

Our Library

By Samuel Rosinger

But a little over four years ago, Beaumont had the unenviable distinction of being the largest town in the United States without a public library. Then came a big-hearted citizen, and supplied that vital need by donating an imposing building for the purpose. What a spiritual hunger there existed in our city for this institution, is evidenced by the amazing fact that since the library opened in September, 1926, to date, the people of Beaumont have used on million, thirty six thousand, nine hundred and thirty six books. Of this total circulation 61% was adult.

Who can describe the pleasure which these books gave to thousands who read merely for diversion. While I am penning these lines, my two girls are feasting on juveniles taken from the Library, and their faces are lit up with joy derived from the fascinating story in which they are utterly absorbed. Who can estimate the valuable information which other thousands gained from the non-fiction books, and the ideas and ideals with which these books enriched the real students who deeply drink of this fountain of knowledge.

One really fails to see how our community could get along without this cultural agency for so many years. No greater boon could have been conferred upon our city than the establishment of this institution, and the citizenship owes an everlasting gratitude to the late Captain Tyrrell for his well placed benefaction.

However, the usefulness of any institution depends on its wise management. Beaumont has been very fortunate in having a Librarian who combines expert knowledge and experience with a deep love and devotion for her work. It is due to this happy combination that she succeeded in building up in the very limited time of four years, not only a choice collection of books exceeding forty one thousand volumes, but also enlisted close to twenty thousand registered readers who make generous use of the library's books. One finds order, system and quick and courteous service in the library. The community also owes to her efforts the founding of the Open Forum and the establishment of the circulating rural library, which has received a generous subvention from the Julius Rosenwald Foundation. Mrs. Lucy Fuller Gross deserves the unstinted praise of the citizenship for her splendid service not only as a librarian, but also as a library builder.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Slants at the Meeting

Along came Doc Durance—he may be of the vile family—but if he's synonymous with restraint he was working in the superlative degree last week. He was talking on "invisible" light and this reporter will tell the astigmatized world a feller has got to get lit-up with a glass eye to even see into the situation. Our conception of "invisible" light is just as turbid as Will Johnson's revelation on the Budget System, and boy that's giving the breaks to a hood-winked man looking for that proverbial needle.

According to the Doc a good many industrial and scientific uses have been found for this light. Industrially it has been employed to detect unsound welds and bad joints. Sociologically it is out-ranked by Reno in revealing unsound welds and as for bad joints Carl Kennedy has more on his finger tips than this light could penetrate in a life time. If it would only reveal the kick in the one half of one per cent governmental cocktail wouldn't it be a boon to mankind and a boost to womanhood . . . by stopping the prohibition debate?

Scientifically it is used in detecting the real from the unreal; the beautiful from the bad in precious stones and brilliant gems. And for that reason the writer never takes a chance—he always buys his jewelry from Kress and Woolworth.

Pathologically it is used in tracing the infirmities of mankind even back in the days of mummies when the pharaohs had "bad joints". Referring to the picture projected showing the ravages of rheumatism in the fore-arm of a mummy, Sam Solinsky says that's nothing compared to the age of his (rheumatism). Some of his fore-fathers transmitted his case down through the mummies to himself and it doesn't require any "invisible" light to detect it.

Howard Taylor, of the Major Operations, was introduced as the sheik of the RNs and had charge of the program and we think he did fairly well for light entertainment.

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ROTARY VISITORS

The following visitors were present at last week's luncheon:

Louis Philo, Houston.
M. L. Donaldson, Houston.
Ted Pettet, Shreveport.
J. J. Fulgam, Houston.
Dr. F. Y. Durrance, City.
R. A. Kennedy, New York City.
Walter Mayer, City.
Frank Estill, City.
Frank Bertschler, City.
William Merrill, Houston.
Dr. J. H. Pace, City.
Sol Galewsky, Fort Worth.
Geo. I. Boone, St. Louis.
W. B. McMillan, St. Louis.
Geo. F. Cameron, City.
C. A. McAllister, City.
C. G. McGregor, City.
H. W. Gardner, City.
L. B. Gough, City.
R. E. Berden, City.
Bob Bender, City.

—Rotarygrams—

GOOD RHETORIC

A noted writer once said that if a man cannot be for his employer 100% he ought to get out and get another job. This is good rhetoric and good doctrine, but the goal is perhaps too high for human nature.

To hear some of the best workers talk you would think they hated their bosses like poison. Hear them at lunch, on the street cars, in their homes. Get a record of what they tell their wives.

These men are not disloyal. They have a high sense of duty to their jobs, their bosses, and the company. But each day brings its irritations.

Free speech is the safety valve. Workers blow off steam. Then they feel better. It is all very human.

At Vienna In June

In the heart of Europe, the Rotary Club of Vienna is preparing to welcome and entertain six to eight thousand Rotarians from sixty or more countries next June. Once in four years the convention is held outside North America. The Vienna convention will be the third held in Europe. Edinburgh, Scotland and Ostend, Belgium have previously been hosts.

There is a tradition about Vienna expressed in the almost untranslatable German word "gemuetlich" which describes the atmosphere of Vienna and her citizens as "cozy" or any one of a dozen synonyms. It is the primary object of Rotary clubs to create and enlarge this same feeling of cordial friendliness among its members who are pledged to the encouragement of international good-will and understanding.

Over several different routes, to avoid congestion, the North American group of two or three thousand Rotarians will converge upon Vienna on June 21st. Six ships have been reserved for the North American Rotarians sailing on June 3-10 from New York and Montreal. The international officers and their families will sail on the George Washington on June 3, so that they may hold a week's conference at Semmering, an Alpine resort near Vienna, prior to the opening of the 22nd annual convention on June 22.

No other gathering attracts so many men from so many different countries. There will be delegates from nearly 3,500 Rotary clubs in more than sixty countries or geographical areas. All the continents and most of the nations of the world share in Rotary's world-wide fellowship.

The convention will follow the European practice, with fewer formal plenary sessions and more informal fraternization between Rotarians of the many nationalities, trades and professions.

There will be four separate assemblies considering the problems of the wool, cotton, leather and iron and steel industries from producer straight down the line to consumer. Rotarians engaged in any branch of these four great industries will bring out the difficulties they encounter in dealing with other units in the chain of production and distribution, in a "vertical" review of the business practices of each industry.