

# **HISTORY**

## **CHATTANOOGA CIVITAN**

### **CLUB**



1958

# A CHRONICLE OF THE CHATTANOOGA CIVITAN CLUB

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## FOREWORD

President Frank Robbins (1957-1958) and his executive committee decreed a history of the Chattanooga Civitan Club. The committee that he appointed found that, although many splendid minutes had doubtless been written, no complete club records were available. So, from scrap books, clippings, musty halls of memories of various club members and friends, and especially from newspaper accounts of the meetings, the information has been gleaned for this brochure.

The task of compiling and editing was accomplished chiefly by Mrs. Sue Mills Loop, who for many years previous to her retirement so ably represented the CHATTANOOGA TIMES at Civitan meetings. Much of the following contents was secured by her over a period of several months at the Chattanooga Public Library by sedulously checking microfilm copies of the local newspapers covering an era of nearly two-score years.

There may be omissions, discrepancies, and errors, but an effort has been made to piece together available facts. It is suggested that you hand to the club secretary any corrections or additions that you may think pertinent in order to get the record more nearly correct, and for consideration in a possible revision.

It is the earnest hope of the history committee that the brochure will receive a kind reception from Civitan Members and that it will serve as a handbook for reference. No attempt has been made to give definite dates, except by years, or to go into much detail. Had this been attempted, it would have become a ponderous tome at the very sight of which, members would at once become disinterested.

While this booklet is far from perfect, it should be of interest to the older members of the club as a nostalgic reminder of former friends and deeds, to the younger members, that they may know more of the achievements and the efforts made in the early days of the organization, and of the men who made them.

It is to be hoped that these annals, in the words of our former silver-tongued orator, Frank Carden, may serve to stimulate all members to "rededicate ourselves to the building of good citizenship."

The Committee:  
Creed Bates, Chairman  
Sam Bankson  
Eugene Bryan  
Al Porzelius

### Officers 1957-58

Frank M. Robbins, president  
Albert Hodge, vice-president  
John Kruse, second vice-president  
Rolston Wells, treasurer  
Malone Everett, secretary  
Mrs. Joe R. Curtis, executive secretary



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This history of Chattanooga Civitan would not have been possible without the assistance of friends and members who gave of their time in devoted efforts to find accounts, memoranda, and personal records from all known or probable sources available, with which to piece together this account of the beginning of Chattanooga Civitan, its growth, and enterprises, both social and civic.

The Club extends its thanks to any and all who contributed in any way to this accomplishment. Especial thanks are due:

Mr. James H. Anderson

Mrs. Raleigh Crumbliss

Miss Bonnie Gilbert

Mrs. Frankie Curtis

Mrs. Sue Mills Loop

Mrs. Will Shepherd

Mrs. T. C. Thompson

Past Presidents

The Club extends, also, sincere thanks and appreciation to the personnel of the Chattanooga Public Library, and to the Civitan International Office in Birmingham, Alabama.

## CIVITAN CREED

I AM CIVITAN: as old as life, as young as the rainbow, as endless as time.

MY HANDS do the work of the world. They uphold the temple of industry and make clean the market place.

MY EARS hear the cry of children, the prayer of women for peace, the appeal of men for guidance, the call of the race for progress, and the song of the poet for unity.

MY EYES search for good men that I may with them be a Civitan and brother.

MY MOUTH utters the call to daily duty, and speaks the prayers of men in every tongue.

MY MIND teaches me respect for the law, unqualified allegiance to our Government, and love and respect for the flag of our country.

MY HEART beats for every friend; bleeds for every injury to humanity; and throbs with joy at every triumph of truth.

MY SOUL knows no fear but its own unworthiness.

MY HOPE is for a better world and a better city, through better men and Civitans.

MY MOTTO . . . Builders of Good Citizenship.

MY CREED was proclaimed by the Man of Galilee when He declared, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

MY PLEDGE: to practice this Golden Rule; to make it pay dividends, material and spritual; to bridge with it the chasm between employer and employee; to build upon it a better and nobler citizenship.

## OUR CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL

The parent club of Civitan International was organized March 17, 1917, in Birmingham, Alabama, and had its inception following the work of Dr. Courtney Shropshire of Birmingham, Alabama.

At that time, Dr. Shropshire was not very well-known, but he had formed a habit of intermittently inviting other physicians to dine with him at one of the hotels. There these citizens had an outlet for the prevailing spirit of patriotism and could give vent to the expressions of allegiance to the American flag.

There had been some suspicion of disloyalty, and this was the chief concern of Dr. Shropshire and his associates in the then unknown, and supposedly temporary organization. Because of this suspicion, and the group's interest in Americanism, the Birmingham newspapers became interested, and reporters were sent to the weekly meetings.

When World War I ended, it was thought by some that Dr. Shropshire and his associates would cease operations; but, instead, the group decided to make a permanent organization of the club.

The matter of a name for this new organization received considerable attention. The rights, duties, and privileges of citizens were uppermost in the minds of the people. The doctor and his associates, conversant with Latin, thought of the Latin term, "Civitas." They wanted a name which would imply that its members possessed all the rights and accepted the responsibilities of citizenship. "Civitas" was Americanized into "Civitan," and hence the name of the club.

The Birmingham Club was such a success, and so many inquires about it from other cities were received that it was decided to broaden the scope and become an international organization.

Civitan International was founded April 15, 1920, with Dr. Shropshire the first president.

As a prerequisite to membership in International, each club must have, at least one basic project, "for citizenship building, and must be actively engaged in its promotion." International also advocates good citizenship awards, particularly among youth, and many clubs give awards to adults for notable achievements.

Junior Civitan clubs exist in many places, but only recently has location action been initiated in that field. Members of Civitan clubs have been presidents of the United States, members of the Supreme Court, members of the Canadian Cabinet, chief justices of state Supreme Courts, governors of states, and great leaders. The late Thomas A. Edison was a Civitan. In the eyes of International, Civitan exists for service only. "It has never stood for promotion of business advantage, and does not seek for those who join for selfish purposes."

The Creed of Civitan was written by Champ Andrews, brother of O. B. Andrews, who was the Chattanooga club's first president. It has been changed only slightly in the opening lines since its origin. Criteria governing Civitan are the Golden Rule and the example of the Man of Galilee.

Civitan International now occupies its own home on a busy down-town Birmingham street. A three-story structure, it will house the staff and the various activities that are carried on for the benefit of the member clubs.

The official publication of the Civitan International, The CIVITAN MAGAZINE, is published each month and is now in its thirty-ninth year. As stated in its masthead, "The magazine, like the organization it represents, is dedicated to service. It will at all times emphasize the high ideals and purposes of the organization, disseminate ideas for greater service, and carry authorized announcements and notices regarding the activities of the organization." Copies are sent all members.

The first issue of the Civitan Magazine is dated in June of 1922. An old copy which has been located pictures O. B. Andrews of the Chattanooga Club International president, and bears a greeting from him, in which he asks the cooperation of all clubs and individual members in making the publication a success. He also urged cooperation with International officers and committees.



Turner, Cal  
Wall, J. J.  
Winder, Charles H.

James Building  
Chattanooga Bank Building  
Re# 1, Signal Mountain, Tenn.

Officers of the Chattanooga club for the first year were James H. Anderson, President; William F. Fritts, Jr., Vice-President; J. J. Wall, Secretary; and Dawson Harris, Treasurer. The original constitution and by-laws were written by James H. Anderson. After being revised in 1931, it remained as revised until the year, 1957, when it was slightly altered.

The charter presentation was held in the Park Hotel, and the club usually met there till October 24, 1924, later moving to the Tea Room then maintained on the sub-floor in the Flatiron Building. The club subsequently moved to the Hotel Patten, where weekly meetings have been held for some thirty years.

## THE CONSTITUTION AND BY - LAWS OF CHATTANOOGA CIVITAN CLUB

The original constitution and by-laws were adopted soon after the organization was completed in 1920. These remained unchanged until February, 1931 when new documents were written.

They remained substantially the same in these new documents, with the same offices, committees and other personnel. The major change was changing the date of the club year to begin on May 1st rather than January 1st as was true under the old constitution. This change was made internationally at the request of Civitan International in order that all club years would begin and end on the same date, thus simplifying the work of the international office. The change was made during the administration of Dr. Oliver J. Hart.

After that, the constitution remained the same until 1957, when minor changes were made and the documents modernized. This work of revision was done by Jere Tipton, attorney.

### ARTICLE I.

#### Name

The name of the Club shall be The Civitan Club of Chattanooga and shall be an affiliate of Civitan International.

### ARTICLE II.

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Club shall be to afford the pleasures and benefits of good comradeship to its members and through them contribute unselfishly to the moral spiritual and material advancement of the community.

## THE FOUNDING OF THE CHATTANOOGA CIVITAN CLUB

Soon after the formation of Civitan International, Dr. John W. Inzer, former minister in Birmingham, Alabama, was called as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Chattanooga. Senator Kenneth F. Smith, an International field representative, called on Dr. Inzer, who was a Rotarian. This representative was supplied with the names of deacons in the church who were not already affiliated with another civic club. Each of these men, as well as other prospects, was contacted, and a series of small meetings was held in various places. James H. Anderson presided at these preliminary meetings. The Chattanooga Civitan Club received its charter, August 9, 1920, and was the 6th organization to join the International.

The list of charter members contains the names of 47 Chattanoogaans, three of whom are still in the organization. These three are James H. Anderson, Samuel O. Bankson, and John G. Fulmer.

Other charter members, together with their addresses at that time, are:

Andrews, Champe S.	P. O. Box 1004, New Haven, Conn.
Andrews, O. B.	O. B. Andrews Paper Co.
Avery, Clarence R.	Alton Park, Tenn.
Bell, Charles W.	O. B. Andrews Paper Co.
Betterton, Thomas C.	Chattanooga Coffin & Casket Co.
Buchanan, Judson	260 South Crest Road
Carden, Frank S.	c/o Power Company
Coleman, D. M.	c/o Starr Piano Company
Conner, Sam A.	Chattanooga District Fair Assn.
Crowley, Neil J.	310-A West 8th Street
Curtis, Joe R.	Chattanooga District Fair Assn.
Edwards, John W.	University of Chattanooga
Fouche, John S.	John C. Vance Iron & Steel
Fritts, King C.	520 Chattna. Bank Bldg.
Graham, Robert C.	103 Averille Street, Lookout Mtn.
Gray, Albert	c/o Chadek Conservatory
Hardie, Charles	809 Market St.
Harris, Dawson B.	c/o Hamilton National Bank
Haskell, Adam	Tenn. Furniture Corp.
Hood, Carl	Hamilton National Bank Bldg.
Hudiberg, William N.	Patten Hotel
James, James F.	c/o Mascot Stove Co.
Johnson, Joseph W., M.D.	Volunteer State Building
Lupton, Carter T.	Dixie Mercenizing
Lupton, Fred W.	434 Chattanooga Bank Bldg.
Mansfield, Lucius	c/o Magic Food Co.
Meacham, Wm. H.	Alton Park, Tenn.
Milligan, Vincent	Title Guaranty & Trust
Miller, Felix	Miller Bros.
Milton, George Fort, Jr.	Chattanooga News
McClure, Thomas H.	W. F. Fischer & Brother Co.
McCullough, John L.	James Supply Co.
McLester, Rev. Battle	Vine Street
Newton, Emmett	Chevrolet Motor Co., 329 Market St.
Ochs, Adolph, Jr.	Chattanooga Times
Purse, Robert, Jr.	Purse Printing Co.
Redd, John	817 1/2 Cherry Street
Riddle, Sidney	Riddle Coal Company
Sears, William N.	James Building
Senter, Mark H.	Southeastern Oil Company
Shepherd, Will	617 Cherry Street
Steel, Dr. John B.	Volunteer Building
Thompson, T. C. Sr.	Volunteer Building



su- ing year shall be elected, the President's report shall be presented and account shall be made by the Treasurer of the financial condition of the Club.]

Special meetings may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or by a majority of the membership.]

## ARTICLE VI.

### Election of Officers and Directors

Not less than three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint a nominating committee to nominate the officers and directors for the ensu- ing year.] The report of this committee shall be made to the membership at the regular meeting of the Club one week prior to the Annual Meeting, at which time nominations may be made from the floor.]

The election of officers and directors shall be held at the Annual meeting and the nominees receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected.]

Officers shall be enducted into office at the last regular meeting of the Club in June and they shall assume office on July first.

## ARTICLE VII.

### Membership

The members of the Club shall be men of good moral standing who desire to become associated with the Civitan Club of Chattanooga and are in sympathy with its purposes.]

Any member may propose a new member to the President, furnishing all personal information in writing including his name, address, and occupation. The President will convey this information to the Goat Committee, who will investigate the proposed member and make their recommendation to the President.

If the proposed member is approved by this committee his name will appear in the next published issue of the Civichat. This notice shall state that the appli- cant has been approved by the Goat Committee.] It shall set forth the proposed member's name, address and occupation and the name of the sponsoring member. Such notice shall further state that unless a member opposes, the applicant will be accept- ed within seven days.

Any member wishing to oppose shall do so by notifying the Secretary within the seven day period, thereupon the applicant shall be voted on by secret ballot at a reg- ular Club meeting, the notice of which shall state the applicant's name, address and occupation.] An applicant shall be rejected if he receives 5 or more dissenting votes thereat, otherwise he shall be accepted. If the Secretary receives no no- tice of opposition as aforesaid, the applicant will be deemed accepted at the expira- tion of the seven-day period and upon payment of the initiation fee.]

## ARTICLE VIII.

### Committees

There shall be a Goat Committee appointed by the President to investigate the eligibility of persons proposed for membership and the personnel of this committee shall be known only to the President and the Secretary.

### ARTICLE III.

#### Officers

The officers shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a second Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

The President, subject to control by the Board of Directors, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club. He shall appoint committees and preside at meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He shall also appoint a Sky Pilot, a Greeter, and a Bouncer, who shall serve at his pleasure.

The First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence and shall succeed the President, when that office is vacant and serve until the next annual meeting. In addition, subject to the direction of the President, he shall be in charge of programs for meetings. The second Vice-President, subject to the direction of the President, shall be in charge of membership, fellowship, and attendance.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings, keep the records, and conduct the correspondence of the Club. He shall be compensated according to the direction of the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer shall collect the dues and fees, hold and be responsible for the funds of the Club, and make disbursements in such a manner as the Board of Directors may direct.

The Sky Pilot shall be the Chaplain, the Greeters shall welcome members and visitors, and the Bouncer shall act as Sergeant at Arms to enforce any rules promulgated by the Board of Directors or the Club.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of nine elected members, the retiring President, and the elective officers. A majority shall constitute a quorum and the action of a majority present at any meeting shall be binding. The members elected shall serve for a term of three years, and three Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly, and meetings may be called by the President at any time by giving notice to the members of the Board.

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Club and shall have general control over the officers and committees and may for good cause declare any office vacant.

The Directors shall have power to terminate any member who shall consistently fail to attend meetings or who shall fail to pay his dues for two quarters.

### ARTICLE V.

#### Meetings

Regular weekly meetings shall be held each Friday at a time and place to be designated by the Board of Directors. An annual meeting shall be held on the first Friday in May of each year, at which meeting officers and directors for the en-

## PAST PRESIDENTS OF CHATTANOOGA CIVITAN CLUB

- \* Oliver B. Andrews - 1921
- \* T. C. Thompson - 1922
- \* Alf T. Whiteside - 1923
- \* Mark H. Senter - 1924
- \* D. L. Grayson - 1925
- \* Will Shepherd - 1926
- Paul Shacklett - 1927
- Samuel O. Bankson - 1928
- \* Phil B. Whitaker - 1929
- \* Raliegth Crumbliss - 1930
- Oliver J. Hart, Jan. to June, 1931
- \* Walter B. Garvin - 1931 - 32
- Creed F. Bates, Jr. - 1932 - 33
- \* R. W. Williams - 1933 - 34
- James L. Fowle - 1934 - 35
- A. F. Parzelius - 1935 - 36
- \* Benjamin P. Nicklin - 1936 - 37
- \* Emmett S. Newton - 1937 - 38
- Joe V. Williams, Jr. - 1938 - 39
- Joe V. McLaughlin - 1939 - 40
- Alf J. Law, Jr. - 1940 - 41
- J. Gilbert Stein - 1941 - 42
- \* Eugene J. Bryan - 1942 - 43; 1943 - 44
- Leslie R. Darr - 1944 - 45
- \* Samuel J. McAllester - 1945 - 46
- John B. Crimmins - 1946 - 47
- Authur G. Brading - 1947 - 48
- John E. Gilbreath - 1948 - 49
- Joseph B. Roberts - 1949 - 50
- K. W. Henderson - 1950 - 51
- George S. Campbell - 1951 - 52
- Dr. Wesley A. Barton - 1952 - 53
- Lewis A. Schmidt, Jr. - 1953 - 54
- Maxwell A. Smith - 1954 - 55
- Carlton McAfee - 1955 - 56
- C. Edson Hardy - 1956 - 57
- Frank Robbins, Jr. - 1957 - 58
- Albert L. Hodge - 1958-1959

\* Deceased



There shall be a Thumbs Up and Down Committee appointed annually which shall consist of the Secretary, the Treasurer, and one other member designated by the President. Any proposal made to the Club such as a request for financial assistance or the official endorsement of any project may be referred to this committee for consideration. A favorable majority report must be presented before such matter may be offered to the Club for action.

There shall be a T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital Committee appointed by the President whose duties shall be to represent the Club in a cooperative effort to promote welfare of the Hospital and to aid crippled children generally.

Other committees shall be appointed as required and directed by the President and Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IX,

### Fees and Dues

There shall be an initiation fee of \$15.00 to accompany each application for membership. The quarterly dues shall be \$20.00, out of which each member shall receive a credit of \$1.28 each week on meals when present, but if absent, no refund or credit will be given.

If and when any member's quarterly dues shall become past due and unpaid for two full quarter, said member shall be notified by the secretary by registered mail that if payment of said past due dues is not made within ten days of said registered mailing, that member shall without further notice be automatically suspended from active membership in the Club.

The said registered mailing shall consist only of a statement of past due dues accompanied by a copy of this Article IX of the By-Laws.

If at any subsequent time the member thus automatically suspended desires to reinstate himself in the active membership, he may do so by writing the Secretary a letter stating his desire for reinstatement accompanied by payment in full of the dues in arrears at the time of his automatic suspension.

## ARTICLE X.

### Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed by any member to the Board of Directors or may be initiated by the Board of Directors and presented to the Club at a regular meeting and shall become effective if carried by a majority present.

## ARTICLE XI.

### Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of July of each year and end on the 30th day of June next following.

## ARTICLE XII.

This Constitution and By-Laws take the place of any former like instruments in effect as fundamental rules of the Club, but all officers and committees heretofore elected or appointed and now serving shall remain in the present status for the tenure to which elected or appointed.

children.

In commenting on the work of the Club, Adamson stated, "It occurs to me that there are many other clubs doing good work, but I wonder if there are any which can excel, or even equal the Chattanooga Club over such a long period of time - bearing in mind that this institution is only one of the many projects carried on by this organization."

For many years the School was under the direction of William S. and Lucy Beall Keese, for whom the stately old colonial home has been named in recognition of their sacrificial service. They were succeeded by Lewis Lindsey, and the Adamsons came in 1950.

The School was officially established in 1898 under an enabling act passed earlier giving the counties authority to establish and provide for "a system of reformatory institutions for youthful persons." The establishment grew out of a need to take care of orphans, wayward and neglected children, and it apparently had its inception in the heart of the late Dr. J. W. Bachman, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Bachman already had an extensive program of social welfare in operation.

Chancellor T. M. McConnell and Circuit Judge John A. Moon appointed a Board of Trustees, James Bell, Major Charles McGuffey, Esq. L. W. Bates, with Dr. Bachman as chairman. Mr. Z. C. Patten was a strong supporter and liberal benefactor of the School, and today a modern dormitory for girls bears the name of his wife, Sarah Key Patten. This family interest continues, and his son Z. Cartter Patten is now present Chairman of the Board.

The School serves a different purpose today from what it did when founded. In its early history, with facilities so limited, the institution was used for all types of services to children. It accepted orphans and neglected children and in addition, those who were wayward or delinquent. Today the School has no facilities for the care of delinquents. The General Assembly of Tennessee, on March 20th, 1957, passed a bill of - officially changing the name of the School from "The Hamilton County Industrial and Reform School" to "The Bonny Oaks School," and the purpose from "an institution to care for, discipline, and train the neglected and dependent vicious and incorrigible youthful persons of Hamilton County" to, "a home for dependent and neglected youthful persons," thus incorporating in its purpose the purpose of Civitan - BUILDERS OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The idea for a Crippled Children's Hospital was conceived by the late T. C. Thompson, former mayor of Chattanooga, and the second president of Civitan. Mr. Thompson was a civic leader in many activities.

About 1922 or 1923 Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and "Little John" Martin, brother of the late Patty Martin Ochs, were at the Thompson Orchard on Waldens Ridge hunting quail. The place at that time was occupied by the family of John Sweets. Mr. Thompson saw that one of the boys was crippled, and he was informed that an ice wagon had run over his foot. Mrs. Sweets wanted to have an operation on the foot to correct the condition, but she had no funds. Immediately interested, Mr. Thompson got in touch with Dr. Mickel Hoke of Atlanta, who agreed to examine the Sweets boy. They took him to Atlanta and placed him in a Shrine Hospital there until he was able to undergo the operation, which was most successful.

Later, Hythea Debbison, another mountain child, was discovered by Mrs. Sweets. The girl had an injured hip and was in need of medical attention. At first it was thought nothing could be done for her; and then Dr. Willis Campbell of Memphis was in

## SOME OF OUR PROJECTS IN REVIEW

### BONNY OAKS SCHOOL

Bonny Oaks School, for less fortunate boys and girls of Chattanooga and Hamilton County, is perhaps nearer the heart of the average Civitan than any other project the Club has undertaken in its long illustrious history.

The members have maintained an interest in the progress and programs of the school and have contributed not only financially, but have given of themselves as well. Of late years it has been the custom of the members to remember individually each child on his birthday with a gift, and these gifts have taken various forms. Often children are entertained in the homes of the members as a special birthday treat. Boat rides and other forms of entertainment have been given. Each member makes himself responsible for a happy birthday for one of the children and both the children and members look forward to these occasions.

This is only one of the many undertakings done to carry out the slogan, "Builders of Good Citizenship." Malcolm Adamson, Superintendent of the Bonny Oaks School, is high in the praise of the work done by Civitan, voluntarily, to contribute to the welfare and happiness of the children in the institution.

Although the School is a tax-supported agency, Civitan funds have been freely expended at the School. Recently a member and his wife on a birthday visit to the School gave them a swimming pool, modern in every respect. The Club has also given to the School a 54-passenger bus for recreational purposes. It was named "Be Happy Bus" by the children.

Perhaps the establishment of the Will Shepherd Memorial Clinic should take first place in the activities which the Club has undertaken for The Bonny Oaks School. This memorial hospital was named for a beloved, deceased member, the late Will Shepherd, who served as a Club president and was active in all Club pursuits. The clinic is fully equipped with six beds, treatment room, dental office and laboratory equipment.

The Club has also set up an "Achievement Award Day", on which awards are made to boys and girls who have made out-standing scholastic progress and who have been able to adapt themselves socially to those around them. These awards are made in each division of the school -- high school, elementary school, colored, and white.

In the pursuit of education for deserving youngsters, scholarships have been made available at the University of Chattanooga and at the Baroness Erlanger School of Nursing. The annual salary of a music teacher at the school is paid by Civitan. This subject is not offered through the local school system, but is usually sponsored by a Parent-Teacher Association; and of course, there is no PTA at Bonny Oaks.

New and modern playground equipment was furnished the School during 1956, and there have been various other smaller, but equally significant, gifts given personally through Civitans. Through the years many of the Club members have personally felt great enthusiasm for the work for Bonny Oaks School. For instance, Dr. Wesley Barton, a former president who was chairman of a committee which worked on the purchase of the "Be Happy Bus," and Arthur Hill, who was chairman of the library committee which gathered a large number of books for the library in the Will Shepherd Memorial Clinic; and there are many others who have worked tirelessly and made great accomplishments.

For many years the Club has held one meeting during the summer on the Bonny Oaks campus. This gives the busy members an opportunity to observe personally what is being done at the School under the able direction of Malcolm Adamson, who with a kindly and human touch, is able to solve the problems of youth as they develop. He is highly respected by the board of directors and the staff, and he is beloved by the



## CHILD WELFARE AUXILIARY

Any man who joins Civitan automatically becomes a member of the Civitan Child Welfare Auxiliary. The organization was set up shortly after Thompson was left the Cassie Hutcheson legacy for the benefit of crippled children, and its primary function is the administration of the T. C. Thompson Crippled Children's Trust Fund. Although this is one of the less publicized activities of the club, it is a most important one. Every year from \$5,000 to \$10,000 is dispensed for the care of needy children, through Al Porzelius and a board of trustees.

This is the story of the Crippled Children's Fund as told by Mr. Porzelius:

"The Chattanooga Civitan Club was one of the first clubs to take up crippled children's work as one of its main objectives. This was due to the efforts of T. C. Thompson, second president of the local club, who had become interested in the crippled child long before the multiplicity of agencies had arisen which now provide for the specific crippling ailments.

"Mr. Thompson had a very good friend in Cassie Hutcheson, who became interested in Mr. Thompson's endeavor, and at his death, he made Mr. Thompson's the beneficiary of his estate of \$119,000. Mr. Thompson felt that the responsibility of administering this fund was too great for one man to handle; so he proceeded to establish the charitable foundation known as the Civitan Child Welfare Auxiliary. This organization was incorporated on August 22, 1927, and was composed of a self-perpetuating board of five members, with every member of the Chattanooga Civitan Club as a sustaining member.

"While Mr. Thompson gave his personal attention to the needy cases, the board as a whole, administered the investing of this fund to produce an income to provide for the many requests for help.

"After Mr. Thompson's death, Mark Senter, a former president of the Chattanooga Civitan Club, succeeded him as Chairman, and after Mr. Senter's death, about fifteen years ago, A. F. Porzelius succeeded to the chairmanship; and William G. Brown, Robert C. Jones, Vaughn Miller, and Joseph V. McLaughlin constitute the present board.

"During the depression, the Fund suffered severe losses, but it has been brought back to approximately \$150,000; and its value to Chattanooga and the area can be appreciated, since over \$125,000 has been disbursed in behalf of crippled children.

"Mr. Thompson, who had been mayor under the city's commission form of government, also spearheaded the drive for the construction of a children's hospital; and through the efforts of the Chattanooga Civitan Club the bond issue for its construction was passed, the hospital was built in 1928. This hospital is properly named in his honor as the T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital.

"The Civitan Club of Chattanooga cherishes the memory of T. C. Thompson and Cassie Hutcheson, who did so much for our less fortunate children."

Committees appointed in 1940-41 for carrying on the work of the auxiliary and the duties of each are printed here as follows:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - - Al Porzelius, Chairman, Joe McLaughlin, Treas., Bob Jones, Sec'y, Vaughn Miller, Sam Campbell.

1. CASE COMMITTEE - - - Carl Ling, Chairman; Tom Deef, Burton Jones, Calder Willingham and Maxwell Smith.

Chattanooga attending a Medical Association meeting, and he agreed to examine the girl. Dr. Campbell felt that the hip could be repaired and he took her to the Baptist Hospital in Memphis, and a successful operation was performed.

There were other children, too, who received this kind of help. Twenty-four were operated on at the Baptist Hospital in Memphis, and still others were sent to Shrine hospitals in St. Louis, Greenville, and Louisville. Not all of these children came from Chattanooga; some of them were from surrounding areas, but anyone who knew of a child who needed help was advised to contact Mr. Thompson; and he saw to it that the child got the necessary attention.

Mrs. Sweets continued helping him in these efforts and would take these children to Memphis, where Dr. Campbell cared for their needs. After they were released from the hospital, they were taken to King's Daughters Home for Crippled Children, and there they were fitted with braces and the proper shoes. All this was done without charge to the children.

By this time many donations began coming in to Mr. Thompson to further his humanitarian work, and he began dreaming of a hospital in Chattanooga, which would be just for children. He felt that a city the size of Chattanooga could support such a hospital, and he hoped that it could be built without any political influence.

Then Cassie Hutcheson, a resident of another city and unknown to Mr. Thompson, sent him a donation for the work which he had heard was being done; and on his death he left an estate of \$119,000.00 to be used in helping crippled children. A general hospital for children was badly needed in Chattanooga, and it was thought that it would be better to build that type rather than a hospital which was exclusively for crippled children. Mr. Thompson asked the Civitan Club to work for legislation for a bond issue to build this hospital, and the Club undertook the project. The move has been described as one of the most ambitious ever undertaken by a civic club.

The original committee was appointed in 1923, and Mr. Thompson was made chairman. The members were: James H. Anderson, Dr. Lyle West, and J. R. Leal. Dr. William Dulaney, Dr. S. S. Marchbanks, and Dr. Willard Steele also assisted, as well as Mr. Thompson's secretary, Miss Anne Boyd.

In the interest of securing the bond issue for the Hospital, Club members embarked on a plan of public education in order to lay the groundwork. Mr. Richard Hardy, mayor at that time, favored this bond issue, but because of the six per-cent law, finances would not permit it without some financial adjustments. Members of the Club took their cause to the people through other clubs and organizations and the bond issue was finally voted overwhelmingly. It was for \$125,000, and the bonds were dated October 1, 1926, according to records at the City Hall.

The hospital was opened in 1927. It had its own board of directors and was operated independently of Erlanger Hospital, with appropriations from both city and county funds. The Junior League of Chattanooga gave money and assistance, and the money from the Hutcheson Fund went to the Crippled Children's Ward.

The hospital's first board of directors were Judge Nathan Bachman, Frank Carden, Bartow Strang, and of course, T. C. Thompson. While under the administration of this board, the hospital was a well-operated institution, and remained clear of debt.

With the Hutcheson fund, the Civitan Club formed a Child Welfare Auxiliary, because Mr. Thompson felt he did not want the responsibility of such a large bequest. The first board of directors of this Auxiliary included I. B. Milligan; John Campbell, a nephew of Mr. Hutcheson's; Mark Senter; R. P. Purse; and Mr. Thompson. It was truly a welfare organization in every sense of the word.



## EASTER EGG HUNT

An extra-curricular activity undertaken by some of the Club members was embarked on in 1925, when they conceived the idea of a public Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the city. From the very first, the venture was a big success.

The original committee was composed of Gene Bryan, Nathan Bachman, Will Shepherd, and Joe Curtis. On the death of Senator Bachman, Colonel R. L. Moore, Owner of Lovemans, was added to the committee.

The hunt was staged at Jackson Park, adjacent to the National Cemetery, until the park was taken over by the Federal Government as a cemetery for soldiers of World War II. The hunts were held annually, the Saturday preceding Easter, and Hundreds of Children were made happy through the effort.

The age limits were for children eight years old or under, and many prizes were given away. The eggs were dyed and hidden by the late Charles Ziegler, an attache of the city government.

In 1941 no hunt was staged, and in 1942, the last hunt was given. This event was held in Warner Park.

In commenting on the egg hunts, Gene Bryan said, "This was one of the highlights of the year. Many little children were made happy, and the members of the committee were well repaid for their efforts."

Egg Rolling on the White House lawn might have been more spectacular, but it is doubtful that it could have brought any more pleasure than Chattanooga Civitan's Easter Egg hunts.

## ESSAY CONTEST

The Essay Contest on "Citizenship," is believed to be one of the earliest projects undertaken by the Club. It was started by the International, but the date is not known. The first contest mentioned in Civichat was in June 27, 1930

Winners of the contest are selected on a local, district, and international level. High school students participate and prizes are awarded on all contests. Elimination tests are given, and the best papers are entered in a higher bracket until the international level is reached. The rules for this contest are made by International and are the same for all clubs. Its aim is to promote good citizenship among the youth of the country and thus assure a stronger citizenry in the years to come.

The Essay Contest was proposed by International, and local clubs were invited to join in the undertaking for building better citizens. The invitation was promptly accepted by the local Club.

One of the early committees was composed of Dean Maxwell Smith, M. F. Langston, and Manley Clayton. Dean Smith, the records show, was chairman in 1949, and again in 1957. Spears McAllester is the present local chairman. The late C. H. Winder served for a number of years as local chairman, succeeding Dean Smith.

The essay contests are staged annually, and the local winners are presented at a special meeting of the Club and their papers are read. All essays submitted are read by the committee, but names of the writers are not revealed until all have been passed on, and selections made. The local awards are United States Savings Bonds.



Duties: - - To handle all applications for assistance from needy crippled children and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors about these.

II. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE - - Arthur Hill, Chairman; Bill Bacon, Robert S. Williams

Duties: - - To publicize among local physicians and surgeons the availability of Civitan Child Welfare Funds for treatment of needy crippled children.

III. MEDICAL COMMITTEE - - Harold Starr, Chairman; O. L. VonCanon, Earl Campbell, Gene Kistler, Russel Hackney, J. J. Killeffer and E. F. Huckaba.

Duties: - - To review and pass upon from professional standpoint the cases for which application for treatment has been made.

IV. REHABILITATION COMMITTEE - - John Crimmins, Chairman; Ray Brooks, Hubert McCrory, Frank Carden, Eugene Byran, Corry Smith, Jim Moore, Chalmer Harper, Louies Withers, Creed Bates, Frank Robbins, Paul McQuiddy, Harven Meyers, Thayer Montague, Fred Ballard, Charlie Kohlhasse, Joe Mahoney, Colonel Daugherty, Malone Everett, Jimmy Tabb, George Boh, Clarence Snyder, Bill Fritts, Charlie Hardie, Lewis Leach, Bill Redford, Doug McMillin, Jim Fowle, Battle McLester, Will Shepherd, Paul Shacklett, Ladd Williams, Judson Buchanan, Ballard Lysterly, Ben Nicklin, Roland Tapp, Bob Sutton, Frank Dowler, Jr., Jim Mcleod, Sam Butler, Ernest Darr, Frank Hamilton and Tom Clines.

Duties: - - After period of child's treatment is complete, or after age limit as child has been reached, to find employment or occupation for beneficiary of treatment which will make him selfsupporting.

V. LEGACY COMMITTEE - - Joe V. Williams, Chairman; Jim Irvine, Jr., Dick Hagan, Jim Anderson, Joe Roberts, Tom Thach, Joe Anderson, Willard Smith, Ted Montague, Leon Burnett, Harry Durand, Leslie Darr and Frank George.

Duties: - - To acquaint local lawyers and life insurance men with Civitan Child Welfare Auxiliary and its work with view of getting their co-operation in having Auxiliary named in wills and life insurance policies for charitable and welfare bequests.

VI. REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE - - Sam Bankson, Chairman; Dawson Hall, Selmon Franklin, Webb Brown, Halbert Law and Bill Sears.

Duties: - - (A) To arrange for sale of real estate owned by Auxiliary when requested by Board of Directors, and (B) to appraise real estate on which applications for loans have been made.

VII. FINANCE COMMITTEE - - Roland Olmsted, Chairman; Cartter Patten, Emmett Newton and Jimmy Johnson.

Duties: - - To assist Board of Directors in selection of investments for Auxiliary funds and to make recommendations to the Board.

The first issues were folio size, and consisted of eight pages. In the October 2, 1924 issue the entire back page was devoted to a tribute to the late Dr. Jonathan Waverly Bachman, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

By 1930 the weekly paper had been reduced to a single sheet and was printed on but one side.

In one of these 1930 editions, space is devoted to Clifford A. Betts, who became Chattanooga commissioner of streets and sewers, succeeding Roger Crox. Betts was described as "commissioner of incinerators." Another of these sketches, printed August 22, 1920, deals with the Reverend Battle McLester, former rector of Grace Episcopal Church, who had changed his denomination from Presbyterian, and bought for himself a "turned-around vest." When the late Raleigh Crumbliss became president in 1930, he wrote his own sketch. He later became co-editor of Civichat with Shepherd, and on the death of the latter, he edited it alone.

In the early days of its publication, the bulletin was printed in the office of the Hamilton County Herald, of which Shepherd was editor; but in later years, it has been changed in form and is printed elsewhere. It now gives a list of the members and of the past presidents on the reverse side, information which the early issues did not carry.

### THE FOUNDERS CUP

The Chattanooga club was the winner of the Founders' Cup for 1928-29 when Phil Whitaker and Samuel O. Bankson served as presidents.

The award was made on the basis of the most outstanding service to the community during the year. Any club winning the trophy three years out of four was entitled to keep the cup, but no record can be found of the local club having won the cup in other years.

The trophy was given by a group of the original Civitans, members of the Birmingham club. Six member of the original board of international officers.

### THE 1922 CIVITAN CONVENTION

The International convention was held in Chattanooga in 1922, and the Civitan Magazine gave much praise the local club for its hospitality and well ordered proceedings.

The sessions were held June 6-8, at Hotel Patten. President Andrews announced the committee chairmen.

Printed in the magazine was a list of the clubs in International, and the meeting day and time of meeting of each club.

Outstanding Civitans whose pictures appeared in this copy of the magazine include F. A. Wilson Lawrence, president of the New York City club, Ernest Greenwood, first vice-president, International, Washington, D. C., and a copy of Greenwood's speech was printed.

It is interesting to note the advertisements of Chattanooga businesses which appear. These include advertisements for Southeastern Oil Company, Mark Senter, president, Hotel Patten, Grand Hotel, Thatcher Medicine Company, Savoy Cafe, Baylor School, Mills & Lupton, Chattanooga Bottle & Glass Manufacturing Company, Chattanooga Medicine Company, Quality Shirt Company, Tennessee Power Company, and Dixie Portland Cement Company.

One of the highlights of the convention was the presentation of a loving cup to Dr. C. W. Shropshire, first president of International and founder of the organization.

No estimate can be found on the attendance at the convention, but judging from committee reports, many of the clubs were represented.

The contest may be entered by any high school senior in a school where a Civitan Club is sponsoring the contest. The essays must be written by the student, must be between 500 and 750 words, and on any subject having to do with good citizenship. The writer's name does not appear on the paper, but each entrant has an identification number. The essays are judged by competent and impartial judges chosen by the club chairmen to serve on the committee of judges. Each District may send the two best entries to the International Chairman.

The awards given the International winners are all scholarships. First place winner receives a \$600.00 scholarship, payable \$150.00 per year, provided the student maintains a "B" average. Other awards range from \$300.00 to \$100.00 in scholarship awards.

## THE CIVICHAT

The Civichat has become almost a household word with members of the families of Civitan members. The weekly publication has been in existence for thirty-four years, and is still going strong.

The first copy of the Civichat was dated August 21, 1924, and marked Vol 1, No. 1. The editors at that time were Will Shepherd and Jim Eldridge. Under the masthead is printed the following words, "All the stuff herein contained is censored, strained, and distributed from 622 Cherry Street, Phone Main 5566." The lead article in this first issue is entitled, "Big Doings Friday." That Friday an educational program was announced, with "Doc" Hackney providing the program. Pupils from Rockwood, Dayton, and Spring City participated, and the meeting was held in the sunroom of the Park Hotel.

According to the next issue of Civichat, the club arranged to visit the Dalton Club on the following Friday, when a baseball game was to be played there, between Chattanooga and Dalton. The Chattanooga line-up read as follows: "E. E. Pickard, pitcher; Fred Temple, catcher; Honest Bob Purse, first base; George Briggs, second sack; Woody, poor third; Avery, left field; Al Porzelius, center field; Charles Bagley, right field; Joe Davenport, Lee Tolley, and Bill Fritts, general utility men. 'Ye Editor', bench manager; Wink Milligan, water boy; 'Old Buck', bat boy.

The club president that year was Mark Senter. Vice-president was Dr. John B. Steele, and J. J. Wall was secretary and Sam Strauss, treasurer.

Pictured in this issue were four prominent Chattanoogaans: O. B. Andrews, T. C. Thompson, Alf Whiteside, and Mark Senter.

Except for the first two issues, no other early copies of the Civichat can be found. The next issue available was in 1930.

In the 1930 issues of Civichat, it was the custom of the editors to give short sketches of prominent members of the club and their activities. This was the year that Fred W. Lupton ran for a seat in the Tennessee General Assembly and that A. F. Porzelius was made president of the Fair Association. Attention was given to events of public interest, and the annual fair was given notice as were the forums of the Chamber of Commerce. One of the early issues mentions that \$800 was raised in eight minutes for work among crippled children; and in another issue, T. C. Thompson was heralded as a civic leader without precedent in his work for the Children's Hospital. This hospital was described as a "monument to him while he is still living."



## CIVITAN MEMBERS SERVE THE COMMUNITY AND COUNTY INDIVIDUALLY

The Civitan Club, a classified organization is represented by practically all professions, businesses, and industries. As can be seen, it numbers among its membership many of the outstanding community leaders.

The Club members have taken an active part in governmental affairs. Judge Leslie R. Darr, Judge of the U. S. District Court, is a past president and a district governor. Three members have held the position of referee in bankruptcy. They are James H. Anderson, the late Sam J. McAllister and Eugene Bryan.

Every major court of record has been, or now is presided over by a Civitan. County Judge Wilkes Thrasher is a former member of the Chattanooga Civitan Club and now belongs to the Northside club. The late W. B. Garvin was chancellor for many years. The Circuit Court bench was occupied by the late Judge Fred Ballard, who served for many years. The late Frank Darwin was judge of the Criminal Court, and Burrell Baker is presently judge of Juvenile Court. Campbell Carden is judge of the Criminal Court.

Activities of members on civic committees have been marked and are so varied that only a few can be mentioned. S. O. Bankson, a former Club president, served on one of the early city planning boards. A. F. Porzelius, a past president, was for a number of years president of the Fair Association.

Members who have served as president of the Chamber of Commerce are the late Emmett Newton, Joe V. McLaughlin, Alf J. Law, Jr., Gilbert Stein, A. F. Porzelius, John Crimmins, and late (Ladd) Williams.

Eugene Bryan, twice president of the local Club and president of the International in 1950, served for many years as Commissioner of Fire and Police. He has also served in the state senate as a senator, as Speaker of the Senate, and as Lt. Governor of the State of Tennessee. Until his recent death he served as referee in bankruptcy.

As far back as 1930 Garnet Andrews, Jr., was appointed on the Adult Night School Committee, and later was made chairman of a committee to raise funds for the school's project. Creed F. Bates, a past president of the club has served for years on the Board of Trustees for the Bonny Oaks School. The late Raliegth Crumbliss, a past president and secretary for many years before his death, was a strong supporter of the Little Theater and the Chattanooga Opera Association.

R. W. (Ladd) Williams, a past president, was head of the Travelers Aid Society for several years, and was also a president of the Chamber of Commerce. Practically all members have worked on committees for the old Community Chest fund, which has now become part of the United Funds. The late Will Shepherd, past president, was for many years at the head of the Community Sing, held annually at Memorial Auditorium, and also head of the Easter Sunrise Services held there.

The late Ben F. Nicklin, past president, represented the Club in many military activities after he retired from the army.

Dr. James L. Fowle, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and a past president of the club, was appointed Pastor of Chattanooga a number of years ago by former Mayor, Ed Bass, and he still holds that distinction. Gilbert Stein served as chairman of the Safety Council in 1945, and later as president of the City Farmers.

Phil Whitaker served as field secretary for the International in 1947, and organized clubs in New York.

An outstanding exponent of Civitan was in the person of the late O. B. Andrews, who served the club as its first president in 1921. As far back as May 9, 1930, he spoke at a Civitan Club meeting held at Cayern Castle, and at that time he stressed Club duties

## SOME OTHER PROJECTS

The Club has tried its hand at several governmental reforms, one of which was the restoration of a divorce proctor in Hamilton County. This effort failed. Later the club declared itself strongly in favor of a city manager for Chattanooga, but this effort also failed.

During the life of the Citizens Military Training Camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, the club presented three prizes for the best essays on "The Relation of the CMTC on Good Citizenship." It also presented the J. Perry Fyffe riding crop for horsemanship, and the Golden Guidon to the best troop. The latter was given in honor of the late Alf J. Law, Club member whose son later became club president. The late Colonel Ben Nicklin was chairman of the awards committee.

When a movement was launched here for the erection of a new hospital, the Club backed the plan 100%. Joe B. McLaughlin, past president, was one of the leaders in the movement. The efforts resulted in the building of Memorial Hospital, a handsome, modern structure in Glenwood.

These enterprises represent the many varied activities of the Club and its members; but its major interest is, and always has been in its close association with the T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital, the Civitan Child Welfare Auxiliary, and its continued support of the Bonny Oaks School projects and programs.

## OUR WEEKLY PROGRAMS

### MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS

The weekly meetings of the Civitan have been varied in interest and every conceivable type of speaker or entertainer has been presented at one time or another. The members have been both uplifted and let-down many times. The subjects have ranged from stars and telescopes to "hell and high water" from "the glory of the aurora borealis" to "the procession of the equinoxes." Skating stars, Swiss bell ringers, singers and instrumentalists have all had their day at the club.

As a matter of fact, the attentive members should by this time know all about everything there is to know. They know all about tooth care and heart disease; and mental health to them is an old story. Sometimes a fidgety member will be seen to shift from side to side, and occasionally an especially tired Civitan may all but fall asleep, but every speaker presented is given a most polite hearing. Members are so learned through speeches that they know the Constitution of the United States by heart (and perhaps some could say it backwards), and any number of the members could assemble an "A" Bomb, or qualify as a nuclear expert.

The outstanding event of the club year, to the women at least, is the annual Christmas party which is held on the last Friday before Christmas. This is a time of merry-making when the members really let down their collective hair.

There is never a set speech at this meeting, but the Civitan Players, who are presented each year, give a rollicking program. Members' wives are invited as special guests and are privileged to see their husbands as others see them - not through the eyes of love. Each of the ladies receives a handsome gift, and there are door prizes. Sometimes the programs get almost as "nutty" as the fruit cakes that are sold annually (and perhaps almost as "crummy"), but they never fail to entertain and even amaze. And while the programs are always amusing, the meaning of Christmas is not overlooked in the devotional services which are followed by the singing of Christmas Carols.



science and civic pride, a sense of the value and power of united, constructive effort and a vision of his city, not as it is, but as he wishes it to be and will work to make it."

## CIVITAN MEMBERS SERVE OUR COUNTRY IN TIME OF WAR

Members of the Chattanooga club have been and are members of the various Armed Services. Many served in World War II, and in the Korea conflict. Others had served in World War I, before the organization of the Civitan Club. Foremost among these were the late Colonels Perry Fyffe, Ben Nicklin, and Major Alf Law, Sr.

The following is from a 1945, Civichat, which gave a list of club members at that time in World War II.

Creed F. Bates  
Lawrence Ray Brooks  
William G. Brown  
Samuel M. Butler  
Frank Carden  
Phil P. Claxton  
Thos. D. Clines, Jr.  
Chas. B. Coleman  
Chas. H. Gullickson  
Richard W. Hagan  
James M. Haley  
William O. Hubbuch  
Ray Johnston  
James M. Johnston  
Dr. John J. Killeffer  
Franklin S. Kimbrough  
Halbert G. Law  
Ballard Lyerly  
Theo L. Montague, Jr.  
James L. Moore  
Frank Robbins, Jr.  
Dr. G. M. Roberts, Jr.  
W. Corry Smith  
Robert T. Sutton  
Joe V. Williams, Jr.



and activities. Two weeks later the Club held a round table discussion of the Club and its affairs. Andrews pointed out that the function of a civic club was no longer what it had been and that the day Civitan could build a children's hospital had passed; and that to make itself interesting to its members and helpful to the community, it must seek, not so much a new program, but rather a new line of operation. In his address he aroused a new interest in the Civitan Creed, and in response to many requests, the Creed was printed on the back of the Civichat May 23, 1930.

The club holds a sustaining membership in the Keep Tennessee Green Association. It has also taken a deep interest in the Tennessee Society for Crippled Children and Adults. Judge Darr headed the county-wide committee for two years, and was succeeded by Al Porzelius.

Work has been done untiringly to get qualified voters to register and vote, and members have participated in all war time activities, including bond sales collections of various kinds of salvage, and such. At one time it was assigned a quota of selling \$200,000.00 in "E" Bonds. The quota was met.

A few years back the club sponsored an exchange student at the University of Chattanooga. He was Gilbert Bion, of France. He spent six weeks at the University, and was entertained frequently in the homes of Civitan Club members.

Through the years it has been a custom to designate one club member as Civitan of the Week. This is done by voice vote. Through this means, individuals are given recognition for some special act or effort. Sometimes the designation is made in a light vein, but more often it is seriously regarded.

Among its many other pursuits, the club has often recognized young men and women who are studying agriculture as a vocation.

During the term of Gene Bryan as International President, in 1948 two women newspaper reporters were given honorary membership in the club. These writers had "covered" the club meetings for a number of years.

In 1946 a battery of field artillery of the Tennessee National Guard was sponsored by the club. This was during the administration of John Crimmins as president.

In 1949 the club adopted Barbara Hendricks, a 12-year-old "blue baby". She was sent to Emory University Hospital by the club and underwent surgery to correct her condition. Barbara recovered and now holds an excellent position.

Shortly after this the club was called on to assist in promoting a prize fight, sponsored by Joe Engel, president of the Lookout Baseball Team, and by the Glenwood Garden Club, to raise funds for beautifying the grounds of T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital.

The club has consistently supported the local baseball team, and in a ticket-selling competition Will Shepherd was credited with selling 700 season tickets.

A few years ago the club was co-sponsor with the Broadcasting Station WDOD in supporting radio programs by the choir of Howard High School. In 1952 it entertained men returning from the armed services. It has been host to a number of district conventions, has erected road signs at intersections of major highways leading into the city, giving information as to its meeting place and hour.

Believing in saying, "Welldone," it entertained and honored former mayor Ed Bass on his resignation after 38 years of service in public office. C. H. Winder, on his retirement as principal of Lookout Junior High School, was presented a life membership.

The members have certainly earned the title of "Builders of Good Citizenship." This stipulation is amply provided for in the constitution:

"The true Civitan is a Distinctive type of citizen. He desires to develop, first of all in himself, through fraternal fellowship, with kindred spirits and association with them in common community tasks, and then in his fellow citizens, a lofty civic con-

In December, the Club was voicing a protest against young boys being driven through the city "in chains". Attention of the Club was brought on after a talk by Baxter Gass, secretary of the state board of charities. A protest resolution was sent to Governor Taylor and the chairman of the state board of control, Lewis Pope. While the newspaper account of the story does not make it quite clear, it was inferred that the "young boys" referred to were workhouse prisoners being taken to and from work. It was also established that a law against such practice had been in force for some time, and that the incident in Chattanooga was the first of its kind since its enactment.

The resolution drafted by the Club declared that "the building of good citizenship demands condemnation and prevention of such actions."

## 1922

In December of 1921, T. C. Thompson was elected the second president of Chattanooga Civitan, succeeding Oliver B. Andrews. Installation took place the second week in January of 1922

This, like the preceding administration, was a most active one, and many things were undertaken. Throughout the year there was evidence of increasing interest in the cause of crippled children.

The Club was not, however, without play-time, and a number of amusing incidents occurred at meetings. The first of these was when William Beard, a special representative of the U. S. Treasury Department was booked for a speech on "Thrift". The bored members settled back in their chairs, expecting to stick it out. The speaker turned out to be Billy Beard, a comedian being presented in a comedy at the old Bijou Theater, and was thoroughly enjoyed.

A "prize fight" between Pap Radey and Judson Buchanan was the highlight of one meeting, with Buchanan knocking the fighter out in the third round. He was awarded the belt, but since it would not reach around his body, it was withdrawn. The burlesque was hilarious. "Kid" Buck, manager of the Chattanooga Plow Co., was given much praise for arranging the program.

In March of 1922, Rabbi A. Holzenberg addressed the Club on Jewish Relief, and the Club promised cooperation. T. C. Thompson was in charge of the campaign. Committees were appointed to carry out the Club's plan of help. In March the Club also voted to support the Community Chest in a plan that had been used in 25 cities with success in every case. This meeting seems to have been the first held at Hotel Patten.

Masked Knights of the Ku Klux Klan visited the club on one occasion, stating they were on a very serious mission. Thompson remonstrated, and several anxious and tense moments followed before the members realized the affair was another "stunt" arranged by the program committee.

Henry Ford made a proposal to buy Muscle Shoals, and Paul J. Kruesi and W. G. Waldo spoke to the Club in favor of the plan. Later the Club approved the sale, but it never materialized.

Adolph S. Ochs, publisher of the New York Times, addressed the members on a city-planning plan. He also approved the Club's desire for a children's hospital and pledged support of the movement. He expressed the hope that the enthusiasm expressed at a public meeting would not die with the resolution favoring the plan, and he lauded Thompson for his work for crippled children.

At a closed meeting in June, plans were made for the convention of the International Association of Civitan Clubs to be held here the following week. Arthur Nash of Cincinnati was to be the principal speaker on the Golden Rule. This, the second international con-

## THIRTY - EIGHT CIVITAN PRESIDENTS PASS IN REVIEW

Effort have been made to present only the highlights of each yearly administration of the thirty - seven presidents of the Chattanooga Civitan Club. As stated in the foreword, due to the fact that there are no complete club records available, newspaper accounts of the meetings have been relied upon to a great extent.

1921

Early in January, 1921, Oliver B. Andrews was elected the first president of the Club, which had been organized only a few months earlier. He had served as the temporary president until the beginning of the regular club year.

Other officers elected included Will Fritts, vice - president; J. J. Wall, Secretary; and Dawson Harris, treasurer. All temporary committee chairmen were renamed.

This administration was outstanding not only because it was the first year of a new Club, but also because efforts were made for civic betterment. It was in January that the Golden Rule factory project was launched. It made a brave beginning but collapsed some months later. Through O. B. Andrews, Arthur Nash of Cincinnati was asked to come to Chattanooga and describe the operation of his plant in Cincinnati where according to reports, he had been most successful in operating under the Golden Rule, which allowed his employees to share in the profits of the company. The plant proposed to make only trousers, since there was more demand for separate trousers than for full suits. A committee was appointed to sell stock in the factory, which was to be known as the Nash Company of Tennessee. Nash came for a second visit to confer with the committee, and he was said to have looked with favor on Chattanooga as the proper location for a branch. He gave \$10,000 in capital stock to the budding concern, and his son was to be sent here to assume the management.

The vote to start the project was 34 for, and 2 against. Club members subscribed to stock amounting to approximately \$13,000. The authorized capital was \$50,000. Fred Lupton was named chairman of a committee to sell the stock, and he forecast that all remaining stock would be sold before the next meeting. It was. It is not known just how long this factory was able to continue operating, however, a charter was applied for which set the capital stock at \$100,000 value.

In August, the Club celebrated its first birthday, although the permanent officers were not elected until the following January.

Colonel Milton B. Ochs and Manker Patten addressed the Club in September, stressing the Confederate Veterans Reunion to be held here in October. The Club pledged anew its support of the reunion.

A plan for a labor relations board was proposed by the Club, with Neil Crowley presenting the proposal at the request of other members. The plan was to promote better relations between employer and employee. The proposition was submitted to the four civic clubs -- Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimist, and Civitan. An interclub relations committee acted favorably on the plan, and it was sent back for vote of the individual clubs.

At a joint meeting where the plan was discussed by Judson Buchanan and J. T. Lupton, it was defeated. The resolution was voted 2 to 1 against its acceptance. The board was to have acted as arbitrator in case of disputes between capital and labor. An account of the meeting in a local paper stated that Civitan, "The daddy" of the movement, had "killed its own child". Crowley, T. C. Thompson, and president Andrews were prominent in the proposal.



provided for \$2,500 compensation.

Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis, baseball magnate, was a guest of the club at a February meeting, and he predicted a great future for Chattanooga. Dr. John D. Wing, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church was also a speaker at this meeting.

Mayor Alexander Chambliss, a member of the club, and members of the city commission were special guests at an April meeting. Members were thanked for their support in a recent election, and pledges were given to serve the city "better than ever". At this session Eugene J. Bryan was accorded full membership in the club.

United States District Judge Hicks was an honor guest at a meeting, but was not the speaker. He was presented by James H. Anderson. Julius Strang, president of the Calhoun, Georgia, club brought greetings from his organization and praised the beauties of Chattanooga.

At that time the city commission was considering buying an Austin organ for the new Memorial Auditorium, and the mayor had urged this and other clubs to express opinions on the purchase. The matter was referred to the "thumbs - up and thumbs - down" committee, and the purchase was approved by the club.

In July, Miss Anna Boyd, secretary to T. C. Thompson, former mayor and chairman of the crippled children's committee, went to Memphis, where she visited Dr. Campbell's clinic and brought back a child who had been treated and cured. Miss Boyd said that if the club members could see what was being accomplished through their aid, they would never regret any sacrifice entailed.

About this time Dr. Lyle West made an appeal for financial aid for the work in Memphis. He brought a twelve year - old child to Chattanooga, who had not walked since birth, but who had been cured. During this time, Civitan was sending its patients to the King's Daughters in Memphis when released from the clinic, and there they were cared for until able to return home. They still remained under Dr. Campbell's care there.

A "power failure" marked an address of Ed Reed, an official of the old Tennessee Electric Power Company. Lights were on when the speaker arose, but immediately were snapped off, and small candles were lighted at each place. Undaunted, the speaker raised a window shade, and proceeded.

The out going and incoming commanders of the local American Legion Post were speakers at a meeting in September, when Frank Carden was one of the speakers. Dr. Guerry was the retiring commander, and William F. Fritts was the incoming commander.

An ovation was given the Club president when, by straw vote, he was elected mayor of Chattanooga. While the vote was a stunt, the great majority which Whiteside received revealed the high regard felt for him by his fellow members.

In November a plan to "boost Chattanooga to the world" was proposed by Dr. John B. Steel. A series of meetings for the month was planned, in which speakers would not deal with manufacturing and industry, but rather with what such enterprises had meant to Chattanooga.

Mark Senter was nominated for president, although a "fake" ticket had been proposed by Will Shepherd. A "Big Night" was celebrated, December 28, at the Chattanooga Golf and Country Club. Ladies were invited and the officers were installed. The officers were given a good-natured ribbing, and the president's chair, meant for Senter, was turned over to Mrs. Senter. Other wives also took part in the entertainment. Mrs. S. O. Bankston gave a reading, and Mrs. Will Shepherd and Mrs. Joe W. Johnson discussed the foibles of their respective husbands. Pet habits of the members were revealed.

vention, elected O. B. Andrews president.

Neil Crowley, Club representative on the interclub relations committee, was instructed to propose a campaign for legislation to provide pensions for city firemen and policemen's families when such city employees were killed in the line of duty.

After being beaten by the Kiwanis in a baseball game, the Club proposed a brain test for all civic clubs to compete in mental tests that were never made. The action came after an address by Champe Andrews on scientific methods to determine brain power.

The Plan "Tea for Three" was planned, and Club members voted to give sixty per cent of the proceeds to the Community Chest and retain some for Club Welfare work. A special meeting was held in September, and members of the city commission, city pastors, jurists, and representatives of civic, and women's organizations were invited. The speaker was W. L. Frierson, who stressed the need to return to the observance of the Constitution and explained the various, constitutional amendments. On September 22, O. B. Andrews reported on the growth of Civitan International and the progress made in extension work.

In October, the Club embarked on a butter-selling spree at the fair. Four pounds of butter were auctioned for charity. The first pound brought six dollars, and the remaining pounds brought five each. The proceeds were given to Circle 6 of the First Baptist Church to help send a blind child to school.

The Club on October 20, resolved to join welfare work and voted approximately \$1,000 for aid to crippled children and to support welfare movement being carried on throughout the state. Approximately sixty per cent of the 1923 charity fund was to be given for this purpose.

The Civitan International president expressed a desire to have 100 Civitan clubs in existence. There were ninety clubs in existence then. He said many dinner clubs fashioned after the Civitan plan were in existence, but that few would be in existence, ten years hence. A program for the relief of crippled children had been under consideration for several months, and was unanimously adopted.

The president was authorized to put the plan into effect immediately, and this launched the care of the individual child. Plans were made to place children in hospitals as early as possible.

In November Alfred T. Whiteside was nominated to succeed Thompson and his election and installation were held at the second meeting in December.

That year sixty-five families of less fortunates were provided with Christmas cheer, and W. V. Milligan was chairman of that committee.

At the installation meeting Mr. Thompson reviewed the work of the year. He was presented a pen and pencil set which was used by the members in signing a tribute to Mr. Thompson for his work. The testimonial to him was prepared by J. J. Wall, and was presented to him by James H. Anderson.

## 1923

The Ku Klux Klan, which had "entertained" the Club at a previous meeting, came in for sound denunciation during the administration of Alfred T. Whiteside. At a meeting in March, Frank Carden, gifted orator, was speaker, and the condemnatory resolution passed unanimously, except for a single vote. The name of the lone voter was not given.

W. L. Frierson in a speech on the subject denounced the organization, which, he said, "attempted political control through appeals to religion".

The Club approved a movement of the General Assembly which would compensate dependents of firemen and policemen killed in the line of duty. This matter had previously been presented to the inter club relations committee by Neil Crowley. The proposed bill



The administration of Will Shepherd was a most eventful year. It was this year that the bond issue for the Children's Hospital was voted and the year when a consolidation of the Civitan and Optimist clubs was attempted and dismally failed.

Dr. John B. Steel was one of the speakers in March, and he told of diet and health and the way to eliminate obesity. In April, on Good Friday, Dr. Homer Carpenter, pastor of the First Christian Church, spoke on "The Old Rugged Cross." In this address he told of the masculinity of Christ.

A county election was approaching and a straw ballot was taken on the candidates. Tom Selmon, aspirant for sheriff led the ticket. Others in the top bracket were Floyd Estill for criminal court judge, Hays Clark for criminal court clerk and Mrs Pearl Chivington, register.

Delegates to the national convention to be held in Philadelphia were named in June. They were Shepherd, Sears, and alternates Harry Clark and Joe Curtis. At the meeting to elect the delegates, a resolution was read by Hays Clark which approved the consolidation of Civitan and Optimist clubs. This resolution had been approved by the national officers of both associations. There was much discussion of the matter, and it was finally decided that the delegates would go to the convention uninstructed, although this was met with considerable opposition. There were motions, counter motions, motions to amend, and motions to table. Joe Davenport, chairman of the local board of directors, asked that the field secretary of the convention be sent a message to oppose the consolidation; while Phil Whitaker, taking another view, favored the merger and pointed out all the advantages of joining forces. Battle McLester, O. B. Andrews, and Nathan L. Bachman were also in favor of a merger. Other members taking part in the heated discussions were also in favor of a merger. Other members taking part in the heated discussions were Alf Whiteside, W. T. Frierson, R. C. Jones, Jr., T. C. Thompson, Gene Bryan, Fred Hahn, Neil Crowley, and many others. The important question was whether or not the delegates should be instructed to vote for or against consolidation. It was Frierson's motion that the delegates go uninstructed that was finally adopted. At the convention the merger was opposed. It was reported that they opposed anything that would interfere with the name "Civitan" and all negotiations for a merger fell through.

The theme of Children's Hospital occupied the minds of the members almost exclusively, beginning in July. A direct-by mail campaign was planned to stimulate interest of voters, and announcements from pulpits were made. The bond issue for the hospital, being of a humanitarian nature rather than a political issue, was well accepted. The vote in the county August 30, and in the city, was September 2. R. P. Purse, Jr. asked that a committee be appointed consisting of the present hospital committee and such other members as were needed. The bond issue was most successful in both city and county, and the sum of \$125,000 was authorized for building the hospital.

In December, Will Shepherd was made the butt of a joke when he went to what he believed to be a regular meeting and found only a few members there. He was speedily whisked away in a patrol wagon, but rather than being put into or under the jail, he was taken to the Read House for a rousing welcome from members. He had recently gone to Chicago, and before he left, asked forty of the members to arrange a program for the meeting while he was out of town. This was their "getting even" stunt. During the program his former sins were thoroughly aired. Carden and Whiteside were the main speakers.

In December the club received a report that the \$4,000 was on hand in the crippled children's fund and that every member had subscribed to the fund.

Paul Shacklett was nominated to succeed Will Shepherd as president.



Mark H. Senter, the fourth president of the Club, had a busy administration during this, one of the formative years of the Club's history.

The Club received a gift \$202.80 from the Chattanooga Press Club to be used for the work being done with crippled children. The letter accompanying the gift was signed by: W. G. Fister, Hayes Clark, Ralph Runyan, Adolph S. Ochs, Hal Wiltse, T. A. Rogers, J. B. Clark, George F. Milton, John Fort, Fred Schneider, D. S. Henderson, Will Shepherd, Joe Curtis, R. M. Cooke, Raliegth Crumbliss, Carl Hood, and Bruce Crabtree.

A Halloween dance was sponsored by the Club at Memorial Auditorium. The dance was considered a financial success as well as a social success.

## 1925

D. L. Grayson was the fifth president of the Club, succeeding Mark Senter. Early in January the club planned to honor the men of the police and fire department, and a planned a banquet for the next month at Hotel Patten. Special tribute was paid to retired members of the department by W. L. Frierson. Some of the speakers were N. L. Bachman and Ed Herron, commissioner of fire and police.

An innovation in the way of club meetings was also held in February. The presidents of other civic clubs were special guests and each was allotted five minutes in which to discuss his club's main project. Club representatives present were: E. D. Réed, Rotary; Charles S. Coffey, Kiwanis; A. B. Adams, Optimist; Earl Manning, Exchange; and Charles Selcer, American Business Club. Each pledged support to the host club in any undertaking for civic betterment.

In March a fun and frolic session was held. Dr. Joe W. Johnson gave a humorous talk on how to keep well and retain youth. Grayson, who usually ruled with an iron hand, and who instituted the road-roller system, is said to have had difficulty in controlling the exuberant spirits of the Club members.

When Circuit Judge Oscar Yarnell was "inculcated," "mirth, music and merriment," were much in evidence. Nathan Bachman was in charge of the "inculcation," and the judge was panned as only the experts of the club could do the job.

When the freshman football team from the University of Chattanooga was entertained at a meeting, Dr. Arlo A. Brown, president, and coaches Reed and Thomas were honored. Edwin Woodworth was in charge of the program, and a skit was put on in which Hays Clark cleverly impersonated an irate coach attempting to spur his squad to a fighting spirit.

James Finlay and Dr. J. A. Venable pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, were speakers at a December meeting. They spoke in behalf of the Near East Relief campaign and the Golden Rule Sunday.

As indicated previously, the Club operated strictly according to the constitution during this able administration. Such regulations, as calling all members by their first name, under penalty of a fine, even if involving seeming impertinence on the part of a young lawyer to a venerable judge, were vigorously enforced.

At a December meeting, Will Shepherd was nominated to fill the presidency, succeeding Grayson.

Alex Guerry was offered the presidency of the University of Tennessee along about this time. He declined to accept, but the Club sent a resolution of appreciation to the board of trustees of the University for the honor.

The president nominated to succeed Whitaker was Raleigh Crumbliss.

## 1930

The first major activity of the administration of Raleigh Crumbliss was to sponsor an intensive clean-up campaign.

This called for many improvements, and they were to be carried out throughout the year. The program corresponded in many ways with that of the city-betterment plan of the chamber of commerce. George Fort Milton was chairman for the chamber.

The plan was meant to stimulate community pride, and the first action was taken in January, and Alf Whiteside was named chairman of the "community pride committee". His report to the club included city beautification, elimination of littered streets and alleys, planting of trees, etc. This was to be accomplished through publicity and promotion work. For the needed legislation, Mark Senter, chairman of the legislative committee, and Fred Lupton were assigned the task. At a closed meeting early in the year it was said by President Crumbliss that one meeting each month would be devoted to reports to the club of the activities of committees.

In March the Club lost two valuable members, Dr. Lyle West and Tarbell Patten, who, along with Jersey Ringle, were killed in a plane crash en route to Florida. An impressive memorial service was held in their honor. Dr. Oliver J. Hart and the Rev. Battle McLester were the main speakers. The president in opening the meeting said "These boys were with us. Now their chairs are vacant, but their passing gives us a new and closer interest in the beyond".

A smoker was planned and held, at which the aims and objectives of the club were discussed. In May the members attended a meeting at the University of Chattanooga in connection with the Institute of Justice to be held there and arranged by Dr. Alex Guerry. In May, O. B. Andrews and George Fort Milton were elected delegates to the association convention to be held in Asheville, N. C. June 16-18. Phil Whitaker and Fred Lupton were named alternates.

The University of Chattanooga football squad was entertained November 21, when officials of the college were special guests. These included Harold Drew, coach, Edwin Woodworth, and Dr. Guerry, president of U. C.

In the fall Colonel Milton B. Ochs was a speaker. He told of Lookout Mountain Park, which was owned by his brother, Adolph S. Ochs, of Chattanooga and New York. He said the park offered greater opportunities than any other spot in Hamilton County, and that his brother was willing to give the park to the city when the city felt that it would be able to maintain it. The park was proposed to preserve the natural beauty and to create a bird sanctuary. A park had been proposed for Moccasin Bend at about that time, but in December a Club resolution said that it was against the proposal as it would be burdensome to the public.

During the year the club joined the safe-driving movement which had been launched. The book Age of Hate, by George Fort Milton, was released and highly praised. Milton also launched the chamber of commerce tax plan, which was said to be the finest report ever made, and the Club moved to advise him of its full support.

Paul Shacklett, seventh president of the Club, says that during his administration, the in most important matter was the continued assistance given to crippled children. This seems to have been the prime objective of a number of administrations.

At that time there were twenty - one crippled children in Hamilton County to whom the Club gave aid. This aid was in the form of medical examinations, treatment, supplies, such as crutches, braces, shoes, and other necessities. In many cases food and clothing were also supplied.

When the Children's Hospital was built, the club was called upon to raise \$1,500 to equip one department. More than \$3,000 was raised through the Club members' efforts.

Christmas gifts were presented to all the children on the list, gifts varying widely based on the need.

Sam O. Bankson was nominated to succeed Shacklet as president.

## 1928

During the administration of Sam O. Bankson as president, the Civitans began working earnest for the building of a children's hospital.

Members promoted the election of a bond issue to build the institution and electioneered day and night. As a result of their efforts, the T. C. Thompson Children's Hospital was erected.

In 1928 the national convention was held in Detroit and the Ford Motor Company was host for one of the events. A number of Chattanooga members attended the national convention that year.

According to Bankson, in those days it was much more difficult to become a member of the club than it is today and the members really took their membership seriously. Before being accepted, a prospective member had to be approved by a Goat Committee.

Bankson acquired a modicum of fame in later years when the club held an auction to raise money for its projects, and among the items offered for sale, was a lady's hat which Bankson bought. He, being a widower, was beset to know what lady would wear it, and while that was never divulged, the late Charlie Winder wrote quite an article on the matter which was printed in one of the daily papers.

Phil B. Whitaker was nominated for the club's next president.

## 1929

During the administration of Phil B. Whitaker, the Club passed a resolution calling for a board of trustees for the Children's Hospital, which would be self-perpetuating, and recommended that the legislation be enacted at the next General Assembly. It was pointed out that this trusteeship would remove the Children's Hospital from all politics.

During the year several suburbs were annexed to Chattanooga, and two meetings dealing with this were held. Mayor Ed Bass was speaker at these meetings. Al Porzelius who was at that time president of the chamber of commerce, and Carter Lynch were given special recognition for their work on the annexation matters. George Fort Milton was also given praise as chairman of the annexation committee of the Club.

In May the club voted in favor of daylight-saving time, but the vote was not unanimous. It was opposed by Major Alf Law, who argued that it would interfere with train schedules and communications.



McNeil, district governor. Garrison Elder was in charge of registrations.

At about this time the American Veterans organization came into being with Silas Williams as local head. Speaking before the Club, he said he did not expect heckling such as he had received at Memorial Auditorium when an organization meeting was held. Heckling was led by Hyder Stanley, a veteran. Williams said that undue criticism had been given the new organization by Peabody Howard, State Commander of the American Legion. The Civitan Club offered their cooperation to the newly formed organization.

A note of thanks was sent Colonel Milton B. Ochs for the manner in which he had headed the Community Sing held at Memorial Auditorium a short time before. Short talks were given by Will Shepherd, W. H. Sears, and Dr. James L. Fowle.

#### 1933 - 1934

During the administration of R. W. (Ladd) Williams great emphasis was placed on the participation of members of the club in civic activities of all worth while types. This practice was in accord with the basic principle that good Civitans should help with the Community Chest, Chamber of Commerce, and any other civic project that furthers good citizenship. Ladd, with his outstanding leadership and quiet, gracious personality was a dynamic inspiration to our members in this vital area.

#### 1934 - 1935

Dr. James L. Fowle, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, served the Club as president in 1934 - 1935. His words describing his own administration cannot be improved upon:

"My presidency of the Civitan Club was just at the time when we were beginning to emerge from the depression. During my administration we continued to promote the work for crippled children and the T. C. Thompson Hospital".

"We furnished a center of constructive thought and leadership to the city of Chattanooga in a time of discouragement and despair. We promoted the civic interest of our city and conserved the ideas and the values for which the Civitan Club stands".

That year Dr. Fowle received the Distinguished Service Award of the Kiwanis Club.

#### 1935 - 1936

It was during the administration of Al Porzelius that the movement for Sessions Court in Chattanooga and Hamilton County was started. Alleged "fee grabbing" had been an evil of long standing, much to the consternation of the Civitans and other believers in good citizenship. An outstanding lawyer from Nashville addressed the Club and explained what had been accomplished in Nashville through the establishment of a Sessions Court.

The club, through the work of Porzelius, assembled a Committee of one-hundred with Estes Kefauver, then a young lawyer, heading the group. This was one of the early steps in Kefauver's career that led to his present national prominence. The meeting of the committee of one-hundred was held at the Hotel Patten. Former County Judge Will Cummings asked permission to attend the meeting and his request was granted.

The Sessions Court did later become a reality, and its worth has been apparent over the years. "Fee grabbing" has become almost a lost art.

Dr. Oliver J. Hart, who was then rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, served only six months as president of the club. It was at this time that the club year was changed to run from June 1, through the following May 31. Heretofore it had run from January through December.

The major event of this term was the request of the Club to have the Tennessee State Highway Patrol abolished. The General Assembly was called upon to make every effort to have the patrol discontinued. The action grew out of complaints of tourists that they had been mistreated by members of the highway patrol. In reply Senator John Chambliss wrote the Club "in the nature of a rebuke" for such action, and asked the club to study the matter further. Frank Carden was quoted as saying, "We cannot do anything about it; we might as well accept it".

At midyear Judge Walter B. Garvin was elected to succeed Hart.

### 1931 - 1932

During the administration of Judge Walter B. Garvin, one of the major events was when Hanines Lancaster, owner of an electric shop, called the Chattanooga police force "Boy Scouts". He made the statement in an interview given the TIMES following the robbery of Lancaster's shop. In the light of the fact that the Club had just presented medals to firemen and policemen, there was much indignation. A motion expressing this resentment was unanimously passed. Gene Bryan, then commissioner of the police and fire department, is said to have been pleased with the Club's action.

Dr. Spencer J. McCallie spoke to the club December on the subject of "New Bottles for New Wine". The address dealt with business and political aspirations during an emergency. (This year the country was still suffering from the depression.)

"Alfalfa" Bill Murray, governor of Oklahoma, visited the Club during this year, and city and county officials, members of civic clubs, and the Young Men's Democratic Club were guests.

A note of levity was sounded when Vaughn (Dusty) Miller, as an April fool candidate for governor, announced his platform. It was built on "ignorance, inability and skullduggery". Carden presented the candidate. "I have known governors for the past twenty-five years", he said, "if he has any chance of being elected I do not know. He is a small man growing smaller". Miller announced that if elected, he would pardon as cheap as was consistent with party politics. He asked only for a chance to get to first base, and once there, he would make a steal.

### 1932 - 1933

Reap time of the depression years was reached during the administration of Creed F. Bates. The theme of the year was "try to keep alive," and the club weathered the rough going.

A state meeting was held here with headquarters at Hotel Patten. Raleigh Crumbliss was general chairman. Chapters throughout the state were represented. Morning and afternoon sessions were held, closing with a banquet; and ladies were entertained with sightseeing trips. Among the speakers were Arthur Cundy, international secretary, Birmingham, Alabama, and E. M.



club voted to make every effort to have it maintained. The maternity ward was closed, and these cases were sent to Erlanger Hospital.

Under the plan of the American Legion, a boy was sponsored to Boys' State, and Dr. Fowle was appointed to work with the Legion in the selection of the boy.

#### 1940 - 1941

Alf Law, Jr., succeeded McLaughlin as president, and for the first time on record an opposition ticket had been proposed with Louis Withers named as candidate for president.

During the administration of Alf Law, a resolution was passed unanimously adopting a pledge of wholehearted cooperation and support of the President of the United States and the the United States Congress in its military preparedness program.

A proposal to increase dues to fifteen dollars a quarter was defeated.

Plans were announced for the dedication of the Adolph S. Ochs Memorial Observatory and Museum at Point Park on Lookout Mountain.

An amendment to the Constitution was voted January 31, 1941, increasing dues to seven dollars and seventy-five cents a quarter.

President Law was made a member of the newly created city school board.

#### 1941 - 1942

J. Gilbert Stein was elected in May, 1941. World War II was declared in December of that year, and one of the first events following the declaration was Susan Hayward's visit to the Club.

Other outstanding events which this president recalls include the fielding of a top drawer soft-ball team headed by "one man gang" Earl Campbell, and the reactivating of "Gene" Bryan in the club.

There was re-newed public interest in the needs of T. C. Thompson's Children's Hospital through a special committee appointed to look into the situation. This committee was headed up by Leslie Darr. A ward at Children's Hospital was established for treatment of crippled children, with the funds from the President's Birthday Ball Committee as a result of representations made by the Club.

There was an attempt to turn Children's Hospital over to the state for a tuberculosis sanatorium, but this move was squelched by the Club's resolutions of denunciation and condemnation.

A benefit football game between Norte Dame and Baylor School for Boys was staged to raise money for the nucleus of an emergency fund to be maintained for specialized emergency treatment of needy children. This netted \$2,002.50.

During the administration of J. Gilbert Stein, Civitan's first annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children of Chattanooga was held.

#### 1942 - 1943; 1943 - 1944

In 1942 Eugene Bryan was elected president of the Chattanooga Civitan, and was re-elected in 1943. He is the only president to have served two terms.

A lawyer by profession, he has served in many important cases, and at serving as referee in bankruptcy. Joining the Club in the early years, he has given much time and



## 1936 - 1937

It was during the administration of Ben P. Nicklin that a nurses' home at the Children's Hospital was proposed. The project was accomplished during a subsequent administration. The home for nurses was proposed by T. C. Thompson, who sought an appropriation of \$30,000.

Resolutions were passed to cooperate in a public health movement, to ask that the water level route from Ducktown to the North Carolina line be paved, and to assist in the Centennial Celebration of Chattanooga which was to be held in 1939.

## 1937 - 1938

It was during the administration of Emmett Newton that the Club made a strong effort to get a reduction made in the automobile liability insurance rate.

A movement was also launched to get access roads paved, leading to Chickamauga Dam Lake.

A lecture by Richard Halliburton was sponsored to raise funds for the Children's Hospital, and it was through the efforts of the members that the name of the hospital was changed to include the name of T. C. Thompson.

In March of 1938, Mr. Thompson passed away, and the Club held a memorial meeting. It was proposed that a bronze bust of Mr. Thompson be placed in the Children's Hospital and Will Shepherd was appointed chairman of a committee to determine how the hospital work could be carried on from where Thompson left off.

## 1938 - 1939

During the administration of Joe V. Williams, Jr., a Chancery Court order turned over to the Civitan Club a trust fund left for the use of the Club in its work with crippled children by William K. Meacham. This fund amounted to \$1,908.39.

The president asked that the matter of a memorial tablet to Mr Meacham be looked into. This tablet was to be placed in the Nurses' Home.

An increase in dues to sixty dollars annually was proposed.

During this administration a delegation visited the Warm Springs, Georgia, Foundation to observe the work being done for cripples.

This year the city and county governments made appropriations for a Nurses' Home, and Williams was credited with the success of securing the appropriations.

The Meacham fund was designated the "T. C. Thompson Memorial Fund". Malone Everett, Sr. was appointed to represent the Club on the traffic safety board soon to be created.

## 1939 - 1940

Joe V. McLaughlin was elected president of the Club May 12, 1939.

During his administration the members of the Civitan automatically became members of the Civitan Child Welfare Auxiliary. Joe V. Williams, Jr., proposed the plan for the building of a nurses' home at the hospital.

Also, during this year the matter of creating a Sessions Court for Hamilton County was discussed, and Nashville attorney Albert Ewing spoke to the club in December, along these lines.

About this time there were rumors that the Children's Hospital would be closed, and the

the field, the Club was given a choice of the batteries and chose Battery "B", an organization with a long and colorful history. Battery "B" was organized shortly after the Spanish-American War, and was commanded by Colonel J. Perry Fyffe, a Civitan.

#### 1947 - 1948

The year 1947 was a momentous one for the Club. It was this year that the Will Shepherd Memorial Clinic was established at Bonny Oaks School, and it was during the administration of Arthur G. Brading, as president of the Civitan Club.

Will Shepherd brought the superintendent of Bonny Oaks School to the Club to speak on the operation of the school and its needs in its work for dependent and neglected children. Shortly after, Shepherd died suddenly, and it was in his memory that the school's hospital was taken over by the Club. The speaker had told of the poor condition of the buildings, the lack of proper facilities, and the needs of the children. The Club members were impressed, and shortly after Shepherd's death decided to seek some sort of memorial in his honor.

At the suggestion of Frank Carden, Jr., the clinic plan was adopted, and with the help of the late Colonel Milton B. Ochs and reporters and photographers from the local newspaper, wide publicity was given to the venture and the project of raising money for the work. As a result \$6,000 was raised and used to establish the clinic.

Since 1947 the Club has given thousands of dollars to the Bonny Oaks School for their improvement plans, and in recent years Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coleman have given the institution a swimming pool.

The Club was of great assistance in getting the county to appropriate \$90,000 a year for the proper operation of the school. Among the other clubs and organizations active in assisting the school are The Elks, Junior League, Optimist, Rotary, Pilot Club, PBX Club, Hairdressers Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Brainerd Kiwanis, Hickory Valley Civitan, Shrine, and many others.

It was during the administration of Arthur G. Brading that two new Civitan clubs were organized in the Chattanooga area. One was the Hickory Valley Civitan Club, at Tyner, and the other was the Northside Civitan Club in North Chattanooga.

#### 1948 - 1949

John E. Gilbreath was elected president in 1948. Upon assuming office he stressed the necessity for having interesting programs for weekly meetings. He had served as program chairman the year before under the administration of President Arthur G. Brading.

Gilbreath believed that to have a good attendance at the meetings the programs should be entertaining, and that year the average attendance was comparatively high. At a July meeting Honorable Jim McCord, former governor of Tennessee, and now commissioner of conservation for the state, was presented.

During Gilbreath's administration the Tennessee-Southwestern-Virginia District led all districts in international in percentage of gain in membership.

#### 1949 - 1950

Joe B. Roberts was president of the club in 1949, and this year the district convention

thought to the upbuilding of the Club, and has also found time for many civic activities outside his own organization.

During Bryan's administration the Chattanooga Club was the largest club in the International. It was also during his administration that Will Shepherd was the perpetual chairman of the program committee and could be counted on for a worthwhile program every Friday.

Few clubs in the International organization can boast of having one of its members serve as judge advocate and president of the International, but this is true of the Chattanooga Club in the person of Eugene J. Bryan. In 1943, Bryan was elected Judge - Advocate of the Civitan International. Then in 1948 at Toronto, Canada, Bryan was elected president - elect and was installed as president in 1949 at Washington, D. C., at the convention held there. He presided over the convention held in Dallas, Texas, in 1950.

#### 1944 - 1945

Federal Judge Leslie R. Darr served the Club as president in 1944. He, along with a number of other club members, represented the Chattanooga Club at the meeting of the Tennessee - Southwest Virginia District, which was held at Bristol, Tennessee - Virginia, that year. Aside from routine business meetings, the social side of the gathering was not overlooked, and a number of members and their wives attended the annual banquet and dance which followed.

According to Judge Darr, during his administration the usual projects were continued, including assistance to crippled children, Bonny Oaks School, and the annual essay contest in which high school students competed.

#### 1945 - 1946

The outstanding event in the administration of Sam J. McAllester seems to be the sale of \$100,000 in the "E" Bonds. The quota was assigned and the club at a single meeting raised \$31,500 through means of an auction sale.

The president acted as auctioneer. Tom Mahan collected the items to be auctioned from local merchants. Much amusement was created when Sam Bankson bought ladies' hose.

Members who were in the armed services were gradually returned, and each was given fitting recognition on returning to the club.

A drive was inaugurated to increase the attendance at meetings. The period was September 28 through November 30. This drive turned out to be a success.

#### 1946 - 1947

John B. Crimmins served the club as president in 1946. By this time, the club had grown to such proportions that it became necessary to have an office secretary. At a meeting of the board of directors in the fall of that year it was voted to secure the services of Mrs. Frankie Cleveland Curtis, widow of a highly-esteemed charter member. Mrs. Curtis assumed her duties soon afterward and has continued to maintain club offices in Hotel Patten. Her duties are varied and include keeping check on attendance records and noting members who are ill. She also supplies material for the weekly Civichat which gives details of the program which will be presented at the weekly meetings.

It was during Crimmins' administration that the club accepted the sponsorship of the inactivated battery of 181st Field Artillery, Tennessee National Guard. Because of being first in



## 1953 - 1954

During the administration of Lewis C. Schmidt, Jr. the club prepared the foundation for improvements in the Juvenile Court -- improvements which have since been accomplished.

In addition to its usual projects the Club concentrated on rebuilding membership. Several old members who had become inactive were dropped from the rolls, and a number of new members were added. By the end of the year the club had become one of the ten largest clubs in Civitan International. Good delegations attended both the district and international conventions this year. Notable during the year was the work of the Child Welfare Association which made substantial contributions to worthwhile cases.

Programs for the weekly meetings were improved to attract attendance, since attention was focused on membership and attendance. Both of these improvements were realized under Schmidt's leadership.

## 1954 - 1955

Schmidt was succeeded in 1954 by Dean Maxwell A. Smith. The election was held on June 4, 1954.

This year marked an honor to Gene Bryan, who received a scroll and a life membership in the Club.

The Club also celebrated the 35th anniversary of its founding, and charter members were honored.

James H. Anderson, himself a charter member, was the speaker and the majority of the living charter members were present. The principal speaker was Hagan Stevens of Knoxville, who was International trustee.

In January of 1955, on the suggestion of Al Porzelius, a gift of money was made to the family of Clarence Eugene Dunn, four years old, who had rescued two younger brothers from their home when it was destroyed by fire.

The club year was marred by the death of Emmett Newton, a former president, and Dr. John Hocker, who died of a heart attack. Dr. Hocker had addressed the Club only a few days before his death.

In the fall of 1954 the "Fruit Cake Campaign" was begun under the chairmanship of Ed Latimer. Proceeds were distributed the following spring to various projects at Bonny Oaks and the Chambliss Home.

In February of 1955 a Ladies' Night Dinner was given, and President of the International, Roy Abignale, and his wife were present. Also invited were members of Northside, Hickory Valley, and Rockwood Clubs.

In May of 1955 an election was held at Civitan District Convention in Kingsport, and Lewis Schmidt was chosen Governor Elect.

## 1955 - 1956

Under the administration of Carlton McAfee, a music teacher was added to the faculty of Bonny Oaks School, the entrance to the Will Shepherd Clinic was improved, and a swimming pool was given the school by one of the members and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coleman.

During the preceding year, the Club had been placed in the Appalachian district, and McAfee had served as program chairman.

met in Chattanooga at the Hotel Patten. The district led all others in point of membership in the International organization.

At the convention, Arthur Crownover of Nashville, was elected governor, succeeding J. T. Parker of Kingsport.

The International convention was held in Washington, D. C., in June, and was presided over by Chattanooga's Gene Bryan. Others who attended the International convention that year were Roberts, Anderson, Darr, Elston Hedges, and their wives.

This year a "blue baby", Barbara Hendricks, was assisted by the club with heart surgery.

#### 1950 - 1951

The outstanding activity for members during the administration of K. W. (Killowat) Henderson was the purchase of a resuscitator, which was presented to the city for use in the fire department, or wherever else it was needed. The instrument was presented by Dr. E. F. Huckaba, and received by R. B. Gouldy, chief of the fire department.

#### 1951 - 1952

A memorial plaque to be placed on the Will Shepherd Clinic at Bonny Oaks was presented during the administration of George Campbell. The presentation was made on the Club's annual visit to the school.

During this year Judge Leslie Darr celebrated his 25th year as a jurist, and in recognition of the occasion, the judge was presented a gift on behalf of the Club by President Campbell.

Bruce Lauderbach was appointed chairman of Hamilton County jury commission.

This was the year that the Club agreed to cooperate with the local American Legion Post, Summers - Whitehead No. 14 in a movement to prevent the use of textbooks, alleged to contain statements which were un-American, in the public schools. The Club had previously made a survey of the situation through a committee headed by Rolston Wells.

It was during Campbell's administration that the custom of remembering Children's birthdays at Bonny Oaks School was inaugurated. It was also this year that the bus was presented to Bonny Oaks. It was presented by Wesley Barton, head of the committee. Barton was later elected vice-president, succeeding G. K. Lott, who had moved to another city.

#### 1952 - 1953

Wesley Barton succeeded Campbell as president in 1952. At an April meeting, Dr. Maxwell Smith, of the University of Chattanooga, was recognized for twenty-five years' service at the school. Tom Keef, former vice-president of the Club, was presented a twenty-five year certificate of membership.

Much was accomplished during the administration of Barton, most of it a continuation of work already under way. Barton was particularly active in the rejuvenation of interest in Bonny Oaks School. The presentation of a school bus for Bonny Oaks caused quite a bit of favorable publicity, and kindled the interest of other clubs in the welfare of the school.

1958 - 1959

The 1958-59 year of Civitan Club of Chattanooga is the current year and is marked by continued growth and progress both within the Club and in the community. The Club President this year is Albert L. Hodge.

The Club remained in the first ten clubs in size in Civitan International, with a steady growth of members in numbers and service. But the outstanding work of the Club during this period was the chartering of the Junior Civitan Club at Chattanooga High School, a completion of several years work by previous administration. Then, also, our Club had a large part in the chartering of a new Civitan Club known as the Lake Chickamauga Civitan Club in the Chickamauga Lake area. This was a group effort in conjunction with Northside and Hickory Valley Clubs.

Our fruit cake campaign was most successful with the result that we were able to continue our community work as well as add a significant new work - that of sponsoring the Big Brother movement in the Chattanooga area. Our Bonny Oaks work and birthday program continued with good success. We also continued our other community projects such as we have in years past.

This year was marked by increased attendance at meetings, first-class programs and spirited fellowship among our members. It is also thought that our emphasis on Civitan and its purposes has made our members more aware of community service as seen in the many activities in which our members have participated.

This is the History of the Civitan Club of Chattanooga, as printed at the close of its 1958 - 1959 year.



## 1956 - 1957

During the administration of Edson Hardy, the Club was without a secretary most of the year. Raleigh Crumbliss died on November 6. Mrs. Frankie Curtis, executive secretary, was also ill for several weeks. When she recovered, she also assumed the duties of Crumbliss until Malone Everett, Jr., was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Frank Robbins, first vice-president, provided excellent programs this year. Among the outstanding speakers and entertainers this year were: General Herbert D. Vogel Chairman of the T. V. A.; John Bertrand, President of the Berry School; Julius Heggi, Director of the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra, and his wife Charlotte; Guy De Schompre, French Consul at New Orleans; Bowden Wyatt, Head Coach at the University of Tennessee; and Mayor Olgiati.

Following the usual custom, the Chattanooga Baseball Team was entertained during the season, and the Christmas musical program featured the Chattanooga High School Chorus.

The annual Fruit Cake Sale netted the club \$4,007.55, and the birthday program at Bonny Oaks was carried forward. The dire need for a swimming pool for the colored children was brought to the attention of Charles Coleman, and he and Mrs. Coleman gave a pool to the school. It was a memorial gift in honor of Mr. Coleman's brother who had drowned many years before. This pool was dedicated on Labor Day. Hardy commented, "Our birthday program has paid big dividends".

Direct donations to Bonny Oaks School during the year amounted to \$1,000, and \$1,000 was contributed to the Chambliss Home. A donation of \$100 was made to the Bethel Bible School Building Fund, and \$75.00 was given to the Young Men's Christian Association Youth Legislature, in Nashville.

In December, the Club supplied the manpower to operate the Salvation Army Christmas gift boards one day during Christmas season.

Lewis C. Schmidt, Jr., was elected governor of the Appalachian District. Henry Crine was named district treasurer and Albert Hodge was named district judge advocate. Hardy was elected lieutenant governor.

During this administration the membership remained at 145 with an average attendance of sixty per cent. Hardy commented, "We have taken into the Club a number of excellent youngish men. The club is considerable enhanced thereby".

## 1957 - 1958

The two outstanding features of the 1957-58 year for the Chattanooga Civitan were the programs provided by the Vice President and Program Director, Albert Hodge, and the Fruit Cake Sale headed by George McMillan.

Albert Hodge provided us with an unusually high degree of speakers which resulted in a substantial increase in membership and a large attendance.

It should also be noted that Second Vice President, John Kruse, did an outstanding job in the promotion of membership. Through his efforts the Chattanooga Civitan Club maintained its position in the first ten largest clubs of Civitan International for the entire year.

The Fruit Cake Sale for this year totaled \$5,345.00. Proceeds from this sale were appropriated for Bonny Oaks, the Chambliss Home, Boy Scouts, Bethel Bible School and other club projects. Also some 1500 pounds of cake were given away to various charitable institutions in this vicinity.

The Board of Directors also approved the employment of Mrs. Sue Mills Loop as a historian to prepare the history of the Civitan Club of Chattanooga.

Frank Robbins, Jr. was president during this administration.