

## **Rotary President To Go To Chicago Convention**

June 20, 1930

Judge Edward L. Leahy, President of the Rotary Club left this morning to attend the annual convention of International Rotary to be held in Chicago from Monday to Friday of next week. As this is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the first Rotary Club and because Chicago was the birthplace of Rotary, the attendance of delegates from 62 nations of the world will probably double that of any previous convention.

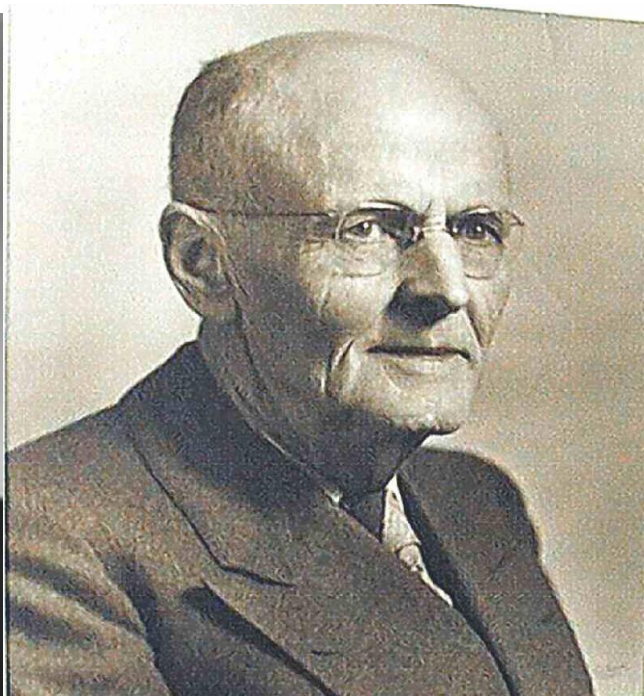
The event which this convention commemorates occurred in 1905, on February 23, when Paul Harris, then starting practice of law in Chicago, invited three of his friends to discuss the formation of a new kind of club which would primarily encourage fellowship and the extension of acquaintance. Membership would be restricted to one man of each district of business. At subsequent meeting each brought along other friends and within a few weeks the club was definitely organized with officers and a membership of about 20. At first the meetings rotated each fortnight among the places of business and this led the founder to propose the name "Rotary" club.

These fundamental principles still remain in all Rotary club. From time to time the Chicago Rotary Club added other characteristics which also have become familiar in every club- singing, the use of first names, and active participation in community welfare.



Judge Edward L. Leahy, Rotary President (later Senator)

1886 – 1953



Rotary Club Founder Paul Harris

1868 – 1947