



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

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A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd. Wednesday each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Bendigo Club.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 49 Emmett Street, Golden Square, 3555.

THE GUEST SPEAKER for our last Meeting should have been JOE BROWN, but because of illness he was not able to present his talk. However, he is now recovered, and will speak at our July Meeting on "A Great Australian and a Great Australian Company".

Switzerland is a small country in Central Europe, smaller in area than Tasmania. Despite its smallness it is very varied and complex. For a start it has four languages, spoken in different parts of the country. It has high, majestic peaks and broad tranquil lakes; it has small medieval towns and large sophisticated cities. Switzerland has extensive pine forests and palm trees growing beside southern lakes. It has milk chocolate and Swiss cheese, Swiss watches and Swiss Army Knives, cuckoo clocks and crystal controlled chronometers. There is no Swiss Navy.

Our Speaker at the June Meeting was HAL MOORES, immediate Past President of the Sandhurst Probus Club, and his talk was entitled "The Swiss Rail System", but his talk was not restricted to railways, it was as varied as the Swiss scenery, and packed into a small compass.

The Swiss terrain presents many and formidable challenges to the railway engineer, to the road builder and the house builder also. The engineer has had to resort to diesel, to steam, to electricity; he has had to string his rails along mountain ledges, to throw bridges across yawning chasms, dig tunnels through mountains. A remarkable achievement with just those red-and-white handled knives (Hal's joke, not mine!).

In talking about Swiss scenery it is difficult to resist falling into dramatic prose with purple passages; but words are totally inadequate and our Speaker wisely used instead an impressionistic approach well-leavened with amusing anecdotes.

Switzerland is truly the roof of Europe. It contains within its borders the sources of the Rhine, which reaches to the North Sea, the Rhone, which flows out to the Mediterranean, the Inn which joins the Danube and eventually reaches the Black Sea, and the Ticino a tributary of the Po, which flows into the Adriatic. One of MR. MOORES' graphic verbal illustrations was about the village within a stone's throw of both the Rhine and the Rhone.

Justly, HAL remarked that the world consists of those people who have never been to Switzerland and the rest who can't wait to go back.

HAL MOORES was thanked by NORM DACK, who made the usual presentation.

NOTICE OF MOTION :

"The President (ROBERT HOLMES) has given Notice that the By-laws as distributed (June Meeting), be discussed and ratified by the membership at the July Special General Meeting."

Please bring your By-law copies to this July Meeting; some limited additional copies will be available at the July Meeting or obtainable prior to the meeting through the Secretary.

Members are asked to check their phone number in the Membership Booklet and notify the Secretary of errors.

TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT :

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH. TRIP TO MALDON

(Join with Castlemaine Probus)

Maximum to travel : **Not Limited Cost : \$13.00/Person** Includes Coach Fare, B.B.Q. Lunch, Inspection of Carmen's Tunnel, Maldon Vintage Train Ride, tour of Maldon's items of interest. Departure : 9.00 a.m. This outing will be most interesting and enjoyable.

Current Bookings : 54

*** MORE BOOKINGS REQUIRED ***

PAYMENTS : Today's JULY MEETING please. ** List Tabled Today **

TUESDAY OCTOBER 8TH. Trip to Melbourne

CONDUCTED TOURS OF GALLERY OF SPORT
MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB AND TENNIS CENTRE

Maximum to travel : 48 Current Bookings : 48 **Emergencies Required Cost : \$20 - \$21/person approx.** includes Coach Fare, all admission charges, plus a light lunch. "Will be a very interesting trip".

PAYMENTS : at AUGUST MEETING please.

*** LIST TABLED TODAY ***

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12TH. to SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17TH. INCLUSIVE

"TOUR OF THE YEAR" - TRIP TO SNOWY MOUNTAINS/LAKE EUCUMBENE"

6 days/5 nights, excellent day tours. Cost : \$383.00/person (all inclusive). Accommodation at : "Providence Lodge", Adaminaby, N.S.W. **** Excellent scenic tours arranged.** Maximum to travel - 47. Current bookings - 81 PAYMENTS : (Date to be advised)

SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH. - GOOD OLD DAYS

2.00 p.m. Capital Theatre. Price Per Ticket : \$10. We are combining with the Kangaroo Flat and Castlemaine Probus Clubs. There are plenty of seats available at present. Please Pay Today. A good afternoon's entertainment is assured. Please wear your Probus Lapel Badge.

PROFESSOR WIIO :

Director of the Institute for Communication Research at the University of Helsinki and a member of the Finnish parliament, Professor Wiio explains that he has named these laws after himself out of modesty because he "does not want to blame anyone else". He does admit however that he is "indebted to the unknown originator of Murphy's Law :

"If something can go wrong, it will."

1. Communication usually fails - except by chance.

Corollary : If you are satisfied that your communication is bound to succeed, then the communication is bound to fail.

2. If a message can be understood in different ways it will be understood in just the way which does the most harm.

3. There is always somebody who knows better than you what you meant by your message.

4. The more communication there is, the more difficult it is for communication to succeed.

Corollary : The more communication there is the more misunderstanding will occur.

5. In mass communication it is not important how things are, the important thing is how things seem to be.

6. The importance of a news item is inversely correlated with the square of a distance.

Word of Caution :

My laws of communication may seem exaggerated, paradoxical, maybe even cynical. Such is not my intention, and you can take my word for it. These laws have grown from the sense of frustration of hearing again and again about the "great power of the mass media", or about the "helpless common man in the hands of experts on human behavior and mind control". Or about the all-powerful propaganda techniques in the hands of the mighty.

It just does not work that way. the little man or lady of the street or village path have very efficient mental protection mechanisms against too persuasive communication. My first law of communication (communication usually fails except by chance) may be a very important survival factor for the common man. Luckily.

If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs, it's just possible that you haven't grasped the situation.

Your friend is the man who knows all about you, but still likes you.

Keep your temper. Do not argue with an angry person, but give him a soft answer. It is commanded by Holy Writ, and furthermore, it makes him madder than else you could say to him.

Abstinence is a good thing, but it should always be practised in moderation.

Never ask of money spent
Where the spender thinks it went.
Nobody was ever meant
To remember or invent
What he did with every cent.

Adolescence : A stage between infancy and adultery.

The four ages of man are infancy, childhood, adolescence and obsolescence.

Doing business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark : you know what you are doing, but nobody else does.

The death of JOHN HILL - a foundation member - is recorded with regret.