

ROTARY SALUTE TO CHINA

Suggestions for a "China Day" Meeting

扶
輪
社

The Rotary Club
Literal Translation:
The Turning
Wheel Club

The United States Office of War Information has designated the MONTH OF MARCH, 1944, as an appropriate time for celebrations, meetings, and programs for the purpose of directing attention to China, her victorious armies, and long-suffering but brave people. Of all the United Nations, China has been in the fight longest, and it is with the intention of demonstrating American friendship and appreciation that the Office of War Information has requested this general observance throughout the country.

Rotary clubs will welcome the opportunity to comply with this suggestion, and in their meetings and programs pay tribute to a great nation that has demonstrated its friendship for the United States in so many ways, and to learn more about that great nation, its ancient civilization and culture, and modern progress and unification as a Republic.

利
人
即
利
己

He Profits Most
Who Serves Best
Literal Translation:
Help to Others
Means Help
to Self

Special Features for "China Day"

An ideal program would be so arranged that the whole atmosphere of the meeting would be Chinese. This can be done by attention to details like the following:

1—*Decorations.* There should be Chinese and American flags in the front of the room and perhaps a picture of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek.

2—*Food.* Arrangements should be made for a Chinese-style menu. Quite a number of Chinese dishes have been popularly accepted by the American palate, so that such preparations will not involve much difficulty.

3—*Music.* Chinese music still sounds somewhat unusual to American ears, but there are available recordings which will be interesting. By all means, an effort should be made either to get a record of the Chinese National Anthem, or to have someone sing it.

4—*Special Guests.* Since this program should be a sort of official celebration, it would be appropriate to invite any prominent Chinese in town, any Chinese students, and Americans particularly interested in Chinese and far-Eastern affairs.

5—*Speaker.* An appropriate speaker for such a program should not be difficult to find. He could be:

- (a) A Chinese consul or other governmental representative.
- (b) A Chinese student or educator from a nearby college or university.

- (c) A Chinese merchant or professional man, outstanding in the community.
- (d) An American repatriate recently returned from some occupied portion of China.
- (e) An American interested in, and well-versed in Chinese and far-Eastern affairs.

6—*The Topic.* The exact theme should be left to the speaker, but some such topics as these might be suggested to him: "The Role of China in the Present War"; "The Future of Chinese-American Relationships"; "China and America—Similarities and Differences"; "The Chinese Youth Movement"; "New Life Movement," etc.

What About Rotary in China?

The first Rotary club in China was formed in Shanghai, in July, 1919, by Rotarian Roger Pinneo of Seattle, Washington, and Dr. Julean Petit of Shanghai.

The subsequent extension of clubs was rather slow—only 11 clubs by 1935—due to a number of reasons. For one thing, they were originally concentrated in the port cities where there were considerable numbers of Americans and Englishmen, and membership of these first clubs consisted principally of such Occidentals with an occasional prominent Chinese.

The meetings were conducted in English and the literature was printed in English, so that only Chinese who had studied abroad or who had acquired a very thorough knowledge of the English language at home could become members.