

The
TOASTMASTER



December 1953

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL is a non-profit educational organization of 1415 active clubs located in the United States, Canada, Scotland, England, Channel Islands, Cuba, Greenland, Alaska, Hawaiian Islands, Canton Island, Okinawa, Ryukyus Islands, Japan and the Philippines.

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THEY HEARD HIM GLADLY

By Ralph C. Smedley

The name of Jesus of Nazareth is not commonly found in the lists of great orators as set forth by historians of oratory. He was not trained in the arts of speech. In an oratorical contest with Cicero and Demosthenes and Daniel Webster, no doubt He would have failed to win the highest honors, if the contest were judged along conventional lines.

And yet, He was one of the greatest speakers of all time, unquestionably the greatest in the permanent effectiveness of His speaking.

No doubt the style of His speech has been obscured by the greatness of His message. We are so concerned with the truths pro pounded in the Sermon on the Mount that we give no thought to the delivery. The disciples recorded what He said, but they gave no account of how He said it. Probably they were so enthralled by His words that they never thought of His preaching style.

One of the greatest compliments which can be paid a speaker is for his hearers to become so absorbed in what he says that they disregard his manner of speaking. A still greater compliment is implied when the listeners go out

to do the things which the speaker has advocated, even to the extent of changing their lives.

While Jesus is not listed with the great "orators," we know that He was a supremely effective speaker, and we shall do well to study His method and then follow His example in our talking.

"The common people heard Him gladly."

Why did they listen with such attention? Why did they adopt His philosophy? Why did they leave all and follow Him? The answer is found basically in the message which He had to deliver, but in addition, it is found in His way of presenting the message.

He spoke simply. He used plain language, the everyday language of the people.

His speech was concrete. He dealt with the most abstruse and difficult matters in terms of practical living. He led His hearers from the known to the unknown.

He made full use of illustrations, employing matters with which the people were well acquainted. The lilies of the field, the sower and the seed, the wandering sheep, the fowls of the air and many other commonplace things were brought into

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His speech to make the meanings clear.

He helped them to understand the most profound and mystical truths about God and about life by the use of parables, analogies, figures of speech, instead of confusing them with abstruse and incomprehensible philosophies.

He could not show them God, but He could liken God to an earthly father, or a king, or a shepherd, or a friend, and the people could understand. He was a masterful user of word pictures.

There was in His words a sense of authority. That is a great help to any speaker. The realization that the speaker knows what he is talking about makes all the difference in the world to an intelligent listener. Jesus talked about what He knew, and the people listened because there was no doubt of His knowledge and His sincerity.

And then He caused the people to think for themselves. He helped them to answer their own questions. An intelligent inquirer came to Him one day, asking, "What must I do to inherit life eternal?" Jesus replied with a question: "What is written in the law?" The man gave the right answer, and Jesus advised him to act on his own knowledge.

While we have no record of His manner of speaking, we may

infer from what He said something of the way He said it.

His words give a supreme exemplification of the power of truth and calmness. They are direct, simple, plain, convincing. His style of speaking must have been like that.

It is hard, perhaps impossible, for us to think of Jesus as a ranting, roaring orator, stamping the platform, waving the arms, shouting, scolding, using the various tricks of sophisticated speakers. That is not consistent with what He said. How could He have said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," except in a quiet, winning, friendly manner?

As we celebrate once more the birth of this Galilean carpenter whose message still rings around the world, and whose words are remembered and studied and quoted more generally than the words of any other man, let us take time to read again His "speeches" as they are reported in the Gospels. Then we may see for ourselves the reason why Jesus of Nazareth is entitled to the highest place among all the speakers and orators who have ever talked in this world. Perhaps we shall be wise enough to adopt for ourselves some of the earnestness, sincerity, directness and simplicity of speech which made Him unique as a speaker, and revealed Him to us as the Prince of Peace.



THIS IS a peculiar type of speech which has grown up through the years, possibly along with the after-dinner coffee custom. Whether it has been scientifically demonstrated that it is an aid to digestion, we are not prepared to state. We accept the practice, even though in many cases we might prefer to spend the time in conversation with our table neighbors.

Any public speaker must be prepared to deliver a talk to an audience which has been fed, perhaps not wisely but too well, and to stir them from post-prandial complacency without seriously disturbing them. One thing which may be said in favor of the speeches cultivated in the Toastmasters Club is that they are short.

Dr. Lyman Abbott once remarked that an after-dinner speech is "a popular diversion, principally entertaining. It requires a joke, a quotation, and a platitude or two." He was not far wrong.



The After-Dinner Speech

It may be said, in general, that such a speech should be simple in style, genial in delivery, and humorous in treatment. And it should be *brief*.

A humorous magazine called *Life*, published long ago, and in no way related to the present *Life Magazine*, carried a formula for the after-dinner speech which we present to you, without permission of the publishers, since they are out of reach.

Formula

- Take three long breaths.*
- Compliment the audience.*
- Outline what you are not going to talk about.*
- Mention points you will touch on later.*
- Use two familiar quotations.*
- Outline what you are going to say.*
- Mention points you will not have time to cover.*
- Refer to what you said first.*
- Tell a funny story.*
- Compliment the audience.*
- Compliment the city, state and nation.*
- Sit down amidst tumultuous applause.*

THE Toastmaster

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Spanning the Globe

Toastmasters Clubs spring up in surprising places, but almost always by the same process. Some former member moves to a new location, and feels the need of a club there; or some resident hears about Toastmasters and wants the advantages for himself and his associates.

The armed forces of the United States have turned to us for help and are making good use of our services.

Canton Island, in the South Pacific, is the location of one of our newest clubs, with membership made up of men from the Civil Aeronautics Authority and Pan-American World Airways. At O'Misawa Air Base, Japan, the club's membership is made up of service personnel. A Toastmaster from San Diego was responsible for the club at Okinawa. At

Manila there is a club organized by local business men.

Stepping across the Pacific, and to the far north, we find a club at Adak Island, in the Aleutian group, while on the mainland, new clubs at Nome and Fairbanks, Alaska, are just below the Arctic Circle.

Halifax, Nova Scotia has the farthest east club on the American continent. The northernmost Toastmasters Clubs in the world are at Thule Air Base, Greenland, within the Arctic Circle. The membership is made up of air service men. Near the southern extremity of Greenland, there is another club, at Narsarssauak, which was promoted by a man from Whittier.

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is the location of another club made up of service personnel, naval officers, enlisted men and civilians.

In Great Britain, Scottish Toastmasters have begun their invasion of England, with organization of a club at Darlington, and with prospects for numerous others.

All this would seem to indicate that the Toastmasters idea is being widely disseminated in a world where better understanding through better communication is a supreme need. It may be that our organization is bringing a gigantic Christmas gift to the world, and helping in some measure to realize the ideal of peace on earth, through teaching men to get along with each other.

Grammarmanship

By H. B. Hampson

From time to time there appears at the lectern of a Toastmasters Club a pathetic and unhappy figure. He is there because of a sense of duty. He is struggling with an uncongenial task.

He is the grammarian.

But it happens, on some rare occasions, that there rises a star, a man who appears actually to enjoy this assignment; who holds his audience spellbound; who convinces them that he is a truly erudite person. On the subject of grammar he is a world apart from the common man.

I have given much thought to this phenomenon. I have carefully investigated the possible reasons for it, and through my researches have developed the technique of grammarmanship. I share this secret with you.

Let me say at once that the grammarman is not to be confused with the mere grammarian. The grammarian is a dull chap who carps and quibbles about such minor items as the qualification of absolutes and the split infinitive; whose horizon is bounded by the fused participle and the prepositional ending. Not so does the grammarman perform.

The experienced grammarman rises above these pedestrian

trivialities, and, by strict attention to the rules of grammarmanship, carries his audience to heights never before attained.

These rules are really quite simple, and they can be easily learned by an earnest student who applies himself to the task.

The first and most important rule of true grammarmanship is that the right first impression must be created.

To achieve this, the grammarman must arm himself with a few selected words for use in his opening gambit. These should be words of which very few members, least of all the grammarman himself, can be expected to know the meaning. The stranger and more impressive sounding the words, the better for our hero.

In his opening remarks he will make use of one or more of these words, with studied carelessness, of course, producing something like this:

"Mr. Toastmaster, and gentlemen, I have listened with the most meticulous attention to the several speakers, and before passing on to more detailed analysis, I desire to felicitate Mr. Brown on his clever use of the oxymoron."

Mr. Brown will feel vaguely pleased, without knowing exactly why. Perhaps he did not know that he had skill with oxymorons. In fact, he may know that he would not recognize an oxymoron if it approached him. But he is glad to know that he used it cleverly, at any rate.

Having thus created the first impression of erudition, the grammarman proceeds with his comments.

Taking the speakers as a whole, he remarks upon the high standard of English used, but he wonders why, for example, Mr. Bee introduced into the middle of his speech an obvious catachresis. Perhaps it was deliberately done, to heighten the effect. He will appreciate it if Mr. Bee will enlighten him privately on this point.

Turning next to Mr. Y, he observes that not only was the grammar used by this speaker almost perfect (note the strategic use of

the word *almost* — it allows a little latitude, just in case) but his adroit use of the anacoluthon was most effective.

By this time the grammarman has the meeting securely in his grip, although he has only touched the fringe of grammarmanship. There are many other intriguing devices available to the Toastmaster in the more advanced stages of this art, such as the quoting of mythical grammarians of the past, and their rules and sayings. Of course the grammarman makes these up as he goes along, but a certain skill in improvisation is desirable. I shall deal more fully with these refinements in a later dissertation on the subject.

Meantime, I trust that this very brief introduction to the principles of grammarmanship may inspire some of my fellow Toastmasters to trade the dull garment of the common grammarian for the colorful robes of the truly proficient grammarman.

WHEN RALPH SMEDLEY VISITED THE JOINT MEETING OF TOASTMASTERS CLUBS OF THE SOUTH CLYDE AREA OF SCOTLAND LAST MAY, HE HEARD H. B. HAMPSON, EDUCATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE "VALE OF LEVEN" TOASTMASTERS CLUB OF ALEXANDRIA, DUMBARTONSHIRE, DELIVER THIS SPEECH ON "GRAMMARMANSHIP."

HE WAS SO MUCH IMPRESSED BY THE SKILLFUL USE OF THE MATERIAL AND THE KEEN, DRY QUALITY OF THE HUMOR THAT HE SECURED A COPY OF THE SPEECH SO THAT ALL MIGHT SHARE IN ENJOYING IT.

The finest words in the world are only vain sounds, if you cannot comprehend them.

—Anatole France



Don't Wait for Santa Claus

By Russell V. Puzey
President Toastmasters International

The season of Christmas and the New Year is the most enjoyable time of the entire year. There seems to prevail a sense of friendliness, good will, high resolve and generosity not approached at any other time. Let us take advantage of this Christmas season to understand its full meaning and to help spread its benefits throughout the year.

Attendance at our Toastmasters meetings gives us a deeper appreciation and understanding of our religious impulses and responsibilities. Many interesting programs can be built around the origin of Christmas and the customs and manners of celebrating Christmas in the various lands. The New Year celebration offers manifold ideas on habits of peoples, significance of the holiday to various races of peoples, and the origin of the habit of New Year's resolutions.

I would like to compare a Toastmasters Club with a perpetual Christmas tree. Our tree is filled with gifts for each one of us. A few are obviously displayed, others may be hidden. The key to the gifts lies within ourselves, and if we will but develop our best we will find these gifts. The more obvious of the gifts certainly include: improvement in speech, increased vocabulary, self-reliance, executive organization and planning ability, daring, imagination, religion, understanding, responsibility, fellowship, honesty, tact, cooperation, leadership, stewardship, courage, education, humility, friendship, and many more. Each of these constitutes a "pearl of great price" on the necklace of personal growth.

When we receive the gift of better speech, let us also be mindful of the other gifts that are waiting to be taken — the gifts that we put on the tree in exchange for the ones we take from it. We replenish the tree with gifts of increased service to our community, increased awareness of our rights and responsibilities as citizens, increased religious knowledge and moral duty, increased value and assistance to our employers, and increased understanding as husbands and fathers.

The concern of Toastmasters International is the development of the mind and character of the individual Toastmaster.

Our objective may be summed up in the words of Timothy, who wrote

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee—
meditate upon these things; give yourself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appeal to all."

A very Merry Christmas and a most joyous and prosperous 1954 to all.

DOUBLE YOUR TROUBLES

By Warren L. Weller

Which do you prefer — a question or an answer? Which would you rather have — a problem or its solution? I think you want the answers, so I'm suggesting you go out and dig up some more troubles—for practice.

A man is happy when he satisfies a desire or a need. Satisfaction, completion, happy ending, a filled order, a job done, a bill paid, all these spell an end to a human endeavor. It is in anticipation of the next effort that your challenge comes. Face the new problem with rejoicing.

Right now, start preparing yourself for that awaited day when you will finally solve your biggest problem. I advise you to find the best answer to *some* problem every day. If you can't solve a big one, solve a little one.

To illustrate: just before we moved into a new apartment, I saw my wife moving her hands along the length of our dresser in a strange way. I asked her if I should call the little red wagon and she explained that she was simply solving the problem of measuring. She had no tape measure handy. She had learned in school that the distance between the thumb knuckle and the end of the thumb was one inch. So she was measuring the furniture. A problem solved.

Another time not long ago I returned from a Toastmasters meeting, drove into our parking lot, found only one space large enough to drive into; but the cars were so close on each side that I didn't have room enough to open the car door.

The alternative was to leave the lot, and to drive around until I finally found a space, probably at a curb three blocks away.

Here was a crisis. Ingenuity beckoned. I thought of a way that saved ten or fifteen minutes.

I looked at the space. There was just enough room. I backed in with a few inches clearance on each side of the car. I straightened the front wheels and pulled forward far enough to open the door and get out. I left the brake off and the gear in neutral. Carefully watching each side, I pushed the car into place. Probably the neighbors did not even wonder how I did it. I won't brag, and maybe it wasn't ingenious. But I applied my thinker, solved a problem in a new, refreshing way. I avoided frustration. I enjoyed a new sense of competence. I had an answer. The question had disappeared.

Problems need to be appreciated. Certainly if you wanted to avoid problems you would not have joined Toastmasters. Be-

WELCOME TO NEW TOASTMASTERS

By Irving Sheffel

A new Toastmaster is like an uncut diamond — full of hidden brilliance. If you saw a rough diamond as you walked along the road you wouldn't even stop to pick it up. It would look to you like just another stone. But to a skilled diamond cutter this stone is a challenge to bring to light the beauty that lies within it.

The diamond cutter recognizes that each stone is unique and presents a different problem from the previous one. It has different kinds of imperfections and a different shape. His task is to place many facets on the stone so that the greatest amount of light will be reflected from within. At the same time he tries to cut the stone in such a way that its imperfections will create the least amount of interference in displaying its beauty.

In like manner the new Toastmaster embarks on the job of cutting windows in himself — windows through which knowledge can enter and emerge after it is stamped with his own personality and intelligence. To achieve this goal requires patience and practice. But when the windows are finally finished, the rewards are many. The inner capacities are released and can move outward to illuminate the road ahead. Everyone who comes near is aware of the added brilliance.

Your fellow Toastmasters can give you much — guidance, encouragement, and opportunity. They will provide you with fertile ground in which you can grow to greater maturity. But they will also tempt you to forget your individuality and to imitate them. Accept their help, but keep your eye on the goal — the development of *your* personality.

Troubles

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

cause you expect to practice solving problems and want to make speaking easier for yourself, you attend the meetings voluntarily.

So today or tomorrow settle on one problem and solve it. Go to your work with the same hope that you would have for an order

or a raise — only hope for more problems instead of fewer. There are good paying positions for men who do not back away from the problems connected with them.

If you cope with problems happily as golden opportunities to demonstrate your ability, you will get more done and success will follow naturally.

Grammar Is Easy

No. XXI of a Series

Standard of Good Usage

The purpose of studies in grammar is to help people to speak and write the language correctly. Right at the start we run into difficulty, for the definition of that word, *correctly*, offers points of difference.

As has been pointed out so many times in this series, usages differ in different parts of the English-speaking world, and what is correct in one place is not good in another. Our geographical location modifies our standards of correctness.

When Noah Webster was working on his dictionary and spelling book, he felt rather too keenly the spirit of independence. A little rashly, he predicted that the American tongue would some day be as different from the language of England as Dutch and Swedish are different from German or French. He wrote: "As an independent nation, our honor requires us to have a system of our own in language as well as in government. Great Britain, whose children we are and whose language we speak, should no longer be our standard."

He was not altogether wrong in anticipating differences, but he was quite wrong in his prediction of the extent of those differences. We can see now that it will be a very long time before American English will come to be radically different from British English.

But what is to be our standard of good usage, when people differ so widely in the practices?

As a general rule, *good usage* is taken to mean the usage commonly observed in the writings of the best authors and in the speech of well-educated people. But there are several common errors and exceptions.

First, there is the idea that an expression current in conversation is thereby proved to be good English. But if currency in conversation were a valid test, then we should have a great variety of slang expressions and bad grammar accepted as good English. "I ain't," "He don't," "You hadn't ought" and "He has went" would be correct.

Second, we are inclined to assume that expressions current in the newspapers must be right; but any student realizes that the papers are almost universally marked by slangy, careless, provincial language.

Third, there is a theory that the use of an expression by popular writers proves that it is good English. But even the best of our writers have been subject to errors, and we cannot always use them as an example.

Thus it follows that in order to know what is good and what is not good English, one must have wide acquaintance with English literature and with speakers of good education. Along with that, one should study the best usage of the best educated people in one's locality.

So long as such accepted usage does not seriously conflict with our own sense of fitness and our understanding of rules of grammar, we may well go along with it. At the same time, we must learn to listen with some degree of tolerance to the speech of other people.

The purpose of speech is to create understanding and communicate ideas. While we should not carelessly cast aside the general rules of good grammar, we need not permit ourselves to be unduly concerned about minor differences, so as to permit understanding to be obscured by distress about grammatical forms.

Definitely, grammar is not easy. Rules are not final and universal. Opinions differ, even among the experts. Let us get the best available authority on questionable usages, and then do our best to be understood without offending our listeners.

This is the final installment of the series on grammar. If the articles presented have stimulated your thinking and have caused you to be more careful in your speech, they have accomplished their purpose. If you, the reader, have questions which you would like to have dealt with further, or if you have points of disagreement which you would like to debate, you are invited to submit your questions or suggestions.

Language is the amber in which a thousand precious thoughts have been safely imbedded and preserved.

—Richard C. Trench

It's a Good Idea ■ ■ ■

"Frosty Faces"

It was cold at Thule Air Base (14 F) in September when the Top-of-the-World Toastmasters Club staged its musical extravaganza supreme to initiate the boards of the spanking new theater. First nighter celebrities included Governor and Mrs. E. Moerck-Rasmussen of North Greenland and acting Base Commander, Colonel James W. Holt.

The show was complete with a thirteen piece orchestra, an Arctic scene, a South Pacific setting. From cold to hot went the setting as the dancing dollies with a splashing entrance through the end of an exaggerated C-rations container, slithered into a can-can routine. The Follies models provoked an uproar by tangling in their gowns. What began as a dream scene ended in a nightmare, with the audience in tears of laughter.

Long hours of practice brought perfection to the musical numbers which included "Bali-Ha'i", "No Other Love", "Watermelon Weather" and which rounded out the hour and half review.

All this happened where there had been no orchestra, no chorus and a theater yet to be completed—and all in just one month after the Toastmasters Club started from scratch at the world's northernmost air base.

Look!

Editors of club bulletins will do well to identify their publications by city and state, by club and district number. The editor's name should appear also.

These printed reports of club activity often travel far — and if you are to bring proper recognition to yourself and club, you will see to it that every reader knows who you are.

Beat Your Best

The St. Louis Toastmasters, as reported in their bulletin "The Ubiquitous Buzzer," has embarked upon a club improvement program with high determination.

"Beat Your Best" is the slogan for the campaign, a slogan that carries a subtle challenge to every man in the club.

Definition Bee

Uncle Joe Cannon Toastmasters Club of Danville reports a new wrinkle which proved a big success as a Table Topic program.

It consisted of a word spell-down, each participant being required to define reasonably difficult words selected in advance. As a member failed in the task he resumed his seat and those still standing at the end of the period shared honors as club vocabularians.

Good Ideas Never Die

One of the best ideas is to review past issues of *The Toastmaster* to see what plans, projects and methods have been recommended.

Scores of excellent ideas have been presented dealing with program planning, evaluation, speech construction, speech delivery and many other topics.

These are just as good today as when they were proposed.

The Great Discovery

— is when a fellow Toastmaster finds that he has a style of his own and an individual way of speaking unlike any other man in the world. All that he ever needed was some encouragement, preparation, a little polish, and a ready-made audience in order to find himself.

From THE SPOKESMAN
High Noon Club, New York

Social Integration

To speak to one person, or a group, is simply a means of communication; but to meet with other people to acquire greater skill in communicating, means learning the art of association. It follows, then, that an organization such as Toastmasters has at least a two-fold purpose. Besides the primary purpose of overcoming our inhibitions in talking to groups of people, the second benefit of Toastmasters may not be the least.

The art of living with our fellow man in harmony is not an easy one to acquire. Especially in a speech club such as ours do we find people whose ideas and beliefs are sometimes opposed to our own. Only by developing an analytical mind are we able to discover truth, and that truth is usually found to be on common ground between what we believe to be right and what the other fellow, whose belief is opposed to our own, believes to be right.

Gestures by Proxy

Ernest Clay, Topicmaster at a recent meeting of the Alexander H. Stephens Toastmasters of Atlanta, Georgia, used a new twist that warrants reporting. Two members worked as a team, one giving an unrehearsed one minute talk, the other furnishing the gestures.

Command Performance

Several clubs are now using a good idea that may be of interest to others. At certain intervals the president or program chairman calls for speech requests from the audience.

One Toastmaster may get up, and addressing the Chair say: "I would like to hear John Good talk on his big game hunt in Africa." Another may call for Bill Smooth to demonstrate how he builds a humorous speech, etc.

These may be grouped together and presented at one time, or they may be considered as assigned subjects the next time the designated Toastmaster speaks.

Especially For You

On pages 29 to 32 of this magazine you will find a condensed index of informative material which has appeared during 1953 in *The Toastmaster*.

If you have been so farsighted as to purchase one of the 1953 magazine binders, the insertion of the December issue will complete your year's volume, replete with index. It will be a never-ending source of ideas and information for future Toastmasters endeavor.

Note: A limited number of these binders are still available at the Home Office. Price \$2.20 postpaid. California purchasers add 3 per cent tax.

Whitewash Pin

"The Friendly Club" of Whittier, California has established a new award — this one for the critic who whitewashes his speaker with too easy an evaluation. The winner is selected by the general evaluator.

Impromptu or Extemporaneous

A good way to remember which is which, impromptu and extemporaneous—

When called upon, unexpectedly, to say a few words, you are im-PROMPTU in your response.

An extemporaneous speech is one for which preparation has been made but for which the exact form of words has not been determined. It is a prepared speech, but differs from the written or memorized speech in that its wording is determined as the speaker proceeds.

Fun Night

If your club is becoming too staid and formal, too serious in its strict adherence to established routine, too lacking in good-fellowship—

Try a *fun night* where Table Topic speakers are required to talk under adverse conditions. Many stunts will come to mind such as holding a full glass of water in each hand, speaking from under the table, or from a chair or while sitting on the floor, or trying to be heard above the din of water glasses being tapped by the spoons of fellow members.

The list is unlimited and fun will be enjoyed by all.

A Knot

in the Thread

Mother was sewing a button on Junior's shirt. Junior was standing by, asking questions.

"Why do you always tie a knot in the thread, Mother?" he wanted to know.

"That is to keep the thread from slipping through," she replied. "If there is no knot on the end, the thread slips right through, and the button falls off. Always tie a knot."

Dad, who was reading his evening paper, looked up and made a remark.

"That is a good deal like my speeches," he said. "When I make a talk at the Toastmasters Club, I always have to tie a knot at the end, or the speech slips right through, and nobody remembers what I said. The knot is what we call the 'so what!' of the speech. It puts on the finishing appeal. It makes the sale.

"In fact, Junior," he continued, "it is like the advertisement which makes you want to send in a box top and half a dollar for a guaranteed space gun. The ad wouldn't amount to much if it did not tell you where and what to send."

"That's right, Dad," said Junior, "and don't forget that you are going to help me fill out the blank that goes with the box top."

"I won't forget," Dad promised, "but right now I have an idea for my speech at Toastmasters next Thursday night. I am going to talk about why a speech is like sewing on a button.

"First, you must have an opening, and that is like the needle your mother is using. She puts the thread through the eye of the needle, and then uses the needle to start. That sharp point puts the thread into action, but the point wouldn't do any good if it had no thread to follow it. The body of my speech is like the thread. It follows the needle point, and fastens down the ideas, one after the other. But if I don't have a knot tied in the thread, the whole business falls apart. I don't make a sale, or win any votes, or get any action.

"If you ever have to make a speech, Junior, just remember how your mother sews on buttons. She attaches the thread to a sharp-pointed needle, so as to start it into the fabric, and she ties a knot in the other end of the thread so that it will not slip through. That is a good way to outline a speech; and that is a pretty good speech outline in itself. That is what I will talk about Thursday evening, and if I don't win top honors for that speech, I'll sew the next button on your shirt all by myself."

THE SPEECH CONTEST

-IMPORTANT-

Now is the time for every Toastmasters Club to be conducting its own speech contest. It may be done in any one of several ways for participation; but whatever method is followed, it should provide for participation by every member.

The primary purpose of the speech contest is to give every man a chance to speak in competition, and thus be stirred to do his best. Winning of first place is of secondary importance. The chief thing is to make the effort to win.

Before the first of February, each club should have run a contest among its own members by means of which they select the winners of first and second places. These winners will participate in the contests in the areas.

The simplest contest method in the club is to have the members vote at each meeting on the speakers who have performed at that meeting. Each man, except those who speak, votes on the entire group of speakers, rating them for places, first, second, third, etc., through the list. The club secretary or contest committee will take the results, and give each man his percentage rating.

The winner of first place, in case there are five speakers, gets five points. Second place rates four points, and so on through the scale. If there are six speakers, the points are figured on the same basis, with the winner getting as many points as there are speakers, and the others following on a descending scale.

If possible, the voting process should continue until each member has made two contest speeches. Then the committee selects the five or six men who have the high ratings for the entire period, and these men compete in a "finals" program, where the winners of first and second places are selected as the club representatives in the area contest.

This kind of contest brings every member into the competition; it does not disrupt the regular speech program; and it permits the winners to be chosen on the merits of their regular club speeches.

The rules for the finals at this year's convention will be published soon. They will show that the plan involves one extemporaneous speech by each contestant at the 1954 Convention in Washington, D. C. The contestants will be assigned subjects a few hours prior to the final contest, and they will prepare their talks in that very limited time, thus eliminating memorized, oratorical speeches.

It is not necessary for clubs to follow this plan in their local contests, but areas and districts will do well to adopt it for the benefit of the contestants as a special training in preparation and delivery of extemporaneous talks.

The purpose of all these contests is not to choose "the champion" or to determine just who is "the best speaker" in all the world. It is to stimulate as many men as possible to the point where they will make at least one effort to do their level best in speechmaking in their own clubs. Winning is not the final goal. Honest participation in an effort to do better is the real benefit, and the more men who thus participate, the greater the good which will result.

CEILIDHS WITH CALEDONIANS

This space would ordinarily be used for our Christmas feature but we believe that the impressions of James Ewart, immediate past Governor of our Scotland District 18, concerning American conditions, will be of greater interest to our members. Both Past Governor Ewart and Governor David Moffat were present at the Denver Convention, and then spent a few days at the Home Office in Santa Ana, studying our methods of operation. Both have written interesting accounts of their experiences in America. This month we present the report from James Ewart, and next month we hope to bring you David Moffat's impressions.

Thus, Saint Nicholas yields to Saint Andrew, without in any way diminishing the Christmas spirit or the warmth of Christmas greetings to all Toastmasters, everywhere.

My impressions of America may be listed as surprises and discoveries.

Imagine my reactions when I was introduced to iced tea. I had heard of this atrocity, this outrage upon our national beverage, but I had hardly been able to believe that such a thing could happen, even in America. At the meeting of High Noon Toastmasters, in New York, I was invited to partake. Imagine how those New Yorkers enjoyed my astonishment, not to say dismay!

In Scotland, the coolness of our refreshing climate makes the warmth of our tea most acceptable. There is no need to cool the tea by artificial means. But that was perhaps my greatest disappointment in the new world. It was not the only surprise.

In New York, I found myself most cordially welcomed by the Toastmasters, who treated me as though I were visiting royalty. Their hospitality was only a sample of what I found all along the way. Americans are most friendly.

I was delighted with the happy use of colour, not only in the houses, but on the automobiles, taxi-cabs, airplanes and everywhere else. It brightened the whole landscape. We Scots are a bit more conservative in our own land.

There was the fantastic size of everything, the buildings in New York, the immensity of the country as viewed from the plane, and the height of the mountains. I was impressed by the beautiful and sensible layout of the cities, as well as by the T-bone steaks and the large portions of food which found their way to my plate.

There was a thrill in picking from the trees the fresh and delicious fruits of California, and in drawing a Coke from the automatic machines. There was fun in watching the surprise and politely hidden amusement on the faces of people who saw me in the kilt, walking along the streets. I think that I received especially good service because of the quaintness of the costume.

Then there was the pleasure in the Rocky Mountain trips in and around Denver, for which thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Merrick, Mr. and Mrs. Q. R. Dungan, John Riskin, and others.

I can find no end to the many pleasant incidents of the trip. One impression far transcends all others, and that is the impression of the people themselves. The warm-hearted friendliness and hospitality shown me by all whom I met truly "out-Scotted the Scots."

I came to America with no pre-conceived ideas, but I was quite unprepared for the warmth of the welcome I received everywhere. Could I have been in the happy position of accepting all the invitations received during my visit, I would still be enjoying your country at this late date. There was the common bond of language and of being Toastmasters, but the spirit of fellowship and friendliness permeated the very atmosphere.

The thought of our common language and our common motives is a tremendous one, which promises well for the future of Toastmasters and for our international friendship. Let us cherish that spirit of fellowship. It will make Toastmasters a force for better international understanding.

The Convention, including the Speech Contest, made a high point in my impressions. The spirit and atmosphere of the Convention could really be felt. I was delighted to meet so many men who wanted to shake hands and chat with me. Among the very best impressions were President Nick Jorgensen's genial but sensibly firm chairmanship, and Past President George Reed's decorous and dignified installation of the new officers.

I can never forget the generous hospitality of the Denver men, the cordial welcome in New York from Graham Peake and his Middle-of-the-Day men, and a hundred other pleasures.

Finally, there was Santa Ana. For years that name conjured up pictures and thoughts in my mind, and now I realized these. There in the Orange Acres Motel, I could lean out my window and pick an orange from the tree. There in the headquarters, I could meet all the people who serve Toastmasters, and who made me so completely welcome.

Ted Blanding, notwithstanding the heavy work load which followed the convention, devoted his time unselfishly to entertainment of the Scots, and David Moffat and I gathered no end of information on the organizational work of Toastmasters, which will help us at home. We saw, there in the Home Office, an efficient and happy group of people deriving pleasure from their work of service.

Continued on page 23

What's Going On

One for the Book

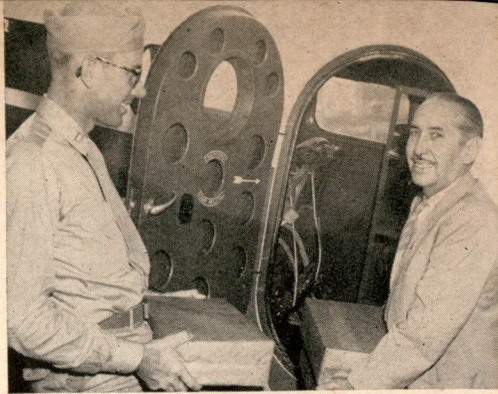
"Next Monday night we will induct as a member of Gering (Nebraska) Toastmasters, a certain Paul Koester of Alliance, Nebraska. For the past four consecutive weeks Paul has driven 106 miles to attend each meeting. We are convinced he really wants to become a Toastmaster."

From a letter by Leo F. Bolin,
Lt. Gov. District 26

A Mark To Shoot At

Dr. G. R. Howard, a past International President and member of the Progressive Club of Huntington Park, California, reports that this club recently held its 40th installation on its 1000th meeting anniversary night.

The Progressive Club boasts that five of its charter members are still active in the club and all were present at the installation.



Special Service

Ted Blanding, Executive Secretary of Toastmasters International, presents the charter kits for the newly founded Corpus Christi, Texas Club 1409, to Marine Captain W. H. Payne for flight to Texas.

Captain Payne, acting as courier for the Texas group, while on a routine training flight from Corpus Christi to Oakland, California, flew their charter application to El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana. On his return flight the next day he stopped and picked up the charter kits.

Practical Doing

It is doubtful if the members of any club in Toastmasters International have experienced a more practical and complete application of Toastmasters training than those of the Motor Carriers' Club of Omaha, Neb.

Last fall, when the directors of the Nebraska Motor Carriers' Association were planning their "Jubilee Convention," they challenged the Club to arrange the program and to make most of the Convention speeches. Twenty Toastmasters appeared on the program and their participation ran the gamut from panel participant to major speaker.

Photograph shows Harry O. Taylor, Secretary of the Motor Carriers' Club, displaying the Club's cleverly designed timer complete with lights and buzzer.

Willie Air Patch

Members are not a bit hesitant in admitting they have the most enthusiastic, most effective and most everything Toastmasters Club on any air base in the world. They offer the photograph below as evidence of their contention.

It pictures officers and members at a regular meeting in the WAFB Officers Club, Williams Field, Chandler, Arizona. Seated (l to r) Capt. Glenn Hubbard; 1st Lt. Leland Clouse; Fred Greenwood, Educational Chairman; Lt. Col. Earl Balku, Vice-President; Capt. Ray Begeman, Deputy Governor; Capt. Jim Smith, Sgt.-at-Arms; 1st Lt. Roy P. Whitton, Secretary-Treasurer; Maj. Wayne Overturf. Standing (l to r) Major Bill Grady; Harold Brown; Capt. Bill Manelos; Jim Sparks, 1st Lt. Bob Scipes; Capt. William Ragon; Maj. Paul Hoza; Capt. James A. Knight, Jr., President; Maj. Millard Hodges; Capt. James Webster; Maj. Hibbard Shelton; 1st Lt. James Crawford; 1st Lt. James Todd; Harold Anderson and Capt. John C. Barth.



Still on the Highroad

When Ralph Smedley visited the northern-most Toastmasters Clubs of Scotland at a dinner in Thurso, he had the pleasure of meeting the two oldest Scottish Toastmasters. In the picture, at the left, is Mr. Walter R. T. Budge, aged 78, and at the right is Mr. Renwick J. G. Millar, 87, a former newspaper editor, whose reporting experience goes back to the days of Gladstone.

Both gentlemen are Elders of the Church of Scotland, and represented their congregations at the General Assembly of the church in Edinburgh during the month of May. Mr. Millar is retired, but Mr. Budge is still in business as a draper (in America he would be termed a dry goods merchant) and he regularly goes down to Glasgow to visit the wholesalers. Both men are finding help in their Toastmasters membership, and both bring inspiration to the younger members by their enthusiasm.



Meet the Press

Presenting the live wire staff of THE SPOKESMAN, official bulletin of Salesmasters Club, Los Angeles. Editor Earl Myers (seated R), Russell McKnight, Ev Plummer, Peter Giammaria (anticlockwise).

Scots Locate Their Names

Scottish Toastmasters James Ewart and David Moffat visited the Home Office at Santa Ana, after attending the Denver Convention. They found much to interest them in the operations. They were especially attracted by the great files of stencils used in addressing the magazine and in other mass mailings. Here they are seen looking over the stencils of Scotland District No. 18, where they found their own names. Blanding, Moffat, Ewart and Smedley are seen standing before the filing cases.



State Commander

Paul S. Samuels, the new Commander of the New York State American Legion, and a member of Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) Toastmasters, is another in a long string of Toastmasters who have reached high honor in public service.

The list of Paul's achievements reads like that of a top bracket VIP, and if you would ask him the part that Toastmasters training had to play in his success, you would doubtless become more than ever sold on this form of training.



"Sooner" Charter

First club visit made by International Director, Don Mattocks, (second from left) after his election at Denver was to help in charter presentation ceremonies of Indian Capital Toastmasters Club 1362. On the left is Hub Adams, club President, who received the charter from Jack Rector (right), Governor of District 16. Ora Lamb, President-elect of the club, looks on.

Indian Capital is the second club to be formed in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and started its official life with a full active membership roster of 30.



Stay on the Theme



To stay on the theme is as vital to the speaker or conference leader as it is for the airplane pilot to stay on his guide beam.

No matter what the theme is, it should be discussed so as to bring enlightenment to speakers and audience, and perhaps lead to a decision. It may be the traffic problems on Main Street, or the world-wide effects of the Korean war, or of readjustment in France or Italy. Whatever it is, the discussion is to be kept from wandering, and to lead to some definite conclusion, if possible.

Take warning from those radio and television panels which start out with peaceful purpose, and then stray off into a war of words, which even the moderator is unable to moderate. The trouble usually starts over some incidental assertion or question of interpretation. Almost any extraneous suggestion is enough to set the panel of "experts" off on an altogether new subject, dragging the moderator along with them.

"Make it pertinent. Don't go off on a tangent."

That is a primary concern for the speaker or the panel member or the leader of a discussion. Control of wandering thoughts, and restriction of talk to the main purpose must be sought at all costs, if speech or discussion is to arrive at anything.

The moderator must force himself to be fair. He may have ideas of his own, which he would like to use to influence the group, but he owes it to the others to permit their views to be expressed and given consideration. Somewhere among the divergent ideas presented there may be a solution or a program of action which will be best of all. The purpose of the discussion is to find that one best idea.

This places a heavy responsibility on the discussion leader.

He must subordinate his own ideas so that he will not appear to try to dominate the group. He must restrain his own desire to speak overmuch. He must introduce the subject for discussion, and set the pace and the direction. Then he will be careful to hold the talk "on the beam."

He will be primed with leading questions to stimulate thinking. When he speaks, it will be to clarify or interpret the question, and to point discussion toward the main objective. He will not take advantage of his position to override the ideas of his panel members.

The moderator thus must be a man of diverse abilities, and one capable of adapting himself quickly. He must direct tactfully and draw out discussion skillfully. He needs infinite tact, patience, persistence, and good judgment.

Discussion is a basic principle in American life. The Toastmasters Club meeting offers a rare opportunity for experience and training in this art. This is why so much emphasis is placed on programs designed to stimulate discussion.

Every member ought to strive to perfect himself both as a moderator and as a participant in discussion and conference, and in all his training, he should keep clearly in mind this simple but fundamental admonition: "Stay on the beam."

Are Scientists

Illiterate?

The following paragraphs appeared in the editorial section of the *Los Angeles Times*, on September 12:

Richie Calder, chairman of the Association of British Science Writers, gave some good advice at Liverpool to the British Association for the Advancement of Science when he called scientists, as a group, "illiterate, inarticulate and irresponsible."

Men who cannot communicate their ideas except in "technical slang" are illiterate, Calder declared. Because they cannot or do not take the trouble to express themselves intelligently they are inarticulate, and because they do not consider or explain how their work affects the lives of ordinary folk, they are irresponsible.

Since scientific research is coming to depend more and more on grants from taxpayers, he reminded the scientists the public may stop supporting it unless they succeed in explaining their work. Of course, in the case of pure science, experiments undertaken with no other purpose than the satisfaction of curiosity, any practical applications are difficult to predict. But this, too, needs to be explained to the public.

The editorial writer has echoed the sentiments so often stressed in Toastmasters Clubs to the effect that every business and profession needs to be interpreted to the public, and that the men engaged in it are the ones to do the interpreting. Professional men are notoriously poor speakers. They understand their own work, but do not know how to make others comprehend it. For their own sake, as well as for the public good, they need training in communication.

The Toastmasters Club owes something to these men of science, for they are doing great things for humanity. We can show appreciation for their services by helping them to learn how to talk. Perhaps you know some architect, engineer, physician, chemist, or research worker who should be taught to communicate with other people. You will do a favor both to him and to the general public by bringing him into touch with a Toastmasters Club.

"Further Ado"

"Without further ado" is a dead give-away. Those words simply mean, "Since I can't think of anything else to say, you take over."

—George Boardman Perry

HOW WE TALK

Speaking of Gestures

When you speak of gestures, as any good speaker must do now and then, always remember that the initial *g* should be given the "soft" sound, like *j*. Pronounce it *jestures*.

To help you keep this in mind, associate the word with some of its etymological cousins, such as *digest*, *congest*, *suggest*.

Back of these words is the Latin verb, *gerere*, to bear or carry, to display, behave, or perform. A form of the verb, *gestus*, is the Latin word for gesture, or motion of the body.

Not commonly used today is the word *geste*, or *gest*, which came into the English from the French a long time ago, meaning gesture or deportment. In all these cases, it is pronounced "jest."

From such meanings, it may seem a long way to such words as *digest* and *congest* and *suggestion*, but they are all related. *Con-gestion* means a gathering together into a mass. *Digest* means to set in order, dissolve, distribute and various similar things, in its Latin background.

Suggest is formed by the combination of the Latin prefix *sub*, under, with that same verb, *gerere*, to carry or bring. When you suggest something, you bring it into the mind. In speaking this word, give full value to each *g*. The first one gets the hard sound, and the second one is soft. Say "sug-jest," not "sujest" or "sejest."

With all these reminders, you will never again talk of gestures with the hard *g*, but if you should happen to forget, you may be helped by the fact that our common word "jest," a joke, is from the same root.

Ideology

Here is another learned word which has come into common use with confusion about correct pronunciation. The *ideo* part is from the Greek, meaning a kind, or nature, or way or fashion. We use ideology to mean systematic scheme of ideas about life, or the manner of thinking characteristic of some group of people.

The preferred pronunciation gives the initial *i* the short sound, which we may indicate, lacking the symbols for marking, as "idd-e-ology." The dictionary bows to common misuse, and shows, as second choice, the long *i* pronunciation.

Thus it appears that you are not hopelessly wrong, whether you call it "idd eology" or "eye deology," but it may be just as well to prefer the preferred pronunciation when you use the word.

Recommended Reading

By R. C. S.



Good Books to Read

The Saturday Review of Literature has a pleasant habit of finding out from libraries across the nation the 20 books most in demand. For some weeks, certain books have held their places in this list giving encouragement to those who hope that America's taste for good literature has not been altogether lost.

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's *The Power of Positive Thinking* persists as one of the most frequently called for. Many Toastmasters have read this stimulating work already. Many more should do so at the first opportunity.

Mrs. Catherine Marshall's revealing story of her husband's life, *A Man Called Peter*, is another non-fiction book much in demand. It was reviewed in *The Toastmaster* of November, 1952, and if you have not yet read it, put it on your "must" list right now.

Among the fiction titles is *The Silver Chalice*, by Thomas B. Costain, also worth your reading time.

Here is a place where all of us may do well to go along with the crowd, when people are choosing so well in their reading.

Caledonians

(Continued from page 17)

The other Santa Anans, including Mr. and Mrs. Smedley, Mrs. Blanding, and the other men of the Home Office, as well as the members of Smedley Chapter Number One, and the members of the Santa Ana Rotary Club, did their best to make us welcome. When Ralph Smedley visited us in Scotland, we tried to make a good Scot of him, and were glad to see that our efforts had borne fruit. Indeed, most of those whom we met claimed either to be Scottish or to have Scots in their ancestry.

Throughout the entire trip I found a deep and friendly interest in what is happening in Scotland, and in how the people are recovering from the war, but never once did I hear a word spoken unkindly or in bad taste.

I left America and her people with regret, but with a fervent hope that it might be my privilege to return again some day to your warm-hearted, generous and wonderful country. So let me say, "God bless America!" or, as we would put it in Gaelic: *Feilte' is furan dhuibh uile do cheann bhaile na Gaidhealtachd.*

James Ewart

First-place-itis

By Ernest Wooster

Joe Blow, newly inducted Toastmaster, is making his first talk.

"When Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Moore Blow's first child—that's me—came to them, Dad was disappointed.

"He took one look at me and said, 'Ma, I don't think we ought to keep this one.' You couldn't blame him much. The initial scion on the Cyrus M. Blow family tree was redder than a communist and about as voluble, with his expression about as reasonable.

"But Ma came to my defense. Said she to Dad, 'Oh, I don't know. He's just the first. Maybe the next five or six won't look so much like your side of the family. Let's keep this one as a contrast, an example of what the others might have been.

"Look at the Doakes kids,' she continued. 'This one couldn't possibly be as bad as they are, and yet Joe Doakes kept all of them. Of course he might have been hoping for better ones. Moreover, Mother thoughtfully reminded him, 'there's a law against infanticide, however unjust the law may be in this case.'

"Well, Pa gave in and they kept me as a sample."

Joe goes on in this vein to give his biographical talk. It stands out in bold relief against the five other serious talks, more or less carefully prepared, given by somewhat more mature Toastmasters according to their progress in the rudiments of public speaking.

In the balloting, Joe gets first place with his first talk. He is, of course, much elated. Right at the very start of his career he is in the upper grades, practically ready to graduate.

It is the worst mistake the club can make—to give this first place to Joe for his first speech.

It has happened in many clubs.

Joe is a likable fellow. The club wishes him well. Moreover, he does very well indeed with this maiden speech. Probably he deserves first place.

But even though he may merit the highest rating for the evening, it is not good club judgment to give it to him.

Here's why. Joe comes in new and fresh, looking on the club as

a school, which it is. He expects the club to make a better speechmaker of him. Then, the very first time up, he takes first honors.

More or less subconsciously he asks himself, "What does this club have to offer me? I beat out their old-timers with my first talk. I guess I am naturally pretty good."

It is not conscious thinking, but Joe cannot help having a good opinion of himself and a correspondingly poorer one of the club made up of men, it seems, not quite up to his standard.

Most "Joes" will, on second thought, realize the fallacy of this

first impression and buckle down to the business of getting out of Toastmasters all it has to offer.

But since there is a chance of some new member becoming drunk with the new wine of initial success, it may be a wise procedure to limit voting on such new member to "honorable mention" until after his third formal speech.

By so doing he will not be exposed to first-place-itis until proper inoculation and immunization by Toastmasters training have taken place.

Zone Conferences

By Wayland A. Dunham

Last year I was invited to attend and have a part in the Zone A Conference at Tacoma, Washington. I accepted. The ideas and inspiration I received were tremendous.

I am writing specifically of this conference (knowing full well there were others of equal importance), because I personally experienced its expert development and presentation and can therefore speak authoritatively. It was an excellent example of what a zone or regional conference can do in advancing the over-all picture of Toastmasters, making it effective in every district, area and club.

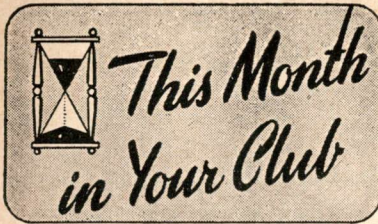
It was in September, the year previous that Charlie Griffith, then International Secretary and Chairman of the Zone A meeting, began making plans. His committee early decided to so cram pack the sessions with worthwhile material, and to so sparkle the program with unique ideas that, regardless of distance, each unit of the zone would be well represented.

No International Convention could have been better planned. The theme centered upon the individual Toastmaster as the "Big Wheel" of the organization. As he started to register, his picture was taken with a polaroid camera and by the time he reached the end of the registration line, he was handed a personalized program with his photograph prominently mounted in the center of the "Big Wheel" which featured the program cover.

From "Griff's" welcoming speech, to the final sound of the gavel at the Zone Speech Contest, the individual Toastmaster was featured as the "Big Wheel." The psychological effect on all in attendance produced an ideal climate for lively participation and analytical listening, which resulted in high conference accomplishment. It left little in doubt as to why the Pacific Northwest has always been so progressive in Toastmasters interest and development.

I cannot but feel that such a concert of effort toward more effective officer performance bodes well for Toastmasters' limitless program.

PROGRESSIVE



December is the month of months. It brings to an end the busy year. It sponsors thinking of and planning for the year ahead. It is a time for pause, for self-searching.

But more than all these, it is a time for fellowship and sharing—for fun.

One of the legitimate purposes of speech is to entertain. December offers real opportunity to select programs which will enhance the feeling of joviality that is in the air.

The entertaining speech may be one of several varieties.

It need not necessarily be humorous. It may be descriptive, exciting, narrative or even slightly argumentative and yet provide entertainment for the audience.

Make the most of the holiday atmosphere and spirit. Try one "show" event, either a costume party, a program of impersonations, or some other departure from the usual.

You might have the chief evaluator dress as Santa and pass out presents to members. Such gifts might consist of brief criticisms of the member's outstanding speech deficiency and a practical solution.

Also consider a "theme" program, treating a notable historical event which occurred in December — such as the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773).

An east coast club held a most successful "family night" Christmas party last year. There was a tree for the children and the formal speeches were Christmas stories and legends for the youngsters.

These are but a few program potentials. Use your imaginations. Be kids again and play! Have fun. Capture the spirit of Christmas and work it into the warp and woof of your club fabric in such manner that it will remain a constant source of inspirational zeal in the year ahead.

A joyous Christmas to all.



PROGRAMING

Planning

January brings us to the basic principle of speech — *Planning*, or *Speech Construction*. Planning is fundamental to any project which we undertake, whether it is a speech or a program, a business or a house which is to be built. It is an essential for good club operation. The officers plan, and the committee and members work out the plan. Lack of a good plan is a reason for many a poor performance.

Just for the experience, place great emphasis on planning the January work in every detail. The complete program of meetings for the month can be arranged so that each member has the schedule in his hands as a Christmas gift. All other activities can be organized, and the plans can be put on paper so that performance can be checked. Try it for this month, and your club will reap early benefits.

For twelve months, beginning with January, we are urging each club to put on one very special program each month, in which certain principles of speech can be demonstrated. While every program of your club must be *good*, this special *Featured Program* should be exceptionally good, and



it should be used to bring to your members new ideas and experiences in their use of speech.

To the President and the Educational Chairman of each club there will be sent detailed suggestions for arranging the *Featured Program* for each month. For January it is a symposium, a type of discussion which has been used in but few of our clubs. It should give you a new and practical experience. These special programs will not interfere with your club's regular scheduling of participants, nor with the use of *Basic Training* assignments.

This information is published here so that every member may know what to expect from the Educational Committee of his club. The one *Featured Program* may be made the motivating force to improve every meeting of each club. The experience in planning which goes into this should be reflected in all the other meetings.

New Clubs

WHEN AND WHERE THEY MEET

- 546 JACKSONVILLE, U. S. Naval Air Station, Fla., (D U), *Jacksonville*.
 587 JACKSON, Miss., (D U), *Jackson*.
 940 HELENA, Mont., (D 17), *Helena*.
 1384 TULSA, Okla., (D 16), *Oil Capitol*, Mon., 6:00 p.m., Golden Drumstick Restaurant.
 1399 GRAND FORKS, N. D., (D 20), *Jaycee*, Mon., 7:00 a.m., Ryan Hotel.
 1401 SYRACUSE, N. Y., (D 34), *Iroquois*.
 1402 FREMONT, O., (D 28), *Fremont*.
 1403 TYLER, Tex., (D 25), *Tyler*, Tues., 6:00 p.m., Blackstone Hotel.
 1404 LEVEN, Scotland, (D 18), *Scoonie*, Alt. Tues., 7:30 p.m., Caledonian Hotel.
 1405 DARLINGTON, England, (D 18), *Darlington*, 2nd & 4th Wed., 7:30 p.m., King's Head Hotel.
 1406 CANTON ISLAND, South Pacific, (D U), *Canton Island*, Alt. Tues., 6:45 p.m., Pan American Dining Room.
 1407 BENTON HARBOR, Mich., (D 28), *Main Street*, 1st & 3rd Wed., 6:00 p.m., Holly's Grille.
 1408 RIVERSIDE, Calif., (D F), *De Anza*, Mon., 6:15 p.m., Mike's Cafe, 3330 Market Street.
 1409 CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex., (D 25), *Naval Air Station*, Tues., 7:00 p.m., NAS Officers' Club.
 1410 BENTON HARBOR, Mich., (D 28), *Twin City*, 1st & 3rd Tues., 6:15 p.m., Chamber of Commerce Dining Room.
 1411 BRUNSWICK, Ga., (D 14), *Brunswick*, 2nd & 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m., Oglethorpe Hotel.
 1412 CLARION, Ia., (D 19), *Clarion*.
 1413 ANNAPOLIS, Md., (D 36), *Trident*, Thurs., 7:30 p.m., U.S. Naval Academy Officers' Club.
 1414 MARIETTA, Ga., (D 14), *Lockheed "Toaster's"*, Wed., 1:30 p.m., Lockheed Aircraft Corp., Room 6, Tunnel 14½, Plant No. 6.
 1415 BEAUMONT, Tex., (D 25), *Beaumont*, Alt. Tues., 7:30 p.m., Edson Hotel.



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LIMERICK FOR DECEMBER

When friends asked young Harry
McSlick
How he rose in his business so quick,
He replied, "I was meek
Till I learned how to speak

Winner: R. E. Waterlow
Forty Niner Toastmasters, San Francisco

Write a last line to the above limerick and if it is chosen *best* or *runner-up*, you will receive a copy of Dr. Smedley's book, *Speech Engineering*. Compose the limerick for use in March and win an autographed copy of *The Voice of the Speaker*. Deadline January 15th.

Last line winners for Aug. limerick

1st: Harry D. Whitten
Woodfords Toastmasters, Portland, Me.

A fear of the crowd kept him down;
He felt sure he would sound like a clown;

Then Toastmasters caught him
And pleasantly taught him
And now he is Mayor of his town.



2nd: Dr. C. A. Escoffery, Los Angeles
And now he's the talk of the town.

DISTRICT GOVERNORS

- Founder's—Russell Searing
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- 1. Fred H. Garlock
1901 Sacramento St., Los Angeles 21, Calif.
- 2. M. B. Jewell
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- 3. Alfred Morgan
Box 1228, Yuma, Ariz.
- 4. Joseph P. Williams, Jr.
c/o Bank of America, P. O. Box 3415, Rincon Annex, San Francisco 20, Calif.
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3208 Par Drive, La Mesa, Calif.
- 6. Herman C. Goebel
138 Montrose Place, St. Paul 4, Minn.
- 7. Lew Smith
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- 9. Boyd Hanna
Box 971, Elmer City, Wash.
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- 19. Dr. Walter A. Steigleman
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- 30. Sheldon B. Lee
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- 32. George A. W. Sparkes
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- 33. Kermit W. McKay
1605 Judson, Richland, Wash.
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P.O. Box 128
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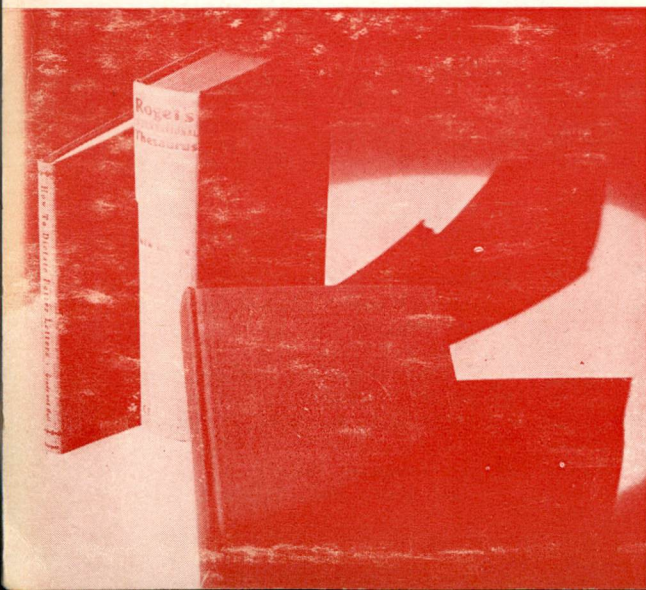
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