

IN MEMORIAM

James Lytton Mapes

Next to his home and plant, he will be most sorely missed by our club, of which he was a charter member and president.

With Jim Rotary was not a luncheon club nor a civic organization, but a practical religion of universal application. He believed in its ideals implicitly, and endeavored to translate them into his daily life. And, because of his abiding faith in Rotary, he was anxious to raise its spirit above the level of conviviality, and lift its standard to a point where it would be not merely a debating society, but a determining factor in the life of the individual and the affairs of the public. Hence, his great impatience with theoretical discussions, and his burning desire to induce the club to take a definite stand on the vital issues of life by clear cut resolutions.

For Jim was not a straddler. He was not a two-faced Janus. He was not a hypocritical politician who promises everything and keeps nothing. He was an outspoken partisan. He had his convictions for which he was known not only to fight, but also to sacrifice. He wore his heart on his sleeve and had the courage to voice his convictions no matter how unconventional or unpopular they might have been.

And, in this respect, Jim put to shame the timid business man, who for fear lest he incur the displeasure of the public, assumes the role of a jellyfish and refuses to take sides in any matter that agitates the community. In Jim the man was never lost in the merchant, and in matters of conscience considerations of cash had no weight whatsoever with him.

No business depends more on the goodwill of the public than a newspaper. No business has to satisfy a clientele as differing in tastes and opinions and whims and fancies, as a newspaper. Yet Jim knew that the public wanted a man and not a mollusk to head the daily papers. Therefore, disregarding the chronic kickers and grumblers, he struck out, both as an individual as well as a publisher, a path closely hewn to the line of justice as he was given to see it, and was entirely unconcerned about Tom, Dick and Harry's political or financial reactions.

However, the club will miss him not only for his stern qualities of manhood, but also for the lighter side of his exuberant soul. There was a no more effective gloom chaser than Jim's company. To the very last, he remained an unspoiled country boy, who, far from being bloated with the pride of success and achievement, was as humble and natural as the barefooted urchin that kicked the dust of his native Alabama.

May the Lord pour his balm of comfort upon the heart of his valiant widow, and bind up his soul in the treasure of eternal life.

ROTARYGRAMS OF BEAUMONT



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Slants at the Meeting

Once again we had the popular pedagogue from Nacogdoches, Dr. Birdwell.

Despite the fact he was a bit hesitant about appearing so often before this club once launched in his speech he betrayed no semblance of embarrassment.

The good doctor tuned his address to the theme of Economic Security and its various ramifications . . . a subject vital to the American people and upper most in their minds.

Addresses of this nature stimulate the old mental mechanism and impress us with the idea ROTARY has a mission in this world, disseminating knowledge that will be helpful to humanity.

An odd thing we are having three of the best talkers in the country, running consecutively unless we are ill-advised by some of the committee.

One good talker on a program is quite sufficient during the tepic season, and 1:15 P. M. is an acceptable hour of adjournment. Too, the benefit will be enhanced by brevity.

There are a few timorous souls in this club who are abashed when called upon to notify a speaker to "make it snappy" . . . Hell's bells you are doing the feller a favor, besides it's better for the speaker to be embarrassed than the club.

Too, one of those elongated aerated philippics that are sometimes thrown at us are about as welcome as obnoxious effuvia and perhaps more harmful. Take courage boys, and tell 'em in advance.

Some day we are going to suffer a transition and become the Emily Post of this club on program etiquette and decorum; and maybe the admonitions will take on a little caustic tinge.

Best we stop here before hysteria and vituperation register on the negative.

Check.

Cash In On Your Ideas

From the newest member to the president there stretches a pathway that can be made easier and more profitable if everybody from the newest member to the president keeps alive to the possibility of new ideas.

Ideas for making meetings more productive and at the same time more enjoyable;

Ideas that can be used in any classification for the benefit of the club as a whole.

Often one removed from program duties can see a better way to better the program than the one doing it because he is too near. A thorough understanding of your own duties, on the other hand, opens the way to seeing possible improvements.

Instead of letting our duties become a matter of routine, to which no thought is given until the meeting date each week, let it become an opportunity for the development of ideas; then, when your turn comes, the job will become a joy instead of a burden.

—R—

The Romance of Tailoring

It is unlikely that you have ever given any thought to the sources of supply and the human elements that enter into the production of the materials of tailor-made suits. The sea, the earth, and the mineral under the earth, and all the climes from the tropics to the frozen north, contribute materials for modern tailoring.

All races of man, and nearly all the nations of the World have a hand in their production. From the savage South-sea Islander, who dives beneath the waves for the shells, from which are made the pearl buttons; the Central American Indian who gathers ivory nuts.

The Chinaman and the Jap who cultivates the silkworm; our cotton pickers of the Southland; the Russian and Belgian peasant who grows the flax that the Irish weave into fine linen; the hand loom operatives of France who make the silk collar velvets for your overcoats.

The textile workers of England and Scotland who weave the finest cotton fabrics; the Italians who grow the finest of all silk filatures and reels it into yarns; the humble Austrian digger of the clay, from which marking chalk is made.

The chemist of Germany who develops the best

textile dyes, and our own inventors who have designed much of the machinery that has made economically possible the wearing of fabrics by every one in this Country, that formerly was the luxury of Kings alone; and we also have to thank the manufacturer and the financier whose brains direct the working of all these human forces to find a market for the product of this labor.

F. K. Cantella.

—R—

Citizenship and The School

The chief function of the school is to develop good citizens, and all its activities should contribute to that end. The school's methods of preparing the children for worthwhile citizenship include not only the knowledge of the structure, principles, and processes of their government, but acquaint them with the advantages and disadvantages of their own form of government as compared with other forms, and also provide them with opportunities to secure actual experience in social and civic life. Many schools provide what are called "socialized activities." Through home-room activities, committees, assemblies, clubs, student councils, and other forms of student participation, children learn to practice citizenship in a real sense in their school community. Further, through organized and supervised play, the pupils learn the value of team work and such virtues as good sportsmanship and persistence. Group activities carried on through the cooperation of pupils and teachers enable the pupils to lead and to follow, to give and to take, to understand and appreciate what it means to be a part of the whole; to be good citizens in the real sense of the word.

But whether such an attitude toward civic education is possible depends not alone on the school. All the school can do may be quickly nullified by an unfavorable community. Teachers are not and cannot become wholly free agents. They are able to provide insights into the nature of civic conditions only as they have the active support of those adult groups which dominate alike the pupils and the school. The need is first for well-informed and dynamic teachers, but the need is equally great for a public which will cooperate and support them.

E. W. Jackson.