

"This Must Be Coldwater's Best Rotary Year."

THE RAZZBERRY

ISSUED BY THE COLDWATER ROTARY CLUB



"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"



JUNE 30, 1936

VOL. 2—NO. 18.

A Welcome Outcome

As this issue of the Razzberry reaches its readers the Homer Furnace plant will again be in operation. This outcome of the recent trouble is very welcome to every citizen. There is no one in the community who does not directly or indirectly benefit from the payroll of that institution.

The company still has pending a petition for its dissolution. That petition was filed because its finances are not in a condition to stand the strain of a long contest. The assets are sufficient at present so that creditors could be paid in full and the land and buildings remain to the stockholders. After a prolonged shut-down, that would not be true. The creditors might receive only a portion of their claims and Mr. Strong be entirely wiped out of any return for his lifetime of effort in building the institution.

A dissolution proceeding requires a considerable time for its completion. Hence it was considered wise to start the machinery at once and complete it if necessary.

The reason the proceeding is not dismissed with the opening of the plant is merely the possibility that something might happen to make it necessary for the company still to avail itself of it. There seems now, however, to be little likelihood that such a contingency will arise. Enough of the men have signified their desire to return to work, so there is little question that the plant will be adequately manned. The men who are willing to return are in a mood to fight for their jobs. If a small minority should undertake violence, it will be met so vigorously by both the company and the men that there is little danger of its success.

The fight to get back volume production will be a long one. The company's furnace game has not badly been interrupted. That is its own production. There it is dealing with the public. Its furnace business however, is but a small part of its total volume. In the custom foundry game considerable volume has been lost, in that it is obliged to give daily service. Its customers must have regular production. Many of them have recaptured their patterns from the plant and placed them elsewhere. The process in getting them back will be a slow one.

The company was employing approximately one hundred eighty-five men prior to the shut-down. It will be a long time before all of these men are back at work.

Mr. Marcks, the organizer for the International Moulders Union, maintains stoutly that the local moulders are inadequately paid. That is a question which requires comparison with other plants for determination. It is a fact, however, that if seven moulders, who are beginners or are old men too slow for average production, are left out, the average wage received by the balance of the moulders is approximately \$5.40 per day of from six to nine hours. Many of the moulders have been developed in a few months from local men with no experience. Under local living conditions that would seem to be a reasonable wage.

During all the difficulty there was no conference between the company and Mr. Marcks or other union representatives and no talk of terms of settlement. The company announced that the employment of its men was at an end and re-employed such men as it saw fit without condition and in an open shop.

THE RAZZBERRY

Fishing Season Opens

At midnight, last Thursday, Michigan's open season for game fish officially opened. As a practical matter the actual fishing doesn't begin until daylight, but the casting rod addicts began throwing their plugs as soon as the clock struck twelve.

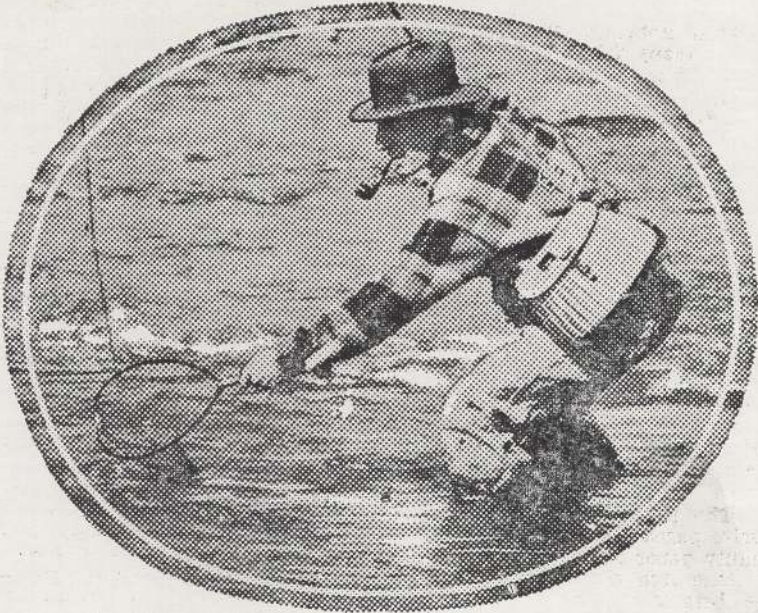
The opening of the fishing season in Coldwater receives about as much official recognition as does the fall hunting season. Factories close on this day, clerks take the day off from their store duties, the traffic lights are switched off and everybody goes fishing.

The skeptic sneers at all this enthusiasm because as a matter of fact the fishing is not as good at the beginning of the season as it will be in a week or so. The fact is that right now the fish are on the beds and while it is comparatively easy to catch them by throwing a bait over the bed, the uninformed have difficulty to locate beds and avoid frightening them away. We old timers are the only ones who get results.

Stories differ. While John Hardy frankly admits that the opening day was a disappointment, and Doc Bien claims he caught his limit three times before eight o'clock, the fact that Hugh Clarke and Wes Wilbur aren't saying anything makes one wonder. Both fellows have the reputation of catching more fish than they can eat and have been known to give some to their intimate friends. All in all, its hard to tell from the Ed's desk. Observers noted a number of Indiana cars near the shores of local lakes—another indication that Branch County is getting the reputation of being a fisherman's happy hunting ground.

Time will tell—but the Ed won't, if someone should happen to catch more than he could profitably use.

Caution—If you want to stand in with the missus don't bring the Ed uncleaned fish. She doesn't like to clean them.



—X—

The Honolulu Rotogram for June 9th contains the following note:
"The title of the official organ of the Coldwater, Michigan, Club is Razzberry. I thought this was always reserved for the Secretary."

THE RAZZBERRY

A Letter from Berlin

Here is the letter from the Rotary Club of Berlin together with a free translation of it. The Ed. has better luck in reading the German than the French. No one has yet volunteered to translate the latter.

The German letter is a dignified and cordial reply. It has not yet been answered for lack of time to translate a reply into German—not an easy process, when the result must pass the scrutiny of a real German.

There is no doubt that such interchanges tend to break down the wall of misunderstanding and prejudice between countries and promote the fourth object of Rotary.

Berlin, den 5.6.36

Lieber Rotarier Glenn Cowell!

Vielen Dank für Ihren Brief v. 21.5. Es ist uns selbstverständlich ein Vergnügen, mit Ihrem Klub die Wochenberichte auszutauschen. Wir wurden uns freuen, wenn auf diese Weise dazu beigetragen werden konnte, nicht nur das Band zwischen unseren beiden Klubs herzustellen, sondern auch Verständnis für die Eigenart, Interessen und Note unserer beiden Völker. Wir haben zwei Amerikaner als Mitglieder in unserem Klub, um auch auf diese Weise schon unseren Willen zur Zusammenarbeit zum Ausdruck zu bringen.

Mit gleicher Post sende ich Ihnen einige Drucksachen, die für die Engenart, Interessen und Note unserer beiden Völker.

Mit Rotary Gruss

H. v. Gleichen, Sekretar.

Berlin, June 6, 1936

Dear Rotarian Glenn Cowell!

Many thanks for your letter of May 21st.

It is, of course, a pleasure to us to exchange weekly letters with your club. It would please us if in this way, we might not only strengthen the bond between our two clubs but also the understanding between our two countries.

We have two Americans as members in our club in order to demonstrate in this manner our desire to work together with you.

By this mail I send you some pamphlets, which may be of interest to the members of your club.

With Rotary greetings,

H. von Gleichen, Secretary.

The Ed is in receipt of the "Drucksachen" mentioned in the letter from the Secretary of the Berlin Club. They are a wonderful set of pamphlets, one being a heavily illustrated booklet of the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin; another the Peace Plan of the German Government; another a booklet on German youth in a changing world; another a monthly magazine entitled "Germany and You"; and a pamphlet of the speech delivered in the Reichstag March 7th by Adolf Hitler, who is designated as Fuhrer and Chancellor.

The London Rotarian, which we are now receiving, is a booklet of twelve pages. It contains considerable advertising. It is printed on extra quality paper and is well edited. We are interested to note by the issue of June 13th that Reg. Coombe was throwing a cocktail party for the members at the White City and planned after the party to watch the dog races. Also from another article that the Rotary Club was putting on a boxing tournament at which "Mick, the Miller" was to be shown. "Mick, the Miller" is evidently a dog because it is announced that one of his puppies is to be auctioned. It is evident that the London Club has sporting proclivities.

THE RAZZBERRY

Hats Off To Walt and George

Hats off to Walt Bien and George Vail. In the general shying away from the work of Rotary programs it is refreshing to feel that some of the fellows are willing to do their bit. Each of these boys has handled programs before but each was willing to repeat.

The Ed could not stay to hear George Vail last Tuesday but left it with Red McKnight to write it up for the Razzberry because George always makes good copy. Red flunked, so you don't get it. But Norm Kohl will be ahead twenty-five cents.

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Bob Sharer will have entire charge of the next issue of the Razzberry. He is a teacher of journalism and knows much better how to get out a paper than the Ed does.

One of our ambitions has been to make the Razzberry a composite affair rather than a solo. It cannot be permanently successful as the reflection of but one personality. We all get tired of hearing but one viewpoint. There must be freshness and change.

However, it is much easier to get up each edition alone than to coax other fellows to help. The Ed appreciates very much Bob's willingness to undertake a few issues during the summer months, not only for the relief from work but because it will make the paper so much more attractive.

Incidentally, Bob now has his Masters' degree. He should write and talk much better than before.

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ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU

Glenn Cowell, Editor
The Razzberry
Coldwater Rotary Club
Coldwater, Michigan
Dear Fellow Rotarian:

June 1, 1936

First off, you are too formal in your communications to be an Editor of a Rotary publication. Don't you ever write me any more and sign your letter "Yours very truly". If you do I will communicate with your President and have him fine you, from which there is no appeal, either on account of misplaced commas or what have you.

I am very glad to exchange publications with you.

I want to compliment you on your format of the "Razzberry" and as a whole it is very interesting.

"RAZZBERRY" is a good name, because that is what the Editor usually receives.

Aloha Nui Okou,
Jawn Caldwell, Secretary.

Jawn Caldwell,
Secretary, Rotary Club,
P. O. Box 2658,
Honolulu, Hawaii.
My dear Jawn:

Monday, June 15, 1936

Dammit! I try to treat you respectfully and you resent it, so from now on I accept you as a member of the Order of Rotary Rough Necks and will treat you as such.

I can see from just looking at your "Rotogram" that I am going to get some help from it. I don't care about the canned stuff but local things, like your letter from Charlie Pittam, are good copy.

I don't know what the hell you mean by "Aloha Nui Okou", but whatever it is, the same to you,

Glenn.