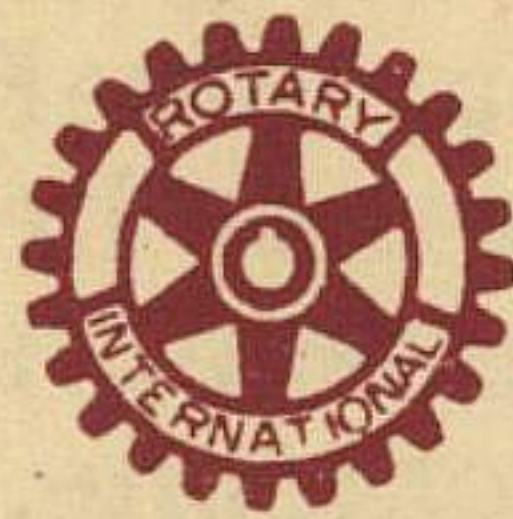


3 Sept. 1943

The News Letter

No. 4—1943-44

To Club Presidents and Secretaries
5,190 Rotary Clubs • 210,000 Rotarians



From the R. I. Secretariat (Central Office)
35 E. Wacker Dr., Chicago 1, Ill., U. S. A.

Toowoomba's Work Pile

The Rotary Club of Toowoomba, Australia, cooperated with military authorities in running two athletic meets and a boxing carnival, which resulted in approximately £900 being given to the Rotary club for the purchase of equipment to set up a gymnasium for service men. When the army relinquishes use of the equipment it is to be utilized by the Rotary club for a youth welfare center which the club, in cooperation with local authorities, is planning to establish when labor and materials become available.

The building which will house the youth welfare center will cost approximately £10,000 and will be located on park land amidst the local swimming pools and athletic fields. It will have gymnasium facilities, dressing rooms, kindergarten facilities, reading rooms, hobby clubs, etc., and there will be a special advisory committee to assist boys and girls in obtaining jobs suitable to their particular qualifications.

This project of the Rotary Club of Toowoomba provides an excellent example of the "Work Pile" plan. It is a definite scheme, worked out by the Rotary club in cooperation with other agencies, for a worth-while project to be completed when labor and materials become available. It will help to cushion the shock of the inevitable change-over from a wartime to a peacetime economy.

Australian Rotarians Establish Youth Camp

A youth welfare and fitness camp has been inaugurated by the Rotary Club of Lismore, Australia, and the Government of New South Wales has made 400 acres of suitable land available for the camp. A public meeting, instigated by the Rotary club and sponsored by the Mayor of Lismore, was held and a public committee formed. Tents and other camp equipment were gathered and £250 was donated by the Rotary club. This sum was supplemented by the Government on a pound for pound basis, and an additional grant of £500 was arranged. Four boys have been sent to Sydney for training as camp leaders. An executive committee, composed almost entirely of Rotarians and fully representative of the community, has been formed to carry on this work.

President Wheeler Says . .

Our whole planet today is a crucible. In it we are running a test—whether freedom shall be taken from mankind. Many of our sons and daughters are on the front lines where blood is flowing. We, too, are called for service—all-out service at home. And who can better hold the front line of the home front than Rotarians?

It almost seems to me as if some act of God created the Rotary organization in 1905 to permit us to be tried and tested so that now with this great reservoir of service, we are ready for the task which lies before us. We know that Rotary is sound. We have proof of what Rotary can accomplish. It is our job as directors and governors, club presidents and secretaries not only to provide the inspiration, but to guide our strength along the lines that will get results. Our job now is to get the war home work done.

Later, when this first battle is won, we may cry for de-regimentation, decentralization, and the return to an accelerated program of free private enterprise—perhaps even for cuffs on our trousers. But now we must quit our grumbling and enlist all-out in a service more worthy than anything heretofore attempted. Freedom must be preserved.

Correspondence by Phonograph

The international service committee of the Rotary Club of London, England, recently reported that it had received 28 interesting and instructive letters from Rotary clubs in the U.S.A. in reply to letters addressed to the clubs by various committee members. One very original method of replying was hit upon by the Rotary Club of Oklahoma City, Okla., which sent a phonograph recording of messages from some of its members. The recorded speeches were received with acclaim by all the members of the London club when the record was played before them.

Why the Governor's Official Visit?

Now that the governors are making their official club visits, it may be well to review the purpose of these visits.

Some clubs have felt that they were called upon to "dress windows" for the occasion. Some have arranged a program of special entertainment which left no time to do the things the governor wanted to do.

The governor's visit is a business affair. It is an occasion for discussing with an officer of R.I. all problems of club administration and activity, whether large or small, which perplex the officers of the club. The governor's visit offers the opportunity for seeking a solution to various types of problems that may arise within the club. And to the governor, the most valuable feature of his visit is an unhurried session with the club assembly where he discusses the accomplishments, plans, and problems of the club and the activities of the committees, and really gets acquainted with the club and what it is doing.

Lucknow Sponsors Essay Contest

With a view to interesting young boys and girls in national and international problems, the Rotary Club of Lucknow, India, recently held an essay contest for boys and girls of the local degree and intermediate colleges, and awarded two prizes of Rs. 30 and Rs. 20 each in the shape of books. The two successful candidates were the guests of the club at a dinner meeting. The subjects selected for the contest were:

1. A solution for the communal problem in India.
2. Nationalism and internationalism.
3. How to make Lucknow healthy and beautiful.
4. Civil defense and A.R.P.

Are They in Good Condition?

Many a tourist, Rotarian or non-Rotarian, may judge the local Rotary club and the community itself by the condition of road signs which the Rotary club has placed at the entrances to its community. Road signs should be kept in good condition to make the best impression.