

March 1961

A Fireside Chat from our President--

Soon our Organization will be one year old. We have passed the first milestone, and H.O.A. No. 36 is now bigger and better than ever. With promises of new members and inquiries coming in concerning this Organization, we should certainly grow and continue growing.

We are always interested in acquiring new members but our first responsibility is to keep the members we already have. So if any one isn't satisfied or can offer some suggestions that will improve our Organization, please let your suggestions or criticisms be heard before the body.

Believe we are all definitely in accord in this conclusion--our last meeting was too long. We promise this will not happen again; our future meetings will last two hours or less, hereafter; I hope to include a letter in with these reports when they come to you. In this manner I can keep you informed of information pertinent to the N.A.W.C.C. and H.O.A.C. No. 36 and in so doing save time at our meetings.

We hope in the future to have a speaker for each meeting who will discourse on subjects directly related to clocks or watches. We will conclude our meetings, first, and those of you who are interested can remain and participate, and those not interested can visit the displays, buy, sell or whatever you choose. Now, we know the ladies might not be interested in discussions about the mechanical parts of clocks so they can if they like have discussions of their own--another problem for the entertainment committee.

The entertainment committee is working like mad making arrangements for our Anniversary Dinner and soon will present some sort of proposition that will be attractive to everyone. Please help us enjoy our dinner meeting by your presence.

Mr. Perotti is busy with his project and reports progress. You may recall his assignment is to probe the Linda Hall Library for information on the reported abundance of material on clocks, watches, and Time. We hope he can list all the books and the authors. Believe me, this is a tough assignment but Mr. Perotti is a tough investigator.

Mr. Terwilliger is in the process of compiling some sort of booklet to include the names of manufacturers and supply houses who sell much needed materials for watch and clock makers. I personally think this is an excellent idea to have them all compiled in one booklet. I imagine craftsmen who make wheels and bushings and other essential parts will be listed too. Should you have the time, I believe it would be a good idea to drop Mr. Terwilliger a line and encourage him in this venture. I understand the finished booklet will sell at an attractive price.

We had to break down and spend \$7.50 due to the fact that with our recently acquired Auxiliary and new members coming in,

we find ourselves low on identification tags. So we have a hundred new tags--now all we need is fifty new members and their wives. Hope this time next year we will have to buy another hundred tags because I know all you good people will certainly bring in fifty members by that time---at least fifty or more.

An appointed committee visited the clocks in the Old Fidelity Building. The whole apparatus including the clocks was something to see. Both movements were Howards, and in pretty bad condition. We will have pictures of everything for the members to see later on. I think I as a determined person--not easily discouraged, but after we had concluded our visit, taking everything into consideration, I can't see where this undertaking would be very attractive to us. We will sound out each member of the committee regarding this in the future.

So much for now. Will see all of you at the Dinner Meeting.

Wm. C. Bruer

NEWS FLASH--Nothing remains hidden for long. Mr. Williams, you have been "discovered". Rumor has it that your collection of unusual watches is not only locally known, but that the National Watch Journal some time ago carried your picture on its cover as well as ran a full article regarding that wonderful collection of yours. In addition, Mr. Williams is a wonderful photographer and has offered to assist our members in photographing their unusual pieces, or perhaps rare and unusual parts they might need photographs of. This offer was extended to us by way of our President, and the only request is that the piece to be photographed be able to be laid on a flat surface as his equipment takes close-ups best that way.

MORE NEWS--The Chapter is the proud possessor of a three-drawer filing cabinet. This cabinet is metal and each drawer may be easily transported, so it will remain with the Chapter in possession of each new secretary as time goes on.

TRAVELING--TALKING--TRAVELING

We have not been idle. Mr. and Mrs. Bruer talked on Clocks and their interesting points at the last Hobby Club Meeting here in Kansas City the end of February. The members of our Chapter were invited to attend, and naturally, wherever clocks are being discussed, clock collectors are bound to attend. The Blairs recently returned from a four hundred mile trip in southern Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have been sightseeing clocks from here to everywhere and back, so they report, and the members in general have been kept busy visiting one another. And to think they say there are no more undiscovered frontiers. The person who said that just did not know clock and watch collectors.

URGENT--we have been having trouble getting pictures for the National Association's Bulletin with the exception of those so generously provided by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Bruer. The meetings do not seem to coincide with the deadlines for the Bulletin and we either are way to early, or do not have enough time to meet the next deadline and get our pictures developed. For that reason, we are requesting someone with a Polaroid Land Camera to help us

meet the next deadline by providing "instant" pictures. PLEASE, anyone with such a camera, please bring it to the next meeting and help us get the news to the Editors of the Bulletin while it still is news.

LATE NEWS--The committee to investigate the Clocks of the Fidelity Building have made their investigation and a full report should be out by the next Report the very end of March or first of April. Gentlemen, what is the decision?

AUXILIARY HAPPENINGS--Mrs. Carroll Thomas has been appointed to handle all arrangements for door prizes for the coming meetings. We will have numerous door prizes, similar to the last meeting, and Mrs. Thomas will call on all members to contribute at different times. The prizes may be anything suitable and should be moderate in value, not too expensive, although their value is far more to the happy recipients at the meetings. She asks that all members cooperate with her for the meeting she notifies them to help provide the door prizes. For the April Meeting, the members in the vicinity of Sedalia, Sweet Springs, and Stover are doing the honors. Now might be a good time to stock up before your turn comes--and avoid last minute scurrying around.

SURROUNDING CHAPTERS--Indiana Chapter had a dinner meeting February 19th at Central Park Cafeteria in Columbus, Indiana, followed by an exhibit and white elephant silent auction. The Iowa-Illinois Chapter had a big time in Iowa City last November and are planning an equally good time at their next meeting in Hoopston, Illinois, on April 30th. Mr. Hushman, their Secretary, wrote about that last meeting, "Participation, we find, is the thing that generated the most interest in the meetings and it makes us very happy that our members seem to respond to requests for material for displays, mart and auction." He should have seen the wonderful participation we had at our January Meeting, and the numerous exhibits and displays that were there. It was indeed an inspiring meeting.

THE BIG STORY--The Dinner meeting is planned for April 9th, Sunday Afternoon at 2:00 p.m. at the Carousel Cafeteria, 5830 Troost Ave., Kansas City, Missouri. We will try to meet there as near two o'clock as possible so we can all have our dinner together in the dining room, immediately followed by a short business meeting and the program. By having our dinner in a cafeteria it allows each of us to select just what we would like from the variety of things offered which usually pleases those who are on a budget, those who are on a diet, and those who only like certain things.

The entire family is welcome. There is free parking space available, and the Cafeteria is easily reached from all directions by car, bus, or by foot--if need be. So we hope you will all make plans to be with us and enjoy the afternoon among Clock and Watch Collectors and Auxiliary Members, as well as the guests. Please fill out and send in your reservation now as the Cafeteria would like to have some idea of how many to expect.

PLEASE NOTE: "now" in the above sentence--we would appreciate it if RIGHT NOW you would sit down and fill out the enclosed Reservation Form on the last page of this Report giving us the approximate number in your party, plus guests. Clip it out, and put it IMMED-

IATELY in an envelope addressed to your Secretary, Clement C. Wagner, 5802 Garfield, Kansas City 30, Missouri, and enclose with this your 1961 dues to the Heart of America Chapter No. 36 of \$2.00

That is right!! Much as we hate to admit it, postage and Reports take money and your dues make all of this possible. They are due April 1st, and you become delinquent April 30th, at which time the National Association requires us to drop your name from our Roster. REMEMBER, the number attending our Anniversary Dinner April 9th, and your \$2.00 dues for 1961.

MIRACLES STILL HAPPEN

Three years ago I bought a nice Silas B. Terry eight-day weight clock case, with a good face and label, but no clock movement. I tried several different ways to find a movement, but no luck. I kept trying and then two years later, I finally found a complete Silas B. Terry eight-day weight clock with a case in very poor condition. I felt sure the movement would fit my nice case, but when I got it home, I was sadly disappointed.

Ten months later I was at another member's home. He had some clock movements he had bought from the junk man at a junk price. After having bought the complete clock that I was unable to use, I had made a pattern of my nice case and the face with all the measurements that the movement would have to fit this case. One of the big heavy weight movements my friend had was in a pan of oil, and he asked me if I knew what it was. I looked at it and my heart skipped about three beats, but I caught my breath and asked him if I could take it out of the oil and measure it with my pattern. He said "sure"; and needless to say it was a perfect fit even to the two uneven holes that mounts the movement in the case. So much so, that it could be the original works to my Silas B. Terry case.

He sold the movement to me very cheap. I took the entire works apart replacing several rusted wires, made a new verge, polished the solid back and front plates, and all the wheels until they shown like a new twenty dollar goldpiece. I now have a beautiful Silas B. Terry eight-day weight clock complete and in nice original condition.

We feel we have made many real friends because of our interest in clocks and clock books, and most of all the N.A.W.C.C. I would like this opportunity to say thanks very much for my wife and myself.

Francis & Carroll Thomas
Sweet Springs, Missouri

Incidentally, this was the clock Mr. Thomas displayed and explained to the members at our January Meeting. A rare piece indeed. Hoping to see all of you at our Anniversary Meeting April 9th, I remain,

Clement C. Wagner, Secy.

RESERVATION FORM for Dinner Meeting of H.O.A. No. 36

Please make reservations for _____ (number) persons for our Anniversary Dinner Meeting on Sunday, April 9, 1961.

Signed: _____

Return to: Clement C. Wagner, 5802 Garfield, Kansas City 30, Mo. REMEMBER--have you paid your 1961 dues to H.O.A. Chapter of \$2.00?