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# PROBE

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Bulletin of the Probust Club of Bendigo

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Published Monthly

Issue No. 3 - 12th July, 1985

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Editor: REG BROCK (Phone 434888)

Annual Subscription: \$8. Registered by Australia Post No.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

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

All correspondence to the Secretary, 16 William Drive, Kangaroo Flat.

THE SPEAKER SAYS:

THE SPEAKER NEXT WEEK is Mr DOUG HALL, Director of the Bendigo Art Gallery. After initial education at Quarry Hill Primary School and White Hills Technical School Mr. Hall attended the National Gallery School in Melbourne. On graduation he was appointed Director of the Warrnambool Art Gallery and, in 1980 accepted his present position in Bendigo.

He was instrumental in arranging for the visit of Helene Toussaint and Jeremy Maap to verify the authenticity of the French paintings in the gallery - a matter of great significance to Bendigo.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD! From time immemorial it has been the desire of humankind to communicate, each with the other. After the spoken word came the printed language and people really started to express themselves. From the tens of billions of words, we have developed the Press as we know it today.

Our last speaker, Mr. REG. MacDONALD, Managing Editor of the Bendigo Advertiser is well-qualified to speak on this subject. After first qualifying in Medicine he changed direction and spent many years in the profession of Journalism. His address was most instructive and entertaining. CONTINUED PAGE 4

IMPORTANT! NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, 17th JULY AT 10 am.

## COMMENT

"HOW OLD IS OLD!" Since I first saw this sign displayed on the wall of the Craft room at the Home and Hospital for the Aged I have pondered the matter.

How do you really define 'Old Age?' Certainly, the people I saw there busily engrossed in acquiring new skills or dexterously reviving old ones seemed to be too busy and too happy to be classified as 'old' - with all the undertones attached to that title.

Surely Age must be relative?

In the first decade of life we tend to regard our parents as ver old. When we contemplate our grandparents we marvel that anyone could live so long.

At the crossroads of middle-age we look upon the twenty-year-old as a callow youth, conveniently forgetting that in the last war many 'youths' at that age were piloting aircraft worth many millions of dollars and making split-second decisions that most of us have never been called upon to make.

In the eyes of the eighteen-year-old flushed with pride in possession of his brand new driving licence a middle-aged fellow traveller is a 'silly OLD -----,' His father is 'the old man' and it never occurs to him that, assuming he lives long enough, he, too will be 'old'.

It is safe to say that few who live to the age of three-score years and ten really feel old. Probably the only ones who do are those who shun society and the company of their fellows preferring to wallow in self-pity and the firm conviction that the world owes them a living. They are truly, 'old'.

Let it be said now that these people are not members of a Probus Club. By joining this Club we have all accepted the proposition that our minds need the constant stimulation of contact with men whose lives revolved in the circles common to us all.

This is the unique quality of Probus - may we all enjoy it for many years to come, and thus we may never grow old!

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ROBERT L. (BOB) CAMPBELL

Bob was born in Bendigo and educated at Violet Street State School, Bendigo Junior Tech. and Bendigo School of Mines and conducted his Electrical Contracting business from 1945-1981.

He retired from Bendigo City Council in November, 1983 after serving 11 years and was Mayor in 1975-76 and 1979-80. At the time of his retirement, Bob was President of the Provincial Cities and Towns Association of Victoria and Vice-President of the Municipal Association of Victoria. (He had represented Bendigo on both these bodies for 8 years).

He was Chairman of the Premier Town Contest Committee and Chairman of the Presentation Panel when Bendigo won the Award in November, 1982. As Chairman of the Project Planning Committee, he was heavily involved in the planning, construction and functioning of the new Library/Senior Citizen's Complex.

He was re-appointed to the Place Names Committee of Victoria in June, 1984 for his third 3 year term as representative of Local Government in Victoria.

A member of the Lions Club of Bendigo for 25 years, he served in numerous offices, including President 1965-66, and Deputy District Governor 1966-67.

Bob was appointed an Honorary Justice in 1958, and was awarded a Member of the British Empire in 1974.

He is a Life Governor and Life Contributor of the Bendigo and Northern District Base Hospital, a Life Governor of Mirridong Home for the Blind, Bendigo Home and Hospital for the Aged and Royal Freemason's Homes. He is also a Life Member of the Bendigo Art Gallery - Spastic Society of Victoria - Electrical Contractors Federation of Victoria and the Bendigo District Bowling Association.

Bob served on the Management Committee of the Electrical Contractors Federation for 20 years as representative for Northern Victoria and was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Apprenticeship Commission and an Associate Member of the Illuminating Engineering Society

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His title, 'Shoot The Messenger' became logical when he explained that in Roman times it was customary to reward the bearer of bad news by promptly executing him! One shudders to think at the mortality rate of Editors in the present world situation.

Humourously, we were treated to much hilarity by some examples of newspaper 'bloopers' - errors which are inevitable in a medium so wide-spread.

When he spoke on the subject of editorial responsibility Mr. MacDonald was most informative. He is firmly convinced that the people in a democracy 'need to know' what is happening around them. On the local scene the provincial newspaper should effectively represent the views of the community. He defended the right of a newspaper to 'Publish and be Damned' as a part of its major responsibility.

For an excellent and thought-provoking speech. Mr MacDonald was thanked, on behalf of all present by Probian Ken Burch.

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Bob plays Lawn Bowls with Golden Square and has been President on four occasions and has won the Club Championship four times. He was "skip" in February, 1983 when his four won the R.V.B.A./Esso Country Fours Championship of Victoria and teamed with Frank Johns to win the Victorian Country Master Pairs at Kyabram in 1971.

Bob would freely admit that he has been fully supported in his various community activities by his wife PHYL and three daughters MARIAN - BARBARA and LYNN.

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THE PORT OF MELBOURNE TOUR is so popular it is booked out for twelve months ahead! Not to be outdone, we have asked for an advanced booking for 8th October, 1986. With notice like this there is no excuse for anyone missing out. Buy a diary now and Put It In!

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