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The News Letter

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To Club Presidents and Secretaries



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

Summary of Legislation Adopted at Chicago

Council on Legislation—The composition of the council was amended in enactment 44-1 to provide that the chairman of the council, the chairman of the constitution and by-laws committee, and the nominee, or nominees, for president of R.I. shall be members of the council; the provision that the president's appointments to the council be submitted to the board for approval was deleted, and the number of representatives-at-large reduced from six to three.

Voting by Mail—The by-law authorizing the board to transact business by mail was modified by enactment 44-2 to provide that voting by mail be considered closed if and when a majority of the votes in the affirmative, or a majority of votes in the negative, has been returned, irrespective of whether or not thirty days have elapsed since the ballot was mailed.

Magazine Committee—The magazine committee was made a standing committee and its composition and terms of reference were incorporated in the by-laws. Enactment 44-3 also provides for the publication of the magazine in as many editions as the board shall authorize, the basic edition being published in English and being known as THE ROTARIAN. (At present there is only one such other language edition, the Spanish edition, REVISTA ROTARIA.)

Term of Office of Secretary—Enactment 44-4 provides that the term of office of the secretary shall run concurrently with the calendar year. Instead of taking office on July 1st, hereafter the secretary of R.I. will take office on the first day of January.

Permanent Home for Rotary—In 1928 the Minneapolis convention adopted a resolution (28-11) empowering, authorizing and directing the board of R.I. to acquire, as a permanent home for Rotary, a suitable site or building in the city of Chicago. The 1944 convention, in resolution 44-7, amended the Minneapolis resolution so as to empower, authorize and direct the board to acquire, as a permanent home for Rotary, a suitable site or building located anywhere in the Rotary world.

Outpost Membership—Resolution 44-8 rescinded resolution 36-13A of the 1936 (Atlantic City) convention which had authorized the R.I. board to experiment with various forms of outpost membership.

Relief Fund—Resolution 44-9A clarified the provisions relating to the relief fund for war-affected Rotarians and provided that the relief fund, earmarked for the uses and purposes for which contributed, shall be transferred to the Rotary Foundation to be administered and disbursed by the trustees of the Foundation.

Rotary Foundation—The transfer of \$150,000 from the surplus funds of R.I. to the Rotary Foundation was authorized by the adoption of resolution 44-11, and in resolution 44-12 the convention adopted a statement of objectives for the Rotary Foundation.

The complete text of all proposed legislation, together with the recommendations of the council and the action of the convention, will be published in the convention proceedings book.

A ROTARY CLUB can only justify its existence in any community to the degree of service that the individual members make toward the betterment of the civic, educational and spiritual life of their community. Rotary has a wonderful code of ethics and many inspiring ideals, but Rotary is known and respected only if the members take their proper place in the worth-while, forward-looking programs of the city in which they live. Too many individuals are proudly carrying Rotary cards, yet making no return contribution to the furtherance of the aims and objects of Rotary.—Rotoservice, Glendale, Calif.

Charlie Wheeler Says —

I realize what a keen disappointment it was to many Rotarians not to have been able to attend the convention in Chicago. I shall always regret that circumstances were such this year that the board of R.I. felt called upon to restrict the attendance at the convention. However, I cannot let the year end without expressing my appreciation and the appreciation of the entire R.I. board for the wholehearted cooperation of Rotary clubs in so loyally observing the request not to send delegates except those in the categories outlined by the board. The report of the registration showed that there was a total of only 403 in attendance at the combined assembly-convention meeting—proof that the board's request was observed almost to the letter.

Commissions To Reestablish Rotary Clubs

The board of directors at its January, 1944, meeting authorized the president to appoint two commissions of Rotarians representative of the diversified interests involved, one to advise the board with regard to reestablishing Rotary clubs in Continental Europe, and the other with regard to reestablishing Rotary clubs in the Far East.

President Wheeler announced at the 1944 convention that he has appointed the following Rotarians to these two commissions which will work within the framework of plans already set up by the board:

Far East

Carl Carlsmith, Hawaii
Angus Mitchell, Australia
Kish Naoroji, India
Carlos P. Romulo, The Philippines
C. T. Wang, China
Secretary to the Commission:
Philip C. Lovejoy

Continental Europe

Wilfrid Andrews, England
Charles Hunt, Newfoundland
Jan Hyka, Czecho-Slovakia
C. T. Steiger, Switzerland
C. Harald Trolle, Sweden
Richard Wells, U.S.A.
Ali Yehia Pascha, Egypt
Secretary to the Commission:
Lester B. Struthers

Now

5,196 Rotary Clubs

225,350 Rotarians

(Of these 53 clubs with 1600 members in war-affected countries are inactive.)

144 New Clubs in 22 Countries

Since July 1, 1943