

- Q: That Charter was sent from Evansville to Chicago?
- A: Yes, sir.
- Q: Did they send in the initiation fees for members, or were there any fees required at that time?
- A: There were no fees required from club members; but when we were organizing the Royal Order, they sent in a Charter Fee of Fifty dollars; When Hicks was down in Texas did send in several fees of fifty dollars.
- Q: But the Chicago, as far as you are concerned never sent in any Charter fees?
- A: Not to my memory; and any of these other clubs that were granted charters under the Association of Lions Clubs up to the convention date, did not send in any; but Hicks did send in some fees.
- Q: But you don't have a definite recollection of each of these clubs that Hicks organized of sending in fees?
- A: No, sir, I don't.
- Q: Then you say that Mr. Jones and Mr. Trionens came to Evansville and joined you on the train trip to Dallas, Texas, is that right?
- A: That is correct.
- Q: Was there any conversation on the train or at any time, concerning Mr. Jones's participation or his activity as a member or an officer of the Association?
- A: Yes, sir.
- Q: So that we can possibly establish that a little bit -- do you recall approximately when that was with reference to time of leaving or time of arrival at Dallas, Texas, or the approximate location of it?
- A: From memory, it was some place between St. Louis and Dallas.

- Q: Do you recall the approximate time of the day or evening it was?
- A: It was daylight, but I can't recall the time.
- Q: Was it in your coach or Pullman car or where?
- A: In the Pullman car.
- Q: Will you please state what that conversation was about, and repeat it as nearly as you can as to what was said?
- A: Jones came to my apartment, where I had the Pullman reservation, and he said, "Dr. Woods, do you think there would be any chance of me being elected as Secretary of this organization down at Dallas? I would like to be Secretary, if possible." I said, "I think you stand as good a show as anybody else. If you will get out and mix with the boys and be a good fellow, and try to boost your own stock, I'll get behind you and I'll boost you also." I did; and he seemed to be very sociable, and he was elected Secretary.
- Q: After he was elected Secretary, were the records turned over to him, of the association?
- A: All records of every kind and nature that I had in my possession or that the office had in its possession was turned over to Jones.
- Q: Who kept those records previous to this meeting at Dallas, in October, 1917?
- A: My Secretary kept them -- Miss Conen.
- Q: What did Mr. Hicks have to do with them, if anything?
- A: He had practically nothing to do with them, because he had an insurance office across the hall and he was busy with his own business; but on account of him being kind enough to be one of the incorporators, when we needed three people to incorporate it, his name was put on as Secretary.

Q: During the time of the organization, or the filing of the Articles of Incorporation in the Secretary of State's office and in the Recorder's office of Vanderburgh County, and the convention in Dallas, Texas in 1917, you acted as President, and Mr. Hicks acted as Secretary is that right? I mean he held the office of Secretary?

A: Yes, he held the office of Secretary.

Q: Did he also hold the office of Treasurer?

A: Yes, sir. That is he held it, but you might say it was in name only.

Q: Miss Conen did she hold any office?

A: She was my private secretary.

Q: Did she have any official title?

A: I don't remember that she had any official title.

Q: Didn't she act as a member of the Board of Directors for the first year?

A: Yes, she did.

Q: You presided at the Convention held in Dallas, Texas, is that correct?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: You have read the Minutes of the meeting. Do you recall who was appointed as the Acting Secretary of that Convention?

A: No, I don't recall.

Q: How about the name of Tom Finty, Jr.? Does that ring a bell with you?

A: I don't remember.

Q: It says here, "Mr. Tom Finty, Junior, was greeted with applause, and accepted the appointment as Secretary Pro Tem, with a few timely and appropriate words." We will go ahead and assume that he was the one if you don't have any recollection.

A: All right.

Q: At least you don't recall his name or can't place him in the organization?

A: No, sir, I can't.

Q: At that convention you were elected President of the International Association of Lions Clubs, after Mr. L. F. Lewis, of the Dallas Club declined the honor?

A: That is right.

Q: But he was your successor in office, is that correct?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: He was elected the next year at the St. Louis Convention?

A: He was.

Q: You have seen these Minutes of that meeting, have you doctor?

A: I don't think I ever have.

Q: At that same convention, Melvin Jones was elected Secretary?

A: He was.

Q: Immediately following that is when you caused all the records to be turned over to him?

A: That's right.

Q: You have never seen any of the records since that time?

A: I never have.

Q: How many conventions following the St. Louis convention have you attended, doctor?

A: I think I only attended two.

Q: Where were they held?

A: One in St. Louis --

Q: Were there two in St. Louis?

A: I don't remember. I know there was one that I attended. That was when Mr. Lewis took the office of President.

Q: Do you recall where the other one was?

- A: I don't know whether it was in Denver, or not. I'm not sure where it was.
- Q: After you had left the office of President of Lions International, did you keep in contact with the organization?
- A: For a while Melvin Jones and I corresponded, and he put me on the roll to receive the publication of the International Association, which I received for approximately two years.
- Q: Is that the two years after you left office, or the two years after you ceased attending the conventions?
- A: Two years from the time that the convention was in Dallas, Texas.
- Q: You received it in 1919 and 1920 and possibly some in 1921, is that approximately so?
- A: Approximately so, yes, sir.
- Q: Since that time have you had any correspondence with Melvin Jones?
- A: I have not.
- Q: Have you had any contact with him, let's say, first personally?
- A: Not since that time. During the first two years I went through Chicago, going some place, and I stopped off at the office and he appeared to be very glad to see me, and took me out to his home and kept me all night.
- Q: That was during the same time when you received the magazine is that correct?
- A: Yes, that is while Lewis was President.
- Q: After that time did you see Melvin Jones any?
- A: I don't think I have ever seen him since, to my knowledge.
- Q: Did you have any contact or did anybody representing Melvin Jones or Lions International contact you about 1923, 1924 or 1925, or maybe a little bit earlier than that?

- A: At one time there was some attorney from Chicago came to see me --
- Q: Would you know his name as McKinley?
- A: I can't be positive, but it seems that that might be the name.
- Q: Where did you meet Mr. McKinley, if you recall?
- A: He came to my office in the American Trust Building.
- Q: Was that your own personal office, or was that the Lion's office, if you recall?
- A: I believe it was my personal office that he came to. I think we had two or three conferences while he was here; and some of them may have been in the Lion's office.
- Q: What was the nature of the conversations during the conferences?
- A: As near as I can remember he said that "It seems that the Royal Order of Lions and the International Association of Lions Clubs in some towns are not getting along together very well; so Mr. Jones sent me down here to see if you wouldn't change the name of your organization to some other name." I told him that I couldn't very well do that -- that I had no authority to do it, and that it would cost considerable money, because at that time we had a good many organizations going. We would have to have all new literature printed from start to finish -- new Charters. I told him that would cost considerable money. He said, "How much do you think it would cost?" I said, "I don't know just offhand. It might cost ten thousand dollars." He said, "Would you be willing to take thirty-five hundred dollars and do it?" I said, "No, because I can't guarantee you that that would cover the expenses." That was the gist of

the whole conversation. In all conferences he was trying to get me , -- and he said he had authority to offer me thirty-five hundred dollars. I said, "Mr. McKinley, it isn't the money proposition. I don't want a cent out of it for myself. All I would want is if the Directors would agree to the change, it would be for you to pay all the expenses, whatever it would come to." Without any further arrangements of any kind, he went back to Chicago and I never heard anything from him nor Mr. Jones after that.

Q: Did you at any time ever receive any money, either for reimbursement of your expenses that you were out in organizing the Association or attending the conventions?

A: I did not.

Q: Have you at any time ever received any commission from Lions International?

A: Not to my knowledge I never received any.

Q: Do you recall reading a pamphlet which is purported to be a meeting of representatives of various business men's clubs held at the LaSalle Hotel on June 17, 1917?

A: Yes, I have read that circular stating that there was a convention and that I was present at such a convention, but that is untrue. I don't know anything about any convention and I was not present at any convention.

Q: This purported meeting was supposed to have been in Chicago on June 17, which was previous to the convention held in Dallas in October. Did you ever attend any meeting of the Chicago Business men's clubs or the Chicago Business Circle prior or subsequent to the convention held in Dallas, Texas?

A: I have not.

Q: After the Chicago Club was Chartered as a club of the

International Association, did you ever attend a meeting at the Club?

A: I never did.

Q: Then the statements in here as to you offering a Charter to the Chicago Club and to the clubs represented is not a true statement of fact?

A: It is not.

Q: The list of Clubs listed in here as being present at that meeting, you wouldn't know whether or not they were present at that meeting or not?

A: I would not know.

Q: Except you'll say there was no representative of an Evansville Lion's Club at that meeting?

A: That is correct.

Q: Up until December, 1950 was there ever an active Lion's Club affiliated with the International Association of Lions Clubs located in Evansville, Indiana?

A: There was not, but I told Melvin Jones during the time I was president, "When you get ready to organize a club in Evansville, let me know, and I'll assist you in the organization."

Q: Did Melvin Jones ever let you know?

A: He never did and this club that is organized now possibly would not have been organized yet, except for the Henderson Club, who sponsored it.

Q: During all of these years has there been any objection to the organization of a club in Evansville?

A: No, sir.

Q: If you don't mind lets go back to this meeting that was held in Dallas, Texas; presumably you had an attorney here