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ROTARY PRESIDENT'S EUROPEAN TOUR

World Membership 345,000

Mr Arthur Lagueux, of Quebec, president of Rotary International, who arrived in the Clyde yesterday on the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Scotland for a five-week tour of clubs in Europe and North Africa, stated that one of the greatest encouragements to their movement was the rebirth of clubs in former enemy countries where they had been suppressed during the war.

To-day, he said, they had 30 clubs each in Italy and Japan, and 26 in Germany, but, of course, none behind the Iron Curtain. Rotary was one of the finest organisations in the world and it could do much to promote international understanding. At present there were 7150 clubs in 83 countries, with a total membership of 345,000.

Mr Lagueux is to visit clubs in France, Italy, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia, and will afterwards go on to Gibraltar, Madrid, and Lisbon for a few days' holiday before returning home. This is his first visit to Europe, but he will return to Britain in March to visit clubs in Ireland and to attend district conferences in England.