

THE *Toastmaster*

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

March, 1949

Vol. 15—No. 3





TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL, Incorporated in 1932, is a non-profit educational organization of 700 active clubs, located in the United States, Canada, England, Scotland, South Africa, and the Hawaiian Islands, devoted to the work of helping men to become better speakers.

For Better Thinking—Speaking—Listening

(For Information, address Toastmasters International, Santa Ana, California)

Contents

I Give You a Toast Arthur L. Cunningham.....	1	Pictures in Words.....	14
The President's Message I. A. McAninch.....	3	"Toastmastering".....	15
Editorial—The Convention.....	4	The Directors Meet.....	16
The Cartoon—Ho-Hum.....	5	Across the Desk—Ted Blanding..	18
Speech Evaluation One Thing at a Time.....	6	What's Going On?.....	19
Look in the Book Ralph C. Smedley.....	7	A Treasure Hunt.....	23
What Are You Talking About? Leonard W. Fish.....	9	The Record of Growth.....	24
Rules Must Be Adapted From Quintilian.....	11	The Word Builder.....	25
Bigger Vocabularies—A Debate No—What's the Use!.....	12	This Month in Your Club.....	26
Yes—Bigger and Better.....	13	How We Talk.....	30
		Questions Answered.....	30
		It's a Good Idea.....	31
		The Quizzer.....	32

The Front Cover shows Toastmaster Lew Barth, of Eagle Rock, Calif., Toastmasters Club, explaining the mysteries of television. His demonstration of the aerial mechanism was filled with action, and most amusing. Everyone laughed—except Chief Sour-Puss, who still prefers smoke signals.

LOCATION OF HOME OFFICE—In Santa Ana Community Center, 1104 West Eighth Street.

Opinions expressed in the articles in this magazine reflect the views of the writers and do not necessarily indicate the attitude of the organization, Toastmasters International.

PRICE, \$1.50 PER YEAR

Published monthly at Santa Ana, California. Copyright 1949 by Toastmasters International. Name Registered, U. S. Patent Office.

Entered as second-class matter, Oct. 25, 1941, at the Post Office, Santa Ana, California; act of March 3, 1879.

Printed by Foundation Press, Santa Ana, California, U. S. A.

I Give You a Toast

By ARTHUR L. CUNNINGHAM, of Edinburgh, Scotland,
Past Governor of District 18.

In this article, Toastmaster Cunningham explains the use of "Toasts" as practiced in Britain, and to a large extent in Canada, and thus gives a background for the present-day use of our word Toastmaster.

A *Toast* may be either a call to drink the health of a person, or the person whose health is drunk. Modern usage has brought it also to mean a call to drink to, or pledge, the future prosperity of a company of people, e.g., a club, society, or school, or a call to drink to the memory of some celebrated person.



The custom in Britain in the 17th and early 18th centuries was to drink the wine with a piece of toast at the bottom of the glass. This suggests the belief, right or wrong, that the custom had its origin in the Holy Communion, as covered in First Corinthians 10:16, where Paul expounds the doctrine of wine and bread. Whatever the origin, the custom is much used at all sorts of functions.

At the Scottish Toastmasters Clubs Annual Dinners there is usually a list of toasts which are proposed or responded to by members of the clubs, or prominent guests.

The first toast on every toast list in Britain is the "Loyal Toast," more simply described as "The King." This toast is proposed by the chairman in simple form, saying, "Ladies and Gentlemen:

I give you the first Toast — "The King!" or some similar words. The entire assembly then rises and drinks the toast.

It is only after "The King" has been toasted that smoking is permitted. The chairman may announce, at this stage: "Ladies and Gentlemen, you may now smoke."

When several toasts are to be given, the list is sometimes interspersed with musical numbers or other entertainment.

What we call the Toast-of-the-Evening is the toast to the club under whose auspices the dinner has been organized, and this toast is always proposed by the principal guest — one who has been invited for this specific purpose. As a rule he is someone who is sympathetic to, or interested in, the aims and objects of the organization. Wide latitude is allowed to the speaker, but he is expected to be light and humorous rather than ponderous and serious. He may cover a wide range of thought but, before concluding his remarks, he must fulfill his assignment by calling upon the company to rise and drink the Toast to the Club.

The reply to the Toast is normally given by the chairman or some other official of the club. While the speech proposing the

toast is usually a prepared one, the reply is only partly so, as reference must necessarily be made to remarks in the speech of proposal.

Visiting Toastmasters from the United States and Canada are always warmly welcomed at meetings of the Scottish Toastmasters Clubs, and if any of them should be so fortunate as to visit our land at the time of these Annual Dinners in the spring of the year, they are likely to be invited to

reply to such sentiments as "Toastmasters International," or "Our Guests."

At most of these meetings the ladies are present, and one of the highlights is the Toast "To the Ladies," which is proposed by a bachelor, and responded to by one of the ladies.

The evening's proceedings are concluded by the joining of hands by the entire company, who then sing "Auld Lang Syne."



And So They Were Toasted

This was at Aberdeen — the original Aberdeen — when the Toastmasters entertained the ladies at a party long to be remembered. In the picture above we have Mr. George McDonald, Mrs. Robertson, President C. J. Shimmins and Mrs. R. J. C. Fleming, inspecting the program in anticipation of good things to come. At the right, Mr. Sam Munro is delivering his "Table Topics" speech, with Mrs. William Gall as one of the interested listeners. Aberdeen Toastmasters have been anticipating a visit from George Waugh, of Winnipeg Toastmasters Club, in the near future. To all

Toastmasters, everywhere, they wish "A Guid New Year tae ye."



President's Message

By I. A. McANINCH

The officers of Toastmasters International look forward to the semi-annual reports, due April 1st, with great expectations. We believe that these reports, strengthened by the good work during the winter months, will show our membership at the highest point in our history. We are prepared to be surprised — even delighted — by the evidence which will thus be given of our continued growth.

Let me call special attention to the importance of the club activities during March, as to preparation for the new term of officers which starts in April. This month offers the great opportunity for clubs to insure their success and usefulness for another half year.

The one month or less which is available to the newly elected officers for learning their duties is all too short. It must be used to the utmost.

The time schedule is like this:

The new officers are elected at the first meeting in March. The club Secretary reports at once to the Home Office the names of these new officers, and by return mail there is sent to each new President a package of information and supplies which he is to share with his fellow officers.



By sending this to the new President we give him a chance to familiarize himself with the work of all the officers and committees. Thus prepared, he calls them together for an unhurried conference, in which each man is given his assignment and started on his work.

Plans are in readiness for taking over the offices at the installation meeting, the first meeting in April, and the work of education and inspiration and fellowship proceeds without interruption.

The Area and District officers have their part in this officer training. Each Area Governor should be in touch with the clubs in his Area as to election and reporting of the new officers. He should supervise their preparation. The District Governor will check up on his helpers to make sure that they are on the job. He will do what he can to guide in plans for the installation.

We have a good system. It works effectively when we make use of it.

If it is neglected, trouble follows, and the club loses momentum. Now is the time to guard against mistakes.

It is just plain, good business for us to use the methods and materials which experience has taught us are the best. Let us make March a month of good business.

THE Toastmaster

Official Publication of
Toastmasters International, Inc.
A non-profit educational corporation



Editor - - - - R. C. Smedley
Editorial Board: Jack Haynes,
George W. S. Reed, E. M. Sund-
quist, Ernest Wooster, Leonard
Miller.

Address all communications to
The Toastmaster Magazine, Santa Ana, Calif.

THE CONVENTION

The date is August 11 to 14.

The place is St. Louis, Missouri.

The date was made official by action of the Board of Directors at their January meeting. The place was determined last summer at San Francisco.

The program, in course of preparation for five months, was given enthusiastic approval at the same time. The Committee has worked faithfully to provide the best possible in the way of education and entertainment. The result is most attractive.

This convention, our 18th, comes in the midst of a year of unprecedented growth in numbers and in service. It must be a high point in our history.

To make it memorable in attendance, the Program Committee has concentrated a complete program in the period of two days.

By this means it is believed that a much larger local attendance will be possible, as well as greater numbers from cities within 500 to 1000 miles of the Convention City, for the two days are Friday and Saturday, merely a prolonged week end. Toastmasters located in the Middle West can leave home on Thursday morning, if driving, or Thursday night, if traveling by train, and arrive in ample time for Friday's opening session. They can stay through the great Saturday night meeting, and be back on the job at home on Monday morning.

There will be sessions on Thursday, for District Officers' Training, and for the Board of Directors. These are open to all interested, but will be attended mostly by the men immediately concerned. The educational and social features will be presented in daily and evening sessions on Friday and Saturday, in a series of meetings which should not be missed by any Toastmaster who can possibly be present.

Most striking innovation is the Saturday night event, which combines the Speech Contest Finals with the installation of new officers and directors. It will be a grand finale.



Saint Louis invites you
August 11-14, 1949

Another Episode--

In the Life of HORACE HUMPHREY -- Toastmaster--
Better known to his fellow Toastmasters as Ho-Hum.



"You wouldn't think he'd get so excited just TALKING about taxes"

Speech Evaluation . . .

One Thing At a Time

It is impossible to give a complete and comprehensive evaluation of every speech at every meeting of a Toastmasters Club. A competent critic would require not less than five minutes to give full coverage to a five-minute speech, and he might profitably use twice that much time for the purpose.

Such time allowance is out of the question, even if it were good practice, which it is not. The attempt to cover all elements of the speech at one session serves merely to confuse the speaker, and to leave him with a mass of undigested and unassimilated suggestions.

This is the reason for the monthly "Point of Emphasis" in "Progressive Training." By concentrating on just one point for a month, the speakers can make definite gains, and the critics can give them specific suggestions which can be accepted and applied without confusion.

The speaker who, in the course of one month, conquers one fault, or improves himself on one definite point of speech has done well — better than most of us do. With the prescribed "Point of Emphasis" kept constantly before the members, it is possible in the course of a year to cover the essentials of good speech, and to give the members far greater and more concrete results than can be achieved by boresome repetition

of well-worn formulas of evaluation by evaluators who ramble all over the subject in an effort to give full coverage.

A fairly complete guide for evaluation is to be found in *Speech Evaluation*, which is in the hands of every member. If anyone wants the whole thing in condensed form on a single page, he may write to the Educational Bureau at Santa Ana for an outline for complete evaluation. But no wise evaluator will ever attempt to cover more than one or two of the numerous points suggested, when he gives his judgment on any one speech.

The vital point to be remembered is that the human mind has limitations, and is easily confused. It is impossible to make over a whole collection of habits and mannerisms at one fell swoop. The way to improve is by tackling one thing at a time, conquering that, and then moving on to the next.

Let speaker and critic concentrate on one point, by direction of the General Evaluator. It may be errors in grammar, objectionable mannerisms in gesture, lack of coordination, or any other of a dozen points involved in speech. Polish off this one item, and then go on to another. Eventually, success will be gained in many points.

Look In The Book

By RALPH C. SMEDLEY

How is the word pronounced? What does it mean?

Look in the dictionary.

But how does the dictionary know? Where does the dictionary get its authority? And what are we to do when the dictionaries disagree?

We accept the dictionary much as we accept the Bible or the Constitution. We have grown up with the theory that this is an authority not to be questioned. It jolts us severely when we find that the Standard or the Century or the Oxford Dictionary is in disagreement with Webster's. Where does authority really lie?

The answer is that the dictionary has authority only as we accept its teachings. It is not a divinely inspired book, nor even a legally established one.

The fundamental task of the dictionary is to give lists of words with meanings and spelling and pronunciation according to what appears to be the best usage. It sets standards for correct speech by reflecting the usage which prevails among people who are supposed to be intelligent, educated, cultured.

Usage finally determines correctness in language, and language is continually changing. That is what makes English such an absorbing and elusive study.

The early lexicographers, in developing the English dictionaries,

tried to follow the Oxford University standards as representing the best. Since those early writers were mostly of Irish or Scottish nationality, their efforts to reflect the Oxford pronunciations presented some odd effects, but they laid the foundations for the mighty works of today, and we are indebted to them. We cannot, however, follow the pronunciations, nor even the definitions and spellings of Bailey and Walker and Johnson and Buchanan, for these have changed in many ways.

Until the 19th century, for example, China was pronounced "Chaney," and oblige was "obleege." English pronunciations vary from those followed in America, even today, making it necessary to remember whether we secured our information from the Oxford Dictionary, or from an American publication. Our English cousins say "shedule" instead of "skedule," and they put the accent on the first syllable of garage instead of on the last, as we are supposed to do, but this does not mean that they are ignorant. It is simply a difference in usage, as when they say "lift" instead of elevator, or "tram" when we would say streetcar, or "tube" for subway.

The dictionary is authoritative because it is based on preponderant usage by what the authors consider the best authorities, or the best informed class of people. As

we accept it, we standardize spelling, pronunciation and meaning of words, and thereby promote the easy and accurate exchange of ideas by helping people to speak the same language.

Like other democratic institutions and laws, the dictionary gets its authority from the consent of the governed. If a majority of the people refuse to follow some dictum of the lexicographer, and adopt an unauthorized usage, the dictionary will soon recognize the revolt, and make appropriate changes.

Since the language is constantly changing, it is not possible to make lifelong use of the same dictionary. The one you purchased ten years ago may be out of date today in many points. If you are to be a recognized user of good English, your only safe course is to check up by the newest and best dictionary you can obtain.

The new edition contains words which have been added to the language, and these words are being added in considerable numbers, every year. Only in the latest edition of the dictionaries will you find such words as ignitron, acidize, bra, alclad, anoxia, camporee, escapism. These are just a few of hundreds of late additions.

New meanings are being added, as fresh fields of knowledge are invaded, and old words are applied to new purposes. Changes in pronunciation are noted; for popular usage, in defiance of all rules, shifts accents, changes long vowels to short ones, and vice versa, and does many other strange things to word sounds.

Just to show the problems faced by lexicographers, and how they deal with them, let us consider a few specimens.

We spell *ankle* with a "k," but even today the dictionary shows *anckle* as a variant spelling. That was current usage in Shakespeare's time.

The word *economic* is variously pronounced today with the *e* long or short, so that we hear "ee-conomic" or "ek-onomic" quite indiscriminately. For at least fifty years, the Webster dictionary has stood for long *e* as the preferred pronunciation, with short *e* as second choice. Today, both Webster's and Century agree on that same pronunciation, but the Standard prefers short *e*, with the long sound as second choice.

Webster's pronunciation for *acetic* gives the long sound to *e*, thus: "a SEE tik." Both Century and Standard prefer short *e*, "a-SET ik," with the long *e* as second choice.

How shall we pronounce *been*? Webster's prefers "bin," with "bean" as second choice. The Standard agrees, but the Century prefers "bean." (We use "bean" to indicate the long sound of *e*.)

The dictionary maker must have some characteristics of the chameleon, to reflect the never ending changes in popular usage. But we must not blame him for our changing language. He does not make the rules. We, the people, determine usage in speech, and the dictionary merely reflects our whims.

What Are You Talking About?

By LEONARD W. FISH, Connecticut Yankee Toastmasters Club No. 536

Suppose you were struck dumb tonight, the power of speech taken from you forever. What would it mean to you? How would you sell Sargent locks or the *Saturday Evening Post*, or try your cases in court, or even sell insurance? The art of communication, of selling, of being popular rests with the proper use of words and the proper use of conversation.

In order to understand what good conversation is, it is well to discuss some of its faults. For example, have you noticed the man who monopolizes conversation? He will be found in almost any group and he chatters on until, one by one, the listeners step away. He uses words — just words.

Then there is the detail fiend, the man who tries to tell a story and becomes involved in unnecessary detail. He tries to remember a man's name and holds his listeners in suspense until he finally breaks down and admits that the name is of no consequence. He talks on and on and when he has finished, the story he has told is one that has been heard many times by most of his listeners.

Do you know the man who likes to talk about himself? His achievements are astounding, and his life has been a series of unusual adventures which he delights in repeating with or without provocation until you avoid him on

the street. This man is related to the injured type who has suffered more than any living man. His employer is a tyrant, and his wife does not understand him. Fate is set against him.

Then we have the important man who is so sure of himself that the opinions of others carry no weight. He should be President, but he would have difficulty in getting men of sufficient intelligence to govern with him. He fails to realize that other men place about as much weight on his opinions as he places on theirs.

Have you attended a meeting where two old grads get together and proceed to monopolize the conversation by relating with gestures and vivid imagination the exploits of their youth? To hear them tell it they were devils.

We must not forget the wisecracker who thinks it very funny to make uncomplimentary remarks about everything and who gaily insults the guests of the evening. But if the guests should so far forget themselves as to lose their temper, he would prove them poor sports. It is a very good rule of conversation never to say things to make anyone ridiculous or for which there may be occasion for regret later.

The inveterate story teller is popular *once*, with a repertoire of a dozen or so stories. This man can steal the show — once. But

beware of the second or third appearance, for no man has the time or the ability to gather enough new stories every day to keep him in the spotlight.

Through carelessness we see that human nature is debased by the abuse of the faculty which distinguishes man from brute. How little advantage is taken of that which might be the greatest, most lasting, most useful pleasure in life! We in Toastmasters have one of the finest mediums for training in intelligent conversation, for Toastmasters gather with a spirit of cooperation and a desire to improve their powers of speech.

Like life and liberty, however, Toastmasters can continue only so long as its principles are nurtured. We should never content ourselves with a membership of thirty. We should strive for as many as we can possibly accommodate and for the formation of new chapters. If you are sold on your product and know its value,

you are a successful salesman. If you are sold on Toastmasters principles and believe that it has helped you and can help others, then you should always carry the pamphlet, "Introducing Toastmasters." You should always be ready to explain the advantage of membership. If you are talking to a group and they show interest, you should contact the secretary so that proper information may be given to them with the idea of forming another chapter. The praise you give in meetings for the speeches you have heard can be proved sincere only by your interest and effort toward expanding the program of the Toastmasters movement.

What are you talking about?

Be sure that it is worth putting into words, and then be doubly sure that you put it into words worthy of the subject, and speak it so that it can be heard, understood, and even endured by your hearers without complete boredom.

* An Irishman was charged with a petty offense. "Have you anybody here who can vouch for your character?" said the judge. "Yes, your Honor," said Paddy, "the sheriff over there can." "Why, I do not even know this man!" the sheriff retorted. "Observe, your Honor," said the Irishman, triumphantly, "that I've lived in this county for twelve years, and the sheriff doesn't even know me."

"I see you're drinking coffee, Judge," a man remarked to Ben Lindsey on a hot summer's day. "Why don't you try something cooling? Did you ever try gin and ginger ale?" "No," said Judge Lindsey, "but I've tried several fellows who have."

At a banquet, the speaker ranted on and on about a most interesting subject. Unable to endure it longer, one of the members of the audience quietly slipped out. Just outside the door he bumped into another sufferer who had gone out before him. "Has he finished yet?" said the earlier deserter. "Yes," said the newcomer, "he finished long ago, but he won't stop."

Rules Must Be Adapted

Marcus Fabius Quintilianus, distinguished Roman teacher of the art of speech, flourished just 19 centuries ago. The following excerpt from his *Institutes of Oratory*, Book II, Chapter XIII is as modern today as the day it was written. He says that there are no absolute, final and unchangeable rules in oratory.

But let no man require from me such a system of precepts as is laid down by most authors of books of rules, a system in which I should have to make certain laws, fixed by immutable necessity, for all students of eloquence; commencing with the *proemium*, and what must be the character of it, saying that the statement of facts must come next, and what rule must be observed in stating them; that after this must come the *proposition*, or as some have preferred to call it, the *excursion*; and then that there must be a certain order of questions; adding also other precepts, which some speakers observe as if it were unlawful to do otherwise, and as if they were acting under orders.

For rhetoric would be a very easy and small matter if it could be included in one short body of rules. But rules must generally be altered to suit the nature of each individual case, the time, the occasion, and necessity itself. Consequently, one great quality in an orator is discretion, because he must turn his thoughts in various directions, according to the different bearings of his subject . . .

The precepts of oratory are not established by laws or public decrees, but whatever is contained

in them was discovered by expediency.

For my part I shall, above all things, "Direct, enjoin and o'er and o'er repeat" that an orator, in all his pleadings, should keep two things in view: *what is becoming*, and *what is expedient*. But it is frequently *expedient*, and sometimes *becoming*, to make some deviations from the regular and settled order . . .

But of rules I shall speak more fully, and of each in its own place. In the meantime, I would not have young men think themselves sufficiently accomplished, if they have learned by art some of those little books on rhetoric which are commonly handed about, and fancy that they are thus safe under the decrees of theory.

The art of speaking depends on great labor, constant study, varied exercise, repeated trials, the deepest sagacity and the readiest judgment. But it is assisted by rules, provided that they point out a fair road, and not one single-wheeled rut . . .

The work of eloquence is extensive and of infinite variety, presenting something new almost daily; nor will all that is possible ever have been said about it.

Bigger Vocabularies?

NO--WHAT'S THE USE!

Build your vocabulary!
Increase your word power!
Add a new word every day!
But why?



1. Some people would have us wear out the dictionary hunting for more words. But why? Why should any man clutter up his mind with a lot of words he never uses? Why should he bother with new ways to say things, if the old ways are understandable?

2. Yes, it is worth while for one to know the meaning of words which he does not use in speech, so that he may read or listen with understanding, but for ordinary speech he does not need many words. All he really needs is to express his thoughts, and if his thinking is limited, as is so often the case, why try to dress it up with high-sounding language?

3. Advocates of "Basic English," that condensed language which may become the universal medium of communication, tell us that a vocabulary of 850 words suffices for ordinary speech requirements. Any two people who know those 850 words can converse intelligibly with no larger vocabulary.

4. Too many words, with too many fine distinctions of meaning, obscure meaning and impede communication. Simple words, accurately spoken, can convey the

most profound truths, when used by a master.

5. Suppose the Thesaurus does list 39 different terms to designate *home*, and even more for *house*. How much do the added words add to the concept of house or home? Call it by any name you please, it is still home. Let's call it that, and run no risk of being misled by fancy words.

6. Let's learn to think thoughts big enough to be expressed in plain and simple words, remembering that the most profound truths are the simplest. Just to know a lot of words, seldom heard and never used, is a waste of brain power.

7. It is better to know — actually know — a few hundred or a few thousand words, how to pronounce them, how to combine them with others, and when and how to use them. That is the way to acquire real word power. That is better than swallowing a dictionary full of words which you can't digest. Most of us talk too much, anyhow. Give us more words, and we shall have just so much more to apologize for.

Big vocabulary! Increased word power! Nonsense!



Yes--Bigger and Better!

best meaning of the word would be stretching it.

4. True, a master of words can speak the most profound truths in simple words, but to be a master you must have a good vocabulary from which to choose, and skill in the use of the words.

5. All right, try using the word *home* in a speech, and note the reactions. Each listener visualizes his own picture of home. The New Englander sees his own white colonial cottage, while the Californian pictures a modernistic structure overlooking the Pacific. You, the speaker, are thinking of a small suburban home in the corn belt. Confusion is the result. It takes a good vocabulary to express our ideas clearly, logically, powerfully, graphically.

6. To have in the heart great and good thoughts and be unable to express them is wrong. You can't even have the great thoughts unless you have the words for them, for thinking is limited by vocabulary.

7. Adding new words to your vocabulary is like winning new and valuable friends. You can get along with a very few friends, but to have friends in abundance is to make life richer and happier. Friends help you to grow. So do words.

Remember the saying of Lord Chesterfield: "Words are the dress of thought; which should no more be presented in rags, tatters, and dirt, than your person should."

So let's dress up our thinking by increasing our word power.

So my opponent says "Nonsense!" Maybe that's what he thinks.

We shall take his argument apart, point by point, and expose his fallacy.

Build your vocabulary? Increase your word power? Certainly!

Why?

Because the larger vocabulary broadens our view, re-equips our minds, increases intellectual independence, encourages individual initiative, brings social maturity, satisfies the research and educational urge. These characteristics lead to success, contentment and happiness, which all men seek.

1. Of course men who have no important thoughts need few words. But adding words increases thought-power. Bruce Barton has said, "My observation is that, generally speaking, poverty of speech is the outward evidence of poverty of mind."

2. Changing conditions, social, economic, scientific, bring new words to describe them. Old ideas take on new meanings, best explained in new words and new connotations of old words.

3. "Basic English" may suffice in an emergency. Maybe two persons can converse with 850 words. So can four-year-olds. But to call it intelligent conversation in the

PICTURES IN WORDS

A poet—that means painter, too,
For words are colors, rightly laid;
And they outlast our brightest hue,
For ochers crack and crimsons fade.

Those lines by Thomas Bailey Aldrich should be memorized by every public speaker. He can paint word pictures, if he will. Pictures will stick in the minds of the hearers when arguments have been forgotten.

Charles L. Wagner, in his book entitled *Seeing Stars*, tells of Madame Melba's interview with an agent, who reported:

"She was fair, fat, and double-forte, and her mood that evening was thunderous, thrifty and thirsty."

Isn't that a vivid picture?

Arthur Somers Roche is credited with:

"Worry is a thin stream of fear trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained."

E. W. Howe, the old-fashioned newspaper philosopher, wrote:

"A good scare is worth more to a man than good advice."

Among the choice word pictures of O. W. Holmes, in *The Autocrat at the Breakfast Table*, there is hardly a more appealing characterization than this:

"Men, like peaches and pears, grow sweet a little while before they begin to decay."

Demosthenes was not noted as a coiner of phrases, and "wise-cracking," as we know it, would seem out of place with him, but one of his remarks can be classified as brilliantly descriptive. Whenever he saw Phocion rise to oppose him, he would remark:

"Here comes the pruner of my periods."

Then there is a quotation from Confucius which says in one sentence what might be elaborated into a chapter:

"Gravity is only the bark of wisdom's tree, but it preserves it."

By the use of similes, metaphors and analogies, skilled word users produce surprising and delightful results. No finer examples are to be found than in the New Testament, especially in the parables of Jesus. Shakespeare's works are rich in such word beauties.

Even the title of a speech may be made picturesque and intriguing. The title of Russell H. Conwell's great lecture, "Acres of Diamonds," catches your attention instantly. If you were offered your choice of listening to two speeches, one entitled "Worse Than War" and the other, "A Study of Traffic Hazards in America for 1948," which would get your vote? And yet it could be the same speech, under different titles.

You can paint pictures with words, if you have pictures in your mind, and words to describe the picture, for "Words are colors, rightly laid."

"Toastmastering"

Some time ago a letter went from the Educational Bureau to the Merriam Company, publisher of the Webster Dictionary, concerning the word "toastmastering" which has come into rather common use among members of Toastmasters Clubs. As so used, it is taken to mean the entire range of activities and training in the organization of Toastmasters. It does not appear in the dictionaries, and its right to a place in our language has been frequently questioned.

We quote from a letter written by E. A. H. Fuchs, of the Merriam Company, covering this and other related forms:

Toastmastering, a gerund formed by adding **ing** to **toastmaster**, which to your members is synonymous with "speech and leadership," is an unusual formation to denote "training in speech and leadership." True, verbal nouns are occasionally formed by adding **-ing** directly to nouns, as in blackberrying and motorboating. However, the suffix in such formations denotes **art, skill, or practice**, but not **training**.

If some members of your organization should use **toastmaster** as a verb in the very special sense "to train in speech and leadership," then **toastmastering** would be the corresponding gerund denoting the "act of training in speech and leadership."

In **toastmastery**, entered in Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition, the **-y** is a shortened form of **-ery** which denotes **act, art, or the like**. As you indicate, **toastmastership** could be used as a synonym of **toastmastery**, for **-ship** may denote **art or skill**.

It is not likely that the term **toastmastering**, as used by some members of Toastmasters Clubs, will gain currency outside the organization.

The question remains with us as to whether this word is needed.

Obviously, it is not a very good word as to form, and its meaning, as suggested above, is limited to members of the Toastmasters movement. When a word is definitely needed, we have a right to coin it and use it. If some other word or words express the same idea as well, then we do ourselves and others no favor by cluttering up the language with surplus verbiage.

There are so many awkward usages in English that one more might do no harm. Even the dictionary recognizes the use of *chair* as a verb, in the sense of putting a person in a chair, or installing him in office. But the dictionary definitely does not recognize the use of it in the sense of presiding, as "he chaired the meeting." (*Doesn't that make you shudder!*)

And still worse, the dictionary lists the verbal use of *host*, to entertain guests, so you have dictionary authority to say that "he hosted the party." (*What's the use of trying to purify a language whose users subject it to such abuses!*)

But the dictionary, at least to the present moment, has not given sanction to use of *toastmaster* as a verb. Don't say that "he toastmastered the meeting."

Come on, friends and fellow Toastmasters, and let us join in defending the great, good, and much-abused English language against the attacks of its detractors and misusers.



In the foreground and to the right may be seen the Board of Directors at work. Director Sias, of Waterloo, is reporting for the Committee on By-Laws. At the left and to the rear are the visiting Toastmasters who came to see what goes on. Seated at the table, and facing us, are Mert Rosauer, Ralph Smedley, Lewis Turner, I. A. McAninch and Ted Blanding.



Directors Meet In Santa Ana . . .

The mid-year meeting of the officers and directors of Toastmasters International was held at the Home Office in Santa Ana on January 22. All members of the Board were present, together with committee chairmen, and visitors from nearby districts.

Inspection of the Home Office equipment, social luncheon, and much friendly visiting filled all time outside of the formal meetings.

All matters of business were handled by the Board in regular session, with a background of interested visiting Toastmasters as observers.

Plans for the 18th Annual Convention were considered in detail, and the president issued the official convention call for St. Louis, August 11, 1949.

Approval was given to the zone arrangement for semi-finals of the Interclub Speech Contest, and one Director was assigned to each zone, as Director in charge of arrangements. Details will be furnished to all concerned on this matter, as well as on Club-of-the-Year entry forms, Community Service competition, by-laws amendments, nominations and other items.

Following the business session, an enjoyable evening was spent at the reception and dinner planned by District One, some details of which are given on page 22 of this issue.

Standing are Carl Hasenkamp, Bert Mann, Mert Rosauer, "Cap" Sias, Ralph Lowe, Nick Jorgensen, Leonard Price, Wes Olson — Seated are Ralph Smedley, George Reed, Bob Grube, "Mac" McAninch, Lewis Turner, George Benson. These men constitute the present Board of Directors. In the background are seen some of the pictures of Past Presidents which adorn the wall of the Home Office.

Across The Desk

By TED BLANDING Executive Secretary of
Toastmasters International

New Honors

Word has been received at the Home Office from the publishers of *Who's Who in America* that the name of Ralph Smedley will be listed in the next issue of that great catalogue of notables.

This honor, conferred on our Founder, reflects credit both on him and on the Toastmasters movement, through which he has achieved this degree of fame. All Toastmasters will take pleasure in this recognition; and all should realize that such recognition imposes added responsibilities upon every one of us, to support the high ideals and worthy purposes of the organization.

It took a long time for Toastmasters to win recognition for what it is — a far-reaching project in the field of adult education. It can hold its place only by producing results, and the results are those seen in the lives and work of the members.

In The Mail Bag

Almost every mail brings added recognition for Toastmasters work. Publications ask permission to reprint articles from *The Toastmaster* magazine. Trade journals, and colleges and universities ask for research material, and recognize that Toastmasters is the greatest source of practical speech materials available anywhere. This recognition, too, is important and



Teamed up for Toastmasters —
Blanding and Smedley

imposes its responsibility. We will accept the challenge.

In direct contrast, we receive letters from Toastmasters who, in ordering materials or furnishing information, neglect to sign their name or to mention the name of their club. Not only does this cause us considerable work, but it fails to give proper recognition to the writer of the letter.

A Goal Is Reached

It is with a great deal of satisfaction that we report that Charter No. 700 has been authorized. It was granted to the St. Croix Valley Toastmasters Club, of Stillwater, Minnesota.

Thus we have reached the mark of 700 new clubs, a little behind schedule, it is true, and now we set our faces toward the next "century" mark of 800.

What's Going On



INTERNATIONAL EVENT

Stepping across the imaginary line which separates Ontario from Michigan, Toastmasters of Windsor (No. 299) held a joint meeting with Northeastern Toastmasters, of Detroit (No. 573). Two speakers from each club appeared on the program. But when word spread around that this was going on, the other clubs wanted in on it, and the result was a gathering of more than 200 men and women, representing in addition to the two sponsoring clubs, Pontiac and Bay City Toastmasters, and three more Detroit Clubs. In the picture are seen: Charles Cooke, of Northeastern; Joe Owen, of Windsor, President Charles Clarke, of Windsor; and President Floyd Stone, of Northeastern. All this is reported by Secretary Jack McIntyre, of Windsor Toastmasters, who has just qualified for Basic Training Certificate No. 400.

Toastmasters in New England

Boston No. 502, having officially welcomed its sponsored Quincy, (Mass.) Toastmasters Club No. 675 at charter presentation ceremonies just last month, is now looking toward Spring activities coming this month.

Big interest is in final preparations for the second annual New England Toastmasters' Convention scheduled for March 26 at Portland, Me. This year four clubs, including the host Portland and the regular New Haven Connecticut Yankees group, will be represented in the feature Speech competitions, the winning club retaining possession of the

perpetual trophy until 1950.

Boston Toastmasters' influence is being carried to extreme corners of the continent, with one member now in Fairbanks, Alaska, and another moving to Miami, Fla. Neither locality has a Toastmasters' Club yet, but should be hearing about the movement soon.

(Reported by Publicity Chairman
Bob Hannan.)

Bloomington Helps Schools

The Toastmasters Club of Bloomington, Indiana, has accepted the request to form a speakers bureau for the county unit plan of school organization to bring the facts to the voters in a coming election.



St. Paul Toastmasters Club No. 167 put on a membership campaign. Members were divided into two teams. The winning team, at the close of the campaign, was fed by the losers. The club was the final winner, for its membership roster is now filled to capacity. The "pay-off" dinner was a big event. In the picture you see Frank Somers, captain of losing team, serving Philip Palmquist, captain of winning team. At the left is William Pedersen, membership chairman, and at the right is Club President Dr. L. W. Cornell.

Waterloo at Work

Waterloo "Blackhawk" Toastmasters Club No. 444 had a program in which each speaker was assigned the same subject. Each man spoke on the contribution to the community welfare made through his own business or profession. There's an idea which any club can use. At a recent meeting, the General Evaluator used the plan of reviewing the past criticisms of the speakers before each man spoke. This recalled vividly to both speaker and audience the failures and successes achieved in past performances, and spurred the speakers to prove

that they had overcome previous errors.

Waterloo Toastmasters Club No. 101 has set up as one objective the better timing of meetings. These men have figured out that they must present their program within the space of one hour and eighteen minutes, and that is to be their endeavor. Of course this time does not include all the period devoted to serving the food and getting started with their dinner.

Careful Readers

Two Toastmasters—and only two, as yet—have reported on the historical misstatement in *THE QUIZZER* in the February issue. Howard Davis, of Oklahoma City, was first, with Dr. James Bean, of South Pasadena as close second. Yes, it was Andrew Johnson, not Andrew Jackson, who started life as a tailor. Did YOU catch it?



SNOWBOUND IN VALLEY CITY
Last February, Toastmaster V. O. Sellers, of Minneapolis, was snowbound in Valley City, North Dakota. There he laid the groundwork which resulted in the chartering of the Valley City Toastmasters Club, No. 636, this winter. In the picture, District Governor Setterdahl presents the charter to President Frank Luessen.

Toastmasters in the News

South Pasadena Toastmasters are pleased with the advancement of one of their members, A. W. McKinlay, who has been appointed Controller of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. He has served previously as Chief Accountant for M. W. D.

Leonard E. Price, Director of Toastmasters International and Past Governor of District 10, has been appointed Safety Director for the city of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Long prominent in civic affairs in the community, he had to give up one or two other public responsibilities in order to take on this very important task of trying to keep the people from exterminating themselves by carelessness and accident. His regular work is as salesmanager for Craftsman Press, Incorporated, in Akron.

Minneapolis Entertains

Minneapolis Toastmasters Club No. 75 sponsored a Christmas entertainment for the 400 children of the Owatonna State School, which delighted the youngsters and won hearty appreciation from the school heads. Music, magic and clowns helped to make up a program which was termed "one of the best entertainments ever put on for the children."

(Reported by Secretary Frank Gudgeon.)

Mobile Moves

With a new club chartered in Mobile, Alabama (The Azalea Toastmasters Club No. 691) and with half a dozen other chapters in prospect, Alabama and Mis-



IT HAPPENED AT ROSEBURG

Ladies' Night at Roseburg, Oregon, Toastmasters Club (No. 604) was a big night. Picture shows awarding of the "Booby Trophy," a large medal which is presented at each meeting to the speaker using the most "grunts" in his speech. In spite of the presence of the ladies, the trophy was duly presented to LeRoy Inman, the champion of the evening with "ah-h's."

Mississippi are becoming awakened to the value of Toastmasters training. Work is in progress at Citronelle, and hopes are held for organization at Biloxi, Pascagoula and Gulfport. There is growing interest in establishing a district organization to include Alabama, Mississippi and perhaps Louisiana and northern Florida.

(Lee Smallwood, Dep. Gov. of Mobile Toastmasters, sends the report.)

The Executive Slant

Criticism, as used in Toastmasters, is not pointing a finger, but holding out a hand. It is never, as someone has suggested, looking at a speech through *scorn-rimmed* glasses. The Toastmasters Club is a speech clinic, and the purpose of all diagnosis is its accompanying prescription.

(This graphic definition of criticism is quoted from the bulletin of the Executives Toastmasters Club, of Des Moines, credited to Toastmaster A. D. Steffenson.)



At dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Penrose, Mr. and Mrs. McAninch, and Mr. and Mrs. Smedley were serenaded by the Musical Mexicanos.

Directors Honored at Dinner

Good food, music, atmosphere and a Toastmasters program highlighted a party which honored the officers and directors of Toastmasters International at the close of the Mid-winter Board meeting, Saturday night, January 22. District 1 acted as host and four other districts, Founders, 2, 5 and 12, were represented by their district governors and members. The setting was the Indian Room of Knott's Berry Farm, celebrated dining establishment located midway between Los Angeles and Santa Ana. The party of two hundred and fifty Toastmasters and wives enjoyed a steak dinner while serenaded by a pair of roving Mexican troubadours.

Clem Penrose, Governor of District 1, was chairman of the occasion. Each officer and director was permitted to read his own autobiography in verse which had been prepared for him.

Jack Haynes, Lt. Governor of District 1, acted as Toastmaster and presented a program of information, humor and inspiration. Founder Ralph Smedley reminded the group with the sub-

ject "How We Got This Way." Bob Hatch of Jewel City 29 was introduced as a gentleman from Guadalajara who had flown to the meeting in order to petition a charter for his club in Mexico. This talk and one on "How Television Works" by Lew Barth of Eagle Rock (photo on cover) were good for many laughs. President I. A. McAninch concluded the speech program.



Senor Roberto Hatch tells his troubles

A Treasure Hunt

Almost every member of a Toastmasters Club lives within visiting distance of a public library. Almost every public library has at hand, in its reference department, *The Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*, published by H. W. Wilson Company, of New York.

Any person who needs material to help in preparing for a speech, a debate, or a discussion of any sort, will find in *The Readers' Guide* a map of buried treasure which will point him to information on almost any subject. The *Guide* lists important articles published currently in periodicals of recognized standing in their fields. In any library which has even a minimum supply of standard magazines, sufficient material is thus brought to attention to provide abundance for the one seeking aid.

Here is how to use the *Guide*:

Having chosen the subject on which you wish to do some research, go to the library and ask the reference librarian for issues of *The Readers' Guide* for the past two or three years. Opening the big books, you will find subjects listed alphabetically, covering most of the fields of human knowledge. Note some of the articles referred to, make a list of them, and ask the librarian for the magazine files you need.

Suppose you are interested in some phase of plastics. Find the word *Plastics* in its proper place.

Under this heading you will find subheads, such as Fabrics, Balloons, Industries, Materials, Terminology, Testing, Paint, Pipes, Surgery. Each subhead gives magazine references dealing with this particular subject. Look it up in the magazines.

Perhaps you are working on some phase of *Peace*, or *Neckties*, or *Peanuts*, or the *Graphic Arts*. There they are, neatly listed for you. There are at least two columns of references on *Peace* in a recent *Guide*. On *Insurance* in its various forms, there are three columns of references.

You can find almost anything under the head of *Government*, such as Appointments, Investigations, Activities, Ownership, Purchasing, Regulation of Industry and many others. The affairs of the Negro race, in addition to political and social aspects, are considered as to Literature, Humor, Music, Spirituals, Proverbs, Teachers, Theater, Superstitions, and so on.

Is it Socialized Medical Care that you are to debate? Look under *Medicine* and *Medical*, and find piles of references to articles on all phases of the subject. Do you need information about China, and our relations to her difficult problems? Just look under *China*, and you will be amazed at the abundance.

Of course there are other sources of information besides *The Readers' Guide*, to which you

may go if you need still more material. The encyclopedia, whether Americana, Britannica, International or any one of half a dozen standard works, will repay your study. Many questions on grammar, etymology, rhetoric, and even spelling and pronunciation are answered in the unabridged dictionary. There are other volumes of all kinds of information, facts, quotations and the like, alphabetically listed for your convenience. Among these are World Almanac, Information Please Almanac, and Facts on File. The amount of information you can acquire is limited only by your energy and persistence.

Make intelligent and frequent use of your city library.

The librarians will welcome

your appeals for aid. They will help you prepare bibliographies, reading lists and other useful methods for your study. Your own field of knowledge can be broadened, and new interests developed. Your speeches will take on new vitality and interest. You may be led to specialize in some field in which you can acquire authoritative knowledge. You may find yourself developing into a true research worker.

There is treasure for you in books and magazines. Do your prospecting in *The Readers' Guide* and similar convenient collections; and then start out with pick and shovel, or with notebook and pencil, to make a part of that treasure of wisdom and knowledge your own.

THE RECORD OF GROWTH -- "700 by 70"

680	Santa Paula.....	Santa Paula, California.....	12
681	Scottish Rite No. 1.....	South Bend, Indiana.....	11
682	Meredith.....	Des Moines, Iowa.....	19
683	North Island.....	San Diego, California.....	5
684	Hamilton.....	Hamilton, Ohio.....	10
685	Mitchell.....	Mitchell, South Dakota.....	20
686	Norfolk.....	Norfolk, Virginia.....	U
687	Lilac City.....	Rochester, New York.....	U
688	North Bend.....	North Bend, Oregon.....	7
689	Fairmont.....	Fairmont, Minnesota.....	6
690	K—C.....	Tacoma, Washington.....	2
691	Azalea.....	Mobile, Alabama.....	14
692	Joliet.....	Joliet, Illinois.....	8
693	Sequoia.....	Fresno, California.....	27
694	Wheeling.....	Wheeling, West Virginia.....	U
695	Torrance.....	Torrance, California.....	1
696	Hanford.....	Hanford, California.....	27
697	Scottish Rite No. 2.....	South Bend, Indiana.....	11
698	Norfolk.....	Norfolk, Nebraska.....	24
699	Ann Arbor.....	Ann Arbor, Michigan.....	U
700	St. Croix Valley.....	Stillwater, Minnesota.....	6

Reissued and Reactivated:

40	Chinook.....	Yakima, Washington.....	2
72	Orange.....	Orange, California.....	F
89	Santa Maria.....	Santa Maria, California.....	12

THE WORD BUILDER

Anatole France said: "The finest words in the world are only vain sounds, if you cannot comprehend them."

Fortunate are the Toastmasters, who may learn to understand and use words in an easy, practical way. The *Word Builder* is the way it is done.

First: One member of the club's Educational Committee is responsible for teaching words. This is a routine function, performed just prior to Table Topics at each meeting — 52 times a year.

Second: The lexicologist (or logomachist) provides a placard about 28 by 44 inches on which are printed the words to be learned. (Note the picture of word chart.) This placard is hung up in the clubroom at each meeting.

Third: Words should be taken from leading Periodicals, such as *Time*, *News Week*, *Life*, etc., and also from good newspaper editorials. Two words are enough for one meeting. They should first be read as used in print. Then they should be defined and explained as to usage.

Fourth: Each member is asked to use one or both words in his Table Topic speech for this occasion.

Result: New enthusiasm among members for increasing word power; better speeches through better vocabulary.

Note to Lexicologist: Do not choose words just because they are big or technical. Choose words for practical use. Seek words which are descriptive, which are seldom heard in your club, but often seen in print.

WORDS ARE THE WORKING TOOLS OF A SPEAKER

- **NOSTALGIA** (NŌS TĀL' JĪ' A) NOUN
HOMESICKNESS CAUSING MELANCHOLIA
"In his early school days he nearly flunked out because of nostalgia."
- **PUNITIVE** (PŪ' NĪ TĪV) ADJECTIVE
OF OR PERTAINING TO PUNISHMENT
"Congress may enact punitive legislation."
- **CASTIGATE** (KĀS' TĪ ŌT) VERB
TO PUNISH · CHASTISE WITH WORDS OR BLOWS
"He was too old to castigate by corporal means."
- **GARRULOUS** (GĀR' ŪL ŪS) ADJECTIVE
TALKING MUCH ABOUT TRIFLES · WORDY
"He reminded one of a garrulous old woman."
- **TACIT** (TĀS' IT) ADJECTIVE
DONE OR MADE IN SILENCE · IMPLIED
"He gazed heavenward in a tacit prayer of thanksgiving."
- **ICONOCLAST** (Ī KŌN' Ō KLĀST) ADJECTIVE
ONE WHO ATTACKS CHERISHED BELIEFS · RADICAL
"He broke with political tradition being an iconoclast."

The perfect foundation for your speech is a good VOCABULARY

WORDS TO LEARN

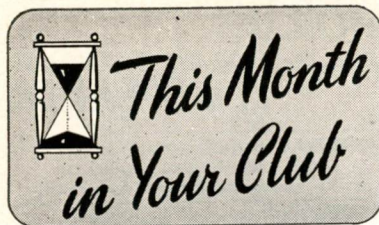
Learn 10 words this month.

Learn how to pronounce, spell and use them.

Here is a list of selected words. Pick out any 10 of them, on the basis of their usefulness to you, and start work. Put the ten on a card, and carry it with you. Look at it at least once a day. Try to use at least two of the words every day. Your vocabulary will respond to this treatment.

Here are the words:

hypothetical (hi pŏ THET i kal), supposed
destiny (DES ti ni), fate
scintillating (SIN ti lat ing), sparkling
liberalism (LIB er al izm), emancipation
quiescent (kwi ES ent), at rest; quiet
Utopian (u TO pi an), ideal; visionary
visionary (VIZH un er i), impracticable
polemics (pŏ LEM iks), art of controversy
panacea (pan a SE a), a cure-all
embodiment (em BOD i ment), incarnation
coalition (ko a LISH un), union
negotiation (ne go shi A shun), a conference
rudimentary (roo di MEN ta ri), elementary



ADMINISTRATION

March brings semi-annual election of officers, training of new officers, appointment and instruction of new committees, completion of Area Speech Contests, preparation for the District Contests, preparation for installation of officers the first of April, and preparation of the Spring Report (due April 1).

March is a busy month with Toastmasters. The work of the next six months will be largely determined by what is done in this one month.

EDUCATION

Words and How to Use Them

That is the point of Emphasis for all Toastmasters Clubs for March. Give attention to it.

Words will be freely used. Then let's use them not only *right*, but *well*. Concentrate for this whole month on *words* — how to pronounce, spell and use them. Add some good words to your vocabulary. Enlarge your thinking capacity by learning better ways to express your ideas.

This issue of *The Toastmaster* carries much material on words. Give especial attention to Page 25, where study methods are shown for new words.

Fundamentally Speaking

Ideas and words are the tools of the speaker. A word is the name of an idea. If you haven't the idea, how can you name it? If you have the idea but lack words to express it — you are in a bad fix.

You are not advised to learn more words just for the sake of having them. You might as well carry a pocketful of pebbles as to load up with words you don't need.

Rather, fill up your pockets with materials or ammunition which you call into use frequently, and load your mind with words to suit your ideas.

The Club Program

Voluminous supplies of suggestions for programs and instruction have been mailed to the President and the Educational Chairman of every Toastmasters Club. In your club, if the officers do not pass the ideas and instructions on to the members, ask them why they are holding out on you. *You* need the help, the improved evaluation, the vocabulary building methods, the program variety and all the other aids offered to your Educational Committee. Don't let them forget it.

Note: These remarks do not apply to the most recently chartered clubs, which are hammering away at Basic Training, and should not be interrupted.



18th Convention of Toastmasters International -- St. Louis, August 11-14, 1949.

THE TOASTMASTER

ABOUT YOUR READING

Dr. Lyman Abbott suggests, in one of his essays, that there are three services which books may render in the home: they may be ornaments, tools, or friends.

The purpose in recommending books for reading by Toastmasters is to help them to make tools and friends of books which are capable of such use. Those of our readers who are following the suggestions are likely to discover certain results:

1. They will never lack material for speeches.
2. They will find their horizons of thinking broadened.
3. They will acquire new and valuable information.
4. They will build new intellectual and spiritual friendships.
5. They will be led to read more good books.

For March, two suggestions are offered.

Read *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, and Stevenson's *Treasure Island*.

This is an inviting assignment. Both are easy to read, beautifully written, and worthily informative. Give yourself a treat with them. If you missed Sherwood Eddy's *God in History* last month, read it now.

Read Biography

For the speaker there is no richer source of material than is to be found in biography and history. Biography is the history of an individual, and history is the biography of a nation or a race. For illustrative material, for inspiration, for stimulating subjects, read history and biography.

It was well said by John Hay: "Real history is not to be found

in books, but in the personal anecdotes and private letters of those who make history. These reveal the men themselves, and the motives that actuate them, and give us also their estimate of those who are associated with them. No one should ever destroy a private letter that contains light on public men, or willingly let die an illuminating anecdote disclosing their individuality."

Disraeli, in his "Literary Anecdotes," wrote:

"How superficial is that cry of some impertinent pretended geniuses of these times who affect to exclaim 'Give me no anecdotes of an author, but give me his works!'"

The well-written story of a great man's life, whether written by himself or another, gives a vital picture of his times as well as of his own activities, and puts the reader in touch with facts which he might otherwise never know. By all means, read biography.

Editor Ralph Smedley, who prepares these suggestions on reading, would like to know what you think of them. Will you take time to write him briefly, answering these questions?

1. Which of the recommended books have you read?
2. What good, if any, did you get from the reading?
3. Do you care for these suggestions, and think they should be continued?
4. Have you any book to recommend which has been of especial help or inspiration to you?

Address Ralph Smedley, Editor of *The Toastmaster*, with suggestions, compliments, or criticisms.

MARCH, 1949

HOW WE TALK

LANGUAGE IS ABUSED

Even in the Toastmasters Club the old familiar errors in pronunciation and in grammatical constructions are heard. Possibly their perennial recurrence is due to the numbers of new members; but it must be confessed that many of the errors are committed by men who are anything but new in the organization.

In a recent meeting the following slips were noted:

"We want the names of every man!" proclaimed a committee chairman, leaving a cynical wonder as to how many names each man has.

"This is one of the things that has concerned me," was another offering. Did the speaker mean that this one thing has concerned him, or that it is one of many things which have caused him worry?

That is one very common form of speaking which could be simplified if the speaker would give it thought. "This is one thing which concerns me," or, more simply, "This thing concerns me," would get away from the temptation to mix construction of subject and predicate. But if it is the other meaning he desires to con-

vey, he could much better say, "This is one of several things which concern me."

Another wrong phrasing which is always heard runs, "Now, we want each and every one of the members to prepare their ballots."

Pronunciations are enough to strike despair to the soul of the purist. The long Latin *a* is always being shortened, so that we hear *stat-tus* instead of *stay-tus* when one means to say *status*. The same fate overtakes *data*, *strata*, *apparatus* and a long list of such words. Maybe we should forget the right way and accept the wrong one as right. What difference does it make at last whether we say "day-ta" or "datta," so long as we have our figures at hand?

And poor old "presentation" is kicked around unmercifully. Maybe it easier to say "PREE sentation" than "prez en TAY shun," but the best usage does not sanction it. If you must talk about "presentation," try to shorten the first *e* and put the accent on the third syllable. Really, it is no harder to say the word correctly.

Reach For The Dictionary

Distinguish between these words which come in pairs. They are more or less alike in pronunciation, but very different in spelling and meaning.

Hale — Hail
Accelerate — Exhilarate
Physical — Fiscal
Eminent — Imminent
Corps — Corpse
Perquisite — Prerequisite
Ordinance — Ordnance
Transit — Transient

WHY WE SAY IT

Dun

When we "dun" a person, we make it clear that we want him to pay up. But where did that word get that meaning? The Webster Dictionary is non-committal on the subject, but William S. Walsh, in his *Handy-Book of Literary Curiosities*, ventures an answer. He tells of a constable in England, named John Dun, who became celebrated as a collector of bad accounts, early in the 18th century. When others failed to collect, Dun got the money. Thus it became customary to remark, when a person was slow to pay, that he would have to be "Dunned." The story is interesting, and may be true, but its authenticity is questionable. Believe it at your own risk.

Dunce

John Duns Scotus was a scholastic theologian of the 14th century, whose works were standard texts for more than one hundred years. In the 16th century his system was attacked by scholars, but his followers, known as "Dunsmen," refused to admit the merits of the new learning. "Dunsmen" came to be regarded as dull, obstinate fellows, impervious to new thought. To be a "dunce" meant at first to be a follower of Duns Scotus; then to be unwilling to learn; finally, to be a blockhead. The "dunce cap" seems to have been borrowed from the regalia of fools and jesters of the Middle Ages.

Cry Havoc

In the words of Shakespeare,

"Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war." The passage is from Julius Caesar, Act Three. In the New Testament, Acts 8:3, we read: "As for Saul, he made havoc of the church."

The word *havoc* signifies general destruction, devastation, waste. The Old French *havot* meant plunder. It is related etymologically to the German *haben*, to have, and to the Old French *haver*, to take. In the Old French, *crier havot* was a shout given to turn loose for pillage and gathering of spoils. The English *cry havoc* is taken directly from that. To "cry havoc" is reflected in the traditional "Hey, Rubel!" which is supposed to be the signal for the yokels to turn on the circus sharpers who have been fleecing them. You would better not "cry havoc" unless you are ready to stand by the trouble.

Fleece

Now a fleece, as everyone should know, is the coat of wool which covers a sheep. Mary's little lamb is responsible for the wide familiarity of all properly instructed children with the correct name for the sheep's protection. How did the word ever come to mean cheating or stealing? It is a simple transference of meaning. The shearers "fleeced" the sheep by removing its coat. The cheater takes his victim's money or other possessions and leaves him more or less naked, stripped, like the shorn sheep. It adds a lively metaphor to our common speech. The practice is commendable so long as it is confined to sheep.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. The "Parliamentary Primer" which you gave us on page 15 of *The Toastmaster* for December was excellent, but why did you skip the incidental and privileged motions? You told us about main motions and subsidiary ones, but we need to know about the others.

A. The "Box" was not big enough to contain the whole story, so we hand the rest of it to you today. Incidental motions, according to General Robert, are such as arise out of another question which is pending. They are listed as questions of order and appeal, suspension of the rules, objection to consideration, division of the question, requests for information, parliamentary inquiries, request for permission to withdraw a motion, and other such matters. Subsidiary motions are those which modify or dispose of other motions. Incidental motions are, as the name indicates, entirely incidental to the matter under discussion.

Privileged motions, on the other hand, are such motions as are not necessarily related to the pending main motion, but are of so great and immediate importance as to give them precedence over all other matters and, because of this high privilege, they are undebatable. Among the privileged motions may be listed the motion to adjourn, or to take a recess, or to fix the time to which to adjourn; also to raise a question of privilege, or to call for the orders of the day.

The distinction between subsidiary and incidental or privileged motions is not always clear. Ordinarily that difference is not of great importance, but the skilled parliamentarian must be able to distinguish in case of need.

Q. In our club, all speeches are limited to five minutes. Should we not have speeches of different lengths, so as to become accustomed to various conditions? I have one or

two subjects which would take at least ten minutes, and I am not permitted to give them.

A. It is the recommended policy for all Toastmasters Clubs that variation in length of speech be the rule. In the same meeting there may properly be two speeches of four minutes, two of six or seven minutes, and one of ten minutes. To require all members to speak for exactly the same length of time at each appearance is to defeat an important purpose of the training.

Q. How can I get chances to speak outside the club? I think I am not too bad, after a year of training, but no invitations to speak have been received as yet.

A. That is a good question. You may find help in an article to appear in the April issue of *The Toastmaster*, entitled "More Chances to Talk," by John Dannenfelser, of New Albany Toastmasters Club. In general, the way to get invitations to speak on the outside is to prepare and deliver before your own Toastmasters Club a speech of such interest and excellence that someone in the club will want his associates to hear it in his lodge, union, brotherhood or service club. He will see that you get the invitation. Make your work so good that the invitations will come to you.

Q. Should we have individual critics for speakers on Table Topics? If not, how are they evaluated?

A. No. It takes entirely too much time. The General Evaluator may refer briefly to the Table Topics, as to quality of the topics proposed and of the discussion, mentioning only some conspicuous speeches or features. To have some one person or several persons deal individually with the T. T. speakers becomes very boring.

It's a Good Idea

Credit for these excellent suggestions goes to Russell V. Puzey, President of Wilson Avenue Toastmasters Club of Chicago.

It is a good idea to base evaluation of speeches on the thought of what the speech was intended to prove, sell, or demonstrate. The purpose is the big thing. It determines the character of the speech. Accomplishment of the purpose is the test of the speech. Evaluation should make clear whether the purpose was accomplished.

It is a good idea now and then to let the speakers question their critics. Often there are unanswered questions in the mind of the speaker when his evaluator has finished his work. The speaker should be given an opportunity to ask for further discussion and information. This serves two purposes. It gives the speaker needed help, and it shows the critic what he has overlooked. Be careful not to allow too much time for it.

It is a good idea occasionally to ask a member to give in two minutes a resume or review of one of the speeches to which he has just listened. If time allows, all the speeches of the evening may be so reviewed. If the speech was well organized and well presented, the member can easily remember the salient points. If the member is not able to give the speech an intelligent review, the critic has a right to assume either that the speech was not good, or that the reviewer is not a good listener.

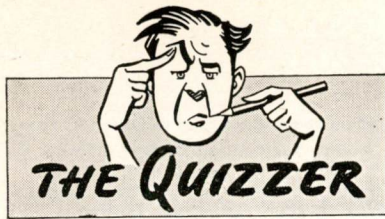
It is a good idea to use a speech recorder to catch the entire program, without letting the men know that they are being recorded. Conceal the machine and the microphone and make the record while the men are ignorant of what is going on. Then play back the program, or as much of it as possible, and let them hear how they sounded.

A Magazine Idea

A good idea for making use of *The Toastmaster* is reported by L. C. Turner, Vice-President of Toastmasters International. The Akron Club, of which he is a member, appoints one member each month to give a brief review and report on the current issue of our Magazine. At a meeting early in the month, he makes his speech, calling attention to salient features. The result is stimulation of interest and closer reading by the other members. It is good speech practice, and very good for the club.

Try It Once

Arrange a two-man debate on some question open to argument. One man takes the affirmative, the other the negative, on such a question as "Rent Controls Must be Extended," or something else debatable. Refer to page 12 and 13 of this issue for a sample.



HISTORIC SAYINGS

Who said it, and what was the occasion?

Try your memory on the following well-known quotations, and then check the results by the up-side-down key below.

1. If this be treason, make the most of it.
2. Don't give up the ship.
3. We have met the enemy and they are ours.
4. Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be right; but our country, right or wrong!
5. I would rather be right than be president.
6. Liberty and union, one and inseparable, now and forever!

1. Patrick Henry used these words in a speech in the Virginia House of Burgesses, on a series of resolutions which he offered against the Stamp Act.
2. The last words of Captain James Lawrence, as he was carried below, mortally wounded in his sea battle with the Shannon, British frigate, June 1, 1813.
3. Commodore Perry's message to General Harrison following the battle of Lake Erie, September 10, 1813.
4. Toast offered by Stephen Decatur at a dinner in his honor at Norfolk, Va., in April, 1816.
5. Henry Clay said this to Mr. Preston, on being told that the compromise measures of 1850, which he advocated as a means of preserving the Union, would injure his chances for the presidency.
6. This is the close of Webster's reply to Hayne, in a speech before the Senate, January 26, 1850.

THE KEY TO HISTORIC SAYINGS

A PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

1. What is meant when we say, "Mr. Jones has the floor?"
2. What is the difference between constitution and by-laws?
3. When can a motion be amended?
4. How many amendments are permissible?
5. What three forms may be used in amending?
6. What is meant by "orders of the day?"
7. What is the difference between a motion and a resolution?
8. What constitutes a majority?
9. What motion can be used to kill a motion?

THE ANSWERS

1. Mr. Jones has addressed the chairman and has been recognized, or given permission to speak.
2. The constitution contains the fundamental rules of the organization; (a) Name and purpose; (b) Qualification of members; (c) Officers and their election; (d) Essential rules about meetings; (e) How to amend. The by-laws include all important rules and details needed to implement the principles contained in the constitution. That is, the constitution contains principles, and the by-laws show how to put the principles into use.
3. After it has been stated by the chairman as a motion, and discussion has been called for.
4. A motion can be amended, and the amendment can be amended. No amendment beyond the second degree is in order.
5. (a) To insert or add; (b) To strike out; (c) To strike out and insert.
6. When certain subjects are assigned to a particular time, or a definite program of business has been adopted these become the "orders of the day."
7. A motion is a proposal that the assembly take certain action. It is introduced by the member who has obtained the floor and who says, "I move that . . ." When a motion is of such importance or length as to require being put into writing, it usually takes the form of a resolution, which may state the reasons for it. Thus it may begin with "Whereas," and carry on to "Be it resolved." When a resolution has been read, it is proper for the proposer or some supporter to move that the resolution be adopted.
8. A majority is at least one more than the total number of legal votes cast.
9. Move to postpone it indefinitely.

THE TOASTMASTER

OFFICERS

- President**
I. A. McAninch
Room 1157
612 S. Flower, Los Angeles 14, Cal.
- Vice-President**
Lewis C. Turner
655 S. Hawkins, Akron 2, Ohio
- Secretary**
George W. S. Reed
5229 Lockhaven, L. A. 41, Cal.
- Treasurer**
Robert L. Grube
7329 E. Marginal Way, Seattle 8, W.
- Past President**
George W. Benson
2467 Kansas Ave., South Gate, Cal.
- Founder and Educational Director**
Ralph C. Smedley
P. O. Box 714, Santa Ana, Cal.
- Executive Secretary**
Ted Blanding
P. O. Box 714, Santa Ana, Cal.
- Administrative Associate**
Wilbur M. Smith
P. O. Box 714, Santa Ana, Cal.

DIRECTORS

- Carl H. Hasenkamp
2135 N. Blandena, Portland 11, Ore.
- Nick Jorgensen
2037 Westlake, Seattle 1, Wash.
- Ralph S. Lowe
1841 Rome Ave., St. Paul 5, Minn.
- Bertram H. Mann, Jr.
3511 Grandel Sq., St. Louis 8, Mo.
- Weslie W. Olson
416 W. C. U. Bldg., Quincy, Ill.
- Leonard E. Price
1756 - 25th, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- J. Merton Rosauer
14th and Lindeke, Spokane 9, W.
- Carleton Sias
1000 Waterloo Bldg., Waterloo, Ia.

When writing to Toastmasters International, please address your letter to
P. O. Box 714, Santa Ana, California.

DISTRICT GOVERNORS

- District
Founder's — Dr. James F. Bean
1013 Milan, S. Pasadena, Cal.
1. Clement Penrose
7108 King, Bell, Cal.
 2. Charles H. Griffith
1415 N. 5th, Tacoma 6, Wash.
 3. Paul H. Jones
2 S. Stone, Tucson, Ariz.
 4. Everett Kindig
917 Azalea, Burlingame, Calif.
 5. Harold J. La Dou
941 - 7th, San Diego 1, Cal.
 6. Jule M. Waber
1435 Jefferson, St. Paul 5, Minn.
 7. Irving L. Saucerman
232 U.S. Courthouse, Portland 5, Oregon
 8. William Beukema
1204 N. 8th, St. Louis 6, Mo.
 9. Jack M. Love
1027 N. Elm, Spokane 11, Wash.
 10. V. L. Blinn
c-o Vincent McIntire, 1822 S. 1st, Zanesville, Ohio
 11. Ira Martz
321 E. Wayne, South Bend, Ind.
 12. Wesley Eberhard
507 Doris Ave., Oxnard, Cal.
 13. David H. Smith
Catherine St., Washington, Pa.
 14. R. S. Pendleton
1179 S. Univ., NE, Atlanta, Ga.
 15. Merwin E. Helmbolt
Burkholder Bldg., Twin Falls, Id.
 16. W. Bruce Norman
1516 S. Atlanta, Tulsa, Okla.
 17. Eldred W. Williams
715 W. Galena, Butte, Mont.
 18. Peter R. Jacobs
Library Bldgs., Greenock, Scotland
 19. George Westberg
1228 - 42nd, Des Moines 11, Ia.
 20. Peter Seterdahl
Box 408, Breckenridge, Minn.
 21. D. B. Carmichael
4084 W. 32nd, Vancouver, B. C.
 22. Harold J. Schuchman
602 W. 5th, Joplin, Mo.
 23. George W. McKim
209 S. 3rd, Albuquerque, N. M.
 24. Hugh E. McEvoy
2735 N. 47th, Omaha 3, Nebr.
 25. Dr. L. E. Tompkins
1011 - 10th, Wichita Falls, Tex.
 26. Gordon Merrick
601 Elizabeth St., Fort Collins, Col.
 27. Cecil O. Gordon
P. O. Box 441, Fresno, Cal.

Hotel Statler, St. Louis

Headquarters for 18th Convention
Toastmasters International
August 11-14, 1949

FAMOUS
STATLER
SERVICE
WILL BE AT THE
SERVICE OF
TOASTMASTERS
WHEN WE MEET
NEXT AUGUST
IN ST. LOUIS

*The City
Surrounded By
The U. S. A.*

