



The R.I. Secretariat serves as a clearing house for information which may be useful to Rotary clubs. This file and many others are prepared from various sources of information. Suggestions are appreciated.

## THIS JOB OF BEING A WARTIME PRESIDENT

### MR. PRESIDENT:

You have the honor of serving as the leader of your Rotary club at a time when capable, aggressive leadership is going to be more important than ever before.

You are going to be called upon to solve certain problems in club administration for which you will find no precedent in the administrations of your predecessors. The future of the Rotary club in your community is going to depend to a great extent upon how you meet and solve those problems.

### YOU AND YOUR BOARD

Fortunately, it is not going to be necessary for you to face these problems alone. When you were selected to serve as president, your members also selected a capable group to serve with you as a board of directors. These men share with you the responsibility for the success of Rotary in your community.

Even in normal times, most club presidents have found that there is a decided advantage in having a regular, stated time and place for board meetings - at least monthly. When they are held "on call" it is difficult for board members to arrange their own schedules so that they can be present. When brief meetings are held following the regular weekly luncheons, insufficient time is available for calm, deliberate discussion of club matters.

In these days the element of "time" is of increasing value. Rotarians will have to budget carefully every minute

if they are going to meet the demands that will be made of them. By setting aside a certain evening each month for the board meeting you will make it possible for them to include this in their time schedules.

The board of directors is the governing body of the club. When the board functions as it should, much valuable time can be saved for the club as a whole. Now that each citizen is out to do all he can to help win the war, many suggestions are going to be offered to each Rotary club--both from within the membership and from without. "Can the Rotary club sponsor this?"--"Will the Rotarians do that?"--are going to be frequent questions. The board of directors should investigate carefully all such questions and proposals and then present to the club for action only those propositions which the club can properly handle.

There will also be unusual questions on club administration. How shall we maintain the membership at a maximum figure despite inevitable losses to military service? What shall we do about the member who is devoting so much time to civilian defense work that he cannot attend Rotary regularly? In these and other questions you will want the calm, deliberate judgment of your board.

Emergency matters can be handled at short special meetings, but for the careful, long-range planning of activities you will find your work easier if you will hold regular, monthly meetings of your board of directors.