

Frequently, musical organizations from various schools or business concerns will gladly furnish added musical entertainment features. These serve to foster understanding and good will among the various organizations in the community.

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## THE VALUE OF MUSIC IN A ROTARY CLUB

### 1. Value

Singing has helped many clubs to be successful. Music makes the world a better place to live in—music makes Rotary a happy place to spend an hour once a week.

Why do we sing? Because singing helps to break down the feeling of reserve and restraint which sometimes exists. This explains why we choose the easy, well-known songs with little syncopation. Again, singing sometimes puts the crowd in humor and brings them to attention.

### 2. The Leader

The business of the leader is simply to make the members WANT to sing. The leader does not need to be such a profound musician himself, but he must be popular with the members. He must have a lot of common sense and know just what song is THE SONG for a particular moment. In short, it is his PERSONALITY that either makes or breaks the singing.

### 3. The Accompanist

The pianist is a different matter, however. No leader can do a good job with an inferior pianist. The ideal situation is, of course, to have a good man in both jobs. Sometimes you can find ONE man who can do both jobs at the same time and make a pretty fair go at it, too.

### 4. Selecting Songs

The best songs to sing are the songs with an easy swing, which do not verge upon the technical in singing. As a rule, when a gathering attempts to sing, it is for the mere enjoyment of the thing.

Almost without fail the National Anthem should be sung, either as an opening or a closing number.

Before attempting to sing new songs, at least a half dozen of the members should acquaint themselves thoroughly with these songs so that they may take the lead.

### 5. Instrumental Music

While singing is probably the most common form of musical participation by club members, yet the music committee should not overlook any members of the club who are particularly talented in instrumental music. Many members have this type of music as a hobby and the furnishing of solos, duets, or ensembles will prove a happy variation in the musical program.

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### Song Books

Rotary International publishes (in English) a book of Rotary songs, and other songs which have proved popular among Rotary clubs. This book is available with words and music, size  $5\frac{7}{8} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$  inches, 62 pages, at 25c each. It is available also with words only, size  $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$  inches, 50 pages, at 5c each. One music and word book gratis is furnished with each purchase of 25 word books. Due to arrangement with the owners of some of the copyrighted songs, this book can be sold only to Rotary clubs in the U. S. and Canada.