

Frustrating Justice

By Samuel Rosinger

A number of weeks ago, this writer animadverted on the reprehensible habit of the Press to drag the criminal across the front page and accord him a publicity which, in the eyes of the indiscriminating, raises him to the level of a hero. Sensation-hunting reporters often exploit the situation by weaving a halo of romance around the lives of outlaws and, instead of calling down upon their heads the execration of the public, they elicit sympathy for them. Needless to say, such a glorification of the criminal thwarts the purposes of justice, makes conviction by juries more difficult and tends to increase the crime wave which drags the reputation of our country in the dust and makes her a byword and a reproach in the eyes of the world.

In our own state, justice is not only obstructed by this stumbling block placed across her path by the Press, but is shamefully defeated by a governor who empties the prisons of inmates, guilty of most dastardly crimes. One cannot find terms adequate enough in which to condemn her flagrant abuse of executive power by granting two pardons to a double-murderer, in defiance of the unanimous opposition of the board of pardons. Such an outrageous act by the chief executive of the state renders law enforcement a farce and serves as an open encouragement to criminals to ply their nefarious practice without fearing any serious consequences regarding punishment to be meted out to them.

In the set of eight resolutions adopted by the Crime Conference recently held in Washington, D. C., two point directly to the offenses described in this article. Numbers four and five of those resolutions demand elimination of pardon and parole abuse, and curtailment of unduly dramatic stories of crime by the Press. I do not know of any weightier concern that faces the public than the elimination of crime, and unless law enforcement is rigorously insisted upon, it will not be the sovereign people, but the sinister criminal element that will be the real rulers of America.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary, Phone 932

Vol. X Beaumont, Texas, Dec. 26, 1934 No. 25

Slants at the Meeting

"Well, how was the party? "Oh h h, It was all right".

That's not the kind of response to convey news of a howling success nor does it deprecate the efforts of the committee. On the contrary it's rather one of those "yes" "No" answers susceptible of individual interpretation.

It's our opinion (whether you like it or not) the Christmas Party was a bit "draggy". Not austere, rather cheerless. The element of formality pervaded when the spirit of yuletide should have predominated with more color.

All numbers were good but it was more or less like old home-coming week sitting by the hearth in the subdued light of parental guidance. There was nothing of that rip-snorting hilarity that imbues modern youth, and very little conviviality to bind kindred souls.

It would have done credit to the past decade but in this present day we have emerged from the prosaic into the pulsating, and the season demands more joviality.

That's all right, save your compliments . . . Nerts to you, too.

—R—

Mrs. Smith watched the scales closely as the butcher put on her order.

"Do you know, Mr. Jones," she said ominously, "you are repeatedly giving me short weight for my money?"

He nodded.

"I am quite aware of that, madam," he calmly replied.

"Then what do you mean by it?" she gasped.

"Well, madam," he replied, "you are always giving me a long wait for mine."

AURELIUS MILCH

In the late Seventies there was born in the little hamlet of Nagy-Bittse, Hungary, a baby boy who was christened AURELIUS, and if the present is an index to the past his arrival must have been amidst cultural and refined surroundings.

Without knowing too much of the early history of this complex life, we can still visualize the proud parents of modest means who were struggling in mid-continental Europe to rear their family in the accepted manner.

After the usual grammar schooling this boy was sent to Vienna where later on he was inducted into Army life, an essential training in that day, and whose influence was ever present in after-life.

A short stay in Paris in a banking firm and thence to the land of promise, the U. S. A., 1906. Upon his arrival here provision had been made for a study of the lumber industry in its many ramifications, and we find him in Mississippi. After a few years there he went to New Orleans and thence to Beaumont, Texas, where he was a resident for many years.

The untimely end came December the 18th, five days before his birthday. Fate seems to have dealt him a hand that was not to the liking of so sensitive a soul. His life was attuned to the atmosphere of the Blue Danube, the waltzes of the Merry Widow and the glamour of military regalia.

Aurelius had been a faithful Rotarian, serving when called upon, and measuring up to the high standard of ethics in business and was always present with the proffered hand of help.

So, we bid you cheerio, our friend, to that land from 'whose bourne no traveler returns' and may the lights be a little brighter and the ways a little rosier than you have found them here.

December 15, 1934.

Mr. Charles F. Terrell, President,
Rotary Club,
Beaumont, Texas.
Dear Charlie:

As the holiday season approaches, we, as individuals, have a desire to express to our fellowmen our sincere wish for a joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Since it is not possible for me to write each Rotarian in your club to express to him my personal feeling, I am enclosing a letter that I want taken as a message to each individual. Will you please read it to the club?

Rotarily,
DICK.

R. M. (Dick) Hawkins,
District Governor,
48th District,
Rotary International.

RMH:CE.

Felicitations From Our Governor

My Dear Rotarian:

In this good season of "Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men", I want to extend to you my most cordial greetings and, if possible, cement more securely the ties that bind us in unselfish comradeship. We count our friends among life's most precious rewards and believe that warm, human brotherhood is man's ideal estate. We rejoice in the fact that, with the passing of the years, we are gathering a broader vision of our relationship and interdependence one upon the other, and I am persuaded that Rotary is making a generous contribution toward this spirit of friendly co-operation and helpful service. We should keep uppermost in our minds and hearts that underlying and fundamental principle upon which rests the super-structure of our splendid organization—"He profits most who serves best", remembering always the final test in our association and dealings with our fellowmen should comport with and find perfect harmony in that matchless deliverance, "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

Now, my fellow Rotarians, with grateful hearts for whatever of life's blessings came our way in 1934, let us turn our faces to the future and with firm and resolute purpose, greet the New Year in a spirit of supreme optimism, pledging ourselves to greater service, so that by and through our efforts the lives of those with whom we may come in touch may be made brighter and happier and the world be made a better place in which to live. Let us strive to attain that degree of success so beautifully described by Bessie A. Stanley: "He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men, the trust of pure women, and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration, his memory a benediction".

Earnestly wishing you and yours a most Joyous Yuletide and a New Year filled with life's choicest blessings, I am,

Sincerely and Rotarily,

DICK.

R. M. (Dick) Hawkins,
District Governor,
Rotary International.