

Work Pile News—

"It makes no difference who gets the credit so long as the work is done"

21 January, 1944

Supplemental to No. 5

In Davis, California —

—the Rotary club in connection with its Work Pile activity is obtaining through the records of the local schools information on the education and training each serviceman had received prior to induction. The club also checks on the occupation of each at time of induction.

In Taylorville, Illinois —

—the Work Pile committee of the Rotary club went before the directors of the Taylorville Association of Commerce and obtained that body's agreement to handle the Work Pile for the entire community. The Association has appointed a special committee for the purpose.

In Indianola, Iowa —

—the Rotary club has enlisted the cooperation of the Lions Club in planning and carrying through a consumer survey which will cover the entire county. Local men in the service will be kept informed through articles in the local papers.

In Lexington, Kentucky —

—a consumer survey check sheet for the community is being developed by the Department of Commerce of the University of Kentucky for use by the local Board of Commerce whose postwar planning committee is headed by a member of the Rotary Club of Lexington.

In Baton Rouge, La. —

—the Chamber of Commerce has selected a past president of the Rotary club to be the general chairman of its postwar planning council and has decided to have a Work Pile section. Survey check lists are in process of preparation.

In Cohasset, Mass. —

—the Rotary club's committee on postwar planning has formed a community-wide committee with representation from 20 different local organizations, to handle the Work Pile and follow through with all aid to returning servicemen.

Definite rules of procedure have been drawn up and approved in form of by-laws governing action of this committee which is called "Cohasset Veterans' Service Committee."

In Fairmont, Minnesota —

—where a Rotarian is chairman of the local Committee for Economic Development, postwar planning work was begun over a year ago. Rotarians have been active on the steering committee which joined in sponsoring a public meeting in the high school auditorium at which plans for the job survey of the city were discussed and approved. Two members of the 3-man committee conducting the survey are Rotarians. The results so far are encouraging. It is planned to make a re-check from time to time to keep the survey up to date.

In Geneva, New York —

—the Rotary club invited the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce to attend a special club meeting on the Work Pile, the president of the Chamber being a member of the club. The committee chairman, in summing up, said that he would prefer to work with the Chamber of Commerce if there was assurance that the Work Pile project would go forward aggressively, but without that assurance the Rotary club would feel it necessary to set up a committee to carry on the project. The Chamber immediately appointed a full committee which has since held weekly meetings. A public meeting of citizens is scheduled to bring the project before the general public.

In Fostoria, Ohio —

—Past Governor Fred Hopkins took the lead in his newspaper in an editorial "Fostoria Should Be Ready When the Boys Come Home". Among the things he said that led to the holding of preliminary conferences and eventually the appointment of a city-wide committee was this: "Fostorians must not sit back and wait for the end of the war to come, and then flounder around for solutions to the problems they will have to face, or worse still, be forced to accept tailor-made solutions of theorists, in the postwar period".

In St. Joseph, Missouri —

—the Rotary Club of the South Side has already received 14 completed Work Pile reports listing a total of \$20,160 worth of repairs on buildings —work to be undertaken at the cessation of hostilities "to keep faith," as the club says, "with demobilized servicemen".

In Ottawa, Canada —

—Rotarians regard employment as the most important question of postwar reconstruction. In a recent poll of the club 66% named employment; 37% considered it possible to maintain the present volume of employment after the war; 34% regarded it impossible; 29% gave conditional answers. Only 66% said their profession or business had made plans to absorb former employees; 14% had plans with conditions attached.

In St. John's, Nfld. —

—the Rotary club's Work Pile committee induced the Newfoundland Board of Trade to appoint a special committee for planning activities in the community.