



PROBE

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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

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Meets 3rd Wednesday each month - 10 am at Bendigo Club.

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IMPORTANT! SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS OF FILM DAY

THE SPEAKER TODAY is well-known to us all, and he should need no introduction. Reaching the end of his 'tour of duty' as Mayor of this fair city, Cr. NORMAN QUIN should have plenty to talk about. Being Mayor can be a rewarding or a thankless task depending on the circumstances prevailing at any one time. He will talk to us about the experiences, accomplishments, failures and triumphs rising from his year in the mayoral robes and his hopes for the future of this Premier Town.

Apart from his council duties, Cr. Norm is well-known for his greengrocery business and his position as Chairman of the Bendigo Chamber of Commerce.

We can look forward to an enlightening and stimulating talk. Get your questions ready!

OUR SPEAKER LAST MONTH was the Regional Director of Health Services for the Loddon/Mallee area, Dr. IAN CUMMING. With a whole string of academic qualifications, he was, at one time, Acting Director of the Fisheries and Wildlife Division which resulted in some diverse activities. He recalled that he once spent a cold night shooting stranded

***** REMINDER! MEETING TODAY, WEDNESDAY, 16th JULY at 10 a.m. *****

OUR SPEAKER LAST MONTH (Cont) whales - a humanitarian duty not altogether approved by some well-meaning, but ignorant, local folk. He was also involved in the construction of the 'Tunnel of Love' - a thoroughfare burrowed under a busy road for the sole purpose of allowing a rare type of tiny male possums to reach their paramours on the other side - thus providing for the future of the species.

As Director of the largest health Region in the State, Ian handles a budget of \$150 million a year, a large part of the State's total health budget of \$2½ Billion.

He had good news for Bendigonians. There is a waiting list of 28,000 patients seeking elective surgery in the State, but only 400 are in Bendigo. This is a normal situation, allowing for the usual flexibility (Ian pointed out that such non-urgent operations as Vasectomy are included in the list!).

There is a plentiful supply of nurses here and the Bendigo Base Hospital is the best-staffed hospital in the State, with a modern, well-equipped Public Section. It is a matter of regret that so many patients in Bendigo opt for Private hospital care which results in these splendid facilities reaching only 69% occupancy, whilst there is sometimes a shortage of beds in the Private sector. This is probably due to the high incidence of Private Hospital Insurance in Bendigo compared to other areas.

Dr. Cumming had some enlightening remarks on the new system of Academic training for nurses and many questions gave us a much better insight into the whole of the hospital situation here.

KEN GLOSTER introduced our speaker, and KEITH INGLIS tendered the thanks.

SOME VARIATIONS on the old saying, "Old Soldiers Never Die"

Old songwriters never die - they just de compose.
Old dairymen never die - they just kick the bucket.
Old gamblers never die - they just cash in their chips.
Old garbos never die - they just waste away.
Old prime ministers never die - they just get dislodged.
Old English teachers never die - they just parse away.
Old French polishers never die - they just hope for a lovely finish.



"Probus has status, dignity and respect."

— Sir Davis Hughes

Wear this badge with Pride

OUR SUBJECT THIS MONTH is a man who spent 51 years working for a company which employs hundreds of thousands of unpaid workers - yet has never been charged with slavery or even indicted for exploitation! This is probably because fowls ('chooks' in Club raffle circles) have no Trade Union. (There must be scope here for Norman G.)

The firm is Crystal Ice Stores in Garsed Street which, as we know, processes millions of eggs, products of the humble hens' biological functions, many of which provides an essential part of our breakfast menu.



NORMAN EDWARD SPURLING

has one thing in common with our feathered friends - he is a native-born Bendigonian, having first seen the light of day in 1916 at Long Gully.

Commencing his education at Camp Hill School, Norman graduated to Bendigo High School from which he went to his first job - counter assistant and parcels boy at Matthews Bros. well-known 'Red Emporium'. Meanwhile he studied Accountancy with Hemingway & Robertson and, forsaking pants for pens, he gained a position as Junior Clerk with Crystal Ice in 1932. Seven years later he was appointed as Accountant for the company, a position that he held until retirement in 1983, completing 51 years unbroken association with the firm. By any standards this must rank as a major achievement.

It was, however, merely a precedent, for his father before him also served for 51 years at the Bendigo Pottery!

During his long term of office, Norman has seen many changes at Crystal Ice. From a modest 66 ft. frontage in 1923 it has evolved into the present extensive complex of buildings stretching to Arthur Street and also occupying a large section of railway land leased at the rear.

In 1942 Norman took time off from his duties to marry Alma Matthews and set about ticking up another record 44 years of married life during which they produced 2 sons, Peter and Tony, and four grandchildren. All are still living in Bendigo.

Attracted to travel, Norm and Alma have visited many countries - U.K., Europe, Scandinavia, Canada and America, as well as an extensive 'outback tour' two years ago when they went from Bendigo to Darwin, through the Centre, and down the west coast to Perth, returning by air to Melbourne.

Statistics again! For 25 years Norman has served the Lions Club of Bendigo, holding the position of Secretary for three terms, treasurer

OUR SUBJECT THIS MONTH (Cont) twice, Public Relations Officer and Zone Chairman. As organiser of the successful eye survey for Glaucoma he was presented with the Appreciation Award from Lion President, Bob Campbell. In this campaign he received an immense amount of support from TV8 and the Bendigo Advertiser - proof of the value of these two media representatives to the community.

A committee member of the Spastic Society of Victoria for many years, he was honoured with a Life Membership in recognition of his services.

For relaxation, Norman has two main interests, gardening and Lawn Bowls, and, most importantly, he is the current Secretary of the Probus Club of Bendigo!

PROBING AROUND

AN OFFER TOO GOOD TO REFUSE! Arrangements have been finalised for the Film morning and luncheon. Here are the details:

DATE: Wednesday, August 6th.
TIME: 10 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. - Plus.
AT: The R.L. Campbell Theatre (Regional Library, Hargreaves Street).
LUNCH: At the Royal Mail Hotel ('Pinkies').
COST: Films only, \$3 per head. Film and Lunch, \$10 per head.

LADIES ARE ESPECIALLY INVITED.

DETAILS: The Theatre has a capacity of 175. Screening is Award-winning film, "Mary Poppins" plus a 'surprise film' supplied by President Bob. The 'Carvery' has been fully booked for the luncheon with a capacity of 75. A choice of 3 main course dishes, with a choice of 2 sweets will be available. Members and wives may attend either the Film or luncheon, or both, but luncheon will be strictly 'first come, first served' due to limitations of numbers.

PLEASE NOMINATE YOUR INTENTIONS AT TODAY'S MEETING; or you may phone Arthur in advance and make your booking. He would appreciate payment at meeting today.

WE WELCOME A NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH He is ROBERT CYRIL McDONALD, 10 Edwards Road, Maiden Gully and his phone number, for the record, is 496321. Glad to have you aboard, Robert.

WE REGRET TO REPORT that Probian WILTON McKEAN is still on the sick list and has had to go to Melbourne for further treatment. We all wish him well and hope that it will not be long before his health has been restored and he will be back with us.