

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

Clubs for Retired & Semi-Retired Professional & Business Persons, Former Executives & Others



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NEXT MEETING

Date: July 21, 1998 **Location:** Stanley Park Pavilion
Time: 9:30 a.m. **Speaker:** DOUG McCALLUM
Mayor, City of Surrey
Topic: TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Meeting Tuesday, June 16, 1998 - Attendance: 83

George Plante was thanked for his design and construction of the badge box. Bill Kennedy (731-4244) will assist for lost or incorrect badges. Membership has reached 175, necessitating creation of a wait list for future members. Bob Weese (980-1413) is taking names. Brice Macdougall reported that PJ McGeer's paper was turned down by the Vancouver Sun. He will send it to the Globe and Mail. PROBUS pins are available from Doug Lambert.

Brice Macdougall introduced the guest speaker, Colleen Nelson, Ph.D., a respected prostate cancer researcher with the BC Cancer Agency. She began with giving an anatomical overview of the prostate. Once cancer invades beyond the prostate there is no cure available at present. Palliative measures are improving but inadequate in many instances. Therefore, at present, early detection is essential. The triad of detection DRE (yearly Digital Rectal Exam), PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) and then US (Ultrasound) in those with suspicious findings are helpful. Unfortunately DRE misses one-half of those with organ confined disease. PSA is normally present in the blood; it increases when prostate cancer develops. However, there is a mid-zone in the levels where cancer may or may not be present which presents diagnostic difficulties. Any suspicious lesions should be biopsied. She recommends those 50 to 70 years of age should have a yearly DRE and PSA, with biopsy if necessary.

Successful treatment at present is totally dependent upon detection prior to the cancer extending beyond the prostate and its removal. Prostate removal can result in impotence and incontinence. A new and better removal tool, the HOLMIUM LASER, should reduce these complications. Brice Macdougall circulated Vancouver Hospital Foundation donation forms for the acquisition of this device.

Approximately one in nine individuals (approximately 20,000 new cases per year in Canada) will get either breast or prostate cancer. Mass prostate screening with PSA would detect three times the number of cases of prostate cancer at less cost than mass screening for breast cancer. For political and economic reasons this is not being done. Only \$31.00/case is spent on prostate cancer research per year compared with \$395.00/case for breast cancer. AIDS received \$100 million last year for research. Prostate research received \$500,000. BC is a leader in prostate cancer research. Dr. A. Gerein thanked Dr. Nelson for her interesting and provocative presentation.

Barely two lifetimes ago, the 65-mile stretch of the Fraser River from Fort Yale, 15 miles above Hope, to Camchin (Lytton), an Indian village at the Thompson fork, was a hostile wilderness. Steamboat service in 1858 ended at Yale because here the river begins to boil its way through a canyon that has Hell's Gate among its obstacles. It could be navigated by rafts and heavy canoes but, with cargo, only at low water. The alternative was a sometime mule track, a precipitous cliff-hanging Indian trail through rocky terrain not much friendlier than the river (including a piece of Jackass Mountain 1500 ft above the water). The trip took 7 or more days and was only just passable "by man, goat or mule, no others" when the pioneering Bailey and Hautier families were settling in Yale and Lytton. In 1861-2 the trail was replaced by a wagon road with trestles, cribbing and robbers, a great improvement but still dangerous by most civilized standards. Mid-decade saw the construction of an 18-22 ft road to the gold fields of the Cariboo that would serve until the coming of the railroad in 1881.

The 500-mile route back and forth from Victoria to the Cariboo was the lifeline of the two families clinging to its sides in the Canyon. It was a busy thoroughfare travelled by pack trains, wagons, stages and innumerable miners on foot, creating teamster jobs and lucrative businesses for the 13 Baileys and 8 Hautiers it supported. Ben Bailey, Cariboo freight agent, auctioneer and entrepreneur, and Louis Hautier, hotelier, chef and herbalist, were both successful businessmen in their respective towns and up and down the settlements between.

With wildly fluctuating population (from 600 to 20,000 and back), Yale was said to be, for a decade, the busiest and gayest place west of Chicago and north of 'Frisco, an incredible mix of relatively high living and tent-city grunge, with rowdiness probably at its height during construction of the railroad, when the place boomed (for the second time) and perhaps drove the Baileys out, in '82, to Victoria— where Ben 14 years later would plunge off the Point Ellice Bridge in a street car. Meanwhile Lytton, one-fifth the size, experienced similar ups and downs, but it was somehow a more temporary place, rundown and depressing. The Globe Hotel, owned by Louis and, later, his sons, was praised for its fare and accommodation but not its appearance. A sign directed MEN to toilet facilities. "LADIES Go Behind".

Contrasting Scenes in Two Towns: Sarah Bailey, in a much-plagiarized *Colonist* interview, is reported at 86 as saying that she was too busy having babies to pay much attention to the gold rush or railway construction and was in any case preoccupied with her garden and the dancing that was her delight. In a society of males, she and her five daughters in crinolines were a force to be reckoned with.

Meanwhile, Louis Hautier was being charged with Intent to Kill. A "small, lightly-built man, polite, but with a rather fiery temper when aroused", he took violent exception to insults addressed to wife Josephine by a 200-pound Irish butcher named Patrick Kilroy. Louis, wielding a cudgel and with revolver in his pocket, confronted Kilroy, only to be beaten with his own cudgel. From his pocket, Louis tilted the muzzle and fired. Thank God he merely creased Kilroy's head: "If there is a shooting, there will surely be a hanging" was part of the code. Or had he tilted it the other way, the family jewels and his descendants might have come to nought. As it was, he was let off by Hanging Judge Begbie with a \$50 fine for assault. Kilroy was fined \$400 for incitement. When she died, Josephine was a faintly tragic young alcoholic, a would-be artist in a rough and alien environment, but it seems clear that her aborted singing career may have achieved something after all. She and Begbie are known to have made music together in earlier times.