

Institutes of International Understanding

During the present Rotary year, 290 clubs in 21 districts sponsored Institutes of International Understanding. Most of these have made very enthusiastic reports and have gone on record as desiring to sponsor Institutes during the coming year. There were a number of other clubs that desired to sponsor Institutes but did not make their decisions early enough so that R.I. could locate and suggest to them competent speakers. Present indications are that there will be a great increase in the number of Institutes to be held next year. Following is the record by district:

District	Governor	No. of Clubs Sponsoring Institutes
105	Andrew L. Haight.....	12
119	Dwight Miller	2
122	Amos W. Glad.....	25
127	M. W. Larmour.....	11
129	Will W. Jackson..... (25 centers)	36
130	George K. Marshall.....	13
132	Lou Chrysler	13
138	Bert C. Pouncey, Jr.	10
144	Paul F. Hunter.....	6
146	Clayton E. Humphrey.....	2
147	Francis J. Budinger.....	8
148	L. Clarke Grandfield.....	18
151	Howard P. Porter.....	11
152	Claude Running	5
159	Charles C. Evans.....	10
164	Frank E. Spain.....	33
175	Allan J. Scilly.....	20
176	R. Donald Yauch.....	38
180	Albert S. Schmidt.....	9
184	Marvin E. Porch.....	3
190	Charles G. Tennent	5

Inform Your New Member

The new member wants to learn about the history of the Rotary movement, its principles, and how they can be applied to the best advantage; its objects and the recognized and approved plan of effort to achieve these objectives; the opportunities which will be afforded him as an individual to express himself in service to others and the benefits which will accrue to him because of his affiliation with the club.

The aims and objects committee of R.I. believes that club presidents should see to it that every new member is properly informed and especially that Rotary information is given to him by word of mouth. This can be done by having the new member, early in his club experience, attend committee and board meetings, club assemblies, and special meetings planned for the purpose of disseminating Rotary information.

Work Pile Activity Wide-Spread

Direct reports from 40% of the clubs in the USCNB reveal widespread Work Pile activity — and growing interest. These reports were made as of May 1, 1944. The following is an analysis of the reports received:

58% of the clubs report a Work Pile being built.

17½% report that a Work Pile will be built.

75½% of the clubs actively interested.

These figures reflect a tremendous growth in Work Pile activity in the past six months. It would be difficult to measure the impact of this activity on the thinking of thousands of men and women in the service who have heard of it from their home towns. In addition, there is the by-product value of the aroused thinking and sharpened alertness of the hundreds and thousands of citizens of these communities.

No. 1 Critical Shortage

When our fighting men go overseas, it takes 81 tons of supplies per month per man to keep them there. This requires huge quantities of containers and packaging material — mostly made from scrap paper.

The U.S. War Production Board estimates that 667,000 tons of scrap paper each month will keep the mills at peak production, enabling them to meet all overseas and home-front war requirements. Collections at the present time are totaling about 500,000 tons per month. Some mills have shut down, and inventories in others are low. About 33-1/3% more scrap paper — 167,000 extra tons — must be collected every month!

Many communities have fallen behind in their paper quotas and collection drives. The schools, our greatest scrap-paper collectors, are closing for the summer, and this will materially reduce the amount of paper collected for several months. It is important that every community lend its resources at once to this serious wartime shortage.

Rotary clubs everywhere can be of invaluable assistance in this waste-paper emergency. Clubs desiring to cooperate in this activity may contact their local salvage committee for information regarding salvage activities, and plans for strengthening and augmenting them.

For Sons and Daughters of Rotarians in the Service

The Rotarians in countries where United States and Canadian troops are stationed — particularly the Rotarians in Australia and New Zealand — have expressed the hope that sons and daughters of Rotarians who are stationed at army camps overseas will get in touch with the nearest Rotary club so that the club may extend hospitality and courtesies to them. President-Elect Dick Wells asks Rotary clubs and Rotarians in the USCNB to make a real effort to get this message to the sons and daughters of Rotarians who are overseas. Tell them that Rotarians are anxious to welcome them — to make them feel at home. They cannot locate all of the sons and daughters of Rotarians in the service, but the young people can contact the Rotary club. There is a wonderful opportunity for the formation of international friendships in this activity. It is a practical method of implementing Rotary's Fourth Object.

Rotary's First Object

Do you have faith in the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service? The basis of Rotary acquaintance is one of pure unselfishness. We have no more obligation to a fellow Rotarian than we do to any other member of society. This fellowship must be on a basis of helpful kindness. Criticism and fault-finding are here not to be found. We must be animated with an ardent desire to serve. We must seek all those things which bring people together and help them to know and understand each other, and avoid all those things which tend to separate people and drive them apart. We make no distinction as to religion, political, or philosophical opinion. We remember that "The highest culture is to speak no ill. The best reformer is the man whose eye is quick to see all beauty and all worth, and by his own discreet, well-ordered life, alone reproves the erring. When the gaze turns in on thine own Soul, be most severe, but when it turns upon a fellow man, let kindness control it, and refrain from that belittling censure which springs forth from common lips like weeds from marshy soil."

Richard H. Wells
President-Elect, R.I.

Newton, Massachusetts, Rotarians, in cooperation with the Kiwanians, are sponsoring the publication of a monthly digest of Newton's news which is sent to the town's 7,000 servicemen in all parts of the world.