

# GRIFFITH CEREMONY

## ROTARY CHARTER DAY

### Address By Governor of 76th District

About 130 Rotarians and lady friends, and several guests, assembled at the Hotel Victoria, Griffith, on Friday evening for the purpose of assisting at the ceremony of presentation of a Charter to the newly-formed Rotary Club of Griffith by the Governor of the 76th District, Rotarian Harold E. James. A compliment was paid to the new club when the Governor was accompanied by two past-Governors of 76th District in Rotarian Tom Burrows and Rotarian Lance Fallaw. Each of these Governors had visited clubs in the southern part of the State and were desirous of cementing old friendships and at the same time assisting in the foundation of a new club.

The assembly took place at the Victoria Hotel at a quarter past 7 on Friday evening and dinner was served at a quarter to 8. The president of the Griffith Club, Rotarian H. E. Harpur, presided and had with him at the table Governor Jones, Past-Governors Burrows and Fallaw, and the president of the Leeton Club, which was the sponsor for the new club.

Grace was sung to the tune of "Old Hundredth." A most appetizing dinner was served to those assembled and to this full justice was done, accompanied by complimentary reference to mine host of the Victoria Hotel, Mr. Murray. At the conclusion of dinner the chairman gave the toast of His Majesty the King.

The Sergeant-at-Arms, Rotarian Dave Donaldson gave the Rotary Call.

The president expressed the sincere regret of officers and members for the absence of Rotarian Frank O'Brien, the honorary secretary, who was called away to West Wyalong owing to the death that morning of his brother. Rotarian Bert Scheibel acted as secretary. A cordial welcome was extended to guests and visitors by vice-president, Rotarian Bert Morgan, after which the company sang "Mee of Rotary" the song leader being Rotarian Frank Retallick. The song was sung to the tune of "Men of Harlech" the words of which were introduced to a Griffith "wag," as also was another community song, "Vive la Compagnie." In this the composer of the parody succeeded in giving it great topical interest with lines applicable to members of the club.

#### PRESENTATION OF CHARTER

Governor Harold Jones, after

congratulating the newly-elected officers and members of the Griffith Club, and also the officers and members of the sponsor Club at Leeton, read the charter granted by Rotary International at Chicago for the foundation of a new Rotary Club at Griffith. The charter is number 5889, which is approximately the number of clubs in existence throughout the world embracing almost a quarter of a million members.

Later in the proceeding Governor Jones delivered a most inspiring address. He dealt with various aspects of Rotary and offered sound advice to the new members. He wished the club a long and useful life of service. He said that they would find many avenues in community service but warned that they must be on their guard against creating the idea that Rotary wished to interfere with the civic or community life of the community. The real purpose of Rotary was to assist in the promotion of worthy community objects and to foster public institutions which require help.

Having acclaimed the four objects of Rotary the Governor then devoted portion of his address to a review of the present world position, and the necessity for all men of goodwill and understanding to co-operate in the reconstruction of a war-torn world. The rebuilding of the world and the rehabilitation of men returning from the war would require the best efforts of all communities and here he felt sure the members of the Griffith Club would co-operate with their fellow citizens in the promotion of goodwill and better understanding.

The Governor's speech was listened to with close attention and he was accorded a round of applause on resuming his seat. The president, Rotarian H. E. Harpur, accepted the charter on behalf of the Griffith Rotary Club and said he would use his best efforts to put into operation the ideals of Rotary. He asked for, and felt sure he would receive, a full measure of co-operation from officers and members of the newly-formed club. The president then thanked Governor Jones for making the long trip to Griffith to assist them on their charter night. They also were appreciative of the presence of past-Governors Tom Burrows and Lance Fallaw.

The toast of Rotary International was submitted by Past-Governor Tom Burrows and responded to by Past-Governor Lance Fallaw in a highly interesting address. The toast of the sponsor club was submitted by Rotarian Bert Madew and responded to by Rotarian Spencer Taylor, president of Leeton Club. The toast of "Our Guests and Visitors" was submitted by Rotarian E. C. L. Killen and responded to by representatives of visiting Rotary Clubs and by Mr. W. D. Bull, president of the Wade Shire Council on behalf of the guests.

The treasurer of the Griffith Club, Rotarian Frank Colley made graceful acknowledgment of various donations to the new club.

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During the evening, Rotarian Frank Retallick, Mrs. R. J. Ingram and Mr. J. Allison contributed vocal items to the great appreciation of the company, the pianist, Miss Birch, sharing in the applause. The artists assisted very greatly in creating a very happy atmosphere for this important ceremony. As well as the solos a number of community items were heartily sung by the company.

#### VISITING ROTARIANS

The following clubs had representatives at the presentation of the charter to Griffith: Wagga, Leeton, Parkes Colac (Vic.), Canberra, Cootamundra and Corowa. Visiting Rotarians from Wagga were the president of the Wagga Club (W. J. Loader), Ivan Jack, B. Castles, Ivan Piercy, R. Johnston, Rev. Evelyn James, K. Crisp and Castles (Colac Club).

#### GRIFFITH CLUB

Following are office-bearers of the Griffith Club: President, H. E. Harpur; vice-president, P. A. Morgan; hon. secy, F. B. O'Brien; hon. treasurer, F. W. Colley; directors, E. C. L. Killen, H. E. Scheibel and G. W. Speirs and Sergeant-at-Arms, D. Donaldson. Members: Rotarians J. R. Brennan, W. J. Garney, A. L. Grant, M. Guihen, W. Jackman, J. P. Ledgerwood, L. W. Mackay, A. S. Madew, H. Morel, A. O. Paffin, F. V. Retallick, F. E. Robinson, R. B. Sara, W. K. Simpson, Rev. V. E. Twigg, and L. J. R. MWilliam.