

Timely Topics

By Samuel Rosinger

This scribbler is recovering from a serious nervous exhaustion, induced by the strain of buying a family bus. Before entering upon the great enterprise I held a domestic caucus to determine the color of paint, fabric or upholstery, degree of streamlining, trunk space and other matters that womenfolk are interested in, leaving for my own decision only two trifling considerations, viz; price and mechanical construction. This family pow-wow was neither broadcast nor were representatives of the press invited, yet, to my amazement, I discovered by the siege of the army of automobile salesmen to which my home became subjected, that the news that I was in the market for an automobile, had attained a larger and swifter circulation than had I published it from the housetops. Henceforth I had to spend a fortnight in hearing, in turn, the virtues of a score of cars extolled by their respective salesmen, who, incidentally and chiefly for my own benefit, familiarized me also with the serious defects of every car, save the one they represented, which invariably stood for the acme of mechanical perfection. Before long, my head was swimming with airflow and knee action, floating power and hydraulic brakes, spark control and electric hand, V 8's and L 8's and a whole rigmarole of technicalities, each of which gave a particular car unequalled advantages over any other. Not to land in the insane asylum, I had to make a decision, and, I am sure, in the opinion of all save one, I made the worst possible buy. Speaking in all seriousness, I do not believe that one can find in any other line, a body of such wideawake, energetic and intelligent salesmen as in the automobile industry. Their persuasive power is so great, that had I followed the inclinations of my heart and pocket permitting, I would now be the proud owner of a fleet of automobiles, representing every manufacturer in the land. Not only the salesmen, but also the dealers were very courteous to me, and I wish every one of them well.

The thin rough topping on the Jefferson County stretch of the O. S. T. has worn off, and in wet weather the road again is as slippery as a waxed dancing floor. I fail to see why Jefferson County cannot measure up to the standards of Orange County, and widen and rebuild this most important highway according to modern requirements. The Better Roads committee of the Chamber of Commerce seems to be suffering from sleeping sickness. Somebody ought to rouse it from its lethargy.

I visited the Transient Bureau, and I found a clean and well-ordered hostelry that takes care of two hundred guests daily, according to a modest, yet decent standard. The decrepit building which houses the institution has been restored, and the down-and-outer who is willing to work for his subsistence, is given respectable quarters as a haven of refuge. This institution ought to afford a permanent solution to the hobo problem, which, even in prosperous years, festered as a sore spot on the body of orderly society. It represents a constructive effort, and I hope it will perform its useful function creditably and conscientiously.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary, Phone 932

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Slants at the Meeting

Being two hundred miles away doesn't deter this old scribe from comments on one of the best and most instructive programs Uncle Charley's administration has produced.

Remote control doesn't hold any fears for 'ghost-writers' and broadcasters and there is no reason for our getting the nervous itch over transmitting a few observations about a matter of which we know nothing.

We had, we thought, made arrangements for a substitute on this page but alibis are easier than efforts and so we find ourselves endeavoring to convey to you "slants" on this greasy program.

We had a little foreknowledge of the entertainment and we can say without mental reservation or equivocation our old friend Winthrop Leach is well able to deal out the oleaginous details of this most important of all industries in the State of Texas.

Of course, we realize Mr. Ickes has been a fly in the ointment but nothing can stop the progress of the oil industry, and its many ramifications, as expounded to you, is convincing proof of its permanency.

We are told Winthrop greased all the angles and reduced all friction when he unfolded the multifarious uses of petroleum products, and if the Vocational Committee doesn't seize on this program as emanating from their efforts then they have overlooked a bet.

Check

—R—

GUEST SPEAKER

Hon. "Bill" McCraw, a dynamic speaker and attorney-general of Texas, will address the Club Wednesday, June 19th.

Louisiana's Capitol

While we hold no brief for Hooy or his buildings we recognize the fact the boy assembled a lot of building material when he located that wigwam on the East bank of The Father of Waters.

That sharp-shooter manifests its influence in a perpendicular rather than a horizontal direction and if the versatile lady, with a glib tongue and a gracious manner, is not spoofing us old Mother Earth's four corners were invaded in providing material.

Marble from Tennessee, Vermont, Georgia and the Pyrenees mountains, lava stone from Italy and granite from Texas; and dozens of other places made their contributions to this towering shaft of beauty, standing like a sentinel over the sinuous outlines of Old Man River and the pride of every cajun heart.

Could we turn back the pages of history some four hundred years and imagine an Indian buck suddenly emerging from the fastnesses of the Achafalaya to behold the glittering shaft in the morning sunshine, awe and sublimity must be his emotion as he pays homage to the handiwork of the great White Father.

Truly this is a magnificent edifice and long after some succeeding political party has eradicated the name "Huey P. Long" from the numerous tablets and inscriptions there will still linger in the minds of Louisiana's progeny a feeling of respect and admiration for the audacity and aggressiveness of its builder.

—Ed.

—R—

Soft Ball Chatter

ROTARY IN TIE FOR FIRST PLACE

Rotary 7 — Stedman 3

Batteries: Arthur and Oxford.

As usual, batting honors belong to the "base-hit twins", Oxford and Adams; along with a new batting star, "Bruiser" Edwards. It's a shame the way Lum bruises that ball. . . . "Randy" Reed also hits the ball, if and when he swings.

SCHEDULED GAMES

Thursday Night, 8 p. m.—Rotary vs. Firemen.

Tuesday Night, 9 p. m.—Rotary vs. Stewart Abstract Co.

—R—

"Insull in Fine Fettle," a Chicago note says. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of most of the folks who bought his stock.

—R—

The barbarous nations, as we understand it, are those that go to war with spears, while highly civilized lands place their reliance in poison gas and liquid fire.

Medical Science Advances

Quietly and tirelessly, but with a far more extensive degree of success than is realized by the general public, medical science is delving into the causes of human ills and is devising the means of contending against them. It is only occasionally, when medical men gather to confer and to reveal to one another the results of research, study and experimentation, that the outside world learns something of the progress made.

The joint convention of the American and Canadian Medical Associations, held in Atlantic City last week brought to light some of the wonders wrought through the constant endeavor to repair the defects in the human mechanism, to make life somewhat easier and to prolong its span.

It is important to the human race to learn of the "brain bath", which literally "washes the brain" with a solution of ordinary salt and water, freeing it from the poison that causes such diseases as infantile paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sleeping sickness and some kinds of spinal meningitis.

And science has discovered, too, an antiseptic which is far more powerful than any now in use, yet which is so harmless that it may be taken internally, and it has discovered an effective method of treating neuritis through the oral administration of the new isolated crystals of vitamin B-1, known as the "nerve vitamin."

These are all important accomplishments by reputable physicians and scientists and soon, no doubt, they will find their way into everyday medical practice, alleviating human misery and suffering, and lending new appeal and enjoyment to life.

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To Read What You Please

This year is being celebrated the bicentennial of the freedom of the press in this continent. In 1735 John Peter Zenger was acquitted of libel for having dared criticize Governor Cosby of New York. It is an anniversary whose celebration is not limited to the profession of journalism, for the freedom then sealed to the American newspapers has been all the people's.

Freedom of the press means more than the inherent right of an editor to call a governor a scoundrel. Freedom of expressed opinion is but a part of the heritage, as we can now more clearly see, since it is enjoyed in but few nations. In Germany, in Italy, in Russia, Spain, Mexico and a host of other nations it is even forbidden to print the facts upon which opinion is formed. Where the freedom of the press has been destroyed all news is good news and a helpless people knows not how the country fares.

You, as reader of newspapers, may disagree enthusiastically with your journals' opinions as stated on the editorial page, but the facts from which you arrive at an opposite conclusion come from the news columns of that same press. Journalistic freedom is no professional monopoly or trade privilege.