

Straight From the Shoulder

By Samuel Rosinger

The finding of large quantities of gin by prohibition officers in fraternity houses at the University of Michigan, the death, induced by alcoholism, of a woman of ill-repute at one of the fraternity houses at our own university, and many other similar incidents of debauchery at other institutions of learning that have come to light, show that drastic laws defeat themselves, and are a detriment to the commonwealth. Christianity set out to bring about the salvation of mankind by the attraction of love and not the compulsion of law. The kingdom of Heaven will never be established by a police force.

Some very learned men have seriously proposed to give science a holiday, so that humanity could catch up with the many inventions which threaten to replace man by machine. If any institution needs a holiday, it is our law-making bodies, federal, state, municipal. It is fortunate, indeed, that our legislators waste most of their time in ceaseless wranglings and bickerings. For, were they to concentrate their efforts on the manufacture of laws, the strait-jacketed inmates of insane asylums would be the only free humans in the land.

The writer is deeply gratified by the reply which his article "Are we a Civilized Community" received from the Community Chest, in the form of \$1500.00 increased appropriation for feeding undernourished school children. The Community Chest Board may rest assured that it has the undivided endorsement of the whole citizenship in its effort to prevent suffering amongst innocent children.

It is a pity that the Open Forum does not receive adequate support, either in subscriptions, or in attendance. Yet, one can easily account for the scant attendance this adult education is accorded. An Open Forum needs an open mind, which, unfortunately, our community lacks. One of the functions of the Rotary Club ought to be the discussions of pros and cons of the vexing and burning problems of the day, moral, political and economic. The membership, however, has not the breadth of view and the intellectual curiosity to hear both sides of a question. It is smugly satisfied to cling to the opinion which it forms, irrespective as to whether it rests on a solid foundation or not.

At public meetings, especially when the program consists of speaking, every person of any breeding will endeavor to maintain silence and pay attention to the speaker. An inattentive audience is a drag on the speaker, dampens his spirit and kills his enthusiasm. But, when there are boors in the audience, who either engage in disturbing chatter, or even pick themselves up and leave the room unceremoniously in the midst of the program, they embarrass the speaker and drive him to desperation. Our Club, unfortunately, is not free of such rude behavior. Those who are guilty of such an unpardonable breach of elementary courtesy, show by their demeanor that they are impervious to the refining influences of Rotary. They are in the Club, but not of the Club.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary Phone 932

Vol. XI Beaumont, Texas, February 18, 1931 No. 7

Slants at the Meeting

Anniversary of the Boy Scouts. Now there's a good movement—without motion—demanding neither free-wheeling nor synchro-meshing. Your ancestors didn't have 'em; but then you can't blame that on the boys.

To do a Good Turn Every Day does not mean night-work; neither does Mental Alertness require scouting after sundown.

Saluting Your Flag is not a duty,—it's a privilege, if not investigated by some committee or revoked by a commission.

It's a mandate of the scriptures and a Law of the Scouts to honor thy parents but to extend the courtesy to strangers' checks is kilen unto a man who extracts his tooth to raise his fallen arches.

Physical Fitness does not imply expansion of the chest to strut your vanities before mankind but a healthy body to enable you to endure in the period of lean years and the presence of fat women.

Woodcraft is the studying of hours with flora and not the spending of evenings with fauna.

First-Aid should not be a second thought, or the third degree. It should come forward without a backward stroke and relieve the score of the suffering.

Moral Cleanliness is not an idle thought but active conscience. It means removing the dross from your souls as well as the dirt from your pants.

Finally, the loudest shouting is heard the least and the greatest worker is honored the most.

—Check.

"Attendance is the Price of Membership"

OFFICERS

SAM ROSINGER President
MILLARD W. McMASTER Vice-President
PRESTON B. DOTY Treasurer
IRWIN J. FERAY Secretary

DIRECTORS

SAM ROSINGER—Jewish Congregation.
BARNEY A. STEINHAGEN—Steinhagen Rice Mill. Co.
W. HARRY LONGE—Longe's Co.
CHESTER A. EASLEY—Seaport Coal Co.
P. PERKINS BUTLER—American National Bank
PRESTON B. DOTY—First National Bank
Millard W. McMaster—Petroleum Iron Works Co.
ED STEDMAN, JR.—Stedman Fruit Co.
CARL S. DICKENS—Magnolia Petroleum Co.
IRWIN J. FERAY—T. H. Mastin & Co.

ROTARY VISITORS

W. M. McDonald, City.
Dr. H. E. Alexander, City.
R. W. Archer, City.
N. Estrada, City.
Harold Cavanaugh, Houston.
Jim Handley, Houston.
G. W. Currey, Houston.
W. L. Ware, Los Angeles, Calif.
Karl Schwartz, City.
I. Perel, Houston.
M. G. Thames, City.
L. C. Parvell, City.
W. A. McElee, Fort Worth.
Ollie Huffman.
Gid Childers, Houston.

—Rotarygrams—

What Did Chester Say?

A few weeks ago you experienced the phenomenon of Embarrassment crystallized in Humiliation on the floor of this club. We want to cite you a case of REBUKE in its pristine form:

Shortly after the period of inaugural resolutions (1931) your writer was extended the necessary "urge" to partake of food (and not raiment) by a delightful hostess. Arrival being detained he naturally got a slow start, but a quick get-away, and was nonchalantly strolling down a lane of pulchritude (don't misunderstand) with the aromatic spirits of forgetfulness permeating his soul, he inadvertently released a short-wave broadcast on some anatomical topic. Well, without further data or details, a rather austere dame bore down on him like a blue norther from the Panhandle on a shorn sheep. Brother, his barometric pressure suffered change. The mellowing glow of icicle suffused warmth compared to the frigid waves emanating from those glacial orbs of hers. Something had gone wrong with her ammonia pumps and temperature fell like a weak market under strong blows. Hot stoves were as helpless as bad hunches trying

"He Profits Most Who Serves Best"

to thaw him out. The west end of a penguin parked on an ice floe in the Antarctic was more comfortable than your feller Rotarian. The inference is she took exceptions to the comment. Partially true . . . she took the heat out of everything.

Moral is . . . Don't laugh at the bridge-work of your feller member who may have cavities in your own teeth.

—Rotarygrams—

Are You A Washington?

In 1776 there was a man in a whole lot of trouble. The man's name was George Washington. He had been trying to get money with which to feed and clothe the army. He couldn't borrow any. He had to make some kind of a success, and he didn't know what in the world to do. Along about Christmas time he happened to be somewhere near Trenton on the other side of the Delaware River. On the opposite side was a bunch of Hessians sent there to lick him by George III. The river was full of ice, and nobody could get across. The Hessians were in very large numbers, and if they could get across the river, they could have beaten George Washington, and the whole Revolutionary War would have been lost. But the Hessians, when they found that nobody could get over, and that George Washington's army couldn't get across to them, decided to celebrate Christmas Eve. They laid off, because business was dull. They made the mistake of thinking everybody would lay off. But George Washington had to get across that river. He said, "This is the time to get those guys when they're all drunk and laying down on the job." He got across, and got his army across, and surprised the Hessians, who were too drunk to fight, and took one thousand prisoners and put the rest to flight.

"Business is dull now. The river is full of ice, and no one can get across. So let's take it easy. Let's stop our advertising, ease up on our salesmen, cut down our output, and lay off some of our workpeople." That's what the Hessians are saying.

But there are a few George Washingtons. They know it is dull—that the river is full of ice. But they have got to get across. They keep things going, advertise, push sales, keep up production.

Will you delay your attack until the river is clear of ice, and the Hessians are drawn up in line of battle on the other bank, or will you cross now and smite them before they wake up?