



GYROS GUESTS ROTARY CLUB

Junior Service Club Entertained by Older Organization and Discuss Possible Program

ATHLETIC CLUB NEEDED

Speaker Mention Possibility of Two Bodies Uniting Efforts to Attain Object

Members of the Prince Rupert Gyro Club were guests of the Rotary Club at a well attended and enthusiastic get-together banquet held last evening in the St. Regis Cafe. The principal item on the program was a discussion between speakers of both organizations. Many suggestions were made and plans submitted as to how objectives might be carried out. The establishment of an athletic club or gymnasium in the city was advocated by the most of the speakers and was approved by others. Another suggestion meeting with favor was that something in the nature of a community council should be formed to take charge of the raising of funds for various public undertakings which citizens were being called upon continually to contribute to. The meeting was presided over by Dr. W. T. Kergin, president of the Rotary Club.

Joe Greer, chairman of the Gyro Club's playground committee, was the first speaker of the evening. Pointing out that his suggestions should be taken as personal ones not emanating officially from the Gyro Club, Mr. Greer stated that it was altogether likely that the Gyro Club during its second year which was just commencing would decide to confine with its playground program which had already been started. He also suggested that the establishment of a bowling green in the city was a matter that might well be considered.

The thing that Mr. Greer thought was badly needed here,

however, was something in the nature of an athletic club for the children as well as the grown-ups. A building for the purpose might, he thought, be obtained. It would be necessary to fit it out and provide for instruction and supervision. Such a project as this, Mr. Greer felt, should receive the support of every citizen of Prince Rupert. Either or both of the service clubs should not be called upon to bear the burden of it.

A broader organization might be brought into being, the speaker suggested, being—a 100 per cent community club admitting to membership every man of Prince Rupert. Such an organization would be able to obtain assistance from authorities such as the city council. The project he suggested, Mr. Greer said, might cost \$5,000 or \$6,000 to establish and \$2,000 or \$3,000 annually to maintain. It should and would, he thought, be supported by the public at large as all people would benefit therefrom. Mr. Greer expanded on the idea of the community club and felt that it might take charge of much work which, now in the hands of various organizations individually, naturally caused duplication of effort and expense. It had been estimated that in the past 18 months something like \$41,000 had been raised from the public of the city for various causes. If the raising of such money came under the jurisdiction of a community service club, a good deal of this might be saved and there would not be at least so many separate demands.

Need of Club

M. P. McCaffery, the first Rotary Club speaker, drew attention to the many efforts that had been made to obtain business advantage for Prince Rupert. A point that he thought had been lost sight of was the making of the city a better place in which to live in and raise families. Mr. Greer had suggested that a building be obtained for athletic purposes. He would go one better in suggesting that a building which would be a credit to the city be erected. The proposition might be a little too large for the Rotary or Gyro Clubs individually but he was certain that if the two organizations get together it could be done. With the two clubs united behind such an effort, they would have influence at hand and, for the site at least, might well be able to call upon the railway company, the government or the city for some favorable proposition. Unity was the thing that was required and certainly there was no place where unity was more in order than in Prince Rupert. In fact the very life of the place depended upon it for there were always the outside influences to be combated. Optimism was another requisite attribute here. There was neither cause nor room for pessimists.

A Little Ambitious

E. A. Mann, director of the Gyro Club, was not in favor of an amalgamation that would cause individual effort to be lost. Though he was in favor of the Rotary and Gyro Clubs joining in achieving some such object as was suggested, he thought that competition between the two organizations towards achieving that objective should be fostered and maintained. More effective work would then be done. He was in accord with the suggestions of Mr. Greer and Mr. McCaffery. He thought, however, that their plans were a little too ambitious. He felt that something along these lines might be started immediately on perhaps a smaller scale.

S. D. Johnstone, secretary of the Rotary Club, suggested that the handicapped boys of Prince Rupert and under nourished children needed attention. The establishment of a permanent camp might or might not be conducted by the club or clubs installing it, but it should be provided. In connection with the under-nourished child, Mr. Johnstone was then of the opinion that the example of Vancouver might be followed in providing them with food.

Gyro R. F. McNaughton approved the athletic club or gymnasium idea. Some such establishment for children over 12 years of age was badly needed here.

Trail up Mountain

Rotarian D. C. McRae's proposal was the building of a trail up Mount Oldfield which would be an attraction to tourists as well as something of value for local people. He would not be in favor of calling upon any au-

thorities for financial assistance. His suggestion was that the service clubs organize the work and, with the assistance of the citizens generally, actually do it.

In connection with the gymnasium proposal, S. W. Taylor, secretary of the Gyro Club, pointed out that the all important matter would be that of instruction and conduct. Such institutions had failed in other places because they were not conducted properly. He suggested that a community council for the control of collecting money be established instead of the more general community club. In the meantime, assistance might be given by both clubs to the hospital which was immediately in need of funds for its x-ray plant.

Value of Education

Rotarian George Rorie urged

that some steps be taken to prevent the retrograde movement of boys. Some healthy means of diversion should be found for them to replace the temptations that they were offered at every hand in the city. He also spoke of the "back-to-school" campaign and the advantages to be obtained through the continuation of education.

In summing up the discussion of the evening, President W. T. Kergin of the Rotary Club declared that the influences for the bringing up of boys in Prince Rupert were not as good as they were a few years ago. The discussion had brought forward the need of something being done and the two clubs would go back imbued with new ideas and impressed with the valuable work that might be done by them.

The program of speeches, which was punctuated with community singing and selections by an orchestra consisting of James L. Lee, G. A. Woodland and W. Vaughan Davies, was followed by a bridge tournament in which the Rotarians won over the Gyros by an aggregate score of 1280 to 1180.

Before the meeting adjourned with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," President Milton Gonzales of the Gyro Club expressed on behalf of the Gyros, appreciation for the most enjoyable and valuable evening that had been spent as the guests of the Rotary Club. The discussion, he felt sure, would be productive of tangible results. The Gyro Club would go back with many good suggestions to cogitate over and possibly co-operate later with the Rotary Club in carrying out.

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