

Timely Topics

By Samuel Rosinger

This scribbler has no more business sense than the child who invested all his savings in a purse and had not a penny left to put into it; yet, it occurs to him that there might be a way whereby our city limits could be extended, without any fuss and friction, to the satisfaction of urbanites and suburbanites. Let the city administration and a committee representing all the outlying sections come together and discuss the proposition at the council table in a fair spirit of quid pro quo. Should there be points on which these two parties could not agree, let them appoint an impartial body of experts in whose integrity both would repose confidence, and whose decision they would agree to accept as final. I believe that by such a procedure of reasoning together, this vital problem which has such a tremendous bearing upon the future of Beaumont, could be settled without leaving a bitter taste in anybody's mouth. Beaumont's rival in the south end of the county is growing by leaps and bounds, and if we will stand still because of our bickering and wrangling, we might have to surrender even the county seat to the city that outstrips us. The suburban leaders now have a rare opportunity to demonstrate their spirit of goodwill towards Beaumont. Would that they rise to a height at which the public welfare would motivate their actions.

During these clear and crisp Spring days, when the verdant earth is vaulted over by a fleckless firmament, out of which mild sunshine radiates and penetrates to the very core of creation, man ought to skip and leap and thrill like a healthy youngster with the sheer joy of living. I have reached an age where my skin far from being taut with the swelling sap of life, commences to gather in small pouches under the lower jaw. Yet, though my senses may have gotten somewhat duller with the advancing years, my capacity to enjoy the superb beauty of nature has in no way been blunted. If anything, time has taught me a deeper appreciation of the bounties of nature, which a gracious God freely bestows upon all his children without any distinction and discrimination. From the moment the chirping birds awaken me at the dew-drenched dawn to the last glimpse my drowsy eyes cast at the star-studded skies, I am surrounded by matchless beauty and loveliness. He who attunes his soul to the glories of nature, lifts himself above the pettiness and sordidness of the humdrum world, and leads a sublimated life even here below on our ineffably beautiful earth.

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT



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Slants at the Meeting

Fellowship . . . boy that covers a lot and when expanded by the keen sense of humor and the backyard philosophy of one Thomas Kenna, the Irish barrister, it takes on the form of a real program.

Tom did himself proud and nobody harm. His homely illustration of fellowship and its application to the common place things in life revealed a side of this modest member unknown to many. Inasmuch as we are privileged to call Tom a friend we were not unmindful of his droll humor and have often marveled at his metaphors.

Close attention is indicative of enjoyment therefore everybody had a good time listening to the program, and it further illustrates (and proves) that the best talent is within the Rotary club itself. Of course, we know some members are timid, some indifferent and some just don't give a——, but there still remains a sufficient number 'willing to serve' and capable who can give this club splendid programs.

We admit the arduous task assigned the General Program Chairman calls for personal and intimate knowledge of each member to enable him to make selections of groups and to point out to the head of each group the possibilities of programs, and thus the importance of the proper designation of chairman.

Beg pardon, Mr. Printer, we'll quit. No offense by entering on this thesis.

Check.

When We Die

If the weather isn't too bad, we imagine, a few acquaintances will assemble to 'pay the last sad respects'. Perhaps a few will send flowers, others might venture to give expression to words of praise but the majority paying an obligation to Society lest their own funeral attendance suffer.

This observation is NOT a complaint rather a realization that ought to confront us all whether we like it or not. Too, it may be galling to our pride that in the rapid transitions of the day we are hastily put away and only the living hold the center of the stage.

So it behooves us while the 'flesh is quick' to do a kindly turn, speak an encouraging word or send a little bouquet to our fellowman and not wait until the cold pallor of death has gripped a loved one before kindly emotions arise in us. Today we received a letter from another Rotarian and modestly quote a few lines:

"I want you to know that the service you personally have given to Rotary, especially your editorship of the Rotarygram for the past several years is, I think, one of the finest pieces of services that could possibly be given to your city and associates. This is more than true in that I know of no other person in town who could anywhere near"

Had we passed into the Great Beyond last week and our bier bedecked with myriad of sweet scented flowers arranged by tender hands of loving friends it would have been as a 'tinkling cymbal' compared to the tribute paid by our friend while we yet live.

R

New Board of Directors

Below we are listing the Board for the year 1937, and by the time you read this a President will have been selected, we think. It has been the custom of this club for its Board to make the selection from its personnel. However, it is not incumbent on the Board to adhere to this policy and the constitution gives it the privilege of going 'outside' to find material. We are not forecasting this possibility but merely informed you a turn of events that might transpire.

On the left hand side you will find the names of the "carry-overs", and on the right hand side the new members.

Further by analysis, you will note four of these men have already been president and one is the perennial secretary thus resolving the potential list of Directors to the number of FIVE that may wear the crown of prexy.

C. A. Easley	Joe Clemmons
I. J. Feray	P. B. Doty
K. Hotchkiss	Hap Faber
J. F. Roane	Kelsey Lamb
Kyle Wheelus	Hubert Oxford

"Your guess is NOT as good as mine", but it won't hurt you.

Harlen Gin Conference

The most conspicuous thing in the Valley was the absence of Citrus Fruit, the Spanish Fly has it and for fear of this infection the Beaumont delegation drank scotch beverage . . . a blend of some ten years antiquity assuring it of mellowness and those peculiar qualities that loosen instead of tighten . . . the tongue.

The Conference offered nothing novel; just a stereotype procedure that has been going on for the past ten years or more in the State of Texas. It was very good of its kind but h— a man needs a change sometime. It would seem that the ingenuity of some member in a district could offer or devise a plan other than that monotonous set-up. You have general sessions, luncheons, president's ball and of course, the registration. Too, there has never been a great variance in the programs.

Bear in mind we are not complaining of Harlingen; we had a rip-snorting International time . . . but we do think each District ought to strive to impress on her visitors a worthy work, a unique offering, a civic accomplishment, or something besides following an archaic idea that is thread-bare.

The International representative, Claybrook Cottingham, brought the message from headquarters and delivered it in fine shape. His voice was good and every word could be heard from our point of vantage. He stressed the four things vital to Rotary International at this particular time . . . Rotary Foundation, The Rotarian, Extension Work, and Re-Districting.

Rotary Foundation . . . he gave its inception and conception, dwelt on the necessity of fortifying itself against 'a rainy day' with funds that might mean the very existence of its activities.

The Rotarian . . . came in for a vast deal of praise as offering no apology to any other publication for its standard. The quality of authors contributing to its pages vouched for its merit.

The Extension Work . . . this was a hobby of Bill Manier's and he sought to establish a Rotary Club in every town that could support one; to fill every classification unfilled in every club; and last to educate every member of every club in Rotary principles.

Re-Districting . . . this had become urgent due to the arduous duties imposed on Governors, trying to make too many clubs. The rapid growth of Rotary had demanded too much of her Governors and at this time three men were suffering from undermined health in the U. S.

Too, this was one of the largest conferences we ever drank at (pardon our grape fruit juice) and while the Valley did not have her golden fruit array she implored Providence to sweep her with those cooling breezes so conducive to restful evenings . . some of the delegates didn't get tired tho.