

# Tolerance and Mutual respect, are the keys to World understanding

When a certain distinguished scientist was asked what coming invention would mean most to mankind, he answered, "I don't think that any invention will mean so much to mankind as the discovery of a better way to get along together."

How can we find a better way to get along together?

There's the Golden Rule, but every nation believes its way is the Golden Rule way. Sir Norman Angell has wisely observed that no nation, however aggressive and inhuman its course may be, is conscious of guilt; its people are taught that they are superior to all others and that destiny calls them to lead. Most nations are overeducated in their virtues and undereducated in their vices.

Travel is a good corrective for this type of mental near-sightedness - if the traveller will cast aside his prejudices. People will see what they look for, the ugly or the beautiful. If they seek things to condemn, they will find them in plenty and return home more prejudiced and arrogant than ever.

Open-mindedness and tolerance are earmarks of the Rotary approach to the problem. In Rotary though membership, which includes representatives of all religious and political parties, disagreement is rare.

"The Rotary way works! But Rotary has no patent on it, for it is but the Golden Rule in action. Any person, any nation, can apply it by displacing negative hatred and fear with goodwill based upon understanding. Peace among nations is not impossible of attainment; they can find peace if they will." – Paul P Harris, January 1946.

