

# THE GAVEL

Vol. 1 TOASTMASTERS' INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN JANUARY 1, 1931 No. 2

## GAVEL SPLINTERS

The San Diego Convention was plenty good and set a precedent for other Toastmasters' Clubs to try and surpass.

Our idea of a good exercise for Toastmasters is being Santa Claus for a group of 14 to 18 year old boys.

Delegates to the San Diego meeting got an earful of how speeches should be made---- and an eyeful of charming ladies, who no doubt, directed many of the speech rehearsals.

One doesn't always have to have money to do another kindness. For instance giving a man a chance to improve himself by inviting him to join your club is a good deed.

"Many hands make light work" and many clubs putting their shoulder to the International will wheel it right around the world.

Which brings us to this point; have you appointed a club reporter to turn your club news into the Gavel each month?

"Have you a little mannerism in your speech?" It would prove an interesting pastime for some ex-stamp collector to collect and assemble a list of mannerisms



**BIG PROSPERITY BOOM  
PREDICTED FOR PUBLIC  
SPEAKERS IN 1931.**

**Opportunity Knocks At  
Toastmasters' Club Doors**

The baseball fans will kindly rise to verify this statement, "that when the game is going the wrong way and it looks like defeat---then it's time to, 'talk it up'." The players talk it up to the pitcher, the fans talk it up, in fact everybody concerned with the home team talks it up.

This Scotch business period that we have been passing thru, might be likened to the oil game, and we as the rooters have got to "talk it up" if we expect to put 'good times' at the top of the league.

Members of the various Toastmasters' Clubs

### "SPECIAL"

**"THE LOS ANGELES  
TOASTMASTERS  
STATE."**

That on Saturday, January 24, 1931, around about 6:15 P.M. or so, at the Kipling Hotel, 4085 W. 3rd Street will begin one of the most interesting joint meetings of Toastmasters ever held. The meeting will follow the afternoon session of the International Council.

The L.A. Club has undertaken a large order in following the San Diego meeting, but we believe they can put it across.

throughout this land of ours will, in 1931 get chances to speak at public functions, dinners, service clubs, etc. If the people of your city are not in the habit of calling on your club for speakers, then it is up to you to call their attention to what they are missing.

Your club should have the reputation of being "THE" club in town where there are plenty of good speakers available.

Speaking outside the club by Toastmasters serves to advertise the club and it also furthers the spirit of

(Cont. page 2)



"WATCH THE GAVEL GROW"

"THE GAVEL"

Published Monthly by  
TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

\*\*\*\*\*

Y.M.C.A. Pasadena, California

Subscription rate--5¢ a copy  
By the year (12 issues)--50¢

Editorial Staff

C. F. Marshall--Pasadena

R. C. Smedley--Santa Ana

F. Howett--Santa Barbara

Send copy for The Gavel in  
by the 25th of the month to  
C. F. Marshall, Y.M.C.A.  
Pasadena, California

OFFICERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL

President

J. Clark Chamberlain--San Diego  
1303 Fifth Avenue

Vice-President

A. H. Johnson Pasadena, Calif.

Treasurer

G. M. Grant Los Angeles, Calif.

Secretary

Jean Bordeaux Long Beach, Calif.  
Address: 714 W. 10th St. L.A.

Committee Chairman

Incorporation

A. H. Johnson

Visits & Extension

J. Clark Chamberlain

Constitution

G. M. Grant

Publicity

C. F. Marshall

EDITORIAL

The beginning of a new year is a good place to pause a moment and take a look down the long road ahead.

The individual club should perhaps

Editorial

have it's program or development committee go into a "huddle" and work out a progressive plan for the year---- set a definite goal towards which the club will work.

If the International work out all the plans in mind they will have a very busy and profitable year. Some of the things they hope to accomplish are; an International emblem cut; a lapel pin or charm for all Toastmasters; an International letterhead; the issuing of Charters to Clubs; establishing of Districts; formation of new clubs; and a number of other plans that will help the individual club. **LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR COUNT!!**

PROSPERITY AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS

(Cont'd from page 1)

service in the community. Opportunity is there, not alone for the club but for the individual member.

The Toastmasters' Club is the training ground where we work our way up from "raw recruits" to Captains of speech. We become more or less master of our minds and tongues. However, this period of training avails us little if there are no great battles.

Speaking out in public is the battle, an' how. When you get up before a strange audience of a few hundred all your training tactics are called into play. If you have been a good Toastmaster, "words don't fail you" and with the exception of a few self-conscious wounds, you emerge victorious from the fray. The next battle is easier and so on.

As Shakespeare might say, "Gentlemen, I beseech you, in your tongue waging this year, sound an optimistic note.



THE SAN DIEGO BANQUET

Perhaps the most comprehensive report of the banquet, given in the evening at the San Diego Convention, may be gleaned from the criticism of J. Gustav White, appointed general critic of the evening by President Chamberlain.

San Diego Knows How.

The ladies of the San Diego Toastmasters Club said "Welcome" with flowers and the floral decorations certainly added to the delightful spirit of fellowship manifested by all the hosts. It pays to have a florist in the Club!

The atmosphere upon entering the room was certainly cosmopolitan. The YMCA Boys' Band was playing "Heilige Nacht". Posters on the walls enticed us to use the "Chemin de fer de Paris a Orleans". A real Spaniard played the guitar, and a lady from Dixie vied with the cowgirl and athletic dancers in entertainment efforts.

Mr. "Jimmy" Jamison, (San Diego) assayed a large undertaking in telling the truth to the ladies, but he set a good standard of speech making as the first talker.

Mrs. Van Dusen (San Diego) in responding, displayed real cleverness, and deserved special commendation in selecting a location from which she could be heard.

President Van Dusen, (San Diego) was a dynamic presiding officer, but his instructions to the audience for self-introductions were so indefinite as to be confusing.

Mr. Ralph Smedley, (Santa Ana) gave a good illustration of Toastmastering. His humor showed up to splendid advantage, although some of his introductions and connections were too long.

THE SAN DIEGO BANQUET

Mr. Geo. Grant, (Los Angeles) missed the ball when attempting to kick off as the first speaker on the regular program. He said he was not prepared to speak.

Mr. Comparot, (San Diego) was handicapped as the second regular speaker, for he was scheduled to answer prohibition arguments which the Los Angeles speaker was supposed to have advanced. Nevertheless, he picked up the fumbled ball and made a good run. After a happy but lengthy introduction of his subject, he manifested splendid arrangement of material, and delivered his talk in good voice, well modulated,--and had an effective closing tale.

Dr. Henderson, (Anaheim) had a startling opening, and the body of his speech contained sincere, valuable and practical suggestions. There was a singleness of purpose in his talk which unified the whole.

Mr. H. B. McAfee, (Pasadena) as a minister's son, talked rather authoritatively on "Racketeering". He used a good opening, fine poise and gestures and a strong voice, although a bit high. He was convincing because of his contagious earnestness.

Mrs. Chamberlain, (San Diego) did well in pinch-hitting for her voiceless husband, the President of Toastmasters' International. Perhaps a few remarks on what happened at the council meeting in the afternoon would have been appropriate.

Mr. Putnam, (Long Beach) made a splendid talk in spite of his notes. He had a timely subject, fine material a rich voice and he held the interest of all.



THE SAN DIEGO BANQUET  
(Cont'd from page 3)

In general, we were impressed with the additional difficulties in arranging a conventional program as compared with a regular club program. There was much evidence of the impromptu. There were too many illustrations of pinch hitting. There was too much and too good entertainment in proportion to the number and quality of the speeches. But in closing, we wish to compliment the San Diego Club and state that it will make future convention committees step to surpass it.

J. Gustav White.

NORTHWEST COUNCIL BROADCASTS  
TOASTMASTER NEWS

The Toastmasters International have a staunch friend and supporter in the personage of John H. Rudd, Editor of the Northwest Association News.

Mr. Rudd also Associate Executive Secretary Northwest Council, in the December issue of the News, gave a generous amount of space for a write-up of the inauguration of the Toastmasters' International.

The Northwest Council, composed of the States of Idaho, Oregon and Washington, have a number of "Y" Centers that are potential centers for Toastmasters Clubs. Mr. Rudd has sent a copy of the Gavel to these centers along with a good promotional letter. Quoting the letter in part:

"As a program feature for men, I can think of few things which are more helpful and more easily promoted than a Toastmasters' Club. We have one in Wenatchee and one in Eugene."

\*\*\*\*\*

"THE 24TH AT LOS ANGELES"

The International Convention Committee for the next meeting in Los Angeles, state loud and fervently that the event will be a "How how" occasion---from the "How do you do?" to the "How do we get home?"

It is proposed to follow a definite plan in the speaking program and to make each of the speeches by delegates bear directly upon the problems of presiding, speaking or planning, with relation to club program and similar occasions.

One delegate from each of the clubs will be assigned to a specific topic and asked to gather all the data possible on:

- How to introduce speakers and keep the program moving.
- How to open the talk.
- How to close effectively.
- How to use stories and illustrations.
- How to arrange speech material.
- How to plan the program.
- How to arrange menus and creature comforts.
- How to use entertainment features.
- How to criticize constructively.
- How to stimulate continuous mental growth of members.

In addition to the above, there will be some real entertainment provided by the Los Angeles Club.

The International Council will meet at 4:00 P.M. Convention Banquet at 6:30 P.M. Don't forget the date, Saturday, January 24th, at the Kipling Hotel, 4085 West 3rd St. Los Angeles.

Mail or phone reservations early to T. S. Butler, 6139 West Orange St. L.A., Phone, Whitney 1777.

Convention Committee

Ross D. Weaver

A. H. Johnson

J. Gustav White



"IS YOUR CLUB NEWS IN THE GAVEL?"

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Those who attended the San Diego Convention were impressed with the sincerity of purpose evinced by the organization. After having felt our way along for the past three months, we seem to have taken seriously and enthusiastically to the task of advancing the Toastmasters' Club movement, through the recognized mediums of individual club improvement, visitation and increase of club membership in the International.

But in pursuing such activities, we should recognize and take full advantage of the possibilities of building for the future through the pages of our paper the "Gavel". Here in the pages of The Gavel you find evidence that Clubs everywhere are forging ahead to the point of becoming in each case a real influence in the community concerned. Let us continue to do more along lines of outside activity, such as furnishing speakers for other club programs, etc. In this way, we are rapidly strengthening the ability of our individual members and at the same time, creating most valuable prestige for our Clubs.

Without question the gathering of January 24th under the banner of the Los Angeles Club should bring out much of value to all member Clubs, and I am hoping to see all of you there in order to make up an attendance which may far outshine the record established at San Diego. My voice having almost entirely regained its normal volume, I shall be looking forward to at least saying "Hello".

J. Clark Chamberlain

SANTA BARBARA

Although we haven't heard direct from the Santa Barbara Club, they are no doubt up and doing.

Franklin Howett, formerly of the city of Anaheim, is now residing in the northern city and is an addition to the club there. We expect to hear of big things being done there in the near future. Let's have the low down on your activities, Santa Barbara.



"THAT  
REMINDS  
ME"

"I'd like to be cremated, but I'm sure my wife wouldn't like it."

"Why not?"

"She's always complaining about my leaving my ashes around."

"Now Jimmy, what happened when the cow jumped over the moon?"

"Somebody got an idea for vanishing cream."

Translated from Greek  
Customer: "Give me four pork sandwiches to take out."

Counter man to cook: "Dress up four grunts to go walking."

TELL IT TO THE MARINES

The wife and daughter of one Commodore Berry of a U.S. navy yard approaching the gate to the station, were halted by the gob-sentry there, who had orders to allow no one to enter by that particular gate.

"Sorry, but you'll have to go round to the main gate," explained the sailor.

"Oh, but we're the Berrys!" declared the astonished ladies.

"I don't care if you're the cat's meow, lady. You can't go through this gate." - The Line





"SUBSCRIBE TO THE GAVEL"

SPOKES CLUB

The Spokes Club of New Westminster, B.C. do not believe in hiding their light under a bushel, and plans have been formulated whereby the club will make public appearances in the surrounding districts.

Recently the club made a trip to Mt. Lehman where a debate was held with the Mount Lehman Literary and Debating Club on the "Causes of Unemployment". The Spokes Club emerged victor in the debate. Quoting from a splendid newspaper account of the occasion.

"The debate took place at the Mount Lehman community hall before a large audience, D.J. McAskill presiding."

The Newspaper article gives a review of each speaker and the points brought out in the debate to uphold his assertions. The article concludes with;

"Following the debate a musical programme, dancing and refreshments were enjoyed, Miss Shafer and Frank Faulding contributing songs and Fred Gillespie recitations, while George Clare acted as accompanist."

This sounds to us like an ideal evening. Here is an idea that some of the clubs here in the Southland might use for inter-club meetings.

EUGENE, OREGON

Dr. G. P. Winchell, President of our Toastmasters' Club, is so thoroughly enthusiastic about its operation that he says every man ought to be given an opportunity to be a member of the club because of its training for public appearance and practice in extemporaneous speaking, and organizing speeches in public.

(Cont'd next column)

YMCA NATIONAL COUNCIL SENDS LETTER

A very interesting letter was received from T. H. Nelson, Senior Educational Secretary of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. The letter was in response to a copy of The Gavel sent the New York office. The letter should be of great interest to us Internationally and therefore we print it in part:

"We are delighted to receive this bulletin and to keep closely in touch with your program.

There are a large number of clubs in YMCA's throughout the country with interest somewhat similar to those of the Toastmasters' Clubs. Public speaking classes in YMCA's in some sections of the East have resulted in Abraham Lincoln Clubs, not only a social and public speaking interest but one with a concert of the advancement of the interests of Associations in certain selected interests of the community. We regard these clubs as effective organizations for informal education as well as for service.

Keep us in touch with what happens and call on us in any way in which we may be of service."

EUGENE, OREGON

(Cont'd from preceding column)

A good many of our members have been called upon from time to time to become toastmasters of public meetings, and several of them told the club that they were indebted to the club for their success, as it was only since their connection with the Toastmasters' Club that they dared to undertake such a responsibility. So the Eugene Club is rendering a very worth while contribution to many men.

We also want to subscribe to 15 copies of The Gavel for our members for we believe it is very much worth while.

Byron Welsh, Secretary



## BROADCASTING THE TOASTMASTERS' CLUBS

### SAN DIEGO

We want to thank the various Toastmasters' Clubs that journeyed to our fair city for the last Convention. We assure you we enjoyed your company and we hope you liked the program that we had arranged. We'll see you at Los Angeles on the 24th.

§

Since the organization of our club last May, our members have given one hundred and seventy-four speeches, all of which have been constructively criticized and reported upon. We have entertained sixty-four guests and have spent \$542.75 for meals.

### ONTARIO

Notice from Ontario is to the effect that they do not feel they should enter the International at this time. We sincerely hope that at a later date they may join us. In the meantime we should like to hear through The Gavel what they are doing and we shall be glad to send The Gavel along so they may keep posted on what is happening in the International.

### EUREKA

Membership in the Eureka Club now numbers 21 with prospects of building it up to 30 in the near future.

§

Regarding procedure in the club, elections are held quarterly, there are four, five minute speeches each evening and as many extemporaneous talks as time permits. Each member writes a criticism of each speaker and these are read.

§

The members of the club are a loyal bunch and our attendance record is good. Just now we are debating the paying in advance for meals each month.

### LONG BEACH

Election of officers took place at the Long Beach Toastmasters' Club December 17, with the following results:- Phillip Putman, President; John Hilbert, Vice-President; Robert Howell, Secretary and Norment Windes, Treasurer. The Club elects officers at the last meeting in September, December and March.

§

An exchange of visits with other Clubs is contemplated for the near future. Clubs selected are--a return visit to Anaheim in January and we expect to entertain the Los Angeles Club in January or February.

§

International Secretary, Jean Bordeaux, President-elect Phillip Putnam and Cyrus J. Trauger, reported an excellent time on their visit to the International meeting in San Diego.

### GLENDALE

Glendale begins the year with a new set of officers, election having been held the last of December.

§

The officers who will throw the activities into high gear for the coming term are; Tom Keene, President; Ed. F. Heiser, Vice-President; and W. C. Rodgers, Secretary and Treasurer.

§

During the next few months the club has arranged to have a professional critic. Arrangement has been made with the local school board whereby they get the services of a critic without charge. Better still they will probably be allowed to pick their own critic.

§

Here again is a suggestion that other clubs desiring critics might put into practice.

§

The Glendale Club will, we are sure be glad to furnish particulars of the plan to interested clubs on request.



## BROADCASTING THE TOASTMASTERS' CLUBS

### LOS ANGELES

Results of the election, January 1, 1931 were very pleasing to the progressive party. Jack J. Casson, president; Tom S. Butler, secretary and J. A. Hillstrom, Sergeant-at-Arms, make up the crew that will guide the L.A. Club's program for the next three months.

Tom Butler is having a new song sheet prepared for the Club. If any other club wants samples, write to Tom at the Y.M.C.A., 715 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, California

We wish for each Club a most successful year during 1931, and feel that the more intimate fellowship which will result from inter-club association thru Toastmasters' International is certainly going to help achieve it.

### PASADENA

The first of the year seems to be election time for many clubs. Pasadena went to the polls and put in office Robert Dawson, president; Harold Curtis, secretary; Carl Schmidt, treasurer and Howard Goodhue, Don Barns, Sergeant-at-arms. It's a high-powered club that has to have two sergeants-at-arms.

We plan to start off the year with a small membership drive for the total of ten new members. With a membership of thirty we will be all set for a year of real development.

Look for the Pasadena delegation at the Los Angeles Convention. If you are going to out-number us, better start signing them up right now.

WISHING YOU HEALTH, HAPPINESS  
AND SUCCESS IN THE COMING YEAR.

### WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

When the Toastmasters up there in Wenatchee put on a banquet they do it in regal style, if the "ritzy" menu card is anything to judge by. The club recently put on a dinner at the beautiful Cascadian Hotel, their first annual event. Quoting from President Ray Clark's letter:

"Enclosing a menu of the first Annual Dinner held by the Wenatchee Toastmasters' Club. There were 64 present at this occasion and in addition to the notations made on the program, we enjoyed a very instructive talk from Rev. Earl Breon. We intend to arrange to employ Rev. Breon as the instructor of the Club.

Our first meeting for 1931 will take place on January 8th. This meeting will be held in Cashmere. We have several members of the club who live in that city, which, by the way, is the home of the Aplet, the world's famous confection. We are looking forward to a very wonderful meeting at that time.

We also hope to have Mr. Charles Hazzard, one of the original members of the Toastmasters' Club of Wenatchee back with us, after an extended visit in California."

We've had some of those Aplets, President Clark, and they are grade A. But can't you get them to make that confection just twice as big as its present size.

### OTHER CLUBS

There are still other clubs, both in the International and not yet members that we should like to hear from.

Just get your reporter busy on the job and have him send in a few doings of your particular club. We'll be glad to have you in.