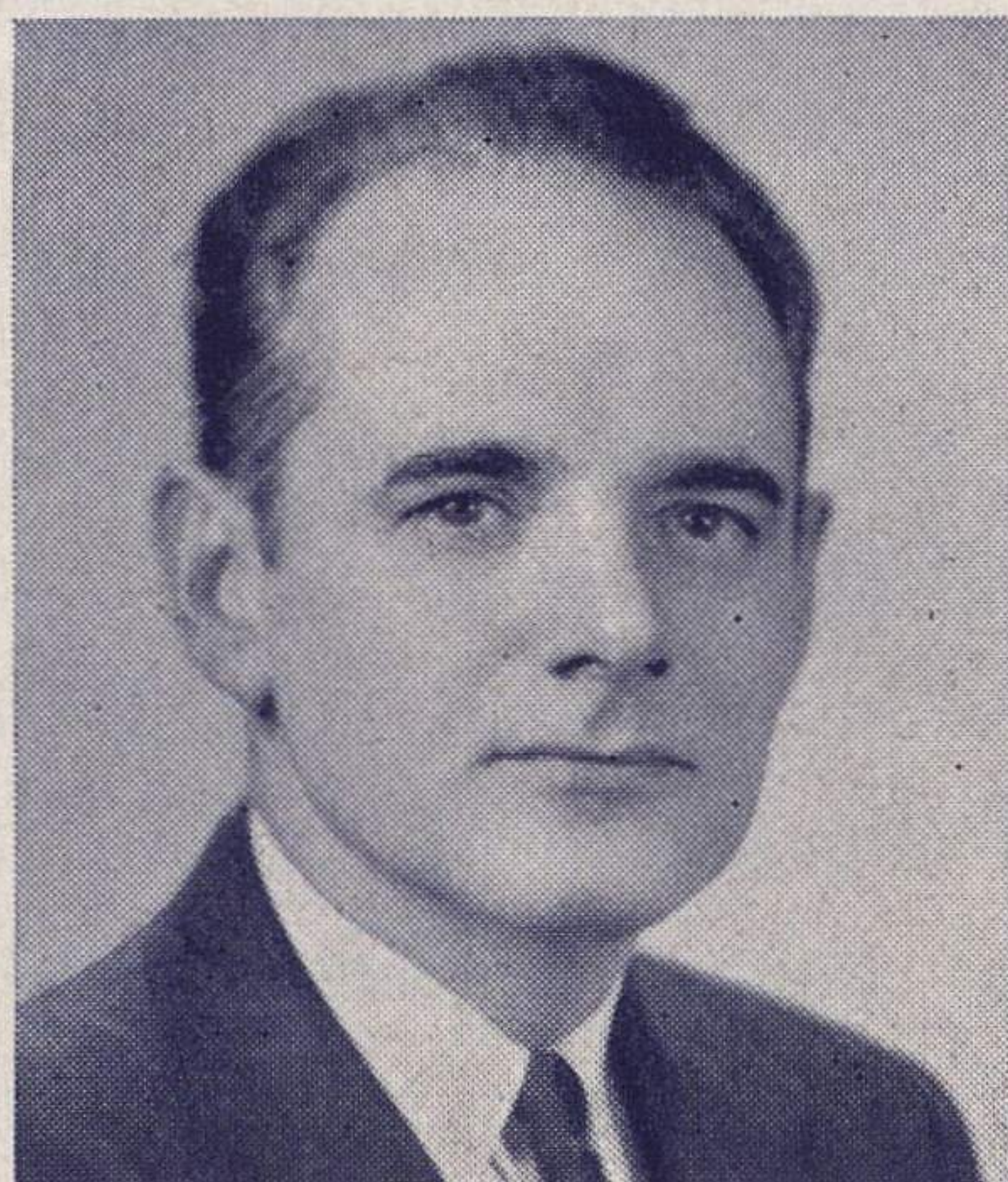


STANLEY R. CLAGUE
President,
Rotary Club of Chicago

Thirty-four years ago it was the pleasure of the then President of the Chicago Rotary Club to welcome to

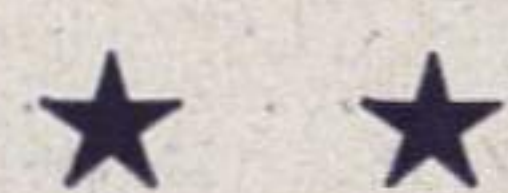


this city the delegates of fifteen other Rotary Clubs who, with the delegates from our Club, convened here for the purpose of forming an association of existing and future Rotary Clubs.

Twenty years later the Chicago Rotary Club again had the honor and pleasure of welcoming to our city a convention of the Rotary Clubs with over 11,000 delegates and visitors from 3,350 Clubs in 60 countries. Truly the movement had become "Rotary International."

Tonight it is my privilege on behalf of the 720 officers and members of the Chicago Rotary Club to welcome to Chicago what is the most unusual and unique Convention of Rotary International that has ever been held.

We of Chicago most heartily welcome you, President Charlie, members of the Board, and all others attending this 1944 Assembly and Convention.



**Convention Hospitality
 Lounge**

Because of wartime restrictions, no elaborate plans were made to entertain those attending the Convention. However, the wives of the members of the Rotary Club of Chicago were active throughout the five days of the Convention, serving as hostesses in the Hospitality Lounge. Tea was served every afternoon, and incidental entertainment included bridge, book reviews, musical numbers, and dramatic sketches.

FERNANDO CARBAJAL
Past President, RI

During my year as President of Rotary International it was my good fortune to visit Rotary Clubs in every country in the Americas, from Canada on the north to Argentina and Chile on the south. I feel particularly sure, therefore, that I can speak especially for the Rotarians of this Western Hemisphere. I know how they love Rotary and how they respect "Old Number One."

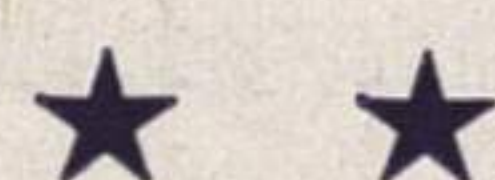
The world of tomorrow will need the idealism of Rotary more than ever before. The wounds of this war will be deep. We must be prepared to apply the soothing and healing lotion of service to others. We must mobilize the resources and the vast potential



strength of our organization for the battle that still lies ahead.

We are here, therefore, to get a new vision, to resolve anew that this great power for good which has been put into our hands shall not go unused, but be treated as a sacred trust.

We, who have gathered here in Chicago for this historic Convention, are relatively few in numbers but the positions of honor and responsibility which we hold make our potential leadership very important. It is good for us to be here in the birthplace of Rotary. We hope and resolve that it shall be good for Rotary that we have been here.



Fellowship Dinners

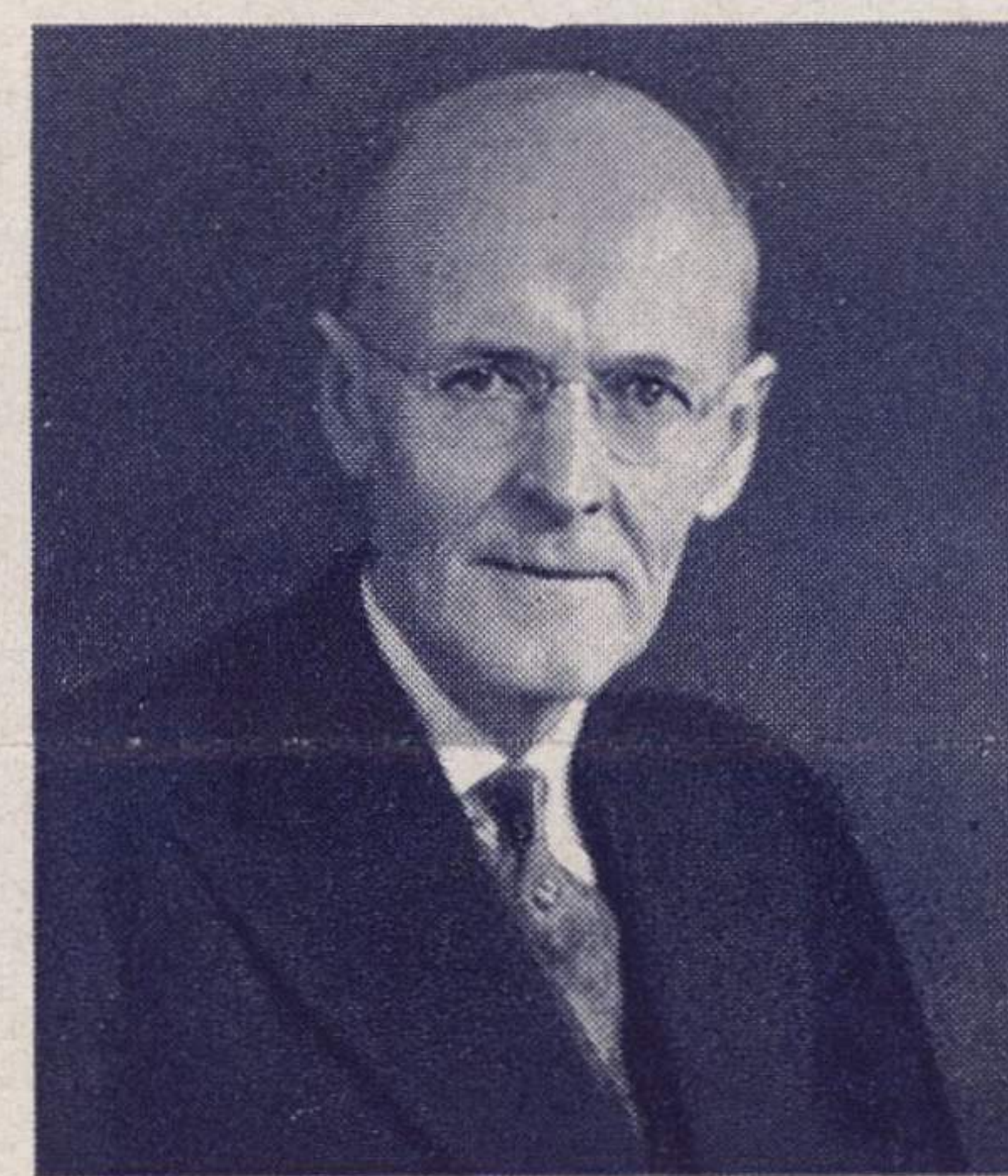
On Saturday evening many of those at the Convention enjoyed a special opportunity for fellowship at the British Commonwealth of Nations, the Ibero-American, U.S.A. and International Fellowship Dinners. In addition to the interesting talks which were given, there was special musical entertainment.

PAUL P. HARRIS
President Emeritus, RI

We might think of Rotary today as something like a great river, the surface of which is disturbed at times, but the current moves irresistibly on. The surface of Rotary is whipped up at times by the political winds which play upon it, but Rotary moves steadily onwards; the fiat of despots is unable to stem the flow.

The loss of Clubs in middle Europe during the present war has been far more than offset by the organization of new Clubs in other parts of the world. There has never been such an awakening of interest in Rotary. Now, as never before, right-minded men in all civilized nations see the need of promoting international understanding and good will and no better way of accomplishing this objective has as yet been made available than Rotary's world-wide fellowship of business and professional men.

I have been privileged to visit many countries in the name of Rotary, and the more I visit, the more I am disposed to conclude that there are no great fundamental differences between men and between nations. None are entirely good, none entirely bad. The



great mischief-maker is misunderstanding. Every nation has contributed much to the sum total of human happiness.



Report of the Credentials Committee

Officers Present	72
Delegates Present	158
Number of Proxies.....	3,535
Total Convention Vote.....	3,765