THE HISTORY OF SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM
(SACRAMENTO TOWN HALL)

by

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM

In 1937 John W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education and Administrator of the Public Forum Project directed by the Office of Education, made an evaluation of public forums. In pinpointing how public forums served to meet the demand for free oral discussions he had this to say:

During the five years following 1929, the number of public forums and discussion groups throughout the nation doubled. Many observers were inclined to regard the increase in forums as a consequence of unsettled and economic conditions, aspects of which formed the chief topics for discussion at their meetings. But when data for 1937 show a continuing demand for such facilities of public discussion, and when in all sections of the country new forum groups are constantly being organized, even the doubting Thomases must recognize that the forum movement is neither a passing fad nor a temporary excrescence of political and economic unrest, but a vital feature of our national life.¹

It was during this same period that the Sacramento Forum, known later as Sacramento Town Hall, was organized.

Statement of the problem. It was the purpose of this study to answer the primary question: What has been the history and development of Sacramento Town Hall? To trace the

lines of development in human thought and action which resulted in the organization and operation of this social activity it was necessary to answer the following questions in terms of past trends of event, fact, and attitude: (1) Who were the original sponsors and members? What changes occurred in sponsorship and membership? (2) What has been the purpose of Sacramento Town Hall? How did the sponsors propose to accomplish this purpose? (3) What was the content of the programs? How were they scheduled?

**Importance of the problem.** One major purpose of this study was to examine the materials available on one aspect of the cultural life of Sacramento during the depression of the 1930's, World War II, and concluding with the year 1956. The material could be used in teaching social studies relating specifically to the cultural changes in the life of the people of Sacramento during the time it expanded from what has been called a "small provincial town" to an important metropolitan area. One long range desire is to provide a written record of Sacramento's participation in what surveys indicate was a national forum movement. An understanding of the historical background and relationship of the forum movement in Sacramento to national developments is important to those who would be informed concerning the growth of the forum movement and particularly Sacramento's relation to it.
A third area of interest would include selected data on the type of civic adult education made available through the many different programs presented by Sacramento Town Hall over the last three decades.

Coincident with this last point on adult education, Bruno Lasker, in Democracy Through Discussion, said:

And we all know the citizen who is so accustomed to make every decision at home and in his business that he has formed the habit of command and cannot, for the life of him, accommodate himself to the give-and-take of social decision-making in club or lodge or any kind of gathering. . . . They are willing, sometimes, to compromise on unimportant matters; but they have no idea how to integrate their own wishes with those of persons whose experiences and interests have made for a different set of values. And it is that integration which marks the democratic process.2

Delimitation of the problem. The study was limited to (1) one organization, Sacramento Town Hall; (2) one geographical location, Sacramento, California; (3) the thirty-year period from 1927 through 1956; and (4) the sponsors, membership, and program speakers during the same period.

Method of procedure. Because this is an historical study the design for gathering data deals primarily with past facts from sources original and secondary, recollections of the original founders and long-time members, and

occurrences connected with specific dates and programs. To gather these data three steps were taken.

First, an investigation of available library sources was made. Research was done at the Sacramento State College Library, the California State Library at Sacramento, the Sacramento City Library, the library of the Sacramento Bee, and the library of the Sacramento Union. The first three libraries supplied, for the most part, general information related to the background of closely allied movements known as lyceums, chautauquas, and forums. The last two mentioned libraries furnished specific data relating to the history and development of the Sacramento Community Forum (Town Hall). Included in the last were the newspaper accounts of the programs as they were presented throughout the years.

The second and third steps were done, in part, simultaneously, because of the nature of the information collected. These steps required reviewing the written records maintained by the organization throughout the years and interviewing the individuals concerned with the establishment and operation of the activity. The written records included the minutes of the meetings, printed copies of the programs, and personal files kept by various individuals either as officers or committee members.

The general treatment of the findings involved the reorganization into chronological form of available material
representing the history and development of Sacramento Community Forum. To accomplish the aims of this thesis it was necessary to include in the method of procedure a brief consideration of the extent and influence of the national forum movement during the 1930's and 1940's during which time Sacramento Community Forum appeared on a list of existing forums published in a survey by the United States Office of Education. 3

Organization of the remainder of the thesis. This thesis is divided into seven chapters, followed by a selected bibliography of books, bulletins, periodicals, and newspapers containing references pertinent to the study. Following the bibliography are appendices containing photostatic copies of all the printed programs from 1934 through 1956, letters, and the constitution of the Forum. It should be noted that prior to 1934 no printed programs could be located and no written minutes of the meetings of the committees could be found prior to July 22, 1938.

Chapter II is a review of related literature. As far as can be determined there is no collected written record of Sacramento Community Forum. The literature reviewed is concerned primarily with related historical background information.

Chapter III is devoted to general background material related to lyceums, chautauquas, town meetings, forums in general, and specifically to the early beginnings of Sacramento Community Forum. The period covered runs from 1927 through 1933.

Chapter IV is a report of the Sacramento Community Forum during the pre-war years, 1934 through spring, 1941.

Chapter V describes the activities of the group during the war years of Fall, 1941 through Spring, 1945.

Chapter VI covers the post-war years, from Fall, 1945 through Spring, 1956 and points up some of the problems facing the board of directors as a result of declining membership.

Chapter VII is one of general summary and conclusions.
CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

While considerable material has been written on forums, town hall meetings, lyceums, and chautauquas, there was, as far as could be determined, no collected written record of the history and development of Sacramento Town Hall. To better understand the social significance of Sacramento Town Hall as a cultural pattern and its place in the forum movement, it seemed valuable to review and study the antecedents of public discussion movements variously described as town hall meetings, lyceums, chautauquas, and forums.

Out of the great number of excellent books, pamphlets, bulletins, and periodical articles written about these movements those listed in the bibliography of this study were selected because they contained the most adequate and closely related historical background information. Careful analysis was made of marked copies of bulletins, pamphlets, and annotated bibliographies found in the files of individuals connected with Sacramento Community Forum over the last three decades. These bulletins and pamphlets point up the awareness sponsors had of their responsibilities to establish, maintain and operate the organization according to desirable patterns of forum procedures and accepted techniques of
forum leadership. In the resume of these pamphlets and bulletins which follows it is significant to note that they were published either by, or in cooperation with, the United States Office of Education or the California State Department of Education.

The first of these references is *Select Annotated Bibliographies on Adult Education and Forum and Discussion Groups* by Arthur H. Chamberlain.¹ Mr. Chamberlain divided this bibliography into two sections: first, adult education in general, and second, the forum movement. In addition to the name of the article, book, or pamphlet, there are included the name of the author, and usually the number of pages and the year of publication, followed by a short comment.

The second reference also written by Chamberlain is *The Forum and Discussion Group: Organization and Techniques*.² At the time of both publications, Mr. Chamberlain was the director of the Public Forum and Speakers' Bureau of Northern


California W. P. A. Education Program, State Department of Education. This second bulletin gives a brief discussion of the principles underlying the forum and discussion group and of the methods and techniques used in a forum set-up. Special emphasis is placed on the handling of the audience during the question period, the training and experience of the forum leader or moderator, the ability of those who speak from the platform, and the choice of subjects for discussion.

The third pamphlet is *Forum Planning Handbook* by John W. Studebaker and Chester S. Williams, with a foreward by Morse A. Cartwright, Director, American Association for Adult Education. This pamphlet addressed to professional educational administrators, school board members, and civic leaders emphasizes organization and administration of public forums. In the appendix is a list of forum demonstrations by state which were conducted with assistance from the Office of Education (United States). The breakdown shows the communities which were assisted entirely by WPA workers and the other cities and towns which were served by leaders whose salaries were paid partly or entirely by the Office of Education. Sacramento does not appear in these lists because it was operated by private sponsors.

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A more complete story of the ten forum demonstration centers sponsored by the United States Office of Education, managed by local educational agencies, is found in the bulletin entitled *A Step Forward for Adult Education* \(^4\) by John W. Studebaker. This was published as Bulletin No. 16 in 1936.

While the United States Office of Education was primarily concerned with the development of public forums under public education, it maintained a lively interest in the forums conducted by private organizations and groups of all kinds. This is evidenced by the surveys made of these latter forums. Copies of two such surveys were found among files of the late Miss Estelle Phillips. The first survey \(^5\) is dated July, 1939 and summarizes the data about forums under various sponsorships other than the Federal Forum Demonstration program of the U. S. Office of Education. The survey is based on information supplied by 556 questionnaires which were returned out of approximately 1500 originally distributed. Among the data in this report is a geographical distribution of forums by states. Under Sacramento, California is listed "Sacramento Community Forum." \(^6\) The second survey \(^7\) is dated 1941.

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\(^6\) Ibid., p. 11.

May, 1941 and again Sacramento Community Forum is listed. 8

It is interesting to note that the survey restricted the listing to "those forums and discussion groups which are open to the public and which are definitely organized for the discussion of public affairs on a regular schedule." 9

In the review of historical sources related to public discussion movements it was found necessary to analyze and select only those which gave a comprehensive study of the movement and/or the leaders. For example, in connection with the town meeting of the pre-Revolutionary days, Charles Francis Adams in the second volume of Three Episodes of Massachusetts History 10 presents a very vivid description of the part played by town hall in those days. Another description of town meeting as it later existed is given by Harry A. Overstreet and his wife, Bonaro W. Overstreet, in Town Meeting Comes to Town 11 published in 1938, by which time it had developed into America's Town Meeting of the Air.

The American Lyceum, Its History and Contribution to Education 12 by Cecil B. Hayes was selected for study because of its very comprehensive review of the early American lyceum

9 Ibid., p. 3.
11 Harry A. Overstreet and Bonaro W. Overstreet, Town Meeting Comes to Town (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1938).
founded by Josiah Holbrook. The story of the modern lyceum was found in *The Life of James Redpath and the Development of the Modern Lyceum* by Charles F. Horner.\(^\text{13}\)

In *Correspondence Schools, Lyceums, Chautauquas*,\(^\text{14}\) John S. Noffsinger gives a superficial examination of the lyceum and the chautauqua and identifies them in aims and purposes with extension or correspondence school courses. A more detailed study of the Chautauqua movement is given by Victoria Case and Robert Ormond Case in *We Called It Culture*.\(^\text{15}\) The Cases in their history of the Chautauqua answer three questions: What brought Chautauqua into being? What caused it to expand? What happened to Chautauqua? The book covers the fifty year eventful history of Chautauqua from 1874 to 1924. It was still operating in 1956. The tent Chautauquas, started in 1903 and lasted until 1924. They represent a co-tangent of the original movement.

With respect to forum movements, more attention was directed to material written in the 1930's and the 1940's because it was during this time that Sacramento Community


Forum got its start and developed into a community activity. The United States Office of Education under John Studebaker issued several publications containing complete and comprehensive reports of the Federal Forum Demonstration Centers. In addition, *Choosing Our Way*, written by Dr. Studebaker and Chester S. Williams, presents general findings with regard to other forums in America and reports the results of a questionnaire sent to some 1500 organizations using public discussion methods in their meetings. It is evident, as has already been mentioned, that Sacramento Community Forum leaders participated in these questionnaires distributed by the United States Department of Education.

*Why Forums?* by Mary L. Ely is a study of the social significance of forums with special concentration on the special educational potentialities inherent in the forum set-up and the extent these potentialities are realized in the particular forums under study. Among the forums studied are: Cooper Union, Old South, Ford Hall, Chicago, Dallas Open, Florida, Town Meeting of the Air, Springfield Public,

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Hartford Lecture Series, Sinai Temple, AnsheEmet, Harlem Economic, Community Church of Boston, San Diego Church, Dressmakers', Commonwealth Club of California, Oakland, Social Science, Des Moines Forum Project, Southern California, Portland (Oregon), and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sacramento Community Forum was not among those studied in California.
CHAPTER III

HISTORICAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION MOVEMENTS
IN THE UNITED STATES AND
EARLY HISTORY OF SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

This chapter is divided into two main sections. The first presents a short review of free oral discussion movements in the United States, starting with the town meetings of the early colonists, followed by the system of lyceums, chautauquas, and forums. The second half deals with the early beginnings of Sacramento Community Forum, later changed to Sacramento Town Hall.

A careful reading of American history will demonstrate that leaders in every generation have expressed a deep concern for the American tradition and right of freedom of public discussion inherent in a democracy. Examples of this kind of thinking are found in the direct quotations of some of our presidents. Studebaker and Williams in A Step Forward for Adult Education\(^1\) use the following direct quotations:

George Washington: "In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

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\(^1\) Studebaker and Williams, A Step Forward for Adult Education, *op. cit.*, p. 2.
Abraham Lincoln: "I view education as the most important subject which we as a people are engaged in . . . by which we may duly appreciate the value of free institutions."

Woodrow Wilson: "The whole purpose of democracy is that we may hold counsel with one another, so as not to depend upon the understanding of one man but to depend upon the common counsel of all."

Franklin Roosevelt: "The United States still stakes its faith in the democratic way of life. We believe in the representative form of government. We dare not close our eyes, however, to the fact that the only way in which that representative form of government can persist is through an educated electorate. . . . We need to have meeting places for the discussion of public questions, in the cities, hamlets, and on the farms throughout the length and breadth of the land."

I. TOWN MEETINGS, LYCEUMS, CHAUTAUQUAS, AND FORUMS

New England town meeting. The New England town meeting may well be considered the first vehicle of organized free public discussion in this country. Historical records reveal that opportunities for free public discussion were influenced to a marked extent by conditions of the times. In the beginning New England towns were small, and for that reason it was possible for all citizens to come together in one meeting. A town of 200 people was considered quite a thriving place. These meetings were important gatherings. They were community affairs. At first the meeting house or church, and later the school house or town hall, was used for this purpose. In mild weather it was not unusual for the
citizens to assemble under the trees in the open or on the Common.

In the discussions and debates in these sparsely settled communities with their small number of residents, it was possible for every person to participate. These town meetings became the fundamental institutions not only for the exchange of opinion among the freemen of the colonies but for the direct determination of local policies as well. Records disclose that topics which came up for discussion concerned such matters as building or improving a road, establishing a school, providing for the indigent, allocating ground for cemeteries, precautions against the spread of smallpox, prevention of dumping dirt in the town dock, and whether or not Latin should be taught in the schools. For the first 100 years of town meetings the freemen were concerned mostly with local problems. However, by the time the Stamp Act was passed in 1765, the town meetings were more concerned with the larger issues of trade and taxation. Studebaker and Williams discuss the important role played by the town meetings in their Committees of Correspondence. They say:

Samuel Adams was the guiding spirit. It was Samuel Adams who saw possibilities of organizing resistance to British encroachments through the town meetings in the Colonies. It was he who established the Committees of Correspondence through which the town meetings in various parts of the new land were kept in touch with each other, learned of the speeches made in other
meetings, and considered the proposals set forth on the floor of town meetings everywhere.

Paul Revere was one of the young men who carried messages between the various committees of correspondence so that the several town meetings might know what was going on in other places. The first suggestion of a Congress composed of representatives of all the town meetings of the Colonies came from Samuel Adams in 1764. The result was the Stamp Act Congress, in a very real sense, the child of American discussion groups.2

While the original town meeting has become almost obsolete, a semblance of it still exists in certain rural and small town districts, especially in New England. The nearest approach to the old New England town meeting that modern society has devised is the modern forum. In this respect the New England town meeting was the forum of that particular period of American history. These early meetings established the method of getting together to discuss affairs of common interest and represent the embryonic essence of American democracy. Historically, the Continental Congress and Constitutional Convention were forums of delegates representing their constituencies. The Constitution of the United States is the written report of a meeting which was composed of the men trained in the town meetings.

2 Studebaker and Williams, Choosing Our Way, op. cit., pp. 2-3.
The American lyceum movement. The American lyceum represents, in its early history, the struggle for free public education, and like the struggle for free political institutions, was organized out of public discussion groups. Cecil B. Hayes, in The American Lyceum, points out the difference in purpose before and after 1839. He says:

The American Lyceum as a national organization came to an end in 1839. With the cessation of publication of the American Annals of Education the same year, the means of knowing what became of town lyceums, and especially what their purpose and programs were, faded almost to the vanishing point. The lyceums, though, as local institutions did not die. . . . The lyceum after 1839 was not the same in purpose as it had been before. The chief concern of the 1826 to 1839 lyceum was improvement of common education. After 1839 the lyceum confined its activities to adult improvement, lectures being the chief means.3

Historians give Josiah Holbrook of Derby, Connecticut full credit for the plan and organization of the American Lyceum. For a number of years Mr. Holbrook lectured throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts on geology, mineralogy, and other natural sciences. At the same time he encouraged small groups to get together for continuous study in subjects in which they were interested. In October, 1826 Holbrook submitted to the American Journal of Education a statement of his plan for the organization of an educational society, later

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known as the Lyceum. Mr. Holbrook’s plan provided for semiannual meetings of representatives from various town lyceums in each county where

... public addresses are delivered and committees appointed to inquire how books, apparatus, and instruction by lectures or otherwise can be procured by the several town lyceums; and to learn the state of the schools in the several towns where they are placed, and what measures can be taken to improve them.4

A State Lyceum was to be organized composed of members representing the counties. Holbrook wrote,

One important object designed to be affected by a State Lyceum is the introduction of a uniform system of books and instruction into our public schools.5

The next step in Holbrook’s plan called for a National American Lyceum to which delegates from the state lyceums would come. He proposed that the National Lyceum would serve as a national clearing house and also provide

... numerous cheap and practical tracts on the sciences, the arts, biography, history, etc., to be circulated to the branch lyceums, schools, academies, taverns, steamboats, and private families.6

A large part of Holbrook’s plan was put into effect. The first Lyceum was organized in November, 1826 at Millbury, Massachusetts, and others were soon started in 12 or 15 towns

4 Noffsinger, op. cit., p. 100.

5 Ibid., p. 101.

6 Ibid.
in the vicinity. They continued to spread and by the end of 1834 there were 3,000 lyceums spread throughout the country from Boston to Detroit and Main to Florida. In May, 1831 the first meeting of the National American Lyceum was held in New York City. Similar meetings were held for the next eight years. At what appears to be the last national meeting in 1839 huge gains were reported all along the educational front. More had been accomplished in the period 1829 to 1839 than during the previous five decades. Public discussion meetings had once again demonstrated the capacity of the people to create instruments of public power for the common welfare. Once the local and state systems of education were established, the function of preserving and improving the schools was taken over by the boards of education, and the national lyceum movement gradually disappeared. There were, however, individual lyceums which continued to function for years, presenting lectures and discussions of current topics of importance.

At the time of the Civil War the lyceum as such was practically non-existent. But after the war there was formed in the middle west the Associated Literary Societies, a league of about a hundred literary societies, as some of the surviving lyceums had begun to call themselves. The main object of the new association was the cooperative booking of lectures which meant a smaller fee any one of the societies would have
had to pay. In 1870, after three years, the association joined with the American Literary Bureau of New York. In the meantime, in 1868, James Clark Redpath organized the Boston Lyceum Musical Bureau. In the same year the Williams Lecture and Musical Bureau was established.

And so the modern lyceum bureau came into existence. It is a far cry from the lyceum of Josiah Holbrook. The name is about the only resemblance there is. The lyceum of today is a bureau which sends out popular lecturers or musical teams to small towns several times a year for a fee which yields a profit. It is a booking agent.

Chautauquas. The Chautauqua, like the town meeting and the lyceum before it, also served its part as the traditional forerunner of the modern forum. It was almost a half a century after Josiah Holbrook made his lyceum proposal that the Chautauqua movement started. As is pointed out in Choosing Our Way, both movements were based upon a need for mass education and upon a feeling that existing facilities for the training of teachers were inadequate. The main difference was that in the case of Chautauqua it was the teacher in the Sunday School, rather than in the public school, whose need was considered. 7

7 Studebaker and Williams, Choosing Our Way, op. cit., p. 5.
The Chautauqua movement evolved from the occasional religious revivals conducted by circuit riders for the frontier families as they moved westward during the nineteenth century. The circuit rider ministered religiously at camp meetings where all the settlers in the vicinity gathered "to hear the expounding of the Gospel, bringing their whole families and tents to house them." These camp meetings were usually held at some favorably located place year after year. One such place was Fair Point on Chautauqua Lake, New York. It was here the Reverend John H. Vincent, a minister from Illinois, and Lewis Miller, an Akron manufacturer, proposed to the Chautauqua Camp Meeting Association that a Sunday school institute be established on the camp meeting plan. The proposal was accepted and the Institute was organized as a combination training school for Sunday school teachers and open-air camp meeting. The first "Sunday School Teachers' Assembly" was held in 1874. Its success was so marked that other denominations soon joined in the annual meetings.

With the enlarged attendance came a greater diversity of interests. The plan of the original Chautauqua Sunday School Teachers' Assembly was centered about subjects useful to Sunday school teachers -- biblical history and geography,

\[8\] Noffsinger, op. cit., p. 107.

\[9\] Ibid., pp. 107-108.
and methods of teaching. As the success of the Assembly grew, a natural demand for a broader program arose. Those who came had other interests besides religion, and even those whose primary interest was religion wanted a broader field for study. And so other subjects were added -- history, music, natural sciences, classical and modern languages. Within a few years the Chautauqua camp meeting became a "full-fledged summer school" and was called the Chautauqua Assembly.  

10 The original session of twelve days held in 1874 increased to fifteen days in 1884, and by 1894 it was lengthened to eight weeks. By the turn of the century more than 200 courses were being offered, permanent buildings had been constructed, and a correspondence school division for non-resident work had been established.

One phase of education by correspondence which had great import was that provided by the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle. This was composed of small local groups all over the country who read books selected by the Chautauqua directors and then met at intervals for discussion and analysis of their reading. In 1870 when the Circle began there were 7,000 enrolled. Noffsinger describes its growth:

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10 Ibid., p. 108.
It grew fast, and in the first twenty years of its existence 10,000 local groups were formed in the United States and Canada. It is significant that 25% of these were in villages of less than 500 population and 50% in communities of between 500 and 3,500 population. These were communities, it need not be said, where there were no other cultural agencies or educational agencies except for the young. There were no theaters, no public libraries, and no lyceums, for the local lyceum had passed and small communities could not afford to engage lecturers regularly from the lecture bureaus. The Chautauqua Circle was their library, forum, and lyceum.11

The historical records show that the Circle reached as far west as Sacramento. William L. Willis in his History of Sacramento County devotes a section to "Other Clubs" in which he says,

Vincent Circle, Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, was organized early in the '80's and increased its membership so rapidly that in 1884 a division was necessary, a portion of its members uniting to organize the Westminster Circle C. L. S. C.12

These Chautauqua study circles

... were the forerunner of the reading societies, book clubs, correspondence schools, and extension courses offered now all over the nation.13

And so the legend of Chautauqua was built up to mean study, music, dramatic interpretation, lectures and oratory, stereoptician views and camping by the lake shore.

11 Ibid., p. 109.
13 Case and Case, op. cit., p. 16.
The Chautauqua idea was much too good to remain uncopied. The next few years saw new assemblies opened in Ohio, Iowa, and Michigan. By 1900 over 200 pavilions had been set up in groves of trees beside this or that body of water, and thirty-one states had their own "Chautauqua," each following as faithfully as they could the pattern set by Vincent. The Pacific Grove Chautauqua was established at Monterey, California, and in 1899 Vincent came in person to explain the Chautauqua course, "now reduced to five dollars a year, including books."14

The Cases refer to these early years of the Chautauqua movement in these words:

It is this era of Chautauqua (these assemblies were called the "permanent Chautauquas) that built the tradition, carried on the legend, and established Chautauqua as the purveyor of uplift, inspiration, and morality, the poor man's college, the "only free platform in America." . . 15

These assemblies or permanent Chautauquas are far different from Chautauqua as most Americans know it. What they know is a traveling or circuit Chautauqua, operating in the summer months somewhat as a circus. In connection with the advent of these traveling chautauquas, the Cases say:

Into this somewhat dedicated picture the tent Chautauqua came, beginning in 1903, to snatch up

14 Ibid., p. 18.

15 Ibid., p. 19.
the movement into circuits and sweep the nation, cashing in all along the line. The circuit managers brought their own pavilion seats, rostrum, and programs, abandoned the vacation idea to set up their tents near Main Street, lost the old leisure but drew infinitely larger audiences. Now it was no longer a matter of vacation or home study but a program of inspiration and culture right at the doorstep, where townspeople could flock in and out and farmers might attend an afternoon session, go home and do their chores, and be back for the evening.16

No writer covering the story of the circuit Chautauqua fails to give J. Roy Ellison and Keith Vawter credit for the origin of the traveling tent Chautauqua. Both Ellison and Vawter had been connected with flourishing lyceum bureaus and saw in Chautauqua an opportunity to extend business. While the Lyceum was never actually related to Chautauqua, the two movements had a common ground: the urge of individuals to band together for self-improvement. They did, however, operate in different seasons. Lyceum attractions were presented in the winter and staged indoors. Chautauqua operated only in the summer, emphasized low prices, and outdoor study.

Ellison and Vawter developed the idea of asking some local group to sponsor the entire cost of the circuit Chautauqua's presentation to that particular community. They devised an iron-clad contract which required the local community to underwrite the expense of the attractions; it

16 Ibid., p. 20.
further provided that the community must take the attractions offered by the circuit managers.

By 1912, when Ellison broke away from Vawter to organize the great Ellison-White circuit west of the Rockies, the brown Chautauqua tents were mushrooming across the nation. "Chautauqua became Big Business, with the take running into the hundred millions, and culture, inspiration, and uplift delivered to the door."17

In 1924, just fifty years after the first assembly on the shores of Lake Chautauqua, the Mother Chautauqua and all the traveling circuits staged the Golden Jubilee program. Twelve thousand towns joined in the celebration and over 35,000,000 people participated. And then came financial disaster for the tent Chautauquas. The next year town after town refused to re-book, and the circuits began to fall apart. The Cases point out that the change in the times apparently accounted for the decline of the traveling Chautauqua. The Cases have this to say:

People had cars now, highways were building up fast, and bus lines were spangling the countryside, so that Chautauqua's late audiences could run into the Lyceum attractions in the cities. They had movies along Main Street, which brought them silent

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17 Ibid., p. 32.
dramas like "The Birth of a Nation" and "The Ten Commandments." . . . The new radios were coming off the assembly lines like peas out of a pod. They would soon be in every home, so people wouldn't have to stir from their own firesides to hear great orchestras and concerts and lectures. Young people were crowding the colleges, newspapers and magazines were doubling and trebling their circulations, people were traveling abroad, and the strengthening roar of airplane motors was rolling along the horizon.18

By the time of the 1929 crash of the stock market the tent circuits had disappeared. During the depression which followed in the 1930's, most of the independent so-called permanent Chautauquas closed. Even the Mother Chautauqua gave way to changing times.

In 1947 . . . tents were replaced by rooms ranging from $7 to $40 a week, summer cottages from $150 to $700 for the eight weeks' session, apartments up to $1000 and luxury hotels at luxury prices.19

The assembly held in 1956 would hardly have been recognized by Bishop Vincent. The American Magazine for June, 1956, in an article headed "America's Interesting People," carried this comment headed "Mr. Chautauqua:"

A talent scout on the grant scale is Ralph McCallister, better known as "the man who runs Chautauqua." As director of program and education for the Chautauqua Institution, he is responsible for securing the many artists, lecturers, writers, and educators who annually appear at the "Athens of America." Each year during July and August this sleepy little town located on the wooded hills at the northern end of Lake Chautauqua

18 Case and Case, Ibid., p. 235.

19 Ibid., p. 237.
in western New York State becomes, indeed, the place "where recreation and education meet." To this delightful spot annually trek 60,000 pilgrims, to whom, for the past 82 years, the institution has offered a wide variety of fine drama, literature, music, lectures, and religious philosophy. Many are the great names who have appeared here, from Mark Twain to Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose famous "I hate war" speech originated at Chautauqua. 20

Strother, writing in 1912 about the over-all impact of the Chautauqua movement upon its times, says:

Millions of people derive from them their knowledge of things above the common ruck of life. Millions obtain from them the bulk of their lighter entertainment; and, most significant of all, millions absorb from them their political action. 21

About three and one half decades later, in 1948, to be exact, the Cases comment on "a few of the evolutionary advances directly stimulated by the great movement." They say:

A minimum of eighteen to twenty sponsors signed each Chautauqua contract -- an aggregate of a quarter million or more at the crest of the wave -- and many of them continued to do so season after season. They were sold by a new approach in salesmanship -- more precisely, by the use of a new sales argument -- which raises the assumption that the leaders of the community were required, as an inherent aspect of their "duty" as leaders, to see to it that the "best things of life" should be made available to their town. 22


22 Case and Case, op. cit.,
They go on to point out that adult education with its summer schools, extension courses, and correspondence study, took its pattern from the "follow-up" courses originated at Lake Chautauqua. They discuss Chautauqua's greatest single contribution as "the awakening of rural areas to a consciousness of the part they were both entitled and expected to play in the affairs of the nation and the world."23

Forums. In Choosing Our Way the writers make the following comment about the historical vehicles of public discussion movements and their influence as forerunners of the forum movement in the United States:

The early New England town meeting, the lyceum, and the Chautauqua may be said to be truly indigenous to American soil. In each of these institutions public opinion was formed on the basis of discussion to meet and solve the problems of a particular period. Each leaves lasting influences for liberty, understanding, and educational opportunities in the evolution of American culture.24

They go on to point out how the continuous program of Chautauqua in New York acted as an "abiding influence" for forum education. The people who attended the annual institutes at Lake Chautauqua returned to their local communities inspired to organize forums and lecture series.

23 Ibid., pp. 237-239.
24 Studebaker and Williams, Choosing Our Way, op. cit., p. 7.
Cooper Union, opened in 1859 in New York City, was the scene of one of the earliest forums where the audience was given an opportunity to question the speaker. Peter Cooper gave this institution his name and a considerable share of his fortune. Peter Cooper's intention and desire was to provide instruction in social and political science, meaning thereby not merely the science of political economy, but the science and philosophy of a just and equitable form of government. . . . 25

The records show that the Great Hall of the Cooper Union building was used for forum purposes fairly frequently. In 1897 the People's Institute of New York City was formed and, though it had no organic relation with Cooper Union, the Institute incorporated the forum into its program and held its meetings regularly in the Great Hall. 26 The Nineteenth Yearbook of the People's Institute, dated 1917, makes this interesting statement:

The People's Forum is beyond question one of the great factors in the civic and social life of New York City. It has more than once been the means of saving the city from ruinous legislation. Many an issue which might have been passed over without protest has become live because the citizens of New York have registered their opinions in no uncertain tones on the platform and from the floor of Cooper Union. 27

26 Ibid., p. 9.
27 Ibid.
No writer fails to give Cooper Union Forum credit for being the pattern upon which many forums, both in New York City and elsewhere, have been established. One of the most famous of these forums is the Ford Hall Forum in Boston. Reuben L. Lurie has written a very comprehensive story of the Ford Hall Forum and of the Open Forum Movement in a book called The Challenge of the Forum. 28

Mr. Lurie reports that Ford Hall, like the building in which Cooper Union is housed, was the gift of a philanthropist. Daniel Sharp Ford, owner of the Youth's Companion, was the donor of Ford Hall. Like Peter Cooper, he was interested in improving the condition of the workingmen of his community. But the difference lay in their objectives. Whereas Cooper wanted to educate the workers in social and political science, Daniel Sharp Ford was eager to reclaim them from indifference to Christianity, and to induce in them a kindlier and more sympathetic regard for businessmen and capitalists. He specified in his will that,

... said building is to be erected and used for such social, or business purposes, and for such religious, charitable, or benevolent work as said Union may desire to serve, promote, or carry on.29

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29 Ibid., p. 27.
The "Union" referred to is the Boston Baptist Social Union, of which George W. Coleman was President. Mr. Lurie tells how Coleman, returning from a trip through the South in 1906, stopped off in New York to attend a forum meeting at Cooper Union. He heard Charles Prospero Fagnani on the subject of "God and Democracy," and witnessed the enthusiastic response of the audience. But he was unable to interest the body of directors of the Union. However, it took him two years of earnest pleading before the directors would grant him five hundred dollars and permission to found the forum. The first meeting was held in February, 1908. Mr. Lurie goes on to describe the ups and downs of the Ford Hall Forum, how it grew and expanded into the Ford Hall Foundation which was formed in 1914, and which later became the Open Forum National Council. 30 The Council maintained offices in Boston, where it continued to conduct, on a nonprofit-making business, a speakers' bureau for forums.

Mr. Lurie devotes several chapters to the discussion of the spread of the open forum movement as a result of the Boston experiment. Coincident with the growth of public discussion groups, credit must be given to other social movements such as women's suffrage, organized labor, and groups devoted to social reform. Additional impetus and

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support to the forum movement has also come from leaders of important groups holding popular and majority opinions. The educational associations, women's clubs, service clubs, and the veterans' groups with no particular reform program to advance, have organized and supported forums for free public discussion.

With the advent of World War I the resulting regimentation essential in wartime caused the collapse of the greater part of the forum movement. According to the authors of Choosing Our Way, "With a few notable exceptions, all of the forums which had been established prior to 1917 discontinued." They go on to point out that after the war a new start was made, but that the forum movement did not really gain its full stride until the early years of the depression.

Dr. Studebaker, former superintendent of schools at Des Moines and later United States Commissioner of Education, has been credited with the establishment of a community-wide system of forums at Des Moines. At the time he wanted to start this forum system the American Association of Adult Education was interested in sponsoring a worth-while experiment in adult education with the backing of the Carnegie Foundation. This coincidence in timing proved to be fortunate for in November, 1932, the Des Moines program received a grant of $125,000

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Studebaker and Williams, Choosing Our Way, op. cit., p. 7.
from the Carnegie Foundation through the American Association for Adult Education to be administered by the public schools of Des Moines for a five year program of forums.

In 1934 Dr. Studebaker was named United States Commissioner of Education. In 1935, under his direction, the Federal Forum Project, patterned after the Des Moines Public Forums, was begun. Funds were made available to the Office of Education by an allocation from the Federal Emergency Relief Appropriation. A committee composed of fourteen civic and educational leaders was called to Washington in 1935. This committee selected twenty-eight communities representative of various types of school administrations, different industrial and rural aspects, and well distributed geographically, and set up forum centers in each. Later on, additional centers were added. For example, in March, 1936, Orange County, California was one of seven new ones. During the five year life of the Federal Forum Program, several surveys were made to compile data with reference to financing, sponsorship, location, and organization of forums in general. As has been mentioned earlier, Sacramento was listed as belonging to those privately sponsored.

It should be noted that none of the communities selected for federal forum demonstration programs was obligated to continue the forum program after the funds from the Federal demonstration fund were spent. However, a number of communities
did continue their programs which were sponsored, in most cases, by the Adult Education Department of the public school system.

II. SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

1927 - 1933

The Sacramento Community Forum dates back to almost a decade before the formation of the Federal Forum Project. From written records and interviews with early founders, the year 1927 saw the first beginnings of the public discussion group known as the Sacramento Community Forum. The period from 1927 to 1933 represents somewhat of an interrupted embryonic stage with respect to the development of the organization on a permanent basis. This interruption was due, for the most part, to either a change of sponsorship or a lack of sponsors. Facts concerning the history of these early years were obtained from interviews with individuals associated with the movement and from newspaper articles and existing files of some of the members.

Among those interviewed was Michael J. Brickley. In 1927 he presented the first series of six lectures, all of which dealt with international relations. At that time Mr. Brickley was an instructor in modern history at the Sacramento Junior College. He later (August 27, 1935) became registrar of the college where he remained until his retirement
in June, 1955. According to Mr. Brickley, credit for sponsoring these early lectures goes to two women, Mrs. Ethel Richardson Allen and Miss Edna Stangland (later Mrs. Charles Kasch). At the time Mrs. Allen was head of the Division of Adult Education in the State Department of Education. When she retired, Miss Stangland took her place. As Mr. Brickley recalled it, Mrs. Allen obtained a grant of $5000 from the Carnegie Foundation for the purpose of assisting the State Department of Education, Division of Adult Education, in establishing forums in four areas of California -- Northern California, Southern California, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay area and the Sacramento interior area. Mr. Brickley started twenty-four forums in Northern California. Sacramento Community Forum was one of these. He delivered all the lectures and answered questions during the period immediately following each lecture. Mr. Brickley pointed out that these early forum meetings were conducted along the same lines and methods later prescribed by Dr. Studebaker for the Federal Forum Projects. It was Mr. Brickley's opinion that these methods allowed for true free public discussion of questions. He was both lecturer and moderator and made every effort to answer all questions from the floor, and not just those selected by either a moderator or some other leader.

This first sponsorship by the Division of Adult Education lasted from 1927 to 1929. The lectures were given only
in the fall at the Sutter Junior High School auditorium. Following is an article carried by the Sacramento Bee on September 22, 1928:

M. J. Brickley, instructor in the history department of the Sacramento Junior College, again will conduct his open forum this year at Sutter Junior High School on Monday nights. The first meeting of the forum will be held Monday night starting at 7:30 o'clock.

Brickley will give fifteen lectures this year and all will be open to the general public. No textbooks are necessary and no assignments are given. Nearly 600 residents of Sacramento attended the series last term.

For the initial meeting Monday night, Brickley will make a resume of the Kellog proposals for the outlawry of war and a beginning will be made upon a discussion of the future of India.32

As Mr. Brickley recalled it, the forum lapsed in 1929 and was not revived until 1931. The subjects of the first two series (1927 and 1928) were European history and international relations. In 1929 the United States was making economic history with the crash of the stock market in October of that year. The lectures were discontinued because of a lack of sponsorship and because the grant from the Carnegie Foundation was spent and was not to be renewed. Mr. Brickley gave credit to the Parent Teachers' Council for sponsoring the renewal of the Forum in 1931. At that time Mrs. P. D. Bevil was president of the PTA Council.

32 The Sacramento (California) Bee, September 22, 1928, p. 5. (Hereinafter referred to as The Bee.)
According to Mr. Brickley and Mrs. Bevil, the PTA came into the picture as a result of a request that Mr. Brickley present an afternoon series of lectures so that mothers could attend. The request was made by a group of women who had attended the first and second series of the Forum, and who were interested in continuing a public discussion group in Sacramento. Included in this group were Miss Mary Craven, Mrs. George R. Davis, Mrs. F. B. Gillett, Miss Essie Phillips, Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, and Mrs. P. D. Bevil. The PTA Council, under the leadership of Mrs. Bevil, agreed to sponsor an afternoon series of lectures. Mrs. Bevil pointed out that she believed the PTA Council was one of the first in the nation to recognize the educational needs of the parents and to do something constructive about meeting these needs. While sponsored by the PTA, the finances for the Forum were supplied by the school district through the Average Daily Attendance funds and the remainder was voted out of the treasury of the PTA Council. In order to receive ADA funds it was necessary to maintain a minimum attendance of twenty.

The first meeting in 1931 was held in the Administration Building of the City School Department at Twenty-first and L Streets. By the time of the second meeting the group had increased so that it was necessary to find larger quarters, and it was decided to move to the Little Theater in the
Memorial Auditorium. Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena, Mrs. Frank B. Gillett, Mrs. Harry W. Blass, Mrs. Joe O'Neill, -- to name some who later became staunch supporters of the Forum -- were among those who remembered these first lectures in the Little Theater. All commended Mr. Brickley for his method of lecturing and were most appreciative of the mimeographed outlines he gave each one attending the lecture. The lectures covered the subjects of international relations and security. Although a careful search of available files was made and contact was made with several people who attended these first lectures, sponsored by the PTA, no copies of these outlines prepared by Mr. Brickley could be located.

Following the close of that series, it was decided to switch again to a night series of meetings. Several men who had been active in the first two series at the Sutter Junior High School discussions joined with the women's committee to arrange for a new series to be given in 1932. As Mrs. Bevil remembered it, the year 1932 was a crucial one from a financial standpoint. The bank in which the PTA funds were deposited closed and it was at this point that the committee interested in continuing the Forum decided to charge a fee of $1 for the entire series. Mrs. Bevil indicated that there was no assurance of how this would be received by those who had been accustomed to free lectures. She said she personally agreed to pay for printing the tickets to get the series
started. Then if it did not work out, Mrs. Bevil said the plan was to refund the money to those who had paid. The first meeting was held at the Sierra School and they took in more money than was needed to cover the expenses of the series, including the nominal fee paid to Mr. Brickley. Mrs. Bevil could not remember the number of tickets sold but she did remember that the amount of money collected provoked considerable concern between the PTA and the increased general committee who were interested in continuing the Forum. Furthermore, it appeared that there were not many in the PTA group who were interested at this point. The result was that the PTA took out the expenses they had incurred, withdrew as sponsors, and gave the remainder to the general committee. Among those on this general committee were Charles O. Busch, Jr., Frank Durkee, Major William Gough, Judge John F. Pullen, James R. Wilson, Albert Zangerle, Mrs. James Rolph, Jr., Miss Viola Rose, Mrs. Joe O'Neill, Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, Mrs. Frank B. Gillett, and Mrs. George R. Davis.

As a result of the popularity of the lectures and the increased attendance, it became evident to the leaders in the community that the Sacramento Community Forum was meeting a specific need of the citizenry. The first available written information relative to establishing a permanent forum was found in an article in The Bee, entitled "Forum Lectures Prove Popular" under the date of April 11, 1933. The article said:
A decision to make the Sacramento Community Forum a permanent organization was reached last night at the weekly lecture given in the Sierra School, under the Forum's auspices, by Professor M. J. Brickley of the Sacramento Junior College faculty.

Organized a few weeks ago on a temporary basis to sponsor a series of talks by Brickley on Europe in 1933, the Forum created so much interest and the lectures drew so well that leaders of the movement launched a campaign for permanency. The move was approved unanimously last night by the 400 in the audience.

Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, acting as temporary chairman, was authorized by those present to appoint a committee to form a permanent organization which will endeavor to bring to Sacramento outstanding lecturers and men and women famous in national and international affairs. The personnel of the committee will be announced next Monday night.

In a follow-up article dated April 18, 1933 and headed "Organization of Forum Sought," The Bee had this to say in part:

A meeting at which the Sacramento Community Forum is scheduled to be organized on a permanent basis has been called by Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, temporary chairman, for next Thursday night at 7:30 at the Hotel Senator...

The committee personnel is as follows: Mrs. P. D. Bevil, M. J. Brickley, Earl Chapman, Miss Mary Craven, Mrs. G. R. Davis, Arthur Devlin, Frank Durkee, Mrs. Faulkner, E. M. Florence, Mrs. F. H. Gillett, A. E. Goddard, Major W. J. Gough, Mrs. Joseph O'Neill, Clyde Palmer, Miss Esther Phillips, Judge John F. Pullen, Mrs. James Rolph, Jr., Miss Viola M. Rose, James R. Wilson, and Albert Zangerle...

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33 The Bee, April 11, 1933, p. 15.
34 The Bee, April 18, 1933, p. 6.
The only available written record of the minutes of the meetings of the committee sponsoring the Sacramento Community Forum started with July 22, 1938. No records as such could be located for the prior periods. From interviews with Mrs. Frank B. Gillett, Mrs. Harry W. Blass, Mrs. Frederick Scatena, and others who attended the meetings, it was learned that no minutes were kept. Although the matter had come up for discussion, no specific action was taken to record what happened. As has been indicated, Mr. Brickley was the only speaker for 1927, 1928, 1931, and 1932. Although the article in The Bee dated April 11, 1933 (see footnote 33) proposes to bring in other speakers, this did not happen until the spring series in 1934. Mr. Brickley continued to be the only speaker for both the spring and fall series in 1933.

Because of the lack of records maintained by the organization itself, it was felt necessary to use direct quotations from The Sacramento Bee. Some of these quotations were long, and in some instances complete articles were taken because they contained either the names of the sponsors or the programs, or both. In connection with programs, a copy of the one printed for distribution to the membership in the fall of 1934 is the earliest one that could be located. Miss Caroline Wenzel of the California State Library had it in her personal files.
The following article taken from The Bee and dated September 16, 1933, showed that Mr. Brickley was again the only speaker for the series. The article appeared on page three of the sports section of the paper, which may or may not be indicative of how much importance was attached to a discussion of the European situation while Americans were selling apples on street corners and watching the depression creep through their front doors. The article said,

Under the auspices of the Sacramento Community Forum a series of ten lectures will be given on consecutive Monday nights, starting October 2, by M. J. Brickley, Sacramento Junior College instructor, at the David Lubin School.

The general subject of the lectures is Baltic Europe, and Brickley, who teaches modern European history at the college, will discuss current international events in Russia, Poland, Finland, and the states of Latvia and Estonia.

The Sacramento Community Forum was organized last spring following a series of lectures given by Brickley on European affairs. Mrs. Frederick Faulkner is president. Others include Vice-presidents Judge John F. Pullen, Miss Estelle Phillips; Secretary, Frank B. Durkee; Treasurer, A. E. Goddard; Membership Chairman, Miss Mary Craven; Program Chairman, James R. Wilson; Organization, Frank B. Durkee; Arrangements, Major W. J. Gough, Mrs. P. D. Bevil, Earl W. Chapman, Mrs. George H. Davis, Arthur C. Devlin, E. W. Florence, Mrs. F. B. Gillett, Mrs. Joe O'Neill, J. R. Overturf, Clyde R. Palmer, Mrs. James Rolph, Jr., Miss Viola M. Ross, Albert F. Zangerle.

Applications for membership in the forum may be made to Miss Craven, 1514 - 28th Street. The meetings will start at 8 P.M. each Monday night.35

35The Bee, September 16, 1933, p. 5.
The only record of the complete program for the 1933 fall series was found in The Bee, dated September 30, 1933, and headed, "Brickley Plans Europe Lectures." The article follows:

Sacramento Community Forum's series of lectures on the general subject of Baltic Europe will begin on Monday evening, October 2, at 8 o'clock, in the auditorium of the David Lubin school, 36th and K Streets. M. J. Brickley, instructor in modern history at Sacramento Junior College, will be the speaker for the series, which is to continue for ten consecutive Monday evenings.

Dates and specific topics for the ten evenings are: October 2, The Last Six Months in International Relations; October 9, The Progress of International Cooperation; October 16, The Russian Land and People; October 23, Imperial Russia, 1900-1917; October 30, Theory and Practice of the Soviet (Communistic) State; November 6, Achievements of Soviet Russia; November 13, Poland's Unhappy Past; November 20, The Republic of Poland; November 27, The Republic of Finland; December 4, Estonia and Latvia, Barriers Against Bolshevism.36

The Sacramento Community Forum which had started in the spring of 1933 considered itself a permanent organization by fall, and as such started numbering its seasons with the 1933 fall series of lectures given by Mr. Brickley.

There followed through the spring of 1956 twenty-three years of presenting topics of current interest. While some of the speakers returned, sometimes more than once in a single season and often for several seasons, there was never again a time in the next forty-six seasons that one speaker

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36 The Bee, September 30, 1933, p. 4.
presented the complete series for the season. Mr. Brickley was the only one to do this. Everyone connected with the early beginnings of the Sacramento Community Forum gave Mr. Brickley credit for starting the organization and for his participation in promoting a public discussion group in Sacramento.

In summary it might be said that these years, from 1927 through 1933, represent a formative period during which an attempt was made to introduce into the culture of Sacramento a vehicle of public discussion. That the attempt was successful was proven by the continued participation of the community for the next twenty-three years. Like the Town Meetings of the Revolutionary days, the Lyceum movement, the Chautauqua, and finally the Forum movement, the Sacramento Community Forum appeared to meet the needs of the people and the times.
CHAPTER IV

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

1934 THROUGH SPRING, 1941

It is the purpose of this chapter to present the development of Sacramento Community Forum from 1934 through the spring of 1941. It was during this period of time that the organization became very popular, very strong, and is considered by some to have reached its peak. Reference will be made to specific programs to show how, during these pre-war years, the organization grew in membership and expanded by increasing the number of outside speakers as well as the field of subjects.

While the first expression of a desire to bring in outside speakers was voiced in the spring of 1933, it was not until the spring of 1934 that this was done. By this time the Forum had taken permanent root and was ready to branch out. The first significant change made was to increase the number of speakers to three, and each of these to come from outside the Sacramento area, and each to be an expert in his field. Evidence of this new projected thinking was found in the news release in The Bee of February 3, 1934, and headed, "Forum Lecture Dates Are Fixed."
A spring series of lectures featuring current events in American history sponsored by the Sacramento Community Forum will begin at 8 o'clock, Tuesday night, February 27th, in the auditorium of the David Lubin school.

The series includes ten sessions. Exclusive of the open meeting the balance will be held on Monday nights.

Deviating from the plan of the Fall series when the entire ten lectures were given by one speaker, the forum's new series will be offered by at least three lecturers.

Chester H. Rowell of San Francisco will be the first speaker. Following him on Monday night, March 5th, will be Professor Raymond Gittell of Berkeley, head of the political science department of the University of California. He also will speak on alternate Monday nights thereafter.

On March 12th and on alternate Monday nights for a month, Professor Ira B. Cross of Berkeley, head of the State University's economic department will discuss significant phases of current problems and events.

The forum states the registration for the course is open to all. Miss Mary Graven of 1514 Twenty-eighth street is membership chairman of the organization.

From available information it was determined that Mrs. Frederick Faulkner (Hazel Pedlar Faulkner) was the presiding chairman of the general committee for seven seasons, i.e., spring-1933, fall-1933, spring-1934, fall-1934, spring-1935, fall-1935, and spring-1936. As far as could be learned the sponsors, or general committee as they called themselves, remained the same for the first two years, namely,

1The Bee, February 3, 1934, p. 3.
2See Appendix B, Figure 2.
1933 and 1934. The committee continued the membership fee of one dollar for each series.

While the exact membership figures for these first years of the Forum were not available, all interviewed agreed that there was a steady increase, from 400, an increase which necessitated moving in the fall of 1934 from the David Lubin school to the Tuesday Clubhouse at 28th and L Streets.

In the fall of 1934 the number of speakers was again increased, this time to six. Chester Rowell, editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, gave the opening lecture, "The World Today," on October 8, 1934 and the closing one, "The Latest Thing," on November 26, 1934. The other speakers and subjects included in this fourth season were: October 15, Professor Robert J. Kerner, authority on modern European history at the University of California, discussed "Central Europe: Its Fundamental Problems"; October 22, Dr. Ira B. Cross who had been one of the three principal speakers in the 1933 series, returned to talk on "The Present Economic Situation"; October 29, Hillis Lory, world traveler and authority on far Eastern politics, spoke on "Understanding the Orient"; November 5, Dr. Ira B. Cross spoke on "Labor's Unrest"; November 19, E. P. Guinaine, Special Agent in charge of investigation, United States Department of Justice, San Francisco, talked about "Government's War Against Crime."
As has been stated, the first printed program which could be located was for the fall series of 1934. Since the program itself does not have the year 1934 on it, it was necessary to review news releases of the related programs to establish this fact. Special attention was directed to this program announcement because it contained a statement of what the Forum was and what its purpose was. This same statement appeared on each succeeding program through 1956. The statement said:

The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest.\(^3\)

The program indicated that the speaker for November 12 would be announced later. On that date The Bee carried the following article headed, "Advisor of Wilson Will Speak on World Crisis":

Dr. Robert J. Kerner, a professor of history in the University of California and a former history adviser of the late President Wilson, will speak before the Sacramento Community Forum at 8 o'clock tonight in the Tuesday Clubhouse at Twenty-eighth and L Streets.

Dr. Kerner will speak on the present World Crisis.\(^4\)

Spring 1935 marked the fifth season of the continuous operation of the Sacramento Community Forum under the auspices

\(^3\)See Appendix, Figure 1.

\(^4\)The Bee, November 12, 1934, p. 9.
of a general committee. This series included ten subjects given at the Tuesday Clubhouse each Monday night starting with February 25, 1935 and ending with April 29, 1935. (See Appendix A, Figure 2) The general committee responsible for the program included: Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, Miss Estelle Phillips, Judge John F. Pullen, Major William J. Gough, Mrs. Robert Davis, C. O. Busick, Jr., Frank B. Durkee, Mrs. Joe O'Neill, Miss Viola M. Rose, Frederick K. Elkus, F. W. Florence, Mrs. Frank Gillett, Miss Caroline Wenzel, James R. Wilson, B. F. Vandenberg, Jr., Albert Zangerle, Earl W. Chapman, and Miss Mary Craven. As shown on the program, Miss Craven was the membership chairman.

While the entire series showed the committee was aware of subjects of current interest, the lecture given by Professor Ira B. Cross on March 11, 1935 and titled "Social Insurance; Old Age Pensions; Unemployment Insurance," was especially timely because of what was happening on both the national and the state scene. In 1935 the Congress of the United States passed the Social Security Act and the California State legislature passed the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Apparently at the time the program for the spring series of 1935 was sent to the printer the arrangements for the speaker for April 15 had not been completed. However,
on April 15, 1935 The Bee carried the following announcement under the heading, "Professor Stuart Will Address Forum Here":

Professor Graham Stuart of Stanford University's department of political science will address members of the Sacramento Community Forum tonight at 8 o'clock. His subject will be "Observations on Present Day Europe."

Professor Stuart returned recently from a year in Europe. He lectured at the Academy of International Law at The Hague and at the Carnegie Institute's European Center in Paris.

Stuart has been a member of the Stanford faculty since 1923. . . .

Since no printed program for the fall series of 1935 programs could be located, The Bee was used as a source to establish the dates, subjects and speakers. On September 14, 1935 the following announcement appeared:

The Sacramento Community Forum will open its sixth season of lecture discussions Monday evening, October 7th at 8 o'clock and for seven Monday evenings will present speakers on current topics of interest.

Speakers on the program will be presented in the Tuesday Clubhouse on L near twenty-eighth street. . . .

The article went on to list the general committee which was the same as it was for the spring series of 1935.


6 The Bee, September 14, 1935, p. 5.
Writing about the first lecture of this fall series held on October 7, 1935, *The Bee* captioned its article, "KleinSmid Sees School as Preserver of Democracy," and said this in part:

The American public school system was lauded as the most powerful force in our national life by Dr. Rufus B. von KleinSmid, President of the University of Southern California, in an address to the Sacramento Community Forum at the Tuesday Clubhouse last night.

The lecture was the first of the fall series sponsored by the Forum. Dr. von KleinSmid was introduced by Mrs. Hazel Pedlar Faulkner. A total of 642 persons attended. . . .

On week later, on October 14, 1935, *The Bee* headed its article, "Professor Will Discuss Situation in Germany," and said in part:

The political, social and economic situation in Germany will be discussed by Dr. Ralph H. Lutz, Stanford University professor, before the Sacramento Community Forum at the Tuesday Clubhouse tonight. The lecture will be the second of the series.

Dr. Lutz recently returned from a trip to Germany where he spent several months studying the people. He was educated in Germany and holds the degree of doctor of philosophy from the University of Heidelberg. . . .

On October 22, 1935, *The Bee* made the following comment under the caption, "Development of Science of Peace Is Urged by Speaker":

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7 *The Bee*, October 8, 1935, p. 16.

8 *The Bee*, October 14, 1935, p. 5.
A plea that a science of peace be developed instead of a science of war was made last night by Dr. Robert J. Kerner, professor of modern European history at the University of California, in a lecture to members of the Sacramento Community Forum at the Tuesday Clubhouse.9

The fourth program of this fall series was held on October 28, 1935 and was covered by The Bee in an article written October 29, 1935 under the heading, "Ocean Airlines Are Forecast by Professor." The news story said in part:

Regular plane trips across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in the near future were predicted by Professor Baldwin M. Woods, aeronautics instructor at the University of California, in a lecture last night to the Sacramento Community Forum at the Tuesday Clubhouse.

Woods pointed out scheduled trips are being made from Oakland to Hawaii by clipper ship.

"Designing in airplanes is developing so rapidly," he said, "that most planes become obsolete in three years."

All of the airplane companies now are losing money, but Woods believes new designs permitting the ships to carry larger loads will be the means of putting the industry on a sound commercial basis. . . .10

The announcement for the fifth lecture to be heard on Monday, November 4, 1935, was made in The Bee on November 2, 1935, under the heading, "California Professor Will Speak Monday." The article said:


10 The Bee, October 29, 1935, p. 11.
Dr. Benjamin H. Lehman, professor of English literature at the University of California, will speak before the Sacramento Community Forum on Monday, at 8 P.M. His subject will be "The Temper of Recent American Literature."

Dr. Lehman who has been at Berkeley since 1920 as a member of the English department, has been its head since 1928. He was educated at Harvard University where he received his doctorate in 1920, after serving for several years as an instructor.

Dr. Lehman opened the Sacramento Community Forum lectures last March and his return Monday evening is scheduled in response to requests from his audience.

In addition to his teaching Professor Lehman is the author of several novels and numerous literary articles.

Monday night's lecture will be held in the Tuesday Clubhouse and is open to the public on payment of a nominal fee or on presentation of a season ticket.11

"Dr. Karl F. Meyer Will Address Forum Monday" was the heading for the announcement in The Bee on Saturday, November 9, 1935, of the sixth lecture in this series. Following is the announcement:

Dr. Karl F. Meyer, director of George William Hooper Foundation at the University of California, will be the speaker Monday evening before the Sacramento Community Forum in the Tuesday Clubhouse. The meeting will open at 8 p.m.

Dr. Meyer is a distinguished pathologist and bacteriologist. The application of the laboratory findings to the field of public health will form the material for his address.

Admission will be by season ticket or the payment of a nominal fee at the door.12

11 The Bee, November 2, 1935, p. 20.
12 The Bee, November 9, 1935, p. 3.
It was noted in a follow-up article on November 12, 1935 in The Bee that Dr. Meyer spoke to an audience of 300 people.

The news story of November 12, 1935 also carried the announcement that the seventh lecture in the series would be titled, "The Russian Experiment, Making Society to Order," and would be delivered by Dr. Robert J. Kerner of the University of California.

It was not until 1936 that the general committee developed a regular format for the programs. This format remained basically the same from 1936 through 1956. (See Appendix A, figures 1 through 13 for programs from the spring of 1936 through the spring of 1941.) The first of these programs (for the 1936 spring series) was printed in green ink on white paper. Beginning with the fall of 1936 and continuing through 1952-1953, the programs were printed in red and blue ink on a white background. In the lower right hand corner was a small red, white and blue shield with seven red stripes, six white ones, and thirteen white stars on a field of blue. A significant expression of how the committee felt about the importance of these programs was found in the minutes of the meeting of the General Committee dated August 28, 1939. The paragraph referring specifically to the programs read as follows:
Miss Phillips suggested that the red, white and blue announcements of the season's lectures be discontinued and not inserted in the letters of the membership. This was to be an economy measure. It was finally moved and passed after much discussion to retain these programs, as they have become distinctive and a definite emblem of the Sacramento Community Forum.

In addition to giving the dates, the subjects, and the speakers, these programs contained a sentence or two about the background of each speaker. On the back page of each program was a statement of the purpose of the Sacramento Community Forum, the price of the season ticket or a single admission, and the names of the General Committee, later called the Board of Directors. Separate programs for the spring and fall series were printed until the fall of 1947, after which the programs for the entire year were combined and sold as one program for both series.

The price of a ticket for the season remained at one dollar until the fall series in 1938 when it was raised to one dollar and a half for a single series, and two dollars for an annual ticket. The annual ticket covered both the spring and fall series, and continued to be sold for two dollars until the fall of 1947 when it was raised to three dollars.

Minutes of the General Committee of the Sacramento Community Forum, August 28, 1939, William Mendelson, Recording Secretary.
A single admission in 1936 was twenty five cents. This was raised to fifty cents in the fall series of 1937, and later in the fall of 1945 to one dollar where it stayed.

One of the reasons the committee was able to keep the price of the tickets so reasonable in these early years was mentioned in the announcement made in The Bee on February 22, 1936, which said in part:

The 1936 spring series of the Sacramento Community Forum will open March 9 and continue on consecutive Monday evenings for eight weeks....

Through the cooperation of the extension departments of the universities, the committee has been enabled to continue its policy of presenting the entire eight lectures for the popular price of $1.00 when season tickets are purchased. The lectures will be given in the Tuesday Clubhouse, beginning at 8 o'clock. More than 700 Sacramentans purchased season tickets in 1935 and the committee has set a goal of 1000 tickets for 1936 to ensure the financial success of the program....

The article went on to name the general committee from whom tickets could be purchased. The following were named as officers: Mrs. Frederick Faulkner, President; Judge John F. Pullen and Miss Estelle Phillips, vice-presidents; Frank B. Durkee, Secretary; Miss Mary Craven, financial secretary; Major W. J. Gough, treasurer; and James R. Wilson, publicity chairman. (For a complete list of the general committee see Appendix A, figure 3.)

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The Bee, February 25, 1936, p. 6.
The open spot on the program for April 6, 1936, was filled by Dr. Robert Kerner. The Bee for that date carried the following announcement in part:

Dr. Robert J. Kerner, professor of modern European history at the University of California, will be the speaker tonight at the weekly program of the Sacramento Community Forum in the Tuesday Clubhouse.

Kerner addressed the forum in the 1934 and 1935 seasons. He will discuss present conditions in Europe.

The fall program for 1936 showed that the following names had been added to the General Committee: Colonel Charles R. Blood, Dr. William Mendelson, Mrs. Joe O'Neill, Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena, Charles W. Deterding, Jr., and Miss Ethel Morley. The name of Michael J. Brickley who had previously been listed as a speaker in the program for the 1936 spring series, appeared for the first time as a member of the General Committee on the 1936 fall program.

The November 9th date on the program was filled by Dr. Frederick L. Paxson of the University of California. The following is an article which appeared in The Bee on that date:

"When the West is Gone" is the topic of Dr. Frederick L. Paxson, professor of history at the University of California, who will speak before the Sacramento Community Forum tonight. The meeting will be held in the Tuesday Clubhouse at 8 p.m.
Dr. Paxson is a recognized authority on the history of the United States and has written several books on the subject. He has taught at the Universities of Colorado, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He came to California to accept the Margaret Byrne Chair of History at the University of California.

The forum’s reception committee will consist of Col. Charles R. Blood, Dr. William Mendelson, and Miss Ethel Morley. The speaker will be introduced by Frank Durkee, Sr., a Sacramento attorney.16

The General Committee remained the same for both the spring and fall series of 1937, except for one change: Arthur B. Waugh replaced Earl W. Chapman who resigned. In the fall of 1937 Miss Craven’s title was changed from Membership Chairman to Executive Secretary-Treasurer. She remained as a member of the General Committee. The major portion of the program speakers for all of 1937 continued to be from universities and colleges on the Pacific Coast. (For complete programs see Appendix A, figures 5 and 6.) The official stationery for the spring series of 1937 listed the following officers: Judge John F. Pullen, president; Miss Mary Craven and Miss Estelle M. Phillips, vice-presidents; Frank B. Durkee, secretary; and Earl W. Chapman, treasurer. The official stationery used in the fall of 1937 showed the following officers: Judge John F. Pullen, president; F. Melvin Lawson and Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena, vice-presidents; Frank B. Durkee, secretary; and Miss Mary Craven, executive secretary-treasurer.

16 The Bee, November 9, 1936, p. 9.
It was noted that among the techniques used to promote membership was the use of an open letter directed to all former purchasers of season tickets. This letter was mailed well in advance of the opening date for each series, and urged each person to get his season's ticket. In most cases the proposed program was either listed or a copy of the program itself was enclosed in the letter. No one interviewed could remember the exact date the first time this kind of a letter was used. Of all letters found the one bearing the date January 20, 1937 was the earliest. (See Appendix B, figure 1, for a copy of this letter.)

The year 1938 saw but one change in the General Committee -- Miss Grace R. Taylor replaced Miss Caroline Wenzel who resigned from the committee, but who continued to attend the series. As a result of increased membership it was necessary to move the meeting place from the Tuesday Clubhouse to the Junior College Auditorium where the Forum met for the next five seasons beginning with the spring of 1938. In 1938 there were eight lectures in the spring and the same number in the fall. (See Appendix A, figures 7 and 8.) The speaker and his subject for December 5, 1938, were found in an article in The Bee of December 6, 1938, under the heading, "Forum Speaker Warns Against Propogandists." The article said:
"Unless Americans insist upon their rights of free speech, free press, and free assembly, they may find themselves ruled by a government which believes the people should not be taught or allowed to think, because 'Whoever can think may have evil thoughts.'"

This was the warning voiced by Oliver Carlson, author and political scientist, in an address last night to the Sacramento Community Forum in the Junior College auditorium. His topic was "Manipulating Public Opinion" and his address was the last in the 1938 forum series.

"At one time we believed that reason would triumph over emotionalism," said Carlson, but that is untrue. The great driving forces of man are emotional in character."

The propagandist, he said, knows well the driving power of the emotions and he makes his plan look as if it is appealing to the intellect.

F. Melvyn Lawson, vice president of the Forum, who introduced Carlson, announced plans for the 1939 Forum are being completed.17

From available minutes of the General Committee it was determined that it held four such meetings in 1939: February 8, June 5, August 28, and December 5. It was learned through interviews with several of the members of the General Committee that Miss Mary Craven became extremely ill in the spring of 1939 and withdrew permanently from the organization. At the meeting held on August 28, 1939 the Committee voted to present Miss Craven with an Honorary Membership to the executive committee. At the same time the Committee instructed the recording secretary, William Mendelson, to have suitable

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17 The Bee, December 6, 1938, p. 4.
scrolls prepared and presented to Miss Mary Craven, Mrs. James Rolph, Jr., and Mrs. Frederick Faulkner as honorary members of the Sacramento Community Forum.

In the minutes of the June 5th (1939) meeting, provision was made for Miss Josephine McDonald, roommate of Miss Craven, to bring the records for the 1939 spring series up to date and to turn them over to Miss Essie Phillips who agreed to act as temporary executive secretary until such time as a permanent one could be found. At this same meeting all the officers were re-elected for the 1939-1940 season.

F. Melvyn Lawson, vice president, presided at the meeting held on August 28, 1939. Mrs. Harry Wayne Blass was presented as successor to Miss Craven. The minutes recorded the official title for Mrs. Blass as Membership, secretary-treasurer, and for Miss Phillips as Manager-director. Special attention was paid to these two titles because Miss Phillips remained as manager-director until she left the Forum in the spring of 1953, and Mrs. Blass in her position until the 1955-1956 season. Another important piece of business which took place at this meeting was the decision to sell a single two dollar "annual" ticket for both seasons regardless of when purchased and to eliminate the $1.50 single season ticket.
For complete programs of the spring and fall series of 1939, see Appendix A, figures 9 and 10.

Records covering the number of annual membership tickets sold were found for the years 1939 through 1956. With the change in the method of selling tickets to an annual basis instead of on a spring or fall season schedule, the records were set up accordingly. For example, the records showed that for the Fall 1939 - Spring 1940 series there were 1310 annual tickets sold at two dollars each plus 645 single admissions at 50¢ each. The total expenses for the corresponding period amounted to $2296.17.

According to Mr. Busick, Mrs. Scatena, Mr. Lawson, and other members connected with the Forum from its beginning, Miss Craven kept very accurate and complete records, but after she became ill none of these records could be located except the ones covering the spring 1939 season. When Miss Phillips made up the financial statement for the 1939-1940 series she showed a balance on hand from the spring 1939 series in the amount of $518.42.

Everyone interviewed, officer or member, agreed that Miss Phillips was largely responsible for keeping the Forum going. The Bee of March 30, 1940, carried the following caption with a picture of Miss Phillips:

Her seven years as program chairman for the Tuesday Club, she said were "my ABC's for the task as manager of the Sacramento Community Forum."
"I went in there to stay a month or so until they got somebody for the job," she declared, "and I've been managing it since June."

One of the original committee which organized the forum, Miss Phillips as manager carries on a voluminous correspondence, gets out the publicity, makes every contact with speakers, and signs all their contracts.18

In reviewing the Minutes of the meetings held, it was noted that beginning with the one of May 21, 1940, many of them were held at the home of Miss Phillips. At this May 21, 1940 meeting Miss Phillips made two suggestions which were voted upon and accepted unanimously by the General committee. The first one had to do with the schedule of meetings for the 1940-1941 series. Miss Phillips suggested the fall series be held between October 7 and November 25, 1940, and the spring meetings beginning with February 17, 1941 and ending with April 14, 1941. Her second suggestion was that the Forum move its meeting place from the Junior College Auditorium to the new Sacramento High School which had larger seating capacity. As most members recalled it, the matter of transportation and parking facilities presented a second problem when the meetings were held at the Junior College. Efforts were made to provide a shuttle service between 2nd Avenue and the College auditorium, but were not successful. Mr. Lawson, vice-president of the Forum, was principal of the Sacramento High School.

18 The Bee, March 30, 1940, p. 10.
At this same meeting of May 21, 1940 the General Committee accepted the resignation of Michael J. Brickley and because of his initial and continuing efforts connected with the Forum, voted him an honorary membership on the executive Board of the Forum. This is the first time the word "Board" was found. It was noted, however, that beginning with the fall series of 1940, each program carried the heading "Board of Directors" above the names of those formerly referred to as the "General Committee," although the latter designation appeared in the minutes but never on the programs. The minutes stated that the "present officers were unanimously elected for the 1940-1941 series." These officers were: Judge John F. Pullen, president; F. Melvyn Lawson and Byron F. Vandenberg, vice-presidents; Dr. William Mendelson, secretary; and Mrs. Harry Wayne Blass, membership-secretary-treasurer. The minutes also recorded the suggestion that the following be invited to become members of the executive committee: Miss Ruth Holliday, Kenneth C. Watson, and G. T. Lundlee. The programs for the 1940-1941 series shows that the last two and Mrs. Theodore dePolo were added. This brought the total number on the board to twenty-four.

The following excerpt was taken from a letter written on September 26, 1940 to the collector of Internal Revenue by Miss Phillips. While the letter was written in connection with the matter of internal revenue taxes on single admission
tickets, it was quoted because it presented a thumbnail sketch of the forum. The excerpt follows:

This Forum is run on a non-profit, non-political basis for the benefit of the people in this community. We have twenty-four directors of which I am the Managing Director. All the work is done without compensation to make it possible for the members to get the type of speakers we engage.

We pay a Secretary $50.00 each season to receive the phone calls, send out tickets, receive the money at the door, etc. We have high school or junior college boys to act as ushers and pay them about $1.00 each per evening.

We have no charter, no constitution, no by-laws. We have no benefits for any member of the committee. We have no social activities at any time connected with the forum.

Our money goes for speakers, for printing, for advertising, for school auditorium -- we pay $20 per night for sixteen lectures -- and we are entirely self-supporting, getting no help from no other source than sale of tickets.

We charge $2.00 for the season tickets and 50¢ for a single lecture in order to encourage the buying of season tickets.19

The theme of the Fall 1940 - Spring 1941 series was "Our World -- Today and Tomorrow." For complete programs see Appendix A, figures 12 and 13. The names of the Board of Directors were listed on the reverse side of the programs.

19 Letter dated September 26, 1940, addressed to Richard Nickell, Assistant to the Collector, Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service, San Francisco, California, and signed by Essie Phillips, Managing Director, Sacramento Community Forum.
Available financial records showed that 1463 season tickets at two dollars and 1362 single admissions at fifty cents were sold for the 1940-1941 series. This brought the total income to $3607. The total expenses were listed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$44.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidentals</td>
<td>47.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamps</td>
<td>33.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking boys and ushers</td>
<td>87.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegrams and telephone</td>
<td>14.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>17.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>48.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>1801.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>110.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretarial (Blass)</td>
<td>125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>340.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2672.69</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A breakdown of the cost of the lectures for the same period was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sherwood Eddy</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suyd Hossain</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kerner</td>
<td>38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claude Buss</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Seabury</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Cross</td>
<td>38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Perigord</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. V. Smith</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Paassen</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brother Leo</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Hindu</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upton Close</td>
<td>125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Milliken</td>
<td>125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sterling</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. P. Martin</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julien Bryan</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operator</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Lectures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1801.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Complete records such as that listed in the foregoing could not be found for each year of the Forum's operation. Miss Phillips died January 6, 1956. After her death it was learned that many of the records were destroyed.

At the meeting of the General Committee on June 27, 1941, a suggestion was made to incorporate the Forum as a non-profit organization and have the members of the executive committee elected at an opening meeting of the general membership. It was pointed out that this move was recommended because of the amusement (Federal) tax on single tickets. A motion providing for incorporation as a non-profit organization with the Executive Board closed to the general membership, was defeated. A second motion was made to have a constitution drawn up providing for an open annual meeting, at which time the President would appoint a nominating committee whose responsibility would be to submit enough names to replace one third of the members of the executive committee. This was passed unanimously. Although this motion was passed in June, 1941, it was noted from the programs that no actual change in the Board of Directors occurred until the fall of 1946, and no constitution was officially approved until June, 1946. (See Appendix C, figure 1.)

Among the other actions taken at the meeting of the General Committee on June 27, 1941 was the election of
officers. The following officers were elected: F. Melvyn Lawson, president; Byron Vandenburgh and Frank Durkee, vice-presidents, and William Mendelson, secretary. Mrs. Harry W. Blass was reappointed Membership secretary-treasurer at a salary of $150 for the 1941-1942 series. Miss Phillips was reappointed as Managing Director. The committee also discussed the program for the 1941-1942 series. It was pointed out that due to the war in Europe and the demand for speakers by other forums in the United States the average cost per speaker had risen by almost 33%.

In summary, the years 1934 through the spring of 1941 saw the establishment of the Sacramento Community Forum as a permanent organization. During this time its membership grew from 400 to over 1300. As shown by the programs, the leaders of the forum provided adequate opportunities for the citizenry of Sacramento to study and discuss questions of community, state, national, and international interest. They did this by bringing to Sacramento qualified speakers who were experts in their various fields.
CHAPTER V

THE FORUM DURING THE WAR YEARS
1941 - 1945

It is the purpose of this chapter to present the history of the Sacramento Community Forum, starting with the fall of 1941 and going through the spring of 1945.

The 1941-42 series. This series stand out as significant because it was during this time that the Sacramento Community Forum reached its highest membership -- 1582 annual tickets at two dollars each and 798 single tickets at fifty cents each were sold. Never again during the next fifteen years did the Forum reach this peak of membership. The total income was $3563. The cost of the speakers amounted to $2158. Other expenses, such as those listed previously for the 1940-41 series (see page 69) amounted to $931.50. This brought the total expenses to $3089.50 for the series for the 1941-42 period.

No records of the minutes of the meetings held in the fall of 1941, the spring of 1942, and the fall of 1942 could be found. Mr. Lawson, who was president during these periods, stated that regular meetings were held and minutes prepared each time. Others interviewed, Mrs. Scatena, Mrs. Blass,
Mr. Busick, and Mr. Durkee, who were present at these meetings, were of the opinion that minutes were written, but since the organization operated on an informal basis, it was possible that these particular minutes had been lost or destroyed.

With respect to the programs for these series, it was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on June 21, 1941, stated that "The program for the 1941-42 Series was discussed in detail, and the majority of the speakers were definitely chosen." The complete program for the fall season of 1941 (see Appendix A, figure 14) was sent out with the regular advance letter mailed to the membership. This letter dated September 26, 1941, contained the following information in the second paragraph:

Enclosed you will find program just off the press, as well as application blank and self-address return envelope to facilitate prompt reply. Read this printed Fall program and let us remind you that it tells only half the story, as, for the Spring we have booked:

Dr. Ricardo Alfaro -- Ex-President of Panama
William Winter -- Columbia Broadcasting News Analyst
Louis Fischer -- Author and European News Correspondent
Dr. Carl Landauer -- Professor of Economics, University of California
H. C. Wolfe -- Expert in Field of International Relations
Dr. Donald A. Laird -- Psychologist and Business Consultant
Hubert S. Liang -- Authority on Chinese Cooperatives
William Starr Myers -- Professor of Politics, Princeton University.

However, by the time the Spring Series was ready to start several changes had to be made in the program. Pearl Harbor had been attacked on December 7, 1941 -- the United States was at War, and some of the speakers originally scheduled had to cancel their appearances. As can be seen from Appendix A, figure 15, there were no programs printed for the spring 1942 series. The initial program was sent on a penny postcard. As far as could be learned the programs were announced in the paper each week, and at each of the lectures. To complete the information on the programs for the spring 1942 series the following articles were taken from the papers indicated.

The Sacramento Union carried the following release for the February 2, 1942 program:

A former president of the Republic of Panama, Dr. Ricardo Alfaro, will speak on "What Will Latin America Do?" at the first of the spring series of eight lectures of the Sacramento Community Forum in the Sacramento High School auditorium tonight.

His talk will begin at 8 p.m. and a question and answer period will be held starting at 9.

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1 Letter dated September 26, 1941, written to friends and members of Sacramento Community Forum, by Board of Directors of the Sacramento Community Forum.
Dr. Alfaro, a native of Panama, served his country as assistant secretary of foreign affairs, counselor of the Panama legation in Washington, premier of the Panama cabinet, minister plenipotentiary to the United States, Vice-president and then President.

He will be introduced by Melvyn Lawson, principal of Sacramento High School and president of the Forum.²

"Teacher Favors League of English Speaking Nations" was the heading The Bee used February 10th in describing the lecture given on February 9, 1942. The Bee commented in part:

Michael J. Brickley, professor of history at Sacramento Junior College, told his Sacramento Community Forum listeners last night that of all of the nations of the world, Australia in ideals and admiration holds the United States most high. Brickley says he hopes the day will come when there will be a league of nations of English-speaking peoples...³

The Union carried the following article on February 16, 1942, under the caption, "Forum to Hear War Expert at School."

Louis Fischer, for twenty years foreign correspondent for The Nation and author of the book, Men and Politics, will speak tonight before the Sacramento Community Forum in the Sacramento High School. Fischer's topic will be "The Pattern of World War II."

Fischer first went to Europe in 1921 as a correspondent for the New York Evening Post with headquarters in Berlin. The following year he went to Moscow where he became Russian correspondent for

²The Sacramento (California) Union (hereinafter referred to as The Union), February 2, 1942, p. 7.
³The Bee, February 10, 1942, p. 3.
The Nation, serving later as that magazine's roving correspondent and covering the war in Spain for the publication.

The forum speaker is a native of Philadelphia. Before joining The Nation's staff, he was a school teacher and worked briefly for Tass News Agency and the United Press. He will be introduced at 8 o'clock tonight by Frank B. Durkee, member of the forum's program committee.4

On February 21, 1942, The Bee carried the following announcement for the lecture to be given on February 23.

Headed, "Economist, Ex-German Official, Will Address Local Forum Monday Night," the article went on to say:

Dr. Carl Landauer, professor of economics at the University of California, will speak on How Hitler Destroyed German Democracy, Monday at 8 p.m. before the Sacramento Community Forum in the Sacramento High School auditorium.

Dr. Landauer received his doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Heidelberg in Germany. He was research assistant of the Institute of International Commerce at the University of Kiel in 1915, German food administrator during the World War period and assistant lecturer in the Institute of Commerce at the Berlin Institute of Commerce.

He is the author of books written in German, as well as scientific articles on commercial and economic subjects. He has been in California since 1934.

James R. Wilson, a forum director, will be the moderator.5

4 The Union, February 16, 1942, p. 7.
5 The Bee, February 21, 1942, p. 8.
The Union announced the lecture for March 2, 1942, under this caption, "Pacific Expert Talks Tonight to Forum" and in the closing paragraph of the article gave the speakers and subjects for the remaining lectures of the spring series. The article said:

Henry C. Wolfe, author and foreign affairs expert who recently returned from a tour of the current battleground in the far east will address the Community Forum in Sacramento High School at 8 p.m. tonight on "Searchlight on the Pacific."

Wolfe's experience with world affairs goes back twenty four years when as a young student he went to France in advance of the AEF to serve as a volunteer with the French army.

He was in Europe when the present conflict broke out and since that time has visited South America and the far east. He will bring a complete first-hand story of world developments as he has seen them.

He authorized a book on German politics called "The German Octopus" in 1938 which predicted the fall of Czechoslovakia and called the turn on the Nazi-Russian pact of 1939.

The following speakers will round out the Forum's spring program, Essie E. Phillips, managing director announced:

March 9, Dean Dickason, foreign correspondent, on "The Coveted East Indies;" March 16, Professor F. W. Woellner of UCLA on "Ten Certainties for 1942-43; March 23, Dr. William Starr Myers, professor of politics at Princeton University, on "Democracy -- Shibboleth or Fact."6

6 The Union, March 2, 1942, p. 7.
The 1942-43 series. By the time of the fall series in 1942, the decision had been made to print the programs again and to use the same format as had been used since 1936. Up until this 1942-43 series there had been a steady increase in membership. The records for this 1942-43 period showed a drop of approximately 25 per cent in the sale of annual tickets. Mrs. Blass reported a total of 1181 annual memberships sold plus a total of 650 single admissions for the 1942-43 series. The total budget set up for speakers for this same period was listed as $2285. The price ranged from $50 for Professor Eric C. Bellquist to a high of $350 for Leland Stowe. The average cost per speaker was approximately $143. Those interviewed believed that the drop in membership for this series was due in the main to the increased war effort being made on the homefront.

As Mr. Lawson recalled it, he and the program committee worked very closely with Miss Phillips to insure an outstanding program for the year. He remembered several occasions when quick changes in speakers had to be made because speakers originally contracted for were unable to complete their engagements. He also said that on a number of occasions he acted as moderator for the programs because some of the directors originally scheduled could not be present.

The program for the fall 1942 series indicated that the speaker for November 9, 1942 would be announced. (For complete
On November 10, 1942, The Bee made the following comments under the heading, "Lecturer Says India Demands Freedom Now."

India's millions have had a taste of constitutional control and are unwilling to let it out of their grasp.

For this reason, Lal Chand Mehra, Hindu lecturer, told a Sacramento Community Forum audience in the Sacramento High School auditorium last night, India wants to fight as a member of the United Nations, instead of for them, "to gain the freedom of all nations."

India, he continued, is not interested in postponing the question of her freedom until after the war "when it may become a side issue." He urged that India's problem be broadcast to the world in a clear cut American denunciation and stated the case of Great Britain versus India be brought before a board of arbitration instead of remaining in a court in which Great Britain is the plaintiff, "also the judge and the jury."

Mehra was introduced by James R. Wilson, a member of the forum board of directors.

The spring 1943 program carried the theme, "Victory Through Information." (See Appendix A, figure 17.) All of these lectures dealt with subjects related to the war.

Minutes of meetings were located for April 12, 1943, May 10, 1943, and May 22, 1943.

The minutes of April 12, 1943 recorded the election of the following officers: Miss Estelle Phillips, president; Frank Durkee and Arthur Waugh, first and second vice-presidents; Dr. William Mendelson, recording secretary. It was also voted

"The Bee, November 10, 1942, p. 4."
to retain Mrs. H. W. Blass as Membership Secretary-treasurer. Mr. Lawson, the retiring president, presided until after the election of officers. The minutes commented on his being attired in a navy uniform and that he was leaving for officers' training school. The minutes also stated that Miss Phillips "explained that in the fall an intensive membership drive should be carried on." Based on a motion made and passed, Miss Phillips appointed Mrs. F. N. Scatena as chairman of Membership. Up until this time there had apparently been no need for a special membership chairman. Other business included the decision that for the duration the dress suit for the speaker and for the moderator would be omitted and that the moderator would sit on the platform. Another discussion involved the early history of the forum, and a motion was passed to appoint Mrs. O'Neill to write the early history of the forum. That Mrs. O'Neill started this project was evidenced by the letter written in 1946 by Mrs. Faulkner (see Appendix B, figure 2). When interviewed Mrs. O'Neill said she had turned over her records to Miss Phillips. However, no historical record as such could be located. Mrs. Faulkner's letter was the only record relating to the early history that was found.

The minutes of the April 12th meeting also referred to a letter from Mr. J. L. Carpenter, Dean of Adult Education
for the Sacramento School Department, in which he asked for the privilege of appearing before the Board of Directors "to present a matter of interest."

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was called for May 10, 1943. The following excerpt is taken from those minutes.

Mr. Carpenter of the School Department suggested that his Department take over or sponsor the Forum.

Mr. Carpenter presented the following advantages for the Forum under the auspices of the School Department:

1. Auditorium would be rent free.
2. Lectures paid for from school budget, admission free if so desired.
3. Executive Committee would function as at present.

Disadvantages (mentioned by Committee members):
1. Budget must be approved by School Department.
2. Foreign speakers must also be approved by School Department; ultra-liberal speakers might not be acceptable.

In the course of the discussion that followed, Mr. Busick mentioned the fact that the Forum was a non-profit organization, that the public benefited from it, and that it was difficult to understand why the School Department would want to spend $3000 annually when this expense was not necessary. The minutes went on to say how surprised Mr. Carpenter was to learn that any speaker was paid in excess of $100.

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8Minutes of Meeting of Sacramento Community Forum, Board of Directors, dated May 10, 1943.
After further discussion it was voted to take the matter under consideration.

At another special meeting held May 22, 1943, the Board of Directors voted unanimously not to accept the proposal of the School Department to take over the forum.

And so the Sacramento Community Forum remained in the hands of private sponsors referred to as the Board of Directors, most of whom had been among the original founders.

Considerable discussion at the meetings of the Board of Directors centered around membership campaigns, and more particularly on how to interest the young people of the community. They discussed various media of publicity including announcements in the Chamber of Commerce bulletin, in the publications of the various military installations, as well as newspaper and radio announcements on a regular schedule. They discussed the advisability of changing from Monday night, but no other night was found that was as suitable.

The 1943-44 series. A report on the total membership for the fall-spring series of 1943-1944 showed that 1237 season tickets had been sold plus 760 single admissions. As closely as could be determined from the available figures, the speakers were paid a total of $2180 and the remaining expenses amounted to $678.69. The top prices went to Dr. C. J. Hambro, $300; Ruth Comfort Mitchell, $250; Edward Tomlinson, $250; Dr. Robert J. Kerner, Dr. Max Radin, and Dr. Vernon J. Puryear, each received $55.
The theme for the 1943-44 series was "In A World At War." For complete programs see Appendix A, figures 18 and 19.

The need to have active forum members on the executive committee (Board of Directors) was recognized in a motion made at the May 16, 1944 meeting of the Board of Directors. They voted that no one be recommended for membership on the executive committee except active forum members. It was decided to invite Wallace Mason and Harry Stewart to join the executive committee. Their names appeared on the program for fall, 1944. The incumbent officers were reelected for the 1944-45 season. These officers were: Miss Phillips, president; Frank Durkee, and Arthur Waugh, vice-presidents; Dr. William Mendelson, recording secretary, and Mrs. H. W. Blass, membership secretary-treasurer. In discussing speakers for the next series (1944-45) it was decided to have at least one speaker whose subject would not pertain to war or politics.

The 1944-45 series. When the final programs were completed for the 1944-45 series, the one for the fall series was printed in the regular format and carried the theme title "Looking Toward Peace." However, by the time of the meeting of the Board of Directors held November 15, 1944, it had become apparent that the sale of season tickets would not produce sufficient revenue to cover the estimated expenses of
$2700 and that it would be necessary to use some of the money saved from previous seasons. One economy measure that was passed was the decision that, instead of printing the spring programs on the regular format, penny postal cards with the programs printed on them be sent. For complete programs for the 1944-45 series, see Appendix A, figures 18 and 19. A second measure discussed was to limit the amount of money to be paid as a fee to the lecturers. For example, it was suggested that Rex Miller be obtained for the opening date, February 5, 1945, at a fee not to exceed $150. At the time Mr. Miller was in the South Pacific and there was no assurance that he would be available. It was noted (see Appendix A, figures 18 and 19) that Channing Pollock was listed as a "special BONUS" speaker for January 15, on the fall-1944 program, and again on the post card announcing the spring series.

Other suggestions made at the meeting of November 15, 1944, included telling "the membership how the Forum is run, that we are losing money this year, and that they themselves should make an attempt to get us some new members." As a result a motion was passed that Mr. Deterding be appointed to give a "talk" and to acquaint the membership with these facts, and that Mr. Waugh and Miss Phillips would prepare the essential material for his speech. No further mention of this speech was found.
From the available records it was learned that for the 1944-45 series of lectures there were 964 annual tickets sold plus 380 single admissions. This would bring the total income from sale of tickets to $2118. This did not cover the estimated expenses of $2700. Exact records of the expenses could not be located. However, the organization had sufficient funds on hand to more than cover the deficit.

At a meeting on June 11, 1945 the following officers were elected for the 1945-46 period: Frank B. Durkee, president; Charles W. Deterding, Jr., vice-president; Kenneth C. Watson, secretary; Mrs. Harry W. Blass, Membership secretary-treasurer; and Miss Estelle Phillips, managing director. Mr. Durkee set up the following committees and appointed each board member to serve on one of the committees: Membership and Ticket Sales, Budget, Program, Publicity, Constitution, By-Laws and Incorporation, and History.

In summary, many of the original founders, as well as others who were members of the Board of Directors for many seasons, believed that during these war years, 1941 through 1945, the Sacramento Community Forum experienced its greatest success. From a membership standpoint this was certainly true. Never in the history of the Forum from 1933 through 1956 did it exceed the 1582 membership figure reached in the fall of 1941. This membership reflected the support of the community,
a community that wanted to have presented for its collective consideration the major political, social, and economic questions of the day. The programs themselves were evidence of the kinds of questions which were uppermost in the minds of the leaders and the membership. The speakers were chosen because of the reputations they had won in their respective fields, and because of popular demand from the Forum supporters themselves.
CHAPTER VI

THE POST-WAR YEARS -- 1945-1956

The purpose of this chapter is to show the changes in sponsors, membership, and programs during the decade following World War II. With respect to the sponsors, some of whom felt that they needed "new blood" on the Board of Directors, the constitution adopted in 1946 was amended in 1953 to limit the terms of the members. This resulted in an almost complete turnover of the Board of Directors. As far as membership was concerned, it dropped from 1470 in the 1945-46 series to 629 in the 1955-56 season. The pattern of the programs had to a marked extent been that of the lecture forum in which there had been a presentation of information and ideas followed by a discussion involving questions and answers. A deviation from this structured pattern occurred with the introduction of films, most of them in color and related to travel. Every member of the Board of Directors was not in complete agreement as to the place of "colored movies" in what was considered to be a "true forum."

The 1945-46 series. The program committee with Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena as chairman, titled both of the series, "Challenge of Peace." For programs, see Appendix A,
figures 22 and 23. It was interesting to note that the speaker for March 11, 1946 was F. Melvyn Lawson, past president of the Sacramento Community Forum, and his subject, "Pacific Impressions." This same program announced a bonus lecture for March 25, 1946. On that date The Union made the following announcement under the heading, "Briton Will Be Speaker at Forum Tonight."

The final lecture of the spring series sponsored by the Sacramento Community Forum will be presented by Colonel Rhys Davies, British traveler who recently toured Germany and the Mediterranean area, at 8 o'clock tonight in the Sacramento High School, 35th and Broadway.

His subject will be Britain Faces the Future. Charles R. Blood will be the moderator. Forum membership cards will entitle the holders to admission to the lecture which will be presented as a bonus.1

James R. Wilson, chairman of the membership and ticket sales committee, made a report at the meeting of the Board of Directors on January 9, 1946 that 1341 season tickets and 166 single admissions had been sold during the fall 1945 series. There was very little information in the minutes to indicate just what had been done to increase the sale of season tickets. The minutes mentioned that a special campaign had been directed to the schools but the results were disappointing. Mr. Wilson reported that the 20-30 club had sold 83 tickets out of 175 which had been assigned to them. In addition several new stations for ticket purchases had been made available, such

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1 The Union, March 25, 1946, p. 4.
as the American Trust Bank and Hale Brothers store. By the
time of the next meeting of the Board on June 17, 1946, the
final report showed that a total of 1470 season tickets had
been sold. The cost of the program for both series was $1535.
At this point the Directors approved the transfer of $1000
from the checking account to the savings account.

At the meeting on January 9, 1946, the Board accepted
the resignation of Miss Grace Taylor. From time to time ref­
erence was made in the earlier minutes that the organization
needed "new blood." At the meeting on January 9, 1946 the
Board unanimously elected the following new members: Dixwell
Pierce, Thomas Stanton, E. E. Noyes, and Dr. Oscar Johnson.
At this same meeting Miss Phillips mentioned the need for
preparing By-laws and/or a Constitution before the end of the
season.

It was apparent from the number of rough drafts of the
Constitution that were found in the files, that considerable
discussion went on regarding the length of time a board mem­
ber should serve. In the final draft which was adopted at
the meeting on June 17, 1946, no mention was made of a time
limit for a board member to serve (see Appendix C, figure 1).
However, the term of the president was limited to one year.
It was also noted that Article V, Section 3(c) spelled out
the duties of the Managing Director-Treasurer.
Two other actions took place at the June 17, 1946 meeting. The Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Waugh who had been active in the forum since its very beginning. The other was the election of the following officers for the next year: Charles Deterding, president; Kenneth C. Watson, vice-president; Miss Phillips, Managing Director-Treasurer; and E. E. Noyes, secretary. Since the new Constitution prohibited any Board member from receiving compensation, a special resolution was passed to retain Mrs. H. W. Blass as assistant secretary in charge of membership and also as assistant treasurer.

The 1946-47 series. "World Problems in Atomic Era" was the broad title selected for the twelve lectures of these two series (see Appendix A, figures 24 and 25). From the programs it was evident that the Board of Directors remained the same. The price of the membership and the single admission ticket was not changed.

The only record of any meetings of the Board held during this period was found in the minutes dated June 24, 1947, and signed by Tom MacBride. His name was listed as one of the members of the Board present at the meeting. As Mr. MacBride recalled it, he was elected to the Board of Directors during the time Mr. Deterding was president.

At this meeting of June 24, 1947, the Board accepted a letter of resignation (dated April 22) from Mr. Durkee, and
elected Mr. J. L. Rosenberg, Managing Editor of the Sacramento Union, to membership on the Board. The matter of having two or three younger persons was discussed, as it had been in the past, but once again was passed over to the next meeting.

The officers elected for the 1947-48 season were:
Thomas E. Stanton, president; Mrs. Frank B. Gillett, vice-president; Thomas J. MacBridge, recording secretary; Miss Essie Phillips, Managing-Director. Mrs. Harry W. Blass was reappointed as Membership secretary-treasurer.

No financial records for this period could be found. One isolated reference showed that 995 season tickets had been sold. A financial report for the next season, 1947-48, showed that the 1946-47 season closed with $2241.68 in the bank. This balance included savings from previous seasons. Because of the incomplete records it was not possible to determine the exact amount saved in each of the preceding seasons. However, despite the balance on hand, the Board of Directors voted to increase the membership fee to $3 for the 1947-48 season.

The 1947-48 season. Up until the fall of 1947 separate programs had been printed and numbered for each series. The one for the spring of 1947 was numbered the "Twenty-ninth Series." While the format of the program remained basically
the same, in the fall of 1947 the size was enlarged to provide for printing both the fall and spring series on the one program. Reference to the numerical sequence of the series was discontinued. The two series were combined and numbered by the season starting with the "Fifteenth Season" for the 1947-48 lectures (See Appendix A, figure 26). In addition to the customary listing of the Board of Directors and the membership secretary-treasurer, the new program carried the names of the officers, the managing-director, the program chairman, and the chairman of the ushers.

On this first combined program, Miss Ellen Facchine was listed as chairman of the ushers, who were identified as "Members of Alpha Chapter, Beta Sigma Sorority." When Miss Facchine was contacted she explained that the sorority was an off-campus International Literary Society organized in 1932. Miss Phillips was Literary Chairman of the group. As Miss Facchine remembered it, the Forum had difficulty getting ushers, and because Miss Phillips was a member of the sorority, they volunteered to help. Although they started ushering before the war, it was not until the program announcement of 1947-48 that they were given public recognition.

The minutes of the Board meeting held September 10, 1947 recorded the resignation of Colonel Charles R. Blood, and the election of George Jensen and Merle Hussong to the Board of Directors.
At the annual meeting of the Board on May 11, 1948, Mrs. Blass reported that for the 1947-48 season, 1157 membership tickets and 379 single admissions had been sold, bringing the total income for the season to $3850. Miss Phillips reported that the season of fall-1947 started with savings on hand of $2241.68 and terminated with a cash balance of $2924.39. The total expenses for the season amounted to $3189.23, of which amount $2375 was paid to the speakers.

The opening lecture, "Is Russia A Force for Peace", October 27, 1947, was given by two individuals with opposite points of view. Hallett Aben, noted New York Times correspondent in the Far East, took the negative viewpoint, while Jerome Davis, outstanding authority on Russia, took the affirmative.

The cost of this first lecture was $300. The other speakers and their respective fees were: Nelson Pringle, $150; Arnold Marquis, $200; Milton Silverman, $200; Vilhjalmar Stefansson, $250; Kurt von Schuschnigg, $350; Graham Stuart, $75; Edward A. Hogan, $50; Carleton Smith, $200; Theodore Hsi-En Chen, $200; Dr. Eric Mann, $200. The printed program listed J. L. Rosenstein as the speaker for February 16, 1948. The financial report did not list his name but showed the last name only of Cocke followed by his fee of $75. This brought the total cost of programs to $2375.
Mr. Wallace Mason resigned from the Board of Directors as of April 29, 1948.

New officers elected for the 1948-49 season were: Charles O. Busick, Jr., president; Thomas J. MacBride, vice-president; Miss Viola Rose, recording secretary; Miss Essie Phillips, managing-director; and Mrs. H. W. Blass, membership secretary-treasurer. The minutes of the meeting called attention to the fact that there were three vacancies on the Board and that members should be looking for prospective new ones. In addition to Mr. Mason, the other two names missing from the list of Directors on the 1948-49 program were Mrs. George R. Davis, and Miss Ethel Morley. Since some of the minutes were missing, there was no official record of their resignations. From other sources it was learned that Mrs. Davis had died and Miss Morley had married and left the community.

The 1948-49 season. (For programs see Appendix A, figure 27.) Sometime before the fall opening of the 1948-49 season, the Board of Directors changed the name from Sacramento Community Forum to Sacramento Town Hall. No minutes recording this change could be found. The new name appeared on the program announcing the "Sixteenth Season of Monday Evening Programs." According to the recollections of those interviewed the name was changed for several reasons. One of these was that there were several other forums being organized
in Sacramento such as the Women's Forum and the Catholic Forum, and people were confusing them when they purchased tickets. Another reason given was the publicity value of the words "Town Hall." While it was recognized that the National Town Hall of the Air was a copyrighted name, it was felt that the use of the new title would give the program some impetus.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors held April 17, 1949, Mrs. Blass reported that for the 1948-49 season, 996 season tickets and 358 single admissions had been sold. The total income from the sale of tickets was $3346. Miss Phillips reported total expenses of $3352.57 of which $2481 had been paid to the speakers. She also reported that when the season began there was a balance of $2924.39 on hand and at the close there was a balance of $2960.28.

In the minutes recording the meeting of May 5, 1949, reference was made to a discussion regarding the sale of tickets and the best methods to use. A letter from Mr. McBride was read in which he suggested that tickets be sent to all the previous year's members, that the group continue the system of having tickets sold by Mrs. Blass and the Bank of America, and lastly, that each member of the Board sell as many as possible. He also recommended that a separate sales organization be set up for state employees. No specific action was taken at this time. A motion was passed that a block of 100 tickets be placed on sale at 50¢ each for students.
The following officers were elected for the 1949-50 season: George C. Jensen, president; Edward E. Noyes, vice-president; Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena, recording secretary; and Miss Essie Phillips, managing-director.

The 1949-50 season. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 26, 1949, were recorded by the new president, George Jensen. No other minutes of meetings for this season could be found. The matter of adding new board members came up for discussion. At the time there were four vacancies, including the resignation of Dr. Mendelson, which had been sent on May 23, 1949. Several names were presented and voted upon as acceptable, providing the individuals were willing to serve. Among these were the following who became Board members: Reverend Richard C. Dwyer, Miss Louise Feuillard, C. M. Goethe, Mrs. Edward Goldberg, David Macauley, Mrs. W. J. Van Den Berg, and Dr. Guy West.

The number of programs was reduced to five per series. There were two illustrated lectures, one in the fall of 1949 and one in the spring of 1950 (see Appendix A, figure 25).

The following was taken from The Bee regarding the lecture for December 5, 1949:

George H. Wilson will discuss "Around the World With Town Hall" at tonight's session of the Sacramento Town Hall at 8 o'clock in the Sacramento High School.
Wilson, a member of the Board of Directors of American Farm Bureau Federation, is a resident of Clarksburg, Yolo County. He will be introduced by Thomas J. MacBride who will act as moderator for the meeting.

Tonight's session will be the last meeting of Town Hall until February 20.1

The membership record showed that 672 season tickets were sold for the 1949-50 period. No other financial records could be located.

On September 17, 1949, just before the fall season opened, Mrs. Frank B. Gillett, who had been with the Forum since the days when Mr. Brickley started it, resigned.

The 1950-51 season. Four out of the nine programs scheduled for this season included colored films (see Appendix A, figure 29). It was the feeling of some of the Board members that these movies brought in more memberships, as well as an increase in single admissions. The minutes of May 29, 1951 show that 852 memberships and 468 single admissions were sold during the season. The financial report made by Miss Phillips showed income of $3080 and expenses of $3050.05. The cost of the programs amounted to $1964.

During this season it was decided to increase the Board of Directors not to exceed thirty. In line with this decision two members were added: Mrs. Dave Dozier and Mr. J. T. McMenamin.

2The Bee, December 5, 1949, p. 2.
The only record of a meeting of the Board of Directors that could be located was dated May 29, 1951. At this meeting the following officers were elected for the 1951-52 season: Thomas J. MacBridge, president; Merle Hussong, vice-president; Mrs. F. N. Scatena, recording secretary; Miss Essie Phillips, Managing director. Mrs. Blass was reappointed to the same position she had. After considerable discussion regarding the price of the membership fee and whether it should remain at three dollars, it was voted not to change it.

The 1951-52 season. As the result of an earlier recommendation the meeting night for the forum lectures was changed from Monday to Tuesday. With the exception of February 13, 1952 (February 12 being a legal holiday), each of the meetings for this season was held on Tuesday (for programs see Appendix A, figure 30).

At a meeting of the Board of Directors on January 25, 1952, the following were invited to become members of the Board: Mrs. Edna Bush, Miss Ramona E. Wulff, Jack McLaverty, and Joseph Gallagher.

At the annual meeting on April 12, 1952, Mrs. Blass reported that 1004 season tickets, 418 single admissions, and 108 student tickets had been sold. In a financial statement submitted as of September 19, 1952, Miss Phillips reported the total income for the season to be $3497 and the total expenses
The cost of the programs amounted to $2325. The nominating committee presented the slate of officers, all of whom were unanimously elected, for the 1952-53 season. They were: Merle H. Hussong, present; Mrs. Joseph O'Neill, vice-president; Mrs. F. N. Scatena, recording secretary; Miss Essie Phillips, managing-director. While no mention was made in the minutes regarding Mrs. Blass, it was evident from the 1952-53 program which was printed in the fall that she retained her assignment as membership secretary-treasurer.

The 1952-53 season. The first meeting of the new season's officers and Board was called for June 4, 1952. Normally this first meeting was held in the fall.

From previous records it appeared that the president-elect at the time of his election, appointed a program committee who worked closely with Miss Phillips on the selection of speakers for the next season. It was generally agreed among those who had been program chairmen that they left the details of the arrangements including the correspondence with speakers' bureaus to Miss Phillips.

At the June 4th meeting, Mr. Hussong appointed Dixwell Pierce as program chairman with the following to assist him: Mrs. Bush, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Gallagher, Mrs. de Polo, Miss Wulff, Mr. Lawson, and Mr. McMenamin. After a lengthy discussion it was the unanimous opinion of those present that
the speaker for the opening night should be not only well known, but also one who would have "strong" box office attraction.

During the 1951-52 season, 108 student tickets had been sold. To continue student interest Mr. Goethe volunteered to pay for one hundred student tickets. It was his suggestion that the tickets be divided among the Sacramento schools and that the teachers should award them on the basis of scholarship. In a letter of June 16, 1952, he wrote:

Herewith is promised $50 check toward covering 100 children's tickets as discussed at the last meeting. This will confirm my own feeling in the matter, that dividing these up among the Sacramento schools and letting the teachers award them for conspicuous scholarship is more than the trifling cost that parents would have to pay for tickets.

A half century's experience in this matter covering thousands of schools this side of the Mississippi has convinced my Sweetheart and me that sometimes insignificant checks, like this one, stimulate parental and childish pride. It is not the amount so much as the fact that the school recognizes the ability and/or devotion in the pupil.3

According to Mrs. Scatena, Mr. Goethe continued this practice of contributing $50 each season.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors was held on August 4, 1952 for the purpose of hearing the report of the program committee. The program (see Appendix A, figure 31) was accepted "after much discussion." This discussion

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3 Letter dated June 16, 1952 written by Mr. C. M. Goethe to the Sacramento Town Hall, 1025 - 42nd Street, Sacramento, California.
included the question of the political significance related to having Paul Douglas speak. Some members expressed the opinion that the election year with its many talks concerning morality in government might not prove interesting. Some felt that Mr. Douglas' lecture, coming after the election, might be an anti-climax "particularly if the Republican party should be elected into power." However, the program with Mr. Douglas as speaker was accepted.

Two important events affecting the organizational structure of Sacramento Town Hall occurred at the Board meeting of April 4, 1953. The first was the resignation of Miss Phillips who had been with the forum for nineteen years and as managing director for fourteen years. The second action centered around a discussion of the objectives of the organization, whether it should be continued, and finally the advisability of amending the constitution.

Mr. Lawson, moderator for the last program of the season (April 14, 1953) was selected to announce to the membership the resignation of Miss Phillips, and to publicly commend her for the outstanding job she had done over the years. A committee with Mrs. Scatena as chairman, was appointed to arrange for a party honoring Miss Phillips at the annual meeting on May 28, 1953. Arrangements were also made to present Miss Phillips with a gift in appreciation of her long years of service.
It was the opinion of the Board members who were inter-
terviewed that the main reasons for Miss Phillips' resigna-
tion were connected with her need to spend more time on her
personal business affairs, her expressed desire to travel,
and, lastly, her wish to retire.

Mr. Hussong appointed a committee on "Objectives and
Constitutional Revision" to report at a special meeting
scheduled for April 24, 1953. Reverend Dwyer was appointed
as chairman of this committee with the following members to
assist him: Messrs. Gallagher, Rosenberg, MacBride, Lawson,
and McMenamin. Mr. Stanton was appointed chairman of the
nominating committee which was also to report at the April
24th meeting.

The minutes of the April 24th meeting indicated that
the proposed revisions to the constitution had been mailed
to the board members in advance of the meeting. After a gen-
eral discussion a motion was made and carried to adopt the
report including the revisions of the constitution. For the
amended constitution, see Appendix C, figure 2. The princi-
pal revision was in Article IV, Section 1, which provided for
a Board of thirty members, each member to serve for three
years and not be eligible for reelection to a successive term.
It also provided that:
At the 1953 annual meeting of the Board as provided in Section 1 of Article VI, 10 members shall be elected for terms of one year each; 10 for terms of two years; and 10 for terms of three years each. Thereafter, 10 members shall be elected each year for terms of three years each.4

Provision was made in this same Article in Section 5, for the position of Honorary Director to be given to those directors who had been on the Board for many years, and who under this amendment would automatically be removed.

A second important change was stated in Article V, Section 3(c) which assigned to the president, the duties formerly performed by the managing director. Section 3(d) gave the responsibility connected with the funds of the organization to the treasurer. This duty had previously been the responsibility of the managing director. Mrs. Blass as membership secretary-treasurer had been responsible for accounting for the money connected with the sale of the tickets. The financial statement had been prepared by Miss Phillips.

A letter of resignation from Mr. Harry Stewart was read and accepted at the meeting on April 24, 1953.

No action was taken on a letter addressed to Miss Phillips from Mr. Rappaport of San Francisco Town Hall in which Mr. Rappaport suggested that Norman Vincent Peale might

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4 See Appendix C, figure 2, Article IV, Section 1.
be obtained as a speaker for the next season. Peale's regular fee was $1500 but it was indicated he might accept $600.

The annual meeting on May 28, 1953 was preceded by a dinner in the Gold Room of the Senator Hotel, honoring Miss Phillips.

At the regular business meeting letters of resignation were read and accepted from the following Board members: Mrs. Joseph O'Neill, Mrs. Thomas de Polo, E. D. Noyes, Thomas E. Stanton, and F. Melvyn Lawson.

The financial report for the 1952-53 season showed the sale of 966 season tickets, 448 single admissions, 31 college tickets, and a $50 gift from Mr. Goethe. This brought the total income to $3411.50. The total expenses amounted to $3606.01. Of this amount $2580 was paid for speakers. This last figure included $130 expended for rental of a projector, services of an operator, and a stage hand. The report further stated that as of July 1, 1953 there would be a balance of $2074.19 in the savings account and $339.52 in the checking account.

The Board elected the following officers for the 1953-54 season: Joseph Gallagher, president; Reverend Richard Dwyer, vice-president; Mrs. F. N. Scatena, recording secretary; Miss Ramona Wulff, treasurer; and Mrs. H. W. Blass as membership secretary.
The 1953-54 season. Sometime before the start of the 1953-54 season a special committee met for the purpose of putting into effect the amendment regulating the term of office of the existing members of the Board. While no reference to this committee could be found in the minutes, the information was obtained from Mrs. Scatena who was a member of the committee. The results of this committee's work appeared on the membership letter of September (no date) 1953 (see Appendix B, figure 3).

On August 4, 1953 a meeting was called by the new president, Joseph Gallagher, for the purpose of introducing new Board members and to discuss the program for the coming season. The new Board members were: Edward A. Combatalade, Kenneth Hammaker, Wilmer Morse, Theodore Rosequist, Kenneth Anderson, Henry Teichert, and Mrs. Margot Savage.

Mr. MacBride, program chairman, reported on the work his committee had been doing to obtain speakers for the coming season. The Board decided that Mr. MacBride and his committee should complete the final arrangements for the program. For the final program see Appendix A, figure 32.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on April 7, 1954 to review what had happened during the 1953-54 season and to discuss plans for the 1954-55 year. Financially the expenses exceeded the income by $698.88. The statement made by the
treasurer showed that 860 season tickets, 636 single tickets, and 50 college tickets had been sold for a total income of $3241. The expenses, including $2550 for speakers, amounted to a total of $3939.88.

In view of the deficit of $698.88, a question was raised as to whether or not the organization should continue. After a long discussion in which each director had an opportunity to participate and state his point of view, it was the consensus that the group should continue with a program for the 1954-55 season. It was voted to increase the membership to $3.50, to continue the meetings on Tuesday evenings, to have more travelogues since they seemed to attract larger audiences, and to prepare a regular budget with a larger allowance for advertising. With respect to advertising, it was suggested that the programs be printed in a "pocketbook" size. It was also suggested that the annual meeting be called at the close of the spring series and that the nominating committee be appointed in advance so that the officers could be elected at this meeting. This would permit the new president to appoint a program committee who could start early on the next season's programs. It should be noted that this was the first season the organization had been without a managing director, whose job it had been to look after many of the details.
The annual meeting of the Sacramento Town Hall was held at the Del Paso Country Club on May 27, 1954. Dinner preceded the meeting. The following officers were elected for the 1954-55 season: E. A. Combatalade, president; Theodore Rosequist, vice-president; Mrs. F. N. Scatena, secretary; Miss Louise Feuillard, treasurer. A special vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Busick and Mr. Lundlee, both of whom were retiring from the Board. Mr. Busick had been on the Board since the organization had been established on a permanent basis.

The 1954-55 season. The first meeting of the 1954-55 season was held on June 10, 1954. The minutes stated that the new Board members were introduced. Since no list of names was included in the minutes, the names of the new members were taken from the program. They were: Isadore Brosin, Dr. L. G. Brownell, William Burkett, Richard Dunnigan, Mrs. Sumner Mering, Isaiah Shain, Dr. Maude Tillotson, and Mrs. James Wanzer. The program also showed that Robert S. Chapin was in charge of printing and operations. Sterling S. Winans was State employees chairman. By the time of the next meeting held August 11, 1954, Mr. Teichert, program chairman, had completed arrangements for the program. He presented the list of speakers and subjects which were approved by the board. (See Appendix A, figure 33.)
A letter dated June 16, 1954 indicated Mr. Goethe had resigned because of impaired hearing.

It was apparent from the minutes of the meetings held on February 9, 1955, March 22, 1955, and April 1, 1955 that the board members were becoming increasingly concerned about the financial status of Sacramento Town Hall, the decreasing membership and the poor attendance at the lectures. Special committees were appointed to study the problem and to report back at a meeting scheduled for April 19, 1955.

Several suggestions were made at the April 19th meeting including moving back to the Tuesday Clubhouse which had a seating capacity of 750 and plenty of parking space available. Other recommendations were to talk with potential candidates in the Sacramento area who might be available to take on the job of managing director, and also to discuss the problem with Mr. Rappaport of San Francisco Town Hall to see if he had any suggestions. After considerable discussion it was decided to acquire the services of a managing director.

Mr. Combatalade appointed Dr. Baxter Geeting, T. J. MacBride, and Mrs. Scatena to interview prospective applicants.

At this same meeting Mrs. Blass reported that 695 season tickets at $3.50 each, 339 single admissions at $1.00 each and 52 student tickets at 50¢ each had been sold. This brought the total income to $2697.50. The total expenses
amounted to $3197.67. This left a deficit of $500.18 which was covered by a transfer of funds from the savings account to the checking account.

The minutes of February 9, 1955 stated that the new officers and new Board members for the next season were elected unanimously, but the names were not listed. The minutes of April 19 referred to this election, but no names were given. The officers elected were taken from the 1955-56 program and were: Baxter M. Geeting, Ph.D., president; Mrs. Margot Savage, vice-president; Richard R. Dunnigan, treasurer, Mrs. Frederick N. Scatena, membership secretary-treasurer. The new board members included Mrs. Leighton Armstrong, Sam Cohn, Michael Elorduy, Tes L. Giammugnani, Sam Hanson, Mrs. Mary Mulcahy, Robert E. Murphy, Mrs. Grace Pope, and Mrs. James O. Wanzer.

The minutes of the meeting held May 10, 1955 contained a statement that Mrs. Blass had resigned her assignment as membership-secretary and that she had been made a member of the board of directors. The minutes went on to state that it was the unanimous opinion of those present that Mrs. Scatena should assume the duties performed by Mrs. Blass.

Mr. MacBride reported the results of meetings held for the purpose of selecting a managing director. Mr. MacBride, as chairman of the committee, made two recommendations:
first, that the Board of Directors hire John Ickes, as manager, for the 1955-56 season at a guaranteed fee of $400 plus up to $400 additional of all profits made during the season after payment of all expenses, including the $400 fee to Mr. Ickes; and second, that the services of the Eaglet Theater box office be obtained for a fee of $60 for the sale of membership tickets. The board voted to accept these recommendations and instructed Mr. MacBride to inform Mr. Ickes.

The 1955-56 season. For programs, see Appendix A, figure 34. The two programs which brought in the greatest number of single admissions were the colored film on Alaska (146 single admissions) and the lecture by Dorothy Thompson (120). Once again the number of season tickets sold dropped -- this time to 667. The total income for the season amounted to $2673.50. The total expenses were $3479.83 of which $1992 was paid for speakers.

The original arrangement made with John Ickes was amended so that he was paid $284 for his services. The Eaglet Theater was paid $30 instead of the original $60.

At the end of the 1955-56 season the Sacramento Town Hall had a total cash balance on hand of $577.92.

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors called on March 1, 1956, a motion was passed to amend the constitution to provide for no limit as to the term a board member could
serve. The amendment to Article IV, section 1, proposed that board members serve as long as they maintained an active interest in the organization, including attendance at board meetings and active promotion of the organization.

The matter of the annual meeting was discussed and April 12 chosen as the tentative date. Later the annual meeting was cancelled due, primarily, to the uncertainty of continuing the organization.

In the meantime the following officers had been elected for the 1956-57 season: Richard R. Dunnigan, president; Robert E. Murphy, vice-president; Mrs. F. N. Scatena, manager-director-secretary; and Tes L. Giammugnani, treasurer.

The 1956-57 season. On May 10, 1956 Mr. Dunnigan sent a letter, together with the financial statement for the 1955-56 season to each of the directors. The letter stated that at the May 3rd meeting of the Board of Directors a quorum had not been present, but that those present suggest five courses of action that could be taken. Mr. Dunnigan listed those five suggestions with a request that each member indicate his views and return the letter to the secretary. The five proposals were:

1. Schedule no speaker whose fee exceeds $350

2. Include three or four motion pictures at a cost of not more than $200 each
3. Each director to guarantee sale of 15 tickets ($52.50)

4. Each director to underwrite his share of deficit

5. Find a responsible individual or group to sponsor the program and underwrite any deficit.

At a special meeting held May 31, 1956, the Board reviewed the proposals listed in the letter of May 10, 1956 and discussed the advantages and disadvantages connected with continuing Sacramento Town Hall. Among the advantages listed were the following:

1. There has been an average attendance of 600 interested members.

2. The organization has been an active part of the community for twenty-two years.

3. Financially -- Mrs. Scatena reported that from contacts she had made with individual Board members and clubs, a minimum of 300 season tickets could be sold. This would amount to $1050. There is a balance of approximately $575 in the bank.

4. Sacramento Town Hall makes speakers available to certain audiences who might not otherwise hear them.

5. Lack of interest elsewhere might interest a speaker to come to Sacramento at a more reasonable price.
Among the disadvantages were:

1. There is increasing competition with other media such as television, the Armchair Cruise series, the women's forum, civic clubs, and others.

2. It is hard to sell tickets -- the directors are unable to sell them.

3. Programs lack timeliness and topical information.

4. The core of interested people is too small to support the organization.

5. There are no burning issues at stake, no war, no depression, no crisis.

6. The media of communication have changed.

7. The organization lost money in the last several years.

8. The purposes of Town Hall are being satisfied elsewhere.

9. While the population has doubled since 1941, the peak year for Town Hall, the membership of the latter has decreased more than 50%.

After reviewing the advantages and disadvantages, it was decided to omit the 1956-57 season and to notify all those in the membership files of this decision and to ask them for their reactions and suggestions.

On October 11, 1956 a letter was sent to the Sacramento Town Hall membership notifying them of the action taken by the
board and asking each one to send his suggestions and observation to Mrs. F. N. Scatena, secretary.

In summarizing the activities of Sacramento Town Hall during these post-war years, special attention was directed to the fluctuations in membership, the complete turnover in the Board of Directors, and the loss of Miss Phillips who had been managing director for over fourteen years.

A recap of the membership showed the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945 - 1946</td>
<td>1470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946 - 1947</td>
<td>995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947 - 1948</td>
<td>1157</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948 - 1949</td>
<td>996</td>
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<tr>
<td>1949 - 1950</td>
<td>672</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950 - 1951</td>
<td>852</td>
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<td>1951 - 1952</td>
<td>1004</td>
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<td>1952 - 1953</td>
<td>966</td>
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<tr>
<td>1953 - 1954</td>
<td>860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954 - 1955</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955 - 1956</td>
<td>629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some of the Board members blamed television for the adverse trend in the sale of season tickets and attendance during these years, and more particularly the 1953-56 period. They pointed out that KCC-TV, Channel 40, started broadcasting
and televising live shows in September, 1953. Others felt that Sacramento Town Hall, like the "tented Chautauqua" was a "thing of the past," and that it had served its purpose.

For over twenty years, from 1933 to 1953, the Board of Directors had been composed of practically the same dedicated people. Although they discussed getting new members on many occasions, they never got beyond the discussion stage until 1953 when the constitution was amended. This amendment resulted in an almost complete turnover in the Board of Directors. The first reaction was the immediate resignation of most of the old timers. No analyst would belittle the impact an action such as this would have on an organization as old as Sacramento Town Hall. An easy explanation would be to attribute the loss of membership to the changes in the Board of Directors.

A much more likely explanation was found in an editorial in The Union following the death of Miss Essie Phillips on January 6, 1956. It was headed "A Live Monument" and said:

When Essie Phillips folded her cloak about her and silently fled away to an undiscovered country, recently, she left a living monument to her great capacity for getting things done -- Sacramento Town Hall. For more than 15 years Essie Phillips was the human dynamo who kept this institution for education and culture alive. Thousands are indebted to her for bringing to Sacramento some of the great names in the field of literature, the arts, politics, and science.
She had a fine sense of propriety, a highly developed appreciation of the arts and sciences, and a great love for her Sacramento.

Next week, Sacramento Town Hall -- without the presence of Essie Phillips -- begins the spring series of the 23rd season. It will present an interesting travelogue at the Tuesday Clubhouse.

We commend this institution to Sacramento as one of the worthwhile things on the calendar of events, and suggest that it deserves even more patronage now that its founder and mainspring has completed her work.5

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5 The Union, January 11, 1956, p. 8.
CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

I. SUMMARY

The practice of public discussion or group consideration of contemporary affairs is not new in the history of our country. Dating back to the time of the first New England settlers, men and women have gathered periodically to hear and discuss various sides of questions confronting them. Although the times and conditions changed, the need for a frank, open, and candid discussion of current events has not altered. Depending upon the needs of the country, various vehicles of public discussion have evolved over the years.

The American conception of democratic processes was first expressed in the New England town meeting. The town meeting became the center for discussing problems related to building streets and roads, the setting aside of ground for burial purposes, the subject matter to be taught in the schools and later, the meeting place for political action. The name of Samuel Adams stands out as the recognized leader of these early New England town meetings.

During the first quarter of the nineteenth century the emphasis shifted to meeting the educational needs of the people. In 1826, Josiah Holbrook established the American
Lyceum for the purpose of improving the public school system through group discussion and study. Holbrook was an educator and a lecturer. He organized the small towns, villages, and local groups into community lyceums. Delegates from these community lyceums formed state lyceums, which, in turn, sent representatives to the national lyceum. The whole purpose of the lyceum was to establish a national association for the promotion and improvement of education. This was accomplished in 1839 after which the national lyceum ceased to exist.

The lyceum had established a lecture pattern of discussion. Following the Civil War, Lyceum bureaus were established for the purpose of supplying professional lecturers, first on the eastern seaboard and later in the middle west. These lyceum bureaus, forerunners of the modern bureaus, became a second lyceum movement, but different entirely in function from the original lyceum of Holbrook. A booking system, referred to as a lecture bureau, was developed which provided lectures, music, drama, and other forms of entertainment.

The Chautauqua movement followed and ran parallel to the Lyceum bureaus. The lyceum met in the winter and the Chautauqua met in the summer.

The Chautauqua was originally established at Lake Chautauqua, New York, in 1874, as a Sunday school institute
for training Sunday school teachers. Two names associated with the original Chautauqua were the Reverend J. H. Vincent and Lewis Miller, a business man.

With the addition of other studies, activities, and entertainment features, the Chautauqua movement grew from the original Sunday school institute into a flourishing national movement. Local groups organized throughout the country for the purpose of discussion and study, under the leadership of Chautauqua leaders.

In 1904 the circuit or "tent" chautauquas were started by Keith Vawter and others connected with the lyceum bureaus who saw an opportunity to extend business and make money. At no cost to themselves, they convinced the leaders in communities throughout the country to underwrite the circuit or traveling chautauqua. The chautauqua provided everything from companies of musicians, lecturers and performers, to advertising, tents, and complete seating equipment. The lecturers included such famous men as William Jennings Bryan.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century and the early part of the present one, other important public discussion movements arose. Two of these were the People's Institute or Cooper Union Forum established in New York City and Ford Hall in Boston.

Most of the forums which had sprung up before the United States entered World War I, went out of existence with
the start of the war. A renewal of the forum movement did not occur until the early 1930's. In 1932 the Des Moines Public Forums were organized under the leadership of John W. Studebaker, Superintendent of Schools. These forums became the pattern for the Federal Forum Projects when Dr. Studebaker became the United States Commissioner of Education in 1935.

The Sacramento Community Forum, like the Des Moines project, was started by people in the field of education, and by a grant from the Carnegie Foundation. The Sacramento Community Forum was established in 1927 under the sponsorship of the Division of Adult Education of the State Department of Education. At that time Mrs. Ethel Richardson Allen was in charge of the Division and her assistant was Miss Edna Stangland. Michael J. Brickley, an instructor in modern history at Sacramento Junior College, was the lecturer and discussion leader. The Forum was suspended during 1929-30 for lack of funds and sponsors. In 1931 the Parent Teachers Association reestablished the forum. In 1932 it was taken over by private sponsors who continued to run it through the spring of 1956 when it was temporarily suspended for the 1956-57 season.

The sponsors first called themselves a General Committee and later a Board of Directors. The sponsors, for the most part, were a representative cross section of the leaders
of the business, schools, civic, and cultural life of Sacramento. The primary purpose of the organization was to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields for discussion of subjects of public interest. The Sacramento Community Forum was a non-profit and non-partisan organization. However, to defray the cost of operation when it was taken over by private sponsors in 1932, a membership fee of one dollar was charged for each series. Later provision was made for paying two dollars for an annual membership which covered both the fall and spring series of lectures. This annual fee was increased to three dollars for the 1947-48 season and to $3.50 for the 1953-54 period. At the time of suspension in the spring of 1956 the fee was $3.50.

The programs over the years covered a wide range of topics of current interest at the time. These discussions included such topics as, "American Foreign Policy," "Education for Democracy," "The New Deal," "Economic Disarmament," "Scotland Yard," "The Russian Problem," and "Virus, Vitamins, and Vaccines," to name a few.

II. CONCLUSIONS

The history of Sacramento Community Forum (Town Hall) paralleled that of various other public discussion movements in America, particularly in the areas related to individual
leadership, concept or reason for existing, sponsors, and financial backing. In addition, it was recognized that any public discussion movement is perpetually in competition with other outlets for the public time and money.

The study of public discussion movements in the history of America revealed the presence of certain major elements. The first of these was individual leadership. The town meeting of the early New England days had Samuel Adams and his continuous direction. The American Lyceum flourished under the leadership of Josiah Holbrook and brought this country its first national standards of education. The modern day forum owes a great deal to Dr. John Studebaker and his Des Moines Forums, as well as the Federal Forum Project which was established under his supervision as United States Commissioner of Education.

All those connected with the Sacramento Community Forum during its first years gave full credit to Michael Brickley for his leadership as both lecturer and moderator. He, on the other hand, credits the Adult Division of Education of the State Department of Education and the two women who ran it, Mrs. Ethel Richardson Allen and Miss Edna Stangland.

With the introduction of outside speakers in 1934, the leadership of the Forum passed to the late Miss Essie Phillips, who was credited with keeping the Forum going until she resigned in 1953. This latter credit in no way detracts
from the contributions made by those who worked with Miss Phillips during all of those years. There was general agreement among them that she had the capacity for getting things done and they relied on her to do most of the work.

A second factor had to do with the format used, but more particularly with the opportunity the audience had to participate in the discussion. History leaves no doubt but that every man had his say at the town meeting. As the membership of Sacramento Community Forum increased, and since the time was limited, it was necessary for the moderator to be somewhat selective when he chose the questions from among those written by the audience. Some felt that this deviated from the accepted pattern of a forum. However, the size of the audience and the time element required some kind of a control, especially when there were a great number of questions.

The matter of financial backing became a third point with respect to privately sponsored forums. Public forums sponsored by school systems did not have this problem. Sacramento Community Forum was a non-profit organization which depended on the sale of membership tickets to those attending the Forum meetings. This membership fluctuated over the years from a low of approximately 400 in 1933 to a high of 1582 in 1941, and to a low of 629 in 1955.

Some of the Board members attributed the increase in membership to the need for public discussion of critical topics
during the economic crisis before World War II. They pointed out how this need disappeared after the war.

A final conclusion reached from the study of privately sponsored forums was that the life span of each was not long, that it depended upon an inspired or dedicated leader, and a genuine cause or reason for being in existence. The Sacramento Community Forum (Town Hall) started as did many others during the critical depression years of the 1930's. A great many of these forums, public as well as private, disappeared with the start of World War II. Sacramento Community Forum outlasted the depression, World War II, the post-war period, and still had a nucleus of 600 active members in the spring of 1956. Time alone will tell how long Sacramento Town Hall will be in existence.
A. BOOKS


Willis, William Ladd. History of Sacramento County, California. Los Angeles, California; Historic Record Company, 1913.


B. PERIODICALS AND BULLETINS


... "Des Moines Forum Experiment," School Life, 18:175, May, 1933.


C. NEWSPAPERS

*Sacramento Bee*, 1927 - 1956.

*Sacramento Union*, 1927 - 1956.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest.

The Fall series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings at eight o'clock, beginning October 8th.

Season Ticket, One Dollar
Single admission, Nominal charge.

Place of meeting
TUESDAY CLUBHOUSE
28th and L Streets

Tickets may be obtained from the
Membership Chairman:
Miss Mary Caven
1514- 28th Street
Main 2311

October 8. CHESTER W. ROWELL, editor and publicist, will strike the keynote of the lecture series, speaking on: "THE WORLD TODAY."

October 15. PROF. ROBT. J. KERNER, authority on modern European history University of California, will discuss "CENTRAL EUROPE: Its Fundamental Problems."

October 22. DR. IRA B. CROSS, who was popular with Forum audiences last year, returns to present: "THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION."

October 29. HILLIS LORY, world traveler and authority on Far Eastern politics, formerly lecturer Hokkaido Imperial University, Japan, now en route from Far East, will speak on: "UNDERSTANDING THE ORIENT." His recent itinerary has included Japan, Korea, China, Manchukuo and Siberian frontiers.

November 5. DR. IRA B. CROSS: Subject: "LABOR’S UNREST."

November 12. Speaker to be announced.

November 19. E. P. GUIHAIRE, Special Agent in charge Division of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, San Francisco, will discuss "GOVERNMENT'S WAR AGAINST CRIME."

November 26. The series will be closed by CHESTER ROWELL, who will interpret the daily news, his subject being "THE LATEST THINGS.

Program for Fall 1934
October 8 - November 26
March 9. "AN ECONOMIST LOOKS AT THE NEW DEAL."
Ira B. Cross, Ph. D., Author.
Professor of Economics, University of California. Lecturer, Sacramento Community Forum, 1934 and 1935.

March 16. "INTERNATIONAL CONSEQUENCE OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE."

March 23. "THE ITALO-ETHIOPIAN CRISIS AND THE NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL NEW DEAL."
Dr. Adamantios Th. Polyzoides, Graduate National University of Athens, Journalist, Managing Editor—World Affairs Interpreter—Los Angeles.

March 30. "ARE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN FOR LIFE?"
Paul S. Horner, A. M., Columbia; Associate Professor of Education, Stanford University.

April 6. SPEAKER TO BE ANNOUNCED.

April 13. AUSTRALIA, LAND OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.
Mr. L. Brackley, Instructor in Modern History, Sacramento City College. Lecturer, Sacramento Community Forum, 1933 and 1935.

April 20. "THE PROBLEM OF WAR AND PEACE IN EUROPE AND ASIA."
Robert I. Kerner, Ph. D., Harvard, Professor Modern European History, University of California, Sacramento Community Forum Lecturer, 1934 and 1935.

April 27. "THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNISM, FASCISM AND DEMOCRACY: WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?"
Frederic P. Wootton, Ph. D., Columbia, Department of Education, University of California, Los Angeles, Lecturer on International Affairs.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 10:00, with a half hour Forum following. Discussion from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October the 19th.

Season Ticket, One Dollar
Single Admission - - - Twenty-Five Cents
Tickets may be obtained from:
Col. Dean B. Brandt
Miss E. D. Burkett, Jr
Mrs. Gene B. Davis
Mrs. Frank A. Dubois
Miss W. W. Freeman
Miss H. W. French-Lownson
Dr. William Mendelson
Miss Ethel McCauley
Miss Edith O'Neil
Miss Emily V. Phillips
Miss Leonor P. Putnam
Miss Gladys M. Rose
Miss Fredericka M. Schenck
Mr. F. Vandenbergh
Miss Caroline Ward
Miss E. C. Wilson
Miss F. Zengel
and
Membership Chairman
Miss Mary C. Craven
151 W. 28th Street
Main 2511

SACRAMENTO
COMMUNITY
FORUM
Announces
Its Eighth Season of Lectures and Discussions
October 19 to December 7
Inclusive
1936
TUESDAY CLUBHOUSE
28th and L Streets

October 19. "THE PRESENT WORLD CRISIS."
Gordon S. Watkins, Ph. D.
Professor of Economics, U. C. L. A., since 1923.
Author, "Introduction to Study of Labor Problems:
Labor Management Labor Problems." Just returned
from year abroad, Sacramento Community Forum
Lecturer, 1935.

October 26. "THE NATIONAL LABOR
SITUATION."
Ira B. Cross, Ph. D.
Professor of Economics, University of California,
Lecturer, Sacramento Community Forum 1926-1930.

November 2. "SHAKESPEARE BOWS TO
THE CINEMA."
Elias T. Arnesson, A. B., M. A., Ph. D.
University of Washington, San Francisco State
College.

November 16. "THE MOST PRACTICAL
SOLUTION OF THE WORLD PEACE
PROBLEM."
Francis Ludden.
Cinema critic, star of "Autumn Crocus," peace
advocate.

November 23. "EUROPE IN TURMOIL."
Lewis B. Lesley, A. B. Stanford, Ph. D.
University of California, Native Sons Traveling
Fellowship in Europe from University of California;
San Diego State College.

November 30. "WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
PALESTINE."
Reb Benj. F. Magnin.
Wildfire Boulevard Temple, Los Angeles; radio
commentator.

December 7. "THE ANCESTORS OF
KING EDWARD VIII."
Michael J. Brickley.
Instructor in Modern History, Sacramento Junior
College, Sacramento Community Forum Lecturer,
1932, 1933, 1935.
Figure 5

The Sacramento Community Forum is a community-minded organization whose purpose is to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00 with a half hour for discussion from the floor.

The Spring Series on Judges' subjects to be announced on Monday evenings beginning February 1st.

Season Ticket: One Dollar
Single Admission: Twenty-five Cents
Tickets may be obtained from:
Col. Chauncey F. Blood, 223 Coates Hall, Michael Bower, 4012 Alkali Ave.
Mrs. Clark E. Shattuck, 4222 17th St., Paul W. Chapman, 2111 Tenth St.
Mrs. Chauncey B. Smith, 2111 Tenth St., W. Dickson Jr., 5501 C Street.
Mrs. Chauncey B. Smith, 4222 17th St., Mrs. Willard Henderson, 2100 K Street.
Mrs. Warner E. Ford, 4600 17th St., Ethel O'Neill, 2100 K Street.
Mrs. Warner E. Ford, 4600 17th St., Mrs. Florence F. Picken, 1925 16th St.
Mrs. Warner E. Ford, 4600 17th St., Mrs. Caroline Waugh, 3600 17th St.
Mrs. C. R. Wilson, 1419 23rd St.

Membership Chairwoman
MISS MARY CRAVEN
1515 28th Street. Mail 2511

February 1: "OUR EUROPEAN POLICY: Isolation or Cooperation?"
Robert J. Kennedy, Ph. D., Harvard.
Professor of Modern European History, University of California, Berkeley.
Chairman, Committee on Economic and Social Co-Operation, 1931-37, 1939.

February 8: "PAN AMERICA - The Coming Betrayal of World Democracy?"
Dr. William E. Loyd, California State College, Los Angeles.

February 15: "THE PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC DISARMAMENT"
Henry R. Grad, Ph. D., Professor of Economics, University of California.

Anthony Beiks, Ph. D., University of California.

March 1: "FASCISM vs. DEMOCRACY IN SPAIN"
Herbert Phillips, Ph. D., Columbia.

March 8: "THE BRITISH LION'S TWISTED TAIL"
Michael J. Brackley, Teacher in Modern History, Sacramento Junior College. Lecturer in English, University of California, Berkeley, 1937-39.

March 15: Subject to be Announced.
Albert S. Radwanischer, Ph. D., Dean, College of Liberal Arts, University of Southern California.

March 22: "WHAT'S HAPPENED IN AUSTRIA SINCE JULY 1938?"
Paul L. Duesler, Ph. D., Director of the Asian American Institute of Economic Affairs, University of California, Berkeley, England, United States, and Canada, Japan, America.
Figure 6

The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00 o'clock, with a half hour for discussion following. Discussion from the floor is welcomed.

The Fall Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 12th.

$1.00 Ticket; One Dollar
$50.00 Single Admission
Tickets may be obtained from:

Kendrick, 621-22nd Street

Phone Main 2511

MISS MARY CRAVEN

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

Announces

Its Tenth Season of Lectures and Discussions

October 11 to November 29

Inclusive 1937

TUESDAY CLUBHOUSE

28th and L Streets

October 11. "IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENT WORLD CRISIS."
Lewis B. Leckey, A. B., Stanford, Ph. D., University of California, Native Son, Frontier.

October 12. "JAPAN SPEAKS."
Ken Nakazawa, Chairman, Japanese Culture, University of Southern California.

October 19. "WHAT CHINA IS FIGHTING FOR."
Minister Kwong Lee Kwong, Chinese Legation, San Francisco, Sacramento Community Forum, October 1935.

October 26. "THE AMERICAN TRADITION OF LIBERTY."
Dr. Alexander Abraham.

November 3. "THE AMERICAN COLLEGE AND MODERN LIFE."
Albert S. Rippenheimer, Ph. D., State College, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, University of Southern California, Sacramento Community Forum, October 1935.

November 10. "LABOR AT THE CROSSROADS."
Ira B. Cross, Ph. D., Professor of Economics, University of California, Sacramento Community Forum, October 1933, 1934, 1935.

November 17. "PROBLEMS OF THE PACIFIC."
Mrs. Preston Stanley Vaugha, Missionary, Researcher, Only Woman Member of Rajaia of New South Wales.

November 24. "THE UNCREOWNED KING OF IRELAND."
Figure 7

The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization. Its purpose is to bring to Sacramento outstanding speakers in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The opinions of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 p.m. and end at 9:00, with a half-hour forum following. Discussion from the floor is welcomed.

The Spring Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings beginning February 14th.

Season Ticket: One Dollar
Single Admission: Fifty Cents
Tickets may be obtained from:
Col. Sam R. Blood
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Dr. William McDowall
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Harry F. Stoddard
Arthur B. Veatch
Miss Lillian Wood
James R. Wilson

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---

**February 14, 1938**

**March 14, 1938**

**April 4, 1938**

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**February 14. "POISON FOR PROFIT."**
Arthur Kallet.
Director Consumers Union of United States.
Co-author of "100,000,000 Guinea Pigs."

**March 14. "IS RUSSIA A SUCCESS."**
Dr. Jacob Weintraub.
Director—School of Jewish Studies, San Francisco.

**April 4. "MUST WE FIGHT IN EUROPE OR ASIA?"**
Dr. Kirby Page.
International Lecturer, Author on "Individualism and Socialism," "National Defense."

---

**February 21. "WHERE ARE WE GOING?"**
E. C. Harwood.

Benjamin H. Lehman, Ph. D.
University of California.

**March 28. "HAS ASIA GONE MAD?"**
Dr. E. A. Anderson.
President, Linfield College, Oregon. Recent Institute Speaker.

---

**February 28. "THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES."**
William Starr Myers.
Professor of Politics—Princeton. Author—American Democracy Today.

**March 7. "WILL ITALY DOMINATE THE MEDITERRANEAN?"**
Hubert Phillips, Ph. D., Columbia.
Berkeley State College.
Figure 8

The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half-hour Forum following. Discussion from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings, beginning October 17th.

ANNUAL TICKET
Series Ticket
One Dollar and Fifty Cents
Fifty Cents

Tickets may be obtained from:
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Cheri, O. Block Jr.
Cheri, F. Dove
Cheri, W. Dotting Jr.
Mrs. Frank B. McElroy
Dr. William Meader
Mrs. Joe O'Neal
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Mrs. Frederick N. Santee
Miss Willis M. Reed
Miss Lina H. Seller
Mr. Gerald B. Tasker
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Mrs. Charles E. Turner
Mr. James W. Wilson
Mrs. James W. Wilson
Miss Mary Caven

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
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614-22nd Street
Phone Main 2511

October 17: "TO TROPIC SEAS ABOARD VELERO III"
CAPTAIN G. ALLAN HANCOCK
Alien-Hancock Expedition Scientific Research in Pacific Waters

October 24: "THE CASE FOR AND AGAINST A MANAGED ECONOMY."
For: HON. J. STAT WILSON
Former Mayor of Berkeley
Against: DR. PAUL F. CADMAN
President American Research Foundation

October 31: "GOD HELP MY COUNTRY, or THE LOW-DOWN ON CRIME?"
CAPTAIN DON WILKIE Special Commissioner, U.S. Secret Service Author—"American Secret Service Agent. International broadcaster

November 7: "WHETHER BRITAIN?"

November 14: "THE DANGER ZONES OF THE WORLD"
DR. SYH HOSSEIN International Scholar Author. Editor: Department International Relations University of Southern California

November 21: "WILL COLLECTIVE BAR GAINING WORK?"
ALEXANDER HERON, in charge Industrial Relations Pacific Zellerbach Corporation Director of Finance State of California Young Administrators

November 28: "BALANCE SHEET OF YOUTH"
MISS HEALY NEWTON English Author International Lecturer Author—"Without Most Choose"

December 5: SPEAKER AND SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any members of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half hour forum following. Discussion from the floor welcomed.

The Spring Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings beginning February 27th.

SERIES TICKET
SINGLE ADMISSION

Tickets, may be obtained from:
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B. B. Van Sluys.
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MISS MARY CRAYEN

614 22nd Street
Phone Main 2511

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM
Announces

Its Tenth Season of Lectures
and Discussions

February 27th to April 17th
Inclusive
1939

Junior College Auditorium
21st Street, Opposite
Westlake Park

SPRING CRUISE

February 27: "THE ARABS AND JEWS IN PALESTINE."

March 6: "THE OTHER SIDE OF HAWAII."
J. A. J. RUSSELL, former Governor of Hawaii, member Hawaii Equal Rights Commission.

March 13: "ARE WE PAUPERIZING CALIFORNIA?"
J. A. J. RUSSELL, former Governor of Hawaii, member Hawaii Equal Rights Commission.

March 20: "DARE WE LOOK AHEAD?"
ERNST CHORER, author "Power and Wealth," World-Renowned Author, Scientist, Philosopher, Social Scientist, Hamburg, Germany.

March 27: "WHAT HAPPENED AT LIMA?"
DR. RUSSELL FITZPATRICK, Latin American Authority, 1934 - Mexico 1935 - Central and South American Countries; Author "Outlines of Latin American History."

April 3: "DENMARK, A CHALLENGE TO THE ISSUES."

April 10: "AMERICA AND THE POST-MUNICH WORLD."
D. A. J. GRAHAM, Professor of Political Science, University of California at Los Angeles, Recent Study in Germany.

April 17: "STAGES OF DIPLOMACY, or Who's on Whose Side?"
D. A. J. BUSH, American Diplomat on International Relations, formerly American Legation Officer in The Hague.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a nonprofit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any member of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half-hour Forum following. Discussion from the floor is welcomed.

The Fall Series includes eight subjects, to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 26th.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TICKET
TWO DOLLARS

SINGLE ADMISSION
FIFTY CENTS

Tickets may be obtained from:
2229 J Street, Sacramento

October 9th: "THE WORLD FROM THE PRESS GALLERY."

October 16th: "CALIFORNIA'S MIGRANT LABOR PROBLEM."
JOHN C. HENDERSON, Regional Chief Migrant Labor Inspector, United States Department of Agriculture. Moderator: Charles W. Detertling, Jr., Member, Executive Committee.

October 23rd: "WHAT PRICE NEUTRALITY?"

October 30th: "UNDERCURRENTS OF THE EUROPEAN SCENE."
TONY SPRING, Swiss journalist and member of the Red Cross, as a Representative of the Social Democratic Party Correspondent for the European News Press. Moderator: E. Melvin Lawson.

November 6th: "PUBLIC ASPECTS OF MEDICAL SERVICE."
HARLEY E. PEART, Esq., President of the San Francisco Bar Association and General Counsel for California Medical Association. Moderator: Frank B. Doherty, Member, Executive Committee.

November 13th: "EDUCATION UNDER DICTATORSHIP AND DEMOCRACY."
GRAYSON N. KEAFOOD, Dean, School of Education, Stanford University, a recent returnee from a three-month study of education conditions in European countries. Moderator: E. Melvin Lawson.

November 20th: "NOVELS FOR THE MANY AND NOVELS FOR THE FEW."
BRUCE CLEVE, Author, Editor, and Professor of English, University of St. Mary's College. Moderator: Mrs. Estelle Phillips, Managing Editor, Sacramento Community Forum.

November 27th: "WHAT NEXT IN WORLD AFFAIRS?"
ARNOLD SCHAFER, Workshop, world war correspondent and author. Moderator: Judge John F. Pullen.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields, for discussion of current subjects of public interest. The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of any member of the committee.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half-hour Forum following. Discussion from the floor welcomed.

The Spring Series includes eight subjects to be presented on Monday evenings beginning February 19th.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TICKET $15.00
SINGLE ADMISSION $5.00

Tickets may be obtained from:

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OR BANK OF AMERICA, 840 and J

and Membership Secretary-Treasurer

MRS. HARRY WAYNE BLISS

2157 4th Avenue
Capital 7585

**OUR CHANGING WORLD**

February 19th: "THE CHANGING BRITISH EMPIRE"

 Rt. Hon. Lord Marley, Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords; former Undersecretary of State for India, author of "Britain’s Changing Empire". Moderator: Judge John F. Putnam, President, Sacramento Community Forum.

February 26th: "BRAZIL — KEYNOTE OF PAN-AMERICAISM."

Professor O. J. Griffling, former President of the State College of Agriculture, Mississippi. Former Governor of the American Academy of Political Science. Moderator: Chas. E. Blood, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

March 5th: "COMPELLING HEALTH INSURANCE"

Barbara Nachtrieb Armstrong, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Law, University of California. Author of many books and articles on health insurance problems. Moderator: Charles B. Blood, Member, Program Committee.

March 11th: "THE EXPLOSIVE MEDITERRANEAN"

Pierre van Paassen, Editor, The Evening Star, Washington, D.C. Author and Editor of "The Mediterranean Years". Moderator: Charles E. Blood, Vice-President and Program Chairman.

March 19th: "THE INFLUENCE OF SCIENCE ON EVERYDAY LIFE"

Rudolph M. Langmuir, Ph.D., Professor of Physics, California Institute of Technology. Former President of the Physical Society of America. Member, Program Committee.

March 25th: "THE UNWANTED WAR."


April 1st: "WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE AMERICAN FAMILY?"

Paul Poirier, M.D., Director, Institute of Family Relations, University of California. Author and Lecturer. Moderator: Mrs. Frederick N. Gratton, Member, Program Committee.

April 8th: "TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED"

Oswald Garrison Villard, Associate Editor of The Nation. Moderator: Arthur B. Wray, Member, Program Committee.
Our World - Today and Tomorrow

Oct. 14th: "RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN SITUATION," ROBERT J. JERNIGEN, Ph.D., Professor of Modern European History, University of California. 
Moderator: Judge John I. Pullen, President, Sacramento Community Forum.

Oct. 21st: "REMEDIES FOR A FRUSTRATED WORLD - DEMOCRACY, FASCISM OR COMMUNISM?" SHERWOOD J. FOLEY, Ph.D., international traveler, writer, and lecturer. 
Moderator: F. M. B. Lawson, Vice-President and Program Chairman.

Oct. 28th: "WHITHER INDIA?" SYDIO HOSAIN, Lt., D.S., Lecturer in History, University of Southern California. 
Moderator: Frank B. Pardee, Member, Program Committee.

Nov. 4th: "WHAT IS THE LABOR SITUATION IN AMERICA TODAY?" IRA R. CROSS, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, University of California. 
Moderator: Charles O. Brooks, Jr., Member, Program Committee.

NOV. 11th: "POSSIBLE BASES FOR PEACE?" CLAUDE A. BUSS, Ph.D., Associate Professor of International Relations, U. S. C. Five years consular and military service in Orient. 
Moderator: Chas. W. PETERSON, H. Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

NOV. 18th: "UNDERSTANDING OUR TIMES" DAVID SEARBY, well known American stage and radio personality, and author. 
Moderator: Mrs. Theodore de Bary, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Nov. 25th: "AMERICA, HER OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY." RALPH PERUGO, Ph.D., Professor of Drama, University of California. 
Moderator: Kenneth C. Watson, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Dec. 2nd: "THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN POLITICS." OTIS SMITH, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago. 
Moderator: Mrs. George G. Berry, President, Sacramento Community Forum.
Our World-Today and Tomorrow

Feb 10th: "EDUCATION versus INDOCTRINATION"
Dr. Robert C. Armstrong, President of the University of California.

"DEMOCRACY: IS IT PRACTICAL?"
Dr. David E. Harris, Professor of Political Science, University of California.

"DEMOCRACY versus RELIGION"
Dr. Malcolm W. Graham, Professor of Political Science, U.C.L.A.
Moderator: Justice John F. Fallon, President of the Sacramento Community Forum.

Feb 17th: "WHAT WILL EMERGE from the EUROPEAN CATACLYSM?"
Pierre Van Padden, noted author and distinguished foreign correspondent.
Moderator: Mrs. Myra Lawson, Vice-President and Program Chairman.

Feb 24th: "ROLLING DOWN TO RIO" or "THE POETS AND THE SEA"
Dr. Gregory Long, Professor of Literature and History, St. Mary's College.
Moderator: Mrs. Estelle F. Phillips, Managing Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar 3rd: "THE COMING WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA and GERMANY"
Dr. J. H. W. von Mende, Professor of History, Stanford University.
Moderator: Arthur M. Wight, Member of the Program Committee.

Mar 10th: "OUR JOB in the PACIFIC"
Dr. Robert E. McLaughlin, President of the University of Washington.

Mar 17th: "SCIENCE AND WAR"
Dr. Herbert A. Mulliken, President of California Institute of Technology, Winner of Nobel Award in Physics.
Moderator: Frank W. Durkin, Member of the Program Committee.

Mar 24th: "OUR CANADIAN NEIGHBORS?"
Dr. J. E. Waller, Sterling Professor of History, California Institute of Technology, author of "The People and Problems of Canada."
Moderator: Colonel Charles R. Blood, Director.

Mar 21st: "TOTALITARIAN INFLUENCE in LATIN AMERICA"
Dr. Philip J. Martin, Professor of Romance Literature, University of California.
Moderator: Mrs. Theodore de Puey, Director.

April 7th: "WHITHER ARGENTINA?"
Dr. Julian K. Black, President of the University of California, Berkeley.
Moderator: Mrs. William Dodd, Member of the Program Committee.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half hour following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes nine programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 13th.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ticket Type</th>
<th>Dollar Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Admission</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Admission</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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2157 Fourth Ave.
Dial 5-6200

October 13th to December 8th, 1941

SACRAMENTO
COMMUNITY
FORUM

Announces

Its Eighteenth Series of Programs

MRS. HARRY WAYNE BLISS

2157 Fourth Ave.
Dial 5-6200

10th and Broadway

SACRAMENTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FALL PROGRAM, 1941

Oct. 13th: "THE SILENT MILLIONS OF EUROPE: What They Think and How They Live"
- DR. FRANK MUNK. Writer, Economist, Educator, Lecturer. Born in Bohemia, educated at Prague University. School of Commerce—economist from Czechoslovakia after German invasion of his homeland.

Moderator: F. Melvin Lewson, President.

Oct. 20th: "THE TRUTH ABOUT SPAIN"
- SENOHI DARRE DE PALAVENCIA, Diplomat; Author. Former member of the Cabinet and Minister from Spain to Sweden, Spain, Belgium, France, and Portugal.

Moderator: Colonel Charles H. Blood, Program Chairman.

Oct. 27th: "HISTORY or HYSTERIA?"
- HOWARD PIERCE TAYLOR. Expert on emotional and international affairs. A discussion of international aspects of news and emotional news declarations.

Moderator: Mrs. Theodore de Poli.

Nov 3rd: "HEALTH AND THE PROBLEMS OF DEFENSE"
- DR. A. W. WINBLAD. Professor of Public Health at the University of Washington, Professor of Public Health Services at University of California, Fall of 1941.

Moderator: John R. Pullen.

The sentiments of the speakers are not necessarily those of the members of the Board of Directors.
Dear Future Member

On February 9th, the Spring Series of the Sacramento Community Forum will begin. The speaker will be DR. RICARDO ALFARO, Ex-President of Panama and former Ambassador from Panama to the U.S.A. The subject will be **What Will Latin America Do?**

For your information, there are two bus services which serve these destinations to go to the Sacramento Junior High School Auditorium: No. 3 goes from the S.P. Depot at K Street to 28th Avenue to P Street, or P to 28th and 25th to Broadway, and Sacramento Boulevard to 5th Street. No. 9 goes from the S.P. Depot at K Street to 28th Avenue and from 28th and K to 25th and 25th to P Street via P Street via Stockton Boulevard via Miller Way to 5th Street and 19th Street.

The Auditorium has facilities for a program to be held inside and outside. A limited number of prices.

We expect a very outstanding program and will be looking for an end of 8:00 P.M. on Monday evening, February 9th, at the new Y.M.C.A. auditorium.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Board of Directors
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:30, with a half hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes eight programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 19th.

Figure 16

(Sacramento Community Forum)

ANNOUNCES

A CENTURY DISCUSSED

October 19th to December 7th 1942

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

Oct. 19th: "WILLIAM WINTER ANALYSES THE WAR"

WILLIAM WINTER, popular news analyst whose radio messages are heard in California, Hawaii, the South Seas and India.

Moderator: F. Melvin Lawson, President of the Sacramento Community Forum.

Oct. 26th: "INDIA AND THE WAR"

LAL CHAND MEHRIA, born in India, educated at the University of California, Technical advisor to Motion Picture industry, and friend of the Indian leaders. Mr. Mehria has a keen and sympathetic understanding of the inner life of the East and West.

Moderator: Colonel Charles R. Blood, Program Chairman.

Nov. 2nd: "SEARCHLIGHT THRU THE BLACKOUT"

MISS ERIKA MANN, Author, Foreign Correspondent. A tragic and inspiring story, the experiences in England and Germany that have special meaning for Americans. Also Miss Mann will give an outline of the blind of peace she would like to see continued.

Moderator: Mrs. Theodore de Polo, Member of Program Committee.

Nov. 9th: Program to be Announced.

Nov. 16th: "I JOINED THE BUND"

JOHN C. METCALFE, journalist and Congressional investigator who will relate his experiences while exposing the Nazi and Fascist movements in America.

Moderator: Kenneth C. Watson, Director.

Nov. 23rd: "AFTER THE WAR — WHAT FOR YOUTH?"

DR. PAUL R. HANNA, Professor of Education at Stanford University, Consultant for the National Reservist Planning Board. Chairman of the Sinclair League, a noted social reformer.

Moderator: F. Melvin Lawson.

Nov. 30th: "MY COUNTRY AND THE HEROES OF CORREGIDOR"

MAHARANI VICTORE LIRE, Cultural Fili- phine activist active for years in progressive movements in the Philippines, wife of Rear Admiral Victor Lire, and mother of two sons who are graduates of Annapolis and the other a graduate of West Point.

Moderator: Frank R. Burke, Member of the Program Committee.

Dec. 7th: "SIBERIA IN THE WORLD CRISIS"

DR. EMIL LENDITZ, Hungarian by birth, American citizen since 1917, Journalist, Author and former soldier on the Eastern Front in World War I.

Moderator: Colonel Charles R. Blood.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcome.

The Spring Series includes eight programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning February 8th.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:
- TWO DOLLARS
- SINGLE ADMISSION: FIFTY CENTS

Tickets may be obtained from:

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- James R. Wilson

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and Membership Secretary-Treasurer:

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2157 4th Ave.
Dial 63290

FIGURE 17

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

ANNOUNCES

Its Twenty-first Series of Programs

February 8th to March 29th

1943

Sacramento Senior High
School Auditorium
6th and Broadway

VICTORY THROUGH INFORMATION

Feb. 8th: "RUSSIA AND THE RUSSIAN FRONT—AS I SAW IT"
LESLIE STOWE, American Ave War Correspondent who has spent the past three and one-half years in seven different major theatres of the war and the only foreigner whose military attaché or war correspondent is fluent in Russian, has won the respect and admiration of Russian Army and Navy officials.
Moderator: P. McVey Lawless, President of the Sacramento Community Forum.

Feb. 15th: "SCIENCE AND THE WAR"
DR. MIHAIL SHAPSHAI, Scientific Editor of San Francisco Chronicle, expert in biochemistry, particularly as it is related to scientific advancement and war, is the war.
Moderator: Charles W. Deming, Director.

Feb. 22nd: "WAR AND THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE"
WALDO FRANK, Author, editor and traveler. Has lived in Mexico and taught in universities in Mexico and South America. An outstanding American, who has done much to further the friendship between the nations of Latin America and the U.S.A.
Moderator: Frank H. Jutkiss, Member of the Program Committee.

Mar. 1st: "BOOKS IN A TROUBLED WORLD"
EDWARD C. WEISIG, Editor of the Atlantic Monthly and one of the finest lecturers and literary critics in America.
Moderator: Miss Estelle Phillips, Managing Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 8th: "TWILIGHT OVER SCANDINAVIA"
DR. THEODOR CORWIN, Professor of Political Science, University of California, who was in France in the last war, and in Scandinavia for a year in 1943.
Moderator: Mr. William Mendelson, Secretary, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 15th: "THE NEAR EAST AND INDIA"
LOUIS L. FISCHER, well-known journal of war correspondents and author. Fiske has been a correspondent for 2 years in the Near East. He has traveled to India and Near East in order to get first-hand information to be given in this lecture.
Moderator: Arthur H. Wagh, Member of the Program Committee.

Mar. 22nd: "CHINA'S ROLE IN A NEW WORLD ORDER"
DR. THEODOR CORWIN, Director of the East Indian Institute, one of the outstanding American authorities on China and East Asia.
Moderator: P. McVey Lawless, President.

Mar. 29th: "PUBLIC OPINION AND PROPAGANDA"
DR. W. ALLEN STONE, Head of the California Studies Department, University of Southern California, noted for his research and influence in the field.
Moderator: P. McVey Lawless.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half-hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes six programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 25th.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TICKET: Two Indians Senior Admission and Fifty-Five Cents. Tickets may be obtained from the following:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mrs. Charles S. Brandt
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Mr. William Haxton
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Mrs. R. H. M. Haefner
Mr. F. G. Hooe

AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-TREASURER
MRS. HARRY WAYNE BLASS
2157 4th Ave., Dial 6-5280

Sacramento Senior High School Auditorium 15th and Broadway

IN A WORLD AT WAR

Oct. 25th: "ODYSSEY THRU HELL"
RUTH MICHIEFF, bestselling author of an American woman among the death-defying Checheks. Yomahake's unanswerable questions, and her thirty months of horrors in eleven Nazi prisons.

Moderator: Miss Estelle Phillips, President of the Sacramento Community Forum.

Nov. 1st: "THE AMERICANS AT WAR"
EDWARD TOMPSON, foremost authority on Inter-American affairs, and Blue Network's able South American commentator.

Moderator: Frank H. Bickel, Program Chairman.

Nov. 8th: "OPPORTUNITIES OF THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS"
DR. DONALD A. LINDSAY, psychiatrist and prolific writer whose articles have appeared in over 600 magazines and read by 20 million people.

Moderator: Mrs. Ruth de Fliege, Member of the Program Committee.

Nov. 15th: "INFLATION TREND"
MIRVIELE STANLEY RICE, editor of "Inflation," economist, commentator and journalist.

Moderator: Arthur B. Wrangle, Member of the Program Committee.

Nov. 22nd: "AMERICA'S STAKE IN THE FAR EAST"
VICTOR K. YAMPOLSKY, author, lecturer on international affairs. Author on Far East—spent many years in residence and study of China, Japan, Manchuria, Manchuria as Diplomat, Editor and Author.

Moderator: Charles O. Blank, Jr., Member of the Program Committee.

Nov. 29th: "RUSSIA and the PEACE"
DR. ROBERT J. PINSKY, fuller Professor of History, University of California, and Czech writer, born in Chicago, spent years in European universities and in studies of Eastern Europe and Russia. Member of American Peace Congress after World War I.

Moderator: Kenneth O. Watson, Member of the Program Committee.
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

The Spring Series includes seven programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning February 7th.

Annual Membership Term: Two Dollars More Ask the Ticket Office

Tickets may be obtained from:

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Mrs. Charles H. Breed
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Mrs. George W. Rose
Mrs. W.B. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. H.O. Noyes
Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Park
Mrs. Frederick N. Stewart
Arthur W. Wood
Miss E. Vanderbilt
James R. Wilson

FOR BANK OF AMERICA, 5th and J
and Membership Secretary-Treasurer
MRS. HARVEY WAYNE BLISS
2157 4th Ave
Dial 6-6209

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IN A WORLD AT WAR

Feb. 7th: INDIA'S HOPES AFTER VICTORY

Feb. 14th: THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS

Feb. 21st: ARGENTINA AND BOLIVIA - THREAT TO SOLIDARITY OF THE AMERICANS

Feb. 28th: CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN THE NEAR EAST

---

Mar. 6th: HOW TO WIN THE PEACE

Mar. 13th: AMERICA AT THE CROSSROADS IN ITALY

Mar. 20th: CHINA AND THE U.S.A. IN THE POST WAR WORLD
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization, its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half-hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes six programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 23rd.

**ANNEX MEMBERSHIP DINNER**
Your dinner, Member's Admission includes one copy of the Forum Bulletin, with the guests of honor. Tickets may be obtained from:

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Charles Wright, Mrs. Mrs. P. McCoard
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E. F. Daniel, Kenneth F. Watson
Harry C. Mead, Vincent B. Wey
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MRS. HARRY WAYNE BLISS
2157 4th Avenue

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM
Announces
Its Twenty-Fourth Series of Programs

Oct. 23rd to Nov. 27th 1944

SACRAMENTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

FOCUSING TOWARD PEACE

Oct. 23rd 
ON THE ROAD TO PEACE

Oct. 26th 
WHAT TO DO WITH JAPAN

Nov. 6th 
GERMANY TOMORROW

Nov. 26th 
ITALY TODAY AND TO MORROW

CHANGING TO MORROW

Dec. 10th 
THE HOME FRONT

Cable: $20 WEDNESDAY night, and will be presented. Directions for the Forum's program, including a detailed schedule for the evening, will be mailed to members in advance.

Directions for the Forum's program, including a detailed schedule for the evening, will be mailed to members in advance.

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Directions for the Forum's program, including a detailed schedule for the evening, will be mailed to members in advance.
January 8th, 1945

Figure 21

Members of the Sacramento Community Forum:

Just a reminder that your Forum season ticket includes the following series lectures and events on Monday evenings, January 15th on Monday evenings, but note the irregularity of dates.

- February 5th: James Waterman Wise, outstanding educator and counselor for tolerance, subject: "Can Tolerance Be Taught?"
- February 15th: Verne Gilliss, Distinguished Russian, subject: "Psychology of the East and West."
- February 26th: Paul G. DuLong, the lecturer for the Chicago Natural History Museum, subject: "Parade of the Races in the News."
- March 5th: Howard M. Lothrop, Dean of Graduate School, University, subject: "The Palestine Question."

March 10th: Allen Farnum war correspondent and author, once a prisoner of Germans, subject: "France—Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."

March 19th: William Winter, Radio and Forum favorite who has been in the Pacific theatre of war for several months and will bring back first-hand news of our fighting men.

Board of Directors, Sacramento Community Forum
The Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit and non-partisan organization. Its purpose being to bring to Sacramento speakers outstanding in their fields. It is open to all.

Policy: Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 o'clock and end at 9:00, with a half hour Forum following. QUESTIONS from the floor welcomed.

The Fall Series includes six programs to be presented on Monday evenings beginning October 22nd.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TICKET: TWO DOLLARS
SINGLE ATTENDANCE AND TAX: ONE DOLLAR

Tickets may be obtained from:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mrs. Charles R. Blood     Charles W. Denning, Jr.
Charles O. Boush, Jr.     Mrs. Frank R. Gillott
Mrs. George R. Davis     G. T. Lunds
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E. Milton Lawton     Mrs. Dorothy E. Phillips
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Rivers P. Vandenbergh     Kenneth P. Wilson
Arthur H. Wirth

OR BANK OF AMERICA, 8th and 17th.

and Membership Secretary-Treasurer
MRS. HARRY WAYNE BLISS
2157 4th Avenue
Sacramento, California
Dial 325280

CHALLENGE OF PEACE


Oct. 23rd: "OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES IN EUROPE"  DR. ROBERT GORDON SPRUIETT, President, University of California, a member of the American Commission on German Reparations, just returned from Europe, including Russia.


Nov. 5th: "GEOGRAPHY IN WAR AND PEACE"  DR. C. LANGEVIN WHITE, economic and political geographer, world traveler, and professor of geography at Stanford University.

SACRAMENTO
COMMUNITY
FORUM

November 12th: "THE AFTERMATH OF CONQUEST IN EAST ASIA"  DR. DOUGLAS M. HUNTS, U.S. Foreign Service, assigned to the United States High Commissioner for the Philippines, will talk on "Japan in the Pacific and the U.S. Relationship."

November 19th: "THE FAMILY REUNITED"  DR. Paul T. Pippenger, General Director, The American Institute of Family Relations, director, educator, wise and witty lecturer on family problems.

November 21st: "COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT"  CHARLES W. ELLIOT II, president of the famous Harvard University, president, director, National Research Planning Board; widely experienced in city planning and at present director, Hawaii Community Research Foundation, in Los Angeles.

November 22nd: "THE AFTERMATH OF CONQUEST IN EAST ASIA"  DR. DOUGLAS M. HUNTS, U.S. Foreign Service, assigned to the United States High Commissioner for the Philippines, will talk on "Japan in the Pacific and the U.S. Relationship."
Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan organization. Its purpose is to bring to Sacramento, speakers outstanding in their fields on subjects of interest to our members.

Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 P.M. and end at 9:00 P.M. with a half hour Forum following. QUESTIONS from the floor welcomed.

Membership tickets may be obtained from Bank of America, 8th and J Streets, or from Mrs. Harry Wayne Hine. Membership Secretary-Treasurer, 2157 Fourth Avenue, Dial 6-5200.

Membership Ticket $1.00 ADDITIONAL AND TAX . . . ONE DOLLAR

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Charles R. Blood
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Dr. Charles F. Johnson
J. M. Leavens
Dr. William Meadjohn
Dr. William Meadjohn
Miss Ethel Mollay
Miss Ethel Mollay

CHALLENGE OF PEACE
Feb. 11th: "RUSSIA AND THE FAR EAST?"
WALTER FELDAN, former War Correspondent and Author. From 1924 to 1939 he was New York Times correspondent in Moscow. He turned the world writing about his experiences and observations.

Moderator: Frank R. Davis, President, Sacramento Community Forum.

Feb. 18th: "REPORT FROM TOKYO"
BRIAN O'NEILL, recently returned from Japan where he helped a special government mission. His service in the Diplomatic Field has been almost exclusively in the Far East. Spent two years as a prisoner of the Japanese in Mindo and Tientsin. In 1945 made four trips to Berlin and six to Moscow for the United States Government.

Moderator: Dr. William Star, President, Sacramento Community Forum.

Feb. 25th, 1946: "DEMOCRACY AND THE RACIAL PROBLEM"
WILLIAM STAR, President, Sacramento Community Forum.
Moderator: P. Melyn Leavens, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 4th: "VETERANS PROBLEMS"
COLONEL NELSON M. HUGHESMAN, Commandant of the Veterans Home of California at Yountville, California.
Moderator: Wallace A. Munn, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 11th: "PACIFIC IMPRESSIONS"
F. MELVIN LAXTON, First President of the Sacramento Community Forum, former Principal of the Sacramento Senior High School, honorably discharged from the United States Naval Reserve with the rank of Lieutenant after three years in service. He will tell of his experiences while arising from Milne Field to Pearl Harbor, thence to New Caledonia and the Marshall Islands.

Moderator: Miss Ethel Mollay, Managing Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 18th: "CAN SCIENCE RESCUE MANKIND?"
BRIAN O'NEILL, President and Editor of the New Republic magazine, graduate of Stanford and formerly head of the Department of Journalism at University of Southern California. He will present a balanced statement of the problem and will be aided by science; that is for the world's history.

Moderator: Kenneth C. Watt, Secretary, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mar. 25th: Bonus lecture: Speaker to be announced.

Moderator: Charles R. Blood, Director, Sacramento Community Forum.

Mrs. Frederick N. Sections, Program Chairman.
Sacramento Community Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan organization. Its purpose is to bring to Sacramento, speakers outstanding in their fields.

Lectures begin promptly at 8:00 P.M. and end at 9:00 P.M. with a half-hour Forum following. Questions from the floor welcomed.

Membership tickets may be obtained from Bank of America, 6th and J Sts., or from Mrs. Harry Wayne Blue, Membership Secretary-Treasurer, 2157 Fourth Avenue, Dist 6-5389.

SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY FORUM

Its Twenty-eighth Series of Programs
Oct. 28th to Dec. 2nd
1946

SACRAMENTO SENIOR HIGH
School Auditorium
35th and Members

World Problems in Atomic Era
Oct 28th - "OUR FOREIGN POLICY IN THE FAR EAST"
Dr. Howard E. French, Professor of Economics, at Stanford University. Formerly Chairman of the Advisory Board, 1939, of the Division of Elites. The speaker will present his views on the economic and political problems arising from the Far East.

Nov 4th - "PSYCHIATRIC EXPLAÑATION OF NAZI CRIMINALITY"
Dr. John R. Jones, Director of the Medical Department of the Veterans Administration. The speaker will discuss the psychological aspects of the crimes committed by Nazi criminals.

Nov 11th - "DENAZIFYING GERMAN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS"
Dr. James E. B. Haring, Director of the American School for Girls in Germany. The speaker will discuss the process of denazifying German educational and cultural institutions.

Nov 18th - "INTERNATIONAL MONOPOLY AND PRESENT INTERNATIONAL DISCORD"
Dr. Theodore E. Bowers, Director of the Institute of Pacific Relations. The speaker will discuss the international economic and political conflicts of the post-war period.

Nov 25th - "RUSSIA AND THE PEACE"
William J. Hanes, Director of the Institute of Peace, The Hague. The speaker will discuss the peace efforts of the Soviet Union and their impact on world affairs.

Dec 2nd - "SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPPLICATIONS OF ATOMIC BOMB"
W. Bradford Shank, Director of the National Academy of Sciences. The speaker will address the social and economic implications of the atomic bomb.
Figure 25

Sacramento Community Forum

Announces
Its Twentieth Series of Programs

Feb. 17th to Mar. 24th
1947

Sacramento Senior High
School Auditorium
15th and Broadway

World Problems in Atomic Era

Feb. 17th: "OUR CIVILIZATION—BEGINNING OR END?"

Feb. 24th: "PRESENT DAY MEXICO"

March 3rd: "THE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS FOR AMERICAN AGRICULTURE"

March 10th: "AMERICA'S NEW ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS"

March 11th: "DELINQUENCY IS NOT JUVENILE"

March 24th: "A LASTING BASIS FOR PEACE"
FALL OF 1953

OCTOBER 20—His Excellency Cahangrihari L. Mehta, India’s Ambassador to the U. S. and Mexico, discusses “India on the Path of Democracy.” In view of India’s position in the free world, and her vital role in all plans for a peaceful solution of present world problems, this talk should be one of importance and interest. Moderator:

November 10—Jay P. Gould, internationally prominent petroleum engineer, Graduate of University of Missouri, graduate work at Baylor; Associated with Iraq Petrol-
APPENDIX B
CALLING All Members!

"How is the time for all" to plan to come to the first meeting of the Forum on Monday evening, February 2nd, at the usual meeting place, the Tuesday Clubhouse, and to renew the next succeeding seven weekly evenings for "an hour of wit and flow of reason".

The little program folder will give you the exact time of the various programs of our favorites: Robert J. Conner, A. T. Polysidri and H. J. Brickley, with other diversified subjects - "Our European Policy", "Pan American" and "The British Lion's Twinkled Tail".

The speakers include Dr. Henry F. Foulk, an authority on "Disarmament"; F. E. Marshall of Los Angeles, who was a popular speaker in the recent lecture here; and Dr. Ralph Phillips of Fresno, for whom we have had many requests. The innovation of this season is a dramatic survey by Mr. Anthony Planks - of "A Day with the Mule". We hope you'll like it!

And we are certainly fortunate to have the return of our favorite, Dr. Paul L. Douglas of Vienna, a fascinating speaker, who is having his eighth lecture season in these United States by popular demand.

So of the Forum Commission have very much enjoyed your admiratior, interest and attendance in the Forum. We look forward to the spring season. Will you help it get off to a good start by renewing at your check right away. And tell your friends about the Forum!
Figure 2

1331 Vallecito Street
San Francisco 9

Dear Mrs. O'Neill:

As nearly as my memory serves at this distance from the starting point of the Sacramento Community Forum its origin dates back to the inauguration, by the State Department of Education - Division of Adult Education - of an evening series of discussions following lectures given by Mr. M. J. Brickley, in the old Sutter Junior High School Auditorium. I am not certain of the year. The series of six lectures by Mr. Brickley was arranged by Miss Edna Stangland - now Mrs. Charles Rase of Ukiah - who was then in charge of Adult Education for the State Department - in Northern California. The members of the International Relations Section of the Sacramento Branch, American Association of University Women (whose chairman at the time was Miss Ruth McGrew (?), met with the lecture group to lead discussion from the floor. This was at the request of Miss Stangland. Such an evening forum was definitely an experiment, initiated with the hope that, if it proved successful, other communities in Northern California, through their local school authorities, would establish similar forums.

Upon the completion of Mr. Brickley's first series, it was decided to inaugurate a second series this time extending the field of subjects offered and operating under local guidance. One such series, I believe, was held. At the same time a group of women who had attended the first series and had been helpful in stimulating attendance and discussion approached Mr. Brickley with a request that he give an afternoon series so that mothers could attend. The co-operation of the City School Department was sought, to insure a meeting place. On invitation of Mr. Brickley, a group of half a dozen women who had aided in the State's forum experiment met at the Junior College one afternoon to discuss the proposal.

In that group, as I recall it were Miss Mary Craven, of the Sutter Hospital; Mr. George R. Davis, representing PTA Inter-club; Mrs. F. D. Bevil, a PTA officer; Mrs. F. B. Gillett, and Miss Essie Phillips, members of the Tuesday Club, Mrs. Frederick Faulkner,
FEBRUARY 23—Mereditb Willson, star of Radio and Television. Author of the book "And There I Stood With My Piccolo" based on his youth in Mason City, Iowa, when he owned the first mail order flute ever seen in that city. At 17 he was a member of Sousa's band, and at 21 he was a member of the New York Philharmonic under Toscanini. For ten years he was music director of N.B.C. in San Francisco, later headed the music division of Armed Forces radio. Composed "San Francisco Symphony," "Missions of California" symphony, and "O. O. Mcintyre Suite." More recently a star on "What's My Line?" on TV and "Everyday" on radio. Subject: "The Long and Short of It." Moderator: Theodore Rosequist, a Director of Town Hall.

MARCH 2—J. J. Servan Schreiber, one of France's ablest young editors and journalists, editor of conservative "V. rey, L'Express," formerly foreign editor of "Le Monde," regular contributor to a chain of newspapers including "Manchester Guardian," "Le Soir" in Belgium, "Information" in Denmark. Served as a fighter pilot with the Free French in World War II. Subject: "What Are Russia's Plans in Western Europe?" Moderator: Henry Tweed, a Director of Town Hall.

MARCH 9—Carl H. Thomsen presents his one hour and 20 minute color film on "South America—Panama to Patagonia." The picture was made in the course of two trips down the west coast of South America from the Panama Canal to the tip of the continent. The picture depicts the most interesting phases of life in Panama, Ecuador, Peru and Chile. It includes scenery of breath-taking splendor, new lands, strange customs and country scenes of unspoiled simplicity. Moderator: Edward B. Eason, a Director of Town Hall.

MARCH 16—Panel Discussion: "American and the International Scene." Participants: Dr. Russell L. Caldwell, Associate Professor of History at University of Southern California; Dr. Harold von Hofe, chairman of the Department of German, University of Southern California; Dr. Rene Belle, chairman of the Department of French at the University of Southern California. This is a new type of program for Town Hall in recent years, one that comes highly recommended for the quick, the exchange of opinion, the giving of constructive criticism by a full complement of the Department of English at the University of Southern California. Moderator: Theodore Rosequist, a Director of Town Hall.

YOUR $3 SEASON MEMBERSHIP TICKET WILL ADMIT YOU TO ALL THESE PROGRAMS.
APPENDIX C
Article I. Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the "Sacramento Community Forum."

Article II. Objectives

Section 1. The purposes of this organization shall be:

(a) To establish and maintain a forum for the study and discussion of questions of community, state, national and international interest;
(b) To bring to Sacramento or to otherwise secure qualified speakers to address the Forum;
(c) To assist in developing an informed electorate;
(d) To foster and promote the cultural life of the community.

Article III. Board of Directors

Section 1. Membership in the Forum shall consist of individuals interested in its objectives who have paid the current membership fee. Members in good standing shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Forum and to participate therein, subject to the rules therefor approved by the Board of Directors.

Article IV. Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following: citizens of this community and those who shall from time to time be selected to succeed them as herein provided: Charles A. Good, Charles D. Busby, Jr., Mrs. George B. Davis, Mrs. Ruth de Salvo, Charles V. Detertning, Jr., Frank B. Durkee, Mrs. Frank B. Gillett.
CONSTITUTION OF SACRAMENTO TOWN HALL

AS AMENDED APRIL 24, 1953

Article I; NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the "Sacramento Town Hall."

Article II; PURPOSES

Section 1. The purposes of this organization shall be:

(a) To establish and maintain a Town Hall for the study and discussion of questions of community, state, national and international interest;

(b) To bring to Sacramento or to otherwise secure qualified speakers to address the Town Hall;

(c) To assist in developing an informed citizenry;

(d) To foster and promote the cultural life of the community.

Article III; MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Town Hall shall consist of individuals interested in its objectives who have paid the current membership fees. Members in good standing shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Town Hall and to participate therein, subject to the rules therefor approved by the Board of Directors.

Article IV; BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of 30 members who shall serve for terms of three years. At the 1953 annual meeting of the Board as provided in Section 1 of Article VI, 10 members shall be elected for terms of one year each; 10 for terms of two years each; and 10 for terms of three years each. Thereafter, 10 members shall be elected each year for terms of three years each. No member of the Board of Directors shall be eligible for reelection to a successive term.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Town Hall and shall have power to:

(a) determine all questions of policy and supervise generally the affairs of the organization;
(b) fill vacancies in the Board which may occur from time to time by the election of new directors from among members of the Town Hall in good standing;

(c) elect from among its members the officers of the Town Hall as provided in this constitution;

(d) authorize the appointment of all committees and the employment of such clerical or other help as may be required to carry on the work of the organization;

(e) fix the time and place of its meetings;

(f) fix the dues and fees to be paid by members or other charges for admission to the Town Hall and its lectures with power to change the same from time to time, and to adopt rules for conducting the Town Hall;

(g) accept gifts, devises or bequests to promote the purposes of the organization and apply them to such purposes;

(h) acquire, control, administer and dispose of the property and funds of the organization and generally to exercise such other powers as may be necessary to carry on the work of the organization.

Section 3. A majority of all the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. The absence of any member from three consecutive meetings may, in the discretion of the Board, be considered a resignation therefrom.

Section 5. The position of Honorary Director is created so as to give due recognition to members who have served long and faithfully on the Board of Directors. An Honorary Director will have no obligations or responsibilities, will not have a vote on the Board, and will not be required to attend business meetings of the Board.

A member who has been a Director of Town Hall for at least five years, and who no longer desires to remain active on the Board, will be eligible for consideration for Honorary Director.

Honorary Directors will be elected by the Board of Directors.

Article V: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Sacramento Town Hall shall be a President; Vice-President; Secretary; and Treasurer.
Section 2. The term of office shall be for one year and the President shall not be eligible for reelection to successive terms; provided, that all officers shall serve until the election and acceptance of their successors.

Section 3. (a) The officers shall perform the duties indicated by their respective titles and such other duties as the Board of Directors may prescribe.

(b) The President shall appoint all committees authorized by the Board of Directors and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

(c) The President shall have charge of and be responsible for the presentation of the lecture programs; supervise the work of any paid employees, and perform such other duties as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

(d) The Treasurer shall have charge of and account for the funds of the organization.

Article VI; MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held from time to time as the Board may determine; provided, that the annual meeting for presentation of reports and the election of officers shall be held not later than the 31st day of May of each year.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President at his election, or at the request of the Managing Director, and shall be called upon the request of any three members of the Board.

Section 3. The President and the Managing Director shall present their reports of the previous year’s activities at the annual meeting, including a statement by the Treasurer of the finances of the organization.

Section 4. Notice of meetings shall be given in such manner as the Board of Directors may determine or the President may direct; provided, that at least five days' notice shall be given of the date and place of the annual meeting.

Section 5. A majority of the Board of Directors (not including vacancies) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may act on matters not involving questions of policy, subject to ratification at the next succeeding meeting.

Article VII; PROPERTY RIGHTS; COMPENSATION

Section 1. No person other than a member in good standing
shall have any interest in the property of the organization, and all gains and profits shall be devoted to the purposes of the organization, and for educational, cultural and other civic purposes in Sacramento and its environs, as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Cessation of membership in the organization shall operate as a release and assignment to the organization of all the right, title and interest, if any, of such member in and to the property and privileges of the organization.

Section 3. No member of the Board of Directors or Officer herein specified shall receive any compensation for services rendered the organization.

Article VIII; AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any meeting by a majority of all the members of the Board of Directors, provided the members have had notice of the text of the amendment at least five days prior to the meeting or by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Board at any meeting without such notice.