

participation in his trade and professional associations.

Let us LIVE ROTARY through our community leadership.

We share the realization that a changing world is bringing new opportunities for service. I would like every Rotary Club to determine the most urgent need in its community, then tackle the job of meeting it with all its energy. What finer tribute to the man who founded Rotary than to have in this 60th-anniversary year a great demonstration of effective service? Yes, let us have a "Paul Harris Project" attacking the most urgent need in each Rotary community.

Let us LIVE ROTARY through our world fellowship.

Thanks to the Great Exchange program initiated by President Carl P. Miller, Rotary today is on the march, particularly in the field of International Service. This new Rotary year now beginning is the first full year during which we can capitalize on the results of this program. Let us reap the full benefit. Let us this year put significant purpose into every contact with our matched Districts and Clubs. Let us share the quest for world understanding with people of our communities.

Never before have Rotarians everywhere been so conscious of their participation in a great world fellowship. Never in our history have our individual Clubs been so world-minded. "Who knoweth whether thou art born to the Kingdom for such a day as this?"

There is an ancient legend to the effect that the dust from which Adam was created was gathered from all the ends of the earth. What better medium than Rotary exists for the encouragement of peace and goodwill? It is a firm foundation of mutual respect and trust on which men can build. In the language of the legend, Rotary is a common soil wherein the business and professional men of all free nations may together sow the seed which will make this a better world.

Picture for a moment 550,000 men gathering each week in meeting places in 11,700 communities in 125 lands. Nowhere in the world today is there a comparable force of business and professional men meeting with such regularity and with such uniformity of purpose and dedication. For the first time perhaps we begin to appreciate our tremendous potential and to realize our almost limitless possibilities.

Let us then make this our program: LIVE ROTARY. Let us live Rotary to the fullest and hasten the day when all mankind shall live together in peace and harmony.



Now Meet 'CHARLIE'

A profile of the new President—by a friend.

By ALFRED E. EVERETT

CLOSE FRIENDS of the new President of Rotary International are aware that he is a great admirer of its Founder, Paul P. Harris. Like him, the new President is a lawyer. He resembles him also in the warm humanity which characterizes all his relations with others. Charles W. Pettengill, "Charlie" to the world, elected 54th President of Rotary International, is above all a man of widespread and devoted friendships. He has a remarkable memory for friends and a habit of telephoning them at almost any hour of the day or night. There is a cordiality about him that breaks down formality, and a magnetism to which people quickly respond.

A New Englander by birth, a member of a family that can trace its ancestry back many generations in the U.S.A., he shows more of the ready warmth and friendliness we associate with people of the American West

than with those of its presumably more reserved and formal East; yet he is a distinguished lawyer, a member of one of the best-known legal firms in Connecticut, highly regarded and successful in his practice, a former president of the Connecticut State Bar Association, and a former member of the board of governors of the American Bar Association, respected by lawyers and judges, and a friend of businessmen, educators, the clergy, and men in public office.

The famous Negro scientist George Washington Carver had a favorite maxim: "Let down your bucket where you are." Charlie always has. Before playing a rôle in wider circles, Charlie made an impact on his own community. Besides being director in several business concerns in Greenwich, he is a former president of the Greenwich YMCA, elder of the First Presbyterian Church, president of Brunswick School for Boys. In all these he continues to play an active part.

With it all, Charlie is a devoted family man. Rotarians and other friends from all over the world know the



*Madeline
Pettengill,
Rotary's
First Lady,
1964-65.*



Happy at home, Charlie and Madeline Pettengill enjoy their red and white house in the trees at Greenwich, and the music they make inside it. . . .

hearty welcome that Charlie and his wife, Madeline, extend to all who knock at the door of their beautiful home. Together they share many interests, and Madeline is a cordial hostess for the many gatherings of Rotarians and other groups. In recent years she has become almost as well known at Rotary Assemblies and Conventions as Charlie himself. His son, Charlie, Jr., is a successful young insurance executive with his own office in Greenwich and is an active Rotarian. He and his wife, Joan, and their three children reside in Stamford, Connecticut.

The President's first wife died in 1945, and in 1951 he married Madeline Webster, a widow, who has two sons. Madeline's sons are married and her older son, Kenneth, resides in Littleton, Colorado, with his wife and three children; her younger son, Donald, is living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with his wife and two children. Therefore, between them Charlie and Madeline have eight grandchildren.

Madeline was born and lived on a farm in Canton, Massachusetts, near Boston. After her graduation from

Boston University, she was associated for eight years with the New England regional office of the Boy Scouts of America. Incidentally, Madeline and Charlie both find bowling relaxing. Madeline is a member of the women's bowling team of the Indian Harbor Yacht Club and in 1962 bowled high game. Charlie bowled with the men's team of that club for several years and in 1961 and 1963 bowled high game for the men.

The first Pettengill to arrive in the New World left London, England, in 1640 and landed in Salem, Massachusetts; a later Pettengill fought in the Battle of Lexington and died three days later. Charles William Pettengill was born in 1901 in the city of Hartford, Connecticut, where his father was superintendent of the old Hartford Life Insurance Company. The nature of his father's work involved much travelling, so that young Charles attended elementary schools in six different U. S. States before entering high school in New Haven, Connecticut. Many of his life-long interests date back to his high-school days: he was vice-president of his class, a member of the debating and basketball teams, and presi-

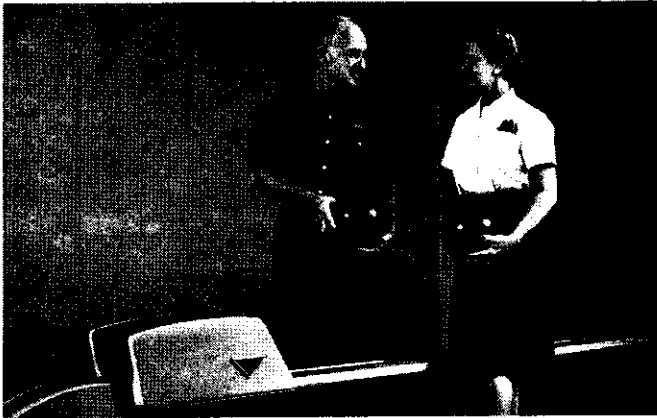
dent of the dramatic society. One of his most successful rôles was that of Cardinal Wolsey in Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*. Charlie's life-long interest in the theater may owe something to a maternal grandmother who, a century ago, was an actress on the Boston stage. While in college Charlie joined the mandolin-banjo band, and there acquired a skill that has echoed down through many happy occasions in his career.

Charlie's interest in debating led naturally to his choosing law as a profession. In 1918 he entered the Law School of Boston University. While there he was captain of the varsity basketball team, won his letter in track as a broad jumper, and was editor of the Law School yearbook.

On graduation from Law School in 1922, Charlie entered the law office of Wright and Hirschberg in Greenwich, which consisted at that time of three lawyers and five secretaries. Today the firm has a staff of 28 lawyers and 46 secretaries, and is one of the largest in the State. Charlie still works full time at his office,

soon puts one at ease. The atmosphere of the office is cheerful and relaxed, but not a place for wasting time.

One of Charlie's interesting experiences was as chairman of the Connecticut State Board of Parole, an appointment of former Governor (now Senator) Abraham A. Ribicoff. During the years in which he was associated with this Board he devoted two days a month to driving to the Enfield State Prison to meet the prisoners who had applied for parole, and to consider their appeals with other members of the Board. He took the responsibility very seriously. The parole system is not well understood by the public and is often criticized unfairly. During his tenure Charlie sought frequent occasions to explain the value and importance of the system to a variety of audiences. He also developed a keen individual interest in the men applying for parole and still receives Christmas greetings from some of them. One such card which he exhibits on occasion is from a man who while under the influence of liquor murdered his mother. On the bottom of the Christmas card is



They get out, too, for weekly bowling, for one thing . . . and, for another, for rehearsals of "Pettengill's Petunias," riproaring musical ensemble.*

arriving usually before 8:30 A.M., even on Saturdays. He arranges his vacations to coincide with the meeting of the American Bar Association, or the Rotary International Assembly at Lake Placid, or the Annual Convention of Rotary International. He has made several trips abroad, but always for business reasons or for Rotary or Bar Association conventions.

An interview with the new President of Rotary International is not hard to arrange. His large office, lined with law books and hung with fine pictures, looks out over Greenwich Harbor and Long Island Sound to the distant shores of Long Island. The new President is a well-built, well-tailored man, with a brisk manner that

written: "I am approaching the two-year mark of a fruitful and beneficial life thanks to the understanding people like yourself." On more than one occasion his life was threatened by disappointed applicants. Charlie paid little attention to the threats, but Madeline was not happy about them. Charlie was keenly interested in the problems involved.

Charlie played an active part in court reorganization in Connecticut in 1959. This had been overdue for years and was strongly advocated by the then Governor Ribicoff and the State Bar Association, but the proposal was opposed by the entrenched patronage of the State. The State Legislature, largely Republican, refused to pass the enabling act. Although a life-long Republican, Charlie campaigned actively for court reorganization and the elimination of justice-of-the-peace courts, addressing all kinds of gatherings [Continued on page 52]

• Author Alfred Everett is the headmaster of Brunswick School (private school for boys) in Greenwich, Conn., where he has known Charlie Pettengill as a fellow Rotarian and friend for two decades. He is a graduate of St. Stephens College. He was President of the Rotary Club of Greenwich in 1959-60.



*The "Petunias" are described in Author Everett's article. The photo shows left to right: banjoist Robert J. McKeever, Port Chester, N. Y.; pianist Gordon R. Blatchley and banjoist Charles W. Pettengill, Greenwich; bassist Richard H. Ward, Port Chester; ukulelist Malcolm Graham, Greenwich.