue only	
4/23/21	All immigration into the U.S. should be prohibited for a period of two years	N
4/30/21	The present administration should be condemned for ratifying the Columbia Treaty	N
10/8/21	Two years of physical training should be required of students in the University of Virginia	N
10/22/21	Not all American vessels should be exempt from Panama Toll Payments	N
11/5/21	The United States should resume diplomatic and trade relations with the present Russian government	
11/15/21	Football prestige is a sufficient criterion of general collegiate rating to make the maintenance of an A1 football team at Virginia absolutely imperative	N
1/28/22	The U.S. and Great Britain should sign a treaty giving France a guarantee of protection against invasion.	A
2/11/22	The U.S. should grant subsidies to American ships engaged in foreign trade	N
2/18/22	An academic degree should be required for admission to the departments of Law, Engineering, and Medicine at the University	A
2/28/22	Congress should pass the five-fold plan to of adjusted compensation	
4/8/22	The United States should send a representative to the Genoa Conference	
4/28/22	The U.S. should adopt a cabinet form of government, similar to that of Great Britain	A
4/29/22	The Pres. of the U.S. should be elected for a period of 6 years and be ineligible for reelection	
10/7/22	The National Republican Administration deserved support of the Nation's electorate	N
10/14/22	The United State Government should allow Henry Ford to carry out his Muscle Shoals plans	A

10/21/22	The United States should cooperate with England and France in protecting the Christians in the Near East.	N
10/28/22	The Volstead Act should be amended so that light wines and beer may be sold.	
1/13/23	The U.S. at the present time should participate in an economic conference of the Nations.	A
1/20/23	Our present policy of excluding the Chinese from this country is unjustifiable	N
1/27/23	The jury system should be abolished in the United States	A
2/3/23	France is justified in occupying the Ruhr District of Germany	
2/10/23	The Federal Government should take steps to prevent the further issuance of tax exempt securities	N
2/24/23	It would be beneficial to Washington Literary Society to have some political campaigning for the election of officers	T
3/7/23	Eight o'clock classes should be moved up to 8:30	A
3/14/23	The present compulsory education law was the best that could have been adopted at the time	N
3/21/23	The world is going to Hell	A
3/28/23	The University student of today realized a greater benefit from his university diploma than he did twenty years ago	A
10/6/23	The University should charge a compulsory athletic fee of \$2.00 to be collected at time of registration, the student being entitled to admittance to all athletic contests at the University	
10/13/23	The State of Va. should vote 6,000,000 for the benefit of the highway system	
10/20/23	Women should be admitted to the University on the same form as men	N
11/3/23	A physical and mental test should be a pre-requisite of marriage in Virginia	N
11/3/23	Public drunkenness should be made a violation of the honor system at Virginia	N
11/24/23	The road bond issue should be adopted in Virginia	N
1/19/24	Paid advertising is an industrial waste	N
1/26/24	The Bok Peace Plan should be adopted by the United States	N
2/2/24	The Mellon Tax reduction bill should be adopted	N
2/9/24	The Negro exodus to the North is a serious menace to the prosperity of the South	
3/1/24	Attorney-General Dougherty should be impeached	N
3/29/24	The University year should be two semester instead of three terms	
10/4/24	The power of the Supreme Court should be curled	N
10/11/24	The proposed child labor amendment should be passed	N
10/25/24	The Progressive Party offers more for the future of American democracy than any other party	N

11/15/24	The University of Virginia should look to private donation rather than state aid for carrying out its educational programs	N
11/29/24	The United States should recognize Russia	A
1/17/25	The Democratic Party should become the radical party of the United States	
1/31/25	This house is opposed to co-education in the University	
2/21/25	The United States Congress be reduced to half its present size	
2/29/25	The Volstead Act should be amended to permit the sale of beverages containing 2.75 percent alcohol	T
3/28/25	The legislative body of Virginia should consist of one house of fifty members, as recommended by the National Municipal League, and the States of South Dakota and Kansas	
4/18/25	The University should build a freshmen dormitory and force all freshmen to live therein	
5/2/25	Virginia should issue bonds for \$15 million for higher education	N
10/10/25	The Aviation Corps. should have a special Governmental department	A
10/17/25	The United States was justified in refusing the French Debt Commission	N
10/24/25	The Riffians should be given their independence	N
10/31/25	The Tariff should be gradually abolished	N
11/21/25	The jury system should be abolished	A
11/28/25	The United States should enter the World Court without reservations	
10/9/26	The French war debt should be settled by the Mellon-Barenges Plan	N
10/22/26	The Volstead Act should be amended so as to permit wine and beer being used	N
10/30/26	Industrialism is a menace to individual liberty	A
	INTERREGNUM	
9/9/82	Reaganomic is a complete & utter failure	
	(H) Real men don't eat quiche	A
9/16/82	Statute of limitations on Honor offenses extend 2 years	
	(H) Pacman can be dangerous to your health	
9/23/82	Plea of insanity should be abolished	
	(H) Blondes are a maligned minority	
9/30/82	A Palestinian state must be established to bring peace to the Middle East	
	(H) Prep is passé, the Valley Girl is here to stay (fer sure)	
10/7/82	Draft registration should be continued	
	(H) Adam was only a rough draft	
10/14/82	The U.S. should aggressively exploit space	
10/21/82	Which is better: Liberal Arts or Pre-professional Education	

	(H) ET should go home	
11/4/82	Women's lot has improved	
	(H) Nuke power plants are built better than Jane Fonda	
11/11/82	The U.S. is culturally superior to the U.S.S.R.	
	(H) The turkey should be made the national bird	
11/18/82	Easters should remain an institution at the University of Virginia	
9/6/84	Political candidates are responsible for their spouse's finances	
	(H) If Michael Jackson and Prince went 3 rounds, Prince would win	
9/14/84	Existing obscenity laws should be abolished	
	(H) Cannibalism	
9/20/84	Labor unions should be abolished	
	(H) Lite beer vs. Less Filling	
10/4/84	Special interest groups control the American political system	
	(H) Dogs are superior to cats	
10/25/84	Enforcement and ideals of the Honor system are not valid in today's University	
11/1/84	Mondale vs. Reagan	
	(H) Blondes have more fun	
11/8/84	Is nuclear war inevitable?	
	(H) A drink before and after a smoke after are the three best things in life	
11/15/84	Convicted felons can not be rehabilitated	
	(H) The Dukes of Hazard intellectually and morally represent American culture	
10/24/96	The Internet is destroying American Society	N
10/31/96	(H) My provisional class was better than yours	
11/7/96	Child caps for welfare	N
11/14/96	Affirmative Action is inconsistent with its goal of combating discrimination	A
1/23/97	You are Abraham. Don't sacrifice Isaac.	N
1/30/97	Domestic security has precedence over personal privacy.	N
2/6/97	It is 1860. States should have the right to secede from the Union	A
2/13/97	Reason has a better effect on relationships than emotion (Men arguing for Reason)	N
2/20/97	Lord Templeton should militarily intervene on the side of the Confederacy	
2/27/97	It would have been more tragic if Juliet had lived	Abstain
3/6/97	The media's right to know takes precedence over the individual's right to privacy	T
3/20/97	Pornography is degrading to women	A

3/27/97	The policy of NATO expansion into Eastern Europe represents a U.S. diplomatic failure (Smith-Simpson try-out)	A
4/3/97	Human cloning is ethical	A
4/10/97	Tis best to have loved and lost than never loved at all	A
9/11/97	Abolish the Greek system	
9/25/97	Private organizations should be allowed to discriminate	N
10/2/97	There is a highest good	T
	You are Henry VIII. Split from the Catholic Church	N
10/9/97	You have irrefutable proof that God doesn't exist. Don't tell anyone.	N
	Nuclear First Strike is an effective tool for foreign policy	A
10/16/97	Natural rights exist	N
	Music is more refining, ennobling, and inspiring than poetry (re-debating a historical topic)	N
1/22/98	Equality should be valued over liberty	A
1/29/98	(H) Television makes a great babysitter	N
2/5/98	Mass media substantially advances U.S. Diplomacy (Smith-Simpson)	A (Jeff)
2/19/98	Education increases contentment and human happiness (re-debating a historical topic)	A
2/26/98	Computers should be mandatory for 1 st years	N
3/5/98	You're Ford, don't pardon Nixon	A
3/19/98	From a voter's perspective, the President should be held accountable for his personal conduct	N
3/26/98	The death penalty should be abolished	A
4/5/01	Education should be a Requirement of voting (re-debating a historical topic)	A
9/6/01	You are Eisenhower. A private has been sentenced to die after 2 desertions. Postpone the sentence.	A
9/13/01	Steal from the rich to give to the poor	A
9/27/01	A university should have the legal right to censor publications (I think, the secretary left out the actual resolution)	A
10/4/01	You are a Union Civil War General with orders to burn down the University of Virginia. Light the fire.	A
10/11/01	(H) Ready-to-assemble furniture is evil	A
10/19/01	Marry for money.	N
	(Harrison cup) It is better to live on your knees than to die on your feet.	A
10/25/01	You have found the fountain of youth. Take a sip.	N
11/1/01	You have just received the power to resurrect any one person in the history of the world. Don't do it.	N

11/8/01	You are a first year with a language requirement to fill. In the choice between French and German, take German.	N
	The cartoons of our childhood are superior to the cartoons of our post-pubescent years.	N
11/15/01	The U.S. president's power to order the assassination of foreign heads of state is a justifiable foreign policy	A
	Women should be drafted.	N
1/24/02	<i>"The debate for the evening brought back memories of a slug crawling along the blade of a straight razor and living. Shit. Charlottesville. I'm still in Charlottesville. It was just another hot bloodsoaked day in the rice paddies when Sgt. James Layman and First Airman Matt Adams got their orders to go up the Mekong River in a patrol boat, searching for the rouge Col. Lewis with orders to terminate his command with extreme prejudice. When they stumbled upon an ancient temple deep in the jungle, they encountered a mad raving photojournalist named Amanda Griffin who accosted them and demanded cigarettes. It was a tough round, and Layman never made it out alive, but a week later, or 40 minutes APDA time, Adams found himself drifting back down the river with a 22-10-11 victory under his belt and a monkey on his back that he wouldn't shake until he blew his brains out in a Las Vegas hotel room in 1979. But that's another story."</i>	A
1/31/02	(H) Anarchy is superior to bureaucracy	A
2/7/02	As a school administrator, you have a 6-year-old genius in your school and must decide whether to keep him with his physical or mental peers. Keep him in Kindergarten.	N
2/14/02	If you had a magic button that you could use to make anyone in the world fall in love with you, would you push it?	
2/21/02	People should be able to sell their organs on the free market	N
2/28/02	<i>" Finally, Harry Layman, Matt McMillian, Stephanie Davis, and Scott Luftglass had a guest APDA debate for the supposed education of the society. I learned a lot from this debate, and that's that I hate Scott Luftglass. This dude told me I sucked every time he saw me all last weekend just because I voted against him after giving a floor speech in his favor. All I can say is, what a shithead. By the way, the debate was about Hate Crimes. I hate debates about hate crimes. I hate APDA, I hate Scott Luftglass, I hate gun control, I hate the government, I hate the DMV, I hate the fucking Department of Parking and Transportation, I hate them so much it makes me wanna get in my car, drive up to Clark Brothers on US 29 and buy a 357 and fucking drive to that dudes house and... fucking never mind. Side Gov Won 20-19-7"</i>	A
3/7/02	(H) Fuck art, let's kill. (Guest debate with Whethermen)	

3/21/02	You've just discovered your latent mutant powers, join Magneto in his quest for a separatist mutant state on an asteroid.	A
9/5/02	Violence against oppressive governments is justified	N
9/12/02	(H) Guns vs. Butter (Note: infamous "butter-eating" incident)	A
9/19/02	Lie to your kids about drugs	N
9/26/02	You are a deaf parent and you get to decide if your child will be. Don't let your kid be deaf.	A
10/3/02	Allow priests to get married	A
	Declare war with Iraq	N
10/10/02	You have super powers. Be a super-hero.	N
	Better for guilt man to be punished in unfair trial than to go free	N
10/17/02	It is 1970 and you are a woman. Go to Princeton rather than Smith.	A
	Change single women adoption policy	N
10/24/02	(H) Nixon: launch the birds	A
	Kill a whore who stole from you.	
10/31/02	You are Mona. Do not kill Dracula.	A
	You are Victor Frankenstein. Do not reanimate the creature.	N
11/7/02	You are Hitler in 1941. Do not invade Russia.	A
11/13/02	You are in a bar with your girlfriend who is hit on by another dude. You should beat him up.	N
11/17/02	Strip for money.	A
	Sex offenders notification laws are bad.	A
1/23/03	The government should be able to force a woman who stole sperm to have an abortion	A
1/30/03	Burger King is better than Taco Bell	A
2/6/03	You are a revolutionary leader who has just overthrown the government in a small Caribbean island nation in 1970. Ally with the U.S.	A
2/13/03	2 nd century AD, Christianity is punishable by death. Castrate yourself to remove temptations.	A
2/20/03	You are the U.S. in 1946. Don't force Emperor Hirohito to declare he is not a god.	N
2/27/03	(H) 14 years after the Apocalypse, Wash Society should not let in the Greek	N
3/13/03	You are the CEO of Fox. Refuse to air the "Harmless" (anti-drug public service) ads	N
3/20/03	Echols program is bad from happening in dorms. Move to random assignment.	N
3/27/03	You are a Southern Baptist Church. A recently successful mob boss offers you a million dollars in dirty money. Take the money.	A

4/3/03	51% of Americans voted in the last election, many countries have mandatory voting laws. Impose such a law on America for federal elections.	N
4/9/03	Better to rule in Hell than serve in Heaven	A
	(H) You are in a horror movie. Have sex.	A
4/10/03	You are Trent Lott. Don't resign the Senate majority leadership.	N
9/4/03	A man recently hired a hit man to kill his rich uncle, in order to gain his inheritance. You are the DA and can only prosecute one of the men – the hit man or the nephew. Prosecute the nephew.	A
9/18/03	(H) Paper vs. Plastic	N
9/25/03	The US should have a DNA database of all citizens.	A
10/2/03	You find out your boyfriend is married. Don't tell his wife	N
10/9/03	Do not allow a corporation into your third world country.	N
10/23/03	Partner and have children with someone of a different culture.	N
10/30/03	Keep Elian Gonzalez in the United States despite the demands of Castro.	N
	As a conservative Christian undergraduate with a choice between seminary and law school, choose law school.	N
	You are stranded on a deserted island, starving, with another person. Eat that person.	N
11/5/03	Arrest Batman.	A
	Athletes should be allowed to use performance-enhancing drugs.	A
11/12/03	You are ESPN. Do not fire Rush Limbaugh for his remarks.	A
11/13/03	The US should allow itself to assassinate foreign heads of state.	Abstain
	You are Ed Hallen, StudCo presidential candidate. In light of the Lundy assault, do not drop out of the race.	A
1/22/04	Bomb human shields.	A
9/9/04	You are Spain, after the March 11 bombing. Do not elect a government in the March 14 election that will withdraw troops from Iraq.	A
9/16/04	(H) You are Jesus, the undying symbol for Christianity since its creation. You have just been offered \$100 Million by Nike to endorse their products instead. Just do it.	A
9/23/04	In light of the Iraq-oil-for-food scandal and your recent Iraq comment, you Kofi Annan should resign as Secretary-General of the United Nations.	A
9/30/04	As the leader of a developing nation, you must decide whether or not to take the immediately lucrative yet environmentally unsafe action of allowing large factories to enter your country. Say NO to big business.	N

10/7/04	You are the Surgeon General of the United States and you have received confirmed reports which give incontrovertible evidence proving that masturbation does, in fact, cause blindness. Make masturbation illegal.	N
10/14/04	You are the director of the Federal government's Emergency Relief Agency (FEMA). After monetarily compensating the residents, declare the five most disastrous counties uninhabitable and stop providing FEMA aid in perpetuity.	A
10/21/04	Nader is your ideal candidate, but there's no way he can win, so Kerry is your best bet. Vote Nader.	N
	You have just come out of a bad breakup and a procedure is available to wipe your memory of this person. Do not undergo this procedure.	A
10/28/04	You have just been sent to jail, and on the first day, another person offers you protection for the duration of your captivity if you will be his bitch. Don't be his bitch.	A
	You are the captain of the British Royal Navy. You do not want your satanist sailors to receive religious benefits. Resolved: Do not allow your sailors to register as satanists	A
11/4/04	(H) You're Batman. Kill Superman and drink his blood in order to gain his powers.	N
11/11/04	You are Romeo Dallaire, head of UN troops in Rwanda, and have just cabled the UN requesting more troops and an expanded mandate in order to prevent the oncoming genocide. The UN denies your request and threatens consequences for disobeying. Disobey the UN to try to stop the genocide.	N
11/18/04	You are a camp counselor at a Christian summer camp (Nathan Royster). You find a kid with pot. Do not report him to camp higher ups, who would in turn report him to the police.	N

Compiled with reference to the Minutes of the Washington Literary Society, as recorded in the many Minute books of the Society. For a full citation of sources, see the accompanying Bibliography. List created by Doug O'Reagan, Historian of the Society for Fall 2005. Spelling and phrasing has been brushed up in some cases to better fit the format of the list, but is generally verbatim.