

SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

Art Moody

RED LODGE, MONTANA AND 33's GEOLOGISTS.

When Jack MacDonald's son went to Red Lodge last summer, he was following in the footsteps of many of his father's classmates. On his return he brought copies of THE SMILODON, named after the saber-toothed tiger, an occasional publication of Princeton's Department of Geological and Geophysical Science, which was loaded with stories of our classmates. (See also the Bill Pecora story in our first Summer Newsletter). The picture below of six classmates on horseback with Erling Dorf, the expedition leader (later an honorary classmate) was among them.

The Red Lodge Project, known as the Yellowstone Bighorn Research Association (YBRA), had its beginnings in the early thirties, and many Princeton geologists did their summer field work there with faculty members well known to our class, such as Taylor Thom, Arthur Buddington, Dick Field, Harry Hess, B. F. Howell, Paul MacClintock and Edward Sampson. The story is told that Steve Fox and Fred Bates, having driven across the country on mostly dirt roads west of Chicago, arrived in Red Lodge dusty and dry.

The town was hot and the streets deserted except for an old half-asleep cowboy leaning against the Post Office wall. Steve tapped him on the shoulder and asked, "Sir, can you tell us where we can get a drink in this man's town?" The reply was instantaneous, "Son, see that there store with the canopy down yonder? It's the only place in town where you can't get nothin'".

Erling Dorf led horseback trips to Beartooth Butte to collect ostracoderms, euopterids and early land plants. The rumor spread that they were fishing without a license, and the sheriff arrived on the Butte one morning to catch them in the act. When Erling presented him with a "fine ostracoderm in a rock", the sheriff replied, "Doggone it, the drinks are on me back in town".

Steve Fox, Fred Bates and Frank Spencer did their senior theses there, as did Steve his PhD dissertation. Anyone interested in more information about YBRA, including copies of the Smilodon, should write to the Department at Princeton. Maybe someone would like to visit Red Lodge some summer.



SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK (Cont.)

WILSON'S LAST CONVERTIBLE. In the Alumni Weekly of June 15, 1981, there was a story about a silver Rolls-Royce given to President Wilson by two alumni, Cleveland Dodge '79 and Thomas Davies Jones '76, and Bernard Baruch. It cost nearly \$13,000. Wilson had only one ride in it before he died, but Mrs. Wilson kept it until 1932. Walt Compton was visiting Jack Kerkam back then and saw the car in a garage, where it was for sale. The dealer said he had been instructed to sell it to the first person who made an offer. Walt bought it for \$300. He and Charlie Emerson then had it remodeled, put a Packard Phaeton top on it and took it back to Harvard Medical School. When Ed Holschuh heard this story recently, he remembered riding in it, but didn't know it was a Rolls. The car was eventually sold to a collector, and we understand has been restored to its original form.



The story of the election of Fife Symington III as governor of Arizona was covered in the weekly column. Now a follow-up in David Broder's column of May 5th. After recounting Arizona's many woes and the ordeal of the long gubernatorial contest, Broder says, "After all that, the sandy-haired, 45 year old Symington seems surprisingly serene as he looks out over Phoenix from the ninth floor State Capitol office he has occupied for the past two months." Broder goes on to say that the new governor is still in his honeymoon period, and that the voters are pleased that he has not recommended either a tax cut or a cut in aid to cities.. The resident press corps finds him both accessible and rational - "a luxury we have not enjoyed for some time". Whether his cautious businessman's approach will work in the long run is anyone's guess. Symington is careful not to claim too much.

SOCIAL NOTES: The Sunday Times of April 7, 1991 reported the engagement of Samantha McLean and William Halsey Spruance, Jr. The report stated that Mr. Spruance, Jr. is associated with National Geographic Traveller Magazine and a graduate of the University of Delaware. It also stated that his father is a vice-president of the Wilmington Trust. While it mentioned that the prospective bridegroom is a great-

grandson of Admiral Halsey, it did not mention the much more significant fact that he is also the grandson of classmate Preston Lee Spruance, of Hockessin, Delaware. The wedding, incidentally, is planned for July.



A note from Ray Carter: "On our way back from Florida, we stopped at Hilton Head and had dinner with George and Di Brady and Jack Kerkam's widow, Ellie. George was much better and able to walk without a walker. Ellie was fine and reported that their granddaughter had been admitted to Princeton with early admission. I wonder how many of '33's grandchildren we have as undergraduates". (Ed. George Constable reports two - Leigh Constable and George W. Constable, Jr.).



Becky and Art Moody recently visited Ann and Josh Billings in Nashville. Josh is now Clinical Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University, has moved into new offices provided by the university and closed his private office. Last year they cruised the Danube, and this year are planning another central Europe cruise, on the Elbe and other rivers. Bert Brush joined them for drinks and dinner. His wife of 54 years, the former Martha Stockton of Princeton, died last fall. She was a friend of many members of our class and acted in the Theatre Intime. She was also the sister of the late Bayard Stockton, who was an honorary member of '33.



Jack Pyle, whose long thespian career was profiled in our 1989 Newsletter, is the subject, with his wife Marianne and daughter Susan, of feature articles in the Newark Star Ledger and other north Jersey papers. Susan inherited her parents' preoccupation with the theater from early childhood, "I have watched rehearsals since I was a little kid", and is now a director of the Summit theater group. Jack has also been written up for his work as "Detective Claus", being chairman of the Summit Old Guard's Santaphone Committee, who respond to children who write letters to Santa.

