

218- INAUGURAL CHARGE FOR THE CLUB EXECUTIVE

The Inaugural Charge for the Club Executive.

To be selected to the Executive Office in the Y Service Movement is an honor. It is a great honor. In our movement, since the beginning, it has been the unwritten rule that the office should seek the candidate rather than the candidate the office.

Thus your selection is evidence of the confidence of your fellow Y's Club Members in your qualifications for office. Many qualities are and will be demanded and expected of you by the fellow members. To list them all should not be necessary, but we shall specify four, each beginning with the letter " I ".

I D E A L I S M is the first. Your fellow members expect you at all times to illustrate by example the highest type of idealism, to display undeviating devotion to the purpose of the Y's Club Movement, and to bear unswerving allegiance to our foster parent, The YMCA.

I N T E R E S T is second. Among your various interest the welfare of the Y's Men Movement must rate first - not third, nor second. Only thus can you fulfil your obligation to make ours a first - rate organization. While it is important that the general membership place Y Service Club, it is absolutely imperative that every officer do so.

I N I T I A T I V E is the third. You are expected to exercise initiative. This means that you are to develop ideas and put them into operation; to formulate plans and execute them; to be the proponent and not

merely the follower of suggestion; in short, to be always “ starting something “ ... and then carrying it through to a conclusion.

I N D U S T R Y is the fourth. You are expected to be industrious: in other words, to work. No task shall be too great nor any detail too trivial to engage your effort. Your fellow members expect you to work untiringly even to the point of sacrificing leisure, recreation, social and occasionally domestic and business affairs.

In selecting you to office your fellow members have expressed their confidence that you possess these four , and many other qualities and will exhibit them throughout your term of office. This is why your selection is so high an honour. The responsibilities of leadership can scarcely be over estimated. True, the leader can not succeed alone. In our movement you must have the cooperation of every individual Y Club Member. But this cooperation can not be won by mere solicitation. It must be earned.

The trust reposed in you by your fellow Y’s Club Members is a sacred one. The manner in which you discharge that trust will determine whether their cause will go forward or backward, whether it will gain or lose, perhaps even whether it will live or die.

Will you (list the members and their executive positions) solemnly covenant with your fellow Y’s Club Members that you will to the utmost of your ability, exhibit these qualities, which your office demands of you, and conscientiously discharge the sacred trust reposed in you by your fellow Y’s Club Members?

If so, will you please raise your right hand and answer “ I will “.

May Divine providence aid and guide you and give you wisdom and strength, well and faithfully to discharge your trust.

(Have the members, present, come forth and shake the hands of the new executive.)

(Revised March 2024)