

THE GYROLOG



THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON
P.O. BOX 92 — EDMONTON — ALBERTA
T5J 2G9

January 13, 1981

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 1981, Mayfair Golf and Country Club at 12.15 p.m. Thomas R. Hunt and Elmer MacGillivray will be inducted into the Edmonton Gyro Club. Howie Sharp will be the Inducting Officer. Let's have a full attendance to give a warm welcome to our two new members.

COMING EVENTS

The Gyro International District VIII Interim Meeting will be held at Cranbrook, B.C. on March 6 and 7, 1981 under the Chairmanship of Governor Hugo Hess.

BIRTHDAYS

Nelles Buchanan January 23 Bob Sheldon January 23

"When I was young I always knew
The meretricious from the true.
Once self-convinced, I would not budge;
I was indeed a hanging judge.
I scoffed when kindly uncles and aunts
Said age would teach me tolerance.
And now that I am forty-nine,
I'm tolerant, and like it fine." - O.N. -

May Nelles and Bob have many more tolerant and happy years.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to George and Jean MacDonald who became grandparents recently.

WINNERS HOCKEY SWEEPSTAKES

Game No. 9, January 3, 1981

\$10.00 - Ticket No. 75 R.H. Rigelof
Ticket No. 195 John Achison

\$40.00 - Ticket No. 86 Gary D. Campbell
Ticket No. 106 B.&G. Enterprises

Game No. 10, January 10, 1981

\$10.00 - Ticket No. 15 T. Nagata
Ticket No. 154 Lloyd Baker

\$15.00 - Ticket No. 27 Lynne Piercy
Ticket No. 166 Jean Warrack

\$25.00 - Ticket No. 49 Peter Nottom
Ticket No. 188 Edna Lawton

HELP

Please change NOW in your 1980-81 Roster the Telephone Number of Gordon Rennie to 452-2308.

~~The number listed in the Roster is the result of a typographical error. The householder whose number this is, is becoming more annoyed each day as she receives calls for Gordon or Ivy~~

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THIS WEEK

President Bert Boren called on Tommy Douglas who introduced his son, Bruce; and Bill Robinson, who introduced his guest, Bill Clark.

Reporting on the health of the Club members, Bill Robinson welcomed the presence of Herb Hamly, Neil McKernan, and Jim Wright, each of whom recently has been under medical care. George Bissett, too, has not been in the best of health lately.

DRAW - Neil McKernan won the day's draw.

Tommy Douglas then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Peter Kitching, a Nuclear Physicist at
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the University of Alberta, who did his undergraduate work at Oxford University, and his postgraduate studies at Yale University. At the present time he is doing research work on Radiation and Time Reversal at the Universities of Alberta and British Columbia.

Dr. Kitching spoke on Radiation stating that this can kill body cells and promote the growth of cancer.

He said that we are all under the influence of radiation as it has its origin in the cosmos, in the ground, and in the earth's rock structure. There are even radioactive isotopes in the human body. At sea level the dosage is about twenty times, and at Grand Central Station, New York City about one hundred times that at the boundary of a nuclear plant.

What effect do low dosages of radiation have? he asked. Most of the publicity is given to the effect of massive doses of radiation. For example, he explained, at Nagasaki, Japan, out of 100,000 cases examined there were 200 leukemia victims. Many years ago women employed in painting luminous dials on watches, using radioactive paint, almost to a person developed cancer. But these were the effects of very much higher than normal doses.

In one province of Mainland China where the natural radiation is three times the normal or fifty times that at the boundary of a nuclear reactor, 90% of the people had lived here for six generations, and 30% for sixteen generations. On testing there was no difference in the incidence of cancer among these people from those of the surrounding area. Normal incidence is 250 cases in 1,000,000 people. Dr. Kitching felt that working in radioactive fields was safer than working at many other occupations citing as an example deep-sea fishing.

One problem was the disposal of waste. He claimed that there was more danger from coal fueled power stations than from nuclear reactor power stations. Nuclear reactors produce 1 to 2 cubic yards of waste per year which is much less than that produced when coal is used as a fuel. He mentioned the case of West Africa shipping uranium to France and doing little or nothing about waste disposal. The injurious effects of this waste were no worse than normal. The speaker felt that waste disposal could be solved readily by leaving it on the surface for a time to allow the heat to dissipate, and then burying it deep in the ground. Allan Warrack, a colleague of Dr. Kitching, thanked the speaker, saying that the subject of Nuclear Radiation was one in which there was a great deal of ignorance on the part of the general public. It needed to be explained by knowledgeable people who had devoted much time to research on it.

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This one is dedicated to our well regarded Padre, Rev. Dr. Jess Bigelow. The writer spent a few weeks last fall in the great state of Texas, which is really more a condition than a state. While there he learned something of the administration of things ecclesiastical. It is well known to one and all that during 1980 Texas endured one of its hottest and driest summers. The clergy were therefore hard put to carry out the ancient ceremony of baptism, in which the child is received into the church, named, and born anew with his sins symbolically washed away with sanctified water. However the church in all its forms is nothing if not resourceful. Before the drought ended the wealthy and affluent Southern Baptists were spraying using gold atomizers; the staid and stolid Methodists used a damp wash cloth; while the canny and thrifty Presbyterians gave out rain checks.

And now I'll take a rain check until next time. Cheerio

Gyjin