

Recently seventy-five members of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles traveled 900 miles to San Francisco and return for an inter-city meeting with the San Francisco Club for the purpose of discussing convention plans and extending their full cooperation to the host club for the 1938 convention of Rotary International.

This regional interest in the convention points definitely to an abundance of hospitality and entertainment for Rotarians, not only in San Francisco, the convention city, but along the entire Pacific coast of the United States and Canada.

Mention is made elsewhere of the San Antonio Club's Institute of International Understanding. You may be interested in knowing what this is, and so we lift from the WHEEL OF FORTUNE this definition, attributed to Datus Proper:

"It is a Public Conference or Forum initiated or conducted by the Rotary Club not only for its members, but for the General Public, for the purpose of studying International problems and their possible solution in the manner suggested by the Fourth Object of Rotary. These problems are discussed by outstanding and qualified leaders, speaking on a factual instead of a propaganda basis. . . . Through such institutes, Rotary not only performs a service to the community and to the cause of International peace through understanding, but the general public gains a better picture of what Rotary is and means."

● Rotarygrams ●

A homespun carpenter in a small village built boats for a living and coffins as a sideline. One day he got a sudden order for a coffin and turned it down. His customer persisted and after quite a struggle succeeded in getting the carpenter to agree to make it overnight for double the price and a bottle of Scotch. He went to work as agreed and as he hacked and sawed and hammered he pulled away generously at the bottle. By morning he had the coffin finished, not to mention the bottle. The customer called to collect the box. He was met by the carpenter who was bleary-eyed and blinking. "Well," he said, "I got your job done but I'll be danged if I ain't gone and set a centerboard in her!"

● Rotarygrams ●

==== Pay Your Poll Tax! ====

ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT
WEEKLY BULLETIN



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Slants at the Meeting

Hap Faber extended welcome to our guests and visiting Rotarians in his accustomed Chesterfieldian manner and got the meeting off to a good start. Ed McCuen, the Governor of Rotary's Georgia district, informed me several years ago that he considered Hap, who had been Secretary of his Savannah club, the greatest asset that a Rotary Club could have, and this "little man with the big stuff" has lived up to his recommendation.

If any of us had been wondering what made Leron Gough "tick", where he got his qualities of personality that have made him so well liked and so successful in our community, we received at least a partial answer to our questions last Wednesday when Tim Whitehurst's program committee presented Judge L. Gough, of Amarillo, in a thrilling, informative, and entertaining address on the early days of the cattle industry in Texas. A boy would indeed have to be unresponsive and unappreciative who would not react to the influences of a father such as this one. We congratulate Leron on his father, and congratulate Judge Gough on his son, who has won a high degree of respect and honor in our club and our city and has preempted for himself a very warm place in our hearts. In spite of his advanced years, Judge Gough proved himself physically and mentally active, and his stories of days on the trail, liberally interspersed with humorous incidents and frequently couched in clever rhymes, kept this usually restless audience in rapt attention.

Just to score a triple play, the committee came to the front with another hitherto unsuspected political orator. Norrie West's impassioned plea for payment of poll taxes must have fired every one with a determination to help ring up a record for poll tax payment in Beaumont this year. The Y. M. B. L. is doing a fine thing in sponsoring this activity, and Norrie's talk was a real contribution to the cause.

—Bill.



---Eldo

DICK

James Tillman Brown - Refined Oil Products Retailing

* * *

McGregor is a small farming town in McLennan County, Texas, some 25 miles from Waco. And it was in McGregor on Monday, the 4th of November, 1901, an anxious father was told "Its a boy!". He was promptly christened James Tillman Brown, but even before that he was called "Dick" for, as his grandmother explained it, he was the dickens of a youngster.

Graduating from McGregor High School in 1920, he attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas for a year, pledging *Kappa Alpha* while there. Transferring to Texas University he was near graduation three years later when an opportunity to enter the shipping business in Beaumont came his way and he took it. Having excelled in French, his adept handling of the language made him a welcome agent on the foreign ships coming to this territory. He was in business with Charles Bone, Aurelius Milch

and Sidney Collins respectively for the next several years until the Depression slump made a shipping agency almost a *rara avis* in this section.

In November 1931, he joined Adriance Bordages and opened a new Texas Co. filling station at Calder and Tenth St. This station having no possibilities of expansion due to lack of room, Dick moved to Mariposa and Broadway with F. E. Wilcox the following year in June. Two years later, Dick was offered a Texas Co. Station on College St. at Avenue C, which he took over and has built up into one of the leading filling stations of the town. Being on the Old Spanish Trail, Dick comes into personal contact with scores of travellers daily from every section of the country and is firmly convinced that a man's experiences in his brief stop for gas in a town colors his whole impression of the community as he travels through it. This is probably the reason for the healthy growth of his business.

Dick married Miss Vernetta Wier, March 15th, 1929, and lives at 1312 Franklin Street.

His hobby for the last several years has been taking off on his slack days in a Covered Wagon Trailer Coach, having been from Canada to the Gulf in it and smaller trips to the Centennial, Kerrville and numerous football games away from Beaumont. As a necessary by-product, he has become famous for his cooking and can toss out a *souffle* worthy of Otto himself.

He joined the Club September 8th, 1937.

We are glad to have you with us, Dick!

—Eldo.

● Rotarygrams ●

Reference was made in this sheet last week to the appearance of President Maurice Duperrey on the program of the San Antonio Club's Institute of International Understanding on Thursday, January 27th. President Maurice will speak at the meeting in the St. Anthony Hotel Ball Room at 4 P. M. of the 27th, and he will be honored at a banquet night at 7:30. Clarence Jones, Chairman of the Invitation Committee for this banquet, has written to this club, asking a large attendance of our members. Admission will naturally have to be limited to Rotarians and their wives, and Clarence requests that early reservations be made. If you can go, please notify Irwin Feray immediately so that he may notify the San Antonio Club how many from Beaumont will attend.