

ATTENDANCE DELINQUENCY

Every Rotarian should remember that when he became a member of a Rotary Club he made at that time a permanent luncheon appointment, which in our Club means Tuesday noon is set aside for Rotary Attendance. Colleagues, secretaries, and switchboard operators should all be briefed to keep other appointments away from the "Rotary hour."

Only a crisis or emergency of some sort should be permitted to interfere with that Rotary appointment. In the event of such an interference, Rotary should not be dismissed for that week but thought should be given to attending a Rotary Luncheon in a near-by suburb. Those suburban Rotarians will extend a warm welcome to a man from "Old No. 1."

It is sometimes an education in itself to listen to the excuses given, and the reasons brought forth for non-attendance. Sickness sometimes prevents a Rotarian from attending a meeting, but one over-worked excuse is that of an appointment with a customer. We have a hard time seeing that one, because so often customers have been happy indeed to accept an invitation to come to a Rotary Meeting for lunch.

Keeping up a good, if not a perfect, Rotary attendance is not too hard a thing to do. Many business leaders manage to keep their Rotary appointments. It depends of course on your attitude toward your Club and the whole Rotary program—including the R. I. program. Remember you are building not only a personal record, but your Club record as well.

In the early days of Rotary it was much more difficult for a Rotarian

to keep up a good attendance because there were not enough clubs; but with the many thousands of clubs scattered over the country now there is hardly a town or a city that does not have a Rotary Club. The nice thing about that is, one is always welcome at such a meeting. In fact, the smaller clubs feel highly honored if a member from "Old Number One" breaks bread with them. In this connection it is a good idea to have in your briefcase the current official directory of Rotary Clubs. In this directory the clubs are arranged according to towns in alphabetical order so that a man can instantly find out whether there is a Rotary Club Luncheon in the town he is visiting on the day he is there. Again, take the customer with you. This loyalty to one of the fundamentals in Rotary is good for your soul as well as for our organization and all Rotary Clubs which are affiliated with it through R. I.

You, who have been seriously delinquent in attendance in the past can do a much better job on attendance in the future if you really want to. So, let us have fewer excuses and more attendance. This may sound "tough" but we are saying it with a smile.

Attendance Review Board
Otto E. Geppert
Rex Rathbun

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Perry Stordock is counting the days to February 1st when he leaves for Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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Jack Almond reports that the reason for the boutonniere at each meeting is that he passes a cemetery on his way to work.

PRESIDENT LAGUEUX SPEAKS FOR ROTARY

Arthur Lagueux of Quebec, Canada, President of Rotary International, who is at Rotary headquarters in Chicago to attend the semi-annual meeting of the Rotary Board of Directors recently made the following statement:

I have not yet seen the Vatican decree regarding membership of Catholic clergy in Rotary Clubs, so I cannot make a specific comment on that decree. However, I would like to make clear Rotary's position regarding all religions.

Rotary is not a secret association. Rotary has no vows or secrets of any kind. All of its meetings, activities and records are public.

Rotary has absolutely no connection with Masonry or with any other organization.

Rotary does not seek to supplant or to interfere with any religious or charitable organization.

Many years ago, by convention action, Rotary International asserted: "Each Rotarian is expected to be a loyal member of the church or religious community to which he belongs and personally exemplify by his every act the tenets of his religion."

Qualifications for Rotary membership do not require information as to race, religion or politics.

Rotary assumes that the program of service of its 7,200 Rotary Clubs in 83 countries is in accord with all religions.

SPEAKER'S TABLE SETTING A'
—R. I. PRESIDENT ARTHUR

