

Timely Topics

By Samuel Rosinger

I studied at the University of Berlin in Germany and thus got accustomed to following the interminably long and involved periods of the erudite teutonic professors. But the German professorial pundits have been pushed into the obscure background by the first article of our proposed new city charter. This article is composed of one single sentence of twenty three closely printed lines, and numbers, by actual count, two hundred and seventy five words. After negotiating my way through this labyrinth, my mind was panting from exertion and yawning from exhaustion, and rather than court a nervous breakdown by wading through the legalistic lingo of the whole charter, I slipped the ninety page document into the hungry maws of my wastebasket. What a pity that thousands of dollars of public money were spent on this publication, which I feel sure, nine out of ten voters will consign to the same ignominious grave which I accorded it. The framers of the charter could have prefaced the ponderous document with a brief explanation of the points in which the new differs from the old. This elucidation, extending over a few pages, would have informed the voter what the new charter intends to correct and cover, and would have served a far better purpose than the whole document. As it is, the overwhelming majority of the voters are as ignorant of the issues involved as ever, for outside of the legal fraternity, mighty few are fired by an ambition to digest ninety pages of legal technicalities.

However, it is not so much the form as the honesty and efficiency of government that counts. Any form of government that is rooted in democratic principles, will answer the purpose, provided it is administered by men of ability and integrity. The best form of government will fail, if it be prosituted by venal politicians, or discredited by bungling incompetents. Perhaps, it is not a new charter that we need, but a new spirit to make the most of the old.

My contribution to the newfangled "Thought Survey" "Emotional Spree, induced by revivalist methods, is a straw flame that leaps high for a moment, but dies out in no time. It has proven ineffectual even in the religious field, how much more in the sphere of community building. Any one who does not beat around the bush, knows what's the matter with Beaumont. Four words tell the whole tale: Tight credit, timid capital. Whenever local capitalists will demonstrate their faith in the future of Beaumont by generous investment in home enterprises, outside interests will inevitably follow their example. Community building is achieved not by talk, but toil; not by noise, but sweat and sacrifice.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Slants at the Meeting

Speaking of that program last week, we think so, too.

Of course, it was our impulse to but then on second thought we concluded without making up our mind that status quo was as good an alibi as ever meshed itself into the mental gears of anybody.

The most amazing feature of the address was the divergence of opinions that assailed our editorial ear, and which might well compensate the deliverer for his efforts. Provoking interest these days is an accomplishment itself.

Whether it was a melodramatic sob-story to play upon your emotions rather than appeal to the intellectual nature might depend on your metabolism or some fanciful systemic disturbance.

Anyway we were right down to the nadir of our tolerance, at one time, and a little more pathos would have thrown us into a lacromose demonstration that might have inundated our foundation.

There be others that characterize the program as the most beneficent nostrum that ever raised an apathetic membership off the seat of lethargy.

The gentleman dubs himself an analyst and if he is able to fathom the reactions of a polyglot audience like ours, he's good; and if we in our feeble inguistic fits are able to avoid expression of opinion we're better.

Check.

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Now speaking from the angle of the woodpecker, we wouldn't know whether this board had cracks, splits, wind-shakes, red-heart, rot or other defects. But if you listen to this old stupid we don't think from this womb comes the president and while he may not be a plumed-knight we suspect he might be plumbing around at night.

—R—

S P C A

This array of alphabetical symbols may remind you of some old Roman banner during the time you studied the early periods of macaroni; but no ancient tyrant ever had such a significant emblem on an old ensign as this.

In this day of tonsilectums, TNT's and toughies, it means the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, as well as according fair treatment to MAN.

The week of April 19-25 is dedicated to that worthy purpose of humane work and if you have ever been a damn fool and kicked or abused one of the dumb variety now is the time to atone by some beneficent service.

We are not reconciled to the idea of some sterile old hussy lavishing her affections and worldly goods

on a pet to the exclusion of a suffering or needy child; for there seems to be enough in both man and beast to claim the attention and administrations of all.

So this week let us pay tribute to those who face the subject with calm and common sense and do good to our less fortunate (?) kin, the lower animals.—Ed.

—R—

That Seeing Eye

The following question is still asked now and then: Do moving pictures have any ill effect on our eyes?

Some interested scientist, about 1910 who seemed to have the welfare of the country at heart, asserted that in less than five years the majority of the American public would be blinded through a new disease called movieitis.

This prophecy, like threats and prophecies of many well-meaning individuals, did not come to pass. However, certain members of the Optometric profession become interested and decided to investigate. After considerable research work, which consisted mostly of intensive study of, and experimentation with, the muscles of the eye, it was learned that what was said to be a calamity was really a benefit. Even though pictures did flutter at times, this caused no ill effect to anyone's eyes, but on the contrary anyone who had an error of refraction was made conscious of his visual defect.

Indications are that the height of the picture corporation's ambition has been achieved scientifically but is still to be commercially developed. This latest development is the third dimension in pictures. This means the perception of depth or stereoscopic vision. When these new pictures are further developed—they are now seen occasionally in "shorts"—they may provide a greater opportunity for relaxing and, at the same time, exercising the eyes.

However, unless you are near-sighted, it is advisable not to sit too near the screen. The farther from screen that will allow you to hear and see distinctly, is best, for then you will not strain your eyes.

H. A. Philipson.

—R—

Rotary Soft Ball

Rotary 12 — Stedman 10.
Home run by Harper, Edson batted .750.
Rotary 10 — Phelan 9.

Both games marked by lack of errors. Both great pitchers battles.