

# THE GYROLOG



THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON  
- EDMONTON - ALBERTA

September 14, 1982

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 21, 1982, Mayfair Golf and Country Club at 12.15 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS

1. By order of the Commanding Officer an All Ranks Church Parade will be held on Sunday, September 19, 1982 at Westmount Presbyterian Church, 13820 - 109A Avenue. This will be Padre Rev. Dr. Jesse E. Bigelow's farewell service. The Parade will fall in at 1100 hours.
2. The Installation Party of the Calgary Gyro Club will take place on Saturday, October 2, 1982 at the Commerce Club. The Get-Away Breakfast will be served on Sunday, October 3, 1982 at the Earl Grey Golf and Country Club. Cost: \$60.00 per couple.

## BIRTHDAYS

Bernie Brown	September 13	Samuel Johnson	September 18
Vern Sadd	September 19	Jim Wright	September 20

"The next best thing to knowing something is knowing where to find it."

-Samuel Johnson-

## SICK AND VISITING

1. Al Lee was admitted last week to the Intensive <sup>Care</sup> Unit of the University Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.
2. Russ Carter visited Bill Muir recently and they cut up a few old touches on Gyro activities of yester year.

## OBITUARY

Tommy Visser, a one time member of the Edmonton Gyro Club, passed away last week. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Lydia and the family.

## THIS WEEK (25)

Dave Duchak announced that the congregation of Westmount Presbyterian Church has arranged a Testimonial Dinner for Rev. Dr. Jesse Bigelow and Margaret prior to their departure for Kitchener, Ontario where Jess has accepted a call to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. The dinner will be held at the Saxony Motor Inn on Thursday, September 16, 1982 at 6.30 p.m. We wish Jess and Margaret Godspeed and success in their <sup>new</sup> ministry.

Boyd Slavik won the draw.

Harry Mills introduced the guest speaker, Mr. James Santer, of the Income Tax Branch, Department of National Revenue.

Mr. Santer stated that he was pleased with his reception, noting that no one had left the room on hearing that he was with the Tax Collection Branch. At a previous meeting several people had walked out, suggesting that perhaps their Tax Returns should be thoroughly audited.

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Tax Returns should be thoroughly audited.

He said that many citizens tend to blame the Tax Department employees for the levying of income taxes; but he explained that the Branch only administers the tax laws which are enacted by Parliament. One wit suggested that coffee and doughnuts should be served at the Tax Office. After all the Red Cross provides refreshments when taking your blood.

Much of his work, said Mr. Santer, is of a public relations nature in which he is called upon to answer the taxpayers' questions, some of which are rather odd. But one has to be careful not to give a flippant answer. Each must be treated seriously. Tax officers are said to have no sense of humor but this sense is soon developed after a short period of experience. He then related several typical questions or suggestions from taxpayers.

(over)

When the 1980 Return was due, one man filed his 1979 Return with the request that since he was so late filing he would like his refund speeded up. Another asked, if I bring my return to you will you mail it because if I mail it, it won't get there. Incidentally you may take your return to the Federal Building mail drop and have it forwarded without postage charge.

An affluent citizen with an annual income of \$125,000.00 wanted to know how he could get by without paying any income tax.

An employed ex-army officer who had retired from the army and was in receipt of a substantial D.N.D. pension used it to purchase a Registered Retirement Savings Plan. He reported this entire amount as a deduction on his return. When it was processed through the computer it was rejected because the figure was well above the maximum allowable deduction. On a re-assessment the ex-army man found that instead of getting a small refund he still owed between \$14,000.00 and \$15,000.00. The tax assessor's hearing is still not back to normal.

One woman provided the information that she could not pay her tax because she had used all her money to pay for an operation. As proof she pulled up her skirt, and before the astonished eyes of the tax man exposed the scar from the surgeon's scalpel. What better proof!

Another woman wanted to be become a church and asked how to go about it. Mr. Santer suggested that some Post Office employees might be investigated after he was asked what the difference was between the form one gets in the mail and the one you buy at the post office.

Perhaps there was more to this one than meets the eye. This lady of questionable judgment wrote (referring we think to making out an income tax return) "I've never done it before. Would you help me?" That, of course, would depend on what she looked like.

The lady who wanted to know how much investment income a woman could have is on a par with the man who wanted to <sup>know</sup> what the maximum taxable income is. Then there was the woman who conducted her business walking along a shady street or conducting a shady business walking along any street. Her request seemed legitimate enough when she asked for the annual percentage rate of depreciation of her assets.

In conclusion Mr. Santee stated that about 4% to 5% of the taxpayers represented 90% of the problems.

Bert Boren thanked the speaker for an amusing account of the work of a tax collector.

Perhaps this will help us all to pay our future taxes with good grace.