

Timely Topics

By Samuel Rosinger

A doctor prescribed medicine for a poor patient with the directions "a teaspoonful daily three times a day after meals." "Doctor" the patient objected, "I cannot take this medicine." "Why not?" asked the medico wonderingly. "I can't remember the time when I ate three meals a day" said the indigent patient. This pathetic joke came to my mind when I read the elaborate advice given by the state health officer at Austin, as to how one can avoid catching influenza. "Plan your work and recreation," says the well-meaning doctor, "so that you will not overtax your strength and get tired out. Sufficient rest, fresh air while at work and while asleep, wholesome food and freedom from anxiety, will increase bodily resistance and avoid contracting the disease." Wholesome advice, indeed, but, one which, unfortunately, is wasted on more than half the population of our state, who live below the standard which would afford them resistance against the ravages of an epidemic. When millions live on a diet of semi-starvation, the outbreak and spread of disease on a large scale, is inevitable. Improving the living conditions of the masses is the only effective and the least costly guarantee against the ravages of disease.

I do not want to dampen the enthusiasm of those property owners who would like to see the Amelia oil field converted into a sieve. Yet, I believe the state law enjoining the conservation of the natural resources of the country, must not be over-ridden by selfish considerations. All that the railroad commission can be expected to do is to try to harmonize the interests of the property owners with the letter and spirit of the law. To demand of them more is unjust, unreasonable and subversive to the public welfare. Also, without holding a brief for the large oil companies, let us bear in mind that it is they who discovered the field and not the independents. Hence, they are entitled to a reasonable protection of their heavy investments. Only a spirit of helpful co-operation by all concerned will convert this gift of heaven into a blessing to our community. Discord leading to litigation, will retard developments, and revert to the hurt of everybody.

I do not know of a greater outrage against the letter and spirit of the Constitution that our autocratic government has committed, than the Draconian punishment of General Hagood for availing himself of the privilege, explicitly conferred upon him, to give his opinion freely and frankly before a Congressional committee. This action of the government smacks of the lese majesty of European monarchies. It is, indeed, surprising to me that public opinion does not arise in a storm of indignation at this absolutism of the administration, especially since Hagood told the honest and unvarnished truth.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Membership Secretary, Phone 932

Vol. XI Beaumont, Texas, March 4, 1936 No. 32

Slants at the Meeting

Vocationally speaking Leo Ney fired the shot that broke the somnolence. This service of ROTARY had gotten so far behind it was regarded about as valuable as the amputated tail of a pet pooch.

Perhaps there are some of the old members in the last decade who recall faintly Vocational Service but we vouch the opinion there are many new ones totally oblivious of this function of Rotary.

We believe in the restoration of this "old time religion" despite the fact there are many charlatans over the country loquaciously condemning "Man's inhumanity to man" and seeking to imbue every half-wit and sluggard with the obsession he is made in "the image of God" and somebody owes him a living.

Vocational Service when practiced by Rotary is one of the finest contributions to the brotherhood of mankind and it embraces the concept of the Golden Rule.

The identity of the voice of Rotary last week was as ambiguous as the symptoms of your malady on the patent medicine bottle . . . so many fit your case you are befuzzled. Keith Hotchkiss, Jim Edwards, Ray Gill and 49 others have positively been identified as the owner of that oracular effusion. Anyway it was enlightening.

After listening to Sam Solinsky we can hardly credit the statement he was talking about Credits. His wise-cracking and ironic thrusts about his forensic ability brought unrestrained guffaws to the audience, and if it is the power of this editorial staff to prevent another lapse of 23 years before Sam's next appearance we will exert ourselves.

Pert Perk gave us a good glimpse at the operation of "fiduciary corporate" and impressed you with the necessity of making a will whether you had 15 cents or 15 million and leave it in trust. But, at the rate the inheritance tax laws are encroaching on the deceased's wealth in a few years there won't be any necessity of a TRUST (no, we don't lose sleep over this contingency).

Check.

OFFICERS

WILL F. GRAHAM.....	President
J. F. ROANE.....	Vice-President
PRESTON B. DOTY.....	Treasurer
IRWIN J. FERAY.....	Secretary

DIRECTORS

I. J. FERAY—T. H. Mastin & Co.
CHAS. TERRELL—Gulf States Utilities Co.
KEITH HOTCHKISS—Pipkin & Brulin Co.
KELSEY LAMB—Lamb Printing & Stationery Co.
C. S. DICKENS—Magnolia Petroleum Co.
TOM WALKER—Gulf States Utilities Co.
W. F. GRAHAM—White House Dry Goods Co.
J. F. ROANE—Beaumont Motor Company
LEO NEY—Rupert Cox Auto Supply Co.
C. A. EASLEY—Beaumont Building Material Co.

The New Era In Men's Wear

Herman Lefkovits

Years ago a man who was well groomed was thought to be a sissy, and tough guys wore turtle neck sweaters. Most of you can remember when a fellow who wore a straw kadie and smoked cigarettes, was considered a sport and of no use to the community except as a Kelly pool player. Gradually, a change has come about. Each year more and more men have become "style conscious". In the present age, men whose years and thinking ability have advanced sufficiently so as to give them a seat at the director's table are wearing sport back suits and shoes of two colors. No longer are they interested only in the quality of the fabric and its construction. They also demand that the garment be right in regards to **STYLE**.

And what a fine thing this is. For instead of being just something bought for warmth and wear, a new suit is now a source of a great deal of pleasure to the wearer. So often we clothiers have a man come into our store, looking as though he believed his business was bound to fail, his government had already failed and the Exporters couldn't win. We dress him up in stylish, youthful looking clothes, and what happens? He goes out with his chin up, his chest out, and the look in his eye fairly shouts, "I can get the job done."

I Beg Leave To Agree

Expressions per se are meaningful, but in the mouths of some are absolutely meaningless. Why? Because of man's insincerity to man and himself. For that reason, I heartily agree with Jay E. House, the Philadelphia columnist, when he states that foremost among the inanities is the expression "my wife deserves the credit for all that I have achieved".

If we could count on man's sincerity in at least a large percentage of what he says when addressing the crowd, life would be an infinite joy. Too often, though, he says the politic thing. He says the thing that a study of human nature and mob psychology, so to speak, urges him to say for the favorable, soothing reaction it will have on him at the hands of his auditors. Unfortunately, life's like that.

The "little woman" isn't especially interested in public recognition of her rightful place in relation to man's accomplishments. What she could and would appreciate without ostentation or pompous meaningless words is kindness, consideration and love in private and not backslapping, praise and glory in public. The public effect would then take care of itself.

Harry Gordon.

—R—

What Is Character?

William James quotes approvingly the definition of J. S. Mills, who said "A character is a completely fashioned will." By "will" he meant a tendency to act in a firm, prompt, and definite way in every emergency. A man of "excellent character" is a person whose behavior in any situation can be charted in advance. He will pay his bills, observe the rules, count his putts, behave like a gentleman, and accept responsibility.

James argued that a man's character is the consequence of a mass of automatic habits, so deeply ingrained that every stimulus is followed by a definite action. A man of feeble character is one who wants vaguely to do the right thing, but because of long indifference is unable to generate the energy to act.—The Imperial Magazine.