

# Richmond Hill Lions Observe Their 25 Anniversary

A quarter century of Lionism in Richmond Hill was marked last Thursday evening by fitting ceremony and celebration. Richmond Hill Lions Club first organized early in 1938 and with a long record of outstanding community service celebrated its twenty-fifth birthday and the occasion was honored by the presence of International Director Robert Lyles and other distinguished visitors.

Walter Mason a charter member and this year's club president presided for the program, and extended a warm welcome to members and guests. Denny Featherstonhaugh, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced head table guests who included the guest speaker, district and deputy district governors and officers of Lions International.

R. D. Little a charter member of the local club who has held many high offices in Lionism and now is international councillor introduced the guest speaker International Director George R. Lyles and assured the American visitor that he was most welcome and said despite any reports he may have heard, "we are not really anti-American, even though we may admit to being pro-Canadian". Lion Bob paid sincere tribute to Lionism as a great international organization and a force for peace in the world.

The guest speaker whose home is in Hagerstown, Maryland paid tribute to the outstanding record of the Richmond Hill Lions Club and extended congratulations on behalf of Lions International. He said that friendship was a cornerstone of our existence and Lionism has a great potential for promotion of national and world friendship. The development of friendship he said could save the world from destroying itself. The need for development of international friendship is a

challenge of the present day, said the speaker, pointing out that 670,000 Lions in 117 countries are working with desire and dedication to make the world a better place in which to live.

The thanks of the Lions to the speaker was expressed by Richard Edmunds, international councillor and a past president of the local club who presented the distinguished visitor with a suitable memento of his Richmond Hill visit. The gift was a set of silver spoons made by Richmond Hill silversmith Doug Boyd, also a past president of Lions.

The toast to the ladies was proposed by Deputy-district Governor Dr. H. H. MacKay of Richmond Hill and responded to by Mrs. Peter Dyson. The toast to "Charter Members" was proposed by John LeClaire and response was by Paul E. Angle, a charter member and past president still active in club activities.

Walter Sleeman presided for presentation of awards which were highlighted by one to International Councillor Bob Little for twenty-five years perfect attendance. In presenting the specially inscribed gold pin International Director Lyles said it was a record attained by very few in Lions International.

Twenty five year chevrons were presented to Mr. Angle, Allan Bales, Dr. James Langstaff, R. D. Little, Dr. Walter Mason, E. C. Mansbridge, James Stewart, J. E. Smith, and W. W. A. Trench, twenty year chevrons to Frank Schissler and Floyd R. Perkins, 15 year chevrons to W. A. Wagner and Dr. H. H. MacKay, 10 year chevrons to Stuart Parker and W. Pocklington.

In an impressive necrology conducted by International Councillor Edmunds the assembled Lions honored the memory of the following Lions who have answered the call to greater service: Len. H. Clement, William Cotton, James Ellis, John A. Greene, Lloyd A. Hill Dr. Frank Hogg, Nick Hallman, Lauder Glass, Archie Murray, Ralph Paris, Rand Phipps, Harold J. Mills, Fred Hoover, Mel Maltby, William Parkery, Ira D. Ramer, Stanley Ransom, Ray Tiffany and George Walwin.

URORA: George Burt-Gerrens is the new president of Aurora Lions.

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