

group in the Rose Room fell suddenly quiet at the boom of President Joe's first announcement over the "mike": Three new members were to be introduced to the Club. Bill grinned, in spite of himself, when called up to the stage for, as President Joe said, he was now a Rotarian.

APRIL 18th, 1938: Just before sitting down at the long table in entertainment of the new members of the Rotary Club, Bill was startled to find the waiter handing him a note. On it was scribbled the following: "If my alleged five-minute talk tonight sounds like warmed-over hash and cold potatoes, it is because your life proved too lengthy on the typewriter this afternoon! . . . W. W."

APRIL 18th, 1938: After a perceptible pause, Mrs. Thames smiled "You want to know something about Bill's hobbies? Just as a starter, the following are his main ones: building ship models, miniature locomotives, collecting pre-cancelled stamps, and all phases of photography, and fresh-water casting for bass. Of course, he built a few radio sets some time ago but has let that go lately in favor of camera work."

APRIL 19th, 1938: Just before going to press: "We are glad to have you with us, Bill!"

. . . Eldo.

● Rotarygrams ●

On to Galveston! The attractions on the beaches may not be as great next week as they will later in the summer, but the Galveston Rotary Club has planned a great conference and a number of fine entertainment features. Our own conference would not have been such a success without the attendance and assistance of our neighbors. Let's do unto others as we were done by, and help Galveston put this conference over in good shape. And remember, we have a Jefferson County candidate for District Governor, and the more boosting we do, the better will be his chances of election.

● Rotarygrams ●

Due to torrential sky seepages over the past weekend, the Official Opening of the City Softball League scheduled for last Monday, the 11th, has been tentatively set for Thursday night, the 21st. The Rotaries will engage Sam Savage's Alphabet Soupers that night barring further moisture difficulties.

● Rotarygrams ●

Your Board of Directors are pleased to announce the reinstatement of Veazey Rainwater under the Classification: "Carbonated Beverages Bottling".

# ROTARYGRAMS

OF BEAUMONT  
WEEKLY BULLETIN



Membership Secretary, Phone 932

Vol. IX Beaumont, Texas, April 20, 1938 — No. 41

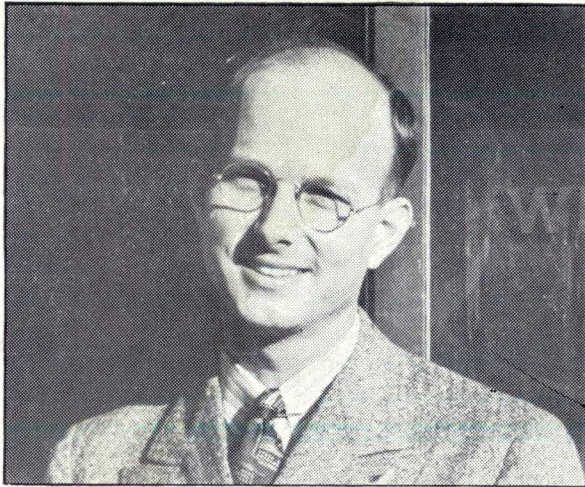
## Slants at the Meeting

They must do it with the aid of mirrors or something! Otherwise how could those attractive little buglers from the Greenie Cadets get fourteen notes out of a four-note instrument, and play *Auld Lang Syne* from beginning to end? Even the genius of Director Wiedemann could not put enough notes in a bugle to play *How Dry I Am*, but he was able to get sixteen girls each of whom could play one note of it in a demonstration which brought down the house.

It may as well be confessed that this writer is always partial to programs rendered by boys and girls, and this one by the South Park High School Band and Greenie Cadet Corps certainly pleased him from beginning to end. Even the introduction by Carl Bingman left nothing to be desired, for he quickly turned the microphone over to a fine looking youngster named Tom Wilson, President of the Band (and incidentally a fine athlete, student, and all-round good fellow), who gave an interesting account of the history of the organization. The numbers by the band were well chosen for the group present and for the room in which they were played, since they were all tuneful and did not call for a great deal of noise. The singing of the Cadets added immeasurably to our enjoyment of the music, the highest voices being almost fairylike in quality. These are not the girls of the South Park Glee Club, but the Greenie Cadets whom we have all admired so greatly as they paraded before us at football games. All honor to C. P. Wiedemann and his assistant, B. K. Kittell, for the great work they have done in training this Band and Cadet Corps and to the school heads who have given them the necessary cooperation and encouragement.

Hap Faber did his usual fine job of welcoming our guests and visiting Rotarians, and President Joe's voice sounded better from behind the microphone than ever before. In short, I ain't mad at nobody!

. . . Bill.



--Eldo

## BILL

William Rouse Thames — Drugs Retailing. 2nd A.

\* \* \*

JUNE 27th, 1907: Except for the constant drone of beetles against the screens and the occasional clip-clop of a passing buggy, there was nothing to break the silence of the balmy June night, yet young Murray Thames was tensed on the edge of the straight-backed chair listening, waiting, hoping. The hall door opened . . . the tall nurse smiled . . . "It's a boy, Mr. Thames!"

SEPTEMBER 14th, 1914: His new shoes had rubbed a blister on one foot, his neck throbbed from an unaccustomed day with neck-tie, yet with it all, young Bill felt the glow of a conquering warrior for, had he not started to Averill School that morning, much to his younger sister's envy and dismay?

JUNE 18th, 1925: Standing in line there behind the dusty backdrop of the venerable Kyle Theatre stage, sweat pouring from every opening in the heavy woolen graduation gown, Bill heaved a sigh of relief as his turn finally came to step up to Superintendent Moore and receive his Beaumont High School diploma.

SEPTEMBER 30th, 1925: Having just settled at his desk to dig into his Engineering problems for the coming day, a strident "Hey, Fish!" jolted Cadet Thames out of his seat. He had found that there

were other jobs at Texas A. & M. besides studying his Civil Engineering courses.

JUNE 18th, 1929: Cadet Thames was amazed at the sudden welling up of silent tears as his Company swung by the reviewing stand to the tune of *Auld Lang Syne* . . . the last parade . . . a farewell to four year's work and friends . . .

MARCH 3rd, 1930: Bill paused for a moment before entering the dark portals of the Danforth School of Pharmacy, the contrast between the prim campus at College Station and the brown stone disarray of the Fort Worth street amazed him, yet he realized that to master pharmacy was the first step in learning the efficient management of a drug store, so in he went . . .

JUNE 2nd, 1930: The two framed certificates were hung together just below two similar ones above. The two above inscribed "Dennis Glass", the two below "William R. Thames." They were Pharmacy School Diplomas and Texas State Board Registration certificates, each hanging in the new Thames Store No. 9 in the Mildred Building.

SEPTEMBER 28th, 1930: From the Sunday ENTERPRISE we quote: ". . . Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Griffin of Silsbee, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathryn, to Mr. William R. Thames, of Beaumont. They will be married in Silsbee on the afternoon of the 9th of October."

JANUARY, 1931: The clerk was having trouble with a slightly cantankerous customer over the telephone in Thames Store No. 5 on Magnolia, when finally he told her, "Just a moment, mam, and I will let you talk with our new manager, Mr. Thames."

MAY 15th, 1933: Looking over the voluminous apron borrowed from Pop Moreland, Bill felt awfully small in the hustle and hurry as druggist in the busy No. 1 Store after his quietly efficient life at No. 5 out on Magnolia, yet, here were the real problems to be solved and he was glad to be finally working at "headquarters".

MARCH 12th, 1935: Although with the informality of a growing business, he had hardly realized it, in filling out the Income Tax return, Bill realized that he was now handling all the advertising and would probably be considered Assistant Manager of Thames No. 1.

APRIL 6th, 1938: Crowded to the last table, each buzzing with a different animated conversation, the