

## Timely Topics

BY SAMUEL ROSINGER

Dancing is one of the most ancient of arts. The rhythmic motions of the body are fully as capable of expressing human emotions as the measured lines of poetry, or the melodious strains of vocal or instrumental music. The last of the Psalms enumerates the dance as one of the means whereby the Lord was praised in his sanctuary at Jerusalem. Owing to the silence to which woman was condemned in the church by Paulian misogyny, the dance, which because of the beauty and grace of the feminine figure, was as a rule executed by woman, was banished from Divine worship. In our day, however, when the tables have turned and woman has become the mainstay of the church, there is no reason whatsoever why the sacred dance should not be utilized for the purpose of stirring and stimulating religious sentiment. The interpretation of the Psalms by Ruth St. Denis, demonstrated in a Presbyterian church of the metropolis, I hope, will be the beginning of an effort to give our pale, anaemic religious worship, some color and vitality. Personal religion is a matter of the heart, but public worship, in order that it attract and impress the people, should use every form of art that can awake sublime human emotions by its beauty, grace and charm.

Frank Greges, the honest New York sandwichman, has fared no worse than a thousand others who have come into possession of excessive wealth. A rare bird is indeed that man whom exorbitant riches does not imbue with arrogant conceit and fill with a sense of exaggerated importance. The depression has somewhat humbled many of our monied aristocracy, but in the heydays of prosperity, few deemed themselves of lesser consequence than God. Unfortunately, money mania is still the chief malady from which we are suffering, and were we to confine all who are afflicted with this disease, to institutions, the government could use its whole public works budget for the building of psychopathic hospitals. We must supply life with a nobler incentive than accumulation of wealth. We must overcome the hoarding instinct by the intense cultivation of our generous impulses and the aesthetic cravings of our better nature.

There is an effort on the part of super-patriots to induce the government to saddle this nation with a large standing army, and to tag to the three hundred and eighteen millions military budget an additional appropriation of some four hundred million dollars. Needless to say, at a time when millions are starving, the diversion of the people's money from bread to bullets is nothing less than criminal. Rotary, which stands for international peace, must stoutly oppose every effort to arm this country to the hilt and burden it with an excessive military defense for which there is neither provocation nor justification. We do not have to fear any foreign foe. Our own folly, which prevents us from making that social adjustment which would bring about peace and satisfaction in our own midst, is the only source of danger to our safety and security. Let us eliminate this menace of internal combustion, and we can set aside all fear of attacks from without.

# ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## Banking

By Paul Tullos

The business of banking originally was that of money changing. At present, banking, in general, consists in taking money on deposit, loaning money, dealing in money and credit.

The Banking System has been, and will continue to be, the greatest single element in our business structure. Its record is one of which it may well be proud. Under the stress of depression it has stood up better than any other line of business. Over 90 per cent of all bank deposits in the United States have been unaffected by the depression.

More is required of a Bank than of any other business in meeting its obligations. If a bank is unable to pay a single dollar for a single day it must close. What other business is subjected to so severe a test? It has been said that a bank, like Caesar's wife, must be above reproach.

When the idea was conceived that abundant extension of credit would bring an early return of prosperity, the bankers were charged with the crime of not lending enough money. It has now been proved and is generally conceded that in the matter of credit extension the bankers have acted and are acting wisely and well. A bank can only properly lend to one who wishes to borrow and who is able to repay. Such borrowers are not denied loans. Critics of the bankers in this case have put the effect before the cause. Business expansion creates the demand for credit instead of credit creating sound business expansion. Only by production is wealth increased. Loans for non-productive spending do not create wealth, they destroy it.

## Slants at the Meeting

By G. Harry Shepherd

Mr. C. A. Easley,  
United States Post Office,  
Beaumont, Texas.

Dear Check:

"I accepted with fiendish glee the assignment to write up the Rotary Thirtieth Anniversary party, feeling that I would have a most luscious opportunity to make some very scathing remarks about the entertainment being furnished by the great Impresario Easley, knowing it would meet with the approval of many of the Ex-program Chairmen and satisfy the writer's lust to get back at him for those dirty cracks about the Christmas Party.

Sat right up close to the front, so that I would not miss anything that the old program 'lifter-upper' might or might not pull.

Mrs. Mason Milam in her Gypsy song was lovely in voice, form and fashion. When I saw Father Kirwin, and after having heard him "razz" Rosinger and many others for inflicting men of the cloth on us, I thought surely that I had something. It was so exceptionally good and enjoyed so much by everyone, again I had a disappointment.

Rotary, already indebted to Mrs. Lena Milam, again enjoyed her delightful orchestral selection, after which Easley walked out as Master of Ceremonies. Thought surely then I would have some fodder about which I could do a little "razzing". His omission of statistics and reading, and the terseness of his description of Rotary must be complimented. Josef Evans at the pipe organ, accompanying Mrs. Evans, rendered a beautiful selection. Metcalf, in his sleight-of-hand performance, and that "Frankie and Johnny" number were exceptionally good. The Widman School of Dancing, with its background and the beautiful skate-dance number, brought forth much applause. Then Jane Lugenbuhl, from the Sproule School of Dancing, who has been claimed as Rotary's Sweetheart, rendered a number that was almost undescribable. Many Rotarians have heard about this beautiful dance—it was put on at the Rotary meeting in Houston and at our last District Meeting, and I know that the Rotarians and visitors were thrilled, as was noted by the applause. I guess I was in a mellow mood by this time, as Laurel and Hardy usually get in my hair, but I thought they were even good. And my old favorite Wallace Beery in the "Mighty Barnum" was way above par in his picture.

—R—

### Transportation

(Excerpts from a talk by a Rotarian recently made at a Traffic club.)

Perhaps the first acts of transportation occurred in the dim and distant past, millions of years ago,

when primitive man fought with savage brutality his fellowman, looted his cave and carried off goods or gals.

The history of Transportation runs concurrent with the progress of civilization despite the statement of the small school of heterodox that contend Greece attained its glory with practically no transportation.

Before authentic history began man tied bundles, placed them on forked limbs of trees and dragged them. Next he domesticated animals such as camels, elephants, caribous, asses, oxen and horses, and used them for transportation means. . . Evidence bears out the fact the ass was used a thousand years before the horse, the most serviceable animal to all mankind, came into use.

4000 B. C.—About this time the feeble mind of man conceived the idea of the wheel and this is the turning point in the great development of transportation. The first wheel was of wood, rude and crude, with burnt holes for axles. Then came stone wheels and later wood and stone reinforced with metal, etc.

1500 B. C.—The chariot began to show itself as the handiwork of man. The first chariots were invented and used in warfare and their development was a slow process but reached its greatest excellence during the rise and reign of the Roman Empire. The Romans built enduring roads through Italy, France, Spain and England, and the latter still bears evidence of the great highways. Little progress was made for fifteen centuries after the fall of the Roman Empire.

1474 A. D.—Frederick the III of Germany is reputed to have had the first coach, he used on a trip from Berlin to Frankfort. And for the next 250 years the French, Germans and English vied with each in the development of coach building.

1755 A. D.—Jas. Watts invented the steam engine in England.

1814 A. D.—Jas. Stephenson built the first locomotive in England.

1830 A. D.—The first train was run in the U. S. near Hoboken, N. J.

1852.—Chicago was connected by rail with N. Y.

1869.—The final spike was driven at Ogden, Utah, thus completing the first trans-continental railway in U. S.

1879.—The first electric line was built in Germany.

1883.—Carl Benz built the first gas automobile in Germany.

1888.—The first trolley line in America at Richmond, Va.

1895.—Chas Duryea built first automobile in America and the same year Elwood Haynes and Hy. Ford built cars.

1935.—The world has some 35,000,000 automobiles, (passenger cars, trucks and busses), and about 25,000,000 of these are in U. S.

WATER & AIR Transportation are two separate stories, but the above are the high-lights on LAND transportation, for this limited space.