

## Timely Topics

By Samuel Rosinger

Having traversed our country from the Atlantic to the Pacific, no less than from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, I have gained a glimpse of its vastness and diversity, and I fully agree with Zangwill, that the U. S. is not a country, but a continent, big enough and rich enough to sustain, in comfort and happiness, a population running into billions. Unfortunately, we have lost our pioneering spirit, and instead of conquering and subduing the land with its unlimited resources, we huddle together in large cities where millions prefer to eke out a precarious living as wage slaves rather than lead the hardy, yet independent and physically healthy and morally wholesome life of a farmer. Of all the governmental schemes for correcting the many mal-adjustments from which we are suffering, rural rehabilitation has its greatest possibilities. More than half the country is still unredeemed wilderness, and the virgin soil cries for willing hands to till it and transform it into a blooming garden. Settling on the land is the best way to demonstrate our rugged individualism.

I shall not "entertain" my readers by boring descriptions of the superb scenery I encountered on the long stretch of thirty five hundred miles I have covered thus far. Even the painter's skillful brush conveys only a faint reflection of the true splendor of nature, how much less can feeble word-pictures, etched by the inadequate pen, mirror its glory. Beauty cannot be imagined, it must be seen. One must watch with his own eyes the death-leap which the cataract takes into the abyss where it shatters into an atom-shower of snowy spray, in order to feel the thrill of it. One must also behold with his own eyes the sky-grazing mountain peaks with their ever-changing contour and color, as well as the vast expanse of the desert with its mystery of brooding silence and unrelieved monotony, in order to be inspired by their grandeur. All descriptions of these soul-stirring experiences would be as flat as listening to the plot of a drama instead of witnessing its artistic performance with its rich characterization and gripping climax.

I passed through the land of the Mormons where even I, the Jewish rabbi, was counted as a mere Gentile, and I took my hat off to Brigham Young and his brave band of intrepid followers who converted this howling desolation into a flourishing commonwealth. I bathed in the Great Salt Lake, the saline contents of which is so dense that one cannot sink in it. The religious zeal of these bold pioneers possessed even a greater upholding power than the sustaining waters of this lake. It is such a spirit of daring adventure and not the debilitating dole, that will redeem America from the doldrums of the depression.

# ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary, Phone 932

Vol. XI Beaumont, Texas, July 24, 1935 No. 3

### Slants at the Meeting

Sometimes in baseball we have a double and rarely a triple, such as Short to Second to First and to Third. The committee last week disdained to conform to the numerical insignificance of ball plays but reached up into the Canadian bracket of quintuplets; shunting the program along as follows: Roane to Galewsky to Love to Bertschler to Brown.

The B-B's . . . the Bertschlers and Browns . . . did an excellent job of revealing to you the various phases of the American Legion; its auxiliaries and proteges.

Frank with a glib tongue and a crisp manner told the functions of the Legion and pointed with enviable pride to the fine array of the men, women and children representing its different branches. There were either two or three of each division present, and its always the living that's impressive.

Perry dished up a few slants on the conception, inception and reception of the American Legion. Its history had various ramifications and no doubt still in a plastic state. It's our hope that patriotism and not politics is its goal.

Many fine organizations have seen its natal day dedicated to altruistic principles only to find later the cringing and grasping hand of greed holding high the torch of egoistic light.

Large organizations composed of a cross-section of the people have always been easy prey for the wily politician who has sought to capitalize its numerical strength.

It would indeed be rare if the American Legion did not have its quota of parasites and sychopants always with the alluring bait to divert its energies into their own fertile fields.

Despite the fact we know many who will not affiliate themselves with the Legion due to the political aura emanating from some posts, still we are frank to say that the Beaumont post has been instrumental in doing more civic good than any organization ever domiciled here.

(We apologize for this script, because in some of the higher reaches we were dangerously near the territorial rights of Sam Rosinger).

Check

## Rotary's Population

Up to June 10th, 1935.

Number of member Clubs..... 3,843  
Estimated number of Rotarians..... 161,000  
Embracing some seventy-odd countries.

You figure out the influence exerted throughout the world. Rotary possesses two of the rarest qualities. . . Idealism and Service.

—R—

Below we quote from the News Letter, emanating from the Secretariat's Office, showing what some of our brother clubs are doing and receiving.

—R—

## A \$1,000,000 Bequest

This bequest, however, was not to the Rotary Foundation. Nevertheless, it is of interest to read in the newspapers that under the terms of the will of T. P. Loblaw, philanthropist and founder of the Loblaw groceries business, the Kiwanis Club of Toronto will benefit to the extent of \$1,000,000 for use in furthering the club's work among boys. To quote from the Toronto Globe: "During his lifetime Mr. Loblaw gave generously of time and money to the K-Club, which was established by the Kiwanis Club of Toronto in old Trinity College, where hundreds of boys have responded to the healthy influence of games and vocational guidance. It was only natural, perhaps, that this man of vision should see and appreciate the value and importance of this type of social service work and its influence in building a finer Canadian citizenship, and that he should provide for a definite participation in this work after he himself had passed on.

The Rotary Foundation offers an opportunity to Rotarian and others to create a survival value in the field of service above self—locally, nationally, internationally, vocationally, scientifically—with thoughtfulness of and helpfulness to others.

—R—

## Admiral of the Trinity

Under date of May 31st, the newspapers carried this item of interest (?)

"Hailed with all the pomp of a conquering hero, Commodore B. M. Hatfield, admiral of the Trinity, was gathered in by the citizens of Fort Worth at the conclusion of his 9000 mile navigation of inland waterways".

We recall that the "admiral" after several months of tortuous journey from "Cowtown" by Wind, Water and Sand landed at Beaumont and he was traveling incognito . . . tucked away behind a hirsute hedge that might conceal more than "identity."

The Admiral was, indeed, a brave man. Anybody

that had the courage to apply the word "navigation" to the Trinity possesses great fortitude . . . in its whimsical moods this stream varies from four miles to four feet, in width, with or without water.

As suggested this craft of the Admiral's, we think, lent itself to the influence of Wind, Water and Sand and we suspect in the upper reach of the Trinity the Admiral was bouncing over the sand dunes like an occupant of a model "T" in the rumble-seat.

October 1935 will be two years since the admiral began his odyssey and at the completion of this epic he swears to restrain the lawnmower no further but permit it to remove the facial growth thus commemorating "rapid water transportation" between Ft. Worth and the nations of the earth.

And thus HOPE spring eternally. Who can tell but that the admiral's water-wings will yet rest in the archives of the Smithsonian Institute, exemplifying achievement thru floating, soaring and traction.

—R—

## Governor Keith

Just as we were anticipating an interesting article on the President & Secretary's assembly, held at Dallas, Texas last week under the tutelage of District Governor Keith, we were startled to learn that this official had suffered an appendectomy Saturday night.

Consequently you fellers are deprived of a resume of this pedagogic feature of Rotary. For your information this is the school where the Governor reveals the policy of the incoming International President, or rather the feature of Rotary that receives a prominent place in the sun.

Rotary International requires that both the incoming President and Secretary of Clubs attend this meeting but there is no inhibition against other officers and members of clubs being present. There awaits each member that attends these meetings an inspiration and those that are interested in Rotary can do no better piece of work than to participate in the assembly.

At this writing we are happy to report Keith is doing fine and we anticipate a quick restoration of health. We are advised that an appendectomy is no part of an ordinary curriculum of a District Governor; or not part of a curriculum of an ordinary District Governor. Anyway like the feller whose wife found him with his typewriter in his lap, we were surprised.

—Editor.