

Rotarians and Rotary clubs should at all times remember that each Rotary club is a member of an international organization, one of whose objects is to encourage and foster the advancement of international understanding, good will and peace.

Institutes of International Understanding

Institutes of International Understanding are sponsored annually by many Rotary clubs. These institutes are public forums undertaken by local Rotary clubs, with or without the cooperation of other community groups. Their purpose is to give people in the community a better understanding of international affairs. These forums are addressed by competent speakers on current subjects of international interest. In the usual form, five clubs cooperatively arrange institutes each consisting of four forums at weekly intervals. Detailed information on institutes may be obtained from the secretariat.

Rotary Relief Projects

In recent years a chain of disasters—earthquake, fire, flood and war—have brought untold suffering to millions of people. To meet the need in these stricken areas Rotarians in many countries have contributed substantial help. Some have given money; others have helped in re-establishing refugees. Both are forms of international service in that they advance good will.

Recognizing the great needs of civilians for relief as a result of war conditions, Rotary International in 1940 made a contribution of \$50,000 to the Red Cross in the United States, Canada,

Great Britain, Belgium, France, Norway and China.

Recognizing further that war conditions have caused great suffering to Rotarians and their families, Rotary International has established a special fund, to which Rotarians are contributing, for the express purpose of helping such distressed Rotarians and their families.

So long as international affairs continue in crisis, both financial aid and refugee relief will be avenues of international service for Rotarians.

The International Service Committee of a Rotary Club

Within the club the international service committee is set up as a sort of dynamo, generating enthusiasm for such service and directing inspired energies into profitable programs and activities. Upon it rests the responsibility of bringing to members an appreciation of Rotary's aims and opportunities in international service, in emphasizing that these aims are best achieved through individual activity and of suggesting what some of these activities may be.

Self-Education for Understanding

Rotary's success in its program of international service depends upon intelligent thought and action by its individual members. Such action can be founded only on an appreciation of the characteristics and customs of other peoples and races. This requires a study of the history and culture, the social, political and economic life of these peoples, their national and racial problems, international relations and intercourse.

While opportunities for personal contacts across national boundaries are