

January 25, 1924

NEW CITY SPIRIT IS PRAISED BY JOURNALIST

Declaring that upon his return visit to Fort Worth where he visited several years ago he had found a city "reborn" and a city of progressiveness, Isaac F. Marcossou, well-known writer of news events, addressed the Rotary Club at its luncheon Friday noon.

Marcossou congratulated the city on the prosecution of persons charged with "oil fraud."

At the outset of his brief talk, Marcossou stated that he had talked to Rotarians in many languages, in Russia, Germany, Austria, England, France and China, as well as in the United States.

One of the most illuminating things in his mind, he told the Fort Worth Rotarians, was a gathering of Rotarians, most of them in khaki, in a Paris hotel during the World War. There were 300 or 400 men from all parts of the United States, some of them with the mud of the trenches on their shoes and clothing.

He has seen former Rotarians in the heart of Africa, he said.

"Men who are Rotarians once are always Rotarians and carry the spirit in their hearts," he declared.

Marcossou, in Fort Worth gathering material for a series of articles for the Saturday Evening Post on the oil situation, recalled his visit here several years ago when Fort Worth was the center of the "oil boom." At that time Dr. Frederick A. Cook, oil promoter now under a 14-year sentence in Federal court, invited Marcossou to go in business with him, Marcossou said.

"I'm glad I didn't," simply said

Marcossou and the Rotarians chuckled.

He was introduced by Amon G. Carter, whose guest the writer is during his stay in Fort Worth.

Following Marcossou, J. H. Wimberly held a mock auction and "sold" Fort Worth's railroads, packing industries, manufacturing firms, trade territory and public improvements. They "brought" billions of dollars, and the bidders recounted the facts that make them worth it.

The city's civic spirit was put on the block, but the Rotarians un-animously voted that it could not be bought at any price.