



Walter H. P. P. P.

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*The publication of "Selected Reprints of Noshir Pundole's Speeches and Writings" has been undertaken by the Lions Club of East Bombay as one of its projects for 1962-63 and the proceeds realised from the sale of the book will be utilised to finance the Club's regular service activities.*

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# FOREWORD

By ROHIT C. MEHTA

LIONISM has come to stay in India. It is a matter of fact and not just a matter of opinion.

Who is responsible for this happy result? What are the factors which have helped to bring about this fact of the fine movement of Lionism spreading its roots firmly in a country so vast and so significant in world affairs as India is today?

The ready answer which will be given is that many persons and many factors have contributed to this achievement. Nevertheless, *I think everyone who has had anything to do with Lionism in India will whole-heartedly agree with me when I say that the largest single factor responsible for the establishment of this noble movement so firmly in India is the wonderful leadership of Lion NOSHIR N. PUNDOLE.*

It is not only appropriate but also necessary that as many of the speeches of this leader of Lionism as possible should be compiled and published in the form of a book. It is true that these speeches have an added effect on the listener because of the charming personality of the speaker. All the same, even when they are read in cold print, long after they were delivered, they remain both impressive and persuasive.

To how many different types of audience and in how many different parts of India has Lion Noshir N. Pundole spoken! Everywhere he left the same impression of high conviction and remarkably lucid powers of exposition and expression.

The speeches published in this volume have a permanent value, not only for Lions but for all those who are interested in the precepts and practices of the most dynamic service club organisation of the world, namely, Lions International.

Lionism has as its sheet-anchor selfless Service. Service has naturally to take many forms and directions, depending upon the differing needs of the endless variety of peoples which go to make humanity as a whole. Therefore, these speeches also cover a wide variety of themes, though they are all connected by the golden thread of Fellowship and Service—two principles so basic to Lionism.

The powerful and pleasing personality of the author of these speeches, the interesting nature of the subjects which form their central core and, equally important, the beautiful manner in which they have been presented—all these go to make the publication highly interesting and useful.

## A NEW HORIZON

WITH the advent of Lionism in India a vast new horizon has been opened to its members for social service. With the establishment of 10 Clubs all over the country, and with nearly 400 members, it behoves well for the future, and we can all eagerly look forward to a new era which will in turn produce good results for our community.

Any young Club would be proud of the efforts of the Lions Club of Bombay. Its Eye Glass Bank, its efforts for the Blind, its White Cane campaign, its Text-Book Pool and its Road Safety campaign are a few of the many activities undertaken by this young Club, and, as the first Club in the country, a lot more is expected of it. The enthusiasm of its members and the keen sense of service which drives them for tackling the various individual problems augurs well for the future.

Few Clubs would have had to face the difficulties the Lions Club of Bombay has faced during its first year of existence, but with the ever abundant and active co-operation of all concerned, they have set a high standard of social service for any organization not only in the city of Bombay but in the whole country.

It is expected that the example of the Lions Club of Bombay will be emulated by all the various Lions Clubs in the country. Each Club has a glorious future, for

with the civic-minded and enthusiastic personnel of each of them, there seems no doubt that all these in due course will be the avenue for social service in their communities.

It is perforce necessary that some members of our organization must rule and others obey, and this in turn brings amongst all of us the idea of a happy family and world brotherhood. All the Lions Clubs in India have generated this feeling of a large happy family and we hope that the only rivalry that will exist between them in future will be the rivalry to outwit each other by their record of social service.

Let no one point a finger to any Lions Clubs in India except for the cause which is so dear to our heart, viz. to serve our community. Each one of us, according to one's ability and capacity can do a tremendous amount for the welfare and good of our community. It may be that one Club may be able to achieve a little more than the other, but in judging the results it is more important that the efforts put in should be the basis to be taken into consideration. Our Delhi Lions Club is one more example worth emulating by all other Lions Clubs in the country. In spite of many difficulties it has had to face during its first year of existence, it has proved its worth by being accepted in Delhi as the Club whose ideal is "TO SERVE".



The cordial relations that exist between the Lions of India and Pakistan augurs well for the future and makes one realise the true impact of Lionism in this part of the world.

An organization which has over 5,50,000 members spread

over 12,600 Clubs in 79 different countries of the world makes one realise the great responsibility a member of this organization has to mankind at large. Social service organizations have come and gone, but Lionism has come to stay.

## LIONISM NEEDS MEN WITH DETERMINATION

IT is a unique occasion that for the first time in the history of Lionism in India, members of the various Clubs spread all over the country in sixteen towns and cities are assembling at a Convention to meet and discuss the organisational problems facing each one of its units.

On the 3rd February in the year 1956, 25 persons of vision got together in the city of Bombay and at the instance of the special representative of Lions International from Chicago, formed the first Club in India to be followed in about a fortnight's time by another such group in New Delhi. Both these Clubs worked with zeal and vigour for a period of a year and during this period they had a chance to try to help the citizens of their two great cities. The Bombay Club was honoured during the first year of its existence by the visit of the International President, Senhor Humberto Valensuela from Chile, South America, who presented the Charter of the Club at a very impressive ceremony on the 15th of February 1956 in Bombay. Thereafter, in the month of December 1956 during the visit of the International President, Mr. John L. Sticklev of N. Carolina, U.S.A.,

formation of a third Club in Bombay, namely Bombay North, a Lionistic District for the whole of India numbered 304 was created for the expansion of the movement in the country.

1956, till today in a matter of about 4 or 5 months this movement has grown by leaps and bounds and now we have with us Clubs in Ahmedabad, Surat, Baroda, Bhavnagar, Kolhapur, Poona, Lonavla, Nasik, Bangalore, Calcutta, Indore, Jaipur and Ajmer, besides Bombay, Bombay North and Delhi totalling 16 Clubs all over the country. This, I am told is an all-time record in any District of Lions International in the world and efforts are being made to close this Lionistic fiscal year of 1956-57 ending on the 30th June with 20 such Clubs in the country. This rapid expansion has been possible because of the tremendous amount of interest and help forthcoming from the members of the various Clubs in the country and I take this opportunity publicly to thank each one of them for their share in helping to build this movement in our country.

### *Why Did You Become a Lion?*

The question I put to the Convention today is one which I am sure has been posed to many of you from time to time: 'Why did you become a Lion?' It is pathetic and discouraging to see a Lion drifting along aimlessly or standing on the outside looking in. Yet so many times ignorance of Lionism is the basic trouble which can be so easily corrected by proper Lion education. Responsibility for a Lion's education is a dual one. Primarily it isn't the new members. Lionistic

ignorance is the fault of the sponsor and that of the officers of his Club. There is no excuse for a Lion being ignorant of Lionism. Apart from a brand new Club, only laziness and indifference on the part of the member or on the part of the Club leadership prevents a Lion from having a clear understanding of the history, heritage, principle, opportunities and potentialities of this great movement. An ignorant Lion—ignorant Lionistically—cannot be an effective Lion and as an ineffective Lion, he handicaps not only himself but his Club and the entire International Organisation. He himself is deprived of the full joy of service and both the association and those who might profit from our interest suffer as well. The new member should not be expected to take the initiative, it is the clear-cut responsibility of the sponsor and the officers of the Club to see that the new member is carefully and properly indoctrinated and educated in Lionism and that education should start just as soon as the Membership Committee and the Club have approved the prospect. There are no statistics available to us, but from observation and experience I would say that this lack of Lion's education is primarily responsible for much of any lack of enthusiasm that may exist as well as for the possibility of many resignations attributed to apathy or indifference. It is difficult to conceive of a heart exposed to Lionism, with its incomparable opportunities for rendering service, not responding

with a generous portion of one's time and talent.

**Specialised Course:** As a matter of fact, a vigorous and specialized post-graduate course in Lionism for many of our older Lions could be a stimulating and interesting experience. Therefore, I specifically request that every President and every Lion's Education Committee institute an aggressive programme to teach both the new and old Lions the true meaning of Lionism and its challenging message so that this great International Organisation may carry on its programme of service with renewed vigour and success. I would like to mention a few lines attributed to Longfellow which can illustrate my point of view.

"I will be man amongst men  
And no longer a dreamer among shadows  
Henceforth be mine a life of  
action and reality  
I will work in my own sphere,  
Nor wish it other than it is,  
This alone is health and  
happiness."

The full implications of what I am speaking now is attributed to our Code of Ethics, our Club Objects, its Constitution and Bye-Laws, our very high traditions, potentialities and our noble aspirations and I ask each one of you, can you honestly say that you know, and know enough let each one of us make a solemn resolve today that now on and onwards Lions education will be a high governing factor in our future programme planning.

**Quality Membership:** To make our organisation truly strong and representative in our country, one of the prime objectives is membership development. It is necessary for a progressive Lions Club to build and maintain the strongest possible membership and the Membership Committee is charged with the responsibility of reaching this objective. All throughout the history of Lions International, although it is today the world's largest Social Service Club Organisation, we have never hankered after members. Our aim is quality rather than quantity and accordingly our Membership Committee moves with caution and men of ability and capacity, respected in their city are invited as prospective members of the Club. For the prospective member, membership in a Lions Club will enable him to be of greater service to his community. It will develop his leadership qualities through association with leaders in the business and professional life of his community. It will make new friends for him and enlarge his business and social contacts. It will give him training as a speaker, it will provide an opportunity of an exchange of ideas with men of calibre, it offers him relaxation and broadens his general outlook on life. It might be of interest for him to know that Lions International is the largest and most progressive Service Club Organisation in the world having 12,718 Lions Clubs in 78 countries and geographical locations and having a total of 5,56,210 members. It might be of

interest for the prospective member to know that he will have friends wherever he travels all over the world.

**Chief Objective, Service:** The Club of Havana, Cuba, is the largest Lions Club in the world. The Lions International is unequalled by any other organisation. More than 161,461 special activities have been completed during the last fiscal year 1955-1956.

It must be understood at the outset by the new member that attendance is a pre-requisite of membership in any Lions Club in the world and hence punctuality and regularity in attending meetings is a necessity for any one desiring to be a Lion. A member who does not attend the meetings regularly without a laudable excuse is not only missing something himself, but is making his Club's community service less effective by his continued absence. In fact he loses the advantage of camaraderie and fellowship for which he is to be blamed. But for the fact that his very long and continued absence might be the reason for hampering his Club's prospect of achieving a largely needed community service, he is guilty of a fault of which he cannot be easily excused. No member of the Lions Club who has been properly initiated in Lions education will under any circumstances be a party not to be present at Club meetings. Various suggestions are available from Lions International to stimulate attendance at Club meetings and I would

request all Presidents and Secretaries of Clubs to study them and if possible, aim at the goal of 95% attendance at Club meetings during the coming fiscal year 1957-58.

An organisation which has dedicated itself to civic improvement in every city in which it exists naturally demands of its members planning a programme in this connection. In developing a programme of civic improvement avoid duplicating efforts of other existing organisations. Clubs should also avoid undertaking activities too costly or too difficult to complete. It should be the plan of our Clubs to promote city planning and city clean-up campaigns and efforts should be made to associate our Clubs with the civic authorities of each town in which our Clubs exist. It should be the aim of each Club to plan and organise community betterment services for it should be an accepted fact that the need of the community may to a certain extent or even to a very small extent be met by the Lions Club in existence there. It would be interesting to quote the various community services that are being handled by some of our Clubs in India. Some of you are aware of the Eye Glass Bank, our Bombay Club is running, issuing every week one hundred pairs of eye glasses to the poor and needy. Our Ahmedabad Club's Book Bank which is planning to issue 4,000 text books to college students at the beginning of the new term in June this year. Our Delhi Club with its programme of adult education, Our Surat

Club with its programme of the Blood Bank and our Kolhapur Club with its programme of Free Distribution of Drugs to the poor and needy, our Bombay North Club with its Presentation of a Surgical Bed to the Municipal Hospital, and all our other Clubs with the White Canes for the Blind Campaign. These are the few instances which come to my mind, many more services could be quoted here but lack of time prohibits me from speaking at length on this subject. Suffice it to say that no Lions Club worth its name will exist without helping in the community betterment programme of the city.

**Lionism Needs Men:** Lionism needs men and wants men. Not that it may advertise the largest membership in the world, for numbers carry no real weight of significance without comparable achievement. Not so it can boast of the smart business tycoons, the skilful medical men, the deep philosophers, the strong athletes, the brilliant scientists, the outstanding statesmen and captains of industry in its ranks, for names regardless of lustre mean little without deeds. Lionism is no superficial 20th century phenomenon. It is deep and it is demanding even as are the needs to which it caters and ministers.

Lionism wants part of a man's mind, part of his body, his influence and his money. Lionism wants his word, his goodwill, his willingness to help those in trouble but most of all I believe, it is his spirit Lionism asks for, his unyielding faith, his fighting de-

termination, his sense of purpose and destiny, his concept of fairness and all these attributes which set a man apart from his fellows on every level of life.

Lionism wants men to promote through the medium of Lionism their superficial heritage in terms of human values, in co-operation with men of good-will in all faiths and all corners of the world, for Lionism is a co-operative venture challenging

the best in all religions, all nationalities and all political faiths. Service-minded service-motivated, service-dominated men for the world's greatest secular Service Organisation.

I close with a salute to all of you gathered here and all those Lions in the various Clubs in India as men who are prepared to serve their community without any distinction of cast and creed or colour.

## THE ECHO OF LIONISM

SINCE the formation of District 304, India, in December 1956, with two Clubs at Bombay and Delhi, we have added to our family ten other Clubs in various parts of the country, viz. Ahmedabad, Ajmer, Bangalore, Baroda, Bhavnagar, Bombay (North), Calcutta, Kolhapur, Poona and Surat. I take this opportunity to welcome all the members of these various Clubs into our fold and to repeat "It is great to be a Lion", a sentence which has echoed amongst all the countries of the world, and a phrase which has deep meaning to all those who are members of this world-wide organization.

Lionism is a practical and realistic avenue for united civic efforts and enterprise. It is a means to our end—in the presentation of goodness and friendliness. It is a useful vehicle for broadening of vision and in better informing ourselves upon matters of local, State and national importance. Lionism is a big help and assistance for bettering worldly endeavour and a valuable assistance in the growth of towns and cities. It helps to make better men and makes us more active in our duties of citizenship. Lionism

brings friendship and mirth and play into the lives of thousands of men and the world is better for our efforts.

I am very happy to take note of the various projects launched by our young enterprising Clubs and I have no doubt whatsoever that we will develop a healthy rivalry amongst all the Clubs in our District to vie with one another for the sake of social service and helping the community. During the month of February, I have had occasion to visit Ahmedabad, Poona, Baroda and Bombay North and to present them with their official Charters on behalf of Lions International and seeing the enthusiasm, keenness and co-operative spirit of the members of all these Clubs, I am more than certain that Lionism is on the march in our country.

I had also occasion to visit Surat to help in organising and forming a Lions Club there, and if we keep expanding at this rate we will very soon have a flourishing District in India for Lions International.

Might I close this month's message with the following lines?

"Happy is he who is hungry and thirsty for service."

not  
to  
be  
lost

## FELLOWSHIP

ON this occasion, when we are meeting together for a District Convention for the first time, what subject would be more appropriate than "Fellowship"?

A movement which is spread over the length and breadth of the world and having had the courage of its conviction to include in its fold peoples of different races, caste, creed, colour and nationality, should be the one which can rightly be empowered to speak of Fellowship.

The fact that it is made up of average persons like you and me, each striving to do his bit for the community and each conscious of the fact that he will always have a helping hand from his comrades is in itself a great factor to be reckoned with. A Lion has the reassuring feeling that he will always be able to count on the help of his fellow men, not because he needs such help but because he has generated a spirit of friendliness and good work wherever Lionism has existed.

The guiding thought which makes a Lion do great things can be summed up in one sentence "To build up and not to destroy". An organisation which preaches and practises this code is certainly able to produce good all over, and in the 77 countries where Lionism today exists, it has permeated good all around.

Lionism expects us always to bear in mind our obligations as citizens to our nation and our

community and give them of our unswerving loyalty in thought, word and deed and to give them freely of our time, labour and needs.

Lionism expects that the camaraderie and fellowship, which we generate out of Conventions like the one we are now having, will make it possible for each one of us to shoulder the various responsibilities of our business and profession buoyantly and assured in the thought that we have thousands of friends all over who will be ready to co-operate and help us in all our endeavours.

The slogan for this Convention should be "Once a Lion, Always a Lion".

We have great faith in this international movement and feel certain that in course of time it will be accepted throughout the country. Starting with only two Clubs in February, 1956 at New Delhi and Bombay with about 50 members we have today, in a little over a year, 16 Clubs all over India, at Bombay, Bombay North, Poona, Lonavla, Kolhapur, Ahmedabad, Surat, Bhavnagar, Baroda, Nasik, Indore, New Delhi, Ajmer, Jaipur, Bangalore and Calcutta, with nearly 800 members.

This is in a growing fraternity which can look forward to a glorious future. From Delhi in the North to Bangalore in the South, and from Bombay in the West to Calcutta in the East, the



wings of Lionism have grown far and wide and have under their fold people from all over the country.

Lionism is founded to perpetuate in men's heart a love for our native land, co-operation, reciprocity, civic betterment and municipal growth.

We are organised so that there may flow from good fellowship, mutual help and profit and that

our combined efforts and influence may be systematised, directed and utilised towards the welfare and upbuilding of our city. We are free from political entanglements and sectarianism, we are a brotherhood without secrets. We cordially invite from all sources and at the same time extend to all organisations of like kind, character and purpose, hearty co-operation in really achieving the aims for which Lionism stands.

## THE SPIRIT OF SAN FRANCISCO

FOR any organisation to be successful it is necessary that we look for the achievement of the past and plan our work for the future.

For those Lions from India who had the unique privilege to attend the International Convention at San Francisco it was indeed a thrilling experience to witness and see in action Lionism in all its aspects. A memorable gathering of over 42,000 Lions from various countries of the world gathered together for the sole purpose of propounding that Lionism is an experience that cannot be described in words but one that has to be witnessed.

I am however, convinced that those fortunate few who attended have come back with one impression, viz. the spread of Lionism through the length and breadth of our vast country, and the spirit permeating at San Francisco has created a new outlook for one and all. It has made us realise the vastness of the organisation, the greatness of its scope of work and the multitude of goodwill that it generates all over the world. Persons who had never known each other became friends in a matter of minutes and it is quite certain that this friendship will in time to come grow into everlasting International relationship.

Those who gathered at San Francisco at the beginning of the Convention could never have realised the great amount of

good such get-togethers can do. All with one voice acknowledged by the time the Convention came to its end that it had achieved its main goal, viz. international understanding and service to mankind.

The days at San Francisco will be remembered for many reasons, because of the business-like organisation of the Convention, because of the great amount of work that was turned out during those days, because of the vigorous planning which was done for the future but above all, they will be remembered because the Convention enabled people from all the distant parts of the world to get together and live together and to share their experiences in the noble field of Lionism. All with one voice did agree "It is great to be a Lion" for, this was the time when Lionism was truly seen in action.

Our District 304 has a great part to play in the future of Lionism—great things are expected of each of us and also of those who will join the movement in future. We will leave no stone unturned until we will have achieved what we have set out to do, namely, to enable as many people in our country as possible to live up to the ideals of Lionism and grasp its concepts.

Though the International Association of Lions Clubs is the largest organisation of its kind in the world, it still desires to embrace more persons within its

scope and hence on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of our Association a vigorous Membership Development Programme is being launched in the month of October 1957. Our District 304 is also having its target for this Membership Development Programme and we hope that each Club within our District will add a minimum of eight outstanding members of their

community as keen members of their Club. What a glorious day it will be if during the month of November we are able to complete our District quota by each Club having accepted eight new members within its fold! This will show us rightly our ability to accept the challenge and scope of this great International brotherhood.

## THE COMING YEAR

THIS is the time of the year when we set our goals and make our plans for the coming year. This is the time of the year when new office-bearers of the Clubs take charge. This is the time of the year when new office-bearers of the District will assume the responsibilities of leading the Lions under their care. This is also the time of the year when our new International President will start inspiring us for greater things to come and it is but natural that unless we have had a chance to ponder and we have made an effort to shoulder the responsibilities that are ours, we will never be able to make a success of our jobs.

These lines are addressed particularly to our Club Presidents and other office-bearers under whose care our Clubs will be during the coming year. The year 1960-61 promises to be a great year—great because it is our confirmed belief that as we are expanding in our country, we are able to attract more and more people to our fold and our choice of picking the leaders has also been after a great deal of consideration.

A Lions Club is a Club with a purpose and naturally being the king of Service Clubs around the world there are definite reasons why Lions Clubs are so successful. Many are the reasons why Lions International is enjoying today the enviable reputation and prestige of being the largest,

the most active and the most useful Service Club Organization. One of the many reasons is the continued, careful and well thought out planning of all Lions Clubs' activities from the International Office to the District, to the Club, to the successful officer, to the Committee Chairman. All Lions Clubs' activities are carefully visualized, thought out and planned. A leader is a person with a vision — a person with vision is one who makes plans and faces all odds to achieve his goals. Lions are the leaders around the world because they have great vision. They make gigantic plans and they face many obstacles to achieve their cherished goals. It has been said over and over again that Lions are the world's greatest doers.

As we have said a little earlier, these lines are particularly addressed to our Club officers. On several occasions we have been asked to define the requisite trait of a successful Lions Club officer and we can only think of one thing that is necessary to make him successful in a Lions Club and that is to reflect confidence by showing his enthusiasm for his Organization. If you are enthusiastic you will pass on that enthusiasm to your colleagues, to your friends, to the other members of your Organization. But more than anything, get a thrill out of your office this year, make an honest effort to study your job and know your Club. Dedicate yourself to the

premier Service Club in the city. If your project doesn't sound right, investigate thoroughly but do not get involved in it because you have to remember that your Lions Club has a matchless reputation to maintain.

It is your duty Lion President, to be appreciative. Continually praise those who do good work and show them your gratitude, and you should never miss an opportunity to say a deserving kind word. It has been said over and over again that a pat on the back can do more than any amount of actual work. Remember Lion President that you have more potential help than you can possibly use. In most cases it only needs a good President to find out the great potential that exists in a Lions Club, to know that there are able men at his command who are ready, able and willing to do his bidding.

People would not invest their monies in shares and stocks if they did not believe in the dependability and reliability of the companies who received it and promised natural security in later years. A promise is absolutely no good unless backed up by dependability. Talents are sterile without dependability. What good is the knowledge of truth if men cannot be depended on to use it? What is the value of religious morals or ethical training if a person doesn't live up to it? What good are ideals if men cannot be depended on to carry them out? What good are brakes on a car that won't

work when you need them? Thousands of lives have been lost because mechanical devices could not be counted on at the right time. Hearts have been broken, lives have been blighted, futures destroyed, monies lost because someone, somewhere had failed when he had been counted upon. One of the many well-known qualities that has contributed much to the unparalleled success of a Lions Club is the dependability of its leaders, its officers local, District and International. The world is conscious of the fact that dependability is a recognized trait of a Lion and of a Lions Club. If there are any towns, villages or cities where there are Lions Clubs, the public knows it for the dependable record of community service for which each Lions Club is known. Lions choose to do the needed thing for the community and with invincible resolution they do it. Lions are constantly solicitous of the welfare of others, their alertness is universally recognized and praised. Lions work together as a team, their great record of accomplishments fills the horizon.

Lion President and fellow Lion Officers, the success of your Lions Club is up to you. There is no limit to the service that your Club can perform. You have the leaders of your community in your Club, you have the prestige and you have the manpower, men who are anxiously waiting for an assignment from you, waiting on your plans, waiting on your giving them an

opportunity "To Serve". Use your leaders, go forward, inspire, grow, serve, plan and achieve. Let nothing divert you. May God

be with you in all your undertakings for the coming year and remember the eyes of your community are on you.

## FAREWELL BUT NOT GOOD-BYE

BY the time you receive this letter, the writer will be on his way to the International Convention in New York, but would like to take this opportunity, as this will be the last monthly letter in his capacity as the District Governor, to say farewell.

My term of office as your District Governor ends on June 30, and thereafter, though I will not have an opportunity to address you this monthly letter, which I have had the privilege to address for the last 3 years, I am sure we will have more and more occasions to work together for the growth of our movement. My three years of office as your District Governor have certainly been very satisfying and immensely gratifying. No one could have asked for more in the form of co-operation, help and advice than what I received from you all. If we have grown, and grown wisely and well—if our activities have been appreciated and have benefited those in need—then our existence has been truly justified.

*Deputy District Governors*—we are indebted to you. It has often been said that the man who deputises for someone always carries the main burden and how true this is of our devoted Deputy District Governors. Each one of them has given unstintingly of his time and means to make this year an outstanding one in the annals of Lionism in our District.

Their sincerity of purpose has been amply reflected in our achievements in the current year.

If we have been successful, we owe this success to these gallant men and to each one of them we say—we are deeply indebted to you, and to all of them collectively we say—we look up to you to shoulder greater responsibilities in the future for the cause of Lionism.

*District Officials*—we will miss you. These silent workers, our District Secretary, our District Treasurer, our District Public Relations Officer and our District Membership Retention Officer, to all these we say that working with you was indeed a great privilege. We have seen you at your desks, long after the legitimate working hours, slogging for the cause. We know your deep concern for the movement and we can only say with our heart full of gratitude, how much we owe to you for the growth and the spread of this movement. You have set an example of selfless service which we sincerely hope will be followed by the new District officials now to be appointed in our Multiple District.

*Zone Chairmen*—we thank you. "Give a District Governor good Zone Chairmen and the success of his year is assured". Thus said one of our very outstanding Past Presidents of Lions International and it also reflects our sincere

appreciation of the very fine work accomplished in this District by these hard-working, unsung heroes of Lionism.

Whether this year ending 30th June, 1959 has been a successful year or otherwise for the cause of Lionism in our District will naturally be judged hereafter but

we would not be far from wrong were we to say that what we have achieved has been in no small measure due to these wonderful devoted men. To each of these devoted leaders of Lionism we say we have enjoyed working with you and we look forward to your co-operation in the future.



## A NEW YEAR'S RESOLVE

THIS is the time of the year when people around the world make good resolutions which will help them to a better life. The other day I came across the oft-repeated verse :

"Honour and shame from no condition rise.

Act well your part and there the honour lies."

It conveys in two sentences a great deal of meaning, at the same time helping to mould our future years. As Lions let us resolve for the coming year that nothing will be too big or too small for us to undertake and nothing will mar our enthusiasm for any project, if we will have the capacity and the courage to play our part and play it well.

It is surprising to note that prophets of all religions have during their time accepted the lowest of assignments and brought dignity not only to what they did, but to the cause they espoused, because of the manner in which they carried themselves and the sincerity of purpose which motivated them—in short their secret lay in the manner they played their part.

Lions and Lions Clubs around the world will naturally be making their New Year resolutions and our Lions of India guided by the torch of service they have already lighted during the past

year will be planning to reach greater heights in their efforts to wipe the tears from the faces of the people of their community and bring sunshine to their homes. But in their efforts towards this end, we would like to sound a word of caution and that is that the effort is more important than the result. Our achievements will be judged not by the monuments we raise but by the number of people who have benefited by our efforts.

Lionism is a challenge of the modern times—in that it gives mankind an opportunity to make this world a better place in which to live, and the unprecedented success it has received in the underdeveloped nations of the world is a sure pointer of better times to come. We cannot afford to rest on our laurels for, if we have done well in the past, we have to do better in the future and thus justify the confidence the people of our various communities have placed in us.

The future holds glorious opportunities for each of us both individually and as members of our Lions Club and let our efforts during the coming year be of such a magnitude that the year 1961 may bring added glory to to our Association and help us to hold our heads high as members of the world's most active Service Club Organisation living up to our motto "WE SERVE".

## GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO SERVE

THIS is the second time at this conference that I have an occasion to talk to you. Last night I felt that you were more engrossed in the appetising fare before you and it would be unfair for me to take more than a few seconds of your time; I truly stuck to the request of the District Governor to say a few words. To-day I want to take this opportunity not to address or to give a talk because for neither of these am I ready at this moment. And also the people gathered together being so small in number I will talk to you informally—a sort of fireside chat—so that you and I can understand each other better and appreciate this thing which we call Lionism. You probably know, my friends, that Governor Sundaram and I travelled together from Calcutta and he was kind enough to give me a pocket book in which three very prominent American humorists have given their ideas of what they had felt most enjoyable in life, and one of them said that the best speech he enjoyed was one in which the beginning and the end were close together. I want to follow that advice and say a few words where the beginning and end will be close to each other.

Fellow Lions, at the outset, may I be permitted to bring you the greetings and felicitations of the Lions International and of its 6,34,000 members in all countries in the world together with the felicitations and congratulations of

the Lions of Asia, whom I represent, and above all, my own personal felicitations which I assure you come to you from the depth of my heart. It has always been a great pleasure to be in a group of Lions and only this morning, as we were travelling together to see one of the most inspiring Lions activities which I have been privileged to see, one of the Lions mentioned in the car 'You must be going to these functions every day and they must all be the same.' I did not reply to him, but this is what I thought: "God willing, give me the strength to attend more and more of these, because every one of these is a great inspiration not only to me but to the cause I represent. Lions International is to-day not only the most active, not only the largest, not only the fastest-growing, but something more which I have very much loved. It is functioning as the most representative service organisation of its kind in this country. Is it not strange that our progress has been growing at so phenomenal a rate that only yesterday the Chairman of the Reception Committee mentioned a figure which is wrong; with all deference to you, sir, District Governor you mentioned another figure which is also wrong. Dr. Mukerji said we had 67 Clubs in India yesterday. You, sir, mentioned the figure 110. We have actually today 111 Clubs in India alone (cheers). You, sir, mentioned that Lionism has spread to 110 countries and geographical locations.

As on day before yesterday we have spread to 111 countries and geographical locations. This, my friends, is possible because men like you have accepted the challenge of the organization.

But before I talk to you, I am sure you will excuse me if I address the following few remarks to you, very charming Lionades. It is supposed to be our own function when we talk to a group of Lionades and try to inspire you for our cause. I am sure you will agree with me when I tell you that several of us who took the advantage of visiting the Temple of Health and Wealth this morning saw the tables turned and we were inspired ourselves. In spite of very many troubles, you, wonderful ladies—I hear you are very small in number—have been able to deliver the goods because you have understood the concept of our organisation. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how very much we appreciate what you are doing and how we would do everything to co-operate with you. Lionades Clubs are an important wing of our organization. Their existence is very useful in the city or the station in which they operate, but sometimes in our enthusiasm for the cause we seem to lose the objective. I sincerely hope you will remember the objective of creating a Lionades Club is to serve and goad the men to bigger things, to make their projects fruitful. You must remember that at no time have we or the Lions International intended to set up a separate ladies organ-

ization. There are several organisations for that purpose in this country and elsewhere. I will not take more of your time, but will only leave behind one thought, i.e. our gratefulness will always be there for the inspiration you have given us and for what you are doing and from the zeal you exhibited this morning, greater things can certainly be expected of you.

I think the best way I can tell you what is going through my mind is by narrating a little experience I had, not very long ago. During my last visit to the U.S.A. I was invited by one District for the installation of the incoming District Governor. As it is my normal practice, whenever I attend the installation ceremony of any one, I felt it was my duty to meet him before that evening and familiarize myself with his Lionistic background and activities. It so happened that this man was a very famous and popular and thriving eye-surgeon of the town. And as he was a very busy man, I went to see him. In the waiting room in the centre there was a pillar and there was a little glass case. In that glass case was a torn and tattered teddy bear—a little toy with a silver inscription underneath. The inscription read: "The finest fee I have ever received". I was a little curious and I went to the receptionist and asked her what the significance of the teddy bear was. She replied, "You from the Lions? You had better ask the Doctor about this yourself". My interest was still further aroused. When I talked to him I had a

International for that matter can afford to say that his District or his organization is better because he has done such and such a thing. We, together, have achieved and worked and made this organization a glorious one on the face of the earth.

It is very interesting and extremely gratifying to have this opportunity to stand before you and tell you of what I feel. The letter L in our badge stands not merely for the word Lions but is a symbol of the deep and abiding love we have for each other. I have had the privilege on several occasions to be with you. I am sure, God willing, we will

have very many more occasions to meet. But I do want to tell you one thing; Lions around the world will grow because you as members will grow: Lions around the world will be the number one service organization because you men and women have prepared yourselves to accept the challenge which the organization has offered. I do not have any doubt that in this conference at some stage or other we have been able to understand each other better: we will be feeling closer and nearer to each other; because in that understanding lies the secret of our growth. Thank you and may God bless you all!

## THE SPROUTING OAK

ON 12th November 1960, we had the privilege to organise the 100th Lions Club in District 304 at Kalol in Gujarat State and naturally having recorded the century mark in the number of Clubs in our country, it behoves us to look back and take stock of our achievements and shortcomings during the period we have had the privilege to enjoy the fruits of this movement called Lionism.

It is but natural at this stage to recall to the memory of our readers that day in February in the year 1956 when the seeds of this movement were sown in the first Lions Club in our country in Bombay and a few days later in Delhi. Gone are those days of doubt as to the capacity of this Organisation to create an atmosphere conducive to its growth—instead we look to the future with confidence as to the capacity of members to spread the message of Lionism throughout the length and breadth of the country and letting its concept percolate into every nook and corner, and so the tiny little acorn which was sown with love and care and nurtured with respect and devotion has today sprouted into a mighty oak and promises to grow still bigger spreading its branches over all who need its shade.

It has been said that Faith works miracles. It does, when it is established on honest values and backed up with tireless, intelligent effort. It can work a

miracle in you, and having attained faith, you can transmit it to others. Together as a team you begin to work miracles of life and labour and achievement, doing things together that previously seemed impossible.

We have seen faith at work in several Lions Clubs. An inspired leader, who may or may not be an office-bearer in a Club, develops enthusiastic faith in a project and his ability to undertake it, and in spite of discouragements and obstacles and disbelief, he transmits his faith and enthusiasm to his fellow Lions; lassitude and inaction give way to an irresistible flurry of effort, fear and doubt disappear, the courage of co-operative effort takes over, and the project is accomplished. The benefactors of the project and the whole community attain great faith in the Lions Club and the cycle of service is completed because one man had faith in his idea, in himself and his fellow-men. Numerous have been the instances when our Lions Clubs have been accepted by their communities as the one service organisation that they know will produce good results.

Several times we have been faced with situations when we are planning to organize a Lions Club in a town—about the futility of having more than one service Club in the same town—about the town having all the necessary amenities—about the people of

the town not being interested in such work—about the town being too small to warrant a Lions Club and on every occasion because our Lions believed in our work and their ability to create the right atmosphere we have not only succeeded in every instance in forming a Lions Club, and also to make it accepted in its community.

The future holds a challenge to Multiple District 304 for with our increase in the number of Clubs and members, we are adding to our responsibilities of being able to maintain the record set by Lions International around the world of being the most active Service Club Organisation to-day, ever ready and willing to lend a helping hand and live up to our motto "WE SERVE".

fore us and Lions are daily repaying in acts and deeds of service. Lions strive to pay back love for love, courage for courage, hope for hope, faith for faith, beauty for beauty, and if necessary, and there have been instances, life for life. We desire to prove equal to our responsibilities so that we shall deserve the thanks of our children and those who follow after us.

As Lions we strive to pay our obligations by contributing something useful, helpful and beneficial to society, by performing acts of kindness, by contributing needed service, by creating goodwill, by giving needed encouragement, by giving solace and comfort. Lions are constantly expanding themselves and putting something fine and good and helpful into the lives of others.

Lions are repaying their obligations by accepting the overwhelming challenges of our times—the greatest any age has ever known—by realising that it is in their power to make others happier, by teaching mankind the art of being kind, by exhibiting at all times a deep appreciation of their heritage and living up to it, by realising their important roles as trustees of the past and guardians of the future, by paying their obligations to society, by striving to put something fine, good and helpful into the lives of those with whom they come in contact. Lions have prestige in the Service Club field because they have kept faith with the present and past generations by liberally paying their obligations in terms of unselfish service to mankind.

## LIONISM'S CHALLENGE TO ASIA

THE story of the introduction of Lionism in Japan is one which should enable us to understand the scope of Lionism's challenge to the continent of Asia, and it is also very gratifying that the Philippines—a country which is a pioneer of Lionism in Asia—should be the one to set the example.

It is not common knowledge to all as to how Lionism came to be introduced in Japan. Most of us know of the times during the last war when the Philippines was occupied by the armies of Japan, and the difficult times the people of the Philippines had during that occupation. Immediately after the war was over, a group of Philippine Lions who had undergone the hardships and the difficulties of the war, felt that they would be doing the Japanese people a service if they could introduce Lionism in Japan. This idea took shape and a group of Philippine Lions at their own cost and expense, travelled to Japan to sell to the people the idea of fellowship and service and thus the first Lions Club in Japan was established.

What a wonderful thought that one Asian nation should go to another after a war in which both were engaged on opposite sides, with open arms and with no hatred or malice in their hearts but with love and with the idea of wanting to do something good—that is why we have chosen the title "Lionism's Challenge to Asia". It showed the

harmonious working of men's hearts and it also truly demonstrated that Lionism had come to stay in Asia, for when a movement is founded on such noble thoughts of wanting to do good, can there ever be any doubt as to its success and eventual growth?

Harmony is a universally needed quality—whether it be in the functioning of our bodies or in the laws of gravity. Harmony is necessary for growth and development and hence it is needed everywhere in everything. Harmony is positively essential for happiness, in fact, happiness is the result for harmonious right thinking. The thought should develop and encourage in your mind, determine the degree to which you harmonise yourself with people, events and things about you. Harmony must first begin with the individual. The kingdom of harmony is first within you so that the amount of harmony in your outer life must start within your inner mind.

We discussed the subject of harmony above purely because it demonstrates in various phases how harmonious thinking of Asian nations can build for a better future through Lionism. In India a little over three years ago, the first Lions Club was started and at the time of writing, we are very happy to say that we have over 70 Clubs in this continent; and then dear reader, think of the chain all over Asia starting from Syria, Iraq, Leba-



non, Egypt, Jordan and then to Iran, where we have a fine Club at Tehran, onwards to Pakistan where we have a stalwart of a Club in Karachi and six other Clubs both in West and East Pakistan through to India with its 70 Clubs down south to Colombo in Ceylon and then onwards to Rangoon in Burma and Bangkok in Thailand then to Saigon in South Vietnam and then onwards to Singapore and Malaya where we have Clubs in Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Ipoh, Klang and thereon to Hongkong and the Peninsula Lions Clubs of Hongkong then on to the Philippines where we have 68 Clubs and finally on to Japan where we have over 120 Clubs and Okinawa and South Korea. The newest Asian country to join us is Indonesia where we established a Club only last month at Jakarta. Just visualise what a chain all these countries can make and think what it can achieve? We are thinking of achievement not in terms of greatness of wealth, greatness of material or greatness in kind, but of greatness through kindness in men's hearts, because once we learn to harmonise men's hearts, we will certainly get a higher reward for this harmony.

Painters must first learn the art of blending the various colours on the canvas so as to harmonise them into natural images. Likewise, successful leaders of Lions Clubs in Asia are those who have learnt the delicate art of blending various individual personality traits of different mem-

bers into a harmonious Club or Unit whereby the members are able to serve and work together in an harmonious symphony of service. We are convinced that this great Asian chain of harmony and brotherhood can lead mankind to the intimate goal of peace and plenty.

Our chain is becoming stronger day by day because the Asian Lion countries and their Lion members are alive to their responsibilities and hence it is so heartening to learn that India is responsible for introducing Lionism in seven countries viz. Burma, Ceylon, Singapore, Malaya, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia and that Pakistan was responsible for its introduction, to Iran and that the Philippine Lions were responsible for the spread of our message to Formosa in addition to their great work in Japan and that our Japanese Lions carried our message on to Okinawa. Efforts are afoot for the introduction of Lionism in more Asian countries and so we naturally look forward to the future with confidence.

We referred to a symphony of service above and we would like to take our readers across this chain of Asian brotherhood in Lionism and let them realise and think and ponder as to what these Lions Clubs in the various communities mean. Let us look for a moment at Pakistan and their feeding programmes to the thousands of refugees and children every day in Karachi, a project which has now won the

recognition of various countries in the world, besides the approbation of their own people. Isn't that something which we can all be justifiably proud of? We do not wish to enumerate what our Clubs in India are doing because for most of you it is common knowledge, but think of the Blind homes, Braille Library, the White Cane Project, the Eye-Glass Bank, the Lions Vidya Mandir, the Lions Clinics, the Lions Schools, the Lions Playgrounds, and don't you feel happy that you had a part to play in all these, making it possible for the various communities in which the Lions Clubs function in India to enjoy these much-needed facilities. Let us go over and see what our Clubs are doing in the South-East Asia region—the Milk Bank in Singapore, the Book Bank in Bangkok, the Blood Bank in Malaya, the hospitalization scheme in Saigon and then let us go to Hongkong where we can claim to have a feather in our cap of Lionistic achievements viz. the Refugee Boys Camp which our Lions Clubs in Hongkong are running and where 1,500 boys are enjoying, probably, the best summers of their lives, and then let us go over to the Philippines where so great has been the work of the Philippine Lions that the President of this great nation has declared a Lions Week, in dedication to the serviceminded men of our organization who have contributed so much to the welfare of the people of that country. And then let us go over to the fastest growing Lions country in

Asia viz. Japan, their Anti-Leprosy programme is one that has won the hearts of men all over and one that has won satisfaction from their own people. As Lions we exist in various countries to do what our people need, to be able to come to their aid but above all after having served our own peoples, in our own countries, there is something greater and something bigger that holds us and it is this harmony of international understanding and fellowship on which we want to lay stress in this article. Harmony is the product of right thinking. Fiction, disunity and unhappiness are the opposite of harmony, but they can be changed by the right adjustment of thought. Anything can come in your mind or dominate your thinking without your consent. Your thoughts are your exclusive possessions and many thoughts are sacred. If your life isn't as happy as you think it should be, if there is discord, depressive and destructive thinking, if there is disharmony, remember that it is within your power and yours alone to change it. You merely have to replace your destructive thoughts with constructive thinking, and that is the challenge of our present times. Asia is awakening and Asian Lionism is on the march and if we are to truly interpret the meaning of international fellowship, understanding and harmony, the right way to do it is through Lionism. Let us, the Lions of Asia, accept this challenge to do good. All the countries of Asia from the Middle East, South East and the Far East are united to-

gether in the bonds of friendship and fellowship, wanting to come to each other's aid for making this world a better place to live in. Nobility of soul is often discovered in unexpected places. In every breast there is a spark of the divine and

no land or race or nationality can make exclusive claims to greatness and goodness, we are all bound together—all the countries of Asia who have embraced Lionism—in this one thought and one creed of international understanding and good fellowship.

when I tell you fellow Lions assembled here that your deeds of service have held many an audience around the world spell-bound not by the magnitude of what you have achieved but by the sincerity of purpose which inspired you to do it.

Fellow Lions, I am going to ask you please as you go from this Convention to your own homes, as you go and get absorbed in your work to remember to measure up as a Lion. You are put on a scale so to speak. Do you realise that practically everything has some system of computing or measuring. We measure distances in kilometers or miles, we measure weight by grams, pounds and tons, we measure time by seconds, minutes and hours, we measure distances and temperature by degrees, we measure speed by knots, kilometers or miles per hour—naturally everything is involved in some sort of measure. Recently we have been hearing about Sputniks and the Explorers and we have become more conscious of the constellation in the heavens above and they tell us that when we look up at the stars at night that they are only a few thousands light years away. They have worked out that the sun is normally 93 million miles away.

Fellow Lions, naturally everything you do is measured in some way whether you buy a shirt or shoes, for we all go by sizes. Even when our wives go into the grocery stores, they have to buy by the pound, by the gallon or now by kilogram or cloth by the

yard or meter or foot. Now I want to remind you that when you appear before your community as a Lion you are put on a scale. Your citizens some of whom may not have known you before are expecting you to work hard to measure up as a Lion.

I have heard my children several times point to some persons passing by in a big car and saying that that person must really be successful. Do you measure a man's success purely by the money he makes? By the kind of clothes he wears, by the kind of house he lives in, by the kind of job he gets or elected to or by the stocks and shares he may claim to own? Is that the true measure of a man? W. C. Bran, an American writer, says: "The best way to take the true measure of a man is by his own fire-side, for there he lays aside his mask and you can tell whether he is a cur or a king, a hero or a humbug. I care not a copper cent what his reputation or his religion may be if his children dread his home-coming and his wife has to swallow her heart every time she asks him something. That man is a fraud even though he may go to church every Sunday. But if life and sunshine illuminate the faces of his wife and his children when they hear his footfall at night time, you can put it down in your little book that man's home is a little heaven."

W. C. Stevens, a great banker, writes: "A man came into my bank not long ago wanting to borrow \$500.00. His clothes were threadbare, his shoes needed

## HELP TO LIFT THE BURDEN

IT is indeed a unique privilege this afternoon for me to be able to address this wonderful gathering and to know that there are men and women here from almost all the corners of our great country of India as well as men and women from the neighbouring countries of Ceylon and Burma—this is truly an inspiration. To think that in these days an organization dedicated to service is represented in all corners of the earth as you represent the people of the world, gathered in nearly 15,000 Clubs in 108 countries. Oh! that more people would know and understand, in ever widening circles, what we are doing for mankind. The rapidity with which Lions Clubs are spreading in almost all the countries of the world is evidence of mankind's hunger for ways to co-operate for great and beneficial ends. The appeal and the strength of our organization lies in its great objective of service—service to each other, service to the communities and to the world in which we live. In every country the language of service is understood and at no time has the need for meaningful service been greater. We are living through a great revolution, all over the world new nations are striving for identity, material advancement, and a sense of purpose. This is happening at precisely the moment when it has become evident that no nation or state can any longer be self-sufficient. No nation, not even the largest, whether it be the United

States of America with its material wealth or the U.S.S.R. with its scientific knowledge, can survive in isolation or realise the aspirations of its people—material as well as spiritual—by its efforts alone.

The other day I read a very interesting article by Charles M. Schwates entitled "The Ten Commandments of Success". He says the only education worthwhile is self-education and that they achieve success who believe they can. A man's school or university education can do little for him except train him to think, to concentrate on a subject until he has thought it out, thought it through and through until his mind is satisfied. It is not so important what a man learns at school, as long as his thought, his mind, has been trained to function logically, thoroughly, and exhaustively. Literature, mathematics and sciences that one learns at school and college, although beneficial in themselves, are really valuable only if they have laid a foundation upon which one can construct a system of correct and sustained thinking for one's self.

To make a success of any job or any business, you must be truly interested in it; you must let it possess you and dominate you; you must give yourself to it; you must set your heart on it—then you will perfect yourself in it.

Schwates' Ten Commandments of Success are :

**WORK HARD**—Hard work is the best investment a man can make.

**STUDY HARD**—Knowledge enables man to work more intelligently and effectively.

**HAVE INITIATIVE**—Don't get in the groove—ruts often deepen into graves.

**LOVE YOUR WORK**—Then you will find pleasure in mastering it.

**BE EXACT**—Slipshod methods bring only slipshod results.

**HAVE A DETERMINED SPIRIT OF CONQUEST**—Thus you can successfully battle with and overcome difficulties.

**CULTIVATE PERSONALITY**—Personality is to a man what perfume is to a flower.

**HELP AND SHARE**—The real test of business greatness lies in giving opportunity to others.

**BE DEMOCRATIC**—Unless you feel right towards your fellow men you can never be a successful leader of men.

**IN ALL THINGS DO YOUR BEST**—The man who has done his best has done everything. The man who has done less than his best has done nothing.

Ideas, plans and suggestions are of little value unless someone follows through with them—unless someone follows through to completion, fruition and success. An architect's blue prints and drawing for a building are only one phase of his work, but

the completed edifice is entirely another. A completed building is the result of a series of "follow-throughs" and "follow-ups" and perhaps everytime you look upon a superb construction, home or structure, you realise that it came into being because someone had the initiative to follow through.

Any success or attainment is achieved through the medium of continually following through. Every personal success you have attained has most likely come as a result of your following through and overcoming the surrounding obstacles and objections. Following through is not always easy. Sometimes it is most difficult. Very often it requires courage, inner strength and great will power.

The success of any Lions Club depends largely upon the follow through of its Officers, Directors, Committees and individual members, i.e. you and me. Primarily because of Lions, continued individual and collective efficient efforts and constantly following through, our Association's outstanding activities are written in huge letters on every horizon.

Gathered here in this great city of Coimbatore—the Manchester of South India—let us reaffirm our faith that the only co-operation meaningful between men is one based on shared aspirations and common goals. We can continue to make our contribution by strengthening the unity among people, by the courage with which we face our perils, by the imagination with which we

create our opportunities, by the earnestness and humility with which we seek to make ourselves worthy of the larger community of mankind, which must be our ultimate goal. And you, the Lions assembled at this the Fourth Annual Convention of Multiple District 304 of Lions International, are a symbol of this striving for the unity and well-being of mankind.

And let us as we gather here together, as we gather in other meetings in our own cities, let us the citizens of the world try to face realistically the problems which confront us. This is no time for men and women throughout the world, for young people— young in heart—to be frustrated, to be blocked, to be held back and confused by problems which seem larger than themselves, but which in reality have solutions if we have the patience and the courage and the realism to face these problems and the vision to look ahead. So let us unite in solving all problems that confront mankind. Let us clear the future so that we can participate with a sense of purpose in shaping the emerging forces of the future, for at no time in history has man had such capacity and such tools with

which "to lift the burden from the shoulder of man."

And so let us dedicate ourselves to that objective. Let us free ourselves from the frustrations of the present, dedicate ourselves to the future and unite, in the great struggle that exists today, with those who believe in the freedom of the individual everywhere, to develop himself or herself to the maximum — his spirit, his mind, his soul — in short to try and work towards the goal of eradicating "the have-nots" of this world.

In closing, may I on behalf of Lions International take this opportunity to felicitate the Officers of the four Districts of which it is composed for a most successful year in office and may I also offer to the Officers and members of our various constituent Lions Clubs our congratulations for a most rewarding year which has brought glory to them and their International Association.

May the deliberations of your Convention whose theme is "Greater Fellowship through Lionism" lead you on to greater heights in the field of being of service to your communities.

## YOUR REWARD

DURING my visits in and around India and also abroad several times I have been asked the same question as to what is the ultimate gain by becoming a Lion, and several times although I have tried to give an answer, it was only the other day that the answer came to me when I heard the following story:

I shall label it, "The Story of Howrah."

Probably most of you are aware that this Club received its Charter only a few months ago, in fact in the month of December, 1960, and in February of the following year they planned their first big project, namely the Eye Camp. I had the privilege to attend the inauguration of the said Camp and although I was struck by the efficient arrangement, the sincerity of purpose, the wholehearted co-operation which the Lions were giving both to the doctors and the patients, not for a moment did I visualise that a few days after their Camp got under way, this Camp would give the answer to the question I had posed above.

The Camp was to last for 12 days and at the closing function several Lions were present to bid goodbye and wish well of all those who did receive the benefits of this Eye Camp. It was a motely crowd, there were young people and many old people, there were men and women, there were of course a few children but amongst all these, there was one

man. He told us his age was 49 years, he also told us he was a signboard painter and that for the last seven years he was afflicted with blindness; that when he was normal he was earning a salary of Rs. 110/- per month which was sufficient to meet his family's and his needs. Since the day this dark cloud of blindness struck him he was no more the bread winner of the family. His wife had to pitch in and she tried in her own little way to help make two ends meet — of course the question of medical attention was naturally never there.

As things happen and troubles never comes singly this signboard painter and his wife were blessed three years after he had lost his eyesight with a bonny boy and as this man was taking leave of the doctors and blessing them for restoring his sight and as the doctor told him that a group of men standing in the corner were responsible for his action, he turned round to our Lions and said: "When I reach home today I will see for the first time my boy who is now four years old. Being young of age I am quite confident I will be able to get my job as a signboard painter again. I have no money to pay for what you have done by restoring my sight but I will always pray for you". Lions, I ask you, can you ever measure the volume in terms of money of what it meant to this man to get his eyesight restored? Can you ever for a moment doubt or expect or desire any greater



reward than what this one single action bestowed on you? I would go as far as to say that even if the Lions of India had done nothing but this single act of service during the five years of our existence and if we have succeeded to make it possible for one man to see, our existence is truly and justifiably worthwhile.

India is a vast country where service activities of this nature to help the needy would have to be multiplied not a hundred but a thousand fold and when we know that we have today amongst us 110 Lions Clubs in India, can we for a moment doubt that good in planned measure, will only be the outcome?

It has been said that the reward for service is an increased opportunity to serve and how true it is in the case of a Lion, particularly of India. The young and the old, the maimed and the disabled, the handicapped and the lame, the youth and the future leaders have all in their own good measure received the support of Lions in our country and as each of these groups of men and women benefits by the actions of our Lions, we only murmur a silent prayer that God grant a power to this group of men called Lions to be of service to their different communities.

During the last month, I have had the privilege to attend the District Conference of all our Districts—at Nagpur of District 304 West, at Kodaikanal of District 304 South and recently at

Lucknow of District 304 North—and at each of these conferences I was struck by the very high record of service that I had the privilege to hear through the reports of our Lions Clubs located in these Districts.

The returns on your investment of time and effort on behalf of Lionism will naturally be measured in prestige, fellowship and above all in service to others. It cannot be denied that Lions Clubs are located in communities of various sizes. They thrive in small towns as well as in large cities. Experience has proved that the determinating factor of Lions Clubs in communities is not the size of the community but rather the number of leading service-minded men therein who are interested in the welfare of the said community. Several times the question has been posed to me—Why is it we have not had a Lions Club in so and so town which has a population of over two lakhs whereas we have a Club in another town with a population may be say 25,000? The answer is in what I have said above that our choice in having a Lions Club is not by the size of the town alone but by the number of service-minded men who live in that particular town.

It is an established fact that Lionism grows and prospers in large cities and small communities alike, since Lions Clubs develop their activities and programmes according to the requirement of the community in which they

operate. The example of the Lions of Howrah, repeated many times in the 110 communities in which Lions Clubs exist in India, and the purpose of our drawing attention to this one particular case is to bring home to our members the deep satisfaction that this organization is able to earn for them and their fellow-

men. Lionism will grow and prosper in India and in all countries of the world because of high-minded, high-spirited, high-thinking men who have agreed to become its members and meet the challenge of Lionism. They are naturally appreciative of the opportunity afforded to them to enhance the prestige of Lionism.

## LIONISM'S GROWTH IN INDIA

A HUNDRED and eleven Clubs, a membership of 5,300 service-minded men—this is the record of Lionism in India since its inception in February 1956. God willing, in the years to come we will certainly be able to more than double this figure.

What is it that attracts men from all walks of life—from the leading lawyer in the town to the busiest medical practitioner, from the most successful engineer to the number one business man? Is it the urge to pay back to their communities a part of what they owe them in one form or another—the inherent desire of mankind to be of service? Lions Inter-

national today has become a live force in India because men have accepted its creed of SERVICE. No movement, big or small, can grow without dedication and devotion from its members, and Lions International in India is extremely fortunate to count in its ranks men who have understood the true concept of the organization and are prepared to devote themselves towards its propagation. Being the world's most representative and largest service club organization it behoves at this juncture, to enumerate hereunder the progress of Lions International since its inception in 1917:—

Date	No. of countries or geographical locations.	No. of Clubs.	No. of members.
June 30, 1917	... 1	25	800
June 30, 1927	... 6	1,183	52,965
June 30, 1937	... 11	2,789	91,948
June 30, 1947	... 21	6,117	326,448
June 30, 1957	... 82	13,220	566,115
June 30, 1958	... 91	13,834	579,385
June 30, 1959	... 99	14,472	594,668
June 30, 1960	... 108	15,077	613,376
Feb. 28, 1961	111	15,473	621,361

It is also very interesting to note that Lions International is

today the world's largest service club organization, and the figures

given hereunder of the various International organizations of a similar nature make interesting reading :

Name of Organization.	Year of Inception.	No. of Clubs.	Membership.
Lions ...	1917	15,473	621,361
Rotary ...	1905	20,699	1,011,084
Kiwanis ...	1915		
Exchange ...	1911		
Optimist ...	1919		
Civitan ...	1920		
Ruritan ...	1930		
Sertoma ...	1912		
Twenty-Thirty ...	1922		
Gyro ...	1912		
Cosmopolitan ...	1933		
Round Table ...	1922		

From the above readers will notice that the membership of Lions International is over 50% of the membership of 11 similar organizations put together and that its number of Clubs are more than 75% the total of the Clubs of the 11 institutions put together. But more inspiring is the growth during the last six months from 1st July 1960 to 31st December 1960 wherein from recent reports received we are informed that a total of 506 new Clubs have been organized around the globe which means that more than two new Lions Clubs are springing up in some part or the other of the world every day.

The Lions of India are second to none in their service and have won the approbation of one and all and their successes in the coming years would to a large extent depend on the co-operation that they look forward to receiving from communities in which they are thriving today. It would not be out of place at this juncture for the writer to prophecy a bright future for this organization not only in the number of Clubs and members but more so in the number of service activities which these Clubs would participate in.

*(The above article appeared in February, 1961).*

## MY GOAL IN LIFE

"To cheer some lonely soul to-day

And spread some joy along the way

To find more love with each new day

Such is my goal in life.

To wipe away some childish tears

And ease their hearts and still their fears

And keep them smiling through the years

Such is my goal in life.

If I can feel I've lived my part

To soothe another's broken heart

And smile away tears before they start

I've lived a better life."

THE above little poem is so aptly applicable to the average Lion that it has given us the title for this article—for it justly sums up in a few lines the aspirations of Lions in all the corners of the world. It can never be denied that Lions everywhere are trying and making an honest and genuine effort to alleviate suffering around them.

All the religions of the world have expounded in their teachings the high place that service

and charity should occupy in the lives of men, and although Lionism has nothing new in its message of service, it certainly has found a new and novel way of getting men together, forming them in homogenous groups and getting them to do the things which each one of them individually would only have dreamt of.

For how otherwise can we describe this modern miracle called Lionism which has been able to give communities the things they need? How else can we explain the existence of a school or a hospital or a blind home? How else can we account for busy men of business and profession looking after children at play or taking the blind for a picnic or distributing much needed milk and food to the undernourished children? Or still better, how else can we explain Lions giving up their much needed hours of rest in the night and from 12 midnight going round on tours in India in the biting cold and distributing much needed blankets to those poor and needy who are shivering in the cold? What better form of personalised service can be suggested or hoped for?

Lions have been known everywhere not only for giving out doles and sums of money, but for giving of themselves to the best of their abilities. If there is need in a community, from the smallest-n e e d e d amenity to big and large

schemes, Lions will always be found in the forefront giving their best and giving till it hurts—giving not only in money and kind, but by actions as well. Lions enjoy life because they believe that in order to make yourself happy, you have to make others happy first.

Lionism strives to teach the importance of victory over self to nearly half a million members in all continents. Straight thinking and a clear sense of direction have perhaps never been so urgently needed as now. Lionism in spreading its great altruistic and humanitarian programme of brotherhood through its service-minded members around the world endeavours to show, by precept and example, that envy is ignorance, hate is suicide and

that only the triumph of right principles can bring mental stability and peace to an individual and consequently to the world. If you want peace of mind and mental tranquility, then diligently endeavour for life's greatest triumph—victory over self.

It has been said that Lionism is a powerful dynamo of unselfish service generating good in every community and as we have a rich heritage in the field of service, we the Lions of today are expected to live up to the expectations of our fellow-men by doing good whenever and wherever we find the opportunities. Life has so much to offer—let us not miss the fun of doing good when we have the wherewithal to do good with.

## THE GOLDEN RULE

THE progress of our movement in India during the last year can be rightly termed only in superlatives and because we are conscious of our fantastic growth it behoves us to ponder and think and plan our programmes in such a way that the members of our new Lions Clubs and more so the members of our existing Lions Clubs are able to derive satisfaction for themselves.

The success of Lions International around the globe and its phenomenal growth is due to the matchless opportunity it offers its members for community service through a well-organized, planned programme. Lionism has often been described as "SERVICE FOUNDED ON THE GOLDEN RULE"—this is an excellent definition as well as a firm Club foundation for any organization to build upon.

I read the other day that the Golden Rule as we know it, is non-sectarian, having been handed down to us from great and well-known religions as far back as thousands of years ago. Let's look through the Golden Rule as it has been translated throughout the ages:—

**Hinduism**—"Deal with others as you would yourself be dealt by" ..... Mahabharata.

**Zoroastrianism**—"Whichever is disagreeable to yourself do not do to others" ..... Zoroaster.

**Budhism**—"But what is displeasing and disagreeable to me

myself, how can I do it to another" ..... Buddha.

**Confucianism**—"Whatever is disagreeable to yourself do not do to others" ..... Confucius.

**Judaism**—"What is hateful to thee, do not do to thy neighbour" ..... Hillel in the Talmud.

**Christianity**—"As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them" ... Gospel of Mathew.

**Islam**—"No one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself" ..... Mohamed.

A common translation of all versions: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you, and so Lionism can aptly be defined as "Service founded on the Golden Rule".

Ours is a growing organization in India and as with everything that is new, new-found enthusiasm has led our Lions Clubs to do phenomenal community service in every town and city of our great country and it is up to our leaders—the Presidents of our various Lions Clubs—to see that every member is given a chance to do something worthwhile and feel that he is contributing towards the success of his Club and that the prestige that the Club enjoys in his town or city, has in some proportion been possible because of his own individual efforts. A member then automatically gets a feeling of belonging and always wants to belong to such an organization.

To develop our existing Clubs on the right lines it is necessary to create a healthy atmosphere of sharing responsibilities, praises and leadership amongst the members. No Lions Club worth its name will carry on with the same set of office-bearers year after year, for inasmuch as a change is always for the better, it also inspires confidence amongst the members when new leaders are able to deliver the goods and the old leaders are always available for help and advice. The future of our Clubs will largely depend on how our Club leaders will shape the destinies of our Clubs; will they be able to inspire confidence amongst our members? Will they be able to retain the prestige of our Organization in the eyes of the communities in which they operate? Our experience of the past makes us confident to say that they will succeed and if they will succeed we can easily prophecy a glorious future for our Lions Clubs in the years to come with added prestige to its members.



## BUILD UP AND NOT DESTROY

THE men who were responsible for our Code of Ethics over forty years ago have bestowed on us—the Lions of today—a rich heritage, for they have given us a true conception of the ideals of our organisation. The one thing that stands out uppermost from the title of this article is to create in each one of us a feeling of wanting to do something worthwhile and help to build a strong and happy world.

"Great minds discuss ideas,  
Average minds discuss events,  
Lesser minds discuss  
people".

How true are the words quoted above for we alone determine our course in life by our mental attitude. We alone are responsible for what we think, for, by and large, the way we think determines the way we act, and the way we act determines whether life is good or bad, happy or sad, empty or eventful. As we grow older, as we study and observe, as we come into contact with many types of people and encounter different experiences, the more certain we are in our beliefs that any person's success or failure, happiness or unhappiness, and in some cases health or illness, depends upon his mental attitude. In fact, there are many people who believe that a person's mental attitude pretty well deter-

mines the type of an individual he is.

Psychologists say there are many different factors which definitely influence a person's thinking. Men they state, are unconsciously ruled by their overworn prejudices, their environment, their imagined necessities, their associations, their set opinions and their early training. These factors help to shape every person's mental attitude, and, as a person matures, as he studies, observes, travels and comes in close contact with people of other lands he is apt to become more tolerant, more sympathetic and more affable towards them. We are told that fundamentally we are what we think—we are as old or as young as we feel—we are as rich or as poor as our imaginations, and we are as strong as our faith and weak as our fears. If these things are true, then we control our lives through our mental attitudes.

It is amazing how the whole physical body responds to a bit of kindness. Kindness from others often stimulates and gives the recipient an entirely different mental attitude. As good, nourishing food builds strong healthy minds, so only strong well-balanced minds can build a better world. A man's attitude towards his job, his home, his community and his work has much to do with his success and happiness. Defective thinking

and wrong conduct always lead to undesired results.

Let each one of us apply the maxim "TO BUILD UP AND NOT DESTROY" in our daily walks of life and see how much satisfaction and happiness we are able to shower around us. Let us make it a point at the end of each day to give some time and thought to what we did during the day and how our actions even in a little manner were conducive to building and not destroying.

You've heard the expression "Failure is not a bitter pill, unless you swallow it". How true that is—for is it not our mental attitude that interprets for us all events, happenings and information that we receive? News is either good or bad, according to the way it causes our mental mechanism to act. It is very easy sometimes for a person who is ill, or who has lost sleep, or who is extremely tired or physically exhausted, to distort an ordinary incident or statement and to take offence when none was intended. One can let a trifle upset his whole day, as well as his digestive system. We cannot afford to yield to our prejudices, to be ruled by our passions or swayed entirely by our desires. We must constantly cultivate the fine art of maintaining the right mental attitude, for that is the foundation for happy, useful, successful lives.

Whether at work or at play, whether in business or profession or whether in being of service

to others let our guiding light be the thought that we will in whatever little way we can help in building something worthwhile and that at no stage will our efforts be directed in trying to find fault with the efforts of others—for nothing worthwhile has ever come out of destructive tendencies.

It is impossible to measure the far reaching influence for good that Lions International spreads through its large membership, in building better international relations and aiding men to form the right attitude towards others. It is often wondered if the average individual is fully aware of the magnitude and scope of influence for good that Lions International wields in the world today, as it gives men of different states, provinces, countries and nations a better mental attitude towards each other. Lionism teaches men tolerance and furnishes an excellent medium for them through which to demonstrate the spirit of unity and good fellowship.

The most lovable and livable quality that any human being can possess is tolerance. Tolerance is the vision that enables us to see things from another man's point of view. It is the generosity that concedes to others the right to their own opinions and their own peculiarities. It is the bigness that enables us to want those we love to be happy in their own way instead of ours. Are we always big enough to be tolerant? Only men with the right

attitude can be united on things that are for the right and for the betterment of mankind. Lionism unites the minds of service-minded men in many great nations and strives to instil in them the correct mental attitude towards all people. Lionism encourages men to create good-will, to spread happiness, to practise tolerance and to perform deeds of kindness. Lionism teaches men to praise the good, to be honourable in all things, to live soberly and righteously and to practise good-will at all times among men of good-will.

Lionism definitely assists men in maintaining the right attitude, for it is the prerequisite to a healthy mind and a wholesome

life. There is no limit to the heights that a person may reach if he can learn to keep the right attitude towards himself and his fellow men. As Lions, we must be honourable in all our transactions, we should hold no prejudices, carry no grudges, be too big to let little things upset us and always keep in mind that the noblest revenge is obtained by forgiving. When we hate an enemy, we often conspire for our own defeat.

Lionism fails in its greatest mission if, through its splendid teachings it does not aid men to form and maintain the right mental attitude, and helps us at all times to remember "TO BUILD UP AND NOT DESTROY."

## LIONISM IN INDIA

I CONSIDER it a privilege to be given an opportunity to write on the subject mentioned above. The growth of Lionism on the sub-continent of India is one which can truly be described in superlatives, because it has made it possible for the people of this great country to grasp in its entirety this marvelous thing called Lionism.

Although the advent of Lionism in Asia was in the Philippines several years ago, as far as the country of India is concerned it is only of very recent origin. The month of February in the year 1956 was the time when this movement was introduced in Bombay and Delhi, thanks to the vision of a group of men in the far-off country of the United States of America and thanks to the International Headquarters who specially deputed their International Representative Lion Shafeec Mansour to whom we, the Lions of India owe so much for having sowed the seeds of Lionism in our country. It is a little over four years that this movement was started in India and since then, it is most heartening to witness the growth of this movement in our country and at the time of writing, we are very happy to say that we have over 80 Clubs in India and that we have been instrumental in assisting in one way or other in the spread of Lionism in the following countries, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Singapore, Thailand, Malaya, Vietnam and

Indonesia and this naturally puts on us a greater mantle of responsibility for it automatically expects of us to rise to greater heights.

It is very essential to realise that Lionism makes it possible for men of different walks of life, for men of different religious beliefs, for men who are dark and fair, for men who write from right to left or left to right or read in different languages and speak in different ones that it is one thing next to the great religions of the world which unites them together and makes them think on the same lines, the line of wanting to do good where it is needed most.

The fellowship that exists in this Organization and which is so very new on the continent of Asia now forges a link of fellowship and goodwill around the globe. The writer would request you to take a few moments and have a look at a map of Asia and then you will be able to see the huge impact all the Lions countries together can create. An impact for the good of humanity, an impact for peace and an impact for living together happily for all times to come.

Just imagine for a moment dear reader, what a huge chain the Lions of this world can make. Can there be anything better than a chain of human fellowship bonded together by six hundred six thousand men and think of

what it would do for us on this continent of Asia and we will then be able to have an answer and also be able to realise the great impact of this Organization on all our lives.

It is but natural that our business and our trade and professions make it possible for us to think of things only in a subjective manner, and a movement like Lionism helps us to see things objectively and also makes it possible for us to realise that there is a lot of good in every human being and that it is up to us alone to make it possible to find out the best in every person.

Lionism teaches each one of us to be tolerant, also expects us to be large-hearted and forgiving because in turn the rewards we receive from the wonderful fellowship we enjoy amongst the members of our Club, is a constant reminder of the good things which God has bestowed on us and which we have the privilege to enjoy.

The Lions of Asia in general and India in particular are very fortunate that they have been able to enjoy the fruits of this Organization and they deserve it by sheer dint of their devotion to the cause and of their untiring efforts to be of service to their community. Lions all over the world have realized that to enjoy the good things of life they must be prepared to share it with others.

There are two things that we stress in Lionism, namely Fellowship and Service. We have al-

ready dealt at some length on the aspect of Fellowship and now we would like to take a few minutes of your time to discuss with you the aspect of Service. You must have wondered as to what is the secret of our Organization, for once it is introduced in any country or geographical unit of the world, it spreads like wild-fire. What is it that catches the imagination of the people, and makes Lionism so quickly and easily accepted? The answer could be found in the deeds of Lions all over the world. It is very interesting to note that last year ending 30th June, 1959 Lions Clubs around the globe had completed and performed a total of 1,89,400 and odd service projects, that very easily sums up the work and deeds of Lions around the globe and it is very interesting to observe that with the number of Lions Clubs we had then on our records, there was not a single Lions Club around the globe which had not done something big or small to make Lions accepted in its community. In this huge list, our activities ranged from delivering a basket of food to the hungry and the needy, to building hospitals, schools and parks. In short, to provide to the people of the communities in which we live the amenities or requirements for them to be able to say that their city or town is a better place to live in because of the existence of a Lions Club.

During our travels in most of the countries in South-East Asia where we have had the privilege to introduce Lionism, it is al-

ways an inspiration to see the extent to which the Lions of those countries are going in meeting the needs and living up to the ideals of this great International Organisation. Nothing is too small nor any activity too big to tickle the imagination of a Lions Club. We have had the privilege to see busy men, leaders in their trade and profession standing in a queue and helping people—feeding them. We have also had the privilege to see busy leaders on their knees teaching the blind. We have also had the privilege to see men dedicated to their work taking time off at the playgrounds to play with children, and we also have seen the great satisfaction in their hearts when they have realised that they were able to do something for somebody else.

Lionism in Asia and particularly in our country has a great future because in the four years of its existence we are today able to have an army of nearly 4,000 men dedicated to the cause, and multiply that by all the other Asian countries where we have Lionism today and we are able to then grasp the impact of the Organisation, for although it is new to this part of the world it has terrific potentials and the way it has been accepted we have not the slightest doubt that it will certainly prosper and spread for the

good of men all round the globe.

It is the prime need for our country that the good things of life should be shared by all and that's what Lions are doing around the globe for having had the privilege of enjoying the good things—they are the ones who understand and understand quickly the need for sharing it with others. Our Conventions at International, Area and District levels, make it possible for men of goodwill to meet, to exchange ideas, to solve the difficulties which are experienced by fellow Lions in implementing the various projects and if possible to lend a helping hand. It may be that the future not so distant will prove the worth of this Organization because the way it is accepted today makes us prophesise with confidence that there will be no town in our country which will not have a Lions Club in the years to come.

Lionism has grown around the world because of the men associated with it and you the Lions of India have certainly played your part and played it well. But greater things are expected of you because after centuries Asia is rising, rising in its desire to do good to its people and in this race of wanting to do good, Lions of Asia will rank second to none in the service of their peoples.

## LEND A HELPING HAND

FEW organisations in our country can justify their existence by their spirit of service to the community and we are all fortunate to belong to an organisation which during the short span of a year and a few months, has made its existence felt in every nook and corner of our land.

Our slogan for this month is "Lend a helping hand," as I feel that if all the hundreds of Lions all over the country would accept this challenge of lending a helping hand to their fellow-men, we would have so many hundreds of happy homes added to the ones we already have had the privilege of making happy.

Does it not make you happy to realise that you had a share in making a blind man see, in making an illiterate man read, in holding out your hand of friendship and help to one who seeks and deserves it?

Keep in mind, always, that Lionism is not a commodity. It is a way of life. It builds great individuals. It builds communities. It is seeping into every corner of nations all over the world, fusing men into a compact organisation, holding them together as no compulsion, no mere paper and seal could possibly do.

Have you ever taken time to assess how many man-hours of work are wasted in thinking of doing good all around us? Lion members all over the world are not talkers, but doers. This should be the guiding factor for each one of us, to do more and greater service to your communities.

Our business is better today because of the wonderful code of ethics and objects of this glorious organisation. Let each one of us strive to be worthy of the faith of this great movement for the future and live for ever "To Serve".

Lionism is the application of the Golden Rule to our daily business, professional and social life, as well as to our public and governmental duties. When we treat all our customers, clients, competitors and friends as we would have them treat us, when we take the same interest in public affairs and as zealously work for the welfare of our city, state and country as we expect of others; when we take an active interest in the election of our Municipalities, Assemblies and Parliament, at least to the extent of going to the polls to vote, then we are living and practising Lionism.



sidents-elect to know the operation of the Headquarters of Lions International.

Lions International is of course as probably known to you governed by an elected Board which is elected every year at the annual International Convention as stated in our International Constitution. The Board of Directors of Lions International is composed of the President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Vice-Presidents and 26 Directors. 15 of the Directors shall be from the United States of America, its affiliates Bermuda and the Bahamas, 1 Director each shall be elected from the Clubs in the nations of Canada and Mexico, 3 Directors shall be elected from the Clubs in South America, Central America and Cuba and the Island in the Carribean, 3 Directors shall be elected from the Clubs in Europe, 1 Director shall be elected from the Clubs in the Orient, including South-East Asia, 1 Director shall be elected from the Clubs in Africa and South-West Asia and 1 Director shall be elected from Australia and New Zealand and the Islands of the South China Sea and the South Pacific Ocean. This total constitute the Board of Lions International and at our forthcoming International Convention at Nice, the elections will be held which will then constitute the International Board, which will conduct the affairs of our Association during the ensuing year 1962-'63. The number on the Board of Directors change from year to year as per the strength of Lions Clubs in the different parts of the

world. Until last year, we, that is the countries in South-West Asia had no representation on the Board of Directors of Lions International and now with our growth, we will have a representative on the Board, because Multiple District 304 now falls in the geographical location of South-West Asia, which has now been given a representative to represent their views on the Board of Directors. The Board meets four times a year, with two of these meetings scheduled immediately before and after the International Convention, and so the International Board for the year 1961-'62 meets prior to the Convention at Nice and the newly elected Board for the year 1962-'63 will meet immediately at the close of the Convention at Nice. When the Board is not in session, a smaller group known as the Executive Committee, composed of 5 members of the Board and including the President, carries on in lieu of the Board.

It is but natural that our International President is the chief executive officer of our Association and he, as you would say, is absolutely the top man. All of us in Lions International from the President of a Lions Club upwards is responsible to the International President for the conduct of Lionism in his Club, in his country and in his District. The President, of course, co-ordinates and communicates through his District Governors, through the medium of the International Headquarters operation.



The Headquarters of Lions International are located at 209 North Michigan Avenue in the city of Chicago, which is virtually the centre of the United States of America. Lions International also maintains offices in different parts of the world. We have as you all know, an office at Bombay, which has been designated as 'Asian Secretariat' and that office is to provide for you all information necessary, which emanates through our International President and Headquarters at Chicago.

As the President of your Lions Club, naturally you can always write to the President of Lions International if you feel that the problem which faces you merits his help and advice. Normally, it is customary, essential and accepted that you operate and work through your District Governor, and he in turn will provide you with all the necessary help and advice and information that would be helpful to you.

Bear in mind, at all times, that your District Governor is the number one Lion of your District and that in your District he is the number one representative of Lions International and as such, Lions International looks up to him to provide the necessary inspiration required by each one of you in the conduct of your affairs as the number one Lion of your Club.

Lions International provides the benefit of service, work and extension. The International Pre-

sident in concurrence with his Board of Directors appoints a set of experienced men throughout the world, who are designated as International Representatives or International Delegates. It is their duty to assist the District Governors in the discharge of their duties as the number one Lion of the District, particularly for extension work.

In one of the earlier talks, you must have been told about our set-up at District level. Our set-up at District level makes it possible for a group of Clubs to be responsible to a Zone Chairman, for a group of Zones (more than two) to be responsible to a Deputy District Governor, and for more than two Deputy District Governors to be responsible to a District Governor. This pattern makes it possible to create a feeling of belonging to an organisation, where there are several stages through which our men are trained for becoming good leaders.

The International Representative or Delegate is assigned to a group of Districts and it is his duty and responsibility, as stated earlier, to help the Clubs, and the Districts to explore the possibilities of expanding Lionism by organising new Lions Clubs.

Lion Presidents-elect, all these above-mentioned officials are there to serve you, make the maximum use of them, for if you do not, you have yourself to blame. Lions International has provided this set of experienced men and their services are at

your disposal. Create opportunities for them to visit your Clubs so that when you get together with them and make use of their vast experience you and your Club will be able to reap the harvest of running your Club well.

It would not be out of place at this juncture, if I took a few minutes of your time to talk to you on extension. I am convinced, my friends, that a good Lion who has enjoyed this fellowship of our organisation is duty bound to extend this fellowship by bringing in new members to the Lions fold and similarly a good Lions Club which has lived up to our motto: 'WE SERVE', whose members have enjoyed the fellowship of our organisation, owe it to themselves and to the Association to spread the gospel and message to neighbouring towns and cities. And so the creed of extension to me is particularly important at this stage, that in your year as President, if you feel that this movement has done something for you and

your Club, for your town and your community, then you owe it to yourself to see that at least one new Club is sponsored during your year of office as President.

Gentlemen, I have no desire to take much of your time and in closing, may I again be permitted to say a word of advice? Remember, you are the number one Lion in your Club, your example will be followed by many a Lion in your community, by many a man in your town and city. Believe in the organisation you represent, build it, give it and your Club something big to look up to during the coming year. The day you will be installed in the President's Chair, the eyes of all your members will be on you—every move you make will be watched and studied, every decision of yours will be expected to be the best under the circumstances. Go forth, Lion Presidents-elect and do your best, Lions International and its Officials are behind you at all times.

## LIONS PRESIDENT YOUR YEAR

THIS is the second year that Multiple District 304 of Lions International is holding this Seminar of instruction for Incoming Presidents. We believe it is going to be a lot better than what it was last year and we hope that today and tomorrow through this programme, we will be able to answer for you many questions which may be in your conscious or sub-conscious mind. Then, when the two days are over, if we have not answered your questions, we have many experts headed by your District Governor who can do the job for you during your term of office.

Lion Seminar Chairman, I am extremely grateful to the Chairman of our Council, Lion Governor Sohrab Khan, and to you for the opportunity you have given me to be here this morning and to inaugurate this the second Seminar for Presidents-Elect of Multiple District 304. You can well realise, my dear Presidents-Elect, how much of importance is being given to this Seminar for after our experience of last year at Jamshedpur, it has now been decided to invite each and every one of our Presidents-Elect to a Seminar of this nature after paying all their expenses for travel.

We have with us today, Presidents-Elect from all the corners of our great Multiple District and certainly many more than we had last year about the same time at Jamshedpur. This decision of the Multiple District

Council to invite all you fine leaders of our various Clubs to a Seminar of this nature is, apart from instructing you in the duties and functions of your office, to collect notes and to make it possible for each one of you who have gathered here, through fellowship and exchange of ideas to be better equipped for the year ahead.

May I be permitted fellow Lion Incoming Presidents, firstly, to offer you my congratulations on being elected to the premier office of your Club. The members of your Club have bestowed on you the highest rank they have in their power to bestow on any one single individual and it would not be out of place, at this juncture, to tell you how much they look up to you in the year to come—to guide them, to inspire them and to make it possible for each one of them to live up to the true attributes of our organisation.

Over and over again, we have read that a leader is not born but has to be made and it is in the light of that thinking that we are gathered here today and tomorrow, to mould each one of you as one of our great leaders.

I have heard it said many a time that although Lionism features the twin concept of fellowship and service, it also in its own way has one of the finest programmes for leadership training, and if that be so, we are only in our own little way, in this Multiple District 304, trying to

your disposal. Create opportunities for them to visit your Clubs so that when you get together with them and make use of their vast experience you and your Club will be able to reap the harvest of running your Club well.

It would not be out of place at this juncture, if I took a few minutes of your time to talk to you on extension. I am convinced, my friends, that a good Lion who has enjoyed this fellowship of our organisation is duty bound to extend this fellowship by bringing in new members to the Lions fold and similarly a good Lions Club which has lived up to our motto: 'WE SERVE', whose members have enjoyed the fellowship of our organisation, owe it to themselves and to the Association to spread the gospel and message to neighbouring towns and cities. And so the creed of extension to me is particularly important at this stage, that in your year as President, if you feel that this movement has done something for you and

your Club, for your town and your community, then you owe it to yourself to see that at least one new Club is sponsored during your year of office as President.

Gentlemen, I have no desire to take much of your time and in closing, may I again be permitted to say a word of advice? Remember, you are the number one Lion in your Club, your example will be followed by many a Lion in your community, by many a man in your town and city. Believe in the organisation you represent, build it, give it and your Club something big to look up to during the coming year. The day you will be installed in the President's Chair, the eyes of all your members will be on you—every move you make will be watched and studied, every decision of yours will be expected to be the best under the circumstances. Go forth, Lion Presidents-elect and do your best, Lions International and its Officials are behind you at all times.

## LIONS PRESIDENT YOUR YEAR

THIS is the second year that Multiple District 304 of Lions International is holding this Seminar of instruction for Incoming Presidents. We believe it is going to be a lot better than what it was last year and we hope that today and tomorrow through this programme, we will be able to answer for you many questions which may be in your conscious or sub-conscious mind. Then, when the two days are over, if we have not answered your questions, we have many experts headed by your District Governor who can do the job for you during your term of office.

Lion Seminar Chairman, I am extremely grateful to the Chairman of our Council, Lion Governor Sohrab Khan, and to you for the opportunity you have given me to be here this morning and to inaugurate this the second Seminar for Presidents-Elect of Multiple District 304. You can well realise, my dear Presidents-Elect, how much of importance is being given to this Seminar for after our experience of last year at Jamshedpur, it has now been decided to invite each and every one of our Presidents-Elect to a Seminar of this nature after paying all their expenses for travel.

We have with us today, Presidents-Elect from all the corners of our great Multiple District and certainly many more than we had last year about the same time at Jamshedpur. This decision of the Multiple District

Council to invite all you fine leaders of our various Clubs to a Seminar of this nature is, apart from instructing you in the duties and functions of your office, to collect notes and to make it possible for each one of you who have gathered here, through fellowship and exchange of ideas to be better equipped for the year ahead.

May I be permitted fellow Lion Incoming Presidents, firstly, to offer you my congratulations on being elected to the premier office of your Club. The members of your Club have bestowed on you the highest rank they have in their power to bestow on any one single individual and it would not be out of place, at this juncture, to tell you how much they look up to you in the year to come—to guide them, to inspire them and to make it possible for each one of them to live up to the true attributes of our organisation.

Over and over again, we have read that a leader is not born but has to be made and it is in the light of that thinking that we are gathered here today and tomorrow, to mould each one of you as one of our great leaders.

I have heard it said many a time that although Lionism features the twin concept of fellowship and service, it also in its own way has one of the finest programmes for leadership training, and if that be so, we are only in our own little way, in this Multiple District 304, trying to

out into practice this third phase of our organisation, to train each one of you gathered here to be fine leaders of your communities. But, before I go any further, it is always necessary, my friends, to draw a note of caution and warning because I have seen it with my experience in Lions International that sometimes people and some of our leaders do get wrong ideas. There are with us this morning, some mighty important Lion Dignitaries here at the head table, but, in our Lions organisation none stands above and none stands below. We all stand equal shoulder to shoulder in service. The other day I read a little rhyme, which illustrates this point I am trying to make about this equality in Lionism throughout the world. This is how it goes :—

Some day when you are  
feeling important,

Some day when your ego's  
in bloom,

Some day when you think  
you are,

The best qualified in the  
room.

Some day when you think  
that your leaving,

Would leave an unfillable  
hole,

Just follow this simple instruction,  
And see how it troubles your  
soul.

Take a bucket, fill it with  
water,

Stick your hand in it, and  
to your wrist,

Pull it out, the hole that is  
remaining,

Is a measure of how much  
you'll be missed.

You may splash all you  
please when you enter,

You can stir up the water  
gallore, But stop, and in just  
a moment,

It will remain the same as  
before.

There is a lot of truth in this rhyme, is there not? Any person who thinks he is important and who wants other people to feel that he is important, any person who feels that without him the organisation cannot run, certainly needs to change his thinking. Because, not only is he losing the correct grasp of this thing called leadership, but he in his own little way is creating a situation which he will find very difficult to get away from.

Dear Presidents-Elect, you have been chosen to do this fine job as number one Lion of your Club and you have to understand that the eyes of all the members of your Club are on you. Live up to your obligations of being a fine Lion. Gentlemen, it is difficult to define 'a fine Lion', but by your actions, by your work and finally by the way in which you conduct yourself during the year, you will yourself be able to lend a new definition to this old sentence 'a fine Lion'. During these two days, our Chairman of the Seminar has prepared a pro-