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ORIGINS

In the beginning, there was neither Being nor Non-Being
Neither sky, earth, nor what is beyond and beneath.
What existed? For whom? Was there water?
Death, immortality ? Night, Day?
Whatever there was, there must have been one
The primal one (God?), Self-created, self-sustained, by his own heat,
Unaware of himself until there was desire to know himself.
That desire is the first seed of mind, say seers
Binding Non-Being with Being.
What was above and what was below? Seed or soil? Who knows? Who really knows?
Even the gods came later. Perhaps only the primal being knows. Perhaps not.
(Rig Samhita)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Best wishes to all the Probians from Los Angeles. I would like to express my thanks to Ram and all the Committee Members for conducting the affairs of the Club very efficiently during my absence. That speaks a lot about the strength and comradeship of our Club. We are having an enjoyable holiday in the company of my daughter and son – in – law. We are planning to go to Las Vegas and visit Grand Canyon during the ensuing long weekend commencing 4th July. Some of the Members may recall the beautiful and breathtaking photographs sent some time back, by Probian Mrs. Nooshie Ahsan on the ' SKYWALK ' recently constructed at the Grand Canyon. *'Best Regards' --KVK (From USA)--*

CLUB ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH:

Fellowship Get-together

The club arranged for the contributory “Cocktail & Dinner Party” at MES Inspection Bungalow Secunderabad on 13th.June through the good offices of our resourceful past president Sudhakar. The attendance was average and everybody had great time. Our get-together always offers an opportunity to the Probians to discuss the ways and means for the improvement of fellowship and growth of the club and the Probians took full advantage of the occasion.

N.B.-Unfortunately, we missed the company of several Probians who confirmed the attendance but for unavoidable circumstances could not make it. In case of contributory dinner the additional burden (wastage of food) falls on the participating members if the members confirming the attendance fail to take part on the occasion.

Regular General Body Meeting

FELICITATIONS

Birthdays: Prob. Tripta offered greetings to Prob. Rajgopal, Prob. Vijaylaxmi and Prob. Janardan Rao on their birthdays falling on 7th. 16th and 26th. June respectively.

Wedding anniversary: Prob. Swamy & Kamala and Prob. Guruswamy & Sarojini were felicitated on their anniversaries that fell on 12th and 25th. June respectively. “Cake Cutting Followed”

GUGEST SPEAKER

The guest speaker Prof. I.V. Muralikrishna, Director JNTU with brilliant academic record and vast experience in changing global climate and cloud seeding was introduced by Prob. Dr. Swamy .

The presentation of Prof. Muralikrshna was excellent and very interesting. He explained to the audience how green house effect and pollution from innumerable sources are affecting the human health and unless very urgent remedial steps are taken by all the nations the sustenance of life on the earth will be in danger. He also explained the technique of cloud seeding to create artificial rainfall.

Prob. Sudhakar proposed Vote Of Thanks.

HEALTHCARE

Prob. Nooshie's mother passed away on 27th. of this month. May her soul rest in peace in Heaven!

Probian Venkatraman had a nasty fall at his residence and as a result there was a fracture of the hip bone. An emergency surgery was performed at CARE hospital and he is now recouping at Bangalore. . Our recalcitrant Venkat is now professing that no Senior Citizen should live alone and he has decided agreed to stay with his son.

Probian Aruna Kumar contracted chest infection and had to undergo a major surgery. She is now in Apollo hospital and is expected to be discharged soon.

We wish both of them quick recovery!

Special News:

In the first meeting on June 10th'08 of the Adhoc Committee of the newly constituted Andhra Pradesh Senior Citizens Confederation hosted by the association of Senior Citizens Hyderabad the following issues have been identified and are being followed up

- 1) Old age pension to all destitute elders [9.2 Lakh] as per Central Govt Scheme.
- 2) Demand for 50% concession in Bus fare as in other States.
- 3) Health Care at affordable cost [Health Insurance and Medical Care costs]
- 4) Sensitising public about implications of the Maintenance of Parents Act.

--- By courtesy of Prob. R.N. Mital (Chairman, The Association of Senior Citizens, Hyderabad

HEALTHCARE

We all have our little quirks, habits and behaviors - that we know we would be better off without. We all wish we had more self-control. But when thoughts spin out of control, becoming so intense and intrusive that they take over against our will. When habits turn into all-consuming rituals that are performed to rid us of overwhelming feelings of fear and dread, something more serious is happening.

THIS IS OBSESSIVE –COMPULSIVE DISORDER (OCD) --*Dr. J.M. Schwartz* -- In "Brain Lock"

Superstitions / old wives' tales:

Rheumatism-----has always been a common complaint in temperate climates, and the number of cures and recipes for its relief are legion: a potato or a horse chestnut carried in the pocket; the skin of a freshly caught eel worn as a garter, a piece of tarred twine in a bag worn round the neck; and wrapping the painful area with either a worn stocking or a skein of silk. Pioneer Australians treated rheumatism by inserting a piece of potato in a suede glove. This was pinned to a red flannel binder and worn by the afflicted person-if the potato became hard, the treatment is working. And these were only the external recipes; many more called for potion to be taken internally, made up of obnoxious ingredients.

WORDS OF WISDOM & HUMOR

If you wake up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than million who will not survive this week.

If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, and a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank or in your wallet, you are among the top of the world's wealthy.

If you hold your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can but do not. *--Author unknown*

Population Growth

The statement of Issac Asimov, the great thinker and science fiction writer, on population growth presents the population issue in a different light. In an interview with Bill Moyers, (author of A world of ideas) was asked: “What happens to the idea of the dignity of the human species if this population growth continues at its present rate?”

Reflecting on how as populations grew and the demand on resources increased Asimov responded with what it called his ‘bathroom metaphor’ ---If there were two people living in an apartment which had two bathrooms, then both had the freedom to use a bathroom for as long as he liked. But if there were twenty people in the apartment and only two bathrooms, you would soon have someone banging on the door if one of them took too long. There would be no such thing as ‘freedom of the bathroom’. In the same way, he said, democracy can not survive overpopulation. Human dignity can not survive. Convenience and decency can not survive. As you put more and more people into the world, the value of life not only declines, it disappears. It does not matter if someone dies, the more people there are, the less one person matters.

Little Known Laws

- **Cornuelle’s Law:** Authority tends to assign jobs to those least able to do them.
- **Jay’s First law of Leadership:** Changing things is central to leadership, and changing them before any one else is creativeness.
- **Old and Kah’s Law:** The efficiency of committee meeting is inversely proportional to the number of participants and the time spent on deliberations.
- **Corcoran’s Law:** All papers that you save will never be needed until such time as they are disposed of, when they become essential.

Quotable Quotes

- “In youth we want to change the world; in old age we want to change youth.” --*Bob Brown*
- “There is only one problem with going through a second childhood. This time you can’t blame your parents.”
--*Robert Orben*
- “Personally, I always tell my troubles to my enemies. They’re the only ones who really want to hear them.”
--*Robert Orben*

Editor’s Column

There have been several discussions in the club formally and informally on the methodology of holding our Monthly Fellowship Meeting and I would like to highlight the opinions of the members. Fellowship get-together is optional since in our monthly subscription, the expenses for the in-between meeting are not included. The fellowship Dinner/Lunch may be contributory for every occasion or hosted by one of the members by turn once in two and half years approximately (there being 30 members). The month for hosting the fellowship get-together can be decided by the host choosing some occasions like Anniversary / Birthdays / Any other important personal event. The list of the members showing the month for hosting the fellowship get-together can be drawn up in consultation with prospective hosts by the Fellowship Committee in advance of six months The charges for the contributory dinners for thirty months will be almost same for a member as the expenses for hosting a dinner for him in thirty months.

Some members think that it becomes embarrassing to bring guests when a dinner is being hosted by a member. However, it has also been observed that in a contributory dinner the incident of bringing a guest by a member is also rare. Since last ten years it has been observed that in a contributory fellowship get together the average attendance is just about 20 whereas in a hosted dinner the attendance is very high. In both the cases all the members are contacted by the members of the fellowship committee. Our club is primarily meant for promoting fellowship and it is desirable that we take full advantage of it. The Fellowship Committee can prepare a suitable questionnaire and send to the members to elicit their opinion.



Ram Mukherjee