

COMMENTS FROM PRESIDENTIAL YEAR 1972Preparation

As soon as possible, and well before the year of office, I think the Nominated President should read or revise the following:

1. The Code, Principles and Rules for Guidance.
2. Rules of the Legacy Club of Melbourne.
3. Rules for Groups of Melbourne Legacy.
4. Memo and Articles of Association of Junior Legacy, Melbourne.
5. "Law and Procedure at Meetings" - Joske, or some other standard work.
6. Recent Annual Reports.
7. Record of last Federal Conference.
8. "Legacy" - Blatchford.
9. "The Torch" - Ellis.
10. "There Goes a Man" - Russell.
11. Archive material.
12. Recent material e.g. "Australian Assistance Plan".

Visiting

It has not been practical recently for Presidents to follow the recommendation (see R.S.I's Introduction and Past Presidents' minute of 1965) to visit only one-third of Victorian Clubs and Groups. There is no doubt that a rigorous schedule of country visiting by the current Melbourne President has been very important for the movement as a whole.

It is wise to arrive early and check detail with local President and/or Secretary during afternoon. This is often the only chance to see the Annual Report before the dinner.

Branches are becoming equally important for visiting. Emphasis should be given to those North and West of the centre where the task and context of Legacy are substantially different to those South and East.

Early attention to scheduling of events will provide for coverage of those where attendance is particularly desirable due to omission by predecessors, personality factors, special developments, sensitivity etc.

Vice-Presidents can help most with representation at Junior Legacy functions and some outside events.

Ceremonies

It is wise to insert in your Diary a copy of: Induction Ceremony (you may be tired and forget some of it), Funeral ceremony.

Deaths of Legatees Try and see the widow and/or family before the funeral and make your own assessment of the way they want things handled and of the aspects of his career they set special store on. This will help you in preparing your address. It is also desirable to contact the clergyman at an early stage. The Executive Officer provides the basic briefing and closely associated Legatees can provide background. Intensive preparation is immensely valuable in order to do justice to these occasions.

Personal Involvement

R.S.I's advice: "Don't become personally involved " in regard to contentious or delicate issues, is well worth heeding. Stick to broad principles and leave the would-be "in-fighter" to your team.

Expenses

Note that the Board minute of 14th December 1966 does not limit you to the quarterly figure. This minute still applies.

President's Secret Committee

See attached draft of a letter you may care to use. *I think the system still has some useful part in recruiting.*

Group and State Conferences

It would be wise to make a diary note for the end of your year to take timely action to get this organisational job moving.

Hon. Treasurer

It should be recognised that our substantial revenue and funds are accounted for by salaried staff who are not professionals and who must act substantially on established job specifications in their book-keeping.

Onerous additional responsibilities are being incurred as we administer more properties and account for expanded rents receivable, maintenance etc.

Your choice for Hon. Treasurer should have the time and skills to give adequate direction and fairly close supervision to this work. *THIS IS NOT A MATTER THAT WE CAN AIRILY "LEAVE TO THE AUDITOR".*



R.J.A. Foskett
1973