

## Birthday Thoughts

By Samuel Rosinger

Anniversaries are occasions not only for rejoicing but also for reflection. When our birthday comes around, we may be glad for having covered another milestone on life's journey, but, at the same time, we cannot escape the thought, that after all, life is measured not by length of days, but by the richness and fullness of days. In other words, every anniversary puts the serious question to every one of us, "What has the added year brought into your life? Have you grown in age only, or also in wisdom, insight, in the qualities of heart and mind? Has your anniversary brought you nearer the grave, or closer to God?" Unless we have converted the fleeting moments into enduring deeds which neither time nor death can destroy, there is little cause for rejoicing on our birthday.

Rotary is celebrating its twenty-sixth anniversary. During this brief period Rotary has attained a phenomenal growth. It has taken root in sixty five countries, scattered on both hemispheres and enlisted under its banner 150,000 men. Aye, not only has Rotary encircled the globe, but has also brought forth a numerous progeny of luncheon clubs, which, under different names, are patterned after Rotary. Now this extensive growth naturally has been accompanied by shallowness and superficiality. Though framing a six pointed code, Rotary ideals are vague and illusive, and like numerous other organizations, Rotary Clubs are also chiefly engaged in the pursuit of a large variety of work aiming at civic betterment and social uplift. Now all these endeavors are worth while, yet they do not lend Rotary the distinction and distinctiveness to which it would be fully entitled, were it to concentrate its effort on one particular ideal, and embrace it with conviction and passion and enthusiasm.

In this chaotic world, though rapid means of transportation has annihilated distances, nations are still as far apart as before the era of steam and electric power. Internationalism is an ideal which, in itself, could keep Rotary clubs intensely occupied for generations to come. Also the cultivation of the spirit of fellowship and brotherhood right at home, with that intensity which would imbue a Rotarian with the spirit of self sacrifice which distinguishes a friend in need, would also cover Rotary with the glory of true achievement.

Sincerity is the touchstone by which individuals and organizations are judged. Rotary also will be judged not by its slogans nor by its size, but by the sincere efforts of its members to translate its ideals into rules of daily conduct. May every year bring this fond hope of every true Rotarian nearer and nearer to its realization.

# ROTARYGRAMS OF BEAUMONT



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

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### *Slants at the Meeting*

The handwriting on the wall was translated in no uncertain terms Thursday by Harry E. Dodge of Fall River Mass., speaking in Beaumont in the interests of the Y. M. C. A. Those doddering Rotarians of only some 50 years now know why they "ain't what they uster be."

"Loaf while you work" one of the speaker's recommendations, sounded good until he explained that he meant to relax whenever possible while keeping up the tempo of accomplishment.

Too much food and not enough sleep and exercise may bring the fellow Rotarians rallying around with a "Don't he look natural" but at that those evils have their good points.

Speaker Dodge did not fail to mention high moral standards as a vital factor in long life. Don't tell your friends, however, that you have applied for life insurance until the policy is in your hands. Imagine their suspicions should you be turned down for ingrown toenails or dandruff.

As for the practical experiment on methods of conveying "pot likker" from the table to the lips—who cares about that? Especially after having taken the first two or three swigs. The ex-Arkansas boys knew what to do with it, though.

Plans for the birthday party as detailed by Harry Longe sound like the best yet. Since the committee has decided to allow Rotarians to invite friends in addition to the Rotary Anns, reservations are necessary. Give Harry a lift by getting those return cards back at once.

"Silent Sam's" message was delivered by Millard McMaster and S. D. O'Connor wielded the gavel, assisted by C. P. J, etc. Ledwidge.

With Millard acting as interpreter, Sam explained his predicament:

"The doctors have muzzled me. They have shut my mouth for 30 days. I have to meekly submit to their decree for their power is unlimited. If I defy them they will retaliate by operating on me

## "Attendance is the Price of Membership"

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### Rotarygrams

and you know they are the only privileged characters who have the constitutional right to cut you to pieces without you having recourse by having them indicted for murder. As a Jew I really ought to be able to speak with my hands. However, you are not smart enough to understand my "handy" language. Therefore, for some time I will have to give you my presidential message in writing.

"Last week more than 60 Rotarians were absent from meeting. Many "death" notices have been sent out and many more will follow. I want you to know that Rotary is not a bandwagon to hang onto. Only sickness that keeps you in bed is a legitimate excuse. A Katzenjammer headache after a wild party will not answer the purpose. If you are out of the city on business make up your attendance elsewhere. You are taking undue advantage of the soft heart of your preacher president."

### Rotarygrams

### ROTARY VISITORS

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

Oscar Touchstone, Dallas.  
Harry Dodge, Fall River, Mass.  
C. F. Hodges, Dallas.  
Harve Haines, Port Arthur.  
Duvis Button, Port Arthur.  
W. E. Townsend, Port Arthur.  
Henry W. Stanley, Longview.  
H. Rowe Morris, Houston.  
Red McGuire, City.  
H. F. Swan, City.  
J. R. McGowan, City.  
D. A. Wier, South Bend, Ind.  
E. M. Wise, Houston.  
W. J. Barker, New Orleans.  
Elmer Leach, City.

## "He Profits Most Who Serves Best"

### What People Want

A business man in Kansas City recently gave each of his employees \$30 with the understanding that the money should be spent immediately, not to settle old debts or to start a new instalment account, but to pay completely for some new purchase. His idea was to give a stimulant to local trade.

A novel philanthropy, that, but a pretty good one. Money used so acts on business like fertilizer in a vegetable garden.

How the beneficiaries actually used the gift is not on record. But there is available a record of what various men and women in another city said they would do with \$30 if it were given them on such terms.

Their replies were various. They would use the money for clothes, automobile tires, food, tools, cigars, books, presents for the family, self-beautification, railroad fare and many other things. But what most of them wanted was clothes.

### Rotarygrams

### Know Your Texas

Texas produced ribbon cane syrup valued at \$1,500,000 in 1930, although the total output was off 20 to 30 per cent on account of the drouth. (Authority: Mt. Enterprise Progress).

Texas leads the nation in number of petroleum refineries, but ranks low among the states in production of valuable by-products of its petroleum output. (Authority: Department of Commerce).

Texas has the only "cotton cloth" road in the world—on Highway No. 3 near Gonzales. Cotton fabric is used as the base for asphaltic surfacing.

Texas sold \$3,000,000 worth of fur last year, comprising 1,248,485 pelts of fur-bearing animals. O'possum pelts constituted more than half the total—756,502. Skunk with 235,805 was next, muskrats contributed 75,867 and 'coons 45,317. (Authority: Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission).