

Local Rotary Leaders At Table With International President Lagueux



Seated at the head table during last night's dinner meeting at the Alexander Hamilton Hotel in honor of Rotary's International President Arthur Lagueux were the following: Seated, left to right Mayor Michael DeVita, member of the Paterson club; Filbert L. Rosenstein, governor of District 270 and past president of the local club; President Lagueux; Paterson President Dr.

Arthur R. Neale, Jr.; Forster Freeman, Jr., program chairman; Walter D. Read, past international president; Stanley E. Bentley, district secretary; Past District Governor, Steele, Jr.; Robert Catey, Ott Klein, Clifford Linch, George G. Meeks, Arthur Hahn, and Chester A. Lydeck, Dick L. Broad, district treasurer.

Rotary

(Continued From Page 1)
broadcast over Radio Station WPAT.

Paterson's Rotary President Dr. Arthur R. Neale, Jr. welcomed the gathering and introduced those seated at the head table. In the name of the City of Paterson, Mayor Michael U. DeVita, an active Rotarian, officially welcomed Lagueux stating that the "City is truly graced and improved by your presence here tonight. After your stay may you be as pleased with us as we have been with you."

President Neale then introduced District Governor Filbert L. Rosenstein, "a Paterson member whom we have held in highest regard for many years."

In his introduction of the International President, District Governor Rosenstein said in part: "In this year of world disturbance, Rotary, always fortunate in its top leadership, has been exceptionally fortunate. Its president is a man directly in the mould of Paul Harris, its founder—simple, friendly and great-hearted."

Arthur Lagueux, RIP

Lagueux congratulated the clubs of the district upon having chosen Rosenstein as their Governor this year. He complimented Rosenstein on an outstanding job, and said that the influence of Rotary is spreading under his leadership. "Rotary stands today," he said, "as the leading exponent of the ideal of 'Do something for somebody else.' Rotary's program can be expressed in the one word—Service—Service to mankind! Service to humanity!"

"More so, it is service that is given freely and ungrudgingly; service that extends above and beyond the thought of mere self."

He declared that at the very heart of Rotary lies an ideal. Rotary is not synthetic, he continued, it is vital; it was born, not made. Rotary has a definite place in this world of discord and division and it will live.

Lagueux reminded his audience that "everything we stand for in Rotary depends upon the spirit of mutual understanding and this quality of human understanding transcends national boundaries and eliminates prejudices of long standing."

The speaker pointed out that from its very inception Rotary International has supported the United Nations, in the belief that that organization remains as our only immediate vehicle through which we can seek world co-operation and peace.

"The problems of the U.N. can never be solved by diplomats alone," he said, "but by the full force of informed and enlightened public opinion. This is the kind of work in which Rotary clubs have one of its greatest opportunities for service. We can lead our communities in seeing that the public has objective information on which to base its decisions. We can do this in the schools, public forums and best of all, in our programs at our weekly meetings."

The problems of the world, Lagueux warned, are intertwined with our daily lives and no more can Rotarians say that international relations should be left to the diplomats. "These problems," he asserted, "are a part and parcel of your lives. The forces of greed and lust for power must be reckoned with. The bright new world we have hoped for has yet to be created. This creation takes the best of effort and sacrifice of every man and to become discouraged would be to surrender to forces of evil."

"How vitally and how successfully Rotary performs its mission depends on us. Ideals without action is as unfruitful as action not based on ideals. We must harness the power of idealism if we are to turn the wheels of our better tomorrow."

The Program

Invocation was given by the Rev. Howard A. Adair; musical selections were rendered by the Paterson Rotary Glee Club and dinner music was provided by the Paterson Trio, comprising Theodore Freeman, Isabelle and Carl Wegmann.

Mrs. Lagueux, wife of the international president, was the honored guest at a private dinner party with Mrs. Arthur R. Neale, Jr., Mrs. Filbert L. Rosenstein, Mrs. Joseph Birchenough, Mrs. Ralph E. Bentley, Mrs. Gatterman and Mrs. Forster W. Freeman, Jr., as hostesses. The women were given orchid bouquets through the courtesy of the Paterson club.

Several gifts were presented in behalf of the club to both President and Mrs. Lagueux at the conclusion of the program.

The 26 clubs within the district and their presidents who attended the meeting follows:

Bayonne, Harvey J. Yogan; Bergenfield, John Sorden; Englewood, Fordyce M. Beggs; Fair Lawn, William Shanker; Garfield, Peter DeLoew, Jr.; Hackensack, Benjamin Pratt; Hawthorne, William E. Decker; Hoboken, Thomas F. McFeely; Jersey City, Thomas A. Williams; Little Falls, Harold M. Schumacher; Little Ferry, Bernard Casser; Lodi, Marinus C. Galanti; Maywood, Henry VanDer Vliet; North Arlington, Sam Clott; Oakland, Gerald Grootendorst; Paramus, Walter T. Wittman; Park Ridge, Dr. Stuart Alexander; Passaic, Allen J. Blair; Paterson, Dr. Arthur R. Neale, Jr.; Ridgewood Park, Henry Oelzermann; Ridgewood, John Harrison; River Edge, Fred W. Benevise; Rutherford, Adriance W. Klop, Jr.; Teaneck, John H. Flannery; Union City, Wil-

liam Fiedler and Westwood, Farrell W. Heffernan.

Rosenstein's Remarks
The text of Rosenstein's remarks were as follows:

"The 20th Century was still young when the first Rotary Club came into being. The year was 1905—the city was Chicago and the man was Paul Harris, a simple, friendly, great-hearted man. He was young and he was lonesome and he craved fellowship, and out of his craving he conceived Rotary. And that first Rotary Club of 1905 was the first service club in history."

Rotary was erected on fellowship and dedicated to service. Fellowship is the cornerstone of Rotary. Fellowship asks for nothing in return except fellowship. Like love, it can be shared without being diminished. Indeed, the more we give of it, the more of it we have left. Fellowship is born of sympathy and understanding, it is admiration without flattery, patience without indulgence, companionship without intrusion. It lights the present without raising misgivings about the past.

"As fellowship is the cornerstone of Rotary, so service is the touchstone of Rotary. It is a touchstone that transforms life from drudgery to dedication. Service is the means by which the unselfish man gratifies his sole passion, that of smoothing the road for others. Taking the three great fields of every man's life—his business, his community and his world—Rotary bids every member to serve and serve well in each. Rotary teaches that life's primary emphasis is upon service to society and secondary emphasis upon the material profit, if any. Rotary bids us, 'Serve and then Deserve.'"

A Confused World

"Thus, although Rotary teaches nothing new, it does dedicate a great body of men dwelling in many lands to recognize and to practice the great, fundamental, eternal ideals in a changed and changing world, in a confused and confusing world. And what a confused world it is!"

"Tonight, only nine years after Pearl Harbor and the sneak Jap attack that threw us into alliance with the Communist dictator, we are menaced by Russia, the land that talks peace and provokes war. Nine years ago, Hitler, the war-monger, was calling America a war-monger. Tonight, Stalin, instigator of numberless attacks, calls America an aggressor. The words change, but the melody, or rather the discord, remains the same."

"But we in Rotary are not confused. Rotary has survived two world wars and the greatest depression in history and has emerged stronger than ever. From four men, founding Rotary Club number one in Chicago 45 years ago, we have grown to more than 240,000 men in over 7,100 clubs in 53 countries on every continent of the globe."

"In a century in which even great nations mocked religion, flouted truth, sneered at the sacredness of the pledged word and ridiculed religion, even in such a century, Rotary made its astonishing growth and developed its amazing vitality."

"Why? Because Rotary is in its own battle for a better world, because Rotary is practice of what religion is precept, because heart and soul and spirit cry out in revolt against a world in which religion and truth and idealism are atom-bombed by evil men who pose as the champions of peace and rail at the atomic bomb, the one weapon in which they are unembarrassed, at the very moment they are plotting real love."