

THE TOASTMASTER

MARCH, 1943

No. 2

TOO MANY MEMBERS

Can a Toastmasters Club have too many members?Page 2

FUNNY STORIES

How and Where to use themPage 8

CRITICISM

What shall we call it?.....Page 20

SUCCESSFUL SPEECH SUBJECTS

Where to find them?
How to use them?.....Page 24

THE POST-WAR WORLD

Can you answer the questions on world reconstruction?Page 26



TABLE OF CONTENTS

The President's Page.....	<i>Ted Blanding</i>	1
Too Many Members.....	<i>W. W. Olson</i>	2
The Critic at Work.....		4
The Inter-Club Speech Contest.....		6
Humor—and How to Use It.....	<i>Frank W. Ellis</i>	8
Practical Speech Practice.....	<i>Harry W. Mattison</i>	10
“Basic Training”		10
The Strength of the Pack.....	<i>Ben H. McEachen</i>	12
Welcome, Friend	<i>Frank Donovan</i>	14
Don't Say That.....		15
Editorial		16
Maintaining Membership in War Times		
	<i>W. T. Bennington</i>	18
Wanted, A Word		20
The Speaker's Library		21
Make It Stick		22
What Constitutes a Good Speech?		23
Successful Speech Subjects	<i>Ernest S. Wooster</i>	24
About the Post-War World	<i>Frederic J. Perry</i>	26
News from the Clubs.....		28
District Activities	<i>Harold T. Crane</i>	32

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The Toastmaster

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The President's Page

(W. H. Blanding, C. C. M., writes from his undesignated location in Africa, to speak of his new opportunities for spreading the word about our organization and his new and enlarging conceptions of what we may be able to do in post-war days. In his work with the Navy "Sea Bees" President Ted finds many opportunities to make use of his training in Toastmasters.)



In recent weeks I have been in contact with men from many parts of the world and everywhere I find a surprising consciousness of the world wide need for a speech organization such as ours. I talk with men from the Allied Nations—from Australia and New Zealand as well as from Great Britain and Canada—and they recognize the fact that post-war readjustments will be helped as men understand how to express their thoughts intelligently and how to learn from one another, through our method of tolerant and critical listening.

My own thinking is taking on definitely an international aspect as I meet men from different nations and find out how much we have in common in our struggle

for better and safer living conditions.

To rescue democracy from the clutch of dictators and their totalitarian philosophy is not child's play, nor will it "just happen." It must be our task to help plan and build a world in which personal freedom will be conserved, standards of living maintained at a high level and civilization protected against the outbursts of men crazed with the lust for power. America has a large responsibility in this work and we Toastmasters, so far as we are able to do so, must help to guide and influence in the right direction. Our organization faces a great day of opportunity in the post-war period.

Just now I am in a beautiful, tropical jungle spot, where white men fight mainly against disease and boredom and where the blacks carry everything on their heads and very little inside them. The place is sultry, loathsome and interesting.

—TED BLANDING.

Too Many Members?

W. W. Olson, Governor of District Eight and Past President of Quincy Toastmasters Club.

THE members of the Quincy Toastmasters Club have a membership problem which is unique. They have too many members!

They believe that a new record in Toastmasters history was set on February 23rd, when they held a mass induction of twenty-three new members.

Three months ago the Quincy Toastmasters faced the same sort of membership problem as that which has confronted so many others of our clubs in these war times. Our membership had dropped to seventeen active members and the attendance at the meetings often made it difficult to carry through our usual full program. We initiated a membership campaign and six new members were recruited. There just didn't seem to be another available prospect in the whole city.

It was then that we decided to put on the "Speechcraft" course which had been highly recommended to us by Ralph Smedley when he visited us in October. We started with not very high hopes, but with plenty of determination.

First of all, our committee decided to promote the course as closely as possible along the lines suggested by Toastmasters International. We used experience as reflected in the detailed instructions and we found it good.

We discovered that our first need was for a large, carefully se-

lected list of prospective students. To get this, we divided the club into four sections and asked each section to be responsible for building up a list of 40 names. Instead of lining up their quota of 160 names, the four teams turned in more than 200.

A carefully prepared letter on club stationery went to each of these more than 200 men, announcing the course and inviting men to join. We put out fifty window cards in store windows and on bulletin boards throughout the city. We used two display advertisements and a radio program, timed to tie in with the scheme and a two-column publicity article appeared in the Sunday morning paper. The fact that we were offering "Speechcraft" was thoroughly publicized. No one could miss it.

Next, our members tackled the most difficult and the most essential task of all—the interviewing of every one of the prospects. We assigned a certain number of names to each member and a report on each interview was to be turned in to the committee. The men went to work in earnest.

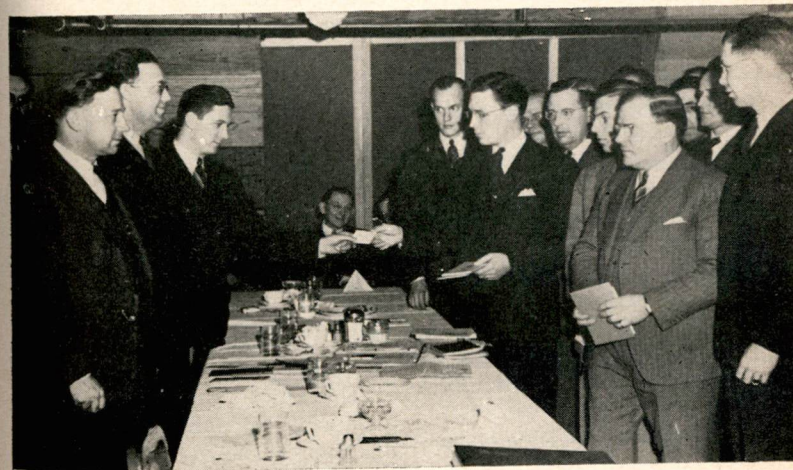
You may well believe that our members found it hard to realize that after their "membership campaign," in which they thought they had combed the city for men, there were still 27 more men in Quincy who wanted speech training. Best of all was the result in

membership when we found, at the end of the eight weeks of "Speechcraft" instruction that all but four of the enrollees wanted to carry on their practice by becoming members of the club. It was these 23 new members who were inducted at our special meeting on February 23rd and who are now carrying on with great enthusiasm in our regular program.

We believe that Quincy Toastmasters, in common with other clubs, have demonstrated the fact that no product on earth is so good that it can get along without "selling." That goes for the California climate, for religion and for public speaking courses. Our men in Quincy first sold themselves on the task at hand and then they went out and did a real piece of selling to their friends and acquaintances.

What they have accomplished is the result of a well planned program, plus the will to do. What they have done, we believe that any Toastmasters Club can do, by following the right methods of publicity and selling.

Too many members? Not at all. While the Program Committee may meet with some embarrassment in handling all the men at present, it is not an unsolvable problem and the challenge for them to develop new plans for meeting the situation is good for them and for the club as a whole. Quincy Toastmasters take pride in their demonstration of the value and absolute workability of the "Speechcraft" course and in their privilege of setting a new mark in the number of members welcomed in one great mass induction.



"Welcome to our fellowship" is the greeting of Secretary Emil Ribick, as he hands the membership card to new member Roger Veach, one of the 23 men inducted by Quincy Toastmasters on February 23rd. At the left stands District Governor Wes Olson and next to him is Forrest Otcheck, Vice-President of the Quincy Club, while fronting them across the table are to be seen the new "recruits" in the process of being welcomed.

The Critic At Work



"I don't find much to criticize in that speech."

"I enjoyed the talk very much."

This sort of evaluation, too often heard in a Toastmasters meeting, is flattering to the speakers, but not very helpful. It is given usually because the critic lacks a full understanding of what his duties cover.

Adequate and intelligent evaluation can be made the most important feature of Toastmasters activities. It keeps the club on its toes and the members progressing. But criticism, to be worth while, must always be constructive and must always give a reason. Merely to point out a fault, with no suggestion for eradicating it, may discourage the speaker rather than inspire him.

The skill required of a critic is not less than that required of a speaker. To be a competent judge of a speech, the critic needs to know how a speech should be constructed and delivered. The value to the critic is probably just about as great as to the speaker, if he uses his opportunity to the best purpose.

What should be evaluated in a Toastmasters meeting?

Not only the speeches, but the entire meeting may properly be made the subject for critical comment and evaluation. Not all of

the same things should be taken up at every meeting, or by every critic, for time would not permit such exhaustive coverage, but the salient points should always be treated.

Care must be taken to distinguish between the chief or general critic and the individual critics. Each has his own work to do.

The chief critic should consider the meeting as a whole. Here are some points for him to observe:

Did the meeting start on time and run on schedule and does it give promise of ending on time?

Was interest maintained? Did the chairman conduct himself and the meeting with proper dignity?

Did the table topic appear to have been prepared in advance, or at the last minute?

Had the president contacted the presiding Toastmaster to make certain all arrangements had been completed?

Had the presiding Toastmaster made preparations by securing the subjects to be treated by his speakers? Did he conduct the program in a way that would favorably impress a stranger, or did it appear to be a catch-as-catch-can, spur-of-the-minute offering?

The chief critic may properly comment on table arrangement, the interest shown by the members, the introduction of visitors, and the whole atmosphere and impression of the meeting. If business was transacted, it may be noted. Was it well handled, conclusive,

with definite decisions reached and instructions given?

If guests were overlooked, or were denied the opportunity to speak briefly, the chief critic may mention this as a breach of courtesy. If there was no one at the door to greet members and guests, this should be pointed out as a duty of the sergeant-at-arms. If the attendance is below normal, it is within the province of the chief critic to note this fact and to suggest action.

A privilege of the chief critic which is often overlooked is that of evaluating the individual critics. He may disagree with their views and he may very well remind the audience that any critical opinion voiced is but one person's opinion and subject to debate or disagreement by others.

This list of questions sounds as though it would take too long and so it would if every question were treated every time. By selecting points which need attention, the chief critic may cover the meeting adequately in five minutes, especially if he will remember not to rehash what the individual critics have said.

The individual critic is responsible for the work of one speaker, or for one phase of several speeches. Here are some leading questions for the individual critic:

Was the speech opening dynamic? Challenging? Interest-catching? Was eye contact maintained? Were appropriate gestures used? Was posture good? Did he make a favorable appearance? Did he play with table ware while talking?

Was the speech well organized? Logically arranged, properly emphasized, effectively delivered? Did the speaker use notes which obviously he did not need?

Was the voice used to best advantage? Were there effective pauses? Was enunciation clear? Was pronunciation correct? Were the rules of grammatical construction followed? Were sentences short enough to be easily followed? Was the talk too short, too long, or just right? Did it show evidences of careful preparation, or was it a lazy man's last-minute assembling of opinions or reminiscences?

Above all, was the talk convincing? Did it make the sale? Did it get action? Did it accomplish the purpose?

Critics may properly disagree with each other's opinions. One who does not agree with a preceding evaluator should voice his own ideas, always remembering that the opinion of one critic may be the only one of its kind among those present.

It is not out of order to comment on the subject matter of the speech, but it is not proper to enter into controversy over opinions expressed by the speaker.

While the evaluation is the instructive part of the program, it must not consume too much time. As a rule, two minutes should be sufficient for the individual critic and five minutes for the chief, or general critic. To hold the comments within such time limits means that there must be careful and discriminating choice of the

points to be mentioned in the speeches of criticism.

Speakers want to learn what to do and how to do it; what not to do and how to keep from doing that. The task of telling them falls

upon the critics. But no speaker relishes having the critical comment strung out over too long a period. The timing signal may be as important for the critic as for the speaker and it should be freely used.

The Inter-Club Speech Contest

PLANNING speech contests for Areas and Districts in wartime conditions has been no easy task for the committee in charge, but after meeting and overcoming many obstacles and solving a multitude of problems, Chairman William Bryce has been able to assemble the final instructions and information on the project.

"The purpose of the Inter-Club Speech Contest," says Chairman Bryce, "is to provide an incentive for better speeches through friendly competition among our members. It affords the opportunity to meet other Toastmasters in this spirit of competition and we believe that it stimulates the interest of all members either as participants or listeners.

"For this year's contest, it has been agreed that each contestant shall give one speech upon a subject which shall be drawn by lot as follows: The chairman in charge of the contest shall prepare a list of speech subjects, the usual method being to place three subjects on a card, making up a sufficient number of such cards,

which are placed each in an envelope and laid face down on a table. Each contestant draws one card and he then indicates to the chairman his choice of a subject for his speech, selected from the card. The speakers also draw lots to determine the order in which they speak in the contest.

"The drawing for subjects shall be held one week prior to the contest, whether it be Area, District or National. In the event a contestant is unable to be present in person for the drawing a card carrying three subjects shall be mailed to him seven days before the contest.

"In the contest, each speaker shall speak for not less than five, nor more than seven minutes. The speaker shall be warned by means of a timing device as to his time limits. Penalties will be incurred for either over or under time, if the excess runs to 15 seconds or more.

"Notes are not prohibited, but they should be used sparingly, if at all. The speech must be original. Any quotations used must be indicated as such. No speech prev-

iously given in contest during the past 12 months shall be used. If the speaker chooses a subject on which he has previously spoken, the content and organization of this talk must be new. Emphasis is laid upon the importance of preserving the quality of extemporaneous speech.

"The Lieutenant Governor should have charge of and act as Presiding Toastmaster for the Area Contest. The District Governor acts similarly for the District Contest. The Chairman of the Contest Committee has charge of the Final Contest. These men, or their committee members, appoint the judges, counters and timers and are responsible for all other arrange-

ments for the contest.

"Detailed instructions for the Presiding Toastmaster and for other officials involved are available from the Home Office. These should be secured and carefully studied in advance.

"The problem of holding successful contests drawing from large areas is a serious one in these days of restricted travel and food rationing. The committee will give all help possible, but it appears to be a problem for each Area and District to work out in the best way under local conditions. Let us try to conserve all possible values in the contest, even though the difficulties appear to be very great."

Repeat Speeches For Practice

A novel program proposed by a western club is to limit speakers to three minutes, then to let them deliver the same speech immediately following its first presentation.

Usually the speaker believes, almost immediately upon sitting down, that he could have done better. All right, let him try.

There are variations on this.

In one, the critic can first give his suggestions for improvement, so that the speaker has the benefit of these.

In another, all of the talks can first be given, then the program repeated.

Conferring with the speakers making up the program, the Toastmaster of the evening can work out what is likely to be best for those who participate.

Another variation of the same idea is to have a different speaker take the same subject, following the first speaker, though perhaps not immediately after he is seated and present it in another way.

The benefits to be derived from these are, first, the added experience and confidence it gives the speaker; and second, the benefit of stimulating the imagination to find improvement while the idea is still warm and the speaker still keyed up to his best pitch.

HUMOR---and how to use it

Frank W. Ellis, Los Angeles Toastmasters Club

THE program chairman or the speaker who can use an anecdote or a story in connection with an introduction or to illustrate a point has gone a long way toward making his part of the program successful. The story he tells must be apt, original (if possible) and clever, but first, last and all the time, it must tie up with what he has to say.

The following stories have been carefully selected. It is suggested that they be copied on cards and filed under the listed headings.

Introduction.

A presiding officer at a banquet arose, solemnly surveyed the assembled speakers and said very slowly and profoundly, "It isn't the mission of a Toastmaster to be very entertaining. Indeed, he should strive to make his comments a trifle tedious, so that the remarks of his speakers will, by contrast, appear the more amusing."

Then, after a long pause, he continued, "Surveying the assembled talent this evening, I perceive that I shall have to rise to new heights of boredom."

Mistakes.

Rather than review the mistakes of the past, we should follow the example of the minister who, when asked what in the world he could say at the funeral of a tough citizen, replied, "We'll speak of the great age in which he lived."

A select file can be easily built up and reference to it will make it possible to choose an appropriate illustration for a particular occasion. There are thousands of funny stories, but comparatively few of them lend themselves to specific tie-ups. The following have been tried out and found useful. Toastmasters are invited to send in stories they have used together with the circumstances or definite points which they have been used to illuminate.

Response.

There has been so much said here this evening and it has been so well said, that I fear any words of wisdom that I may add might be taken in the light of the small boy who, when asked what he thought of his baby sister, said, "Oh, she's all right, but there's lots of things we needed worse."

Without Notice.

If called upon to speak without previous notice, the story might be told of the guest who was called upon unexpectedly and said, "This is an outrage. I came here with the distinct understanding that I was not to be called upon." From the back of the room came this retort, "I've been betrayed, too. That's the only thing that got me to come here."

I don't want anyone here to feel that he has been betrayed, so I'll just sit down.

Be Frank.

In matters like these we should be frank—as frank as the college sophomore who was reciting a memorized oration in one of the classes in public speaking. "Ladies and gentlemen," he began bravely enough, "Washington is dead. Lincoln is dead." Then forgetting, he hesitated and finally concluded lamely, "And I—I'm beginning to feel pretty sick myself."

Fault-Finders.

We Americans are the greatest fault-finders in the world. One would think to listen to us that we were all like Old Bill whose friend observed, "Listen, Bill, you don't agree with anything or anybody. Why, I'll bet you don't even endorse the Ten Commandments."

"Well," Old Bill replied, "you make one small change in them commandments and I'll go along with them."

He was asked what small change he would suggest and the pessimist said, "Just strike out that word 'not' all the way through."

Statistics.

After an overabundance of statistical material had been presented to the audience, another speaker immediately reclaimed the interest with a change of pace by beginning his address with the following story:

Up in Massachusetts, many small towns still preserve the custom of the annual town meeting, where all citizens have the opportunity to come and question their public officials. On one such occasion, in a village that shall remain anonymous, the chairman of the Board of Health had announced in the course of his report that the community had had a particularly good year from a health standpoint; in fact, he said, the death rate had been only 11.7. When he had completed his report, a plain citizen arose in the back of the room and said:

"I don't understand what you mean by the eleven-point-seven. Would you please explain that to us?"

Whereupon the chairman of the Board of Health arose and replied, "Well, I'm not quite sure myself just what it means, but what I think it means is that we had eleven deaths and seven at the point of death."

Time Limit.

In assuring your audience that you do not intend to indulge in a lengthy discourse, you might tell the story of the man who was addressing a Sunday School class. "And now, children," he beamed, "what shall I talk about?" Little Johnnie, in the rear of the room, had a bright idea. "Talk about a minute," he suggested, "and sit down."

Practical Speech Practice

Harry W. Mattison, Minneapolis Toastmasters Club.

CURRENT sessions of Congress and of the State Legislatures offer a tempting opportunity to Toastmasters.

When such bodies are in session, countless numbers of ideas and propositions are brought out for discussion. Bills almost without number are presented for passage. Many are rather inconsequential, or affect only some small class or group of people. Others are of nation-wide importance and deserve extended debate. Such subjects should receive attention from our members.

It is a part of the nature of the sort of Americanism inherent in Toastmasters to take sides on important issues—to form opinions and reach conclusions. Occasionally a man may whip his opinions into definite form, but all too rarely does he overcome his apathy to the extent of transmitting his thoughts to his legislative representative.

We Toastmasters may use our clubs to good purpose both for our organization and for the welfare of the nation, by preparing speeches on matters of importance and general interest in the legislative halls. Some of these speeches are certain to be found timely, convincing and illuminating. Such helpful speeches should be reduced by the speakers to letter form and sent to the proper legislators. It is important to observe committee relations, for all legislative matters, especially in Congress, are passed on in committee before reaching the floor.

The preparation of speeches on topics of current interest, followed by condensation of opinions into brief letter form, is a practice of greatest value to the ambitious Toastmaster and may even prove serviceable to the nation in helping to promote wise and necessary legislative action.

"Basic Training"

JUST published is the latest contribution of Toastmasters International to the development of all Toastmasters, a new book entitled "Basic Training," especially prepared to help the new member get started in his career of speechmaking.

This book, mimeographed in form similar to that of "Speech-

craft," gives detailed information to the new member on how to prepare and deliver his first speeches before the club, how to serve as Toastmaster, as General Critic and as Table Topic Master and in general, how to conduct himself as an ambitious and growing member of his chapter. Of especial interest are the arrangements for securing

helpful criticism. Following the suggestions for each speech there is provided a special critique sheet to be used in connection with this particular speech and to be returned to the speaker and preserved by him for future reference.

At the front of the book there is a personal evaluation sheet for the beginner to fill out for his own information. Half way through there is another evaluation sheet, designed to help determine progress and the final page of the book is still another sheet on which the member may estimate his achievements and take his own measure as a speaker.

"Basic Training" will be furnished hereafter to all new members

as they are reported to the Home Office. The set of "Tips to Toastmasters" which has been sent to the new members heretofore will be held until a little later, when the beginner has progressed to a point where he can make better use of this more advanced material.

The new book is not offered as a required or prescribed course, but is given as a valuable help to every member who will make use of it.

For men who, while not new members, would still like to have the benefits of this new material, "Basic Training" is available at the low price of fifty cents a copy.

PRESCRIPTION FOR A GOOD SPEECH

- Speak when you have something to say.
- Speak what you believe to be true.
- Prepare thoroughly before you speak.
- Be clear in all points.
- Be fair and tolerant, even to people or ideas disagreeable to you.
- Stick to your subject.
- Be brief. Say what needs to be said, but no more.
- Speak naturally.
- Be serene and sincere, but avoid pomposity.
- Enunciate your words distinctly.
- Use words which say what you mean.
- Control your emotions.
- Dress well and let well enough alone.
- Suppress the craving for applause. Accept applause when it is offered, but do not appear to be asking for it. Don't sacrifice dignity or truth for a laugh or a hand-clap.
- Stop when you are through.
- Finish on a strong note of appeal or assertion. (Omit final "thank you.")
- Couple your ideas with good words, infuse with sincerity and enthusiasm and you will not lack interested listeners.

The Strength of the Pack

Ben H. McEachen, Huntington Park Toastmasters Club.

"IT is not the individual,
But the members as a
whole,

And the everlasting team work
That helps us reach our goal."

The spirit of cooperation is the tie that binds our individual Toastmasters Clubs into one great organization, Toastmasters International. Cooperation among the members of the local chapter and cooperation between the clubs as they reach out to work with each other is the secret.

We must always keep in mind the interdependence of the entire organization, the International, the Districts, the Areas, the Clubs and the individual members. When every member finds his place and understands his relationships, he finds his strength and his usefulness tripled.

How can you, as an individual member, give your best in cooperation with the other units in this great "team?"

No doubt the president of your own chapter would say that your first duty is to support the work by your regular attendance. The club secretary would tell you that from his standpoint, you can help greatly by keeping him informed about any change in your address and telephone number, by careful reading of bulletins and by close attention to the minutes when he reads them.

We all know that the treasurer appreciates the prompt payment of dues and other obligations.

Your fellow member appreciates most of all the evidence of careful preparation in your speech. He doesn't mind listening to your effort, provided it represents your best. You feel the same toward him. And thus we see that each member has his own conception of what it means to "pull together."

When we step outside the limits of our own local club, we find that there is required the same close harmony and cooperation throughout our many chapters, areas and districts, in order to make up a well-rounded, effective general organization.

The Home Office, representing the Board of Directors of Toastmasters International, touches you through various means. Letters and announcements are read to your club by the secretary. You have at your service the bulletins, books and other educational material for your betterment and every other month you receive your copy of your magazine, "The Toastmaster." In all these and other ways the Home Office keeps in touch with you by "remote control."

Through the area and district activities, you have additional opportunities to profit by personal contacts with the leaders of the movement and to gain the advantages of membership in an organization of international scope. Will you resolve, during these difficult days, to take advantage of every opportunity to manifest the co-

operative spirit by which we can become a united and powerful whole?

We need each other now and in the years that lie ahead, to give that mutual help and encouragement which is the secret of organizational strength. Kipling expressed it well in a poem which is a favorite of mine:

"For this is the law of the jungle,
As old and as true as the sky;

And the wolf that keeps it will prosper

But the wolf that breaks it shall die.

As the vine that girdleth the tree trunk

Creepeth forward and back,

So the strength of the pack is the lone wolf,

And the strength of the wolf is the pack."

They Will Get A Charter



Farragut Chief Petty Officers Toastmasters Club, U. S. Naval Training Station, Farragut, Idaho.

Seated, left to right: Gilmour Young, CY, President; G. C. Berg, CY, Secretary-Treasurer; J. L. Hill, CY, Sergeant-at-Arms; G. C. LaDow, CSp, Deputy Governor; W. J. Kane, CPhM and L. W. Merrill, CSK, Vice President.

Standing, left to right: G. H. Juergens, CY; A. Mercante, CSp; R. E. Byron, CSp; T. C. Craig, CSM; D. H. Wixon, CSp; R. K. O'Brien, CSp; J. H. Morgan, CSp; G. N. Churchill, CSp; A. E. Menzel, CSp; L. Schenkar, CSp; J. Regenfuss, CSp; A. T. Daub, CTC and W. A. McDonald, CSp.

Welcome, Friend

Frank Donovan, Huntington Park Toastmasters Club.



When we bring a new member into our club, it is important to make him feel not only that he knows and understands the organization, but also that he is a vital part of it.

On the other hand, the ordeal of initiation should not be made so lengthy that the new man grows bored while we preach to him.

Certain things should be stated, as concisely as possible. The new member has a right to know how our movement started and why. He should understand that the reason for our growth and development is found in the fact that the Toastmasters Club meets a universal need for self-expression. In the cordial, friendly atmosphere of our club, leadership is developed through practice in speech. We have the clubs organized in many states because men have found in them the means to self-development.

It is well to give the new member some of the high lights of the history of the club which he is joining. There are members who have gained prominence because they learned to talk. References to their maiden efforts in speech may

encourage the beginner to believe that he can win out as they have done. Tell him what the club has accomplished.

Give him an interpretation of the club's program and show him how he will fit into it. Impress upon him his importance to the club and to the organization at large. Explain that each member has his obligations to fulfill, as speaker, critic, committeeman, or even as a member of the audience.

Call his attention to benefits which result from earnest and persistent effort, such as ability to speak in public, to think on one's feet, to listen analytically to speeches by others, to develop capacities for leadership and to gain new friends in a group of choice spirits.

Remind him that it is the men of more than usual ambition and initiative who make the effort to build themselves by association with a group such as ours.

Help the new member to know his club and the organization and above all, make him feel that he really is a part of it. To do these things without running past time limits requires careful preparation. To make a speech of induction which becomes too long is to discourage the member and lose the effects which are the purpose of the ceremony.

Don't Say That

HERE are 40 words frequently mispronounced by misplacing the accent. Go through the list and see how you pronounce them. To test yourself, draw a line under the letter or syllable in each word which you

acclimate	finance	condolence	ordeal
aspirant	gondola	contemplate	perquisites
acumen	harass	decade	precedence
admiralty	incomparable	decadence	respirator
adult	inquiry	decorous	unfrequentated
ally	lamentable	deficit	vagary
armistice	legislative	discipline	vehement
butadiene	maniacal	disputant	zodiacal
combatant	mischievous	exquisite	envelop (verb)
commandant	museum	personnel	envelope (noun)

WHY CALL IT "RAYSHUN?"

Several readers have questioned the advice in our last issue concerning pronunciation of this word. They say that so many people call it "rashun," giving the short sound to the A, that it is confusing. However, this is a word on which there is almost complete agreement among the dictionary makers. All the best authorities agree that the A should have the long sound, to rhyme with "nation." Ration is one of a group of words taken directly from the Latin, in each of which the accented A has the long value in the original, thus carrying it over into the English. Among these words are apparatus, aviation, strata, data, radio, radiator, pro rata and many others. To be correct in your speech "call it rayshun." If in doubt, consult a good dictionary.

believe should receive the accent. Then turn to page 20 and see how your markings agree. To make sure, look up all doubtful words in the dictionary (a recent edition) and remove doubts.

Greensburg Toastmasters have been training themselves to use new words. Here are a few which they added to their vocabularies:

Facetious—humorous
Lugubrious—mournful
Loquacity—talkativeness
Auspicious—favorable
Plagiarize—to steal another's idea
Poignant—severe or painful (pronounce it "poynant")
Congenial—having similar tastes
Propensity—a natural inclination
Irrelevant—not related
Incorrigible—beyond correction.

Improve your vocabulary by omitting "kinda" and "kind of"—"sorta" and "sort of." A careful speaker does not use these expressions.

Editorial

SUCCESS THROUGH SPEECH

THE biggest single benefit of speech training is that it forces the speaker to think. Many folks are mentally lazy, unaware that the capacity for intelligence grows with its use, just as do the muscles with exercise. The able speaker is mentally alert and a clear thinker.

Speech training teaches logic in construction, discernment in the use of material and brevity in presentation. It stresses organization of ideas. It sharpens judgment and develops tact. It generates self-confidence. The experienced speaker faces his audience (large or small) courageously, because he knows he has his situation well in hand before he starts.

Speech training leads to better self-expression. This brings with it self-improvement not only in speech but in letter-writing and copy preparation as well.

There is no such thing as "free speech" in business today. Talking takes time and time costs money. Every discussion consumes the time of two or more people. For that reason, effective speech is important from a dollars and cents angle. It saves time and it gets productive results. Subordinates respect the superior who knows what he wants to say and says it. Associates appreciate streamlined discussion. Executives, in particular, like to have matters presented in a way that gives all the essentials and makes the decision quicker to reach.

Not all of us expect to make a career of speaking. Success does not necessarily have to be *in* speech, but rather *through* speech—which is a useful tool, a means to an end. As with any other tool, skill with its use comes through training and practice. The Toastmasters program provides abundant opportunity for both.

WE MEET AN EMERGENCY

EVERY organization, as well as every individual, will be affected by necessary measures which have been taken to conserve food supplies. Habits of living will have to be adjusted. Things which have been regarded as necessities will have to be sacrificed. This will be done in the same spirit of cooperation and determination which has made us a great nation.

Toastmasters Clubs, too, will be affected. Adjustments may have to be made in connection with the weekly dinner or luncheon meetings. It is a problem which must be met and which will be met in good spirit

by every club. It raises the question of the earnestness of our purpose and the depth of our interest in the work of Toastmasters. If we can be disrupted by inconvenience in eating, we hardly deserve to continue. If we truly appreciate the value and the importance of our work, both for ourselves and for the service we can do the nation, we will carry on in spite of all difficulties.

Group feeding is consistent with food conservation. We must all eat somewhere and we should expect no more food at a club meeting than we would elsewhere. Thus we may be assured that there is nothing unpatriotic in holding the regular dinner meeting, with a reasonable service of necessary food.

Leadership through speech, such as our clubs afford, is essential in the war effort. We have a right to count our work useful, even to the extent of justifying our regular meetings. But if such a meeting becomes out of the question in some localities, a live Toastmasters Club will meet without eating and will carry on its service.

THE EDITORIAL POLICY

RESPONSIVE to the wishes of readers of this magazine, as determined by a survey, certain changes in the editorial policy have been agreed upon.

The demand appears to be for a larger proportion of helps for the speaker and fewer speeches or articles of general interest. Articles on preparation and delivery of speech, better English, vocabulary building and voice are most in favor. News of the clubs, together with information on club methods and management will be featured.

It has been found that speeches which brought great applause when ably delivered do not necessarily meet with much favor as magazine material. Even when considered in the "Speech Clinic" for critical comment, some of them aroused no enthusiasm.

As a result of these studies, the Editorial Board has agreed on a policy to make this magazine more definitely a "craft" organ on speech and on the work of our clubs. If this does not prove to be just what is wanted, other changes will be made as need arises.

All who wish to contribute are invited and urged to do so, basing their offerings on the policy as outlined. Ideas, experiences, plans which have been found successful, any material which will help Toastmasters to do better work in speech will be most acceptable.

However, contributors are requested to use care in preparing their material. Write on only one side of the paper. Typewrite, if possible and double-space the lines. If you do not consider your material of sufficient value to warrant your preparing it with care, it is unlikely that anyone on the Editorial Board will take time to re-type it for you. The "Editors" are busy men in their own work.

Maintaining Membership in War Times

W. T. Bennington, Rosemead Toastmasters Club.

EVER since the attack on Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941, Toastmasters Clubs have had to meet a difficult problem of membership. Members in large numbers have gone into the armed forces and are now scattered on all the fighting fronts, while others have taken positions in defense which have required changes in residence and in living schedules.

To maintain our membership today is far from easy, but it is not impossible. There are thousands of prospective members who desire and need what we can give them. The problem is, how to reach them. This takes a plan.

First, there must be a prospect list. This can be built by having the present members suggest men of their acquaintance and by securing names of officers and prospective officers from other local organizations, who need our training.

Next is the problem, how to use this list of prospects. You can easily prepare a list and it is not hard to get men to visit the club as guests, but to sign them up as members takes "selling." It can't be done on paper. It must be done by personal effort of every member in the club.

A special guest night, or new members' night, should be planned, with a program such as will sell the idea. It must be a well-planned, well-conducted meeting, good from first to last. The table

topic should deal with how the Toastmasters Club has helped the members. Some of the speeches should be in explanation of the purposes and methods of the club and on its educational values. It should be in every part the sort of meeting which will send the visitors away with a good understanding of how we work and a keen desire to take advantage of our offering.

Every member must be ready to help make this program a real success. Each member should be assigned as "host" to a visitor, his duty being to see that the visitor is introduced to all the others and made to enjoy himself to the fullest extent during the evening.

In arranging for this special meeting, make use of the prospect file which has been prepared. A letter of invitation should be sent to each prospect, signed by the president of the club. This letter needs careful thought to make it fit the type of meeting planned. But do not rely altogether on the letter. Follow it with a personal contact. Make the man realize that he is wanted. If possible, arrange to have a member call for him and bring him to the meeting. When he gets there, make him really welcome. You do the main part of your selling right at the meeting.

Now comes the vital thing—the follow-up. After the prospective member has attended your special meeting, don't forget him. Send him a card thanking him for at-

tending and inviting him to your next meeting. Remind him again just before the date of meeting. Don't drop the ones who were invited but did not come. Follow them up with reminders. Carry on for several meetings, or until a man definitely removes himself from the list of possible prospects.

When the guest attends a second meeting, invite him to become a member. Maintain a personal contact with him and don't let him forget that he is wanted in the club and that he needs what the

club has to offer.

When he does join, see to it that he is properly inducted and started on the course of training in speech. The attention he receives during his first few weeks as a member will determine his interest and his attitude.

Maintaining membership is a real problem today, but it is one capable of being readily solved. All it takes is intelligent planning and some honest work and your club can be kept with a full roster even in war times.

Practice In Presiding

"To provide instruction and experiences in chairmanship and parliamentary procedure" is listed as one of the primary purposes of the Toastmasters Club.

Such practice is regularly provided for four different members in every properly planned Toastmasters Club meeting.

First, the President gets his turn, opening the meeting, conducting the business session, introducing guests and handling various details. He has still other opportunities for executive experience, in his work as chairman of the Executive Committee and chairman of the Program Committee, but at every meeting of his club he is sure of the opening spot, plus the introductions of those who have charge of other parts of the schedule.

Second, the Table Topic Master has a period of fifteen to twenty minutes in which to present a series of impromptu talks and discussions, an opportunity for him to use originality both in planning and in conducting his part of the program.

Third, the Toastmaster who has charge of the principal speech part of the meeting has an extended period for his work. He presides, introduces the speakers, thanks them in appropriate words and has a fine chance to improve his technique as a presiding officer.

Finally, the General Critic gets his fifteen minutes to conduct the work of evaluation, introducing and guiding the individual critics and summing up the appraisal of the evening's work.

The standard program for a Toastmasters Club meeting is planned to afford the opportunity for practice in chairmanship to these four members. By dividing the appointments to the various duties among the members it is possible for the entire list of thirty men to have at least one chance for such practice every two months.

Wanted, A Word

WHAT word best expresses that feature of Toastmasters work which we are accustomed to call "criticism" or "evaluation?" Is there a better word than we have been using? What word is most acceptable to the membership in general?

"Constructive Criticism" was the term first used, but some disliked "criticism" because it suggests fault-finding and scolding. "Evaluation" has been used. The dictionary says that to evaluate means "to place a value on; find the amount of."

One Toastmaster likes the word "appraise." He says it is better than criticism because it carries within itself the thought of "praise." The dictionary defines appraise: "to set a price upon; to value; to estimate the worth of."

"Estimate" is another suggestion. This word suggests to the careful thinker the idea of "esteem," which is pleasant for the speaker. The dictionary says that to estimate means: "to form an

opinion of; to appraise; determine the value." The noun is defined as "a valuation of character or qualities; an opinion."

Another word suggested is "analysis," which implies taking a thing apart to study the elements of which it is made. The ones who does the analyzing is an "analyst."

Which one of these words best fits our process of critical, analytical listening and of giving our sense of audience reaction to the speaker?

Is there a better word for the purpose?

If you are willing to express yourself on the matter, please write your suggestion on a postal card and mail it to Toastmasters International, Santa Ana, California. Make the question a matter of discussion in your club meeting and send in a report on the preference of your members. It is desirable to set up a standard term for the process and the one most generally acceptable to our members is the one which should be used.

Pronunciation of words listed on page 15. The syllable which

acclimate
aspirant
acumen
admiralty
adult
ally
armistice
butadiene
combatant
commandant

condolence
contemplate
decade
decadence
decorous
deficit
discipline
disputant
exquisite
personnel

should receive the accent is in heavy type.

finance
gondola
harass
incomparable
inquiry
lamentable
legislative
maniacal
mischievous
museum

ordeal
perquisite
precedence
respirator
unfrequented
vagary
vehement
zodiacal
envelop
envelope

The Speaker's Library

EVERY student of speech needs books for reference use in preparing his talks. These books need not be numerous, but if properly selected and wisely used, they will make a great difference in the speaker's product. Here are suggestions intended to help the man who would like to have books and is not certain which ones he needs.

First, there must be a dictionary. This should be the best one he is able to afford. The Webster Dictionary, published by the G. & C. Merriam Company is recognized by Toastmasters International as the standard authority. In the unabridged edition it probably is the finest work of the sort. Abridged editions are available at lower cost and these will serve the purpose for most of us.

Your dictionary must give you not only the correct spelling, pronunciation and meaning, but directions for proper usage, derivation, synonyms and antonyms and illustrations. If it is not up to date, it will omit many recent additions to our language.

Next, you need a thesaurus, if you are to be a master of words. This book gives you the words in great number and variety in which to express your ideas. The authoritative compilation by Dr. Peter Roget (pronounced Ro-zhay, with accent on the last syllable) is the

most available one.

The difference between dictionary and thesaurus is that you take a word to the dictionary to find out all about it, while you take an idea to the thesaurus to find a word which will express it.

A book of quotations is the next necessity for the library. You will find several good ones at almost any bookstore. The recent revised edition of Bartlett's "Quotations" is one of the best. Quotations are arranged by topics, in alphabetical order.

One or two books of jokes and anecdotes should be included. The better ones list the material under topical arrangement, making it easier to select what the occasion requires.

Include a textbook on speech-making, for frequent study and reference. Add a copy of "The Amateur Chairman" and one of "Speech Evaluation" and your library is well started.

Select your books carefully. Buy one at a time and learn to use it before taking up another. Books are useful as tools only when you master them.

If you are in doubt about which books are best to buy, write to the Home Office of Toastmasters International for a bibliography on speech, which will indicate some of the most practically useful ones for you.

"It is a mistake of many good people that they aim to be happy themselves and improve others. These generally fail in one or both particulars. If they would reverse the aim and strive to improve themselves and to make others happy, they would not only accomplish that, but would encompass the other also."

Make It Stick

IN making a speech, if you wish a point to stick, drive it in with a striking phrase or an illuminating story. Long after the audience has forgotten your convincing logic, your weighty philosophy and your eloquent appeal, there will remain the memory of the illustration you used and the fact you wish to establish will hold its place in memory because of the story or phrase, rather than because of your staggering statistics and imposing authorities.

If you question this statement, look back over some of the speeches and sermons you have heard—and remembered. The odds are dollars to dimes that you remember most of them by stories.

Since a speech or a sermon is of value only in so far as it is remembered, here is a fact which ought to be remembered by every speaker. An apt illustration or a clever story or a well-turned phrase is worth whole pages of argument as a means of making

Hayden Visits Northwest

Navy "Specialist" Sheldon M. Hayden, Past President of Toastmasters International, recently visited the Northwest in connection with his official duties for the Navy. Since he was on service whose nature made it impossible to have announcements of his coming made in advance, no special meetings could be arranged, such as would otherwise have been the pleasure of his friends and fellow

the point stick in the mind of the hearer.

Most of our thought about great men is crystallized in stories—either stories they told, or that were told about them. Consider how much of the fame of Lincoln is due to his ability to put into a story the value of a whole preaching—his ability to use simple words to express sublime thoughts. Note that the most frequent references to our great men—Horace Greeley, Henry Ward Beecher, Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight L. Moody and a host of others—are generally stories or striking phrases.

The speaker who can select a good story, one which fits the point, and then tell it effectively is a speaker who will be heard with attention and remembered with satisfaction. The speaker who can dip into his own experiences and bring forth stories and observations to point morals will never be annoyed by sleepy audiences, nor by forgetful hearers.

Toastmasters, but in Spokane and Seattle he had the privilege of meeting with hastily assembled groups with his always inspiring messages about Toastmasters work. At Farragut, Idaho, he had the privilege of addressing the newly organized Toastmasters Clubs at the Naval Training Station, in a pleasant preliminary to their formal chartering which will take place soon.

What Constitutes A Good Speech



Making a speech is merely attempting to sell an idea to an audience. The first thing to do is to make clear to the audience what it is you intend to do. Confusion at the start about this is likely to continue through your speech. In your very opening sentence, you must catch the interest of those to whom you talk. Very early you must let them know what you intend to sell.

Having caught the attention of the audience, having let them know why you are making your speech, you must then advance your arguments in a systematic manner. The diction must be good, so that they understand the words you use. The words you select must be those with which that particular audience is familiar. If they are children, very simple language is imperative. If they are truck drivers, for instance, you must use the trade terms they understand and which they probably use.

If you can use humor and stor-

ies, do so, but the two best talks ever made—the Sermon on the Mount and Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech—were not embellished by anecdote or attempts to get laughs. They were brief and direct and sincere.

Most important of all is enthusiasm.

You may violate all of the rules set forth above and all the other rules of good speaking which are not given here, yet still make an impressive talk, one to convince and cause action to be taken, if you have that enthusiasm which projects itself from you to your hearers.

Many talks made by Toastmasters lack this fundamental. They may be well arranged, they may have a good opening and a good conclusion, may be fitted to the pattern of good talks, yet there is no life in them. They are tailor's dummies, perfect in line and detail, but still without animation.

Practice putting force into your talks. Get enthusiasm up to such a pitch that you hold the direct attention of every hearer. It is largely a matter of raising your own enthusiasm, making it a game in which your enthusiasm and force and keen interest become infectious.

It's a good speech if people listen intently and show their appreciation by their attitude.

It's a good speech if people "buy" what you have to sell. An enthusiastic salesman has all the advantage when it comes to closing the deal.

Successful Speech Subjects

Ernest S. Wooster, Santa Ana Toastmasters

What to talk about is an ever-present problem. Many a Toastmaster finds it hard to decide on his subject, either because he has too many or too few things in mind. His range of choice is limited if he will observe two fundamental principles in making the selection.

The subject for a successful speech must be one which the speaker is capable of handling, on the basis of his own interest, information and experience. It must also be one in which the audience has an interest.

One of the easiest subjects and one which is almost certain to catch popular interest, is the historical one. By history we mean to include much more than the stories of nations or of wars. Take the history of the dictionary, for instance, or of the Bible, or of some science or scientific research. Hogben's "Mathematics for the Millions" gives a fascinating story, with comments, on the evolution of figures and the systems of mathematics. An enterprising speaker can find a world of unusual subjects which he will enjoy studying and which will hold any audience.

The encyclopedia offers information concerning things with which we are superficially familiar, but on which we lack definite knowledge. For example, take the history of the development of any of the common fruits and vegetables, the lands to which they are indigenous, their production and

marketing. When the unusual and little known facts are brought to an audience, a keen interest is almost a certainty.

The history of your own city or county or state has abundant material. Most people do not know the facts in the background, but you can always find some more or less obscure historical society or collection of records which will supply the information on place names, conflicts, pioneer incidents and other items which can be woven into an effective speech.

Biography is a fertile field. The lives of men now in the public eye as well as of those who served in the past are full of illuminating incidents. The local librarian can give the student magazine references on men of today sufficient to provide for much more than a six-minute speech.

One ingenious Toastmaster used a series of news items, clipped from the daily papers, as the framework for his talk. He read the clippings, with connecting remarks and produced an excellent speech.

Another man took up his own occupation, seeking the oddities and little known facts about it. He gathered stories of "freak" happenings and anecdotes of amusing incidents and used these homely materials to embellish a talk which gave his audience useful information about the business under discussion.

One of the most successful sub-

jects and yet one of the most difficult to handle, is the humorous one. To attempt this requires courage; to perfect it requires persistent study; to present it requires confidence and sureness. Nothing is sadder than a "funny" talk which isn't funny. But no speech is more successful, as a rule, than the talk which really possesses the quality of genuine, laughter-provoking humor. Such a speech may be a succession of stories, tied together in some orderly fashion, but with the simple purpose of entertaining; or it may be a serious theme embellished with appropriate anecdotes, or it may combine the qualities of wise cracks, jokes, and serio-comic observations. It is good if you can do it well. Every speaker ought to try the humorous line occasionally, whether he is funny or not.

Selection of a theme on which to center thinking and reading

produces remarkable results. Let the speaker make his choice well in advance and then keep it in mind. Suppose he decides that his next talk, to be given in a month, is to deal with "The American Indian of Today." With this in mind, he will find in his general reading references to the subject which will add to his information and shape his thinking. He will learn of their work in the war and of their contributions to national life and perhaps he will find some good stories about their courage, or their teachability, or their problems.

Select your speech subjects on the basis of your own interest and ability, the interest of your audience and your capacity for handling and then study far enough in advance to enable you to gather the material and to select the vital points and your problem of what to talk about will be solved.

MAKE GESTURES FIT WORDS

Most Americans use few gestures in ordinary conversation, virtually none at all when attempting to make a public address.

When they do, they usually make flipper-like motions with one hand, repeated occasionally.

Gestures should not only be used to put the speaker at some ease and to relieve the audience of a speaker who is statue-like, if not statuesque, but also to assist in illustrations.

They should be timed not too late, after the word or sentence

has been uttered, for then they become an anti-climax. Neither should they precede the proper clause or assertion, for they may be a little confusing. Proper timing is not difficult and should come naturally.

Study gestures. If you find difficulty in making them, try using one planned, studied one, if no more, until you get the feel of it, and the confidence of making it. Tell your critic of your intention, so he will appreciate and comment understandingly on it.

About the Post-War World

Frederic J. Perry, Palo Alto Toastmasters Club.

OUR club has given much attention during the past few months to the problems which will command our attention at the close of the war. We have had many speeches and numerous discussions on the subject, with profit to ourselves and possibly, we hope, some clearing up of issues with which we must deal one day, as citizens and voters.

At a recent meeting the problems were ably summed up by Toastmaster Floyd Tull in such a comprehensive and graphic manner that we believe his thoughts should be shared with other clubs for study and discussion. Here are some of the questions he raised:

We can agree with Henry Wallace when he says, "It is more important to win the peace than the war," but we know that to do this is going to require a lot of clear thinking. I offer several questions for your consideration.

First, as to the military situation: Shall the post-war world be policed and by whom? Will taxpayers of the United States consent to keep a million men under arms and a thousand ships in commission to preserve the world's peace, or should we turn over the task to an international army? If the latter, are we willing to grant to that international army strategic bases all over our nation—such as the Panama Canal, Hawaii, the Farallones, a section of Long Is-

land, air fields all over the country

A second military problem is, how are the armies to be disbanded? Shall we allow our boys to come home to find their own jobs, or should we locate them in employment before they are discharged? Should we see to it that the same is done for the armies of Europe?

And shall we insist on complete disarmament and if so, of what nations shall we demand this?

The political situation will be a thorny one.

Should we take a vengeful attitude toward our conquered enemies? Should we follow the time-honored custom of making them pay for the damage they have done? Should we insist that Holland, Greece, Norway and other nations conquered by the Germans take back the government which they had before the conquest? And should we insist that England as well as Germany grant self-government to subjected peoples?

Will the people of the United States accept an international authority designed to preserve world peace and thus exercising authority over all nations? If so, will we give financial support to such international authority. Would we consent to being assessed a share of our resources to help some destitute nation? Would we agree to refrain from trading with a refractory nation? Would we tolerate interference with our immigration

restrictions and our laws on alien ownership of land?

Again, would we compromise with communism? Remember that up to this time, Russia (hard pressed as she is) has made not one concession to the capitalistic world. A victorious capitalistic world will be facing a victorious communistic world when the war ends. A workable compromise must be found.

Other questions arise in our internal affairs. Remembering that in the period following our last two major wars we have had each time an era of factional squabbling and disturbance, shall the Chief Executive be permitted to retain his war powers, or shall they be hurriedly taken from him?

In social and economic fields our problems hold great promise. The end of the war should find us producing at the highest rate in our history, while Europe will be prostrate. Europe will need everything, but she will have no purchasing power. Shall we sell to her on long-time credits?

Or will we consent to long-term planning with international restrictions on trade? Will we lower our tariffs so that Europe may have a chance to sell to us on our home markets? Will we permit a unified European marketing plan, a Europe of internal free trade, making it cheaper for them to buy

from each other than from us?

Within our own boundaries, what are we going to do to eliminate depression, unemployment and economic uncertainty? After putting full reliance on the so-called "bad boys" of American industry, the large monopolistic corporations, are we going to permit them to return to peace time production with a grateful pat on the back, or are we to call them trusts and start dismembering them?

How shall we pay for the war? We have learned that wealth is not based on money, but that it consists of labor and materials. Wars are paid for as they are waged, by the expenditure of labor and materials. All attempts to pass the costs of the war on to future generations are merely attempts to get restitution for those who have already paid for the war, from those of coming generations. Should we make the next generation reimburse us for our losses in this war, or should we, by bond cancellation, inflation, or by some other means, clean it up and quit trying to keep books on the cost of the war?

These are a few of the questions which the post-war leaders must solve. They are submitted for your thought and discussion. They provide material for many a speech and many a panel discussion.

Editorial Note: The Palo Alto Toastmasters Club is one which has been using the suggestions offered in the September TOASTMASTER Magazine as to the study of the war and post-war conditions. The summary given above of the points listed by Floyd Tull, President of the Palo Alto Club, is presented as giving material which other clubs may wish to use for discussion.

News from the Clubs

Community Cooperation

The Brumback Library of Van Wert has designated a table in its reading room as "Mr. Toastmaster" and has placed on it a display of books on speech. A member of Van Wert Toastmasters was master of ceremonies at a dinner in honor of a citizen who fifty years ago developed the famous "Liederkrantz" cheese and he handled this great community gathering with a masterly skill which reflected great credit on his training in Toastmasters.

From the "Crumb Sheet"

This bulletin of Spokane "Tuesday" Toastmasters hands out the following good advice:

"Without further ado" — Let's abolish this trite phrase from Tuesday Toastmasters. "Ado" is defined by the dictionary as "troublesome business, fuss, bustle." There shouldn't be any "ado" in an introduction.

Convinced Themselves

An item in the St. Paul "Dispatch" of January 26 reads:

"Twenty-five members of the three Toastmasters Clubs of St. Paul took to heart the speeches they have been making about the needs of the Red Cross Blood Center. Instead of just urging other citizens to be donors, they turned donors themselves. The three clubs

are the First St. Paul, King Boreas and Victory Clubs. Through their speakers' bureau, the members of these clubs have been addressing audiences throughout the city on the need for everyone to contribute blood to help the war wounded."

Personal Observation

John Hermann, Secretary for the Thirteenth District, Western Pennsylvania, writes: "It's a funny thing—the more I learn of Toastmasters and its operations, the more fascinating it becomes. The inter-club relationship of visitation is one of the best bets, for it not only serves to keep all our clubs on their toes, but it is the real factor in getting a number of new clubs started because of the enthusiasm which grows out of our contacts."

Impressive Installation

The Redwood City Toastmasters made a distinguished event of their installation of officers on January 26, when Chester Armstrong was placed in the presidential chair. The ladies were present and a lively program of speeches and entertainment was conducted by Eugene Hoffman, as master of ceremonies. This club has a full roster of members and an exceptionally good attendance record.

Here's A Good Idea

Anaheim has worked out a new plan for evaluation which is commended to other chapters for use. During the twenty minutes which would otherwise be given over to the Table Topic discussion, five or six men are assigned to speak for three minutes each. They have time for preparation, but they are not warned as to what points will be considered in evaluating their speeches. Before they begin to speak, the chairman passes to every member who is not to speak a note suggesting two or three items to be watched in all the speeches. After the men have given their short speeches, all the other members vote secretly on whose speech was best in the one or two vital points. Thus, one evening the vote was taken on the openings of the speeches. On another occasion, the conclusions were judged. Again, gestures were made the subject. So it goes through the whole range of points in speech. The result is to make each speaker try to do his best in all points, as he has no way of knowing on which one he will be judged. Since all the speeches are very short, it gives the opportunity for many to speak and get the benefit of the practice in making a sort of "blind date" with the critics.

Holiday Observance

Honoring the Past Presidents of Toastmasters International Olin H. Price and Gordon R. Howard, the Toastmasters Clubs of Huntington Park held their eighth an-

nual joint holidays meeting on December 30, with nearly 100 Toastmasters in attendance. Joining in the meeting were the Huntington Park Chapter, Huntington Park Progressive, South Gate, Walnut Park and Bell, together with representatives from another club now organizing in the community. The program included one representative from each club.

"All-Speech-Club" Program

"First Annual All-Speech-Club Dinner and Program" was the title given to an unusual event on February 15th, when the three Toastmasters Clubs and the two Toastmistress Clubs of Sioux Falls held a joint session. The program included five speeches, one representative from each of the clubs being featured and five evaluators, one from each club. The meeting was of such quality and importance as to attract wide notice locally. The idea is worthy of being used in other cities.

Wisdom From Waterloo

(From the Bulletin of the Waterloo Toastmasters Club:)

"Rome was not built in a day." The same idea is expressed by the Chinese in these words: "A fat man is not the result of a mouthful." Similarly, reading a book on public speaking will not make a polished speaker of anyone. Neither will merely joining a speech club. Both are helpful, but it takes time and persistent, conscientious work to do the job.

A Varied Membership

The Pioneer Toastmasters of Indianapolis are presenting the Speechcraft course. Most interesting is the list of occupations represented among the new men who have enrolled for this training. As reported by Secretary W. H. Martindill, they are: Supervising accountant of public utility company, Foreman of important war industry, Part owner of sporting goods store, Auditor of department store, Advertising manager of department store, Gas and water engineer, Sales representative for wholesale drug house, Industrial engineer for gas company, Manager of wholesale plumbing supply house, Chief accountant for public utility company, Employment manager for cannery factory (he is president of the Personnel Association of Indianapolis) Eye, ear, nose and throat specialist.

With such diversity of interest in occupations, there should be no lack of variety in the contributions these men will make to the programs when they begin to talk.

Totem's Turnover

District Governor Frank McCrillis writes, concerning Seattle's "Totem" Toastmasters: Things are changing fast. Thurm Robertson, who carved Totem's unusual Totem Pole stoplight, has gone to Alaska, handling supplies for a construction job. Jim Mitchell, vice-president, has gone with the War Manpower Commission. Fred

Lewis has been appointed personnel manager of the Isaacson Iron Works, a defense plant. Wayne Hadley is now in charge of advertising and company magazine for Western Gear Works, a defense plant. Eric McNaught Davis is now with a government agency in California and has visited more California Toastmasters Clubs in recent months than even a District Governor. Everywhere he goes, he is asked to be general critic and, besides being a good one (all Totem Toastmasters are good) he loves to get up and tell them off. There are many more changes with membership in the club, but these show how our men work.

They Go Visiting

On February 11, twelve Toastmasters from Greensburg and Jeannette travelled twenty-eight miles to Charleroi, to put on a demonstration in the Elks Club building, with a large number of local residents as the audience. District Governor C. W. Freeman had charge, with a group of able speakers to assist. The result of this demonstration probably will be the establishment of a Toastmasters Club in Charleroi. In January, the Greensburg Toastmasters went to Jeannette in a body to attend the regular meeting of the Jeannette Club, to the great enjoyment of both groups. All the Toastmasters Clubs of Western Pennsylvania joined in an evening of conference in Pittsburgh on January 31.

Autographs In Alton

This club has arranged an extension on its charter, of sufficient size to carry the names of all charter members. This provides a permanent and most interesting record for the club through years to come and may serve as an incentive to charter members to maintain their places on the list.

Controversial?

"Should Women relinquish their Rights in Industry after the War?" was a subject which brought on a hot discussion when Mankato Toastmasters held their ladies'

night in February. The guests participated as well as the members and no final decision was reached. The women demonstrated their determination to hold on to whatever they have gained.

Good Work Is Recognized

The OCD Speakers' Bureau of Tulsa has been reorganized and the Tulsa Toastmasters Club has been made the nucleus of the project. This club has been very active in speech work during the past year and the new arrangement has been made by the OCD as a result of the good work done by the members.



Here is a group of Ohio Edison Company men who joined the original Akron Toastmasters Club when it was organized, more than three years ago and who have stayed right with it, to their own benefit as well as that of the club.

Right to left are: Edward B. Chandler, underground foreman and candidate for the Board of Education; Roy Doty, garage foreman and law student; George Wenzel, underground superintendent and rationing supervisor; Stuart C. Henton, President of Akron Toastmasters Club; Richard Green, candidate for Representative; Howard Henshaw, underground cable splicer and student. Each man has maintained a record for good attendance and good performance.

District Activities

Harold T. Crane, Chairman of Committee on District Affairs.

With the International Convention once more set aside pending the disposal of certain unfinished business with Messrs. Schicklegruber, Hirohito and Benito, responsibility for providing the annual inspiration of meeting in larger groups falls upon the District. Nothing can really take the place of the great convention with delegates from all over the country joining in a program of business and social events, but since that is out of the question, we must do our best otherwise.

But there are definite advantages in a District Conference. Thirteen such conferences will reach many more individual Toastmasters than one great central convention. More men can participate in and contribute to these smaller meetings. More leadership can be discovered and more publicity will be received in more communities.

For example, District One held a one-day conference in Pasadena last June. Group meetings were held in the morning, with an entertaining luncheon program at noon, followed by discussions on special subjects during the afternoon and a great dinner meeting at night, with the district speech contest featured. More than 400 were present and 45 different Toastmasters were scheduled for definite parts in the day's program. Such attendance and participation would have been impossible for

many at an International Convention held at some distant point.

Present conditions will handicap even the District Conference this year, particularly where the clubs are widely scattered. But if plans are made early and necessary steps are taken to arouse interest and enthusiasm it will be possible to get a satisfactory attendance, even in these conditions.

We recommend that plans be made now for a spring conference in each district, so that every club may gain the benefit from the inspiration which is an essential part of such group meetings. In most cases it may be found wise to combine the Speech Contest with the District Conference. This gives an added incentive for attendance and should help make the program stronger.

Matters of vital interest demand attention and action in our conferences this year. Membership problems—how to build and maintain a full membership; program problems—how to make our club programs truly educational and progressive, as well as to keep them of such quality that a member is unwilling to miss a single one; problems of service in the war effort, of preparation for after the war, of how to utilize our abilities in taking hold of today's opportunities—all these and many more subjects crowd upon us and must be dealt with.

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THE TOASTMASTERS CALENDAR

What To Do

IN MARCH

Complete the Area Speech Contests.

Elect new officers for the club.

Make plans to meet the problems which come with the summer vacation period. Vacations may not be a problem this summer. Plan to make your club's service doubly effective.

Seek ways in which your club can help most effectively in the war effort.

IN APRIL

Install the newly elected officers.

In every club, have a special meeting of the Executive Committee to instruct new officers in their duties and to formulate plans for better work.

Hold the Area Conferences, giving major emphasis to the responsibilities of local club officers.

Complete plans for the District Conferences and Speech Contests.

Complete preparations for a strong educational program in the club during summer months.

By April 15th, make sure that the club's semi-annual report has been mailed to Toastmasters International.

Buy bonds and stamps, pay taxes, make speeches—do everything in your power to help win the war.