

## The Heritage of Fathers

By Samuel Rosinger

A noble ancestry is the most precious heritage that children may be privileged to receive. There are two powerful factors that determine human life. The one is heredity, the other environment. Educators generally maintain that environment is the stronger influence, for it can modify, if not altogether counteract, hereditary traits and tendencies. Yet, what a blessing, if one is born with a clean bill of health, both physically as well as morally. What a blessing, if an ancestry, far from handicapping one in the race of life, places one into the arena of human struggles accoutred with the potentialities of a strong body, a vigorous mentality and a sturdy moral sense, that, under proper environment, will resist and reject evil and make the good and noble prevail in man. The role that ancestry plays in our lives, has been aptly illustrated by the vine. Even as the vine could bear no fruit without the support of stakes, so also our lives would be fruitless, could we not lean on the merit of our fathers.

Needless to say, the possession of noble forbears must not fill us with ancestral pride or vanity. Surely, we cannot take credit to ourselves for the heritage of worthy fathers. A glorious ancestry far from instilling in us the obnoxious spirit of snobbery, ought to serve as a challenge and an admonition to us to comply with the behest of the poet:

"Do as your great progenitors have done,

And by your virtues prove yourself their son."

Possessing a noble ancestry is not a gift to brag about, but a privilege to be earned by patterning our lives after our forbears. Otherwise, to use a Hebrew simile, "One is vinegar the son of wine, the pigmy offspring of giants, the muddy stream of a crystal pure spring." Let us be grateful for a noble ancestry, and keep its consciousness alive in us and in our children. It is a powerful incentive to emulate and imitate our fathers, and preserve and perpetuate the traditions of "noblesse oblige", from generation to generation.

# ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

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### Slants at the Meeting

Merry Merritt, with a perennial grin that spreads over his facial territory like jam on a hot biscuit, was awarded the privilege of introducing the guests due to the fact he was adjudged the happiest man in the room. Voice from beneath the table: "He ought to be. He has got more than anybody lately . . . sure he has a new bride."

Fair-made Murphy presented the academic interpretation of the President's 10 point policy but which we don't think has a scholastic standing higher than the knee-action of a '34 buzz wagon and with possibly less air-flow.

He gave us a glimpse at the RFC, NRA and CWA but what we are concerned about is getting an SOS from the administrator of the IOU permitting us to keep our BVDs.

About the time we are reconciled to the fact the old Club has fallen into the slough of ennui some member busts out and slips over a program clicking like the dial of a two-bit gas meter when the bread is not baked.

Redoubtable Steve revealed a few angles to the New Deal seeking patience, asking co-operation and prophesying success.

Speaking of patience necessary for the NRA, Sam Rosinger reminds us of this great virtue and recalls how long some of his people have been trying to put over a code of 10 points . . . the one Moses wrote.

Steve juggles billions with as flippant a disregard as a hen-pecked husband or a nosey old woman would search for a nudist colony.

Indeed, this is a period of transition and changes are coming so fast they over lap each other like shingles on a roof. Appetites of today are wants of tomorrow and pleasures of yesterday are pains in the neck now.

Whether your Uncle Sam has hoarded in his sock ten billion dollars or socked by hordes for ten billion dollars doesn't make any difference, but a full stomach makes for a broad smile and a happy people.

—Check.

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## Something Worthwhile

### Editor Rotarygrams:

The cost to the federal government for the 2,000,000 tons of sand stone "placed" in the Galveston jetties was \$2.44 a ton. The cost of the granite capping stone was \$4.88 a ton. Using these costs as a basis of costs of a dam across the Neches river below Village Creek with a base width of 40 feet, with a top width of 25 feet raised to an elevation of 32 feet above sea level, with requisite spillways will cost approximately \$500,000.00.

The cost of a canal from the proposed dam site to Port Arthur 29 miles as the crow flies, with concrete revetment walls to prevent soilbank erosion will cost approximately \$2,500,000.00, including concrete spillways from the main canal to all irrigating canals to Beaumont, to Port Arthur, to the several refineries and to all other industries contiguous to the main canal.

This major project can be fully equipped to give every user a gravity flow. Under normal flow the Neches River at Rockland contributes 40 percent, the Angelina 30 percent, and the spring creeks and spring "seapages" below the confluence to Angelina River contributes 30 percent.

The total cost of the entire major project would be approximately \$3,000,000.00. With 588,800 acres of land in Jefferson County, of which 180,000 acres is susceptible to irrigation, with a population today of 145 to the square mile, more than three times the average population density of the United States as a whole, it will in the near future require the normal flow of the Neches river to supply the normal demand for an adequate water supply.

To go 85 miles away from Port Arthur, through

sand hills,—bay gall thickets—cray fish swamps to impound 40 percent of the river's normal flow at an expense of \$7,000,000.00 is a "midnight" pipe dream and smells like a "pork barrel". Let's come with clean hands.

Under the regime of the Republican Party for and during the past half century \$155,000,000.00 was voted, appropriated, and expended in Texas in the construction of harbor improvements, canals, jetties, post offices, hospitals, air ways, highways, fortifications, equipments, maintenance, and other minor expenditures.

These major projects were gratuities made under normal financial economic stability.

Today, Texas, the Banner State of the Nation, with a single oil pool capable of producing greater wealth than all of the gold, silver, and diamond mines of the world, are not menials, begging for the crumbs that fall from the tables of insatiable greed and avarice,—too proud to beg, too honest to steal,—the great state of Texas, the greatest productive unit under the Stars and Stripes, "demands" that it gets a "square deal" and respectfully asks the powers that be, to lend Texas \$150,000,000.00 of its bonds at 3 percent interests to build an incomparable water works system not only in the cities, but in the rural districts as well.

Let's do something worthwhile.

Joseph P. Wilson.

—R—

In the busy days of twenty-nine  
How oft we thought it would be fine  
If we could somehow manage it  
To go and give the fish a fit,  
Or through the country idly roam,  
Or just sneak off and loaf at home;  
But greedy business held us fast  
While spring and summer slowly passed.

But now, how different is our case;  
Our work no longer is a race.  
We're living in a saner time,  
The dollar scarce but "Oh you dime"  
Invested in a can of bait  
With sizzling fish you'll fill our plate.  
Ere business calls, while yet we may,  
Let's learn again the joys of play!

—R—

Everybody can talk, but few can talk to the point.