

unprepared for closer relationship, is fraught with peril, *unless* at the same time, intelligent and deliberate steps are taken to bring about that mental disarmament without which all physical disarmament is futile.

### International Understanding

The fourth object of Rotary seeks to encourage peoples of all countries to a better understanding of each other. An important factor in this understanding is a sympathetic appreciation of the economic life of all peoples, for on this material base rest all the phases of their national life. It is impossible to advance good will if there is a rankling sense of injustice and unfair treatment, and *world peace* cannot be well and truly founded except on a basis that is economically sound.

Reams of pamphlets may be printed, thrilling speeches and glowing perorations uttered on the brotherhood of man—but unless they inspire fair play and fair dealing, they are so much waste paper, so much idle breath.

Flags may be presented, visits interchanged, healths drunk, inter-club correspondence instituted; but useful as these things are their full value is attained only when accompanied by a true realization of the things that count in the relations of peoples and in their treatment of one another.

### Rotary's Opportunity

The wording of our fourth object is of particular significance in pointing out Rotary's opportunity for bringing about a better understanding among the nations of the world. Rotary first promotes understanding by giving men an oppor-

tunity to get acquainted with one another and to meet in an atmosphere of moral and spiritual disarmament. Those who have attended international conventions will realize how significant this is as a basis of true understanding and friendship. From increased understanding comes increased good will for, as has been often said, "it is difficult if not impossible to hate a man whom one really knows."

From good will eventually will come peace. Peace in the world is not possible without general good will. So Rotary by increasing world contacts, world knowledge, world fellowship and good will has proved itself in many instances a real factor in preserving harmonious relations among nations of the world. Specific examples of this are referred to in many pieces of Rotary literature, copies of which may be had upon application to the secretariat.

### Patriotism and Expanding Interest

Rotary believes in and encourages loyalty on the part of the individual Rotarian to the country to which he belongs. Rotary, however, is of the opinion that it is both desirable and possible to develop world understanding and international mindedness in the individual without in any way detracting from proper national loyalty. Indeed, to many it is clear that failure to understand the world situation limits one's ability to be most helpful to one's own nation.

Having led the individual into co-operative effort within the club, having stimulated him to an expression through his vocation of his acceptance of the ideal of service, and having interested