

Retirement Presentations

On the twenty first of December, friends and colleagues gathered in the Main Hall to say farewell to Dr. "Bob" Hinde who had decided for health reasons to retire after 36 years with BICC. Dr. David Margolis presented Bob Hinde with a cheque together with cards expressing good wishes from friends at both Wood Lane and other BICC establishments.

Dr. Margolis said that Bob Hinde had initially worked at Prescott and Kirkby, but that the bulk of his career, the last 27 years, had been spent at Wood Lane. Bob Hinde established one of the first X-ray Diffraction Laboratories in industry and, as a tribute to the high quality of the X-ray Diffraction facility, it was now taken for granted by people, both at Wood Lane and in the operating companies as a standard research technique. Dr. Margolis said that, in recent years, the emphasis of the technique has switched towards polymers indicating the continued application of X-ray Diffraction to new materials.

In reply, Bob Hinde referred to the length of service of his family for the BICC group; this now totalled 259 years, shared between his father, three uncles, his sister and himself. In particular, he recalled two of his uncles, who were twins, who had worked on the development of the Strowger Automatic Telephone System. He showed a photograph, taken in 1938, of them receiving their 50 year presentation from Sir Alexander Roger, who was then chairman of the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company and whose picture now hangs in the Main Hall.

Bob Hinde concluded by expressing his thanks to all those who had contributed to his retirement present. He said that the money would be used to buy a writing desk, which he had wanted for some years, and which would be a most pleasant reminder of friends and colleagues he had worked with at BICC.

