

Experiences In Blackout Topics Of Toastmasters

Informality was the keynote of Tuesday night's Roseburg Toastmasters club meeting, as Toastmaster Bob Harvie asked four of the six speakers to tell, "What did you do after the lights went out Friday the 13th?"

Deviating from the usual pattern of prepared speeches, speakers were asked to talk extemporaneously on the subject, in an effort to teach others how to survive similar experiences in the future.

Two of the speakers declared the blackout affected them very little, since one was out of town for the duration and the other lived in an area almost continuously supplied by lights.

Jim Turk listed the inconveniences at his suburban home, when lack of power made lights



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and electric range useless and turned off the electrically-powered private water system. His solution to the problem was to heat with the fireplace, cook on a small camp stove and provide light with a gasoline lantern. Water was hauled from town.

Business Handicap Told

Mike Dilley joined Turk in declaring the recent episode proved to be something of an adventure. An employee of a local dry goods store, Dilley said one big problem to face all local merchants was the lack of customers and the handicaps under which some few customers were served. He said customers and employees joined to have a good time. A tie sale, conducted in near-darkness, was one feature offered by his store and he showed fellow Toastmasters loud proof that his own purchase was made in the dark.

Ross Newcomb, president of the organization, emphasized the kind acts of neighbors who went to the assistance of those persons stranded without heat or cooking facilities.

Bob Bergis was assigned the duty of attempting to explain to a three-year-old what electricity is, "how it works and why it didn't work during the blackout." He suggested electricity be likened to the Reddy Kilowatt emblem used by a Portland power firm, with the added thought that "sometimes Reddy can't make it or is sick in bed."

Lights Out, Talk Goes On

Tommy Thompson, Portland sales consultant and a visitor at the meeting, prefaced his remarks with the words, "Now would be a good time for the lights to go out again." Less than two minutes later, lights in Ho-



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams

tel Umpqua flickered out and Thompson finished his talk in the dark.

"What single event or pattern of events most influenced your life" was the topic assigned each of the members and guests by Table Topicsmaster Allan Knudson.

Chief evaluator for the evening was Tom Coates. Critics were Morris Corderman, Phil Harth, Dr. B. B. Gilpin, Bob Allen and Walt Barker.

Guests included Thompson, Jack Towt and Lowell Hamm. Hamm was later elected to membership in the organization.

Hunger Contributed To Red Victory In China

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—Hunger was a big factor in the Communist victory in China, an Indian editor says.

Raja Hutchesing, publisher-editor of the Bombay Evening Star, told interviewers: "Communism took over China because the government of China was not able to satisfy the hunger of the people. The same old mandarin class was in power and the peasants were hungry."

Hutchesing, who, with his wife, Krishna, is making a lecture tour of the United States, declared Communism has no chance to take over India because the government is fighting hunger through land redistribution.

Water Conservation Requested In B. C. City

PORT ALBERNI, B. C., Jan. 18.—(CP)—Mayor Loran Jordan has appealed to residents of this Vancouver Island city to refrain from bathing until the city water reserve can be built up.

He said the situation was acute

because citizens had turned on taps to prevent pipes freezing. "I have even had to ask them not to drink too much water and to stop flushing toilets unless necessary," he said.

Famous Scottish Lake, Mountain Up For Sale

EDINBURGH, Scotland, Jan. 18.—(CP)—Buy the Bonnie, Bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

You can do it if you've got the cash and the right credentials.

An Edinburgh realty firm has been commissioned to make a private deal for the sale of 13 miles of the banks of the famous Scottish lake.

Also for sale is a Lakeside mountain—3,192-foot Ben Lomond.

The property belongs to Maj. Neil Collins and his sister, Rosemary Collins. Their father bought it in 1931 from the estate of the Earl of Montrose.

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