

# THE CLUB PRESIDENT

## A Personal Foreword to the President Elect

By electing you president, your Rotary club has shown its confidence in your capacity for leadership. This is something to be proud of. It is also a real responsibility for it means that to you more than to any other person your fellow members entrust the welfare of the club. This year of service will bring you great satisfaction because of the loyal support your fellow members will give you.

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. 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. 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.

Naturally and properly you want this year to be constructive and, if possible, the best the club has ever had. That means careful planning and prompt execution. Ideals must be translated into accomplishment.

As president you will assign to others many duties connected with club administration and program, but the final responsibility is yours. You must see that your fellow officers and your com-

mittees do their work effectively and on schedule. Both idealism and good business practice should be characteristics of the administration of a Rotary Club.

### Three-Fold Opportunities

Your opportunities as club president are three-fold:

You appoint committees

You preside at meetings of the club, the board, and the aims and objects committee

You give leadership

For your performance of the first two, certain aids are available. In the leadership function you are largely "on your own." It calls for the best you have in earnestness, devotion, skill and study. Keep in mind that you are the leader of mature men and that they have chosen you for that responsibility. Remember that you are president of a Rotary club, an organization which has a very definite purpose and program, as implied in its objects. Your obligation to your club, as well as its duty to the Rotary movement require that you understand its purpose and that you do the best you can to further its program during your year as president. In this duty you will have not only the confidence and loyal support of your fellow members, but also the experienced assistance of your district governor and other R.I. officers and of the R.I. secretariat. Add to this experience a wholesome exercise of your own imagination and you will have a successful year.