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Clubs and Organizations-My Impressions of Rotary

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CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

My Impressions of Rotary
"MY IMPRESSIONS OF ROTARY"

Remarks for talk by CCC. May 5, 1926

at Rotary

Remarks for talk by CCC. May 5th, 1926.

Rotary

When Bill Irwin, our friend of sacred memory and our first President, came to me to talk about starting a Rotary Club, I had but little knowledge of the history or principles of Rotary. He wanted me to be the first President, but he was the logical person for that honor and right royally did he serve us. He had much educational and constructive work to do and we are now enjoying the fruits of his labors.

My impressions of Rotary. At first I was interested and yet I wondered what there could be in it to hold men together as it had done. I did not understand the psychology of men coming together about the luncheon table, nor the philosophy and ethics of Rotary.

Some things at first seemed silly and even foolish - This because I did not understand the genius or the philosophy of the organization.

I soon began to be interested and I judge others have gone through the same process and have come to the same conclusion. I began to feel a growing influence

of the contact on my own life and I thought I could see similar effects on others. This is illustrated by a remark of one of our number made one day when I met him in the sick room of a Rotarian to whom he had taken some flowers. Remarks - - - - -

It was evident whether I felt it in my own life or saw it in others, that there was power in an organization that could bring men together with unvarying regularity and hold them for an hour and a quarter.

There is spirit in such an organization.

It is a dynamo for the generation of inspiration and not only helpful to the individual but to the community. A deeper interest in the problems of the community life is had.

Development of Spiritual

The very principles of Rotary lead its members on to take an active part in both local and national affairs. As a nation we are facing great problems, chiefly in the social order and I believe we can depend upon Rotary to take the wise and safe stand.

My impressions at times and about some features have been rather unfavorable. You have asked me to give my impressions and I will therefore be bold to speak.

The class of songs we often sung had, to me, very little either music or sense. They were neither refining or inspirational. I am happy to note more recently a change for the better. The songs we have been singing are more dignified and more inspirational.

A little nonsense is all right, even in song, but let us not drift into the shallow and foolish and feel that we have had a good and profitable time. One cannot take much away with him that is helpful and worth while if he is fed only on that class of music.

The fellowship is fine, - the psychology of men dropping their cares and coming together at the luncheon table.

The method and manner of order and rule enforcement is all right up to a certain point and

occasionally. I cannot see the helpful philosophy in the act of fining right and left and for every conceivable thing. This only shows how ready and ingenious a presiding officer can be along the line of getting money, but there is little along the line of educational or inspirational in it, as I see it.

The code of ethics. One of the finest statements of co-operative life that has been made at any time I believe is the code of Rotary Ethics. It is founded upon basic principles.

At home in other clubs