

Self-Imprisonment

By Samuel Rosinger

At this season of the year the palm tree which graces my front lawn, vibrates with throbbing life. Its crown is full of birds' nests. I love to watch the joy and happiness which these warblers get out of life. Making a nest is no mean art. It requires not only skill, but also strain. Rough and thorny is the bark of the palm, in the hollow of which the nest is hidden, and it takes a world of padding with straw and feathers to make it comfortable. Also the feeding of the mother bird while she is sitting on the eggs, entails a great deal of labor for the male. And after the eggs are hatched, what a care and worry must be the raising of the young, and, especially, their training to fly on their own wings, and to guard themselves against the dangers threatened by predatory animals.

Yet, in spite of the strenuous lives which these birds lead, they must be supremely happy, if one can judge their state of mind by the merry chirping and trilling which issues from the palm from early dawn until late dusk.

When I contrast with these gay creatures the life of the pampered canary, which hops around in its narrow ornamental cage in our breakfast room, I pity the canary. For, though it is provided with all its needs and protected from all dangers, it is confined to a prison, and it lacks not only the joy of freedom, but also the happiness which comes from useful labor and purposeful activity.

Often, while thinking of this contrast in the condition of natural and caged birds, I wonder whether the civilization we have been building has not served as a cage to imprison us and rob us of the joy of that freedom which would be ours, if we led a natural life. We have imprisoned ourselves in the gilded cages of convention. We have emeshed ourselves in the web of an artificial existence from which we cannot free ourselves. While we are deflating and depreciating bloated values, let us reduce the exaggerated importance which we attach to all the conventions which rob us of that happiness which the art of simple living holds out for us. If the depression will help to break down the invisible, but very palpable prison walls which we have built around us, it will confer inestimable blessing upon mankind.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary Phone 932

Vol. X Beaumont, Texas, June 15, 1932 No. 24

Slants at the Meeting

Our perennial treasurer, Pres, introduced the speaker last week as a lawyer, business man and banker.

Without any hypothetical subterfuge, we ask you the blunt and brazen question how in heck can the ordinary layman ever hope to inscribe his moniker on one of those short-time-maturing epistles so avariciously sought these days against such an array of opposition.

Anyway, the eminent gentleman diagnosed a quintette of maladies gnawing on the old national carcass such as High Taxes, Cessation of Reparations, Government in Business, Protective Tariff and Currency Inflation.

We are not so much interested in the systemic symptoms of the disease as we are in administering the curative nostrums. In other words if Dr. Hocum imparts the unpleasant information that we are suffering from a hypo-sensitive membranous condition of the abdominal cavity, pathologically known as acute peritonitis, we don't give a d— but we still know we have the bellyache.

We are COGnizant (Not CON, according to Bill Beaumont) that it is necessary to peep into the gear-box of the old family barouche to ascertain the offending member, and we think brother Caldwell, of Bayou Burg, has pointed out conclusively that we had a lot of loose nuts without lock washers, our lubricant had lost its viscosity and the bearings on the bum.

The speaker stressed that homely virtue of TOLERANCE, and when you come to analyze the World's ills, greed and enmity you will find that Intolerance is the grit that gummed the grease after all.

—Check.

Board of Directors

CHESTER EASLEY President
 TOM WALKER Vice-President
 I. J. FERAY Secretary
 PRES. DOTY Treasurer
 ED STEDMAN, JR. BEAMAN STRONG
 P. P. BUTLER BURT MORRISON
 R. B. COUSINS JIM EDWARDS

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Section 1 of Article 1 of the by-laws of the Rotary Club of Beaumont, Texas, be amended so as to read as follows:

SECTION 1

At the regular meeting one month prior to the annual meeting the Secretary of the Club shall provide each member present with a roster of the membership and the members shall be called upon by the Chair to vote for twenty nominees for directorships in the Club. The twenty members of the Club receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared to be the nominees, and at the next meeting the Secretary shall provide each member present with a list of the twenty nominees and of these nominees the four of those who are then directors of the Club receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected as Directors, and the six nominees who are not then on the Board of Directors receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected Directors. The purpose of this section is that the new Board shall be made up of four old Directors and six new Directors.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Section 2 of Article 5 be amended so as to read as follows:

SECTION II

The membership dues shall be \$30.00 per annum, payable quarterly on the first day of July, October, January and April and \$1.50 of each individual membership dues shall be applied to such members' subscription to the Rotarian Magazine.

Aims and Objects Committee

TOM WALKER Chairman
 CHAS. TERRELL JOE CLEMMONS
 BEN S. WOODHEAD C. S. SHOOLROY

Club Service

CHAS. TERRELL, Chairman

CLASSIFICATIONS

MIKE MOORE, Chairman

ATTENDANCE

LUM EDWARDS, Chairman

FELLOWSHIP

M. L. LOVE, Chairman

PROGRAM

R. D. CHASTAIN, Chairman

HARRY LONGE

CHARLES WEINBAUM

PUBLIC RELATIONS

ALBERT BOYD, Chairman

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

ALFRED JONES, Chairman

SAM ROSINGER, Asst. Editor

BURT MORRISON, Reporter

VISITING COMMITTEE

CHAS. BABCOCK, Chairman

L. L. DONNELLY

Vocational Service

JOE CLEMMONS Chairman

International Service

BEN S. WOODHEAD Chairman

Community Service

C. S. SHOOLROY, Chairman

STUDENT LOAN FOUNDATION

COOKE WILSON, Chairman

P. P. BUTLER

WM. WAHRMUND

CARL BINGMAN

E. C. McDANALD

BACK TO SCHOOL

C. S. DICKENS, Chairman

BOY'S WORK

G. L. ADSIT, Chairman

R. A. MORRIS

ED STEDMAN, Sr.