

ROTARYGRAMS OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary, Phone 932

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Slants at the Meeting

Boy, Oh Boy, wasn't our Distinguished Party the big day for Rotary?

We couldn't have had more fun if Tom Minyard had invited us to an experience meeting of the Campbelites down in old Georgia where they put skirts on peaches, as well as cream.

The honor guest was Emmett Fletcher, a man who is affectionately dubbed "That young fella Emmett" by his Boswell, a columnist of an afternoon paper, and who loves him like a brother.

Steve King, another side-kick from the hills of East Texas, gave our guest plenty of background and Rotary fixed him up with a fore-front.

There isn't much for us to say about Emmett as the speaker climbed his genealogical tree like squirrels in a hickory-nut grove.

Steve painted that rugged Character in glowing terms and then turned the light on his Conduct but Providence must have blown a fuse and saved the day, and our blush.

But at that moment in the ceremony we were hanging on the ragged edge of nothing as nervous as an aspen leaf in a Texas cyclone.

Emmett was designated the "Distinguished Citizen", awarded the laurel leaf with scalloped pangeyrics and given a scroll of crystallized commendations.

You might have searched every nook and niche of East Texas and not found a candidate fulfilling the "latitudinous qualifications" so well as Emmett.

Legend has it that the earliest recollections of childhood of doting men and tottering women recall "Emmett the Mayor."

The record is not complete but young girls were taught to love and small boys to honor him and so posterity inherited a public servant that has fulfilled all the promises.

And now, Old Boy, as we have glorified ourselves in paying tribute to you here's hoping you make the longevity of that 164 year Turk look like an early demise and that happiness fills your cup of cheer to over-flow.

—Check.

To Charles

By Samuel Rosinger

I tender you my heartfelt felicitations on the coveted honor the Club has conferred upon you by electing you as its president. I know, you are fully aware of the heavy duties that go with this distinction. You, who have risen in your chosen vocation from humble rank to a position of eminence by dint of your sterling character, native ability and above all, infinite capacity for hard, unrelenting and unremitting labor, cannot have any delusions about the load of responsibility your office carries with it. Therefore, I pray Providence to lend you health and strength and the spirit of concentration and consecration you will need for the faithful and conscientious discharge of the public service that rests upon your shoulders.

Of course, were you to choose to walk in the rut of convention, or on the trodden path of precedents, you could make your task easy. You could imitate the fly of the Aesopean fable, who pertly perched on the hub of the whirling chariot, boastfully exclaimed, "Behold how much dust I stir up." But you are not wont to walk on the line of least resistance. You possess the rugged power and the adventurous spirit of the pioneer who blazes new paths in the wilderness. I know that you will not rest content with chewing the cud of threadbare slogans of service and fellowship, and rehashing trite catch phrases about codes of pseudo-ethics. You will want to make Rotary a vital factor in the life of the membership and the community. You will want to make it into an open forum for the frank discussion of the pressing problems of the day. You will want to convert it into a power making for civic righteousness in our community.

Rotary has grown vertically but not horizontally. It has thinly spread on the surface of the earth, but has not risen to the sublime heights of a gripping ideal, nor has it struck deep roots in those convictions of the heart by which men live and for which they die. May you, Charles, with your happy combination of efficiency and humanity, rich vein of humor and vast mine of earnestness, lift Rotary in Beaumont to those lofty peaks of practical idealism that will afford mankind guidance and inspiration in the perplexities of our turbulent life.

Our subject saw the light of day, May 1st, in the mid 80's, back in Illinois under the zodiacal signs of Taurus and Gemini—Taurus being the Latin for Bull and Gemini for twins.

So our astrological department senses the prophetic significance of our incoming president's natal day. Reduced to a common denominator . . . double bull.

By dint of circumstances, or strong wind, he was carried into Nebraska finishing a grammar school curriculum and doing odd jobs such as encouraging plant life on the farm.

History records that the first money filtering into the pockets of our president was reward for chaperoning the feminine bovines to the pasture at 50c per head per month.

At the turn of the century we find him in the Pacific Bowl, Seattle, picking up amperes and voltage in a poor plant thus portending his great battle in after life with kilowatts.

Too, during his current life with the electric company he was flirting with higher education in the University of Washington—1905-10—and snatched off the sheep's epidermis.

While engaged in that light and power period out on the Pacific he took unto himself a wife and is now the proud father of a daughter and son, with wife as a counter-balance.

Next he turns up in El Paso, Texas with that well known firm of Stone & Webster and who are as popular as Lea & Perrins.

Then we find him snared by the land of alligators, Tampa, Fla., still chasing the elusive spark.

Buffeted from pillar to post, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, the odyssey of our hero seems to have terminated in the port of Beaumont, 1928, and today we pay homage to the induction of CHARLES FOSTER TERRELL as President of the Beaumont Rotary Club, 1934-35.

—R—

What Rotary Has Meant to Me

If I were to cite the greatest single contribution that Rotary has made to me during my fourteen years' membership in the local club, I should say without hesitation, friendship. It's a wonderful inspiration to know that a hundred men, representative of the finest ideals in the business and professional life of the community are looking for the best that is in me; that they are sympathetic with my ambitions, tolerant with my shortcomings and always ready to cooperate with me in private and civic helpfulness. I shall never be a millionaire in money but I shall always cherish the desire to be a millionaire in friends.—Gerald F. Kern, Rotary Club of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

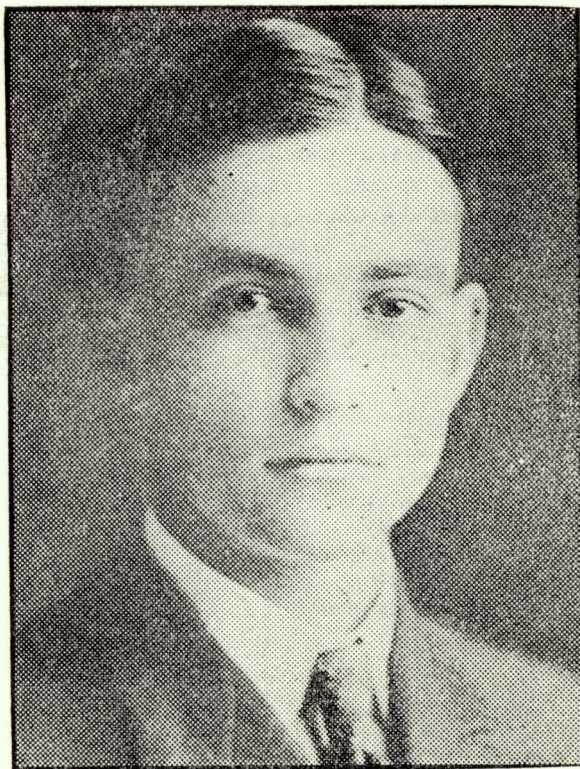
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Meet the New Prexy



(From a photo taken shortly after
the battle of Shiloh)

According to that old Chinese proverb "As twigs
are bent so are children bowlegged" is verified in
the photo that captions this sketch.

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