

1944 -- 1952

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE



1944 -- 1945

WATT W. WELKER

(Minneapolis #75)



International Officers:

Gordon A. Spry, Director

DISTRICT OFFICERS:

Secretary: C. M. Dosh, Minneapolis

Educational Director: Prof. Edgar J. Otto, St. Paul

Resident Correspondent: L. S. Anderson, St. Paul

Lieutenant Governors:

Area 1 -- E. P. Classen, Minneapolis

Area 2 -- Norman V. Knutson, St. Paul

Area 3 -- Paul V. Webber, Albert Lea

Area 4 -- C. J. Cahill, Waterloo, Iowa

Area 5 -- T. L. Ramsey, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Area 6 -- Edward A. L. Hammarstrand, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Area 7 -- Joseph C. Woodward, Moorhead

AREA ORGANIZATION:

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
82 Russell H. Conwell  
166 Minnesota  
183 Gopher  
185 Engineers  
209 Minneapolis JTC  
309 Executives  
320 Royal Arcanum

AREA 2

167 First St. Paul  
189 Princeton  
208 King Boreas  
217 Greysolon  
221 Victory  
228 First Wisconsin  
302 Paramount  
310 Beaver Dam  
321 Capital City

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
232 Austin  
271 Rochester

AREA 4

101 Waterloo

AREA 5

210 Sioux Falls  
224 Sodak

AREA 6

250 Winnipeg  
293 Brandon  
313 Centennial

AREA 7

272 Pioneer  
273 Grand Forks  
312 Grafton

## FORWARD AHEAD!

World War II was not yet over, but Toastmasters was beginning its surge, characteristic of the post-war period. District Six began a growth period which resulted in the formation two years later of two new districts.

Nine new clubs entered their names on the rolls of District Six during the year. Most of the clubs came from the outstate areas. Two clubs came from St. Paul, and two from Minneapolis.

A new area was created, which covered North Dakota, and the northwest corner of Minnesota. The large number of clubs chartered in that area during the years 1944-46 caused the formation of District 20.

The first new club was Grand Forks #273, which was the first club in North Dakota. The charter was presented by Governor Welker in September, 1944.

Two more Canadian clubs affiliated themselves with District Six during the year. Brandon, Manitoba received Charter No. 293 early in 1945, and Centennial #313 became the second club in Winnipeg.

The second Wisconsin club, Beaver Dam #310 was chartered in May, 1945 after attempts to start a club in that community had been made as early as 1940.

Grafton, North Dakota, No. 312, became the second club in that state in April. This brought three clubs into the new area.

St. Paul received two new clubs during the year, bulging the number of clubs in its area to 9. The Paramount Club #302, and Capital City #321 were the clubs. Capital City later contributed a district governor. The Paramount club's life was rather short, however.

Minneapolis gained two clubs who later contributed three district governors. The Royal Arcanum #320 was chartered in May, 1945, and the Executives #309 were chartered in November, 1944. The first president of Executives established himself in a very short time as a leader of Toastmasters, and served as District Governor three years hence. His name--George Conrad.

The administration of Watt Welker was successful beyond the start of these clubs. Ground work had been laid for tremendous growth, division of the district, and other achievements. The next year would bring the largest number of clubs ever in a single year's growth to District Six.

District Six was represented on the Board of Directors by Gordon A. Spry, a member of Waterloo #101. He previously served as a Lieutenant Governor in 1943-44. At this time there was no requirement that one serve as a District Governor before becoming a Director. Mr. Spry was elected for a two-year term at the 1944 Annual Meeting.

## MEMORIES

Henry Milbrath

Oh, yes let us cherish our memories  
As the years go fleeting past,  
For they, like pillars of granite  
Are the things in life that last.  
I'll ever remember my critics  
And the words of reproof and of praise  
The warmth of the smile and the handclasp  
Will live in my heart always.

I care not for baubles of riches  
For they closely hedge in the souls  
And the hands that grasp should be reaching  
For more of life's shining goals.  
But like on a clear, crisp morning  
I'd await your gay halloo,  
For a richness lives in its cadence  
And deep in the heart of you.

And so I would hail Toastmasters,  
And its memories safe enshrine  
When oft I met and talked and laughed  
With these comrades strong and fine.  
And there is one undying memory  
As we our efforts and talents ally  
To lift this star of victory higher  
With the help of the T. M. I.

(Editor's Note. The author wrote the poem for the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the first meeting of the Princeton Club #189. It was presented on December 7, 1944, and dedicated to Toastmasters International. It was published in the January, 1945 issue of the Toastmaster magazine.)

1945 -- 1946

TRACY M. JEFFERS

(King Boreas #208)



**International Officers:**

Watt W. Welker, Director  
Gordon A. Spry, Director

**DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

Secretary: Len A. Hamrin, St. Paul  
Resident Correspondent: George L. Conrad, Minneapolis

**Lieutenant Governors:**

Area 1 -- Harold C. Lindsay, Minneapolis  
Area 2 -- Alfred J. Adam, St. Paul  
Area 3 -- Earl C. Wolff, Rochester  
Area 4 -- Joseph W. Adair, Waterloo, Iowa  
Area 5 -- Lynn P. Zenner, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.  
Area 6 -- E. A. L. Hammarstrand, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
Area 7 -- Dr. George A. Swendiman, Grand Forks, N. Dak.

**AREA ORGANIZATION:**

AREA 1

- 75 Minneapolis  
- 82 Russell H. Conwell  
166 Minnesota  
- 183 Gopher  
- 185 Engineers  
209 Minneapolis J. T. C.  
- 309 Executives  
320 Royal Arcanum  
379 Hospitality House  
- 388 Mount Olivet

AREA 2

167 First St. Paul  
189 Princeton  
208 King Boreas  
217 Greysolon  
221 Victory  
228 First Wisconsin  
302 Paramount  
310 Beaver Dam  
330 Kaposia  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
383 Midway

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
232 Austin  
271 Rochester

AREA 4

101 Waterloo  
335 Des Moines Executives  
386 Mason City

AREA 5

210 Sioux Falls  
224 Sodak

AREA 6

250 Winnipeg  
293 Brandon  
313 Centennial

AREA 7

272 Pioneer  
273 Grand Forks  
312 Grafton  
334 East Grand Forks  
342 Park River  
370 Lincoln  
376 Bois de Sioux  
377 Lake Region  
402 Northland

NEW CLUBS AND NEW DISTRICTS

Tracy Jeffers was probably the most active District Governor. He set ambitious goals for District Six when he took office on July 1, 1945. Among these goals was 20 new clubs. This goal was accomplished, in a sense. Fourteen charters can directly be traced to him, and seven of the twelve clubs chartered the next year were organizing when he was in office. One club ceased its operations during the year, but there were 43 clubs in District Six on July 1, 1946. On that date, two new districts were created.

Of the 14 new clubs, six of them were in the region of Northwestern Minnesota and North Dakota. Area 7 swelled to nine clubs. The six new clubs were: East Grand Forks #334; Park River, North Dakota #342; Lincoln #370 at Fargo; Bois de Sioux #376 at Breckenridge; Lake Region #377 at Fergus Falls, and Northland #402 at Thief River Falls. All of these clubs became affiliated with District 20 on July 1, 1946.

The King Boreas Club #208 of St. Paul sponsored an all-American Legion club, which was chartered on April 22, 1946. Known originally as the Post 8 Club #374, it has been known recently as Legion Rostrum. This first attempt was so successful that two other groups were well on their way to receiving their charters at the end of the year.

Waterloo #101 was joined in Area 4 by two new clubs, which they sponsored. International Director Gordon A. Spry presented charters to Executives #335 of Des Moines, and to Mason City #386.

More expansion came to Minneapolis and St. Paul as well. Several clubs whose names have become nearly as familiar as Kleenex has were chartered during the year. In St. Paul, the Midway Club #383 received a charter on May 2, 1946. Kaposia #330 came in on September 13, 1945. Minneapolis gained two clubs, Hospitality House #379, and Mount Olivet #388, later known as the Lakers club. Lake Harriet #400, the second all-Legion club was ready for charter, but did not receive it until September 23, 1946.

The Minneapolis JTC, which had had membership problems during the war was unable to recover, and ceased operations. The remaining membership affiliated themselves with Russell H. Conwell #82.

A Fall Conference was held in November, 1945, and was highlighted by the visit of International President Franklin McCrillis. According to the late District Governor, his enthusiasm and energy provided needed stimulus for increased district and inter-club activities.

For the first time in the District, we have available a financial statement, which reveals sound fiscal policy. Receipts for the year were \$945.55, and expenditures were \$361.40. A balance of \$745.83, compared with \$161.68 to start the year, remained at the close of business on June 30, 1946. This money, however, was shared by the three districts which were recognized on July 1, 1946.

Past District Governor Watt W. Welker was elected to the Board of Directors at the 1945 meeting of Toastmasters (in lieu of an International Convention. District Six was well represented on that body, with two members.

The beginnings of the Advisory Committee were completed during the year. Known originally as the Past District Governors' Committee, it was formed for the purposes of utilizing the knowledge and experience of these people to help any and all clubs. Its membership, of course, was small at the time, but has grown during the passing of time. The original five members were Leif Larson, Harry Mattison, George Benson, George Knowles, and Watt Welker. (Tom Hennessy had moved to Los Angeles right after he completed his two administrations.)

The Spring Conference was held on June 8, 1946. It was the most unique Spring Conference held up to that time. A District Speech Contest was held and the winner was Clarence E. Olson, President of Russell Conwell #82. For the first time, all areas were represented. Winnepeg contributed a speaker to add International flavor. Representatives from the clubs in Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska also attended.

The business meeting was a very interesting part of the day's activities. Three new District Governors were elected. Iowa, South Dakota, and the clubs in Omaha and Lincoln joined together to form District 19. Carleton P. "Cap" Sias, first President of Waterloo #101, was elected District Governor for that district. District 20 was formed from the 20 northwest counties of Minnesota, North Dakota, and Manitoba. Glenn Johnson of Pioneer #272 was elected District Governor. The clubs of Areas 6 and 7 were incorporated into District 20.

District Six clubs were active in civic affairs, and held several inter-club functions during the year. Wherever possible, each club held at least one joint meeting during the year. A Speakers' Bureau was very active in St. Paul. Numerous post-war drives for food and clothing were headed by Toastmasters who gave outside speeches. This speakers' bureau in St. Paul was recognized as the official agency for several drives. District Governor Jeffers was a member of the Mayor's Famine Emergency Relief Committee, as a representative of Toastmasters.

King Boreas #208 became more closely affiliated with the St. Paul Winter Carnival. The Winter Carnival Association designated one evening during the festival exclusive to King Boreas club for the annual party that club was giving for the Royal Retinue. It was a hope, and a realization for a time, that it would become an integral part of the Winter Carnival activities.

Numerous suggestions made to the Board of Directors by Governor Jeffers have come to be known as routine guidelines for clubs and districts to follow in a variety of areas of concern. First of all, it was noted that the

information contained in the International directory of clubs was not correct in several instances. Club officers were stressed on the importance of prompt reporting of officer changes. (At the time, the directory included the names of the club officers.)

It was suggested that clubs be required to furnish a record of the time of their meetings along with their credentials for consideration of the committee who selected the Club of the Year. Governor Jeffers found at the time that clubs who were most successful limited their meetings to two hours.

Questions of impartiality of judges in speech contests were raised. A recommendation was made that the rules be revised to prohibit judges from evaluating the speaker from their club in Area contests, and that judges not judge the contestant from their area at the district contest. In a modified form, this rule is a matter of general procedure today in many speech contests.

Induction of officers and officer training were suggested, so that the officers of a club be better able to function effectively. Installation of officers was used successfully during the year in District Six.

Finally, a suggestion was made regarding proxies for the International Convention. The proxies had been mailed sometime during the summer, before the convention, to all clubs. This made it difficult, as many a District Governor will agree, to collect them from those clubs not sending a representative to the convention. It was suggested by Governor Jeffers that they be mailed in May, to give sufficient time to collect them before the summer adjournments.

The administration of Tracy Jeffers had given District Six its greatest growth. His record of 14 new clubs still stands. There were 43 clubs on June 30, 1946. With the formation of the new districts, Ralph Lowe would have 26 clubs in the newly defined District Six on July 1, 1946.



1946 -- 1947

RALPH S. LOWE

(Victory #221)



International Officers:

George W. Benson, Vice President  
Watt W. Welker, Director  
Tracy M. Jeffers, Director

District Officers:

Secretary: Emil H. Nelson, St. Paul

Lieutenant Governors:

Area 1 -- Ikel C. Benson, St. Paul  
Area 2 -- Frederick O. Lengfeld, St. Paul  
Area 3 -- E. W. Latham, Albert Lea  
Area 4 -- George L. Conrad, Minneapolis  
Area 5 -- Jule M. Waber, St. Paul  
Area 6 -- Clarence E. Guthrie, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

AREA ORGANIZATION:

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
82 Russell H. Conwell  
185 Engineers  
320 Royal Arcanum  
388 Mount Olivet  
435 Wenell  
459 Minneapolitan

AREA 2

208 King Boreas  
302 Paramount  
330 Kaposia  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
481 Vulcan  
490 Zephyrus

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
232 Austin  
271 Rochester  
497 Hiawatha

AREA 4

166 Minnesota  
183 Gopher  
189 Princeton  
309 Executives  
379 Hospitality House  
400 Lake Harriet  
491 Ambassador  
500 Five Hundred

AREA 5

167 First St. Paul  
221 Victory  
321 Capital City  
383 Midway  
447 Knights of Columbus

AREA 6

217 Greysolon  
228 First Wisconsin  
310 Beaver Dam  
411 LaCrosse  
466 Milwaukee  
498 Fond du Lac

## GOLDEN DAYS AND SIGNIFICANT GROWTH

The 1946 International Convention at Seattle was an important one for District Six. It gave significance to the work of District Six in two ways. First, the 1947 convention was designated to be held in Minneapolis. Second, two members of District Six were elected to the Board of Directors, joining Watt Welker, and giving us an all-time high of three seats on that body. George W. Benson was elected Vice-President, and Tracy Jeffers was elected a Director.

1946-47 was a busy year at home. Having lost 17 clubs to the new districts, the year nearly accomplished a return to the size before division, as 12 clubs received charters. Plans for the 1947 International Convention consumed many hours, and nearly all the district officers shared in the plans.

Growth was most evident in Minneapolis, where five new clubs received charters. The first club to receive its charter was Lake Harriet #400, whose organization had been completed the year before. They were sponsored by Minneapolis #75. The third "American Legion" club, Wenell #435, received their charter on January 24, 1947. Minneapolis #459, taking its name after the city's designation of a resident, was ushered in April 15, 1947. The fourth club was Ambassador #491, receiving their charter in June, 1947. Number 500 was reached in Toastmasters International just a week before the end of Governor Lowe's term of office. The new club took their name after the charter number, and have been known since charter date, June 26, 1947, as the Five Hundred Club.

St. Paul ran a close second in new clubs, as three new clubs were started. The Knights of Columbus #447 received a charter on April 8, 1947. A curious name was chosen by the second new club in St. Paul. It has already been noted that King Boreas chose their name from the Winter Carnival. The new club took the name "Vulcan", which ties to the legend of the dethroning of Rex Boreas annually by Vulcanus Rex, the Rex Boreas of the preceding festival. The club received charter number 481 in May, 1947. The third new club was Zephyrus #490, receiving its charter on June 7, 1947.

The efforts of First Wisconsin #228 and Beaver Dam #310 produced three new clubs in Wisconsin. LaCrosse, just across the river from Winona, received charter number 411 in September, 1946. Milwaukee's first club, No. 466, became a part of District Six in May, 1947. June brought a fifth club to Area 6, Fond du Lac #498.

As a club was chartered in LaCrosse in September, a club was organizing at Winona. Choosing the name Hiawatha, after the Indian legends of the region, they affiliated themselves in good standing with District Six on June 24, 1947.

Governor Lowe was very busy attending the numerous meetings, and made a total of 69 meetings during the year, outside his club. 44 of these visits were to the clubs of District Six, which means that each of the 26 clubs which were in the district at the start of the year were visited at least once by the District Governor, and many were visited twice. Of the 12 charter presentations, ten of these new clubs were chartered by Governor Lowe. The two

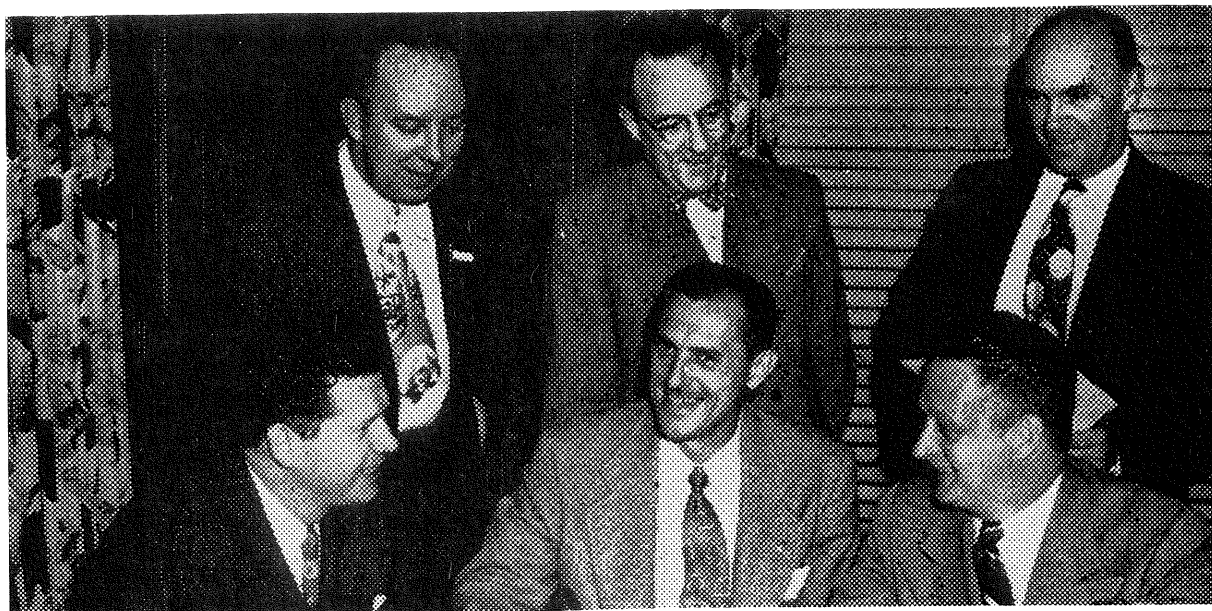
others were presented by Watt Welker and Tracy Jeffers, one each.

A reapportionment of the areas was made, to enable more effective service to the clubs. While four areas from 1945-46 were lost to the new districts, Areas 1 and 2 had become unwieldy in size. The start of the twelve new clubs also brought a need for more areas. Governor Lowe divided the District into six areas, with designated geographic areas for each area. Areas 1 and 4 were designated for Minneapolis clubs. Areas 2 and 5 were designated as St. Paul areas. Area 3 was Southern Minnesota, and Area 6 was Wisconsin and Duluth.

International Vice President George W. Benson was appointed General Convention Chairman. Directors Welker and Jeffers were Co-Chairmen of the local activities. Numerous meetings were held to establish a plan for the convention. The Lieutenant Governors from the Twin Cities were a part of the committee, and Harry Mattison, Emil Nelson, and Clarence Davis completed the list of committee personnel.

Financial stability was characteristic of district operations. A surplus of \$539.74 was available on June 30, 1947 for the new administration.

By-laws amendments which were presented at the Minneapolis convention had previously been approved by District Six. (The standard district by-laws were used here at the time.) First of all, George Conrad would have a Lieutenant Governor under him, and the term "Area Governor" would be used for the first time. These amendments, approved at the 1947 Spring Conference, brought more sophistication to district operations.



Convention plans are discussed. Seated, left to right, N. M. Hoyt, assistant manager of the Raddison Hotel, George Benson, Watt Welker. Standing: Ikel Benson, Harry Mattison, George Conrad.

1947 -- 1948

GEORGE L. CONRAD

(Executives #309)



**International Officers:**

GEORGE W. BENSON, PRESIDENT

Tracy M. Jeffers, Director

**DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

Lieutenant Governor: Jule M. Waber, St. Paul

Secretary: Ikel C. Benson, St. Paul

Treasurer: Edgar A. Theiler, Minneapolis

**AREA GOVERNORS:**

Area 1 -- Edgar R. Barton, Minneapolis

Area 2 -- Roy A. Johnson, St. Paul

Area 3 -- Roy M. Reineke, Owatonna

Area 4 -- Ray O. Vawter, Minneapolis

Area 5 -- Emil H. Nelson, St. Paul

Area 6 -- Adelbert R. Smith, Minneapolis

Area 7 -- Clifford Teuchert, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin

Area 8 -- R. Boyd Shaffer, Rochester

**AREA ORGANIZATION:**

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
183 Gopher  
320 Royal Arcanum  
388 Mount Olivet  
459 Minneapolis

AREA 2

208 King Boreas  
302 Paramount  
330 Kaposia  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
481 Vulcan  
490 Zephyrus

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
372 Faribault  
560 Viking

AREA 4

82 Russell H. Conwell  
185 Engineers  
189 Princeton  
309 Executives  
435 Wenell  
500 Five Hundred

AREA 5

167 First St. Paul  
221 Victory  
321 Capital City  
383 Midway  
447 Knights of Columbus  
590 Shrine

AREA 6

166 Minnesota  
379 Hospitality House  
400 Lake Harriet  
491 Ambassador  
515 Cosmopolitan  
534 Aquatennial City  
591 North Star

AREA 7

217 Greysolon  
228 First Wisconsin  
310 Beaver Dam  
411 LaCrosse  
466 Milwaukee  
498 Fond du Lac  
570 Stevens Point

AREA 8

232 Austin  
271 Rochester  
497 Hiawatha  
564 Olmstead County

A CONVENTION COMES TO MINNEAPOLIS

The long awaited International Convention was held locally in 1947. The plans which had been carefully made during the previous administration were consummated at a very successful convention held August 10-14 at the Raddison Hotel. Many members of clubs in District Six were part of the program itself.

A training session for District Officers was held on the morning of August 11. Tracy Jeffers, International Director and chairman of the District Affairs Committee of the board, was in charge of the material presented. The session centered around the purposes of a district, its administration, calendar, and structure.

The evening program on August 11 was a dinner, given by the Host District. Responsible from District Six for the program was George Benson, and District Treasurer Edgar A. Theiler. The purpose was a welcome for all district officers of all districts. Entertainment was supplied, and any city wishing to place a bid for future conventions did so at the dinner meeting.

A fun luncheon was given on August 12. Past District Governor Ralph Lowe presided, and five speeches were given. Billed as a Hi-Jinks Luncheon, it featured two other members of District Six on its program. Toastmaster was Lawrence M. (Doc) Jones, a past president of Minneapolis #75. Mr. Dan E. McCue of St. Paul was one of the speakers.

That evening, the International Speech Contest was held in St. Paul, at that city's auditorium. Chairman of the event was Director Watt W. Welker.

The sessions of Wednesday, August 13, featured emphasis on club operations. Contributing to the program was William A. Schaefer, of the Midway Club #383 in St. Paul. George Benson also was a member of that program committee.

International Night on August 13, 1947 was held in St. Paul. Mayor Frank J. Madden was present and gave the delegates an official welcome to that city. The program was a dinner, pop concert, and ice review. International Director Tracy Jeffers presided at the program.

At the business meeting the preceeding afternoon, George W. Benson was elected President of Toastmasters International. This brought honor to Minnesota, to District Six, and to his club, Minneapolis #75. The club is perhaps, and probably, the only club in Toastmasters which has contributed two Presidents.

Edgar J. Otto, who had served as the district's appointed educational director in 1944-45, participated in a program on Thursday, August 14 devoted to the individual member's speech problems, and how to resolve them. The convention concluded that evening, with the President's Dinner Dance and the installation of the new officers. Dr. Smedley was the installation officer.

Meanwhile, significant changes had taken place in the organization of District Six. Governor Conrad was the first District Governor to have a Lieutenant Governor, and a Treasurer. Up to this time, the district's financial matters were handled by the District Governor. The term "Area Governor" was first used in Toastmasters at the time. The number of areas was increased to eight. Eight was a "good number", as eight new clubs were chartered.

Minneapolis welcomed three new clubs. These clubs were: Cosmopolitan #515; Aquatennial City #534, and North Star #591. The Shrine Toastmasters #590 of St. Paul received their charter on April 20, 1948, at a unique meeting. King Boreas was their sponsor, and the charter was presented by Edward Dochterman, a past president of King Boreas. His efforts in organizing the club gave him title to an honorary membership. Nearly 160 persons attended the charter party, including many representatives from King Boreas. A Guest Book was given the new club by King Boreas, and a gesture of friendship was exhibited by the Knights of Columbus, as they presented a gavel. The club was the first in history to be formed within a Masonic organization.

Southern Minnesota was gaining momentum as a center of Toastmaster activities. Three new clubs were recognized in that geographic area during the year. First of these was Viking Club #560 of Northfield. Rochester gained its second club on January 22, 1948, Olmstead County #564. The third club was established at Faribault, and it received charter number 372.

Stevens Point became the sixth community in Wisconsin to establish a Toastmasters club. The club received charter number 570 in March, 1948.

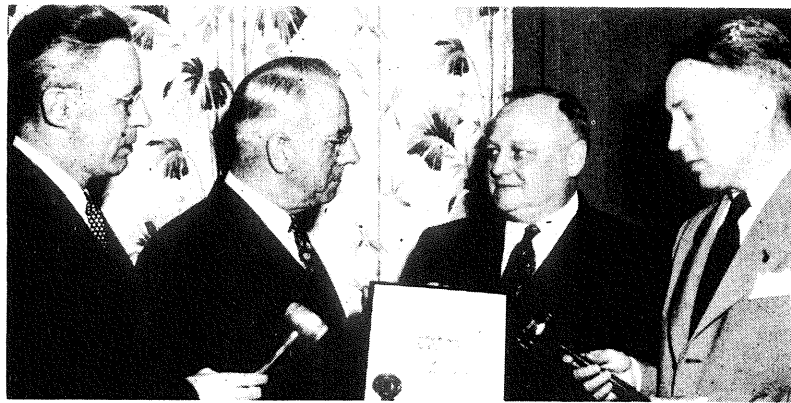
Esslinger's Cafe at University and Prior became the location for the District Executive Committee meetings. The location had significance, for it was kept as the site for the meetings until the late 50's. Meetings were held every other month. With the selection of Area Governors, and the other officers noted above, this body was fully established as it is known today. Having its origins in the administration of George Benson, it became an integral part of District Six during George Conrad's administration.



District Six Local Convention Committee. Seated, left to right, George Benson, an unidentified representative of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce (?), Watt Welker. Standing: Ikel Benson, George Conrad. In front of the registration table is Harry Mattison.



More of the same. Seated: Jule Waber, Tracy Jeffers, Ralph Lowe. Standing: Emil Nelson, Fred O. Lengfeld.



Presentation of charter and gavel to Shrine Toastmasters #590 of St. Paul. Left to right: Tracy Jeffers; E. N. Dochterman, Past President of King Boreas #208; Edward F. Sklenar, First President of Shrine #590, accepting the charter; Joseph P. Johnson, President of Knights of Columbus #447, presenting the gavel. (Source: The Toastmaster, July 1948.)

1948 -- 1949

JULE M. WABER

(Capital City #321)



International Officers:

Ralph S. Lowe, Director

DISTRICT OFFICERS:

Lieutenant Governor: Ikel C. Benson, St. Paul  
Secretary: Gordon A. Richardson, Jr., St. Paul  
Treasurer: Leon G. Loverud, Minneapolis

Committee Chairmen:

Advisory and Elections: Harry W. Mattison, Minneapolis  
Club Achievement: Emil H. Nelson, St. Paul  
Community Service: C. A. J. Abbott, St. Paul  
Educational: Tracy M. Jeffers, St. Paul  
Public Relations: Adelbert R. Smith, Minneapolis

AREA GOVERNORS:

Area 1 -- Homer I. Spencer, Minneapolis  
Area 2 -- Chester Perkins, Minneapolis  
Area 3 -- Lee Tallman, Mankato  
Area 4 -- Donald C. Spengler, Minneapolis  
Area 5 -- Lester O. Davis, St. Paul  
Area 6 -- John L. Woodward, Minneapolis  
Area 7 -- Clifford Teuchert, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin  
Area 8 -- Frank N. Forsyth, Rochester

AREA ORGANIZATION:

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
183 Gopher  
217 Greysolon  
320 Royal Arcanum  
388 Mount Olivet  
459 Minneapolitan

AREA 2

208 King Boreas  
302 Paramount  
330 Kaposia  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
481 Vulcan  
490 Zephyrus  
679 Granite City

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
372 Faribault  
560 Viking  
642 Elmore-Blue Earth  
689 Fairmont

AREA 4

82 Russell H. Conwell  
173 Dunwoody  
185 Engineers  
189 Princeton  
205 Powderhorn  
309 Executives  
435 Wenell  
500 Five Hundred



AREA 5

167 First St. Paul  
209 St. Paul Elks  
221 Victory  
321 Capital City  
383 Midway  
447 Knights of Columbus  
590 Shrine  
700 St. Croix Valley  
725 Stillwater

AREA 6

166 Minnesota  
379 Hospitality House  
400 Lake Harriet  
491 Ambassador  
515 Cosmopolitan  
534 Aquatennial City  
591 North Star

AREA 7

228 First Wisconsin  
310 Beaver Dam  
411 LaCrosse  
466 Milwaukee  
498 Fond du Lac  
570 Stevens Point

AREA 8

232 Austin  
271 Rochester  
497 Hiawatha  
564 Olmstead County

EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION

The Waber administration began a three-year program in which a primary emphasis was placed on education. Governors Ikel Benson and Del Smith continued the program to a great extent in the following years. In spite of this emphasis, the growth of District Six continued.

The Fall Conference, held in St. Paul on December 4, 1948, was an initial push for all clubs and all areas. The clubs had been given an initial visit from the Area Governors in advance, and the Fall Conference was devoted exclusively to education. Tracy Jeffers was the Educational Director (appointed) of District Six, and his efforts proved highly successful in motivating the clubs and the areas. Tremendous progress was made in numerous areas of concern.

All clubs and members were urged to use Basic Training. A survey taken at the end of the year, together with the reports of the Area Governors, indicates that the selling program was effective. Most clubs were using the program for all members, and someone participated from every club.

Evaluation was given a special emphasis. Not only were the materials from the Home Office used, but District Six developed an evaluation form for use by its clubs. Numerous joint meetings were held, and speaker exchange programs gave impetus to effective evaluation. The members of the District Executive Committee had a team who visited the clubs during the year for evaluation purposes. Each club received some constructive help in learning to give better evaluations.

Each area in the Twin Cities, and some of those outside the metropolitan area had an area exchange program in operation. The program was received with great enthusiasm by all who participated. The clubs developed a closer

relationship within the areas, and benefited in evaluation, speaking before unfamiliar audiences, and many other ideas were shared.

For the first time in District Six, the Area Officer Training Sessions gained significance. Each area held a training session during the year, and Governor Waber's report for the year indicated a recommendation that one be held in each area twice a year.

Governor Waber attended over 100 meetings outside of his club during the year to tend to the business of the district. He visited each club at least once. Frequently these visits involved a meeting with the club's educational committee after the regular meeting. These meetings centered around giving more effective evaluations. Some of the questions discussed are worth mentioning. Is the usual type of evaluation with an evaluator for each speaker the ideal method? What about panel-type evaluation? How can word whiskers (ahs, and-ahs, unnecessary pauses, ums, er's, etc.) be eliminated? Should a coach be appointed for each new member? Should a card file be accumulated which would show the results of a speaker's evaluations over a period of time? Should the educational committee meet with the speakers for the next meeting after each meeting to discuss their presentations? Should we have evaluators for the evaluators? What about an evaluation contest?

A Speaker's Bureau was operating with great success in St. Paul. Mostly oriented towards the Winter Carnival, it also provided speakers for numerous charitable causes and civic concerns. Nearly 100 outside speeches were given by its participants during the year.

Governor Waber was also a student of parliamentary procedure. A script was developed to simulate a club business meeting and presented at the Zone Conference in Des Moines in June, 1949. The script was later used at an International Convention. This aspect of club operations was more fully developed, however, the following year.

The Area Speech Contests enjoyed a peculiar relationship with the District. First, there was no level of competition between the Area and District. Second, the Area Contests were subsidized by the district's treasury. Each area was given a fixed fee for administrative expense. Any profits which were made were turned over to the treasurer of the district. Should there be any losses, however, the district picked up the tab for the loss. Later expansion and the introduction of an intermediate level of competition made this plan unworkable in later years. Each Area Governor also was given a Past Area Governor's pin, at the expense of District Six.

Records are somewhat incomplete on the exact origins of the committees of District Six, but the contemporary complement of committee chairmen was developing at this time. There were at least six committees during Jule Waber's term of office. In addition to those enumerated above, there were assignments of personnel to an audit committee. Harry Mattison served as the chairman of the Advisory and Elections committees, a post which he held until 1951. Emil Nelson was appointed Club Achievement chairman, but the committee's work during the year consisted only of a feasibility study of starting a club achievement program in District Six, and its results were inconclusive. By far the most active committees were the Educational Committee, whose efforts have been noted above, and the Community Service Committee, headed by James Abbott. This committee formed the nucleus for

the St. Paul Speakers' Bureau. Del Smith's Public Relations committee was devoted to helping clubs to obtain publicity in the newspapers, and on radio.

One should read the committee appointments with caution for the next few years, as many of the ones which we recognize as standard were not necessarily so at the time. The by-laws provided only for these standing committees: Executive and Educational. Any other standing or special committees were at the option of the District Governor. Many of the functions performed by committees today were shared amongst the members of the District Executive Committee.

George W. Benson had announced a goal of "700 by 70" for Toastmasters International upon his acceptance of the Presidency in 1947. The goal meant that Toastmasters everywhere should strive for the establishment of 700 clubs by the 70th birthday of Dr. Smedley, i. e. February 22, 1948. Though the goal was not reached until the following year, District Six was recognized and honored with the presentation of charter number 700. The club was St. Croix Valley Toastmasters #700 of Stillwater. Their charter party was one of the most publicized in history. Among the events of the party was a transcription on tape of a speech by Dr. Smedley, which he prepared especially for the occasion. The gavel was presented by Lester O. Davis, governor of Area 5, and Governor Waber presented the charter. March 19, 1949 was the date for the event, and the entire 27-minute gavel and charter presentation was broadcast the next day over radio station WSHB. Tape recordings of the event were sent to the Home Office for their historical file. The club had a full complement of 30 members. The club set itself to work immediately on sponsoring another club, and the Stillwater Toastmasters #725 received a charter on May 17, 1949.

This milestone was not intended to outshadow any of the other accomplishments in club extension during the year. Six other new clubs received charters. The practice of picking up dormant charter numbers began, and this explains the low numbers of three of the new clubs. Minneapolis welcomed the Powderhorn Toastmasters #205 on December 8, 1948, and during the year the Dunwoody Club #173 received a charter. The St. Paul Elks #209 was another new club started due to efforts made by a demonstration team active in Area 5. Members of this team included Lester Davis and Emil Nelson.

Three other Minnesota communities received clubs. Elmore-Blue Earth #642 was chartered on August 10, 1948. Most of the efforts at starting the club belong, however, to the administration of George Conrad. St. Cloud was the next community to receive a club, the Granite City Toastmasters #679 on March 21, 1949. Another new club was at Fairmont, No. 689, chartered February 28, 1949. This brought two new clubs to Area 3.

A net gain of five member clubs was effected. There were three clubs who were unable to continue successful operations. These were Paramount #302 of St. Paul; Princeton #189, which had had membership problems for at least three years; and Viking #560 of Northfield. The Viking club was troubled with membership turnover, as it was a club at St. Olaf College.

Some controversy about speech contest rules was brought forward. Governor Waber made some recommendations, which formed the nucleus for some of the rules governing the contests today. First, it was noted that many instances of the same speaker appearing to speak in a contest was

in subsequent, consecutive years, given unfair treatment by the judges. Second, a speaker should have to give a speech on a different subject at each level of competition. Third, that a committee be appointed to choose a general subject area for the contest, and that all contestants would have to develop some aspect thereof. The relationship of these recommendations to the rules, as adopted and modified will unfold.

The year closed with 51 clubs, and a sound base, financially, to begin the new administration. The 1948-49 financial report indicated a beginning balance of \$697.06; receipts of \$2,389.31; disbursements of \$2,336.62, and \$749.75 in available funds on June 30, 1949.

A highly successful Spring Conference was held May 21, 1949 at Mankato. Winner of the District Speech Contest was William J. Rodenkirch of the Fond du Lac Toastmasters #498 of that Wisconsin city. Ikel C. Benson was elected District Governor for 1949-50, with Adelbert R. Smith as Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Rodenkirch brought more honor to District Six during the 1949 International Convention. More will be told about this on the following pages.

Another member of District Six was serving the entire organization. Ralph Lowe was elected a Director at the 1948 International Convention.

1949 -- 1950

IKEL C. BENSON

(Engineers #185)



**International Officers:**

Tracy M. Jeffers, Treasurer  
Ralph S. Lowe, Director

**DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

Lieutenant Governor: Adelbert R. Smith, Minneapolis  
Secretary: George H. Long, Minneapolis  
Treasurer: Emil H. Nelson, St. Paul

**Committee Chairmen:**

Advisory and Elections: Harry W. Mattison, Minneapolis  
Club Extension: Lester O. Davis, St. Paul  
Educational: Jule M. Waber, St. Paul

**AREA GOVERNORS:**

Area 1 -- Dr. R. J. Ryder, Minneapolis  
Area 2 -- Herman C. Goebel, St. Paul  
Area 3 -- Phillip R. Day, Faribault  
Area 4 -- Robert J. Finnerty, Minneapolis  
Area 5 -- Patrick H. Arland, St. Paul  
Area 6 -- Walter L. Zink, Minneapolis  
Area 7 -- Dr. Charles Sterrenberg, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin  
Area 8 -- B. B. White, St. Charles

**AREA ORGANIZATION:**

**AREA 1**

75 Minneapolis  
183 Gopher  
217 Greysolon  
320 Royal Arcanum  
388 Mount Olivet  
459 Minneapolitan

**AREA 2**

208 King Boreas  
302 Chiropractors  
330 Kaposia  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
481 Vulcan  
490 Zephyrus  
679 Granite City  
855 Brown and Bigelow

**AREA 3**

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
372 Faribault  
642 Elmore-Blue Earth  
689 Fairmont  
819 Minneopa

**AREA 4**

82 Russell H. Conwell  
173 Dunwoody  
185 Engineers  
205 Powderhorn  
309 Executives  
435 Wenell  
500 Five Hundred  
560 Forty-Niners

AREA 5

167 First St. Paul  
 209 St. Paul Elks  
 221 Victory  
 321 Capital City  
 383 Midway  
 447 Knights of Columbus  
 590 Shrine  
 700 St. Croix Valley  
 725 Stillwater

AREA 6

166 Minnesota  
 379 Hospitality House  
 400 Lake Harriet  
 491 Ambassador  
 515 Cosmopolitan  
 534 Aquatennial City  
 591 North Star  
 776 Midland

AREA 7

189 Allis Chalmers  
 228 First Wisconsin  
 310 Beaver Dam  
 411 LaCrosse  
 466 Milwaukee  
 498 Fond du Lac  
 570 Stevens Point  
 782 Rice Lake  
 834 Oconomowoc

AREA 8

232 Austin  
 271 Rochester  
 497 Hiawatha  
 564 Olmstead County

## A PARLIAMENTARY EMPHASIS

A major effort during Ikel Benson's administration was to help the clubs to conduct efficient, orderly business meetings. The inspiration from Jule Waber's parliamentary demonstration at Des Moines was carried to the 1949 Convention at St. Louis, and from there, to each club in District Six. Among the training which the clubs received during the year were instructions on how to make main, incidental motions, and subsidiary motions. Some common errors were brought forward which has brought many a club into complete confusion during the business meetings. Each member was instructed in proper terminology when making motions, and when conducting business of the club. Toastmasters were taught proper use of terms in these problem areas:

1. Call for unfinished business--not old business.
2. When making a motion, state, "I move that..... Not "I make a motion.
3. I move that, A (or WHITE or FAVORABLE) BALLOT be cast. Not a "unanimous ballot." (Pertains to elections of officers when there is only one candidate for an office.)
4. I will now Yield control of the meeting--not "turn over."
5. Provide ample time and opportunity before closing nominations during officer elections.
6. Record only facts in the minutes. The opinions, hopes, aspirations, etc., of the secretary are not proper.
7. "I move the PREVIOUS question." (2/3 vote required to end debate.)

The 1949 International Convention at St. Louis was significant for District Six in other ways as well. Most important was the performance of William J. Rodenkirch, 1949 winner of the District Speech Contest. He was successful in winning the Regional contest, and was runner-up at the International contest. He came "very very close" to winning first place, as reported by those in attendance.

Two other members of District Six shared in the program. Harry Mattison was a speaker at the Hi-Jinks Luncheon. Emil Nelson gave an educational speech entitled "Good Business Requires Toastmasters Training." Emil's speech was later used as subject material for instruction in constructive evaluation.

A Club Extension chairman was appointed for the first time. This committee definitely has its roots in the 1949-50 administration, because it has been a committee of the district ever since. Lester O. Davis of the Knights of Columbus #447 was the first chairman of the committee. The purposes of the committee were two-fold. First responsibility was to help the clubs to keep their memberships up. The second responsibility was to organize new clubs. The committee was very active, as eight new clubs were chartered, but no existing club with membership problems was left to solve them without this committee's help.

The District Executive Committee met six times during the year. The location of Esslinger's Cafe, selected during George Conrad's administration, was the scene of these meetings. Some comments made by Tracy Jeffers at the meeting on May 26, 1950 are curiously interesting:

"1950 may be the last Toastmasters International Convention, since there is some question whether effective use is being made of the official family. Attendance at the International Convention is necessarily affected by time and distance, and several regional meetings are being considered in lieu of the single International Convention.

"This brings the convention program to the Toastmasters, rather than the Toastmasters to the convention. Some of the official family will be in attendance at each regional meeting, but all will attend one of the regional meetings designated as the national meeting. This national meeting will be rotated annually among the regions."

Obviously, this plan did not receive too much support, as we are still having International Conventions. The Board of Directors later felt that this plan would not be workable.

A committee consisting of Jule Waber, Harry Mattison, Watt Welker, George Conrad and Tracy Jeffers had spent the summer in studying the rules for Speech Contests. A report produced at the Fall Conference cleared up some of the problems with rules. The report was adopted, and became a part of the rules. Its contents included: (1) Use applicable zone and International rules; (2) Anyone who is a paid-up member in good standing in a club in good standing may compete, with these exceptions: (a) any member who was a contestant in the Area contests the year before; (b) International officers and directors, District officers, and previous winners of International contests; (3) Speakers who use their club speech in the area contest, or the area speech in the district contest will be disqualified; (4) action should not be taken on having all contestants speak on the same subject; (5) Area Contests should be considered for nights other than weekends, and limiting them to stag status. Another section which was proposed attempted to distinguish between a "toastmaster-type" speech and an oratorical speech. This section was disapproved, and efforts to distinguish between the two were unsuccessful.

The Fall Conference was held November 12, 1949 at Wesley Temple Church in Minneapolis. A training session for club officers was held, and a demonstration on evaluation, using Emil Nelson's speech which he had given at the 1949 International Convention as subject material. Two pre-planned evaluations were given. One was a flowery, weak, over-generalized, pointless evaluation, given by Chet Perkins. Waldo Luebben, a charter member of King Boreas #208, then gave a proper evaluation, to demonstrate the theory that a weak evaluation cheats the speaker, the evaluator, and the rest of the club.

The evening banquet featured a pageantry of the Minnesota Centennial. This was a program which Wenell Toastmasters #435 had demonstrated for District Six previously, and was depictive of Minnesota history up to the time of Governor Ramsey.

Eight new clubs were chartered. St. Paul and Minneapolis each welcomed two new clubs. Three clubs were started in Wisconsin, and one at Mankato. The clubs welcomed to the complement of clubs in Minneapolis were Forty-Niners #560 and Midland #776. Chiropractors #302 and Brown and Bigelow #855 received charters in St. Paul. The new club in Mankato was the Minneopa Toastmasters #819. Milwaukee received its second club, Allis Chalmers #189. Rice Lake, Wisconsin welcomed a new club, No. 782, on January 19, 1950. The third Wisconsin club was Oconomowoc #834, which received a charter on June 8, 1950. One of the charter members of the club was Ralph E. "Bud" Howland, the current International President.

District Six could count 59 clubs within its boundaries on June 30, 1950. As a footnote, Tracy Jeffers was elected International Treasurer at the 1949 convention.



1950 -- 1951

ADELBERT R. SMITH

(Royal Arcanum #320)



International Officers:  
Tracy M. Jeffers, Treasurer

DISTRICT OFFICERS:

Lieutenant Governor: Emil H. Nelson, St. Paul  
Secretary: Sidney A. Haight, Minneapolis  
Treasurer: Lee Tallman, Mankato

Committee Chairmen:

Advisory and Elections: Harry W. Mattison, Minneapolis  
Audit: Leonard V. Luta, St. Paul  
Budget and Finance: Jule M. Waber, St. Paul  
Club Extension: Herman C. Goebel, St. Paul  
Community Service: Ikel C. Benson, St. Paul  
Educational: Lester O. Davis, St. Paul

AREA GOVERNORS:

Area 1 -- Mel L. Anderson, Minneapolis  
Area 2 -- Leonard V. Luta, St. Paul  
Area 3 -- J. Kenneth Luebben, Faribault  
Area 4 -- Helge G. Olson, Minneapolis  
Area 5 -- Thomas F. Mulrooney, St. Paul  
Area 6 -- Paul Thoring, Minneapolis  
Area 7 -- William J. Rodenkirch, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin  
Area 8 -- Lloyd R. Lenn, Stewartville

AREA ORGANIZATION:

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
183 Gopher  
217 Greysolon  
309 Executives  
320 Royal Arcanum  
323 American Inst. of Banking  
388 Lakers  
459 Minneapolis  
725 Antlers  
958 Christopher

AREA 2

208 King Boreas  
302 Chiropractors  
330 Kaposia  
357 St. Paul Fire & Marine  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
481 Vulcan  
490 Zephyrus  
679 Granite City  
855 Brown and Bigelow

AREA 3

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
175 Mankato  
372 Faribault  
642 Elmore-Blue Earth  
689 Fairmont  
819 Minneopa

AREA 4

82 Russell H. Conwell  
173 Dunwoody  
185 Engineers  
205 Powderhorn  
435 Wenell  
500 Five Hundred  
560 Forty-Niners  
776 Midland

AREA 5

167 First St. Paul  
209 St. Paul Elks  
221 Victory  
321 Capital City  
383 Midway  
447 Knights of Columbus  
590 Shriners  
700 St. Croix Valley  
(725) (Stillwater)

AREA 6

166 Minnesota  
379 Hospitality House  
400 Lake Harriet  
491 Ambassador  
515 Cosmopolitan  
534 Aquatennial City  
591 North Star  
922 Paul Bunyan

AREA 7

189 Allis Chalmers  
228 First Wisconsin  
310 Beaver Dam  
411 LaCrosse  
466 Milwaukee  
498 Fond du Lac  
570 Stevens Point  
782 Rice Lake  
834 Oconomowoc  
945 Milwaukee Road Shops

AREA 8

232 Austin  
271 Rochester  
497 Hiawatha  
564 Olmstead County

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As one can easily see from the enumeration of the Area organization, there were abundances of clubs in all areas. Strong feelings in favor of having more areas were made known early in Del Smith's administration. In response, a special committee was appointed to study the possibilities of creating more areas. Emil Nelson, Lieutenant Governor, was the chairman of the committee, and the other members were Tracy Jeffers, Harry Mattison, and Ikel C. Benson. A study was made during the entire year 1950-51. A discussion of having divisions was made, but deemed unfeasible. Many more years passed before divisions became a part of District Six. Final recommendations of the committee were incorporated during the 1951-52 administration.

The traditional pin ceremony which has been a part of the Spring Conference banquet in recent years was started during Del Smith's term of office. At this time, the pin ceremony was, however, observed at the first meeting of the District Executive Committee. Only in recent years has this custom passed to the Spring Conference. The tradition included presentation of the gavel to the incoming District Governor, after the

outgoing Governor had opened the meeting.

The first travel allowances were given to the District Governor and Lieutenant Governor for their attendance at the International Convention. Previous administrations had recognized the zone meetings, but no expenses were paid by District Six for the main convention. The original allotment permitted 75% of the travel fare itself. Other expenses were not included.

The number of District Executive Committee meetings was increased to eight, and nearly followed the once a month pattern followed in later years.

The Speaker's Bureau was particularly active, and Minneapolis became an integral part for the first time. Over 200 speeches were given by Toastmaster members during the year to outside audiences. Numerous charitable organizations, such as the Red Cross, United Fund, Cancer Society, and the Crusade for Freedom benefitted from the Speaker's Bureau. The St. Paul Winter Carnival was still one of the largest sources for speakers. The work was carried out by Ikel Benson, Community Service Chairman, and the members of his committee.

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A unique project was undertaken by Educational Director Lester O. Davis and his committee. Starting the year with a series of "Dear Ed" letters to the educational chairman in each club, the plan was concluded at the Fall Conference. The Fall Conference, held December 2, 1950 at Hamline University, presented one of the most unique training sessions ever held. Inspiration for this meeting came from a visit which the educational committee made to the North Star Toastmasters #591. A plan for effective evaluation in use there was demonstrated at meetings of the Brown and Bigelow, Capital City and Knights of Columbus clubs in St. Paul before the conference. A curious piece of publicity entitled, "Diogenes Dallying in District Six", was sent to the clubs in advance. Costumes as appropriate were secured, and International Vice President Carleton P. (Cap) Sias agreed to be Diogenes, a legendary Greek orator. A simulated program with five speakers and five evaluators was presented to illustrate pitfalls of loose, hastily thought out evaluations. The plan involved what has become known as a "panel" or "horizontal" evaluation, with each evaluator concentrating his efforts on one phase of concern for all the speakers. One evaluator would make a report on the organization of all the speeches, another would cover mechanics, and so on, to illustrate this method of evaluation. The group presented the program again at the 1951 Zone Conference at Des Moines, at the personal request of Dr. Smedley.

Each Area Governor and committee chairman was required to submit two reports to the District Council on their activities. A report was required for the approval of the council at the Fall Conference, and again at the Spring Conference. Thus, the officers of District Six were subject to public examination of their achievements.

A curious motion was made at the January 19, 1951 meeting of the District Executive Committee. "It was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried, that if the District Governor fails to utilize the District Gavel at the next meeting, he shall be ignored, disregarded, unrecognized, thrown out, and ostracized."

The 1951 Spring Conference was held at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis on May 5. Elections of officers produced a new District Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Emil Nelson was elected to the former and Lee Tallman to the latter. The evening banquet featured the District Speech Contest, which was won by Jack George, a member of Executives #309.

Club Extension Chairman Herman C. Goebel was a busy man, as charters were presented to six new clubs. Two additional clubs were ready for charter, and one of these, Columbian #943 of Mankato, was unable to have their charter party due to the spring floods of the Blue Earth and Minnesota rivers.

Antlers #725, Christopher #958, and American Institute of Banking #323 became new clubs in Minneapolis. St. Paul Fire and Marine #357 of St. Paul was brought in as a new club through the efforts of King Boreas #208. A new club was formed in the north country of Minnesota, the Paul Bunyan #922 of Brainerd. The Milwaukee Road, a railroad based in that city, started a club within their organization, known as Milwaukee Road Shops #945.

Two clubs, St. Croix Valley #700 and Stillwater #725, were unable to find a large enough market for members, and ceased operations.

On June 30, 1951, there were 63 clubs in District Six.

1951 -- 1952

EMIL H. NELSON

(Victory #221)



**International Officers:**

Tracy M. Jeffers, Treasurer

**DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

Lt. Governor, Minnesota: Lee Tallman, Mankato

Lt. Governor, Wisconsin: Clifford Teuchert, Beaver Dam

Secretary: Herman C. Goebel, St. Paul

Treasurer: Helge G. Olson, Minneapolis

**Committee Chairmen:**

Budget and Finance: Sidney A. Haight, Minneapolis

Club Extension: Adelbert R. Smith, Minneapolis

Community Service: Chester Perkins, Minneapolis

Educational: Leonard V. Luta, St. Paul

Public Relations: Lester O. Davis, St. Paul

**AREA GOVERNORS:**

Area 1 -- Stanley Peterson, Minneapolis

Area 2 -- Alton C. Clark, Minneapolis

Area 3 -- James Schroeder, Minneapolis

Area 4 -- Melvin Milbrath, Minneapolis

Area 5 -- Elwood Johnson, Minneapolis

Area 6 -- Max J. Perras, St. Paul

Area 7 -- Merle Stone, St. Paul

Area 8 -- James Abbott, St. Paul

Area 9 -- Leo Sullivan, Albert Lea

Area 10 -- Leon Appel, Mankato

Area 11 -- Alex P. Smekta, Rochester

Area 12 -- Robert J. Macke, St. Cloud

Area 13 -- Clarence E. Guthrie, Eau Claire

Area 14 -- Ralph Miller, Fond du Lac

Area 15 -- Chester Hagen, Milwaukee

**AREA ORGANIZATION:**

AREA 1

75 Minneapolis  
183 Gopher  
309 Executives  
317 Lakeland  
958 Christopher

AREA 2

82 Russell H. Conwell  
320 Royal Arcanum  
323 American Inst. of Banking  
388 Lakers  
459 Minneapolis

AREA 3

(173 Dunwoody)  
185 Engineers  
205 Powderhorn  
435 Wenell  
725 Antlers

AREA 4

166 Minnesota  
379 Hospitality House  
500 Five Hundred  
560 Forty-Niners  
776 Midland

AREA 5

400 Lake Harriet  
491 Ambassador  
515 Cosmopolitan  
534 Aquatennial City  
591 North Star

AREA 6

209 St. Paul Elks  
221 Victory  
321 Capital City  
447 Knights of Columbus  
590 Shrine

AREA 7

167 First St. Paul  
(302 Chiropractors)  
374 Post 8, American Legion  
383 Midway  
490 Zephyrus

AREA 8

208 King Boreas  
330 Kaposia  
357 St. Paul Fire & Marine  
(481 Vulcan)  
855 Brown and Bigelow

AREA 9

91 Albert Lea  
134 Owatonna  
232 Austin  
372 Faribault

AREA 10

175 Mankato  
642 Elmore-Blue Earth  
689 Fairmont  
819 Minneopa  
943 Columbian

AREA 11

271 Rochester  
497 Hiawatha  
564 Olmstead County  
1013 R. D. C.

AREA 12

217 Greysolon  
679 Granite City  
922 Paul Bunyan

AREA 13

228 First Wisconsin  
411 LaCrosse  
570 Stevens Point  
782 Rice Lake

AREA 14

173 Madison  
310 Beaver Dam  
498 Fond du Lac  
700 Fort Atkinson  
834 Oconomowoc

AREA 15

189 Allis Chalmers  
466 Milwaukee  
481 Racine  
945 Milwaukee Road Shops  
1017 Gas Lighters

## A BULLETIN, A BEAR, AND A NEW DISTRICT

The administration of Emil Nelson was definitely one of the most exciting and colorful in the history of District Six. A 15th anniversary was observed, a new district was created, and the biggest bear story ever told in District Six were the overall highlights of this administration.

First significant occurrence of 1951-52 was the reapportionment of areas. The areas were organized according to a pattern resulting from an entire study of a year, during the administration of Del Smith. There were 15 areas in the new plan, and three of them were in Wisconsin. The format of this area organization was utilized for more than ten years, and its influence has played a role in all other plans developed since.

The number of meetings of the District Executive Committee was increased to nine. Two committees became a permanent part of that assembly, the committees of Budget and Finance, and Public Relations.

The Fall Conference was probably the most memorable in history. For its location, Governor Nelson chose Hamline University in St. Paul. Two honored guests attended this conference. International President Carleton P. Sias of Waterloo, Iowa attended, and the most honored guest was Governor C. Elmer Anderson of the State of Minnesota. A proclamation was presented to Governor Anderson designating him as Ambassador at Large for Toastmasters. President Sias made the presentation, and then another gift was presented to the Governor, which leads the writer into the bear story.

Greysolon Toastmasters #217 of Duluth presented a bear cub to Governor Anderson. This immediately placed the governor in an embarrassing light, as he did not have suitable quarters for a bear at the Governor's mansion on Summitt Avenue. Not only that, but Emil Nelson had numerous problems associated with it himself.

According to the St. Paul Pioneer Press of December 3, 1951, and according to Emil's memoirs, the bear had quite a life running loose on the campus of Hamline University. The governor did not have a place at home, nor any other place to keep the bear. So, Emil was requested to take the bear home with him. Naturally, any man would not normally keep suitable accommodations standing at his home for bears. Emil left the bear in Manor Hall at the university for the night. Authorities from the Como Zoo were to pick him up the next day. At least, with the name "Duke" it was assumed to be a male.

Early on Sunday, December 2, 1951, Jack Holmes, the zookeeper at Como Park went to the campus to pick the bear up. Before he arrived, there were numerous problems, as the bear had made an acquaintance at the Phi Delta fraternity house--in fact, was running loose in the halls. This event brought the St. Paul police to the scene after about a dozen calls reporting someone being attacked in the vicinity of Englewood and Simpson. The Duke had made a fuss after the boys in the fraternity house had fed him cabbage and water.

Zookeeper Holmes took the bear to the zoo, with some reluctance. There was an abundance of bears at the zoo at the time, but only one of that particular variety, a 300 pound female. This bear might take well to the

Duke, but no one was sure of the bear's sex. Later in the day on December 3, 1951, Holmes decided to keep the bear at the zoo. Nonetheless, its weight was only about 75 pounds, slim compared to the female who weighed 300 pounds. The arrangement would work out all right if the Duke could be accepted by the other bears at the zoo. Nothing more was heard until December 12. From Emil's account of the story, its end was near.

"But wait!! I hear the telephone ringing again....it must be the reporters, the police, Hamline University, the Zoo Keeper, or the Governor."

December 12, 1951.....Call comes in from Jack Holmes, of the Como Zoo... "The Bear does not make friends with the other bears, so we can't use it.. Sorry."

....I says, "That's Enough!!".....So, in the cover of darkness, the Bear, the Duke of Duluth, was taken from the Como Park Zoo, out to the \_\_\_\_\_, and killed and skinned, and then to \_\_\_\_\_, where it was cut up into roasts, steaks, and chops, and then to \_\_\_\_\_, where it is now in the freezer, awaiting its final call to the kitchen."

Thus ends the biggest Bear Story I have ever told!

Not all was lost, as Toastmasters received some front page publicity in the St. Paul newspapers.

As soon as our composure was regained from the bear episode, the work of District Six continued. During the year, nine new clubs were added. Two of these were ready for charter at the beginning of the year. The new clubs were: Lakeland #317 at Willmar; Columbian #943 at Mankato; Fort Atkinson #700 at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin; Madison #173 at Madison, Wisconsin; Racine, Wisconsin #481; Gas Lighters #1017 at Milwaukee; R.D.C. #1013 of Rochester, later known as Zumbro Valley; Worthington #302; and Hutchinson #1020. Three clubs were unsuccessful in continuing operations, Dunwoody #173, Chiropractors #302, and Vulcan #481.

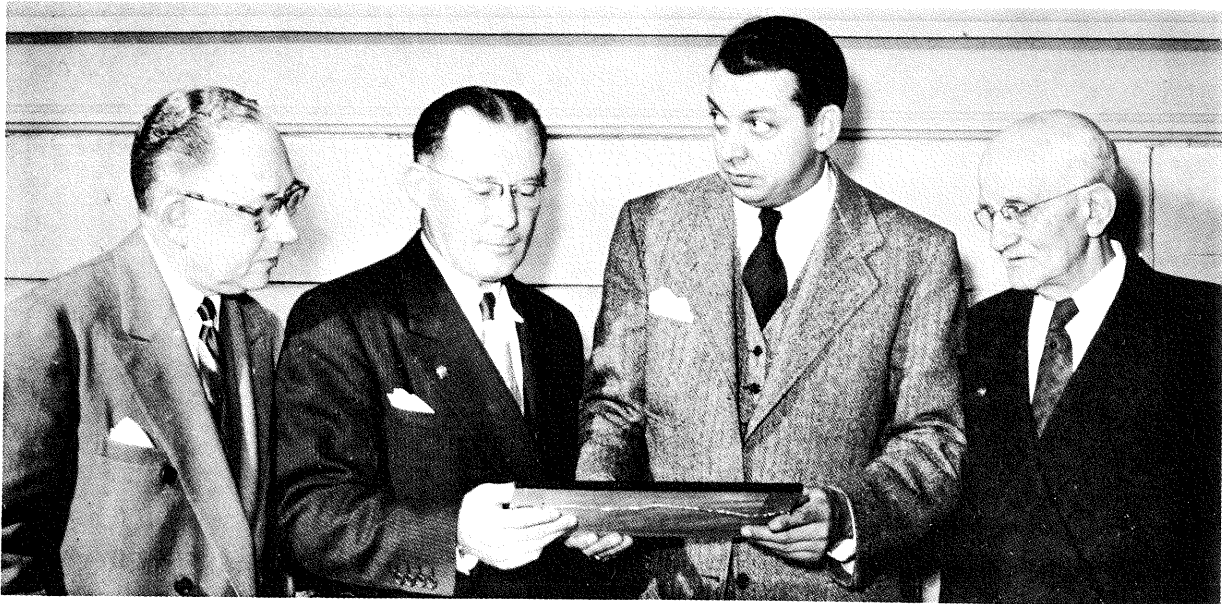
The fifteenth anniversary of District Six was observed at the Spring Conference, May 10, 1952. The setting of the Minneapolis Athletic Club was chosen as suitable accommodations. A birthday cake for the district's birthday was part of the decoration, and Leif R. Larson, first Governor of District Six, lit the candles. The first certificates for Beyond Basic Training were presented. Their recipients were Frank F. Crancer of Midway #383, and Leon G. Loverud of Aquatennial City #534. The District Speech Contest was an incidental of considerable importance as well as the anniversary. O. M. "Mike" Ousdigian of the Victory Toastmasters Club #221 of St. Paul was the winner. Runner-up was Harry J. Case of LaCrosse #411.

The first bulletin since 1944 was published in District Six. Originally known as the District Six News, it was the fore-runner of the Big Six Digest. Ten issues were published between September, 1951 and June, 1952.

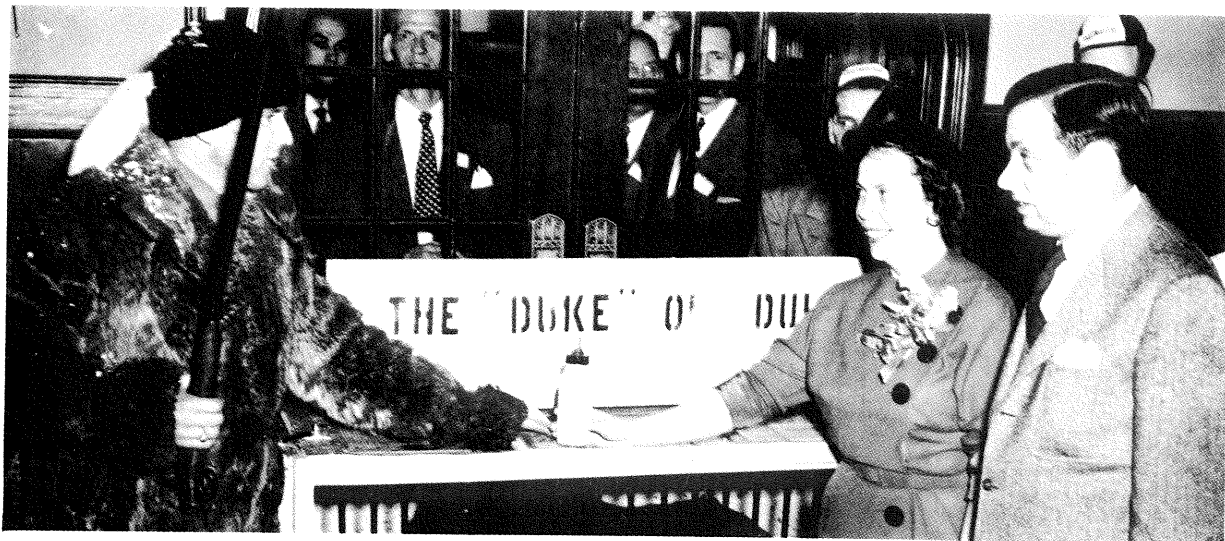
A club membership contest was held within each area, and each area governor was in competition. The prize was a free ticket for the area governor and his wife whose club came closest to the full complement of 30 members. The winner of the contest was Robert Macke of St. Cloud. All of the clubs in his area achieved full complement of 30 members or more.



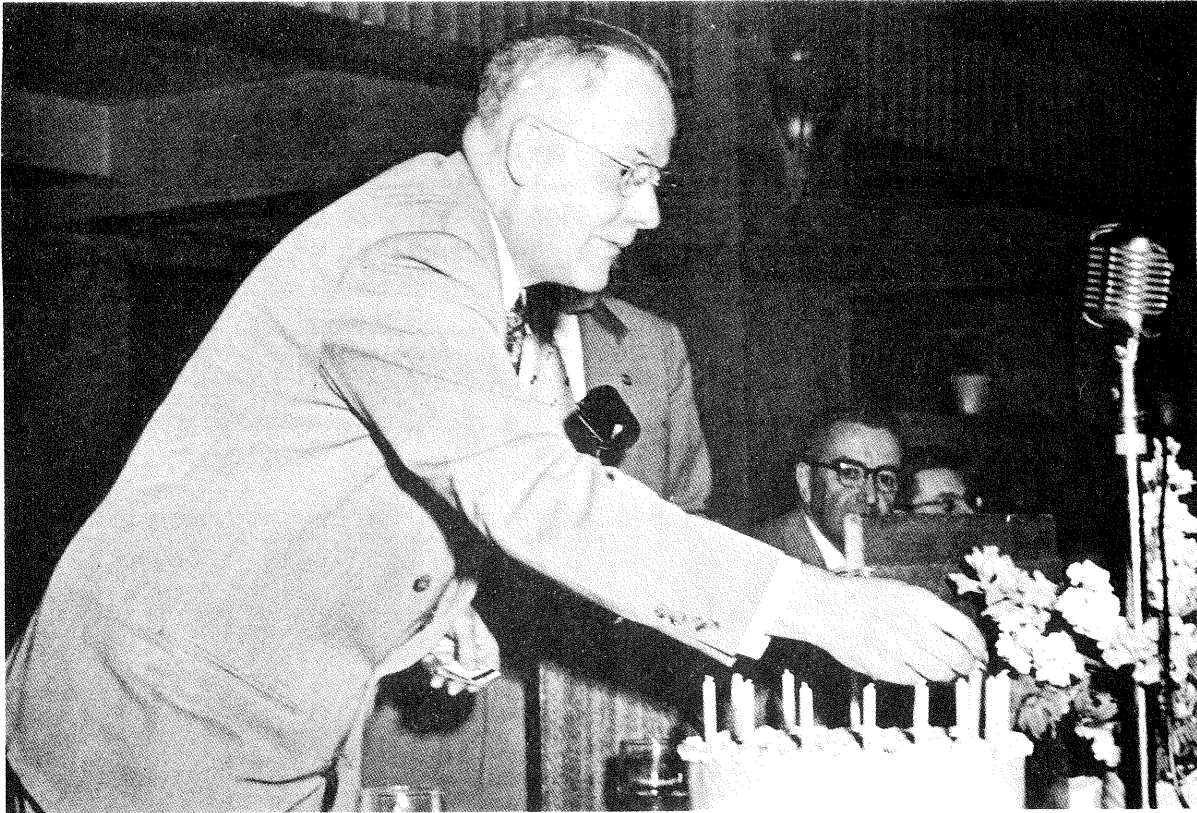
The last division of District Six took place during Emil Nelson's administration. Wisconsin became District 35 on July 1, 1952, taking three areas and 14 clubs from District Six. Clifford Teuchert of Beaver Dam became the first District Governor, with Chester Hagen of Milwaukee the first Lieutenant Governor of the new district. Some years later Tracy Jeffers remarked about this division: "It wasn't so bad that Emil let Wisconsin go, but he let them have \$300.00 along with it!" The new Governor of District Six would then have the boundaries of the district as they currently are recognized.



AMBASSADOR AT LARGE. Governor C. Elmer Anderson of Minnesota receives this special citation from International President Carleton P. Sias. Left to right: Edgar J. Otto, 1950 District Speech Contest Winner; District Governor Emil H. Nelson; Minnesota Governor C. Elmer Anderson; International President Carleton P. Sias.



The "Duke of Duluth". Minnesota Governor C. Elmer Anderson and his wife receive feeding instructions and the bear cub. The man dressed in the bear-skin coat is Roger LeDuc, Vice President of Greysolon #217.



Leif R. Larson, First District Governor, lights the candles on the cake at the 15th anniversary celebration of District Six. The occasion was the Spring Conference Banquet at the Minneapolis Athletic Club, May 10, 1952. Seated on the right is O. M. Ousdigian, winner of the 1952 Speech Contest.



Carleton P. "Cap" Sias  
President, Toastmasters International  
1951-52.  
Charter President of Waterloo #101.