

"Attendance is the Price of Membership"

Flowers at Funerals

By Samuel Rosinger

Flowers are the choicest gift which a bountiful God has bestowed upon his children. Flowers teach us beauty and sweetness, and all those thoughts and sentiments that make up the poetry of life. Flowers possess a language so expressive that they voice the feelings of the heart more touchingly than the most eloquent tongue. Therefore, the presentation of flowers to dear ones, or friends, as a token of love, or a mark of appreciation on anniversaries, or other joyous celebrations, is a commendable custom. Such a gift confers joy upon the donor, and brings happiness to the recipient. Also, sending flowers to the sick is a highly appropriate usage. The cheerfulness of the flowers, as well as the thoughtfulness of those who send them, act as a wholesome tonic upon the patient, and are conducive to his recovery.

But flowers at funerals constitute a useless and wasteful display. The dead, surely, do not profit by it, and the mourners are too stricken by their sorrow and too weighted down by their grief, to appreciate them. Also, from an aesthetic point of view, flowers at funerals are not in the best of taste. In the face of the solemn mystery of death, which strips the body of all its ornaments, simplicity of interment is far more in accord with the spirit of the sad occasion, than the conversion of the funeral parlor into a flower shop.

If people wish to honor the memory of a friend, let them contribute to some charity in which the deceased was interested, or establish some foundation, consonant with his life activity, that will perpetuate his name and the good he wrought on earth.

In giving expression to our sincere sorrow over the sudden demise of our fellow Rotarian, Dru McMickin, we cannot commend to highly the sensibleness of his wish that flowers be omitted from his funeral. May the example he set inspire many to do likewise. We also hope that the friends of the deceased will establish a fund to be applied to some phase of public health that will perpetuate his memory far more worthily than the tribute of ephemeral flowers.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary Phone 932

Vol. IX Beaumont, Texas, Dec. 2, 1931 No. 48

Slants at The Meeting

Week before last we had a kind gentleman from North Texas that shellaced us over with a coating of unction calculated to galvanize us from attacks of "depression" insects.

This past week we had a gentleman from South Texas disposed to perforate some of our pet theories about denominational attachments. He dubs himself a "free thinker."

The eminent brother of the cloth, Dr. William States Jacobs, revealed his intention of establishing a non-sectarian church for the masses and thus relieve the 'free thinkers' of the ecclesiastical halter that restrain their activities.

The brother said he was an Irishman, would like to be a Jew and talked something like a Russian. His interpretation of the prayer for "our daily bread" translated into seizure 'kinder smacked of the exhortations of soap-box orators but perhaps intended for consumption outside of the radicals.

We like the Doctor's idea of free thinking all right and the establishment of a church where creeds, isms and castes are not hinderances but at the same time we accord the denominational brother the right to worship as he sees it. Too, we think loyalty and sincerity should not be overlooked.

The old biblical injunction about 'let not your right hand know what your left hand does' can hardly be justified in our opinion by clinging to a denominational church on the one hand and establishing a "free" church on the other hand.

We feel sure that some of the good sisters might take umbrage at the suggestion its not a far cry

OFFICERS

JIM EDWARDS President
CHESTER EASLEY Vice-President
IRWIN FERAY Secretary
P. B. DOTY Treasurer

DIRECTORS

JIM EDWARDS—J. S. Edwards & Co.
CHESTER EASLEY—Seaport Coal Co.
IRWIN FERAY—T. H. Mastin & Co.
SAM ROSINGER—Jewish Congregations.
MILLARD McMASTER—Petroleum Iron Works Co.
BARTOW COUSINS—San Jacinto Life Insurance Co.
KEITH HOTCHKISS—Pipkin & Brulin.
BARNEY STEINHAGEN—Steinhagen Rice Mill Co.
PERK BUTLER—American National Bank.
BEEMAN STRONG—Yount-Lee Oil Co.

—Rotarygrams—

from flocks in church to herds of cattle, even tho they be 'sacred' cows.

The acquisition of a million and half dollars worth of land speaks better for him as a cattleman than as a toll-taker of the passed-platter.

When the doctor expands that 200 odd pounds of avoirdupois, shakes his shaggy locks and leans on his mighty vocabulary he holds your attention like nobody's business. He got off to a running start under the stimulus of Steve King's introduction and had even passed the goal post when flagged. A number of the boys were so enthused they wanted to continue the program.

—Check.

—Rotarygrams—

ROTARY VISITORS

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

Andy Axline, Houston, Texas.
W. E. Sampson, Houston, Texas.
J. C. DeShong, Paris, Texas.
Rev. State Jacobs, Houston, Texas.
Walter Mayer, City.
R. F. DuBois, City.
Henry Langham, City.
Jess Stuart, City.
Neal S. Storter, Galveston, Texas.
L. Osins, Galveston, Texas.

—Rotarygrams—

NOTICE!—It is not obligatory to bring a farmer to the meeting of December 9th; although it will be highly appreciated.

The Newly Poor

"I am not unconscious of the headache all of us are nursing after the ten year prosperity jag," confesses O. O. McINTYRE in an article exposing the 'Poverty Pose' of the nation's celebrities and still-rich in the January issue of *College Humor*.

"I stroll up Fifth Avenue's de luxe shopping zone and see half a dozen amazing crags completely empty. I have a little packet of stocks and bonds I will trade for a marble and a skipping rope. But as for 'hard times', how have you been?"

"What gives me a slight pain in that part of my anatomy where the back comes to a full stop is that the people really hurt are saying nothing. The beefers are those that have suffered scarcely no discomforts.

"I am continually amazed by the metropolitan phenomena of reckless spending during these days when everybody says we are teetering to the bow-wows. The two highest priced shows—Ziegfield's 'Follies' and George White's 'Scandals'—are doing the biggest business along the rialto. Never have such magnificent speakeasies been opened as those now running full blast.

"Statistics show that eighty percent of the 'depression suicides' were those who had not lost their all but whose fortunes had been greatly reduced. A large percentage of them, too, could have lived comfortably the rest of their lives without another day's work.

"On a professional errand I visited one of those ill fated mill towns in New Jersey the other day. In a twenty-four hour stay I heard less complaining than I have heard in an hour's dinner table talk by men and women in the splendor of evening dress."

And then, concludes McIntyre, consider Youth.

"It is only fair that it should be chronicled they are not whining. My mail is heavy with their cheer.

"Spunk' is the word. Hear this one from a town in California. 'I have been sacked again. The tenth time in eight months. Out of college two years, I'm just beginning to learn what life really is . . . But I haven't told the folks. They'd make me come home. I want this sort of seasoning. It is what all of us easy going guys with rich papas have needed . . .'

"It is that sort of stuff that made an old financial war horse down town recently observe in the public prints, 'When we ride out of the present depression, Youth will be in the saddle.'

"My hunch is their feet are already in the stirrups."