

# Kiwanis In Brief

*A Little Book  
of Facts  
and Features  
for*

New Members  
Prospective Members  
Interested Friends



*Revised  
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## KIWANIS IN BRIEF

### *“Let Me Make You Acquainted With Kiwanis”*

**T**HERE is a Kiwanis club in your community. Perhaps it has been in existence more than ten years, or only a few months. It may be just forming. No doubt you are already a member, or at least thinking about joining. But, in any event, you want to know what it is, and what it stands for. “Kiwanis in Brief” will tell you.

You will find in these pages a concise story of Kiwanis, its beginnings, development, organization, principles and achievements.

The Kiwanis club in which you are interested is the local unit of Kiwanis International, an organization with nearly nineteen hundred similar clubs in nearly as many communities of Canada and the United States (January 15, 1932).

Kiwanis is based upon the *principle of service*. It capitalizes for constructive community service the fellowship of a group of men who eat together once a week. It develops friendship and encourages leadership. It seeks to build better communities through intelligent interest and active, unselfish loyalty.

Kiwanis is, therefore, not only an organization, but a moving spirit, “a conscious driving force toward newer and higher objectives.”

It challenges the leaders of the community to be “a friend to man” and ready servants of the common weal.

## *How Kiwanis Began*

THE movement began toward the close of 1914 when Allen S. Browne, a fraternal organizer, and Joseph G. Prance, a business man of Detroit, Michigan, formed a business-men's club. Mr. Prance was its first member and his application receipt is dated Dec. 8, 1914. Mr. Donald A. Johnston was the first president of the Detroit Club.

## *The Name "Kiwanis"*

CONSIDERABLE thought was given to the selection of a name for the new organization. Mr. C. M. Burton, Historian for the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan, was consulted, and after some research submitted several Indian names, among which was the word "Kee-wanis." This had been found in an Indian vocabulary compiled by Bishop Frederick Baraga, pioneer of Upper Michigan, and its derived meanings were, "To make one's self known," "To impress one's self."

Mr. Burton changed the original spelling to read "Kiwanis" and this was adopted by the club as its official name in January, 1915. Kiwanis is, therefore, a coined name, but its verbal ancestry suggests "self expression." Its practical significance in each community becomes just what the Kiwanis club makes the name mean, as, by actual accomplishment, it invests the word with the prestige of worth.

## *Kiwanis Anniversary*

THE birthday of Kiwanis is celebrated on January 21, because on that date, in 1915, the Detroit Kiwanis Club received its charter from the State of Michigan.

*“We Build”*

THE motto of the original group of Kiwanians was “We Trade,” indicating that the club was composed of tradesmen and merchants, and suggesting possible mutual commercial advantage from membership. But following a reorganization which began at the Providence convention in 1918 and culminated at the Birmingham convention in 1919, the “crass slogan, ‘We Trade,’ was summarily dropped and our present watchword, ‘We Build’ substituted.” This improved motto, typical of the new spirit of Kiwanis, was adopted at the Portland, Oregon, convention in 1920.

*Kiwanis Becomes International*

IN 1916, of the more than twenty Kiwanis clubs, which seem to have been in existence then, fifteen sent representatives to a gathering in Cleveland, Ohio, where an organization was formed, a “National Constitution” adopted, the name, “The Kiwanis Club” designated as the official title of the combined clubs, and permission given to Organizer Browne to form clubs in Canada. Mr. Browne, by a proviso of the organization, controlled the extension of Kiwanis in the building of new clubs, but that right was purchased from him at the Birmingham convention in 1919, and ever since the organization has controlled its own extension.

Under the authority granted at Cleveland, clubs were chartered in Canada early in 1917. The first two were Hamilton, Ontario, which was completed by Nov. 1, 1916, and Toronto, Ontario, so that when the first International convention was held in

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the year 1917 in Detroit, Michigan, there were two Canadian and fifty United States clubs in the organization.

### *“Kiwaniis International” Becomes the Constitutional Name*

THE present official name of the organization is “Kiwaniis International,” which was adopted at the eighth annual convention of the International organization, held at Denver, Colorado, 1924, at which time, also, were adopted the present Constitution and By-Laws, except for the few amendments that have since been adopted. The present Constitution and By-Laws displaced the “Regulations of the Kiwanis Club,” adopted at Detroit in 1917, and the Constitution of “The Kiwanis Club International,” adopted at Providence in 1918 and variously amended from time to time.

### *Kiwaniis Makes Progress*

JUDGED by the yardstick of increased membership, Kiwanis has made remarkable progress, as the following table shows, but it is not more noteworthy than its progress in organization and altruistic achievements:

<i>Convention</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Clubs</i>	<i>Members</i>
Detroit, Mich. . . . .	1917	52	5,700
Providence, R. I. . . . .	1918	93	10,500
Birmingham, Ala. . . . .	1919	138	15,500
Portland, Ore. . . . .	1920	267	28,541
Cleveland, O. . . . .	1921	538	47,970
Toronto, Can. . . . .	1922	802	68,101
Atlanta, Ga. . . . .	1923	1043	78,961
Denver, Colo. . . . .	1924	1245	89,685

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<i>Convention</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Clubs</i>	<i>Members</i>
St. Paul, Minn. . . . .	1925	1382	94,422
Montreal, Can. . . . .	1926	1546	99,786
Memphis, Tenn. . . . .	1927	1638	100,849
Seattle, Wash. . . . .	1928	1731	102,644
Milwaukee, Wis. . . . .	1929	1812	103,308
Atlantic City, N. J. . . . .	1930	1876	102,713
Miami, Fla. . . . .	1931	1879	96,316

### *International Presidents*

The following have served as presidents:

<i>President</i>	<i>Year</i>
George F. Hixson, Rochester, N. Y. . . .	1917
George F. Hixson, Rochester, N. Y. . . .	1917-18
Perry S. Patterson, Chicago, Ill.* . . .	1918-19
Henry J. Elliott, Montreal, Quebec* . .	1919-20
J. Mercer Barnett, Birmingham, Ala. . .	1920-21
Harry E. Karr, Baltimore, Md. . . . .	1921-22
George H. Ross, Toronto, Ont. . . . .	1922-23
Edmund F. Arras, Columbus, Ohio . . .	1923-24
Victor M. Johnson, Monroe, Mich.* . . .	1924-25
John H. Moss, Milwaukee, Wis. . . . .	1925-26
Ralph A. Amerman, Scranton, Pa. . . . .	1926-27
Henry C. Heinz, Atlanta, Ga. . . . .	1927-28
O. Samuel Cummings, Dallas, Texas . .	1928-29
Horace W. McDavid, Decatur, Ill. . . .	1929-30
Raymond M. Crossman, Omaha, Neb. . .	1930-31
William O. Harris, Los Angeles, Cal. . .	1931-32

### *How Kiwanis International Is Organized*

THE functioning of such an immense group as that of Kiwanis International requires a most carefully constructed organization. Kiwanis International is both efficient and economical.

<sup>1</sup>Deceased.

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Its *officers* are a President, the Immediate Past President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, twelve Trustees, and a District Governor for each of the 29 districts.

At each annual International convention there are elected: for a term of one year, a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer; and for a term of two years, six Trustees.

*The International Board of Trustees* consists of the President, Immediate Past President, two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and twelve Trustees. It meets regularly four times a year.

*The Secretary* is appointed by the Board of Trustees, attends the Board meetings, and acts as secretary of the Board.

*The Executive Committee* of the Board is composed of seven members of the Board, namely, the President, Immediate Past President and five other members of the Board appointed by the President and approved by the Board. This committee meets three times a year, or oftener if occasion demands, and takes care of official matters in the interim between Board meetings.

*A Finance Committee*, consisting of three members of the Executive Committee, is appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board. This Finance Committee meets at least six times a year and administers the finances of Kiwanis International under the direction of the Board.

Various *other committees* of the Board are appointed by the President as occasion requires, especially to study specific questions and problems, and to advise the Board as to their findings.

*The International Council*, which meets twice yearly, first in November or December, and second

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at the time of the annual convention, in May, June or July, is composed of the Board of Trustees, the Past Presidents of Kiwanis International, and in addition thereto, at the first meeting, the District Governors elect; and at the pre-convention meeting, the District Governors. The purpose of this Council is to confer and advise with the Board of Trustees on matters relating to Kiwanis International. The Council also has power, at its first meeting and under certain conditions, to revise the By-Laws of Kiwanis International.

To the *first meeting of the Council* the chairmen of all International committees are usually invited, so that they may present the program of work for the coming year which each committee has developed, and that the District Governors may have the opportunity of receiving this information at first hand and discussing its items in detail. This is very valuable for their promotion of the International objectives in their respective districts.

The first Council meeting is held in Chicago and lasts for three days. It serves as an intensive training school for the District Governors elect. By instructive addresses, programs of committee work, problem conferences, contact with other leaders of Kiwanis, inspections of headquarters and general fellowship with each other, the District Governors elect are prepared for an intelligent and enthusiastic administration in their respective districts.

*Volunteer Service* is one of the cardinal principles of Kiwanis and a prime factor in its success. The entire group which comprises the Council gives its time and talent voluntarily to the work of Kiwanis. The International Treasurer is for legal purposes paid the mere nominal sum of \$1.00 per year. The

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only remuneration desired by these leaders is the satisfaction which comes from the increased success of Kiwanis as an organization and the service which Kiwanis is able to render the hundreds of communities where its local clubs are situated. The Council is an impressive evidence of the power of Kiwanis ideals of service to win men to an active and unselfish cooperation in a challenging program of helpfulness.

### *What's What at Chicago*

**I**NTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, located at 520 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill., is one of the most practical illustrations of the progress of Kiwanis International. Visiting Kiwanians are always welcome, and even a brief inspection of this busy headquarters is sufficient to convince any interested member that he belongs to a great and tremendously active organization. The work of International Headquarters is carried on under the direction of the International Board of Trustees, the International Secretary being in executive charge.

The *first Secretary* of Kiwanis International was Mr. Albert Dodge, of Buffalo, N. Y., who was elected at the Detroit convention and served without pay as volunteer officer until the convention at Providence, in 1918. The new By-Laws adopted at Providence provided that the International Secretary should be selected by the International Board of Trustees, in view of the fact that the position was to be made a salaried one. At its first meeting following the Providence convention, Mr. O. Samuel Cummings was chosen for the position.

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Mr. Cummings remained as Secretary until July, 1921, when he was succeeded by the present executive, Mr. Fred. C. W. Parker, who began his service as International Secretary in July, 1921. Mr. Parker is assisted in the large and diversified work of International Headquarters by an Assistant Secretary, Mr. George W. Kimball, and seven staff men, with six Field Service Representatives, and a clerical force of about forty-five. The number of these workers is less than formerly due to necessary retrenchment.

### *How the Work at Headquarters Is Divided*

THE following outline covers only the main responsibilities of each department:

(1) *Executive Department.* This has direct supervision over all work carried on by International Headquarters, including arrangements for official meetings of the Board of Trustees, the International Council and International Committees; the regulation of operating expenditures, under direction of the Finance Committee, in conformity with the budget approved by the Board of Trustees; the editing of *The Kiwanis Magazine*; and general supervision of all other departments.

(2) *Field Service Department.* This has charge of the building of new clubs and of giving field service to clubs. Under the direction of this department Field Service Representatives carry on field work in seven definitely defined regions into which the whole area of Kiwanis International is divided. These Field Service Representatives, under a new plan inaugurated in 1930, work exclusively upon a salary basis, with expenses defrayed, and are there-

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fore entirely under the direction of this department, both in the building of new clubs and the rendering of field service to clubs.

(3) *Magazine Department.* The head of this department serves as Managing Editor and Advertising Manager of The Kiwanis Magazine. The International Secretary acts as Editor and maintains direct supervision over the content, make-up and publication of the Magazine. Mr. Roe Fulkerson is the special editorial writer, with responsibilities for furnishing each month two pages of editorials, his personal page, and, from time to time, articles requested by the Board of Trustees.

(4) *Department of Service.* This renders service to new clubs, including instructions to newly elected officers and committees, plans for the presentation of charters and any special requests for advice or assistance; and to all clubs, except those classified as attention clubs, such service by correspondence as may be requested through letters or personal calls, and may be initiated by the department on the basis of the study of monthly reports from the clubs and of the visitation reports of the district officers.

(5) *Department of Records and Statistics.* This is divided into three bureaus: 1. The Bureau of Circulation and Classification maintains the membership and classification records of the members of all clubs and keeps up to date the subscription list of The Kiwanis Magazine. 2. The Bureau of Tabulation and Research digests all newspaper clippings, all club and district bulletins and printed matter, studies the reports of clubs and refers various information to the proper departments and develops

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statistics on various phases of Headquarters work. 3. The Bureau of Reports checks the monthly, semi-annual and annual reports of all clubs, and the visitation and others reports from all districts.

(6) *Department of Publicity.* This creates and places International publicity, furnishes press notices for the use of clubs and districts as well as copy and cuts for special newspaper editions. It takes charge of the publicity of annual conventions, and also keeps in touch with publicity dealing with Kiwanis throughout Canada and the United States through information furnished by the clubs and districts.

(7) *Convention Department.* This has charge of making surveys of all cities being considered as the meeting place for the annual convention. It also has entire charge of the convention office in the convention city and of the detailed advance management of the convention, with the cooperation of the convention committees of the convention city club. During the convention this department, along with the other staff men, carries through on certain responsibilities under the direction of the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary, who take active charge both of the general and detailed administration of the convention. The management of the convention is the responsibility of the International Board of Trustees and all activities of the staff are in conformity with the policies and plans of the Board.

(8) *Department of Office Management.* This is divided into four bureaus: 1. Bureau of Service, which has charge of the incoming mail, the telephone and telegraph, the Hooven typewriters and general office routine; 2. Bureau of Accounts,

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which has charge of all accounting work; 3. Bureau of Supplies, which has charge of receiving, storing and the sale of all Kiwanis supplies; 4. Bureau of filing, mailing, mimeographing, etc., which has charge of the general files, the outgoing mail, addressographing, mimeographing, etc.

### *International Conventions*

**T**HE annual convention of Kiwanis International is usually held in June of each year in a city officially determined by the International Board of Trustees. The Board must, however, select the city in rotation from each of five convention zones. To this annual convention each club is entitled to send two accredited delegates to vote on all matters proposed and to elect International officers and trustees. International trustees and past International presidents, district governors and chairmen of International standing committees are delegates-at-large. In addition to the two accredited delegates, each club is urged to send as large a delegation as possible in order to share the fellowship and inspiration offered by such a convention and to acquire a clearer vision of the broad relationships of Kiwanis, through contact with representatives of clubs from every section of Canada and the United States. Such attendance is a fruitful source of education in the power and enthusiasm of Kiwanis.

### *Districts*

**T**HE *first* district in Kiwanis, at least in principle, like the first club, was a child of Michigan. The idea was discussed in 1917, probably in March, by a group in Jackson, Mich., and the

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first meeting was held at Lansing, Mich., April 12, 1918, at which six of the nine clubs of the state were represented. It was called a "Federation of Kiwanis Clubs." At this meeting was born the idea of a representative from each club forming a Board to act in conjunction with the officers of the district. These representatives correspond to the present District Trustees.

At about the same time that the district idea was developing in Michigan, considerable thought and discussion were given to the same subject in New England, but no organization was formed. Also, the committee which had been appointed at the Detroit convention, in May, 1917, to prepare a new Constitution for the International organization and present it at the Providence convention, in June, 1918, wrote into the preliminary draft of that Constitution a plan of district organization somewhat similar to that already formulated in Michigan, but without knowledge of its existence.

So it seems that the district idea had received considerable attention independently in several quarters prior to the International convention at Providence, R. I., in June, 1918, when the district was officially adopted as an organization unit. The Capital District, formed Aug. 2, 1918, was the first formally to organize under this provision.

The *purpose* of the district in Kiwanis is primarily educational and promotional, not legislative but cooperative. The Standard Form for District By-Laws outlines the objects of the district thus:

"To seek within the district and through the clubs of the district the attainment of the objects of Kiwanis International as set forth in the Constitution.

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"To increase the fellowship and cooperative effort of the clubs within the district.

"To cooperate with Kiwanis International in building new clubs and in educating and strengthening clubs within the district.

"To promote participation of the clubs of the district in the general objectives, programs and policies of the district and of Kiwanis International."

The work of the district, therefore, is chiefly to strengthen, stabilize, educate and inspire the clubs to perform their proper functions and service in community leadership, in order that through more effective work both clubs and individual Kiwanians may come to a more complete knowledge of the ideals and purposes of Kiwanis, and that fellowship may be increased, clubs stabilized, inspiration to service given, and a wider vision obtained of the possible extent of Kiwanis friendship and service both in local and international relations.

### *How the District Is Administered*

THE clubs of the United States and Canada are divided into twenty-nine districts. The districts are again divided into divisions, although the division is not a unit of organization but only an area for the convenience of administration. At present there are 207 divisions. The districts and the divisions vary greatly in geographical area and in the number of clubs contained therein.

Each district is in charge of a *District Governor* who is assisted in the administration of the District by Lieutenant Governors, one for each Division, a District Secretary and a District Treasurer.

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The District Governor and Lieutenant Governors are elected annually at the district convention. So also is the District Treasurer, unless that office is combined with that of the District Secretaryship. The District Secretary in a few districts is elected at the district convention, but in a majority of districts the District Secretary, as well as the District Secretary-Treasurer, is appointed by the District Governor, subject to the approval of the District Board of Trustees.

*District officers* take office on January 1, whereas International officers begin their terms with their election at the International convention. This intervening period is very valuable in that it enables the International organization to prepare the program and policies of the administration for the following district and club year beginning January 1, and present it to the District Governors elect in time for them to get ready to promote the work in the districts.

The management and control of the affairs of the district, not otherwise provided for in the district By-laws, and subject to the direction of the Board of Trustees of Kiwanis International, are vested in the *District Board of Trustees*, which is composed of the District Governor, Immediate Past Governor, Lieutenant Governors, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Trustee from each Kiwanis club in the district.

The District Board of Trustees meets regularly at least twice a year, in January and just prior to the district convention in the fall, and may meet oftener if the district desires it.

Between meetings of the Board of Trustees such administrative duties are performed and such authority is exercised by the *Executive Committee*

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of the district as may be delegated to it by the District Board of Trustees. The Executive Committee consists of the District Governor, Immediate Past Governor, Lieutenant Governors, Treasurer and Secretary of the district.

For the purpose of promoting the International objectives, *district committees* are appointed by the Governor corresponding to the standing committees of International. Their work is to assist the International committees by helping the local clubs of the district carry out the International program of Kiwanis work.

Increasingly the divisions are arranging *divisional meetings* for conference and fellowship, and setting up divisional *training schools*, with a regular curriculum of study and practice, for the instruction of district and club officers and committees. These are proving invaluable to the officers and committees as a preparation for their year's administration.

### *District Bulletins*

**N**EARLY all of the twenty-nine districts publish a bulletin at more or less regular intervals. These are sent to the Kiwanians of the district and deal at greater length and in more particulars with the affairs of the district than is possible for the International Magazine to do.

### *District Conventions*

**E**ACH district holds a district convention some time between August 1 and November 15, at a date mutually agreed upon by the Board of Trustees of the district and of Kiwanis International. It is presided over by the District Governor, and is

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under the supervision of the District Board of Trustees. Usually the host is a Kiwanis club, or group of clubs, in the district whose local committees cooperate with the district organization in the convention arrangements. In some districts the clubs of an entire division have acted as host with considerable success.

Each district convention is visited by at least one official representative of the International Board of Trustees, assigned by the International President.

Each chartered club in good standing in the district is entitled to three delegates, one of whom shall be the Trustee.

The district convention offers a splendid opportunity for fellowship and the development of Kiwanis consciousness. It is a rare chance for the new Kiwanian to obtain quickly a wide appreciation of the varied interests of the organization and a deepened realization of the appeal of its ideals to a host of men of superior quality of mind and heart.

### *The Heart of Kiwanis — The Kiwanis Club*

**T**HE *basic unit* of Kiwanis is the Kiwanis club. All the organization of the district and International exists in order to assist the Kiwanis club in the local community to function as perfectly as possible along the line of Kiwanis objects and objectives. The heart of Kiwanis activity is the Kiwanis club in your community.

### *Club Administration*

**T**HE *officers* of a Kiwanis club are a President, the Immediate Past President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a District Trustee, who represents

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the club in the district organization and is one of the three delegates to the district convention, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and seven or more Directors.

The work of the club in applying the International objects and objectives and in administering its local affairs is carried out by such *standing committees* as the following:

Agriculture, Attendance, Business Standards, Classification, Finance, House, Inter-Club Relations, Kiwanis Education, Laws and Regulations, Membership, Music, Program, Public Affairs, Publicity, Reception, Under-Privileged Child, Vocational Guidance.

The *members* of the Kiwanis club are expected to be primarily active members, paying their dues promptly and attending regularly the club meetings. Faithful attendance is a prime Kiwanis virtue. An unexcused absence from forty per cent of the meetings during either half of the club year, or from four consecutive meetings, jeopardizes one's membership. Under special conditions there may also be Reserve, Privileged, and Honorary members.

*Two* representatives are permitted simultaneously from the same line of business, agricultural, institutional, or professional life. They must be owners or partners, executives, corporate officers or managers with administrative duties and discretionary authority, or must be engaged in worthy and recognized professions for which they have received the recognized standard education.

Each member must devote *sixty* per cent of his time to the business or profession under which he is classified (within the territorial limits of his club).

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He must also accept the ideals of the organization and be responsive to its service spirit.

Before one can become a member he must be *endorsed* by at least two active members in good standing; he must be approved by the Classification and Membership Committees of the club; and passed by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors. The intention is that the membership of a Kiwanis club shall be representative of the best there is to be found in the business and professional life of the community.

The *success* of Kiwanis depends upon the intelligent loyalty and faithful activity of the members of the local club. There lies the final test of Kiwanis efficiency. In energetic, constructive, community service, Kiwanis must find its path to permanency. As long as it meets a real need it may expect to live and grow.

### *What It Costs*

**A** *MEMBERSHIP* fee of not less than \$25.00 is charged the new member, and *annual dues* of various amounts are fixed by the club, the minimum being \$15.00, but in the majority of clubs a sum somewhat larger.

Of this amount \$2.00 per year, at present, is paid to Kiwanis International, together with \$1.00 as subscription for The Kiwanis Magazine. Of the \$2.00 sent to International as annual dues, fully one-half is expended in the work of the Service Department, the Field Service Department and the distribution of helpful literature. This obviously constitutes a direct service to the clubs. But the balance of the \$2.00, which is expended in the

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other departments of International, is equally, though not so obviously, a means of definite service to the organization and the clubs. Every dollar paid to International is set to work as wisely and as prudently as possible for the advancement of Kiwanis. Every Kiwanian gets his money's worth in the splendid effectiveness of the entire organization which is made possible because of the efficiency of its management and the vast amount of volunteer talent which is capitalized in its work.

Of the annual club dues, various amounts in different districts, ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.50 are paid for *district dues*, and in addition, in *some* districts, varying amounts for specific purposes, such as district convention assessments, trustees' meetings or bulletin subscriptions, not to exceed, with the annual district dues, more than \$2.25. These funds are used in the expenses of district administration which also renders service to the clubs by carrying on the district work, by visitations of district officers, committee work, trustees' meetings and the publication of bulletins and reports.

Each new club is required to pay a fixed charter fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) to Kiwanis International. This is paid from the fund created by the membership fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) paid to the club by each new member. The balance of the fund remains in the treasury of the new club.

The finances of clubs, districts, and Kiwanis International are carefully guarded and most prudently managed. It is the policy of Kiwanis to operate upon a strict budget system in each organization unit, and, after careful auditing of the accounts, to make them available for the information of each member of Kiwanis.

## How New Clubs Are Formed

ONE Kiwanis club begets another; inspiration and example prompt imitation. But extension of Kiwanis is not left to the haphazard of chance or individual inclination. A well defined program of club building has been worked out as the result of careful study and experience. It combines the volunteer efforts of Kiwanians with the assistance of trained Field Service Representatives. It is known as the sponsoring method.

By this method the *sponsor club* selects the key men of the prospective new club, and secures additional members to form a temporary organization of at least twenty-five members, assuring Kiwanis of the character and standing of the prospective members. It also furnishes the necessary enthusiasm and exemplification of Kiwanis methods to the prospective group. It acquaints itself with the character of the community in which the new club is to be built and ascertains the probable ability of that community to support such an organization. It furnishes the District Governor with such information as he may need for his approval of the proposed new club. When the temporary organization is formed the sponsoring club calls for the Field Service Representative to form the permanent organization. It arranges, or participates in the arrangements, for the charter presentation and is usually represented on that occasion by a large delegation of its members.

*The Field Service Representative* is commissioned to see that new clubs are built in conformity to the Kiwanis standard; that the officers, committees and

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members of the new club are instructed in their duties; and the officers and committees provided with the implements, literature and materials of their office.

### *How Large Must the New Club Be?*

THE minimum charter requirement for a Kiwanis club is fifty members. But after a careful survey by a Field Service Representative and with the approval of the District Governor and the International Board of Trustees, the minimum requirement may be reduced to any number under fifty but not less than twenty-five members.

In the case of clubs with charter memberships of from twenty-five to thirty-four members special conditions are required. For the sake of a healthy growth, the addition of new members is limited to two members per quarter during the first year of the club's existence. And to insure financial soundness the annual dues of such clubs are required to be not less than twenty dollars instead of the ordinary minimum of fifteen dollars.

Most clubs, large or small, new or old, find it a sound financial policy to fix the annual dues at some figure above the required minimum. The slight extra expense to each member contributes wonderfully to the ability of the club to undertake many forms of effective service and makes assessments for extras almost unknown in Kiwanis. So this financial requirement for clubs of minimum charter membership is in line with the best financial practice of the most successful clubs, even of much larger membership.

## *The Objects of Kiwanis International*

**A**S stated in the Constitution the objects of Kiwanis International are:

"To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.

"To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

"To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.

"To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.

"To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.

"To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and good will."

## *The Objectives for 1931-32*

**T**HE interpretation of the above objects in definite practical projects is stated in the following objectives for 1931-32:

1. Personal Service to Under-Privileged Children.
2. Intelligent, Aggressive and Serviceable Citizenship.
3. Mutual Understanding between the Farmer and the City Man.
4. Vocational Guidance.
5. Boys and Girls' Work.

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These objects and objectives give ample opportunity for real service in every club and district. The objectives are restated from year to year as the work of Kiwanis progresses and its purposes are clarified by experience.

### *Administrative Policies for 1931-32*

**I**N addition to the objectives, a still further interpretation and application of the objects of Kiwanis International is accomplished through administrative policies which are formulated each year by the Board. These policies for the year are:

1. To provide adequate leadership training.
2. To encourage personal and active participation by every member in Kiwanis Objectives.
3. To formulate and promote a comprehensive three-year plan to enlist the devotion, efforts and support of all members of Kiwanis.

### *The Three Year Plan for 1932-1933-1934*

- I. To increase the number of clubs by 170, as follows:
  - a. First Year . . . . . 40
  - b. Second Year . . . . . 60
  - c. Third Year . . . . . 70
- II. To increase the net membership by 15,000, as follows:
  - a. First Year . . . . . 3,000
  - b. Second Year . . . . . 5,000
  - c. Third Year . . . . . 7,000
- III. To provide a plan of membership for younger men after a study of the entire matter by a committee of the Board.
- IV. To extend the field of Kiwanis through special objectives:

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- a. Active participation in unemployment relief.
  - b. Exhaustive study of stabilization of employment and unemployment causes.
  - c. Such others as social or economic conditions may suggest.
- V. To provide for the adequate financing of Kiwanis International.
- VI. To provide adequate field service for all clubs.
- VII. To develop a greater sense of responsibility among all present and past club, district and International officers to the end that a more effective service may be rendered to clubs.
- VIII. To provide as soon as financially possible the necessary trained men to assist the clubs in the practical application of Kiwanis' objectives, such as work for under-privileged children, vocational guidance, and agricultural activities.

### *International Committees*

**T**O assist the clubs to accomplish the objectives stated above and to function as organizations as effectively as possible, the following standing committees of Kiwanis International have been created:

Agriculture, Attendance, Business Standards, Classification and Membership, Convention Program, Inter-Club Relations, Kiwanis Education, Laws and Regulations, Music, Past International Presidents, Public Affairs for United States, Public Affairs for Canada, Publicity, Under-Privileged Child, Vocational Guidance.

These committees are appointed by the International President and serve during the year of his administration.

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Many of these committees meet in the fall, usually in Chicago, and plan their work for the coming year. When it has been approved by the International Board of Trustees, the committee plan is presented to the International Council as the program of committee work for the coming club and district year.

The close *correlation* between the committees of Kiwanis International, the district and the club is an evidence of our efficient organization. The International committees initiate, develop and promote the programs of committee work for the year, with due regard to the objectives and policies determined by the International Board of Trustees, and under the Board's approval. The corresponding district committees endeavor to assist the International committees in educating the clubs of the district concerning the programs of committee work and in promoting their local application. The corresponding club committees seek to apply these programs of committee work to the local situation. Their task is the actual accomplishment in terms of definite service and concrete expression of the plans so developed and so promoted. Upon the activity and faithfulness of the club committee rests the final success of all Kiwanis committee work. The effective functioning of the club committee is the goal of this potentially productive correlation between the International, district and club organization.

### *What to Read*

**I**N the course of their work the various committees have created a *wealth of literature* which is available to all members and prospective members

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who are interested in gaining a better understanding of Kiwanis. The list is constantly changing as the work grows, but International is always ready to supply the list of publications and to furnish such copies as may be useful to those interested. Some of the Kiwanis publications have found a place of usefulness far beyond the limits of the organization.

Many valuable *leaflets* have been prepared by the officers of the organization as well as by the committees, until there is a considerable and steadily growing library of informative and inspirational literature concerning various phases of Kiwanis.

*The Kiwanis Magazine* is a most interesting and instructive monthly journal, a source of local and district, as well as International, news and inspiration on every phase of Kiwanis organization and activity. The first magazine was called "The Hornet" which after three issues was changed to "The Torch" in 1918, and became "The Kiwanis Magazine" in 1920.

*The Manual For Club Officers* is an authoritative and exhaustive compendium of information and instruction concerning the work of the officers and committees of local clubs.

*The Manual For District Officers* is an exceedingly important volume of information concerning the relation of the district to the International body and to the constituent clubs, and contains many detailed suggestions for the work of the district officers. It is continued in mimeograph form that it readily may be revised each year in the light of new methods and recent experience. Such flexibility of form adds to its value and increases its usefulness.

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*The Proceedings* of each annual International convention are published and "official club copies" are sent free to club secretaries for the official files of each club, but they may be purchased by members from Headquarters in Chicago at a nominal price.

*Kiwanis Activities* is a book which is published every year and gives a summary of the activities reported by the clubs in their monthly reports. Many worthy undertakings are never officially so reported and, hence, do not appear in this book, but the total of those that do appear is impressive both in number and variety.

For convenience the 35,000, or more, officially reported projects are grouped under nearly 50 major types of undertakings, ranging alphabetically all the way from "Aid to Business and Industry," "Aid to Students," "American Legion," "Assistance to the Needy" and "Athletics" to "Vocational Guidance and Placement," "Y. M. C. A." and "Y. W. C. A." The index is an alphabet of noteworthy service activity of which every Kiwanian may justly be proud. "Kiwanis Activities" is a book worth studying.

### *Achievements*

WHEN you ask what Kiwanis has accomplished, we naturally direct you first to the book of its activities, but no numerical summary of activities can possibly measure what Kiwanis has accomplished since its origin in 1915, or, for that matter, in any single year of its existence. Even if every service activity were reported and the number of projects multiplied several times by these additional items the record would still come far short of fur-

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nishing an accurate measure of the achievements of Kiwanis or an adequate gauge of its worth.

For, notwithstanding all that Kiwanis does for under-privileged children and community betterment, for the improvement of business and professional standards and of the relation between the farmer and the city man, for the advancement of vocational guidance and the development of intelligent and responsible citizenship, the real *genius of Kiwanis* is to be found in its ability to harness the bonds of fellowship to the task of constructive community leadership, and to inspire in a representative group of citizens an enthusiasm for the general welfare of the community.

The activities which are reported annually indicate the practical usefulness of Kiwanis. It is not a philosophical society, nor an ethics club. It believes in practical action as the best evidence of its high idealism. It exemplifies its motto, "WE BUILD," by a constructive program of definite, tangible enterprises.

Although listed as annual undertakings many of the thirty-five thousand activities, as well as many others never recorded, are permanent contributions to the welfare of the respective communities concerned.

Such an undertaking, for example, as the building by popular subscription among Kiwanians of the *Harding International Good Will Memorial*, in Stanley Park, Vancouver, B. C., will remain not only a tribute to a worthy Kiwanian but a perpetual monument to the good will which Kiwanis fosters between Canada and the United States and to the friendships that know no barrier of boundaries or political affiliations. It is listed as an activity of

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the convention year 1923-1924 and continued as such until its dedication, September 16, 1925, but its influence goes on year after year. It deserves to be considered as a permanent achievement.

Kiwanis is functioning; it meets its objectives effectively. Membership in Kiwanis is an honor; it offers the privilege of fellowship and friendship in cooperative and genuine service. It puts first human and spiritual values. It translates the Golden Rule into the universal language of practical helpfulness.

### PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON KIWANIS EDUCATION 1929-1930

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HARRISON U. WATSON  
*Racine, Wisconsin*

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“While there is a wealth of valuable literature of educational nature which may be had of Kiwanis International, the use of which by the local chairmen of the International Committee desires to foster in every Kiwanis Club, the Committee felt that a real need might be met by a leaflet containing a brief, popular, but comprehensive statement of the main facts and features of Kiwanis International as the new member, the prospective member, or the interested outsider might desire.”

—From the semi-annual report of the International Committee on Kiwanis Education to the International Board of Trustees.—Dec. 4, 1929.

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