



Young English Airman Is Plane Crash Victim

Death of a young English RAF member will bring sadness to friends in town who remember him as a schoolboy when they served with the army overseas.

Mrs. Dorothy B. Palmer who was known to scores of Georgetown soldiers as "Mother Palmer" when she entertained them at her home at Farnborough, Hants, wrote this week to tell of her son's death.

Twenty-four year old Nigel Palmer, who was in Canada some time ago for training with the RAF was killed in a flying accident on November 28 over the Isle of Wight.

In her letter Mrs. Palmer says: I am afraid I have a message of bad news. Our son Nigel, who was in Canada training with the RAF was killed while flying over the Isle of Wight on Sunday, November 28th. He was buried at Farnborough on December 4th. The church was full of people and there were at least 50 cars following, and we received 80 wreaths. Mr. Sheldford from Trumley Green took the service, assisted by our rector and the clergyman for Bath where Nigel had been teaching since the beginning of September. It was a lovely, bright service. We sang the Lord Is My Shepherd and Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven. Our hearts are heavy, but we hope that Nigel will carry on the good work which he began on earth, and that the Good Lord has work for him to do elsewhere. He lived and loved every minute of his 24 years. Would that he was spared a few more years. Think of us in your prayers, please and God bless you all.

Mrs. Palmer sends Christmas greetings to Tom Warner, Bruce and Mae Harley, Bill Chaplin, Horace Blyth in Acton, Dave Ganton, London, Joe Hall and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Harley.

James McCaig Elected as Halton Chapter Principal

Ex. Comp. James McCaig was elected First Principal of Halton Chapter, RAM, Wednesday, when members met in the Masonic Hall to choose their new officers. He succeeds Ex. Comp. Albert Hunter, who has held the office for the past year.

New officers of the lodge are: Ex. Comp. Lew Tracey, 2nd Principal; Comp. William B. Hamilton, 3rd Principal; Ex. Comp. William Cromar, treasurer; Ex. Comp. Jack Addy, Scribe; E. Comp. Jack Armstrong; Scribe N. Comp. Charles Henwick; P.S. Comp. Alex. Reader, sentinel; Comp. Irwin Noble, S.S.; Comp. Sam Penrice, J.S.; Comp. G. McCrea, Master of 4th Veil; Comp. Bev Moody, Master of 3rd Veil; Comp. William Kinrade, Master of 2nd Veil; Comp. Jack Gunn, Master of 1st Veil; Comp. Alfred Goodwin, organist; Companions Sam Mackenzie and Elmer C. Thompson are auditors.

FIRST SANTA CLAUS WAS SCANDINAVIAN

Our well-loved legend of Santa Claus coming down the chimney on Christmas Eve originated in the Scandinavian countries. Their Christmas legend is that the Goddess Hertha appears in the fireplace, bringing happiness and good fortune. A jolly old man, representing good fortune, comes down the chimney to meet her.

Santa Claus appears in various costumes throughout the world. However, in most countries, he is a roly poly old man with a long white beard, usually dressed in red. Sometimes there is a long red coat worn with a big red hat trimmed with white fur.

In the Netherlands his red robe is that of a Bishop and Sinter Klaus carries a bold scepter and wears a large jewelled miter on his head, while he is dressed in the robes of a priest.

Legion Notes

This week's column will be very short, but the writer did want to take the opportunity of wishing all members a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The past year has been a good one for the Branch. We hope and are sure that 1955 will see even further progress, especially with the wholehearted cooperation of the members that was shown in 1954.

Parents! Don't forget to have the youngsters present tomorrow (Thursday) evening for the Christmas Tree. It will be held in the auditorium at 7 p.m. and it is hoped that all members

with children will bring them out to see Santa Claus.

And don't forget the New Year's Eve dance. Dancing to the Modern Aires 10 till 2:30. This has always been a big evening for branch members, so let's see every one present for it. A good time is guaranteed. All join the rest of the Branch in bringing in the New Year.

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ST. JOHN CHURCH CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lee were chosen president of the 50-50 Club of St. John's United Church at a meeting on Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Prouse. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wyatt are the new secretaries.

Members of this group of young married people spent the early part of the evening at the church, where they decorated Christmas trees in the church and memorial hall, and arranged flowers for the Christmas service.

At the Prouse home, a short devotional was followed by a program of games and contests. James F. Evans acted as Santa Claus, distributing gifts from the tree and Mrs. Evans played for carol singing. Rev. Morgan McParlane pronounced the benediction and R. W. Darou expressed thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Prouse and Mr. and Mrs. Vern McCumber, who were joint hosts for their work on the executive this year.

Forums Cite County Health Service Good

Judging by reports received from the forums it was quite evident, the subject: "A National Health Insurance plan" discussed Dec. 6, proved very interesting.

It was generally agreed that health services in this county such as Co-operative medical and surgical services, TB x-rays, blood donor clinics, and health unit are satisfactory. There was some criticism of the working of the Health Unit.

Most forums considered Halton's hospital accommodation very inadequate. Those depending on Milton Private Hospital for care regretted lack of sufficient space and some in the lower part of the county expressed the opinion that hospital facilities available in their district are too expensive.

There was considerable diversity of opinion on the effectiveness of voluntary programmes to meet local health problems. Some forums were not clear to just what these would cover, while others thought they might be developed but all seemed to think they were likely to prove expensive.

As to a national health insurance plan, the majority of the forums considered such a plan would help solve many, though not all problems. One forum in particular was very much in favour of such a plan and felt it was time the Federal Government should vigorously press the issue and stop hiding behind the Fathers of Confederation.

TRAVEL NOTES



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Christmas Gifts... a Custom at Christmas

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