

Rotary Women at Dinner Hear Mrs. Garnet Coulter

WHEN Rotary women gathered for dinner Saturday evening in the colonial room of the Royal Alexandra Hotel, they had the honor of having Mrs. Arthur Lagueux, of Quebec City, among their guests. Mrs. Lagueux accompanied her husband, president of Rotary International, to the 27th Goodwill Rotary meeting.

Mrs. J. W. Tackaberry, president, introduced the head table guests, and presided during the dinner. Guests were piped to the head table, following a reception prior to dinner.

Mrs. Tackaberry welcomed out of town guests. She referred to goodwill when she thanked the women for their assistance during the flood of last year. She introduced Mrs. Coulter, guest speaker, whose topic was 'A Word to the Wives!'

"Never under-estimate the power of a woman, or the power of words, said Mrs. Coulter. "As women, it is our responsibility to know the power and use of words, and to use them constructively. Words, as such, are empty and meaningless. It is what we put into them, and the tone of voice we use, that counts," she explained.

Definitions of words are important, she continued. Some words have changed in meaning. Mrs. Coulter chose the word 'sinister' as an example. It used to mean 'left' . . . now it's a "thoroughly mad word," she said.

The speaker pointed out the fact that such words as A Bomb, cold and hot war, did not exist 25 years ago. "It is strange," she said, "how these new words carry a sinister meaning. On the other hand, there are new uses for the words that are more hopeful, international goodwill meetings, democracy, are examples, she said "Think too," she pointed out, "what the word peace means today, and what it used to mean."

"The pen and voice are mightier than the sword," Mrs. Coulter said. "Hitler and Stalin used the power of words to win their people; Churchill's power of words brought hope to those who heard them.

"Each one of us has a sphere of influence," the speaker said, "but we don't know how potent that sphere is. We must use our power conscientiously, and keep going with the changing times."

Mrs. Coulter was thanked by Mrs. Archie Gibson. A gift from Rotary women was presented to the speaker by Mrs. Gibson. Mrs. George Wilson made a presentation to Mrs. Lagueux as a remembrance of her visit to Winnipeg.

A sing song was held, directed by Mrs. J. Maxwell. Mrs. Norman Russell was pianist. Grace Lowery was soloist.

Guest at the head table were: Mrs. George Wilson, Winnipeg, wife of immediate past president of Winnipeg Rotary Club; Mrs. Arthur Lagueux, Quebec, wife of the president of Rotary International; Mrs. Garnet Coulter, wife of the mayor of Winnipeg; Mrs. Richmond Mayson, Prince Albert, Sask., wife of Governor, 171st District Rotary International; Mrs. Archie Gibson, Winnipeg; Mrs. T. A. Torgeson, Estevan, Sask., wife of a past Canadian director of Rotary International.