

THE GAVEL

Vol. I. TOASTMASTERS' INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN FEBRUARY 1, 1931 No. 3

GAVEL SPLINTERS

The laurel wreath this month goes to our Anaheim friend, Paul Demerie. When it comes to doing committee work and making reports, he's THERE.

What this organization needs is more Toastmasters' Club reporters who will send in their club news by the 25th of each month.

The Los Angeles meeting on the 24th was well worthwhile. These occasions tend to stimulate the enthusiasm for the International.

Every Toastmasters' Club should back some worthwhile community or civic enterprise such as Community Chest, or special drives. Speakers from the club will do a worthwhile service and it advertises your Club.

In this day and age we have to compete with other attractions. Make your Toastmasters' Club the most attractive club in town.

The Gavel press broke down, and thus we miss the First again -- but we're still trying.



PURPOSE OF TOASTMASTERS' INTERNATIONAL MADE CLEAR

President Chamberlain Tells Advantages of Affiliation With International

For the benefit of those Toastmasters whose Clubs may not be affiliated with the International, it will not be amiss to point out the advantages of joining; at the same time briefly outlining the purpose of the parent organization.

The payment of \$1.00 per year (50 cents semi-annually) per member, entitles your Club and its members to the following privileges - 1. Membership and privilege of wearing the emblem of Toastmasters' International, now being perfected; 2. Representation of your Club on the International Council, through one delegate and on alternate; 3. Full year subscription to the monthly paper, THE GAVEL, for each member of your Club; 4. All bulletins, announcements and general information sent out by the secretary, including a copy of proceedings of each International Council meeting.

Such a broad policy towards members for the most modest fee of \$1.00 per year could be made possible only by adhering to the strictest program of economy. No salary, promotional or travel expenses of any sort are incurred, as all officers of the International personally assume such expenses. In fact substantially speaking, there are no expenses charged save those of postage and stationery and the monthly issue of THE GAVEL. Only under such a plan could we hope to carry on with such a nominal sum available from membership.

(Continued on page 3)

THE INFORMATION BUREAU

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Visits & Extension - J.C. Chamberlain

Constitution - G. M. Grant

Publicity - C. F. Marshall

THE RENDEZVOUS

Being the time and place of meeting
of the various Toastmasters' Clubs.

ANAHEIM - Tues. 6:30 P.M. at
Elks' Club

GLENDALE - Thurs. 6:15 P.M. at YMCA

LOS ANGELES - Tues. 6:15 P.M. YMCA

LONG BEACH - Wed. 6:10 P.M. at YMCA

PASADENA - Tues. 6:00 P.M. at YMCA

SANTA ANA - Wed. 6:15 P.M. at YMCA

SANTA BARBARA - Tues. 6:30 P.M. at
Hotel Carrillo

SAN DIEGO - Mon. 6:15 P.M. at
Army & Navy YMCA

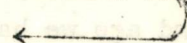
Kindly send in the place and the
time of meeting of your Club and we
will gladly publish it in this
column.

We believe it will help with visita-
tion if such a directory is kept.
If you happen to be away from home
and in a city where a Toastmasters'
Club is meeting, drop in and visit
them - you will receive a warm wel-
come.

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

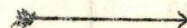


"One evening at the
Toastmasters' Club I
decided to



and make a good speech.

Imagine my embarrassment
when I arose to speak
and felt like this."



PRESIDENT CHAMBERLAIN'S MESSAGE
(Cont'd. from page 1)

The purpose of this economically operated organization is highly justified by those members who have had the privilege of attending the Council meetings, for it is there, with delegates gathered from all member Clubs, matters vital to the success of existing clubs are discussed and settled by men who have only the best interests of the Toastmasters idea at heart. Standardizing Club procedure, extension of new clubs, visitation, outside activities are only a few of the vital and interesting subjects up for discussion. These meetings are not closed and all who care to attend are cordially invited to do so and listen to the Council's deliberations.

Once realizing the basis on which the International is operating, it is my sincere belief that clubs not now associated will see the wisdom of joining and helping the good work along.

We need your small membership fee it is true, but much more do we need your support enrolled with us in the steadily advancing campaign of establishing new clubs. If your own club has proved of value to you, why would it not be a fine opportunity for other men in other communities to have the same advantages? Only thru such an organization as the International can that opportunity be improved.

Talk it up with your fellow members - you surely are most welcome to join our steadily increasing International Family.

- J Clark Chamberlain

On to Pasadena in April -

"NO FOOLIN"

????? P's AND Answers

THE QUESTION : -

Shall the Toastmaster or Speaker use notes when he makes his speech ?

THE ANSWER: -

As Hamlet might say - "That is the question". Whether it were better to flounder through a speech, or glance at ill-concealed notations.

Both are bad. Neither is necessary.

The place for notes is in the preparatory stage of a speech. After outlining or writing a speech, I like to make notes of the main points. Then, with these notes or topic words before me, I practice the speech as often as possible until each topic word suggests quickly its appropriate thoughts and words.

My final stage of preparation is memorizing these topic words (by the Roth system) and practicing the speech with only these mental notes.

I don't always pay this price in preparation, - and suffer the consequences, -

So do the long-suffering listeners.

- J. Gustav White.

We will endeavor to conduct this column in THE GAVEL each month. The answers will be given by various general critics of public speaking.

If your club has some question on public speaking procedure that it would like to have answered, just send it in to THE GAVEL and we will try and do our best.

We believe we can make this column be of real worth to members of the International. Any suggestions along this line are earnestly solicited.

QUILL POINTS

by
Jean Bordeaux

Did Glendale turn out for us, and HOW: Watch that club when they get in high gear. Three at the Council meeting, and they furnished a bang-up Toastmaster for the Dinner.

Latest from Long Beach: Asa Fickling, genial Mayor of the "taown", took a plunge in the sea of matrimony. Asa is Past President and Charter Member of Long Beach Club. Congratulations A.E.

Extra! Extra! Los Angeles Club snuck around and corraled Jean Bordeaux. He resigned from Long Beach Club and joined the L.A. boys. Rumor is that Bob Gosson of Long Beach will investigate, claiming Gus White is the Engineer on this switch.

Oceanside is California's Baby T M Club. Left the post and never headed. Clark and his hostlers are responsible.

Who will be the next club to report it has fathered a new T M Club? Will you city support two clubs? If so, get busy. How about neighboring communities? Long Beach should look into the possibilities for starting clubs at each of the new Branch Y.M.C.As.

Know why you didn't see Tom Butler at the Council? 'Cause his Mother was very ill. You can always bet on Tom being with us, if humanly possible.

Honolulu has a Toastmasters' Club now. All you birds with sharp lawnmowers

Wonatchee Club denies the report that Aplets will be bigger and better next year.



You've heard of whales, - well this Fish we heard at the Conference sure made a "whale" of a speech, - well prepared and concluded within 5 seconds of his time limit. Look out for Mr. Fish in a debate, he may hook you.

Arthur Johnson was busier than two one-armed paperhangers, - but always found time to chat with the lovely ladies, and how that boy can find them!!

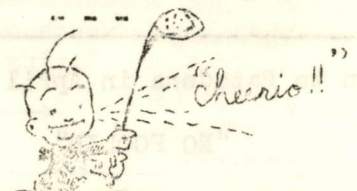
We understand six ministers contemplate filing suit against Ralph Smedley. As a criticism, Ralph's was a knockout. After thinking over what he said, I think I'll sue him myself.

Harry Hill did not attend the Business Session. Did he miss the dinner? Don't be silly. He had three plates of chicken. Harry promises to have a special table for Toastmasters at the State Board dinner next month.

Elmer Smith was down from Santa Bobbery, where all the big money boys live. He reported Franklin Howatt is working very hard. ALL ANAHEIM PAPERS - PLEASE COPY.

Ritter from Ontario was absent. What's the trouble, E. J.?

We need personal news items for this column. All Toastmasters' Clubs everywhere are URGED to send in little personal items about their members. Never worry that we cannot hash it up. Our news cooker is the very latest design and guaranteed to burn the dust. We hope to keep quill points well-sharpened, but not enough to stick anyone.



"THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING AT LOS ANGELES"

BANQUET BRILLIANT AFFAIR
100 GUESTS ATTEND

Interesting Program of Speeches Heard

Approximately 100 guests sat down to a chicken dinner in the dining room of the Kipling Hotel, Los Angeles, on January 24th, celebrating the 4th meeting of the International Council since its incorporation. The dinner followed the afternoon session of the Council.

President J. J. Casson, Los Angeles Club host, presided in the prescribed Toastmaster Style, turning the meeting over to Harry L. Finlay of the Glendale Club, who acted as Toastmaster of the evening. Mr. Finley, a charter member of the Los Angeles Club and organizer of the Glendale Club, proved that practice makes perfect in speaking as well as other arts.

J. Clark Chamberlain, President of the International, opened up the speeches of the evening with an account of the afternoon session of the Council. President Clark also told of the hopes and plans for International in the future.

Professor Bertrand Lyon, critic of the Pasadena Club, gave a brief talk on "The Value of the Toastmasters' International Movement". Because of the two fold program of the International, that of actual speaking practice for the members and the social side, he predicted that the organization would go far.

The theme of the meeting was: "The Ideal Toastmaster - How he does it." Although space here will not permit a full account of each speech, we will give the speakers' names and topics. Needless to say each speech was well handled and contained much valuable information that can be put to practical service by the Toastmasters in their individual clubs.

(Continued in next column)

(Cont. from preceding column)

"How to Introduce Speakers and Keep the Program Moving" was the subject of Elmer Smith's talk. (Santa Barbara)

J. R. Howell (Long Beach) followed up with a speech on "How to Plan the Program".

"How to Arrange Menus and Creature Comforts" was told in detail by the man from the place where they "know how" - San Diego -- Chester VarDuesen.

"How to Use Entertainment Features" was explained by George Hodstrum of Anaheim. He brought out two very interesting points: 1. Hold an Old Timers' or "Homo-Coming" night, and invite all the old members back - they to arrange and handle the program; 2. Arrange with a Talking Machine Company to have the speeches of your Club Members recorded - then play the records and let them hear just how terrible they are.

"How to Stimulate Continuous Mental Growth of Members", was one of the outstanding speeches of the evening. It was delivered by Harold Fish of Santa Ana. We will try to get hold of that speech and print it in part in a later issue of THE GAVEL.

Ralph C. Smedley, "Daddy of the Toastmasters' Club Idea", summed up the speeches of the evening by giving one on "Mannerisms". Mr. Smedley not only entertained, but pointed out faults that many of us have and which detract from the effectiveness of our speeches.

If we may be allowed to express our opinion it was a splendid meeting and served to show how valuable a meeting of this kind may be. Each talk had a direct bearing on the work that Toastmasters' Clubs are trying to accomplish - and by the way are, to a great extent accomplishing.

"THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING"

INTERESTING SESSION HELD BY
DELEGATES

Paul Denerie Makes Report
On Club Procedure

The January meeting of the International Council proved to be one of the most profitable sessions ever held.

The 16 members present were called to order by President J. Clark Chamberlain, and after preliminary items, the real business of the meeting was taken up.

President Chamberlain reported that a new club was organized at Oceanside and ready to slide down the ways on Monday, January 26th. The new club is being sponsored by the San Diego Toastmasters' Club.

It was also reported that a club is being formed in San Francisco.

That the Toastmasters' International is rapidly becoming International, is apparent by the request from the Honolulu, Hawaii Toastmasters' Club concerning the organization.

Various committees reported on letterheads, pins, extension, etc.. By the time the next meeting of the Council is held definite action will be taken on many of these matters.

One of the outstanding reports of the council meeting was the one made by Paul Denerie of Anaheim. Mr. Denerie as chairman of a committee on standardization, A.H. Johnson and R.C. Smedley co-workers, read the compilation of a set of questionnaires the committee sent out.

Space does not permit the printing of full report, but the high lights should be interesting to every Toastmasters' Club. The idea of the committee on Standardization is not to turn out a set of rules for each

(Contd. in next column)

club to abide by, but rather to find what all clubs have in general and to recommend certain practices that work for the success of individual clubs.

THE REPORT

Points of uniformity now existing among clubs:

1. Purpose of club in general.
2. Limitation of membership.
3. Dinner meetings.
4. All use a general critic.
5. Talks are carefully prepared.
6. Length of program approximately one hour.
7. Rotation of Toastmaster.

Variation of methods in clubs was found regarding:

1. Dues - Some clubs have fixed rate payable 1st of the month, others pay weekly. The committee recommended monthly plan, paid on 1st of month. Reason - Increase attendance, solve financial troubles.
2. Speaking Program - Much variation. Length of speeches, 3 to 10 min. Number of speeches, 5 to 14. Some clubs alternate - extemporaneous talks one week, prepared talks next. Some clubs assign subjects, others optional.
3. Critics - Some clubs use one general - 5 clubs use individual club members - some use critic charts. In addition, general critic used by all clubs - 3 of these are paid men.
4. Program arrangement: - Program Manager, Executive Committee, Monthly Committee, appointed by President.
5. For telling speaker when time is up, 3 clubs use red & green light system - 1 club uses bell.

There were many other interesting points in the report. The Committee is still working on this study.

BROADCASTING THE TOASTMASTERS' CLUBS

ANAHEIM

The Anaheim Toastmasters' Club has just started its sixth year. We are the second oldest club in Southern California. Not a single weekly meeting has been omitted during the five years.

January 13th the club held a "Home Coming Night" and the roll call of members showed 22 active and 19 past members present.

All past members were called upon for impromptu expressions. J. Clark Chamberlain, our first President (now president Toastmasters' International) presided. Chamberlain presented E. C. Kendrick as Toastmaster for the evening. The program was in charge of former club members and they did a good job of same.

LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Club sponsored an interesting meeting Tuesday, January 20th, marking the close of the Y M C A Public Speaking Course.

J. J. Casson, President, presided at the meeting, while Homer C. Debo, popular member of the L.A. Club successfully handled the Toastmaster duties.

A program of very fine speeches was concluded by an instructive and inspirational address by J. Gustav White, class instructor. Mrs. Frederick Hirshman placed first with John T. Ward a close second in the speaking contest. All the speakers were highly complimented. The judges of the contest were prominent business men; - Orra E. Monnette, Vice-chairman Bank of America; George Peppering, Pres. Western Auto Supply Co.; Ralph J. Reed, George Pierson, and Dr. L.M. broughman.

PASADENA

Pasadena Toastmasters are branching into Civic affairs, members of the club serving on the Speakers' Bureau of the Community Chest. Robert Dawson, genial president and C. F. Marshall have already seen service on the "firing line".

"The President's Cup" is the latest activity of the Pasadena Club. A silver cup is awarded the member of the club who has shown the most progress during a six week period. At the end of the six weeks a special "open house" is held to which the wives of the members are invited. The presentation is made at this time and winner keeps the cup for the next six weeks' period. Lots of competition is expected.

The Club is already making plans for the next International Council meeting which will be held in the Crown City, April 11th. Start saving your pennies right now for its going to be SOME MEETING.

SANTA ANA

It looks like big days ahead for this club. A Public Speaking Class of the "Y" is just concluding its course and many of the men are anxious to continue. They are looking toward the Toastmasters for that opportunity. Several have already put in their applications, which means a lot of new blood in the work.

We are using what we call "table chatter" in place of introductions, stories, quotes, etc. in the early part of the dinner. Topics for the month are published and all members speak extemporaneously for a minute on the evening's subject. Good practice is afforded in addition to developing the members' general reading.

"MAKE YOUR CLUB THE BEST IN TOWN"

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.
"The Spokes Club"

The Mid-Winter banquet of the "Y" speaking class was held recently with splendid success. Dr. J. G. Robertson officiated as Toastmaster in a capable fashion.

After the program a number of the members adjourned to the Spokes Club debate. The debate, "RESOLVED that it would be in the best interest of New Westminster to have a city manager as against the present system of mayor and council", was carried out with much spirit and a wealth of argument. The affirmative asserted that the city management plan is patterned after a system which years of experience by private corporations, as well as the proven results in some 400 cities, had shown to be fundamentally sound.

The affirmative side, represented by Harold Dixon, Frank H. Trapp and E. H. Sands, carried off the honors.

In the near future a debate is planned with the Vancouver Y.M.C.A..

WENATCHEE

How about a little news for the next number? Appoint that reporter and keep after him. We are still eating Aplets down this way.

EUGENE

Don't tell us it is raining so hard up there that you cannot get to the post office. We will expect a "boom" in news for the March number.

SANTA BARBARA

Franklin, get after the boys up there. We will gladly provide eight to ten inches of space - in fact we might stretch it into a whole column.

Elmer Smith, that staunch supporter of Toastmastering, was on deck at the Los Angeles meeting. (See Write-up.)

CLUBS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

The editor is just in receipt of a letter from Mr. T. H. Nelson, Senior Educational Secretary of National Council Y.M.C.A., which contains the names of various public speaking clubs in other parts of the country.

It is interesting to note that in 17 different states there is a total of 35 clubs - this number does not include those clubs in the International.

These clubs go under the headings of Toastmasters' Clubs, Toreador Clubs and Abraham Lincoln Clubs.

We should be very happy to hear from these clubs as to their program, club procedure and social activities, that we might, through the pages of THE GAVEL, pass it on to other clubs.

STATE COUNCIL MEETING

While this announcement might not be classed as "the chance of a life time", it is without a doubt "the chance of the year" for the extension committee of Toastmasters' International.

Each year the "Y" Secretaries all over California get together for a State Council meeting. This year it will meet in Hollywood, California on the evening of March 6th.

The event will start off with a banquet at 6:15 P.M. and to this banquet have been invited members of Toastmasters' International. A special table has been reserved for our group. During the evening, our President, Clark Chamberlain, will be given an opportunity to tell of our organization. For promotion the opportunity is unexcelled. Clark has a wonderful chance to lay some ground work. It is up to the rest of us Toastmasters to turn out to this banquet and back Clark up. WATCH FOR A SPECIAL LETTER ABOUT THIS.