

Brownsworth on speaking

(Continued from last week)

"Brownsworth, I know you have my best interests at heart but there are things a man must do, being a proficient speaker is one of them. Comes with shaving and wearing ties, unpleasant as they are one has to keep a straight upper lip and carry on."

"Quite so."

"I mean if we all walked around unshaved without ties, not being able to speak proficiently who knows what could happen!"

"Agreed."

My spirits lifted, I proceeded.

"Why the club would have me blackballed if I arrived with

some huge beardfalling over my unknoted neck. Blackballed pretty quickly too, Brownsworth!"

"NEVER, sir!"

Brownsworth is like that, he has a certain calming maternal way about him. Absolutely essential in club Bartenders.

I continued, as I saw a slim chance to catch Brownsworth up.

"Do you remember poor old Percy, he walked in from his exploration in Africa with a mere mustache and was suspended for the year."

"Very true, sir."

I was sure, I finally had Brownsworth, they would be

talking about it for years. Referring to the day as -Blanchard Day, and toasting it in Buckingham and Fleet St.

"Well Brownsworth?" I was moving in for the kill!

"He did not have his Bartender to protect him."

I understand Macbeth a lot better now.

"Had I been his Bartender," said B. "the situation would have been radically different."

"I have met the enemy, and am now his." Someone who knew Brownsworth must have thought that up.

"Absolutely right" I had to concede "he was a tea totaller wasn't he? I've always found

that a bad sign in a man."

"Quite sir."

After a night cap, I returned to Blanchard G.H.Q and found. to my surprise, my book waiting in the mail box. It had been sent by S.P. (only God and postal workers know what that means) and had taken only a day to reach me.

To be honest, I never really read the whole book, only the first sentence. It said:

"To be a proficient speaker, one must stand straight, speak clearly, be neat, strong but not loud, well groomed, and have a definitive point."

Well, I looked myself in the eye, with the aid of an obliging mirror, and I am bent, unkept, larthargic, speak with rasp, and in the mornings have been known to kick puppies, cute ones! In short definitively pointless.

I knew then it was hopeless, so I reassigned the book as a door stop (something one never has enough of), and decided the only thing for it was writing, as writers are often, but not always bent, unkept, larthargic, speak with a rasp, and I know quite a few who pointlessly kick cute puppies. Just one thing for me!

Astronaut here

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He added that all feelings of fear dissolved after the rocket left the launching pad, claiming that after this... "there was a better chance for survival."

Irwin concluded his lecture by answering a variety of questions from his audience. Among these, he addressed himself to the possibility of space being used for defense purposes.

Said Irwin, "I think there will be a need for military hardware in space. . .As long as

our adversary is using space for military purposes, we're obligated to do the same." He added that the space shuttle could be instrumental in launching such hardware.

When asked whether he would ever like to return to space, Irwin answered unhesitatingly, "Oh yes, very much." He regrets however, that his event is unlikely due to his advancing age and a heart condition developed after the 1971 mission.

Colonel James B. Irwin currently resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado with his wife and five children.

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