

**BEASLEY'S
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

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Beasley's Christmas Party by Booth Tarkington

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Christmas Party**





Beasley's
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Party

BY
BOOTH TARKINGTON

ILLUSTRATED BY
RUTH SYPHERD CLEMENTS



HARPER & BROTHERS
NEW YORK AND LONDON
M - C - M - I - X

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and financial management. The text notes that without reliable records, it is difficult to track the flow of funds and ensure that resources are being used as intended.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data collection and analysis. It highlights that gathering accurate and timely data can be a complex task, especially when dealing with large-scale operations or multiple stakeholders. The text suggests that investing in robust data management systems and training personnel in data analysis techniques can significantly improve the quality and reliability of the information used for decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in enhancing operational efficiency. It discusses how digital tools and automation can streamline processes, reduce errors, and free up resources for more strategic tasks. The text mentions that while the initial investment in technology may be high, the long-term benefits in terms of cost savings and improved productivity are substantial.

4. The fourth part of the document explores the importance of stakeholder engagement and communication. It argues that successful implementation of any initiative requires the active participation and buy-in of all relevant parties. The text suggests that regular communication, transparency, and the opportunity for feedback are key to building trust and ensuring that the needs and concerns of all stakeholders are addressed.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the need for continuous monitoring and evaluation. It states that once an initiative is launched, it is crucial to track its progress and assess its impact against the original goals. The text notes that this process allows for the identification of areas where adjustments are needed and provides valuable insights into what is working well and what is not.

6. The sixth part of the document touches upon the importance of legal and ethical considerations. It emphasizes that all activities must be conducted in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and that ethical standards must be upheld at all times. The text suggests that having a clear legal and ethical framework in place can help prevent potential issues and ensure that the organization's actions are always in line with its values and the public interest.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the role of leadership in driving change and innovation. It highlights that strong leadership is essential for setting a clear vision, inspiring the team, and providing the necessary support and resources for success. The text notes that effective leaders are also skilled at fostering a culture of innovation and encouraging their team members to think creatively and take calculated risks.

8. The eighth part of the document addresses the importance of building a strong organizational culture. It argues that a positive and inclusive culture is a key driver of long-term success, as it encourages collaboration, innovation, and a sense of shared purpose. The text suggests that leadership plays a critical role in shaping and reinforcing the organization's culture through their actions and the way they communicate.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the need for flexibility and adaptability in a rapidly changing environment. It notes that organizations must be able to respond quickly and effectively to new challenges and opportunities. The text suggests that this requires a focus on agility, continuous learning, and the ability to pivot when necessary.

10. The tenth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key points discussed and emphasizing the importance of a holistic approach to organizational management. It states that success is achieved through the integration of all these elements—accurate records, quality data, technology, stakeholder engagement, monitoring and evaluation, legal and ethical compliance, strong leadership, a positive culture, and flexibility and adaptability.



I

THE maple-bordered street was as still as a country Sunday; so quiet that there seemed an echo to my footsteps. It was four o'clock in the morning; clear October moonlight misted through the thinning foliage to the shadowy sidewalk and lay like a transparent silver fog upon the house of my admiration, as I strode along, returning from my first night's work on the "Wainwright Morning Despatch."

I

I had already marked that house as the finest (to my taste) in Wainwright, though hitherto, on my excursions to this metropolis, the state capital, I was not without a certain native jealousy that Spencerville, the county-seat where I lived, had nothing so good. Now, however, I approached its purlieus with a pleasure in it quite unalloyed, for I was at last myself a resident (albeit of only one day's standing) of Wainwright, and the house—though I had not even an idea who lived there—part of my possessions as a citizen. Moreover, I might enjoy the warmer pride of a next-door-neighbor, for Mrs. Apperthwaite's, where I had taken a room, was just beyond.

This was the quietest part of Wainwright; business stopped short of it, and the "fashionable residence section" had overleaped this "forgotten backwater," leaving it undisturbed and unchanging, with that look about it which is the quality of few urban quarters, and eventually of none, as a town grows to be a city—the look of still being a neighborhood. This friendliness of appearance was largely the emanation of the homely and beautiful house which so greatly pleased my fancy.

It might be difficult to say why I thought it the "finest" house in Wainwright, for a simpler structure would be hard to imagine; it was merely a big, old-fashioned brick house, painted brown and very plain, set well away from the street among some splendid forest trees, with a fair spread of flat lawn. But it gave back a great deal for your glance, just as some people do. It was a large house, as I say, yet it looked not like a mansion but like a home; and made you wish that you lived in it. Or, driving by, of an evening, you would have liked to hitch your horse and go in; it spoke so surely of hearty, old-fashioned people living there, who would welcome you merrily.

It looked like a house where there were a grandfather and a grandmother; where holidays were warmly kept; where there were boisterous family reunions to which uncles and aunts, who had been born there, would return from no matter what distances; a house where big turkeys would be on the table often; where one called "the hired man" (and named either Abner or Ole) would crack walnuts upon a flat-iron clutched between his knees on the back