

THE GYROLOG



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

September 10, 1980

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 16, 1980, Mayfair Golf and Country Club at 12.15 p.m.

BIRTHDAYS

Herb McLachlin September 4 Bernie Brown September 13

Pilgrims board the Mayflower for America September 16, 1620.

"I've gone through my life with one principle: 'Be to our faults a little blind,
and to our virtues always kind.' " -Sir John A. MacDonald.

SICK AND VISITING

1. Enoch Loveseth is now well recovered from his recent surgery.
2. Jim Wright is steadily improving and hopes to be driving his car soon.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter of thanks was received from Geraldine Harrison, daughter of the late Les Mason, for flowers sent to her father when he was a patient at the University Hospital.

THIS WEEK

President Bert welcomed the presence of members Neil McKernan, following his recent illness, and Wes Van Dusen, our world traveller from Vancouver.

He also gave a warm welcome to the following visitors: Keith Bradley, Ted Cuthbertson, Rikk Dootjes, and Barry Pratt from Sherwood Park; and Elmer Knutson, Bob Matheson, Ernie McGillivray, and Bob Tegler all of Edmonton.

The guest speaker, Mr. Elmer Knutson, was introduced by Harry Mills. Born in Norway in the early part of the century, Mr. Knutson came to Canada as a youth and settled in Southern Saskatchewan. At the outbreak of World War II he joined the Navy and on his discharge he returned to Saskatchewan where he was employed as a mechanic. In the sixties he came to Edmonton and established Alberta Factory Parts. At present he operates Derrick Dodge Chrysler Ltd.

Mr. Knutson is active in the community life of the city and is one of the founders of the West Federation Association. He spoke on Confederation and the B.N.A. Act. He is not without credentials in this field as he has spent some considerable time in recent years in London, England doing historical research on the B.N.A. Act and the Statute of Westminster.

He claimed that it was a myth swallowed by Canadians that Canada became a federation in 1867 and this viewpoint, he stated, was supported by more than one legal opinion.

The schism between East and West was becoming wider in recent years, he said, and the purpose of his organization which was gaining strength (12,000 members) was to convince Western M.P's that the Western Provinces had a right 1. to form a federation. 2. to elect a constituent assembly. 3. to write a constitution. Only in this way, stated the speaker, could the Western Canadian people become masters of their own destiny.

Allan Warrack thanked Mr. Knutson for his talk on this new and different viewpoint on

(over)

Confederation, and his vigorous espousal of a better deal for Western Canadians.

Ernie Siegel related his experiences over the week-end of August 22 through 24 when he and Beth attended the Gyrospoke Golf and Race Meet in Spokane, Washington. They proved extremely able representatives of our Club as each won the Low Gross Honors in the Golf Tournament and at Playfair Race Track they showed their ability as handicappers by each coming away as substantial winners in terms of U.S. dollars.

Not only that but following the running of the Spokane Gyro Club Handicap they received a tremendous ovation when they were introduced from the track as "blue-eyed Arabs from Alberta."

Ernie stated that the hospitality of Terry and the Spokane Gyro Club could hardly be improved upon. Our congratulations to Ernie and Beth and our sincere thanks to the Spokane Gyro Club for the splendid hospitality and welcome.

On another note we received a bit of static in a recent edition of the Gyrospoke News Letter. It was a comment on an item in the Gyrolog on the effect in Spokane and Eastern Washington (the Inland Empire) of the volcanic eruption of Mount St. Helens. The story we quoted was from an eyewitness account by a very reliable source. We were not trying to discount the credibility of the material published in the brochures of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce. However, in defence, it might be pointed out that because of poor visibility there is considerable talk of transferring the franchise of the Spokane

Indians Triple-A American Association Baseball Club to Edmonton in sunny Alberta where "the skies are not cloudy all day."

We might state further, that as good Gyro friends, people who regard volcanic ash as a blessing in disguise, like the manna that fell from heaven to feed the Israelites during their forty years in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land, must be a great people indeed.

And as we count our blessings we are reminded of a story in the press that stated: "In Canada millionaires are a dime a dozen." Stephen Leacock, Canadian humorist and outstanding economist in his own right, never made it into this exclusive Club. But it didn't make him bitter. "I mix a good deal with millionaires," he wrote some years ago.

"I like them. I like their faces. I like the way they live. I like the things they eat.

The more we mix together, the better I like the things we mix."

Let's mix at the barbecues. See you there.

Gyjin

P.S. Don Millar will be in charge of tickets at the meeting September 16, 1980.

The Calgary Gyro Club Installation Party will be held on Saturday, September 27, 1980.