

ROCK BLAST

Newsletter of the K-W Gem and Mineral Club

Season's Greetings to all!

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December 27th, 1966

Mailing Address--P.O. Box 841, Kitchener

President--Floyd Caesar--745-3350

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Regular Meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August

Next Meeting--January 4th, 1967 - 8:00 P.M.

BUY! SELL! SWAP!

This is your chance to add new specimens to your collection-----

Bring some money if you want to buy--

Bring your extra specimens if you want to sell or swap.

Meeting Place--

As usual, Room 370, Biology Building. Drive along University Ave., from King St., until you come to the railway track in front of the university. Turn right immediately after crossing the track and go to the parking lot at the end of this road (behind the Physics Bldg.)

Our December meeting was held on the seventh, with 43 attending. Excellent slides were shown by Floyd Caesar on the minerals of the Brancroft area--also some scenes of collecting in the Madoc area.

Occupational Birthstones

Did you know that there were such? From the July issue of the Readers Digest--
Architects--Cornerstone; Politicians--Blarney Stone; Stockbrokers--Curbstone;
Burglars--Keystone; Tourists--Yellowstone; Motorists--Milestone; Pedestrians--
Tombstones; Astronauts--Moonstone; Doctors--Gallstone; Vintners--Whinestone;
Opticians--Grindstone; Hatters--Brimstone; Laundrymen--Soapstone; Bartenders--
Whetstone; Shoe Repairmen--Cobblestone.

"Will you pass the nuts, professor?" a friend asked at the dinner table. "yes," answered the professor absentmindedly, "but I suppose I should flunk them."

GOLD BAR PLUCKED FROM SEA

One of the most valuable single treasures ever plucked from the sea came to light off Bermuda recently.

A Gold Bar described as "the most valuable numismatic item yet found from the Western Hemisphere" is the latest treasure found by well-known Bermuda divers, Teddy Tucker and Bob Canton.

According to Mendel Peterson, director of the Smithsonian Institution's dept. of armed forces history, the 39-ounce bar is the only complete one discovered, dating from the middle or late 1500's and minted in the New World.

The bar comes from a Spanish wreck sunk on the Bermuda reefs during the latter part of the 16th century. Mr. Tucker says the Spaniards apparently managed to salvage all the guns, anchors, small arms and most of the gold, but either missed one bar or lost it during the salvage operation.

Mr. Peterson expressed interest in the gold bar, which he said might be worth as much as \$50,000.00 for the Smithsonian's new museum of maritime history. But he said it would make "an important addition to the Bermuda government's present collection of Spanish gold, already one of the finest in the world." The mid-Atlantic island's government has given no indication of its interest, as yet.