

The Elevator College Boy

By Samuel Rosinger

He is a handsome specimen of young manhood. There is a distinction about him that would attract attention even if his athletic build was his sole endowment. He possesses, however, in addition to his splendid physique, tact and refinement and that undefinable charm which radiates from an educated personality. But above all, his dreamy eyes with their far away look reveal that soaring aspiration which is totally absent in the common menial who lacks the ambition to rise to a higher scale in life's values.

He operates an elevator in one of our hotels, and by the kind accommodation of the management, has his working hours so arranged that in his spare time he can take courses at Lamar College. It is boys of this type, who go to untold trouble in getting an education, that make the best use of our institutions of learning. To them the primary purpose of college is not promoting athletic contests, nor fostering fraternal conviviality, but improving the heart and mind and storing up knowledge as a guide of life and as an imperishable cultural asset. It is such boys who will furnish the right leadership to this nation. Knowing the soul of the poor, they will evince an understanding and an appreciation of the toiling masses, and yet, their sound judgment attained by education, will serve as a check to their sympathies, and thus strike a golden mean between rabid radicalism and hidebound conservatism.

Business houses can not render a more valuable service to the cause of education, no less than the cause of sound business, than giving employment to such ambitious boys and girls, and thus enabling them to make their way through college. The much boasted-of self-made man did invaluable pioneering work in laying the foundations of commerce and industry. Unfortunately, as proven by the bitter experiences of the past five years, that foundation was not sound and solid enough to sustain our complex economic structure. The practical man lacks vision, and sacrifices future returns for immediate profit. The New Deal, if it is to be an improvement on the old one, will require the leadership of men who will harmoniously combine the theory acquired in school with the practical knowledge gained by experience. Therefore, boys and girls who earn their way through college, apart from their ambition and willingness to bring sacrifices for education, fit themselves for life far better than the bookworm, or his opposite type, the collegiate idler.

It is such boys and girls, who far from entertaining the conceit harbored by so many college students, of being made of superior clay, are willing to buckle down even to ditch-digging in order to acquire their education, that will rise to the top and furnish an honest and efficient leadership for a stable and an enduring society.

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Slants at the Meeting

Last Wednesday was a hard day on the scrub reporter. First a sky-pilot from Port Arthur had us up in the air over a paradoxical philosophy, and then along came the Pure Oil's autogyro and wafted us up in the empyrean where we were dizzier than a billious cat on a picket fence.

We can't figure out now how much good either one did us; but it's a cinch we got nearer heaven in the autogyro, with no disparagement to the good brother.

We wouldn't like to carry this analogy to far, because it probably wouldn't do either us or the minister any good and the Gyro would still be neutral.

We like the line of thought thrown us by brother Brown and feel the hastiness of the invitation did him a little injustice. He had no time for preparation, but then the ordinary program chairman thinks a minister is full of platitudes, diatribes and effluvia and he is set on a hair-trigger for eruption.

This complex of Superiority of Inferiority is a malady that seems to afflict many. That is, if this is the cause of hypocrisy because there is about as much of this as there is poverty.

We imagine some asinine feeling, like this, must have imbued that bunch that so futilely sought to find a nudist colony in the high schools.

Check.

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Do We Need Birth Control for Ideas?

Is science feeding new labor-saving machines to society faster than society can digest them? This question is raised by Sir Josiah Stamp, English industrialist and economist, in the current *Rotarian Magazine*, with the suggestion that it may be necessary to develop a "technique of accommodation to change" for civilization.

He points out that much machinery is "junked" before it has paid for itself. Too, each new labor-saving device throws men out of work, at least temporarily. It should be possible, he adds, to speed up and coordinate the process of adaptation and "to take some more social responsibility for hardships to individuals through no fault of their own, resulting from changes which benefit society."

"Instead of assuming" says Sir Josiah, "that nothing need be done until there is an overwhelming case for it, and we are, indeed, almost too desperate to do what then needs to be done; instead of supposing that nothing serious ever really happens until it hits us—let us have as a germ of our social and scientific organizations, some group of minds that can be eventually blamed and kicked for not having looked forward and warned us, and adjusted our social organization to meet the bump."

Who's To Pay For New Deal?

Nothing that the national debt of the United States will reach an unprecedented total of 31 billions in 1935, which means some \$1,500 per family, Fred H. Clausen, Wisconsin manufacturer, sounds a note of warning in the current *Rotarian Magazine*.

"Add other long term obligations, of states, counties and cities, real estate mortgages on farms and city properties, debts of railroads, utilities, industries and like obligations, and the total is 150 billion—or about one-half the estimated national wealth."

Mr. Clausen paints roughly America's financial picture as follows: national wealth 300 billions; indebtedness, 150 billions; income this year, 50 billions; public expenditures this year, 18 billions.

"What does this spell for the future?" he asks. "From the very size of the debt its payment will be projected into future decades. Because of today's necessities we are inclined to let coming years take care of themselves. And that is a dangerous attitude."

"The New Deal program is on its way. In our journey we must pay the costs of transportation," he concludes, "but may we maintain a proper sense of proportion."—From *The Rotarian Magazine*.

