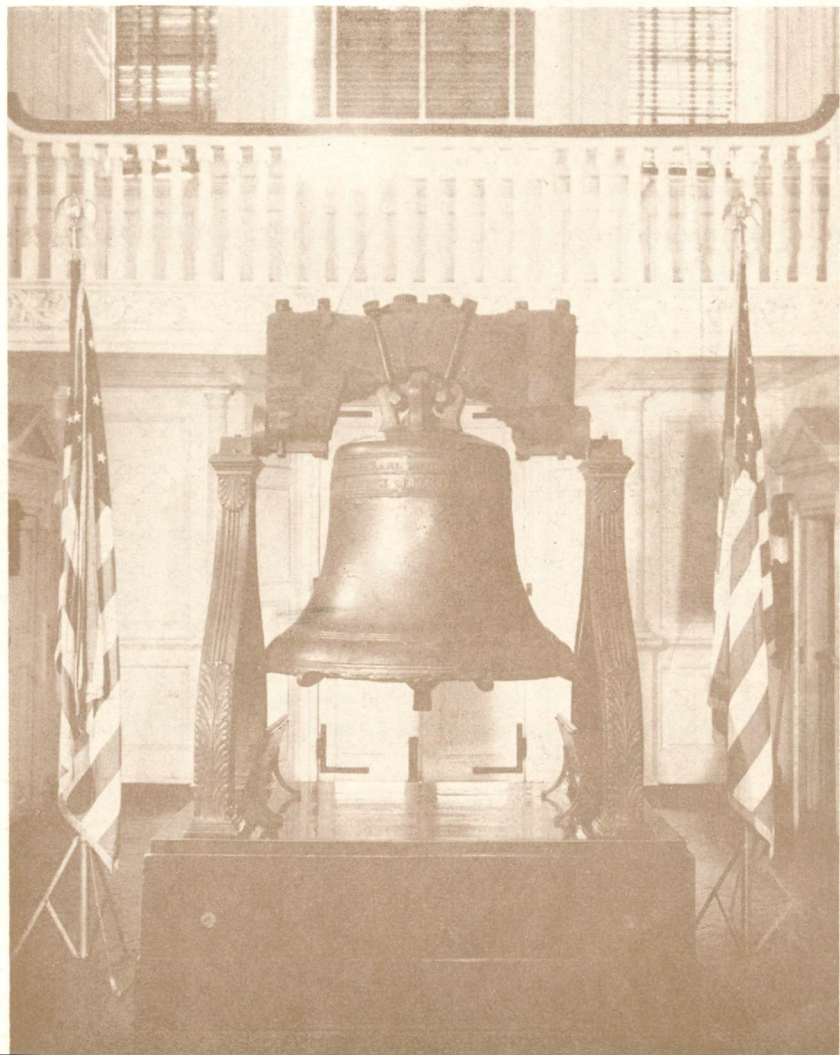


# THE *Toastmaster*

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

NOVEMBER 1951



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL, Incorporated in 1932, is a non-profit educational organization of 995 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.

Vol. 17 — No. 11

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The Liberty Bell was a center of interest for Toastmasters attending the Philadelphia Conference, although the program kept them too busy for sightseeing.

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# THANKSGIVING FOR AMERICA



## *the Beautiful*



By Walter J. Miesen, educational chairman of High Dawn Toastmasters Club No. 730, Portland, Oregon

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! "Let it be known to all men within the sound of my voice that the governor of this Massachusetts Bay colony does set aside Tuesday week as a day of Thanksgiving to God for the bountiful harvest of this Year of Our Lord 1650."

Thus was Thanksgiving Day proclaimed in the New England colonies more than three centuries ago. In that day, the people heard the news by the words of the town criers. From the time of the first Pilgrim harvest at Plymouth in 1621 until President Lincoln in 1864 set aside as national Thanksgiving Day the last Thursday of each November, the observance of Thanksgiving Day was carried on. It was then a local or state holiday rather than a general national practice.

And now, three hundred years later, let us take a few moments of the present, to be whisked in spirit into the quiet night atop the highest peak of our western moun-

tains. Here we may pause, relax, reflect.

Soon, in the midst of the darkness, we feel the cool of the purple dawn warming into the golden glow of a glorious sunrise bursting across the heavens. America's verdant carpet unrolls before our eyes. In prismatic polychrome, in homely blanket patterns, there glisten the amber fields of harvested grain, the somber green of the forests, the velvet pastures, and the fruited groves.

Katherine Lee Bates, inspired by the majestic view from Pike's Peak, built these scenes into the first stanza of *America, The Beautiful*.

O beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,

For purple mountain majesties  
Above the fruited plain.

America! America!  
God shed His grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea.

Thus does the poet sum up the beauty and plenteous production of our country, in the same breath asking God's blessing in the guise of brotherhood. We shall do well, as beneficiaries of the American pioneer tradition, and of American progress in science, industry, and agriculture, to continue in prayer. Make these words your own petition of thanksgiving and dedication:

\* \* \*

Vouchsafe unto us, O Heavenly Father, such understanding that no arrogance may tarnish the joy of success, no self-exaltation debase the love of achievement. Teach us to be humble.

---

## LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

Liberty, which we so much covet, is not a solitary plant.

Always by its side is Justice. But Justice is nothing but right applied to human affairs. Do not forget, I entreat you, that with the highest morality is the highest liberty. A great poet, in one of his inspired sonnets, speaking of this priceless possession, has said, "But who loves that must first be wise and good."

Therefore do the Pilgrims in their beautiful example teach liberty, teach republican institutions, as at an earlier day Socrates and Plato, in their lessons of wisdom, taught liberty and helped the idea of the republic.

If republican government has thus far failed in any experiment . . . it is because these lessons have been wanting. There have been no pilgrims to teach the moral law.

—From a speech by the Honorable Charles Sumner, on "The Qualities That Win," delivered in 1873.

Keep far from us the pride of possession and the despair of want. In poverty save us, O God, from bitterness; in abundance rescue us from self-indulgence. Incline our hearts unto Thee and keep us from covetousness.

Kindle within us a passion for a better world. Enlarge our sympathies, make us eager to ease the sorrow and distress of men and thus learn to know the joy of service.

Lift up our eyes that, like our forefathers, we too may see the light of sun and stars so that our souls may soar to Thee in complete Thanksgiving.

## WE GIVE

### *Thanks For Freedom*

By Mark Soden, of Smedley Chapter Number One, Santa Ana

Today in America we enjoy the benefits of the greatest of all civilizations. It is the last and best hope — the only hope — for freedom and for peace on earth. But because so many of us fear that someone will drop an atom bomb on our heads, we do not even notice how the foundations of that freedom are beginning to crack under us.

Since the beginning of the Christian era, about 40 billion people have lived on this earth; but not more than three per cent of them have ever known freedom as we understand it. That is precisely why no other nation since time began has possessed the spiritual strength, the material wealth, and the productive capacity which we now enjoy.

Our American civilization is no accident. It exists because it was founded squarely upon the principle of human liberty; because we have learned to defend the rights of the individual and to respect the dignity of man.

For many years we have been surrendering these God-given rights, bit by bit, in the hope of finding an even better way of life. Instead of striking out for ourselves along the path of freedom, as our forefathers did, we have chosen to follow slowly, but steadily,

ly, in the despairing steps of socialistic Europe, even though there can no longer be any doubt that this path will lead us into economic and political slavery.

Whether to abandon that wrong road now, while there is yet time, or whether to permit human liberty to perish from its last refuge, is the most critical decision that this nation has faced since 1776. And the signs all indicate that the responsibility for making that momentous decision will fall primarily on the men and women of our generation.

It is a responsibility that will not wait, and cannot be dodged. We cannot afford to gamble that an atomic bomb will relieve us of it; for the danger we face is not that there may be no tomorrow. Rather, the danger is that there may be an eternity of tomorrows through which all of us, and our children, must toil along the road to Communist destruction — without peace, without freedom, and without hope.

Let us give thanks for freedom in this month of Thanksgiving, but let us at the same time prove our gratitude by resolving now to act in unison to fight for and protect the right of free men to continue to be free and self-directing.

# THE Toastmaster

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Editor . . . . . R. C. Smedley

Editorial Board: Jack Haynes, Don Harris, D. Joe Hendrickson, Frank E. Learned, Clifford Massoth, Martin L. Seltzer, E. M. Sundquist, George Waugh, Glen E. Welsh, Ernest S. Wooster.

Address all communications to  
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## IN DEFENSE OF FREE SPEECH

Three hundred and seven years ago (November 24, 1644, to be exact) John Milton made public the most celebrated of all his prose works, a pamphlet which he titled *Areopagitica*, "A Speech for the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing."

There was a movement on foot in England to bring about a censorship of printing by means of regulations and licenses. In 1637 a decree was issued regulating the printing, circulation and importation of books. On June 14, 1643, the "Long Parliament" published an order making this decree more effective. It ordered that no publi-

cation "shall from henceforth be printed or put on sale unless the same be first approved of and licensed by such person or persons as both or either of the said Houses of Parliament shall appoint for the licensing of same."

The clergy and the ruling classes were clinging fast to traditional authority over public opinion, and the king was laying plans to prevent a popular rebellion against such tyranny. People were demanding the right to think and speak, a right which threatened the very existence of the old regime.

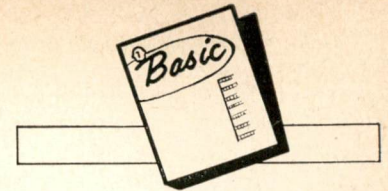
John Milton denounced this act of oppression in eloquent language, and he defiantly published his pamphlet without license or permission.

Liberty was the central principle of Milton's faith and philosophy. He counted it the most potent, beneficent and sacred factor in human progress. He applied it to every aspect of living, — to literature, religion and civic life.

To him there was something sacred about the printed page. He wrote: "Who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were, in the eye."

Again, he cries out: "Many there be that complain at Divine Providence for suffering Adam to transgress. Foolish tongues! When God gave him reason, He gave him freedom to choose, for reason is but choosing; he had been else a mere artificial Adam."

## My Impression



Adapted from a speech given as Toastmaster Sprague came to the completion of his "Basic Training"

By Wilbur B. Sprague, of Washington D. C., Toastmasters Club No. 848.

Having gone through the first eleven assignments in *Basic Training*, I find myself with "The Masterpiece" coming up before me in the book. But only a very conceited person would be so naive as to think that he was now ready to deliver a "masterpiece."

I feel very much like the young man who had just finished his college course. His father, who was far from satisfied with his son's educational achievements, said to him, "Son, after four years of college, you are nothing but a loafer, a drunk, and a disgrace to your father and mother! I can't think of one good thing your education has done." After a moment's reflection, the youth said, "Well, Dad, at least it has cured Mother of bragging about me."

I am not bragging, but I do have some impressions of Toastmasters training, what it has taught me, and what challenging ideals I have found in it.

First, let me assure all you new members who are about to "break the ice," or have done so recently, and who are still shivering from

it, that I am probably just as nervous about speaking as you are. However, it is a different kind of apprehension. It is caused by my own desire to do my very best today, plus some anxiety over the possibility of not achieving that goal. I consider this a healthy mental attitude, one to be desired rather than suppressed.

Outside of my own church, the Toastmasters Club is the only organization which, week by week and month by month, demands my best and creates a growing desire for self-improvement. I can think of no other club where one can find so much fun, fellowship, education, self-improvement and general up-grading of its members. From the day I joined Toastmasters, I became a beneficiary of all this — and more, too!

I am impressed with the fine fellowship we share in our club. Through this medium I have come to know many of you, who might otherwise be only passing or nodding acquaintances. What an insight you gain into a man's thinking and character when he talks

about his family or his hobby, or gets all steamed up over some controversial issue and tries to sell you on his ideas! This fellowship is worth a million, and it is second only to the training in talking.

I have learned that it is easy to become discouraged and feel that we are making no progress in the early stages of our work. This may be caused by the fact that much time is spent on each phase of the training — a whole speech devoted to finding how to use our hands, and another to voice modulation or enthusiasm. But as we proceed, we see that these things are necessary.

I have learned the lesson of preparation. At times during my first eleven speeches I failed to make adequate preparation and tried to cover up. But I didn't get away with it. The critics caught me every time, and gave me what I needed. From that I learned that a speaker cannot successfully give a prepared speech if he is unprepared.

### Listening

I have learned to be a good listener, and what is more, how to enjoy it. In the Toastmasters Club you find so much to think about as you listen to the speaker and the evaluation, noticing the little points as well as the big ones, and trying to help him do better. I am indebted to Toastmasters for showing me how to be a good listener, and to enjoy it.

I have learned the importance of clean speech. A speaker must not lower himself in the estimation of his audience by using stories that are in bad taste, nor should he in-

sult an audience by expecting them to appreciate the baser things. This adherence to high standards has impressed me with the sincerity of the Toastmasters program.

### Leadership

I am grateful to one of our oldest members for an inspiring vision of the potential of Toastmasters. I refer to Mr. C. A. Hawley, 82 years old and an active member of the Ee-Quip'-Sha Toastmasters Club in the state of Washington. In a recent article in *The Toastmaster*, he said: "At the present time there is a dearth of moral leadership throughout the world. Not greater armies and navies, but greater men is the supreme need of this tragic hour . . . Who shall rise to meet this need? To whom shall we turn for consecrated leadership in these fateful days? Toastmasters can inspire, develop, and train the type of men so badly needed . . ."

This brings me to my final impression of Toastmasters. There is a magnificent challenge for each of us in this work. It is a challenge far above and beyond the immediate training in speech-making. True, we must learn the fundamentals of the art of speech, and we must practice them, but we must dedicate ourselves to useful purposes in life, and use this training to make our lives count as a definite force for good.

We may never reach perfection in public speaking, but we can keep on striving toward that perfection, dedicating ourselves to service, always remembering that "it is better to aim high and fail than to aim low and succeed."

## Don't Be Pushed Around

By Lionel H. deSanty, of Gavel Toastmasters Club No. 11, of Long Beach, California.

Parliamentary law is the accepted practice in governing meetings. It consists of the ancient and honorable rules of order built up through generations of meeting.

Some may prefer to call it the dismal science of tripping people up. Some experts use it for that purpose, and if the purpose is a good one, their tricks are good. If you are not willing to be pushed around by clever parliamentarians, you must familiarize yourself with the tricks and strategy of parliamentary usage.

An excellent example of such strategy is afforded in the handling of the San Francisco Conference on the Japanese Peace Treaty by Secretary of State Dean Acheson. As chairman, Mr. Acheson kept the meeting moving; he kept it clear, and in balance.

He maintained complete control despite the efforts of the Communist delegation, headed by Mr. Gromyko, to confuse and disrupt. Mr. Acheson would not be pushed around. On the contrary he was able to do pushing himself, because of his mastery of parliamentary details.

Mr. Gromyko was prepared to take over, but he was stopped by better parliamentary tricks. He was clever, but not clever enough.

The first carefully planned procedure as the conference opened brought New Zealand's Sir Carl Berendsen to the platform to move adoption of the rules. The

motion was promptly seconded by Oscar Gans, of Cuba.

Meantime, Delegate Gromyko had been trying to gain recognition, but the chairman refused to see him. Finally he approached the speaker's stand and, when it was too late for him to use his monkey wrench to stop the machinery, Mr. Acheson recognized him. The Russian began by demanding a seat for Red China. Acheson ruled him out of order, as the only matter up for consideration was the motion to adopt the rules of procedure.

It did not take long for Gromyko to realize that he was bucking an alert and well-prepared group of free-nations representatives, who were ready to meet him at his own game, and thoroughly defeat him.

Every Toastmaster can acquire the know-how of chairmanship by studying *The Amateur Chairman*, and by putting the knowledge into practice.

Adherence to the rules of procedure on the part of the chairman during the business meeting enables him to keep things moving, to keep the meeting clear and in balance. Not only at meetings of Toastmasters, but in every assembly, parliamentary law governs the conduct of discussion.

To keep from being "pushed around," learn and practice the rules of procedure.

## The Second Reader

When you read to an audience, certain things must be kept in mind. When you have become a good reader, these essential elements will have developed into habits, so that they will be cared for without conscious volition on your part. Accustom yourself to good habits of reading. These are no harder to form than bad ones.

First, do not permit the reading to destroy eye contact. You must look ahead in reading, so that you can take your eyes from the script and speak a dozen words, or an entire sentence without looking down. Avoid the constant lifting and dropping of the eyes, a practice which ruins the reading for all concerned. Read a clause, or even a complete sentence, with your eyes on the text. Then lift your gaze and look at the audience while you speak the next sentence or clause. Try to make your voice and manner fully natural and easy.

Second, pay special attention to pauses and emphasis as you read. One normally reads at a slower rate than would be used if he were speaking extempore, and this aids in making full use of the pause when the sense indicates this usage. In the first paragraph on the next page, observe that there are numerous pauses required, though no punctuation may show them. Thus, in the second sentence, there should be a pause after "the first six thousand years of history" and other brief pauses after "scene" and after "bold." Watch the emphasis as well, for the stress placed upon a certain word or phrase may completely alter its meaning.

Third, enunciation may receive more adequate attention as you read, and the grunts, the aspirated pauses, the "ah-h-s" and "er-r-s" which appear in ordinary speech have no excuse for getting into the reading.

Watch your reading on these three elementary points as you go through these paragraphs, offered for your practice. Other details will be mentioned in later treatments of this matter, but if you will master the three simple suggestions given above on this assignment, you will have made commendable gains.

Reading is an important form of speech.

Good reading, like all other forms of good speech, is developed by practice, and by creating good habits by which your reading aloud is controlled at all times.

## Try Your Voice on These

The story of America is the story of the impact of an old culture upon a wilderness environment. America skipped, as it were, the first six thousand years of history and emerged upon the historical scene bold and mature, for the first settlers were not primitive but civilized men, and they transplanted here a culture centuries old. Yet the New World was never merely an extension of the Old. It was what its first settlers anticipated and its founding fathers planned — something new in history . . . America became the most ambitious experiment ever undertaken in the intermingling of peoples, in religious toleration, social equality, economic opportunity, and political democracy.

—Allan Nevins and Henry S. Commager:  
The Pocket History of the United States

It took about forty millions of years for the ape to develop into the ape-man. It took him another three hundred thousand years to learn how to hold his head up straight, and to kill his prey with implements of stone. Fifty thousand years later he accidentally discovered copper, and was thus able to devise more effective weapons for killing. Two thousand years after that, he discovered iron, and his killing methods became even more skillful. Five thousand years after the discovery of iron he invented dynamite, and several centuries later he built his first submarine and airplane, and then his ingenuity in killing other living creatures became almost perfect. Perhaps in another fifty thousand years his sluggish brain will begin to understand the obvious truth that killing is a foolish business and that he had better spend his time in more useful pursuits.

—Henry Thomas

A husbandman who had a quarrelsome family, after having tried in vain to reconcile them by words, thought he might more readily prevail by an example. So he called his sons and bade them lay a bundle of sticks before him. Then, having tied them up into a fagot, he told the lads, one after another, to take it up and break it. They all tried, but tried in vain. Then, untying the fagot, he gave them the sticks to break one by one. This they did with the greatest ease. Then said the father: "Thus, my sons, as long as you remain united, you are a match for all your enemies; but differ and separate, and you are undone."

—Aesop

## Toastmasters Go To Town

### Working On The Railroad

By Russell V. Puzey, Director  
of Toastmasters International.

An American corporation that is attracting favorable attention through a good public relations program is the Illinois Central Railroad. Led by President Wayne A. Johnston, the railroad is celebrating its centennial by telling how it has reduced bonded debt and restored dividend payments, and how its coming to the Mississippi Valley a hundred years ago opened this great region to agricultural and industrial development.

A Toastmaster has figured prominently in the railroad's success story: Cliff Massoth, editor of the *Illinois Central Magazine*, who has put his training in public speaking to good use. Massoth was the original secretary of Central Toastmasters No. 96 when that club was reorganized in March, 1943, as an all-Illinois Central group in downtown Chicago. Later, during his term as president, he presented a plan for broadening the membership. Today the club is a broadly representative group, though still strong with Illinois Central men. Cliff is proud of the fact that the only

meetings he has missed during the past eight years have been because of illness or being out of town.

Cliff's interest in Toastmasters stems from the time he was called upon without warning to face an audience of nearly one thousand railroad men and women. He conquered his temporary panic and succeeded in making a brief talk, but the experience caused him to look for training in public speaking. Now the railroad "loans" him to such organizations as the Treasury Department, Community Chest, and Red Cross for talks before audiences both large and small. During the present centennial year of the railroad, he has spoken before groups all up and down the 6,500 miles of line in fourteen mid-American states.

Cliff's Toastmasters training stands him in good stead in other ways, too. For its centennial program, Illinois Central trained several hundred speakers at major points on the railroad. Many of these have since become affiliated with Toastmasters Clubs. Cliff served as instructor for one of the classes, which numbered among its students several officers of the company. At the conclusion of the course, the group presented him

with a double Parker 51 desk set in appreciation of his help.

Two other Toastmasters have played important parts in the centennial program. Emmitt Holmes, past governor of District 30, who is assistant general passenger agent for the railroad at Chicago, has been heard frequently from the speaker's stand. Emmitt, whose home club is Wilson Avenue No. 169, is a Toastmaster with leadership experience at Louisville and at Minneapolis.

Frank Moran of Central is another who has discovered the value of good speaking training. He has just completed a term as president of the Chicago Junior Association of Commerce and Industry, an organization of more than 800 young men. Frank, who is also a past president of Central Toastmasters, is chief clerk in the sales and service branch of the Traffic Department in Chicago. Recently he and Emmitt Holmes, accompanied by Charles Burrows, another railroader and a member of Cen-



Massoth and Holmes

tral Toastmasters, helped launch Toastmasters Club No. 949 in Memphis, Tennessee. Cliff Massoth, who was unable to attend the charter night meeting, helped President Odell Hartz of the Memphis club in the preliminary planning before the club was organized.

---

The ability to speak well is characteristic of outstanding leaders in the world. From ancient times down to the present, this power has been the asset of great men. Demosthenes, Cicero, Webster, Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Byron, Lloyd George, William E. Borah, and Franklin D. Roosevelt are but a few of them who could be named. In order to become a good speaker you will need to develop a background of knowledge and increase your self-confidence, — at the same time acquiring a new skill in the fundamentals of platform behavior and the use of the voice. Make the most of your speaking opportunities.

—From the bulletin of Los Caballeros Club  
No. 322, Santa Monica, California

# Speech Material in Biography

History is merely the account of what people have done.

If you know the life of a statesman, you have a fair idea of what went on during his time. The more you know about great men of all ages, the better you know history.

There is no more fertile field for factual material and for illustrations and anecdotes than you will find in well-written, accurate biographies.

"There is properly no history, only biography," said Emerson.

You may have been deterred from the reading of biography because you found it heavy going. Some biographers have been too solemnly ponderous, lacking the ability to portray their subjects as human beings. You will gain more from the simpler and easier treatment given by many modern writers.

Don C. Seitz wrote an excellent book entitled *Uncommon Americans*. Published some 25 years ago, it is not generally known and read today. You should find it in your city library, or possibly in some second-hand bookstore. It carries extremely interesting information about such men as Peter Cartwright, pioneer preacher; and Brigham Young, organizer of the Mormon Church; Susan B. Anthony, "Sister of Suffrage"; Ethan Allen; James Whistler; Henry George; Mary Baker Eddy; and David Crockett — and 14 other people of unusual character.

Another unusual book of biography is *They Also Ran*, by Irving Stone. It is a study of the 19 men who, up to 1940, had been unsuccessful candidates for the presidency of the United States. That list includes well-known names, such as Henry Clay, Stephen A. Douglas, William J. Bryan, and Alfred E. Smith, and others not so well known, as Lewis Cass, Horatio Seymour, Alton B. Parker, and James Cox. The author believes that Horace Greeley would have made a better president than did U. S. Grant, and that things would have gone better if James Cox had been chosen instead of Warren G. Harding. His observations are keen and they are presented in an interesting manner.

These two books are strongly recommended as a source for speech material, and for their generally informative approach to people and events whose influence was great in the building of America.

Of course no careful reader of biography in popular style can overlook the "*Little Journeys*" series by Elbert Hubbard. All fourteen volumes are worth reading, and these are usually available in well-stocked libraries.

Plutarch wrote, 19 centuries ago: "To be ignorant of the lives of the most celebrated men of antiquity is to continue in a state of childhood all our days."

# New Ways To Help

By L. C. Turner, Past President of Toastmasters International

As I listened to an excellent discussion on the Table Topic recently, an idea occurred to me that may be helpful to others. This is it:

Appoint a scribe each evening to make a digest of the ideas expressed during the Table Topic session. This would serve a double purpose . . .

1. It would give the man appointed as scribe some valuable experience in catching and condensing the main features.
2. Publishing this digest in the club bulletin the following week would build up a file of ideas helpful to other club members.

For example, here is a digest of the topic session of the Akron Toastmasters Club No. 151, as reported by one of our members, Russell Martin. It contains more practical ideas than I have obtained in a whole week at some "educational conferences." I believe this idea has good possibilities for all clubs, and suggest you try it out.

TABLE TOPIC: *If I were a high school student facing life again, what would I do to assure a better future?*

Get specific preparation for a

vocation. I would study carefully the requirements of that vocation.

Get all of the formal education I could.

Take a year's course in a business college before I started to college. I would be older and able to get more from college because I would have the tools to get it.

Stay away from large corporations because in certain lines you get a broader training with a small company and advance faster. (My own experience — I tried both.)

Delay marriage until I had completed my education and training.

Find someone who was a success in the line I wanted to follow and get a job with him.

Travel around the country and look over the opportunities in various sections before I settled down; too many young people settle down where they were reared and get in a rut.

Get some experience in sales work and meeting people. This is helpful in any line of work.

Learn to speak effectively. Lack of training in that field has held me back for years.

Get some specialized knowledge and skills. The world wants to



know what you can do well — better than the other fellow.

Not be satisfied with just going to school. I would find out what I wanted to do and then go to school accordingly.

Develop more self-confidence.

Read more biographies of successful people. I have wasted hundreds of hours reading novels and useless stories.

Get a good understanding of

English grammar — and use it properly.

Make more friends among worth-while adults who could give me the benefit of their experience.

No matter how far past high school age you may be, some of these points can still help you. Maybe they can also help your son and daughter. File this for their use.

## I'm Not Nervous

By Al J. Schansberg, of Club No. 410, New Albany, Indiana.

You and I are members of the Toastmasters Club because we suffer from self-consciousness, or fear of our own voices, from nervousness, from just plain backwardness, or whatever you may choose to call the unpleasant sensation that goes along with speaking before a group of people.

We joined because others proved to us that training in the Toastmasters Club *can* make speaking before groups as pleasant and effortless as driving your own car.

I doubt that any Toastmaster ever suffered greater distress than I did when I made my first speech. Now after several years of membership, I am still fighting my pet weakness, self-consciousness—and I intend to keep on fighting it.

In my opinion, each week the toastmaster of the program should assign a five- to seven-minute impromptu speech.

That assignment should be made at intermission time. Let the speaker be third, fourth, or fifth on the program. Whether he is given one topic, a choice of topics, or a subject of his own selection could be a matter of the toastmaster's choice.

I recommend that, because I believe that I have received great value out of the club work through Table Topics and through unexpected assignments, I seem to do better with an "off the cuff" speech than with one I have spent hours in organizing, writing, and reading aloud.

When I'm prepared to speak, I know my subject so well that it gives me time to become nervous. When I'm not prepared, I must think and plan my speech as I speak, which keeps me so occupied that I forget all about self-consciousness and being afraid.

## What's Going On

Tulsa Is Progressive



A. B. Miller is Vice-President of Tulsa Progressive Toastmasters, No. 264. It seemed to him that the members needed a reading desk, but the club had none. So "Abey" got out his hammer and jackknife and a handful of nails, and pretty soon the lectern shown in the picture came into being. It is made of satin wood plastic veneer, and its size at the base is 14 by 20 inches. It is 12 inches high at the front, and 16 inches high at the back. It is equipped with a reading light, and the top has a green felt cover. The top lifts, and inside the box the club keeps the flag, the timing device, the gavel and other impedimenta frequently used.

President W. B. McConnico, who sends the report, says that this nifty piece of furniture was quite inexpensive. It cost the club nothing, and its maker was out only about twelve dollars for materials. The next problem will be how to keep the members from leaning on the lectern.

In the picture supporting the lectern, are President W. B. McConnico, Past President R. A. Helms, Past President J. C. Nicholson and Vice-President and Master Craftsman A. B. Miller.

## Palmetto State Invaded

The Greenville Toastmasters Club, first Toastmasters Club in South Carolina, has received its charter, and is now on its way. This chapter is made up of representative men of the city, seeking to improve their powers of communication.

Charter No. 964 was presented by Dr. Dillon Chambers, of the Asheville, N. C., Toastmasters Club and received by Rufus Bruce, President of the new chapter.



Photo by Terry Wise



Photo by Fred Rouillard

## "The Pay-off Picnic"

The Sierra Toastmasters Club, of Fresno, California, discovered last June that it was down to 26 members. The leaders immediately launched an attendance and membership contest, with the result that by September the club had 30 active members, besides 15 associate and inactive ones. Attendance throughout the summer averaged 28 men, and 43 attended the picnic event shown in the picture, when success was celebrated. (And it gets warm in Fresno in the summertime.)

In the center of the picture you can see "Chef" Ed Arslan tempting President Floyd Klein and Chief of winning team George Combs with barbecued shis-ka-bob. The chap to the left, with the flowery shirt, is District Governor E. T. Hier.

## Tacoma C. of C. Talks

The new Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters Club of Tacoma received its charter at the hands of District Governor Dr. James Ogle, of Olympia, at an interesting party held at the University-Union Club. Club President C. Nathan Lynn is seen receiving the charter from Dr. Ogle. Area Governor Lionel Schmitt presented the gavel, and Fred J. Graham, District Educational Chairman, acted as evaluator.



## The Executive Committee at Work

A year ago, Victoria's four Toastmasters Clubs formed the "Victoria Toastmasters Council," consisting of the president and deputy governor from each club. The purpose was to bring the clubs closer together in work where united efforts would count for most.

Results thus far include forming of an exchange bureau for speakers, by which members gain opportunities for outside speech engagements; joint summer meetings; inter-club debates, open to the public; the "Golden Gavel" competition; and presentation of a *Speechcraft* course for 43 army officers in training. One special event was the presentation of a Catalin Gavel to veteran Toastmaster Ed. Whyte.

The picture shows Toastmaster S. R. Thomson presiding over an executive meeting where progressive plans are under consideration.

## Telephone Listing

In a letter from Dyke Wade, Secretary of the Toastmasters Club of Savannah, Georgia, there is an urgent suggestion of the importance of "registering every club in the local telephone directory under the name, *Toastmasters International*. (The cost is only 25 cents a month here.) You may recall the difficulty I had in locating a club when I moved from Las Vegas to Chicago. Again last summer, I wanted to visit the Mobile Toastmasters Club while in that city, but could not locate them. Later I found that they were holding a meeting in the hotel where I was staying."

It would be a good idea for every Toastmasters Club to have itself identified in some way, as by telephone listing or other means, so that it may be located by any visiting Toastmaster without difficulty.

## Lions Roar at Moorhead

Toastmasters of Moorhead, Minnesota, take pride in the service they have given to the local Lions Club. Vice-President Jim Mullen reports that Toastmaster Andy Stevens was the first president of the Lions Club, and that Toastmaster Lyle Clark was president in 1948. In addition, four other Toastmasters are either present or recent officers or directors of the Lions Club. This proves once more that the Toastmasters Club is not a competitor of the service clubs, but rather a help and a training school for their leaders.

## The Lifted Eyebrow

At a recent District Council meeting (location withheld for reasons of prudence), the District Governor asked about induction of new members into the clubs. "How many of you have a formal induction for each new member?" he asked. A showing of hands indicated that about half of the clubs in the district attended to this important matter. The other clubs . . . ? (*This report receives an emphatic "Tut! Tut!"*)

## Washington's Dust Bowl

Toastmasters from Yakima were due to give *Speechcraft* lectures at a meeting in Ephrata one evening in September. They were making the trip by air, but the "big blow," as they termed it up there, blacked out the sky and disrupted air traffic, so that the men from Yakima were unable to get further than Ellensburg. But local Toastmasters stepped in and carried through a satisfactory evening's program of instruction for the 56 men in attendance at the *Speechcraft* session.

## "Our Best Critics"

When the Toastmasters of Prichard, Alabama, presented their first "Ladies' Night" event, they were treated to a novelty in evaluation. President Leroy Averett had arranged with Chief Evaluator Nick Moulyet to have the wives serve as individual critics. The ladies set a good example of constructive and searching evaluation for the men.

## Toastmasters Are Talking

### Holding Attention

A certain minister made a practice of recording his sermons on a wire-recorder, and then listening to them on Saturday evening, in order to fix them in his mind for Sunday delivery. He fell asleep while listening to his own sermon, and did not wake up until the silence which followed the recording aroused him.

—From Bulletin of Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters Club of Seattle

### Good Selling

If a salesman can get one foot inside the door, then it is his fault if he cannot get all the way in. If a prospective member will come to our club, then it is the club's responsibility to sell the prospect on Toastmasters training.

—The Toaster, bulletin of Athenian Toastmasters of Jacksonville, Illinois

### A Force for Peace

With the increase in the number of our clubs throughout the world and the tremendous advances being made in Toastmasters training, I believe that we are on the way to becoming a great force in the promotion of world peace. We must remember that our purpose is not only to help others to speak effectively, but also to promote tolerance, and to strengthen and use our spiritual resources to help build a lasting peace.

—D. Joe Hendrickson, of Indianapolis

### Let's Be Natural

The following quotation from the autobiography of Dr. William Lyon Phelps, of Yale, is presented in the bulletin of the Lewis-Clarke Toastmasters Club, of Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington:

"Informality does not mean any loss of dignity. It may mean simply that one throws away all pretense.

"I began to teach with absolute naturalness. Later, in my public addresses, in my sermons in church, in my dinner speeches, in my orations at funerals, I have never changed. Whether I am talking to two persons or to two thousand, my manner is exactly the same. As a great deal is said about the technique of public speaking, I will say that this is the only technique I know."

# It's a Good Idea

## "Be What You Ain't"

A clever variation in Table Topics was recently presented at the Long Beach Gavel Club. The Topicmaster called upon each speaker to impersonate someone of occupation different from his own, and to give a brief propaganda speech from that viewpoint. The first speaker was a labor leader, the next a big businessman. The impersonations ranged from schoolteacher and tenant farmer to communist organizer, little businessman, farmer, banker, and member of the legislature. Such a situation calls for quick thinking and lively speaking. Try it in your club.

## Selling the Program

One fine feature about *The Prolocutor*, bulletin of Evansville No. 1 Toastmasters Club, is the regular publication of speech subjects in advance. For example, the October 15 issue carried the following list of subjects:

**Toastmasters Anniversaries**  
**How to Make a Sale**  
**Home with the Hoosiers**  
**The Empire State**  
**To the Mother of Presidents**  
**Advanced Speechcraft**

Almost anyone can find interest in that kind of announcement. The Evansville Toastmasters have little trouble with attendance. No wonder, when they sell the program each time.

## Preserve Your Bulletins

Every club which publishes a bulletin, whether weekly or monthly, should make it a point to keep a complete file of the issues, and to have them preserved in a permanent binder. These bulletins, plus the membership rosters issued from time to time, are definitely valuable in giving the club's history and keeping it for future generations of Toastmasters. Let your bulletin record the history in a style worthy of preservation, and then see that it is preserved.

## Name Your Bulletin

Much ingenuity is shown in naming club bulletins. A good name, dignified, clever, and distinctive, is good for all concerned. The Toastmasters Club of San Antonio, Texas, has just launched its weekly news sheet under the name of *The Satex Toastmaster*, which combines abbreviations into a pleasing title.

## With a Purpose

Chief Seattle Toastmasters Club went all out for the "Hit the Nail on the Head" idea in October. One meeting was specially designated as "So What Night," in which attention to purpose was given to every detail. The idea is worth borrowing. In fact, every meeting should have an emphatic "So What" in its planning.

# YOU CAN MAKE A SPEECH

By John C. Sears, of South Hills Toastmasters Club No. 847, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

*Taken from an article in The Gavel, bulletin of South Hills Toastmasters.*

Let's get out of the rut in our club. Let's use our imagination in evaluation, in Table Topics, and in program format.

Too often, our first thought is of what was done last time. Unfortunately, we just let it go at that, and give the boys some more of the same. Result? Boredom and creeping paralysis in club activities.

Don't allow yourself and your club to become typed. Meet the challenge presented by Toastmasters for thinking and planning.

Consider how many otherwise qualified people are stymied in their present positions. Why? Simply because lack of curiosity about the other fellow's job, or the job ahead, or other phases of the business has made them too efficient in the present task. They are in the rut of routine.

Your boss isn't going to probe deeply to discover the pure gold you have to offer. He can't dig through the layers of habit, satisfaction with the status quo, or the humdrum aura of habit which surrounds us. You must expose the pay dirt by letting him know that you are interested in the scope and possibilities of the business.

How many accountants do you

know who have become so mesmerized with their own details that demands by operating peoples, sales departments or others which might disturb their routine are met in a combative and arbitrary manner?

How many engineers do you know who are so wrapped up in making the wheels go round that they have little idea of the problems of the accountants or salesmen?

Such people make excellent clerks and minor functionaries, but when a really good position opens, they are passed by. It would cost the company too much to separate the man from his habits.

Where does the Toastmasters Club fit into all this:

Nowhere else can you find such a laboratory in which to try out ideas, and to get honest reactions from others. All new ideas have to be explained and evaluated. Frequently, the lucidity of presentation has more effect on its acceptance than the idea itself.

Use your Toastmasters Club as the sounding board, the test tube, the refining furnace for ideas and visions. Do not be satisfied with programs which are merely conventional and typical. Put your imagination to work in your club programs, and develop the untouched resources for the improvement of every member.

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## HOW WE TALK

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### Back of the Words

With detective stories enjoying their present popularity, it is interesting to do some sleuthing on some of the words involved in the mysteries and "who-dun-its."

Start with the word *detective*. Where did we get it, and what is its basic meaning?

The Latin verb *detegere*, was made up of the verb *tegere*, to cover, with the prefix *de*, which puts action into reverse. Thus *detegere* in its Latin use meant to uncover, to take the lid off. That is what our detective does. He unwraps the package, or opens the door, or takes off the lid, and reveals what is hidden. The Latin *detectus* becomes the English *detective*.

That which is hidden constitutes the *mystery*. The word has a Latin ancestor in the word *mysterium*, a great secret, especially when connected with religious rites. Back of it is the Greek *myein*, to be closed up, as with the lips, when the mouth is tightly closed.

There is a still better story back of the word *sleuth*. You remember how "Old Sleuth" unfailingly tracked the villain to his hiding place. But *sleuth* really means the track of an animal. At first it was applied to the deer track, but later

it became the term for any animal's footprint.

The sleuth must have a clew to follow. Perhaps you prefer the more popular spelling, "clue." In either case, the word refers in origin to the idea of a ball of string. There is a Greek word, *knauel*, with that meaning, and a Sanskrit word *glau*, meaning ball. Both of these are in the background.

Back of this meaning was an old French word, *esclot*, meaning a groove or slot. The narrow print left by the hoof of the deer resembled a slot, and so it took the name. In the course of time it evolved into our form, *sleuth*, and because that word meant a track, it came to mean the tracker also. Thus our detective becomes a sleuth, although he bears not the slightest resemblance to a deer or its footprint.

The detective works on crime and seeks to bring the criminal to justice. But if you go back far enough, you find that *crime*, which for us means some evil deed, used to carry the sense of reproach. It comes from the root of the Latin verb *cernere*, to decide judicially. Through the ages, usage transferred the meaning from the accusation or judgment to the evil deed itself.

Strangely enough, the same root form is in the background of our favorite word, "critic." Do you get the connection? A critic is one who listens and judges, with discernment. And that same root is back of our "discern." But don't call your critic a criminal just for that.

## What Happens to Members

By Warren O. Mendenhall, of Smedley Chapter No. One  
Toastmasters Club, Santa Ana, California.

"Here today, gone tomorrow" is the description of many members of our Toastmasters Clubs. Membership turnover is always a problem. When it is not excessive, it is not disturbing. A certain shifting is inevitable. However, too frequently the club, at the end of a year, shows little similarity in membership to what it was at the beginning of the year. New men have replaced drop-outs until the member who has been temporarily on leave returns to the club wondering if he is in the right place.

Much thinking must be put into the matter of retention of members. Many of the good ideas that have been presented are interesting but not very successful. Excellence of programs, liveliness of meetings, and other obvious techniques do not seem to be sufficiently strong to retain some potentially valuable members. After six months and about that many speeches, they seem to feel that they have mastered as many rudimentary techniques as are necessary for them, and so they drop out of membership.

In contrast there are some who have remained in the club for

many years. The reasons for this sustained interest are varied, but a few personal ones from an old-timer might suggest some new ways to retain some of our fine men.

To begin with, experience proves that I deteriorate rapidly in speaking ability if I don't attend faithfully. This, of course, is true for all. For the one who speaks seldom, Toastmasters gives the opportunity to keep in trim. For the frequent speaker, it is the chance to eradicate bad speaking habits and overcome discovered difficulties. It is like the carpenter who keeps his saw sharp, or the physician who returns to the laboratory to perfect techniques. Can we impress upon our membership the necessity of this continuous practice?

In the second place, I get an enormous kick out of seeing men develop confidence and power of expression, and of having a part in it. Apparently this sense of exhilaration at another's success is a feeling that has to be developed by actual experiences. Would it be possible to assign to each member who has been in the club a few months, one of the new members or even one of the

older members as his particular responsibility? Let him be responsible for the progress of this member as he makes his speeches from month to month, conferring with his evaluator, offering suggestions for improvement, and giving encouragement when it is needed. This establishes a personal interest in a never-completed task.

Again, the Toastmasters meeting provides a liberal education as I get the information and points of view expressed by the men from week to week. It provides a sort of American forum whereby I can keep abreast with what our citizens are thinking. How challenging and thought-provoking it is to get the novel and diverse ideas from neighbors and friends! The practical knowledge gained directly from men who are at work in their various fields is truly amazing. Should we begin to place more emphasis upon the importance of intelligent listening and its value to the hearer who is willing to learn?

Finally, the type of men found in Toastmasters is the type I like to be associated with. They speak my language and share my ideals. There is little need or occasion in Toastmasters for a back-slapping,

mutual flattery type of attitude. Two characteristics feature membership in Toastmasters. One is laudably selfish — the improvement of the power of expression of the individual member. The other is definitely altruistic — that of helping the other fellow to become a more effective citizen. It is missionary zeal at its best. It gives opportunity for man to give practical evidence of his philosophy of brotherhood. Thus, the opportunist, the self-centered, the crass materialist finds little long-term benefit in Toastmasters membership. Remaining, are those whose faith, enthusiasm, and activities are a source of inspiration and encouragement to their fellow members.

Perhaps the answer to membership problems is the placing of greater emphasis upon less apparent but more fundamental values inherent in the program. These consist in the conviction that man is thoroughly worth while; that he has much to offer; that we may all have a part in helping him to make his place in life; and that friendship with men of conviction, purpose, and enthusiasm is possibly the finest experience that Heaven can offer.

### Helps for the Humorist

*Esar's Comic Dictionary*, by Evan Esar (Harvest House, New York, \$2.00) is a collection of comic definitions, puns and wisecracks, dealing with thousands of subjects, and carefully arranged in alphabetical order for ready reference. The speaker who needs phrases to liven up his sentences may find aid in this book. It may be obtained at most book stores.

## Recommended Reading

By R. C. S.



### Read the Magazines

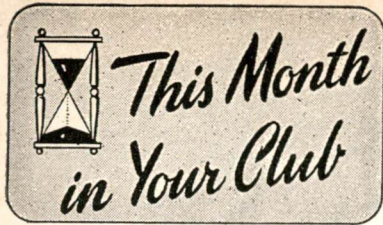
Get hold of a copy of the September issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, if you have not already read it, and do yourself a favor by reading some exceptionally worth-while articles. "Bullying the Civil Service," by Thurman Arnold, appears on page 45. It is a careful study of the ethical standards of government employees in Washington, and the efforts to regulate them. "The American Temperament," by David L. Cohn, on page 64, poses some searching questions for us in connection with the present responsibilities of our nation. Robert Louis Stevenson comes in for sympathetic treatment in an article by J. C. Furnas, on page 33; and "After an A-Bomb Falls" by John W. M. Bunker deals with a subject of very present interest.

The September *Atlantic* is unusually worth reading by the man who seeks information and wishes to gather speech material at the same time. By all means, do not miss the article by Clarence B. Randall, "A Matter of Conviction," on page 22. Mr. Randall wants you to make speeches about the American system of free enterprise.

*Harper's Magazine* for September is another reservoir of good speech stuff. In "Our National Need," on page 32, Beardsley Ruml advocates a centrally guided savings program. We can all agree on the importance of saving, but there will be a difference of opinion on his plan. "The Persuasive Roger Baldwin" by Oliver Jensen (page 47) is a sympathetic study of the founder of the American Civil Liberties Union. It is worth reading, but don't let your sympathy run away with your good sense.

Of interest to all sufferers from arthritis is the article "Cortisone and Plenty of It" by Leonard Engel, on page 56. This rare hormone is now about to be produced in satisfactory quantity.

Brooks Shepard presents a "Firsthand Report on Dowsing," on page 69, which will make you wish to read the book by Kenneth Roberts, *Henry Gross and His Dowsing Rod*. Whether it is possible to locate underground streams of water by means of a forked stick may be questioned, but here are some strong arguments in favor of the theory. Maybe you are a water witch. It would be fun to try.



### Point of Emphasis:

One month ago (October 1) the November program material was mailed from the Home Office to all club officers. In most cases it was possible to send this material to newly elected officers, but as some clubs were slow about reporting the names of the new leaders, in these instances it was sent to the retiring ones, who should be careful to pass it on to their successors in office.

The program bulletins, officially termed *Progressive Training*, are sent out always a month in advance, so that committees may have the information in ample time to plan the club's schedules.

The purpose of publishing a condensation of that material on these pages is to let every member know what his Program Committee should be doing for him. Just in case your club's programs do not reflect the month's *Point of Emphasis*, you might like to ask the officers what happened to the program suggestions which they should have received and used.

*Speech Material and Where to Find It* is an important question to some members. They fail to realize the wealth of material for study and discussion which lies all

around them. That is why we emphasize this point.

During the month you should hear some stimulating talks in your club on such subjects as

**How to Title the Speech**

**What Is Good Speech Material?**

**Speech Material in Personal Experiences**

**Speech Material in Current Events**

**Biography — the Speaker's Treasure Chest**

### Evaluation

Throughout this month give special emphasis to the evidence of imagination and originality in the choice and use of speech material. The title of the speech should be intriguing and interest-arresting. Like the opening sentences of the speech, the title should make every listener feel, "I want to listen to this talk."

Let evaluators pay attention to the listening values of the material presented. Of course you will want the speech made in good form, but regardless of the gestures, the hands in the pockets, the eye contact and such details, consider whether the speaker made you listen by reason of the interest of his material.

The beginner must pay attention to the problem of getting through with his speech in spite of nervousness, embarrassment and the other hazards, but even he can make his material interesting if he will use his imagination. The more experienced member owes it to himself and to his audience to do more than merely make a speech.

Imagination and originality put together make an interesting "portmanteau" word, and the result, announced by a Toastmaster, is *imaginality*. Morris Perlmutter, of Santa Ana Toastmasters Club No. 15, claims inventor's rights on that word, but he wants to share it with every man who will use it. He believes that the two ingredients are essential to a good speech.

This month (and every month) try to introduce "imaginality" into your speeches. Encourage your Program Committee to do the same for the programs.

Then advise every evaluator to watch for this element in the speeches which he criticizes.

### Business in Your Club

Every member should know that every new member received into the club should be formally inducted. His name should be sent to the Home Office by the club secretary as soon as he is elected. Don't wait for the induction. When his name comes in at Santa Ana, the new man's copy of *Basic Training* is sent to him immediately — *right now*. Thus he is ready when his first speech assignment comes up. (Of course this does not happen if the name is not reported promptly.)

The Club-of-the-Year Committee should be at work. Your club may not win top honors, but its service

to members will be definitely improved by the effort to live up to the standards set in the competition. Let some experienced member be assigned to speak on the Club-of-the-Year, so that all may understand just what it is.

### Speechcraft

Many clubs are planning to offer this special training course during the winter. Some are already started with it. Every Toastmasters Club more than one year old can profitably take up this project. It is a fine refresher course for older members, and it is a wonderful chance to train new ones and enlist them in the club. In some cases, it is put on as a community project, open to all who are interested. That takes a lot of work but it is good for the club and for the community.

### Visiting

Wherever clubs are so situated that visiting is conveniently possible, a regular system of visitors and exchange speakers should be established. You can always learn something by visiting another club, and frequently you can make some contribution.

When visits are made to other clubs, the visitors should be asked to make a report to their own club. Their observations may be definitely helpful.

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Criticism is a disinterested endeavor to learn and propagate the best that is known and thought in the world.

—Matthew Arnold

# Look In Your Own Home



## FOR SPEECH MATERIAL

If you need speech material which is timely, important, and of public interest — look around your own home.

You may find it harboring man-killers — child-killers — potential death traps in a dozen unexpected places. When you find such things in your home and at your doorstep you will realize that your neighbors face the same dangers, and you may be inspired to start a crusade to make home safe for the family.

Competent authorities state that each year, home accidents kill or permanently cripple more children than any known disease. Every hospital has its own collection of horror tales about youngsters who have been scalded, poisoned, broken, blinded by commonplace materials and equipment in the American home. Many a family carries its own reminder of the tragedy of a few moments of carelessness. The daily papers have certain headlines which might as well be set up and kept in stock, so often they must be used.

“Little girl shoots her brother.”

“Baby eats ant poison.”

“Child drowned in bath when mother called away for a moment.”

“Little boy’s arm mangled in washing machine.”

“Children playing with matches start disastrous fire.”

The number of such possibilities is great. “Home, sweet home” can become a menace to life and limb. Modern conveniences create hazards.

For example, how about poisons in your home? Are cleaning agents, powerful medicines, sleeping tablets, insect poisons and other dangerous materials kept where children cannot get at them?

Are firearms and explosives kept securely locked up, and are matches placed where youngsters will be unable to play with them?

Do you find sharp instruments, such as scissors, knives, paper-cutters, nail files and the like, lying around within easy reach of childish fingers?

Can children get at the appliances, such as mixers and wringers and washing machines?

Is your yard a safe place for the youngsters? Do you keep the machinery, the lawn mower and the sprinklers and such things, where they are not available for playthings? Is there a fishpond or other ornamental pool in which a little one might drown?

Is your driveway so arranged that you can back out of the garage without danger of hitting someone?

Are the electric outlets protected so that baby cannot get his fingers into the opening, and are extension cords in good condition so that no shocks can be given to the careless handler?

Are gas jets out of the way of little hands?

Your attention to such matters

may prevent a tragedy in your family. It may remove the danger of a suit for damages by some visitor who falls over a velocipede on the steps or trips on a tangled garden hose left on the sidewalk. It may even save you a broken leg which could result from stepping on the roller skates which Junior has left in the way.

For a genuinely enlightening and thrilling experience, make a study of your own home for potential dangers, and then, after correcting the bad conditions, start making speeches about “Safety at Home.” You will be heard with interest, and you may possibly do some good. It is a worthy cause, and it may add interest and effectiveness to your speaking, as you are awakened to the consequences of carelessness in the very place where safety should be your first concern.

## Let Us Give Thanks

The custom of “saying grace” before eating prevails in a civilized, Christian society. Most Toastmasters Clubs follow this custom in opening their meetings.

The best way to give thanks is to use one’s own words, and this practice is a proper study for the man who would be successful in speech. But because so many people are embarrassed when called upon to “return thanks,” help may be found in the “Saying Grace” cards published by Toastmasters International. There are 55 little cards in a neat box, each card carrying a suggested form for “asking the blessing.” The set of cards sells for \$1.00.

Here is a sample:

**Lord, we thank Thee for freedom to think and speak and learn and grow. Let the work of this hour and the fellowship it brings enable each of us to live better, to serve better, and to follow Thee more faithfully, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**



## MAKE A SPEECH

Just what is a speech that it frightens strong men even to think of making one?

A speech is a method of communicating information. The size of the audience has little to do with it. The size of the speaker's thinking is the important thing.

Of course there are many kinds of speeches — entertaining, inspirational, informational, and others — but the ordinary speech, such as you might be called upon to make, is a matter of giving information.

That rules out one of your principal fears of public speaking, for you do not need to go into arm-waving, table-thumping oratory just to tell facts. Plain talking will do better.

The first thing to do, especially if you are not an experienced speaker, is to forget that you are to make a speech. Instead, try to realize that you are going to talk. You are just going to tell the people something which you know and which they ought to know. It is amazing how great the relief which comes when you understand that you are just to talk.

The talker must be sure of what he says. The best antidote for fear of the audience is consciousness

that you really know. When you know that you know more about your subject than most of the people whom you address, a new sense of power and confidence is born within you!

To make sure of the knowledge implies plenty of preparation. It may be that you have been preparing this speech for half of your life without realizing it. You have been working at the matter and thinking about it and gaining experience long before you were even invited to make the speech. All you have to do is to arrange and condense your information, based on experience and study, and you are ready to talk.

Of course you can't tell all you know in one ten-minute speech — or at least we hope you can't — so you must select the essential points which can be presented in the prescribed time.

Here is a good formula for a talk by the inexperienced talker:

Know the facts. Boil them down to fit the time limits. Say what you have in clear, simple language. Sit down promptly when the time expires. Then you will have made a successful speech — excuse us — talk.

I criticize by creation, not by finding fault.

—Michelangelo

## MY PROBLEM

*QUESTION: When I spoke recently, I addressed the toastmaster as Mr. Chairman. My evaluator tramped on me heavily for this "error." Was I wrong?*

**ANSWER:** Surely the toastmaster is chairman of the program he conducts, and to address him as such can hardly be construed as offensive. A speaker is at liberty to use such address form as may seem appropriate. He can say "Mr. Toastmaster," or "Mr. Chairman," or "Toastmaster Jones," without violating any of the rules of good manners. Your evaluator would do you far more service by commenting on important matters. Picayunish criticism of points which do not matter is a waste of valuable time and opportunity. What the speaker needs is to know whether his speech went over, and why it did or did not.

*QUESTION: Some of our members claim that controversial matters should not be discussed in speeches before the club. They want to rule out all matters of politics and religion. Is that the right way?*

**ANSWER:** If you leave out all controversial matters, you will have a pretty small and insipid

list of things to talk about. Certainly the members of a Toastmasters Club should be mature enough in their thinking to realize that every question has at least two sides, and that any matter of sufficient interest to be argued about should be observed from all angles. The Toastmasters Club is one place where men should be able to disagree without being disagreeable. Any matter of common interest and of real importance to the members and the public should be a proper subject for intelligent and constructive discussion.

*QUESTION: Should the toastmaster lead the applause for a speaker? That is, should he start vigorously applauding as he gets on his feet after the speaker has finished?*

**ANSWER:** No. To do so implies a fear that the audience will not show proper enthusiasm. The wise toastmaster joins in the applause, but does not get into the position of leading the claque. And he most definitely will never say, "Now let's all give this fine fellow a big hand." Applause is the spontaneous response to a good performance. The moment it takes on any appearance of being forced, it loses its effect.

# THE QUIZZER

## Who Said It?

Here are 20 familiar quotations or sayings. Can you identify their origins?

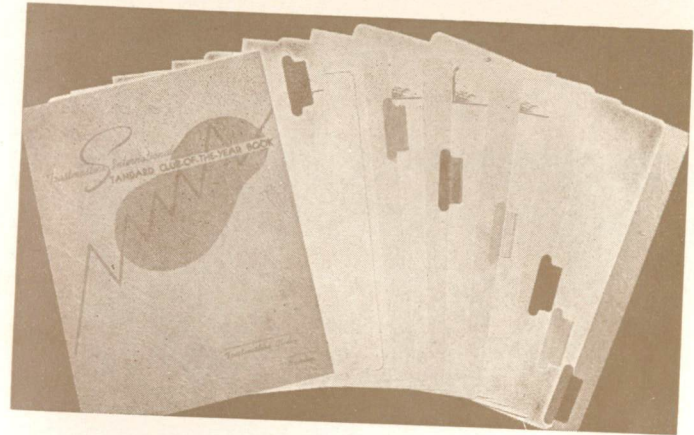
Only four sources are represented in the list. These are: The Bible, Shakespeare, Benjamin Franklin and John Milton. Try your memory on them, and then check with the list of answers given below.

1. A still, small voice.
2. The Lord loves a cheerful giver.
3. God helps them that help themselves.
4. Be sure your sin will find you out.
5. Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.
6. I am escaped by the skin of my teeth.
7. Of making of many books there is no end.
8. Light, seeking light, doth light of light beguile.
9. The evil that men do lives after them.
10. Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war.
11. No legacy is so rich as honesty.
12. How are the mighty fallen!
13. They also serve who only stand and wait.
14. I am going the way of all the earth.
15. Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven.
16. The lines are fallen to me in pleasant places.
17. Condemn the fault, and not the actor of it.
18. A stranger in a strange land.
19. There is a lion in the way.
20. In sackcloth and ashes.

### THE ANSWERS

- |                               |                              |                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I Kings 19:12              | 7. Ecclesiastes 12:12        | 13. J. Milton, Sonnet    |
| 2. II Corinthians 9:7         | 8. Shakespeare, Love's Labor | 14. Joshua 23:14         |
| 3. Benjamin Franklin          | 9. Shakespeare, J. Caesar    | 15. J Milton, Sonnet     |
| 4. Numbers 32:23              | 10. J. Milton, Sonnet        | 16. Psalm 16:6           |
| 5. Shakespeare, King Henry IV | 11. Shakespeare, All's Well  | 17. Shakespeare, Measure |
| 6. Job 19:20                  | 12. II Samuel 1:25           | 18. Exodus 2:22          |
| 19. Proverbs 26:13            | 20. Isaiah 58:5              |                          |

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