

The TOASTMASTER

APRIL, 1957

Featured

IN THIS ISSUE

•

***Able Men Must Assume
Their Obligations***

•

***Are You a Mature
Personality?***

•

***Modern Science Needs
Two Laboratories***

•

***So Much to Read—
and There is Time***

•

***That Summer Recess
Can be Costly***

•

***Help Yourself to
Better Evaluation***



THE ALCHEMY OF OFFICE

All Toastmasters, from new club members to International officers, are called upon to make choices in April. Nominations, elections and appointments are the order of the day.

The Toastmaster has no influence—and seeks none in this field. As protagonists of effective communication, however, we are legitimately interested in the reasons given by candidates to influence voters in their favor.

A candidate who is candid impresses us most. Honesty, like charity, begins at home.

A candidate who claims that he is dedicated to Toastmasters and who offers this as a qualification for holding office, puzzles us.

According to the dictionary, to be dedicated means "*To devote exclusively to the service or worship of a divine being, or to sacred uses; to set apart with solemn rites; to set apart formally or seriously to a definite use or service.*"

Of course, we know that some candidates claim to be dedicated without really meaning it. They do not consider the implied or expressed meanings of the term. Its use is only a part of the patois of politics.

If a candidate is truly dedicated to Toastmasters—he *ought not to be*. A dedicated man is primarily devoted to one cause; i.e., he is out of balance. We are impelled to wonder *why* he should want to dedicate himself to our organization and sacrifice or minimize his interests in the other activities of life that should be the concern of a well-rounded man.

Whether it is due to the alchemy of office or to a lack of self-evaluation, a man who claims to be dedicated to Toastmasters, we have sometimes observed, actually may be dedicated only to his own election. Why? Because, too often, he wants to do something to Toastmasters instead of *for* it.

Every organization can be improved. Toastmasters is no exception. Such improvement must reflect the will of our members and not merely the determination of a dedicated man who seeks office in order to re-mould some phase of Toastmasters to his own desire.

The main objective of Toastmasters is to help men help themselves. Its purpose is the self-improvement of the individual. A man who improves the use of his own abilities is helping Toastmasters; a man who seeks to use his abilities to improve Toastmasters mistakes the reasons for having officers in this organization.

Toastmasters offices were created primarily to provide further opportunities for self-development and experience in leadership. Accepting the responsibilities of an office in Toastmasters carries with it the acceptance and acknowledgment of this personal opportunity.

If you seek office in order to develop your abilities through experience and responsibility your fellow Toastmasters will also benefit from your administration.

Before you seek office, evaluate yourself. Don't dedicate yourself.

You will find that you do not need to be dedicated in order to be elected, or to be successful.

—M. F.

The TOASTMASTER

For Better Thinking—Speaking—Listening

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INDEX

THE OBLIGATIONS OF ABLE MEN—By Lucius W. Johnson.....	2
MEETING COMPETITION—By T. Vincent McIntire.....	4
ON BEING A MATURE PERSON.....	5
THERE ARE TWO LABORATORIES—By Roger Kleinschmidt.....	8
THE SPEECH I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR—By Ralph C. Smedley....	10
H-E-L-P TO BETTER EVALUATION—By Robert Turner.....	12
SO MUCH TO READ—By Tom O'Beirne.....	14
HIGH COST OF LOW CLUB INTEREST—By Arthur Harrop.....	18

CONVENTION, 16 — WHAT'S GOING ON, 20 — HOW WE TALK, 22 — HAVE YOU READ, 23 — PROGRAM PROVENDER, 24 — WORD CLINIC, 25 — IT'S A GOOD IDEA, 26 — LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, 28 — BIT OF WIT, 31 — NEW CLUBS, 32.

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APRIL, 1957

1

THE OBLIGATIONS OF ABLE MEN

By LUCIUS W. JOHNSON

Dr. Lucius W. Johnson, Rear Admiral (Ret.) U. S. Navy, is the author of over 200 published articles in the fields of medicine, dentistry, hospitals and history. His wide experience in community activities and human relations qualifies him to speak with authority on the matter of able men and their obligations to society.

BY THE time a Toastmaster nears the end of his Basic Training, he has become aware of many ways in which his increased skill can be used for the benefit of his community. He realizes that his work with the organization has prepared him for new and broader fields of service.

The very fact that he has learned to think clearly and to speak intelligently while on his feet has made him a marked man. People with this ability are in demand, not only in business and politics, but also in agencies which help people to help themselves, such as the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and the Community Chest. There is always a vacuum in such agencies which seems to draw in volunteer people

who have developed leadership abilities through Toastmasters training.

There is an ancient French saying, *noblesse oblige*. It dates back to the days of chivalry, and implies that the nobles, having more powers and rights than other men, had special obligations to others. It is equally true that talent and ability have their special obligations to the community.

You remember the parable of the talents. The man who buried his in the ground made no profit, and was subject to sharp censure when the Lord of the household returned. The man who put his talents to work enjoyed huge gains.

More than three centuries ago John Donne, an English Divine,

wrote: "No man is an Island, intire of it selve; every man is a peece of the Continent . . ." With Toastmasters training you are fitted to build bridges between yourself and your home town. You need no longer be an island apart from your community.

Participation in community affairs is a natural sequel when once you have gained speaking ability; but you will find that you must gain other skills if you are to be helpful in the community's housework.

You will run into those terrifying verbal jungles called *laws*. Threading your way between them will make you feel sometimes like the ball in a pinball machine. And you can't tilt the laws. No other booby trap is quite so confusing as the laws and customs that hedge in the fields of welfare and charity.

Then there are the dedicated people. Active in all agencies that work in the fields of health, welfare and recreation are people of the most laudable benevolence. Unfortunately, some of them have rather limited vision. They can see no good and no need except in the small field of their own interests. To cover the broad field of human need by getting the dedicated people of several agencies to pull together for the common good and the welfare of all is a feat that is on the highest level of diplomatic achievement.

You discover that inertia is one of the basic forces of the universe; that after you have convinced the minds of your hearers you must still fire them with the urge to get up off their seats and get to work.

You will find that prejudice is a human force of great importance. It saves time and labor because it enables people to make decisions without bothering to get the facts. Each one of us has our prejudices, beliefs of the family and the tribe that have been tattooed on us from the cradle. Prejudices blur the vision and cause emotional blind spots. When you are trying to get work done in spite of the prejudices of others, you must not forget that you may have prejudices also.

In short, you will discover that in addition to being a good speaker, you must become an expert on legal matters, a top-flight diplomat, a rousing evangelist and an objective philosopher.

As you begin to take an interest in the affairs of your community, you will find that there is no magic carpet that will waft you to success. It involves work—hard, thoughtful, continuing work.

But you will also find that labor for people who can never pay you for your efforts, who may even be completely unaware or completely ungrateful for your expenditure of skill, time and trouble, has its own rewards. They are the intangible, almost inexpressible feelings that come from helping others to help themselves.

Helping others to help themselves requires conviction, courage and vitality, traits that are cultivated in Toastmasters clubs.

These are the traits that make men *able*. Let us paraphrase the old saying a bit and say that *sagesse oblige*; that knowledge and power demand that able men fulfill their obligations. ❖

MEETING COMPETITION

By T. VINCENT McINTIRE
President, Toastmasters International



COMPETITION lives with us constantly. We cannot escape it. We never will. All our lives we will compete against men who would do our work better—or against machines that would do our work cheaper.

Competition takes no vacation. It neither sleeps, nor relaxes, nor works a forty-hour week. It is the constant presence of competition that makes the law of survival of the fittest the means by which nature guarantees the succession of all living things. By ruthless elimination of the weak, nature perpetuates the strong.

A Toastmasters club is intended to meet the competition of communication. No attribute can exceed the value of thought correctly expressed. No finer defense can exceed the buttress of evaluation—correct judgment. Skill in communication and evaluation are basic in Toastmasters. Even as the need for them never ceases, so also does the opportunity to improve these skills never cease in Toastmasters.

One of our directors once defined the three basic components of education as:

1. Attitude conditioning
2. Information transmission
3. Opportunity for practice

He cited that Toastmasters is the rare educational exception that gives all three. (Most give only two.) We join because we want to improve ourselves—attitude conditioning. We learn to improve our powers of communication—information transmission. And by regular attendance and through program participation we gain valuable opportunities for practice.

If it is true that no one can be educated or improved if his attitude is wrong, what then is *your* attitude? Do you say, "I've GOT to make a speech," or, "I GET to make a speech?"

If the pressures of competition never ease—if the threat of competition never leaves—if competition never takes a vacation from realities—

CAN YOU AFFORD TO TAKE A VACATION FROM TOASTMASTERS?

ON BEING A MATURE PERSON

Adapted by permission from "The Royal Bank of Canada Monthly Letter," Montreal, Canada

THE richness or poverty of our lives depends upon our maturity. Every year, every event, offers us the opportunity for mature or immature responses.

One sign of growth in maturity is our readiness to learn what is expected of us under conditions of life that are changing every day. What was suitable in the world as it was last year may not do at all in the circumstances of tomorrow.

The mature person lives significantly for himself and for mankind. He rejects the temptation to be always neutral or safe, to be a mere invalid or a minor in a protected corner. He is too busy with gratifying work to engage in trifling things, and too well balanced to pay attention to miracle workers and jugglers.

One principle that marks maturity in any walk of life—in business, in private life or in national affairs—is this: the determining element is not so much what happens to a person but the way he takes it. The responses to life of a mature person are of good quality and can be counted on.

The contrary state, immaturity, is marked by adult infantilism, in which a person has reached maturity of physical development, but remains an infant in his response to the problems and obligations of life.

What are mature actions?

The mature person tends not to be clumsy in his association with other people. He thinks about how the thing he proposes to do will affect his neighbors' lives. He seeks to give other people room so that they, too, may mature. He has learned the important lesson that he who walks in crowds must step aside, keep his elbows in, step back or sidewise, or even detour from the straight way, according to what he encounters.

It is all very well to try, once in a while, to think strictly personal thoughts, but we quickly come to see that we live in *relationships*. Family life helps our children to grow from stage to stage of confidence, skill, responsibility and understanding. Our homes prepare people for the larger and more exacting relationships of a world where social and political sense have not progressed as far as have scientific and technical skills.

The mature person has graduated from home and school with some awareness of the requirements of society. He wants to share in the human enterprise of getting out of the jungle frame of mind, of building a community wherein he may grow. He develops from the stage of thinking "Please help me," through "I can take care of myself," to "Please let me help you."

(Continued on next page)

Sharing is a vital part of maturing. Most of the significance we attain grows out of our contribution to the lives of others. The person in an executive position, from the president of a great company down to the foreman of a small gang, puts his imprint on history through the people under his direction. He builds their strengths and reduces their limitations. He gives them opportunities to become their own most mature selves.

The mature person is not living in a room lined with mirrors, but in a sun room with windows. The person who is completely wrapped up in himself makes only a small package.

Qualities of thought

Every person is the center of his own universe, and so he should seek to know himself as adequately as he can. We may be influenced by our environment and our upbringing, but it is in the free margin of our thoughts that our maturity appears. Out of this margin for initiative we develop our special handling of situations and desires.

It is important for our maturity that we learn to *accept ourselves as we are*, without trying to be what we are not. We are at a disadvantage if we lack a skill we should like to have; if we need money we haven't got; if we are less handsome than our neighbors; but frank recognition of our plight will save us from feeling humiliated.

There are people who keep up their feeling of superiority by strutting in what they think of as dignity, by being unapproachable, by

being incessantly busy. They take appreciation for granted, and look upon criticism as an impertinence.

Self-love, we are reminded by Alfred Korzybski in his book *Science and Sanity*, is frequently referred to under the figure of the Greek mythical character Narcissus. He, seeing his reflection in a pool, became so engrossed in self-adoration that he rejected the attentions of Venus and was killed.

Such self-centeredness is natural in early childhood, but "serious dangers, and even tragedies, begin when some of the infantile narcissistic semantic characteristics are carried over into the life of the grown-ups."

While it would be a mistake to be forever examining oneself, the mature person will take a look, once in a while, to see how he is measuring up in the context of his life. He will not shut himself up with his thoughts, but will let the air currents of the world ventilate his mind.

Out of meditation will come wisdom, a quality associated with maturity. And what is wisdom? Isn't it largely the ability to bring together a fact that one has freshly discovered and a general principle that was deposited long ago in the archives of our memory? These, facts and principles, are used by the mature person for thinking, for reaching judgments about the relative values of things.

You can never be sure of the whole truth of any fact or situation but you can reach a state of practical certainty that enables you to make informed choices between courses of action. That is an indeli-

ble mark of maturity: to be able to make choices that are as wise as our best thoughts can make on the basis of facts known to us. Then we are matching ourselves with life.

Some people confuse principles with rules. A principle is something inside one; a rule is an outward restriction. To obey a principle you have to use your mental and moral powers; to obey a rule you have only to do what the rule says.

Sense of responsibility

The man of mature character is a man who can be relied upon. His qualities are predictable. He is a good security risk for himself, his family, his employer and his neighbors.

The mature man does not transfer the blame for personal misfortune to anyone else—his parents, his employers, his circumstances. To refuse to risk taking responsibility where failure is possible is a childish course. To pass on responsibility for what we do to someone else is to bring shame upon our human dignity. If we are to learn to be mature we must accept the willingness to fail as well as the ability to succeed; to accept the consequences of what we do both in the chores of life and our search for better things.

Self-deception cannot be tolerated in maturity. Some of us wear masks to delude ourselves or others. To use any mask, say H. S. and G. L. Elliott in their counseling manual *Solving Personal Problems* (Henry Holt & Co., Inc.) is to be afraid to attempt success through one's own abilities.

Qualities of action

The mind needs to be stored with significant facts we observe and ascertain. When we come to use what has been stored, we use another element in maturity: self-control.

Self-control in the mature person means abandonment of the child-like immaturities shown in anger, hate, cruelty and belligerency. Blustering and weight-throwing are not signs of maturity. It is not mature to push a situation to the point where it can no longer hold, but has to give way under the pressure we inflict on it.

But a mature person is not unwisely self-sure. He doesn't underestimate the chances of missing an open goal. He is not led astray by conceit into an unproved belief in his ability.

Open-mindedness is one mark of the mature person. No one has the right to call himself mature who cannot listen to both sides of an argument, and none of us has the right to be called mature who insists that what is good for him must be good for, and should be imposed upon, everyone else.

And now, do we wish to face the thought of being mature? There can be a certain loneliness in maturity. We have to give up much to which we have become accustomed—some idiosyncrasies, some peccadilloes, some illogicalities. We may have to give up trivialities that kept us amused hitherto. We will become aware early in our effort of a central maxim of maturity: *that every mortal being is under bond to do his best.*



THERE ARE TWO LABORATORIES

By ROGER KLEINSCHMIDT

Roger Kleinschmidt is Governor of Area 6, Dist. 16 (Okla.), and member of the Bluestem Toastmasters No. 1433, of Bartlesville, Okla. His article was first published in "Vapor Pressure," a publication of the American Chemical Society, and is reprinted here by permission of the Editor.

I SAT and tried to concentrate on the speaker and his subject, but my mind wandered, and my attention became easily distracted. As I looked around at my fellow chemists in the audience I found I was not alone. A generally disinterested and inattentive attitude was prevalent throughout the restless group. What was wrong? Certainly the speaker was a qualified chemist and he knew his subject, and the research he was describing was novel and technically sound. And yet something was wrong for the speaker had surely lost his audience.

So I exerted my Toastmasters

training and tried to analyze the speaker carefully with respect to his presentation. Most chemists are rather dull speakers for they are primarily concerned with technical information and have given little thought to oral expression. And this speaker was no exception. His voice was weak and his tones mostly monotonous. The organization of his speech was poor for he often strayed from his subject and complicated his pertinent facts with insignificant remarks. He belabored his audience with a myriad of details of equipment and reaction conditions followed by voluminous tables of experimental re-

sults. He had very good ideas and excellent technical material, but, in short, he was not selling his ideas. He was failing to make his subject clear and pertinent, and consequently he was not "getting through" to his audience.

A chemist is usually judged by his technical ability, but I have observed that it is insufficient to be technically sound and scientifically creative. The successful chemist must "sell" his ideas, theories and discoveries not only through reports and journal articles, but also through oral presentations at scientific meetings, conferences and seminars. As he acquires technical knowledge in college he is also taught principles of written expression for reports, papers and articles. Is not oral expression as equally important? His technical stature is developed in the chemical laboratory. But there is another laboratory for developing speaking ability, leadership and salesmanship.

That laboratory is a Toastmasters Club, an opportunity to learn and practice sound principles of speaking, to practice varieties of oral communication, to overcome nervousness and fear and to acquire confidence. There is the training ground for a chemist to learn how to present a scientific paper in a more interesting and forceful manner. Toastmasters will show him the advantages of challenging and interesting openings, good organization, clear and concise summaries. His fellow Toastmasters will evaluate his performances and suggest improvements by constructive criticism of

his presentation. The proper use of vocal variety to stress significant points and the use of gestures to illustrate ideas will be developed by following a series of talks outlined in the Basic Training Manual. The effective use of blackboards, charts and slides will be encouraged as another means of selling the idea. In short, a Toastmaster will be trained to present his ideas in the most effective manner for the type of audience concerned.

These principles of oral expression together with opportunities to accept responsibility and delegate authority, are vitally important to all aspiring chemists. Industry is constantly looking for new leaders, and it looks primarily at young men with qualities of expression, leadership and confidence. As a chemist progresses upward in his organization his duties involve more supervisory work, group discussions and opportunities for leadership. More often he finds he must "sell" his ideas to management, co-workers or to subordinates, and in most instances this is accomplished by oral expression in meetings.

Toastmasters can help him, and there are over 40 clubs in Oklahoma for this service. Although concentrated in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Bartlesville, clubs can be found in many smaller cities. The enterprising chemist might do well to investigate this "other laboratory" and to see the advantages first hand by attending a meeting. Fellow chemists, look to your future! Disclose your ideas and discoveries instead of hiding them in your chemical laboratory. ♦

The Speech I Would Like To Hear

By RALPH C. SMEDLEY

OUR Toastmasters Club is a typical cross-section of the men of our town. The members represent a considerable variety of professions and businesses. Each of these must have many interesting elements, not generally known to the public.

Because the men are afraid of being accused of "talking shop" or because they do not realize that many matters they consider commonplace may be intriguing to others, they never talk about their occupations. I wish they would be less reticent.

Here are some subjects which I wish they would discuss.

We have an attorney in the club. I would like to hear him tell how to make a will, and the importance of doing this for the ordinary citizen. Other subjects he could shed light upon are: How to keep out of jail. How to select a lawyer. The citizen's duty to serve on the jury. Our banker could answer several questions. I wonder what a bank teller thinks of human nature as he sees it from behind his little window. What service does the bank render its depositors to justify the

monthly "service charge"? What has become of the gold which used to be in circulation? What does the "bank examiner" accomplish on his occasional visits?

The doctor could give us some helpful free medical advice. He might discuss the common cold, and the prospects of eliminating it. I wish he would talk about present day hazards of the busy man, such as the danger of heart failure, the consequences of high blood pressure, and the effects of the daily cocktail, or the frequent cigarette. He could enlighten us on the lengthening span of life. What causes the greater life expectancy today than we had fifty years ago?

We have a department manager from one of the big department stores. I wish he would talk to us about modern fabrics. Will synthetic fabrics—nylon, rayon, dacron and the others—ever completely displace wool and cotton? Who sets the styles, especially for women? Will today's costumes look funny twenty or thirty years hence? Why is summer clothing offered in early spring and winter

clothing advertised during the summer?

There is a dealer in household appliances in our membership. I wish he would discuss some of the popular appliances—washers, ironers, sweepers, refrigerators and the like, and give us some pointers on how to choose a good one. What effect does the mechanization of the home have on modern living?

The insurance salesman could enlighten us about the history of insurance. How did it begin? What is the story of Lloyd's of London? What, exactly, is an insurance policy? How does the company discover the difference between incendiary fires and those of accidental origin? In his dealings with people, our insurance salesman has no end of odd and amusing experiences. I wish he would share them with us.

And here is a certified public accountant. How did he get to be "certified"? What are his services? Why does he enjoy his work? In tax work, where does his counsel stop and that of the lawyer begin?

The druggist in our club could tell us a good story about how he deciphers the doctor's prescription, and how he deals with the hundreds of new drugs and medical discoveries. How does he guard against mistakes?

There is the market manager. Does he know where the packages come from which protect the frozen food he sells? What does he know about the Pure Food and Drug Act? Does he know how many different lands are represented on his shelves and in his storage rooms?

How are his workers, cashiers, department heads and others who meet the public, trained for their work?

And here is a post office clerk. I don't understand enough about his work even to suggest subjects for him, but I wish he would tell us why an airmail letter goes to Europe for fifteen cents while the same letter requires a twenty-five cent stamp if it goes to Asia or Australia. Which nation gets the stamp money?

In short, almost every occupation has its interesting phases, little known to the public, and yet of real interest to all. I wish that we could develop an interest in occupational speeches—craft talks—which would answer a hundred questions that hardly ever get asked.

Such a series of talks would be the finest kind of public relations service for the men involved, and it would help the men of the audience by giving them useful information.

The speech that I would especially like to hear is the speech which a man makes about his own business, which gives me a glimpse behind the scenes and brings me into a better understanding of his problems and prospects, his hopes and his difficulties.

If our Program Committee will give us some speeches on these lines, I promise to turn off the TV set at home, skip the movies for this evening, hurry over to the club meeting and stay until the last speaker has been heard. I'll even promise to make a talk about my own business if they give me a chance. What I could tell them! ♦

H-E-L-P TO BETTER EVALUATION

By ROBERT TURNER

There are many aids to evaluation. Here is a simple, effective and sound one from the Educational Chairman of Dist. 2 (Washington).

GOOD evaluation is a basic problem in all Toastmasters clubs.

What is the way to better evaluation? It lies through better speech analysis. Only by an understanding of the speech in all its phases—idea, organization, purpose, effect and delivery—can helpful evaluation be given.

The problem is therefore one of learning a good method of speech analysis. Such a method must be simple and easily remembered. Once a Toastmaster has learned the basic formula, he will be able to give constructive evaluation and thereby help the speaker and himself.

Here is a simple method. The keys are contained in the four letters of the word "H-E-L-P."

1. H . . . Hear the entire speech. The speech must be evaluated as a whole and not in part. It must be heard in its entirety. Far too often the evaluator starts

writing notes the moment the first sentence is spoken and as a result fails to hear clearly the next few sentences. The missed portion might well be the crux of the entire speech. *If an evaluator cannot remember for five minutes a point which he wishes to bring to the attention of the speaker, then it certainly cannot be important enough to warrant attention.*

2. E . . . Endeavor to outline speech mentally. If the evaluator is able mentally to outline the speech as given, is able to distinguish clearly between opening, main points and conclusion, then the speech is well organized. A successful speaker attempts to communicate the structure or outline, knowing that if this is accomplished, the person hearing the speech will be able to recall the details. *More speeches fail through lack of organization than for any other reason.*

3. L . . . Listen for the logic.

Does the conclusion of the speech logically follow from the reasons or arguments given in the body? Does one point logically follow from another? *Many times a speech may be well organized but still lack sufficient logic to warrant acceptance of the conclusion. Don't be deceived.*

4. P . . . Pick out the purpose. Every speech must have a purpose. The final test is, did the speech accomplish its purpose? If not, then why not? If organiza-

tion and logic were poor, this will have been noted in steps "E" and "L" above. The evaluator may then suggest better organization or logic. If the speech did accomplish its purpose, can it be improved upon? Does it need better use of gestures or voice modulation?

Careful attention to the four steps or keys, "H-E-L-P," will help any Toastmaster to better speech analysis. And the speaker will be helped by better, more constructive evaluation.

In the specialization required of most people today we have forgotten in part how to live. We are not well-rounded people with broad appreciation of life. Joy in sunlight, birds and flowers is left chiefly to the poets; delight in line and curve is left to the artist; drama and make-believe belong to the stage. But enjoyment of all these is the right and privilege of the whole human race, contributing to both mental and physical vigor.

—Royal Bank of Canada Monthly Letter

CONSTRUCTIVE EVALUATION

"Those sweeping judgments which are so common are meaningless. They are like men who salute a whole crowd of people in the mass. Those who really know them salute and take notice of them individually and by name. But it is a hazardous experiment. . . . After hearing a whole page of Virgil, it is safe to exclaim, "That is fine!" In that way, the artful save their faces. But when you attempt to follow him line by line, and, with positive and discriminating judgment, to point out where a good author surpasses himself, where he rises to sublime heights, weighing his words, phrases, ideas, or one after the other, away with you! We must consider not only what each one says, but what he thinks, and why he thinks it."

(Ed. Note: These words might have been said directly for Toastmasters. If you want to know who said them and when, turn to page 23.)



SO MUCH TO READ

By TOM O'BEIRNE

WHEN you are making a speech to your Club, it always pays to listen carefully to what you have to say. Some time ago, when speaking to my own Club on the subject of reading, I was surprised to discover that I had evolved a system, whereby it was possible to do a reasonable amount of reading in a week, and still have some time left for eating, sleeping, and indulging the other little habits into which we have slipped.

I feel strongly on this subject. Some of the ills of our country at the present time arise from too many people chasing too many things, particularly in their spare time. I am sure it would be a great deal better all round if there was a little more peaceful sitting down. If we could recapture a little physical peace and quiet, and make use of the joy and reflection which follow upon good reading, our speeches would be easier to compose, and would gain in power and vitality.

"I've no time to read" has become a war-cry of the decadent age in which we live, and has led to the fashion strip stories, picture novels, digests, condensations, and all

the other claptrap that passes for reading matter. Things have come to such a pass that long condensations of novels are offered for sale. Ye gods and little paragraphs, what supreme nonsense! Avoid such distillations like a plague, and address yourself to some real reading. Don't be afraid of long books. Give a man enough rope, and he can do his own skipping.

Any scheme for reading must be based on the time factor, and my essential requirements fall under the headings of *Opportunity*, *Adaptability*, and *Co-ordination*, with *Contrast* making a valuable fourth. You are not expected to fathom what this is all about until you have read what follows.

Opportunity to Read. Half an hour in bed at night, and fifteen minutes in the morning before you rise. By the fireside, for an hour one evening per week, and at least one hour during the weekend. Read while travelling and at odd moments. That is the time basis on which I read at least fifty books a year, three daily newspapers, and six periodicals.

Adaptability. Fit your reading to your mood, and to the time

at your disposal, and don't be afraid to keep a number of books going simultaneously; one for bed-reading, one for the mid-week session, and perhaps one for the weekend. There is no fear of mental muddle, as you will associate certain books with your surroundings and moods. Appreciate that certain books, for example complicated, plotty detective stories, must be read in long sessions and not in snippets, and for reading in bed choose the quieter reflective or philosophical volume which can be laid down at any point, and the thread picked up later without a lot of mental fumbling.

Co-ordination. Plan your reading carefully, and it will double its yield of enjoyment. Arrange matters so that one book has some bearing on another. For example, let us say that your bed book is Boswell's "Life of Johnson." Concurrently, you could read with advantage Johnson's "Rasselas," Boswell's "London Journal," and perhaps a striking series of modern detective stories, "Dr. Sam Johnson, Detector," in which Lillian de la Torre has the delightful conceit of making the Great Bear a detective, and setting him to solve mysteries hinted at in the "Life."

A book of underwater adventure by Hans Haas or Jacques Cousteau would partner a textbook on modern photography, and might in turn lead you again to Jules Verne's "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea." It often proves profitable to read the biography of an author while you are enjoying one of his works, and it will invariably lead to a better un-

derstanding and a more just assessment of his ability.

Contrast. If life has been treating you harshly, and your nerve-ends are three feet ahead of you, let contrast be of mood rather than material. Jerome K. Jerome by the fire, and P. G. Wodehouse at the bed-side. Therapeutic reading should be strictly a matter of old favorites; return to old friends for comfort.

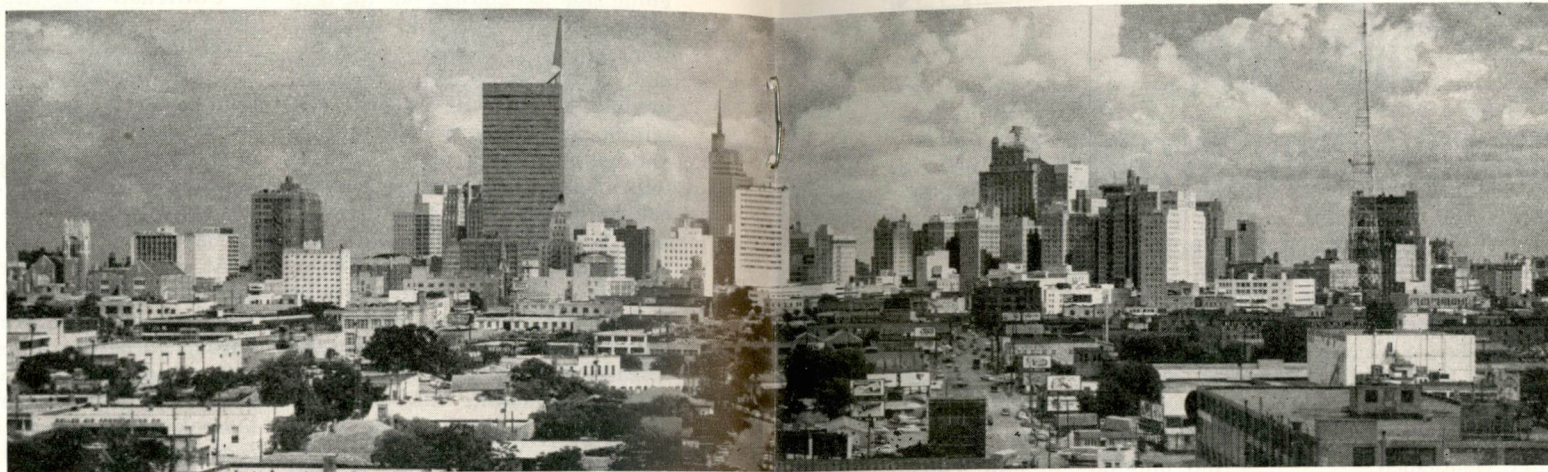
At other times, break ground that is new to you. From the bewildering mass of printed matter select with care, and use every device to assist your choice. Book reviews are helpful if you know the outlook of the reviewer. Personal recommendations can be most valuable, but, again, you must know the person well. Bear in mind, too, that a book printed in a paper-back edition is bound to have some merit or it would not have been chosen for mass printing.

Most important of all is the knowledge that the very fact of a book being a classic is a guarantee of quality. It has been handed on as a personal tip from one generation to another, and has therefore appealed to the greatest number of thinking people in several generations. Granted, it may not be a book for you, but, at least, it is worth trying. If it does strike on your box, and, remember, the odds are that it will, you will reap pleasure and satisfaction in abundance.

Select carefully, plan your reading, and make time to read, and the simplest of all pleasures will lead you unerringly to a fuller life.

Reprinted from "The Scottish Toastmaster" Journal of Dist. 18 (Britain) for December, 1956.

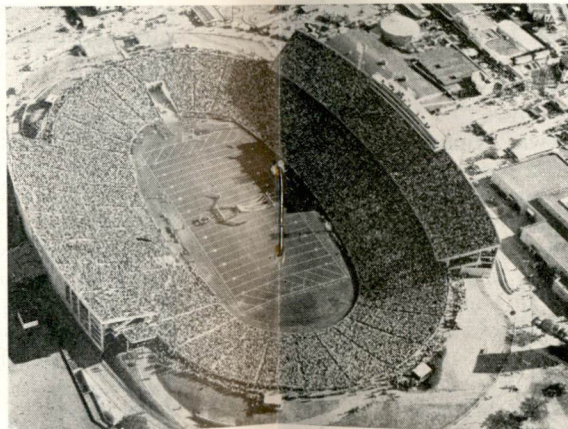
ALL THIS . . . AND TOASTMASTERS, TOO



HERE'S Dallas—Big "D"—offering countless extra dividends to convention-bound Toastmasters and their families in August. You'll find exciting, modern buildings, a shopping district famous for fashion, parks, playgrounds, theatres, all waiting to welcome you in true Texas style and make your trip the experience of a lifetime.



There's a park for every taste in Dallas, over 100 of them. Fair Park, home of the famous State Fair of Texas and a year-round culture and amusement center, contains the Museum of Fine Arts pictured above.



You won't see any football in the Cotton Bowl in August, but this world-renowned sports arena will remind you that Dallas is the nation's leading export cotton market.



Of course you'll want to see Southern Methodist University, with its beautiful campus—one of the finest educational institutions in the Southwest.



HIGH COST OF LOW CLUB INTEREST

By ARTHUR HARROP

This speech before the Camosun Toastmasters No. 757 of Victoria, B. C., was so effective in presenting a solution to a wide-spread club problem that we are publishing it here.

Mr. Toastmaster, Gentlemen:

HERE is an article valued at twenty dollars. Who'll give me twenty-five dollars for it?

Just as I thought—no one is interested. Obviously I am offering no bargain and you are too shrewd to accept it.

Then why are you not always so careful?

You pay annual dues in Toastmasters with the idea of obtaining a comprehensive study of public speaking and you don't get your money's worth! I don't mean that statement to be in any way derogatory to Toastmasters International. It is your own fault!

You are cheating yourself. The Home Office of Toastmasters International does its part by forwarding regularly to your officers helpful suggestions and information covering *twelve* months of the year. Yet we are in operation for only *eight* months!

From mid-May to mid-September last year, only one meeting—late in June—was the extent of our summer activities.

I was speaking to the President of another local Toastmasters club, decrying the utter lack of summer meetings, and do you know what he said to me?

"Well, you know why, don't you? Joe was out of town."

Joe was out of town! Imagine that! Because Joe chose to take an extended holiday, one hundred and twenty-five of the rest of us were helpless! This is quite a tribute to Joe, but if it is any example of our ability to look after ourselves, maybe we should never have left our mothers!

Last fall our club was minus seven or eight members after our "recess" was over. We received various excuses, but I am convinced that the main reason for our loss was that *they were given ample time to lose interest.*

Let us guard against a similar loss this year. I am recruiting now for next summer and I want your help! If all of us use one-half the energy in promoting summer meetings that we use finding reasons to escape them, summer meetings will be a howling success!

Those of you who have a seat on the Area Council, please note—this is Area business! Every week next summer—right here in this room—there will be a Toastmasters meeting! Not just any one club—just Toastmasters! Surely out of the five clubs in town there should be a half dozen from each who would be interested in attending. And if everyone comes and we have a hundred and fifty, so much the better! There's a large dining room right across the hall that will hold us all!

To those who want and need more experience in Toastmasters training, here is your chance. Come

to the summer meetings. You don't know who will be in the chair. It might be you! Who is on the main speech program? *It might be you!*

With everything practically impromptu, you will quickly learn the value of having a few co-ordinated thoughts in your mind at all times so that you can speak at a moment's notice. If that doesn't come under the heading of good training, I don't know what does.

You will find pleasure and stimulation in a different and varied audience. This is one of the most effective ways in the world to get yourself jolted out of any mental or verbal ruts into which you may have fallen.

Gentlemen! You refuse to give me twenty-five dollars for this twenty-dollar article? *Then don't give Toastmasters ten dollars for seven dollars' worth of learning.*

Support summer sessions!

If a man has a talent and cannot use it, he has failed. If he has a talent and uses only half of it, he has partly failed. If he has a talent and learns somehow to use the whole of it, he has gloriously succeeded, and won a satisfaction and a triumph few men ever know.

—Thomas Wolfe

Freedom from interruption may be counted by artists as not the least of the five freedoms.

—Charles Morgan

What's going on

... when Toastmasters get together

The 62nd Troop Carrier Wing Toastmasters Club No. 1070 of Larson Air Force Base, Washington, recently launched its Project JUNIOR. The object is for Toastmaster parents to begin indoctrinating their children in the fundamentals of speaking in public. Captain Robert J. Spence, outgoing President of the club, launched his 14-year-old son, Keith, upon his first speech before the club. Keith was awarded the Fredricks Cup for his talk, "Background for Argument," a discussion of today's turbulent issues and their relationship to an American boy of 14.

Keith Spence and proud father launch Project Junior



Dave Allen, Uptown, is greeted by "Chef" Al Langosch of Skokie, while Don Kallin, Peter Stanley and Ray Spohr of Skokie look on

In Chicago, the Uptown Toastmasters challenged the Skokie Toastmasters to an attendance contest to run for three months. Scoring was based on percentage of total membership of each club, and the losing club agreed to pay a substantial share of the refreshment costs for the final joint meeting. Skokie won by 1/10 of a percentage point, so it was up to the Uptown Club to be host at a picnic meeting.

An auxiliary unit within the Sunrise Club No. 74 of Phoenix, Arizona, is the "KneeKnockers," composed of new Toastmasters who have not yet been able to control their nervousness in speaking. Joe Finnegan, who declares that he is still a KneeKnocker even

Joe Finnegan demonstrates KneeKnockers' stance



though he is approaching his No. 12 Basic Training Speech, recently demonstrated to the group how they appeared when giving out with those familiar "ah's and uh's." KneeKnockers are promoted when the older members declare them officially "cured."

The use of visual aids was effectively demonstrated to the Federal Toastmasters of Washington, D.C., when Mr. Kenneth Goddard, Chief of the Audio-Visual Dept. of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, spoke at a special workshop training session held at the Chamber of Commerce Headquarters Building in Washington. He advised the members to keep their aids simple and inexpensive, and to avoid distractions, such as allowing Marilyn Monroe's legs to appear beneath the chart.



Master Sergeant Edward Britt (1) receives charter from Lt. Col. Sumner W. Peterson

Formal recognition for the third Toastmasters Club on Johnson Air Base, Japan (Fifth Air Force) came when the NCO Toastmasters received their charter from Toastmasters International. Lt. Col. Sumner W. Peterson, President of the Johnson AFB Officers' Club No. 1920, presented the charter to President Edward Britt.

APRIL, 1957



Kenneth Goddard demonstrates visual aids, with Marilyn Monroe as a basic distraction

Attending and participating in the District 51 (Los Angeles, Calif.) Council Meeting and Fall Conference, were four Past Presidents of Toastmasters International and one member of the Board of Directors.

Appearing in the picture are, front row, left to right: George W. Benson, Past President, T.I.; Roy D. Graham, Governor, D.51; John W. Haynes, Immediate Past Pres., T.I.; Ralph O. Lines, Ed. Lt. Gov., D.51; Fred H. Moore, Adm. Lt. Gov., D.51. Back row: Fred H. Garlock, Director, T.I.; Dr. Gordon R. Howard, Past Pres., T.I.; Sheldon M. Hayden, Past Pres., T.I.; Lincoln Schmidt, Treas., D.51; P.M. Phinney, Editor, D. 51 News; John Clauser, Sec., D.51; Isadore Schneider, Dir. Pub. Relations, D.51.

Officers of District 51 attend Council Meeting and Conference



HOW WE TALK

"This is a very unique situation," said the chairman. The advertisement in the newspaper read: "This is the most unique eating place in our city."

But the dictionary says that *unique* means single, something without like, single in kind. To say "This is most unique" is tantamount to saying "This is most single." Careless talkers often use the word in a comparative sense, as in "more unique," or "extremely unique." But the word is not comparable. It is an absolute. It is like *round* or *square*. An object may be more nearly round than another, but it cannot be "rounder." Let's be careful about our use of *unique*. It is really a unique word.

"This is the criteria by which we must be judged," said the orator. He had the right word, but the wrong form. Criteria is a plural form of *criterion*, meaning a standard, or rule for judging. Its misuse is like that of other foreign words, such as *medium* and *phenomenon*, where the user frankly does not know much about the word he uses. Never say "this media," or "this phenomena." The words are plural. You might as well say "this methods," or "this occurrences." If you

must use the words, be careful to say "this medium" or "this criterion." If you do not really have to appear learned, use the English plurals, such as *mediums*, *phenomenons*, *criteria*.

"I have sent this information to he and his club" is a bloomer not infrequently encountered in correspondence, even in letters from Toastmasters. You can correct it. Please do so.

"There's no use of us doing this" is another frequent slip. Even if it reads "no use in us doing" it is still objectionable. The proper construction is "There's no use in our doing this," for it is our doing, not us doing, that we are talking about.

"Like I said" is not good usage, even if it is frequently heard on radio or TV programs. It is just one of the many misuses of that little word *like*. "It looks like it might rain," or "I feel like I am catching cold" are uses labeled "colloquial" by Webster, and so considered by many specialists in usage.

The error comes in substituting *like* for *as*. But for the radio performer to say "As I said" would make his speech less folksy and familiar than "like I said," so he must make the mistake. "It looks as if it might rain" is better form, but most of us are too busy to say it.

When a bad form gets itself thoroughly ingrained into daily speech, it is hard to eradicate. Perhaps "It looks like rain" will be recognized as good usage in another generation. If you follow the incorrect practice today, you will have much company, unfortunately.

HAVE YOU READ?



Business Letters and How to Write Them: Excerpts from the "Business Executive's Handbook," Prentice-Hall, Inc., Publishers, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Price, One dollar.

What is the best way to begin a letter? To close it? How can you refuse a customer's unreasonable claim and still retain his goodwill and business? How can you make your business letters clear, simple and yet effective in accomplishing their purpose?

These and many other similar questions besiege the mind of the businessman in the course of every business day. *Business Letters and How to Write Them* provides practical, workable answers.

The chief value of this 58-page booklet lies in its direct approach to the subject. It wastes no time in theorizing, but gets down to cases. Clear and concise examples show how the stilted phraseology of old-fashioned "business English" can be transformed into friendly, readable styles that can still convey the desired information.

The information contained in this book covers the entire field

of business communications, from structure to tone and spirit of the content. Under the latter heading are suggestions for opening and closing the letter, for adapting the tone of the letter to the particular correspondent who is to receive it, and how to avoid arousing antagonism on the part of the recipient.

The authors also discuss specific types of letters, such as letters to build goodwill, to revive moribund accounts, to answer sales inquiries and complaints—all of which would fit into the routine of any business no matter what its size and scope.

Above all, this book is a reference manual. It should be a handy adjunct to every businessman's desk—and your secretary will appreciate it too.

From the Toastmasters point of view, it is interesting to note that the modern trend in business communication is the Toastmasters approach to speech techniques—the friendly, simple, easy-to-understand manner as opposed to the heavily ornate and verbose epistolary styles of the past generation. The simple, direct approach is the one that achieves results.

Who Said It

From page 13

These words were written by Michel de Montaigne, (1533-1592) in his essay, "On the Art of Conversing."

Program Provender

A program, like a speech, requires planning. Practice in planning a program is good for those who do the planning, as well as for those who participate in presenting it.

It is easier to arrange a "go as you please" type of program, leaving choice of subjects to the speakers, but better results, both in education and in entertainment, come from the one built around a central theme. The theme gives continuity and coherence to the whole performance.

A Notable Anniversary

This year brings the 350th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in America. It was on April 26, 1607, that the vessels sent out by the London Company entered Chesapeake Bay and landed at Jamestown. This historic anniversary will be commemorated in the Jamestown Festival which starts April 1 and continues through November 30.

Every Toastmasters Club, not only in the United States, but in many parts of the world, will do well to take note of this with at least one special program, for the event was world-wide in its significance. The Educational V-P will lead his committee in a study of subjects which should be included, from Captain John Smith and Pocahontas, through the story of Williamsburg, where the celebration will be centered.

Let your club share in the re-discovery of the New World.

History of Communication

Communication is a primary interest with Toastmasters. Set up a program dealing with improvements in this field from the days of smoke signals and coded beat of drums in the jungle to the present day wireless communication.

Include such subjects as the development of the postal system, the invention of telegraph and telephone, the Atlantic Cable, the work of De Forrest, Marconi and other wizards of radio, and the improvement of understanding through better speaking. This will take imagination and work, but your club will benefit by it.

For Better Health

Consider our debt to those men who persisted, through the ages, in studying the problems of human health. Think of Hippocrates, and other early-day workers. Look up information about Joseph Lister (born April 5, 1827) whose name is immortalized in Listerine. Why is that? Pierre Curie was born May 15, 1859. What debt do we owe him? Dr. Edward Jenner, who discovered vaccination, was born May 17, 1749. Ask your physician members to suggest other names, such as Wilhelm K. Roentgen, Robert Kock, William Harvey, and Doctors Godwin, Mitchell, Jackson, Wood, Bache, and Morton, who were involved in the development of anesthetics.

Here is a program, or even a series of programs, to challenge the resources of any speaker.—R.C.S.

AS OTHERS SEE US

An increasing number of prominent firms and organizations are bringing Toastmasters to the attention of their readers.

In the past month articles describing Toastmasters International and the activities of local Toastmasters Clubs have been brought to the attention of the following organizations through their publications: Colorado Chapter, American Institute of Architects, Denver, Colorado; *NAHB Correlator*, National Association of Home Builders, Washington, D. C.; *The Esco Ladle*, Electrical Steel Foundry, Portland, Oregon; *The Prudential Western Scene*, Prudential Insurance Company, Los Angeles; *Overflow*, The Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan; *Men*, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio; *Journal of the Engineering Societies of New England*, Boston, Massachusetts.

The Chicago Screw and Machine Company has been granted permission to reprint the recent article by J. O. Grantham, entitled "An Executive Must Make Decisions." (*The Toastmaster*, Feb., 1957). Reprints will be used in the company training program for executives.

Our clubs are to be commended for eliciting such favorable attention, since editors are a hardboiled, critical, hard-to-please bunch. We ought to know.

WORD CLINIC

The process of borrowing Latin words for English use began almost before there was any English language as such. The Roman invaders left indelible marks of their occupancy in the words they contributed.

From the early days to the present, the borrowing of Latin words has continued. Thus, even the man who has never studied the ancient language glibly speaks many words directly set over from the Latin.

But in the earlier days, Latin was practically a second language to the educated Englishman. It was

the universal language of the scholar, the scientist, the lawyer and the clergyman.

If you would realize the extent of your acquaintance with Latin, look up some of the following words in the dictionary: *superior*, *minimum*, *vim*, *bonus*, *stimulus*, *item*, *nostrum*, *recipe*, *veto*, *inertia*, *innuendo*, *alibi*, *interim*, *memorandum*, *affidavit*, *via*, *premium*, *post mortem*, *subpoena*, *diagnosis*, *prophylaxis*.

With such a start, you could become a Latin scholar with only a little effort.

It's a Good Idea!

Everybody Wanted to Get into the Act. . .

at the Sequoia (Palo Alto, Calif.) Toastmasters when the table topics theme was announced as "Distraction Night." Each speaker was given a topic when he arrived at the meeting, and had at least fifteen minutes in which to construct his talk. Assigned "distractors" received slips of paper instructing them in various procedures, such as shaking the head violently and muttering "No, No, No," loudly; sneezing and coughing during the speech; dropping a plate (with an apology to the speaker); popping balloons and otherwise making themselves thoroughly obnoxious.

The entire club climbed on board with enthusiasm, but the President reserved the right to stop any distraction when it became intolerable. Speakers found it valuable training in rising above incidents often occurring in public speaking.

An Occupational Census. . .

of members of the Lynden (Washington) Toastmasters Club proved interesting reading to the members when printed in the club bulletin, "Burnt Toast." Out of 23 members, 21 occupations were represented, ranging from artificial inseminator to postal official, indicating that this club should never be at a loss for interesting topics on which to speak.

Further research showed that when it came to first names, there were more duplicates. This suggested a membership contest—the John's to bring in more John's; the Ed's to recruit more Ed's.

Reading with Relaxation. . .

was the exercise presented to the Syracuse (N.Y.) Toastmasters by Topicmaster Merritt Barnes. Merritt suggested that each member read an article from "The Toastmaster" either as a solo performance or as one of a team of two alternating in the reading. "Interesting, different and valuable," commented the participants. "Relax" was also the general theme of the evening, and prepared speeches centered around that topic.

"Who Could Use This Best?" . . .

was the question posed during table topics at a recent meeting of the Douglas Toastmasters of Long Beach, California.

Topicmaster Cody had in his hand a letter postmarked Barcelona, Spain, requesting the name of an organization which would most benefit from the possession of a rare museum piece of art. Toastmasters were asked to voice their opinions concerning acceptance or rejection of this request. At the conclusion of the discussion, a vote was taken, voicing the decision of the club.

Toastmasters Club Road Signs. . .

are now installed on all the main highways entering Wichita Falls, Texas. The signs represent a joint project of the Wichita Falls Toastmasters and the Blue Bonnet Toastmasters.

"We wanted others to know when we had our meetings and that Wichita Falls is affiliated with Toastmasters International and that the splendid training of Toastmasters is available here. We believe that we are the only clubs in this area that have these signs," they write.

"What Would have Happened. . .

if what had happened hadn't happened?" was a question hurled by Topicmaster Earl Williams to the South Denver (Denver, Colo.) Toastmasters. The subjects ranged across a wide field—history, (if Booth had missed his shot at Lincoln); politics, (if Hoover had been elected for a second term); to sports. Members found the session interesting and thought-provoking.

Pick a Card. . .

any card in the deck—and the Stockton (Calif.) Toastmasters were off on a novel topic session. Topicmaster Ken Kircher, a guest from the San Joaquin Toastmasters Club of Stockton, produced a deck of travel cards. The geographical location drawn, each Toastmaster proceeded to give a short dissertation on the city within that locality, which he chose to term his birthplace. This was a fine stimulant to imaginative impromptu speaking.

Table Topic Tips. . .

not new, but worth a try, and successfully used in many clubs are the following:

1. Take a Word: Members are asked to (a) analyze a word; (b) discuss a pet peeve in word usage; (c) define and use a selected word. Purpose is to add to vocabulary or understanding of words.

2. Discussion: Two or three men combine their table topic time in a discussion of a current event. The Topicmaster designates which ones he wants to participate in each group.

3. Present a Gift: Each member is asked to present a gift to some other member and each who receives one is expected to respond briefly. Gifts can be such as might be received, or might be as fantastic as Aladdin's Lamp, or the original copy of the Declaration of Independence.

4. Use that Phone: Devote the entire time to imaginary telephone sales talks. The Topicmaster assigns the members in pairs, one to make the sales talk, the opposite number to buy or refuse to buy.

5. Modulated Recital: The Topicmaster has each man in turn recite "Mary Had a Little Lamb" in various modulations—sadly, laughingly, dramatically, in song, etc.

6. Current Events: Using current events once a month as a table topic helps members keep up with what's going on in the world. The Topicmaster will judge whether or not the current event used by any speaker is genuinely current and of more than local interest.

—From "33 Good Ideas for Table Topics" published by Toastmasters International

Letters to the Editor

(Because of obvious space limitations we often print only pertinent portions of letters received. While only signed letters will be considered for publication, names of writers will be withheld on request.—Editor)

That "First Name" Business

Maurice Forley, Editor
"THE TOASTMASTER"

Dear Maury:

I was amazed that you published Miss Konigsberg's article, "The Fallacy of the First Name," in the March issue of THE TOASTMASTER. Like most Toastmasters, I disagree wholeheartedly with Miss Konigsberg's premise.

While I agree with her opposition to first name familiarity between pupil and teacher, I hardly feel that the same conditions prevail in the adult world, particularly between men.

The theme of Miss Konigsberg's article is in direct opposition to the First Name friendliness being encouraged these days in industry and is certainly in opposition to the spirit of friendliness that I have encountered in Toastmasters. Can you imagine what a pompous affair one of our conventions would be if we all addressed each other on a "Mr." basis? The publication of this article in "THE TOASTMASTER" will certainly give the impression that Toastmasters International officially approves of Miss Konigsberg's stilted approach to "friendliness."

This article is in direct opposition to what industry is trying to accomplish through human relations courses, etc., for personnel and supervisors.

Cordially,

S. Dan Daniels
Chairman, Public Relations
New York District 46

Nudism

With the publication of the following letters representing the general opinion reflected in our correspondence, we hopefully bring this subject to its clothes.—Ed.

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to a letter to the Editor published in your Feb. 1957 issue, in which it was inquired whether the advocacy of nudism is acceptable to Toastmasters.

Without freedom of speech there can be no Toastmasters organization. Any attempt to inflict censorship of any nature, explicitly or implicitly, would automatically wreck Toastmasters. I am sure all responsible members of Toastmasters will realize this, even if, at times, they violently disapprove of what is being said by other members.

As a footnote, I would like to add that there are many countries where nudist organizations can qualify as swimming clubs and are then eligible for government subsidies.

Henry Kobsa
Kinston (N.C.) Toastmasters
No. 962

Dear Editor:

A club member of Toastmasters is worried because a Nudist gave two speeches on this subject and is going to give another. He seems to think that Nudism is indecency.

I live in a community where there are many Nudists, and they sincerely believe there is no "indecency" in going naked in the presence of others. Of course this is a matter of controversy and I think it could be a subject for debate in any club. . . .

To speak on one subject time after time is not good for any club, and it is for the evaluator to give the speaker both barrels in this respect. If given too much of one diet, the club may find itself in a sickly state.

I suggest that the Educational Vice-President get a debate in order for the next special program.

Virgil M. Benedict
Battle Creek Club 1027
Battle Creek, Mich.

Dear Mr. Editor:

Re. your comment (good) and your query on page 30 of the February issue concerning advocacy of "indecent" doctrines. It would appear that your correspondent has simple ideas concerning the relationship of Toastmasters International to Toastmasters Clubs, and Toastmasters clubs to individual members. When Toastmasters International says "Thou shalt not espouse such and such a doctrine," Toastmasters International becomes suspiciously "censorious" (cf pg. 27, same issue) and oversteps what this correspondent regards as proper relationship of Toastmasters International to Toastmasters clubs. This is obviously a local problem.

("And now I will turn the chair over. . . .")

Cordially,
William Ragoff
Brookings (S.D.)
Toastmasters Club No. 586,
Dist. 41

Send in your comments, criticisms and suggestions to:

Editor, The Toastmaster
Toastmasters International
Santa Ana, Calif.

Dear Sir:

An anonymous Toastmaster has cried out in your column against a topic chosen for a speech by a fellow member, and his wish to impose censorship boils the printers' ink I use for blood.

Freedom of expression is among the most vital of our American rights. There is nothing in our Constitution, however, which would compel us to believe or accept what others say or print. Let the Nudist Toastmaster have his say. Criticize his speech on its merits as a speech, untinged by your own personal sentiments on the subject.

This is not to condone or to condemn the theories or practices of Nudists. That is for the Master Evaluator whose wisdom is greater than we mortals possess. This is, however, a sincere plea to keep censorship out of Toastmasters.

"Decency" is a relative thing. We know that the most delicate subjects, if discussed in good taste, can be interesting and informative. We also know that speeches on any subject can degenerate into morbid and vulgar slush when handled with poor taste.

Barriers imposed by taste and barriers imposed by censorship have very little in common. Good taste builds, but censorship destroys. Let's not destroy Toastmasters.

Let the Nudists, the Vegetarians, the Anti-vivisectionists and others with a cause have the opportunity to speak up. You have equal right to speak on the other side of the subject. Give them the benefit of constructive criticism as to the construction and delivery of their talks. That is what you want them to do for you.

The Toastmasters club was designed to help us express ourselves and not to stifle our expressions. Let's keep it that way, please.

Harold E. Whittington
Jacksonville (Texas)
Toastmasters Club 1988

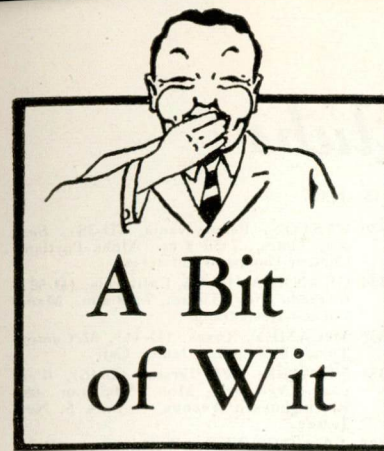
HISTORIC WORDS

Do you know who said them, and when? Sooner or later, most Toastmasters will use these phrases in a speech. It is helpful to know under what circumstances they were first uttered.

1. **Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute.**
 2. **Washing dirty linen.**
 3. **I would rather be right than be President.**
 4. **You may fire when you are ready, Gridley.**
 5. **Don't give up the ship.**
-
1. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, American Minister to the newly-formed Republic of France in 1797, was refused recognition by the Directory, the governing body at that time. They hinted that money offered by the United States might change their position. He replied with the words above.
 2. After the disasters of 1814, Napoleon was sharply criticized by the Chamber of Deputies. Speaking before them, he said, "Even if I had done wrong, you should not have reproached me in public—people wash their dirty linen at home."
 3. Henry Clay had been told that his compromise measures of 1850 would injure his chances for the nomination for presidency, since they would alienate the anti-slavery Whigs. This was his reply.
 4. Admiral Dewey at the beginning of the battle of Manila Bay, May 1, 1898, issued this order to the Commander of his flagship.
 5. This is a shortened version of Captain James Lawrence's last words in the battle between the *Chesapeake* and the *Shannon* during the War of 1812. Just before his death he said: "Tell the men to fire faster and not give up the ship; fight her till she sinks."

A quotation, like a pun, should come unsought, and then be welcomed only for some propriety or felicity justifying the intrusion.

—Robert William Chapman



A summer visitor dropped into a little country store and found it loaded to the rafters with boxes and barrels of salt.

"Holy smoke, Si," he exclaimed, "you sure must sell a lot of salt."

"Nope," the owner replied. "Don't hardly sell none. But the fella that sells us salt—brother, can he sell salt!"

Conscience doesn't keep you from doing anything wrong—it just keeps you from enjoying it.

Life is ten per cent what you make it and ninety per cent how you take it.

"Welcome, welcome," cried the artist enthusiastically. "I see you, too, are a lover of nature. I'm sure you, too, have seen the splash of splendor when the sun goes down; you know what it is when morning gilds the sky. You have seen, too, the hidden beauties that lurk behind cliffs and rocky rims, turning the golden west into a vast lake of fire! Haven't you, my friend?"

The old prospector shook his head emphatically. "Heck, no, mister. I ain't had a drink in nigh onto six years!"

Common sense gets a lot of credit that should belong to cold feet.

Many people don't care what happens as long as it doesn't happen to them.

Someone has defined success as the art of making your mistakes when nobody is looking.

Wife: What shall I do with this speech you made entitled "Intellectual Dry Rot"?

Toastmaster: File it under *Fungi*.

Middle age is when you don't care where you go just so you get home by 9:30 P.M.

Heredity is when a teenage boy winds up with his mother's big brown eyes and his father's auto.

"Daddy, what does it mean that Mr. Smith went to the convention as a delegate-at-large?"

"It means that he didn't take Mrs. Smith."

Son: "Daddy, did you go to Sunday school when you were a little boy?"

Father: "Certainly. I never missed a Sunday."

Son: "See, mother? It won't do me any good, either."

We have it on the good authority of none other than Albert Schweitzer, quoted in *Forbes*, that happiness is "nothing more than good health and a poor memory."

At long last woman has been placed at a disadvantage. Man can now travel faster than sound.

One of the greatest labor-saving devices of today is tomorrow.

World War III had come and gone. Only one tiny monkey, in one segment of the world, remained alive. After days of wandering, he ran across a little female monkey. Companionship at last! He threw his arms around her to tell her of his pleasure (and of his hunger). Had she found anything to eat?

"Well," said she, "I found this little old apple—"

To which our hero snapped: "Oh, NO! Let's not start *that* all over again!"

It's all right to tell a woman that you knew her when she was a girl, but never, never tell her you knew her when you were a boy.

New Clubs

(As of February 15, 1957)

- 581 BISMARCK, North Dakota, (D-20), *Flickertail*, Wed., 6:30 p.m., Provident Life, Men's Lounge.
- 1382 MAYWOOD, California, (D-51), *Maywood Falcons*, Wed., 4:30 p.m., Maywood Air Force Depot.
- 1389 PORT LYAUTEY, Morocco, (D-U), *Moroccan*, Tues., 11:15 a.m., Enlisted Men's Club.
- 1741 AUBURN, Maine, (D-45), *Auburn Keynoters*, Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Elm Hotel, 37 Court Street, Auburn, Maine.
- 1980 GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan, (D-28), *Kelvinator*, 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:00 p.m., Personnel Building, Kelvinator, Plant No. 5, Clyde Park SW.
- 2225 AUSTIN, Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, (D-25), *Bergstrom Air Force Base*, Wed., 6:30 p.m., Officer's Club, Bergstrom Air Force Base.
- 2230 POMONA, California, (D-F), *Pomona Valley*, Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Claremont Inn.
- 2255 BUTLER, Pennsylvania, (D-13), *Early Birds*, 7:30 a.m., Nixon Hotel.
- 2264 CLARKS SUMMIT, Pennsylvania, (D-38), *Abington*, Mon., 8:00 p.m., VFW.
- 2273 CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wisconsin, (D-35), *Chippewa*, Tues., 6:00 p.m., Skogmo Cafe, Sky Room.
- 2284 ST. PETERSBURG, Florida, (D-47), *St. Petersburg*, Tues., 6:15, Detroit Hotel.
- 2286 NEW YORK, New York, (D-46), *Traffic Club of New York*, Thurs., 5:30 p.m., Hotel Biltmore, New York.
- 2291 U. S. S. CORAL SEA, At sea, (D-U), *Coral Sea*.
- 2294 LEXINGTON, North Carolina, (D-37), *Lexington*, Thurs., 6:30 p.m., various locations.
- 2299 CARSON CITY, Nevada, (D-39), *Kit Carson*, Wed., 7:00 p.m., Hunter's Lodge.
- 2304 DALLAS, Texas, (D-25), *Engineers*, Thurs., 6:00 p.m., Texas Club, Meadows Building.
- 2305 NAPUNJA, Okinawa, Ryukyus Islands, (D-U), *Keystone*, Mon., 7:00 p.m., Camp Hauge.
- 2306 EVREUX, Evreux-Fauville Air Base, France, (D-U), *Les Parleurs*, various locations.
- 2308 BOISE, Idaho, (D-15), *Pioneer*, Wed., 6:15 p.m., Pioneer Room.
- 2312 CHARLEROI, Pennsylvania, (D-13), *Charleroi*, Tues., 6:45 p.m., Charleroi Elks Club.
- 2321 ORTONVILLE, Minnesota, (D-6), *Ortonville*, Thurs., 6:15 p.m., Granite Room.
- 2330 EASTON, Pennsylvania, (D-38), *Easton*, Thurs., 7:30 p.m., Alpha Portland Cement Company Cafeteria.
- 2334 GRANADA HILLS, California, (D-52), *Granada Hills*, Thurs., 7:00 a.m., Mama Lucia's Restaurant.
- 2336 McCAMEY, Texas, (D-44), *McCamey*, Tues., 6:00 p.m., James Cafe.
- 2354 NEWARK, New Jersey, (D-46), *Weequahic Speaker's*, Mon., 5:05 p.m., 686 Frelinghuysen Avenue, Newark 5, New Jersey.
- 2355 ANACORTES, Washington, (D-2), *Anacortes*, Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Amsberry's Cafe.
- 2356 HARRISBURG, Illinois, (D-11), *Harrisburg*, Mon., 6:00 p.m., Masonic Building.
- 2358 PORTLAND, Oregon, (D-7) *Esco*, Mon., 6:05 p.m., Esco Auditorium.
- 2359 TRACY, Minnesota, (D-6), *Tracy*, Thurs., 6:00 p.m., Red Rooster Cafe.
- 2360 LYNNWOOD, Washington, (D-2), *Lynnwood*, Thurs., 7:00 p.m., The Maples Restaurant.
- 2361 SMYRNA, Tennessee, (D-43), *Stewart AFB NCO*, Tues., 11:30 a.m., Stewart Air Force Base, Tennessee.
- 2362 HOUGHTON, Michigan, (D-35), *Portage Lake*, Wed., 5:30 p.m., Memorial Union, Houghton, Michigan.
- 2363 CLEVELAND, Ohio, (D-10), *Lake Erie*, Mon., 11:45 a.m., Coyton Restaurant.
- 2366 JACKSONVILLE, Florida, (D-47), *Navy Civilian*, Tues., 7:30 p.m., Cumberland Community Center.
- 2367 TEHERAN, Iran, (D-U), *Teheran*, Mon., 6:00 p.m., US Armed Forces Officers' Open Mess, Teheran, Iran.
- 2370 ANTIOCH, California, (D-4), *Antioch*, Wed., 12:00 p.m., Marchetti's Restaurant.
- 2371 BRIDGEPORT, Connecticut, (D-53), *Bridgeport*, Wed., 7:00 p.m., Bryan's Men's Clubroom.
- 2372 SEDRO WOOLLEY, Washington, (D-2), *Sedro Woolley*, Wed., 6:45 a.m., Fahlen's Cafe.
- 2373 SAN DIEGO, California, (D-5), *South-eastern*, Mon., 7:00 p.m., Hayloft Barbecue, 6323 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, California.
- 2374 COLUMBUS, Ohio, (D-40), *NATICO*, 4:45 p.m., Tues., Nationwide Insurance, Columbus, Ohio.
- 2376 AKRON, Ohio, (D-10), *NAS Akron*, Fri., 12:00, Officer's Ward Room.
- 2377 REDWOOD FALLS, Minnesota, (D-6), *Redwood Falls*, Tues., 5:45 p.m., Deluxe Motel & Cafe.

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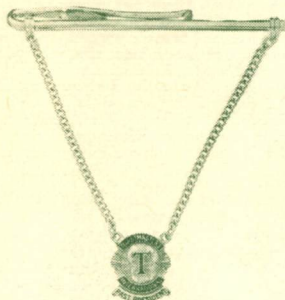
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