

International Officers, 1943-44

THESE are the men at the helm of Lions International for this fiscal year. The delegates to the Annual Meeting at Cleveland elected Clifford D. Pierce of Memphis, Tenn., to the office of Third Vice-President. Edward H. Paine of Michigan City, Ind., stepped from the presidency to become the Immediate Past. Melvin Jones, as Secretary-Treasurer, has held that office since the organization of the Association. D. A. Skeen of

Salt Lake City, and Ramiro Collazo of Havana, were promoted to be First and Second Vice-Presidents respectively. That is the unwritten law of the Association, and has not been broken for almost twenty years.

Herewith is a condensed sketch of each officer, outlining those services to Lionism which prove him worthy of his present position with International.

ELBYRNE G. GILL, International President, Roanoke, Virginia. Physician and surgeon, and eye specialist. Founder, builder, and director of the Gill Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in Roanoke. Graduate courses for specialists are conducted each year in the hospital, and are attended by surgeons from all over the United States and Canada. Through many years Dr. Gill has made it a practice to visit schools for blind children, take to his hospital those whom he thought he could help, treat them, and send them home with vision restored—without charge. He is a member of the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind; Past President of the Virginia Society of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists; and a member of the local, state, and national Medical Associations. He was active in the organization of the Roanoke Lions Club, and is a Charter Member and Key Member. Was by turns, Treasurer, Secretary, and President. Was Deputy District Governor for two terms, and then for two terms was District Governor. Served two terms on the International Board of Directors, then Third, Second, and First Vice-President, and was elected International President at the Cleveland Annual Meeting.

EDWARD HAMPDEN PAINE, Michigan City, Indiana. Immediate Past President of Lions International. Banker handling private investments and real estate. After serving his Michigan City Lions Club in many capacities he was Deputy District Governor, then District Governor, and at the Pittsburgh Convention in 1939 was elected Third Vice-President. From that office he passed through the chairs and was International President in 1942-1943. Devoting practically all his time to the office, he set a record for visiting Lions Clubs. He attended meetings in every District in the United States, and paid visits to the Lions of Canada and Mexico. A noted speaker, he inter-

mingled with his Lionistic messages rich experiences of his extensive travels in foreign lands.

D. A. SKEEN, International First Vice-President, Salt Lake City, Utah. Member of the law firm of Irvine, Skeen and Thurman, with a Bachelor of Laws degree from Chicago University. Has been a practicing attorney ever since his graduation. At one time was deputy county attorney. Charter Member of the Salt Lake City Lions Club, Key Member, and Master Key Member. Served long and faithfully in the various committee chairmanships, in minor offices, then was Director, President, District Governor, and an International Director. Always interested in the welfare of unfortunate children. He was active in the organization and establishment of the Utah State Training School for Feeble-Minded Children, and was president of the board for ten years. After a year as Third Vice-President and a Year as Second Vice President, he was elected First Vice-President at the Annual Meeting of International at Cleveland, 1943.

RAMIRO COLLAZO, International Second Vice-President, Havana, Cuba. Attorney specializing in civil law. He was prepared for his profession by study at St. Paul's School and Colet Court, England; another school in Geneva, Switzerland; and the National University of Havana, where he received his degree in civil law. He served his Havana Lions Club loyally and well in many posts of responsibility, was twice elected club president. Was appointed representative on the International Council by International President Edwin R. Kingsley in 1936, and again the next year by President Frank V. Birch. President Birch also appointed him District Governor of Cuba. After serving one year in the office of International Third Vice-President he was elected to his present office at the Annual Meeting of International at Cleveland, 1943.

CLIFFORD D. PIERCE, International Third Vice-President, Memphis, Tennessee. Attorney at law who received his degree from George Washington University. Has been prominent in Lionism for many years. Held most of the club offices, including those of Secretary and President; was Deputy District Governor, District Governor, and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors, and then International Director. He attended the International Conventions at St. Louis, Grand Rapids, Mexico City, Pittsburgh, Havana, New Orleans, Toronto, and the Annual Meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, where he was elected to his present office. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner.

MELVIN JONES, Flossmoor, a suburb of Chicago. Founder of Lions International, and Secretary-Treasurer ever since its organization in 1917. Was secretary of the Business Circle of Chicago from which the Central Lions Club of Chicago—the Mother Club—was organized. He conceived the idea of forming an association of unaffiliated clubs all over the United States, and after years of correspondence he called a meeting in the Hotel La Salle, Chicago. Representatives of some fifty clubs of various names voted to form an association of service clubs—the first in the country—which should serve their several communities and the nation without pay. It soon became the International Association with the organization of clubs in Canada, and now has some 4,300 clubs in 14 countries. Lion Jones began the study of law and voice in Chicago at the age of 20. He soon turned from the law to insurance, and presently founded the Melvin Jones Insurance Agency. As soon as Lions International was on its feet he closed out his insurance business, and from that time has devoted his life to building up the Association. He is a Blue Lodge Mason.

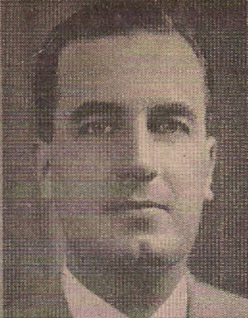
OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

*Lions
International*

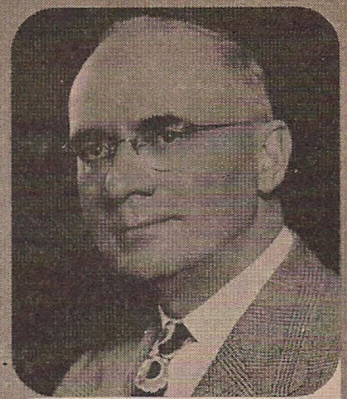
1943
1944



D. A. SKEEN
First Vice-President



DR. RAMIRO COLLAZO
Second Vice-President



DR. E. G. GILL
President



CLIFFORD D. PIERCE
Third Vice-President



MELVIN JONES
Secretary-Treasurer



EDWARD H. PAINE
Immediate Past President



ERNEST C. GIBSON
Director



DR. ARTHUR S. HAINES
Director



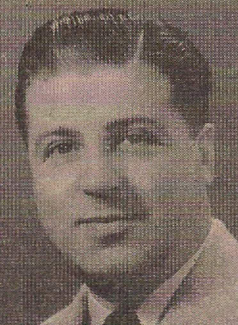
THOMAS S. NEILSON
Director



CHARLES J. STEVENSON
Director



C. P. DODSON
Director



EDGAR M. ELBERT
Director



THOMAS N. FOWLER
Director



DR. CHARLES O. LENNOX
Director



HAROLD P. NUTTER
Director



CHRIS D. RUSSELL
Director



HOWARD R. SISSON
Director



W. RUSSELL PORTER
(Ex Officio)

International Board of Directors

CHARLES JOHN STEVENSON, Cambridge, New York. Editor and publisher of the oldest weekly newspaper in America; lecturer; radio commentator. Born on a farm near Chillicothe, Illinois, he came to Chicago early in life and for 14 years was in a law office there, then removed to New York. Became a member of the Germantown, N. Y., Lions Club 13 years ago, and in 1934 helped organize the club at Cambridge and became a Charter Member. Is now a Key Member. Held various club offices, including that of President. Was Deputy District Governor for two years, District Governor, two years on the State Board of Directors. Won a citation for civilian service in the first World War. Is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge. Was elected International Director at Toronto in 1942.

THOMAS SCOTT NEILSON, Berkeley, California. Founder of the Berkeley Steel Corporation and associated with the Seattle Construction and Dry Dock Company. Before that he had years of experience with the construction division of Bethlehem Corporation. Was born in Greenock, Scotland, came to the United States at the age of 16, and immediately went to work with construction. Is a Key Member of the Berkeley club, which he joined 20 years ago, and by turns was Director, Vice-President, President, Deputy District Governor, and District Governor. He was elected International Director at the Toronto Convention in 1942. Is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge.

ARTHUR SAMUEL HAINES, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Surgeon. Member of the U. S. Department of Agriculture War Board of Pittsburgh. Charter Member and Key Member of the Lions Club of Wilkesburg, Pennsylvania, and has received an Old Monarch award. He served his club in many capacities, and in 1928-1929 was District Governor. After other years of activity he was appointed by International President Alexander T. Wells, in 1939, to serve out the unexpired term of Howard W. Carstens. Was in the U. S. Army in the first World War, but was discharged when he became disabled. Is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, several college fraternities,

and the Blue Lodge of Masons. Was elected an International Director at the Annual Meeting at Toronto in 1942.

ERNEST C. GIBSON, Monroe, Louisiana. Owner and manager of hotel. Previously had been wholesale grocer, and Southern manager for a national business organization. Has been a member of the Monroe Lions Club for ten years, holding many positions. Is a Key Member and Master Key Member, and has a record of perfect attendance for nine years. Was on the club's Board of Directors for four years, President of the club, Deputy District Governor for two years, District Governor in 1939-1940, and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council of District Governors in 1940. Elected International Director at the Toronto meeting, 1942. Mason, and Past Grand Orator of Louisiana Masons.

CHRIS D. RUSSELL Maysville, Kentucky. Owner and operator of a laundry and dry cleaning establishment for 14 years. Before that was a banker, then a traveling salesman. He has been a member of the Maysville club since 1930, is a Key Member and has a perfect attendance record for 13 years. In his club was by turns Lion Tamer, Tail Twister, Treasurer, Director, Vice-President, and President. In the District he was Zone Chairman, Deputy District Governor, and attended six District and four International Conventions. It was he who worked out the separation of Kentucky and Tennessee, and the division of Kentucky into two sub Districts. He was elected an International Director at Cleveland in 1943.

THOMAS NEWELL FOWLER, Seattle, Washington. Member of a law firm. In earlier years he taught high school for several years, was training officer with the U. S. Veterans Administration, but has practiced law in Seattle since 1924. Is a Key Member of the University, Seattle, Lions Club which he joined in 1928. Held minor offices and committee chairmanships, was President, and District Governor. Was elected International Director at Cleveland in 1943. Was in the Naval Air Service in the first World War, and now has one son in the Army and one in the Navy.

Is a Legionnaire, a Mason active in the Shrine, and an officer in the Scottish Rite bodies.

CALVIN PHILIPS DODSON, Decatur, Texas. Manager of ranch, oil, and rental properties; mayor of the city; and chairman of the Draft Board. Spent twelve years developing his own electric light properties in Northern Texas, then sold to a power company and for another twelve years managed the property for the company. Has been a Decatur Lion since 1925, and is an Old Monarch and Key Member. Held numerous club offices. Was chairman of the committee which designed and built the two-story Lions Club Building, and which the club now owns free of debt. Was club President on two different occasions, and later District Governor. Prominent in civic affairs: Serves as mayor at a dollar a year; doubled the size of the city hall; cut the tax rate and the water rate for the first time in history; city owes nothing but its bonded indebtedness which it is paying off before the notes fall due. Is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge. Was elected International Director at Cleveland in 1943.

CHARLES OSWELL LENNOX, New Toronto, Ontario. Dental surgeon. Has practiced ever since his graduation from the University of Toronto with the degree of D.D.S. Is a Charter Member and Key Member of the New Toronto club which he joined in 1931. Has been chairman of nearly every committee in the club, held various offices including that of President, Deputy District Governor, District Governor, and at Cleveland in 1943 was elected International Director. Very active in the sale of War Stamps and Bonds. Belongs to the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

HOWARD R. SISSON, St. Joseph, Missouri, President of Howard Sisson Company, real estate. Formerly was life underwriter for one of the big companies, then special representative of the telephone company. Is a Key Member, Master Key Member, and Senior Master Key Member of St. Joseph club. Has been Membership Chairman of his club, Vice-President, President, Deputy District Governor, and last year was District Governor. Elected an International Director at

Cleveland in 1943. Active in civic and business life: President of the city Real Estate Board; chairman of civic improvements for Chamber of Commerce; won an award from the U. S. Treasury department for bond sales. Prominent in Masonry: Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Council and Shrine. Is also an Elk.

EDGAR M. ELBERT, Maywood, Illinois. Owner of real estate and insurance business; business manager and assistant secretary, West-lake Hospital Association; and building commissioner of Maywood. Formerly was a banker at Melrose Park, Illinois. Member and Key Member of his club, where he has been active for nine years. Was chairman of the membership committee, member of the board, Vice-President, and President, and was District Governor in 1939-1940. Attended the Mexico City and other International Conventions, and always active in the state. Was elected International Director at the Cleveland meeting in 1943.

HAROLD P. NUTTER, Camden, New Jersey. Vice-President of the Nutter Mortgage Service. Graduate of both Temple University Law School, and Fishburne Military School, University of Delaware. Nine years a member of the Delaware National Guard, and was the trainer of police reserves in military drill and formation. In the twelve years of his membership in the Camden Lions Club he became Key Member, Master Key Member, and was club Director, Vice-President, and President. In the District he was Deputy, and then District Governor. In 1942-1943 he was Chairman of the Board of Governors, and ex-officio a Director, and at the Cleveland Annual Meeting of 1943 was elected Director of International. Is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

W. RUSSELL PORTER, New Bedford, Mass. Counsellor for a big life insurance company. In addition to minor offices and committee chairmanships, was Director, Vice-President, Deputy District Governor, District Governor, and at the Annual Meeting at Cleveland in 1943, was elected Chairman of the Board of Governors. This made him, ex officio, a member of the International Board of Directors. He has been in the New Bedford club for eight years, and is a Key Member.

Club Decides Courtesy Is Needed and Starts a Campaign

By SAM BRIGHT
Secretary, Tyler, Texas

At our club's Socratic discussion of "What can we civilians do on the homefront to further the war effort?" led by Lion W. Dewey Lawrence, Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States, the idea of a "Be Courteous" campaign as a stimulus to morale, was born. The local press editorialized the idea. By unanimous verdict of the club the campaign was initiated.

Old Monarch W. Edward Lee, a lawyer and twice deputy District Governor of 2-X Texas, was named Chairman of a special committee composed of himself and Lions Fred Humphrey and I. M. Gomillion, charged with putting the campaign over.

A joint luncheon with the Junior Chamber of Commerce was arranged, at which the Lions Club was host. The town's 38 ministers—Jewish, Catholic and Protestant—were invited as guests of the Lions Club. A majority attended. Also invited as guests of the club were the Mayor and City Manager, the President and Secretary of the other service clubs, and the President and Manager of the Chamber of Commerce. Each member of the club and J-C's invited an individual guest.

The Mayor issued a proclamation designating July 12th to 18th as Courtesy Week. The whole town turned out, so to speak.

Dr. Robert Hill, for 28 years Pastor of the downtown Presbyterian Church, delivered an inspiring talk on Courtesy that was enthusiastically received. After the luncheon the committee called the ministers to a meeting on the spot, resulting in the pledge of the churches to dedicate one Sunday's service to the program within the next four weeks.

Dr. S. Stephen McKinney, District Superintendent of the Methodist Church, suggested that the program be taken to the people by radio. Rev. W. Meade Brown, Rector of Christ Church, volunteered to get free radio time, 15 minutes twice a week for four weeks.

Time was cheerfully contributed by radio station KGKB, and prominent speakers appeared on the program, including Lion W. Edward Lee, Rabbi Harvey E. Wessel, Lion Ray Edson, Mrs. Lee Dingee, Sr., Dr. S. Stephen McKinney, Major Samuel W. Thompson, Special Service Officer in Charge of BIRTC at Camp Fannin, and Joe

Haddad, a well-known realtor and leader in the Catholic Church.

A member of the J-C's prepared copy for placards. Printing cost was contributed by Lion I. M. Gomillion, and five sets of placards, each containing separate copy, were printed. One set was displayed in store windows each week for five weeks.

The idea caught on like magic and the program went over with a bang!

Now the Lions Eat, by the Grace of the Rebeccas

Charlotte, Mich., announces that it has solved the problem of where to meet and what to eat—and how to get it. After the prospect of having to meet in the street, a committee has finally arranged with the Odd Fellows for the use of their hall for the meetings, and the Rebeccas have agreed to furnish and serve the eats.

"Now we're all set," said Lion Arthur N. Root of the Charlotte club when he visited the International Office the other day.

The local newspaper carried a story about the meeting which the club held at Lion Root's farm some seven miles from town. Lion and Mrs. Root invited the club to come out there for the meeting, and bring guests if they chose. To the amazement and delight of the hosts, more than a hundred attended.

In the afternoon the Lions adjourned to a field from which the oats had been harvested, and practiced baseball for an impending game with a rival service club.

Lions Find Ways to Make Patients More Comfortable

Warrenton, Va., was offered the opportunity to do a great deal of fine service work when a hospital unit of a signal corps base was established at near-by Vint Hill Farms. The Red Cross listed the items needed to make the hospital more pleasant, and various civic organizations were asked to help out. The Lions did not wait to be asked, but volunteered assistance. They installed bamboo screens and shades for the wards, which have already proved their value. They were placed on the southern exposures of the wards, and have helped to lower the temperature in these rooms. But this is only a start, and the club is alert to additional opportunities to help the soldiers at the camp.