PERSONAL — MR. WILLIAM VICTOR MINTORN:

After the September meeting had adjourned for supper, the President announced that Mr. and Mrs. Mintorn were shortly to take up residence at Manly.

Bill Mintorn joined the Society in its foundation year and served it loyally as Councillor and Honorary Curator-Librarian for many years, being made an Honorary Life Member in 1967. Born in Wollongong well over eighty years ago, he is a perfect example of “Living History”, as over the years his quiet “but I was there” has clinched many a discussion and illuminated or expanded some point of local history. He addressed the Society on a number of occasions and his graceful accounts of our excursions, especially the “three dayers”, over the years were a feature of the early bulletins.

Apart from being briefly one of the four original operators of the Wollongong telephone service (1908) his working life was spent at the E.R. & S. Co. Pty. Ltd., from which he retired in a senior administrative position.

He is remembered, however, to at least two and possibly three generations as “The Weatherman” and/or “Mr. Cricket”. As “The Weatherman” his comments were always of interest and his meticulous work culminated in his appointment as the first non-departmental official recorder.

On the cricket field he earned respect as a player, umpire and administrator and the number of honours awarded would fill a score book. His “History of Cricket in Illawarra” published in the now defunct “South Coast Times” (1963) is invaluable to that date and must be the basis of future works. An original member of the present Showground Trust, he represented summer sports until reaching the statutory retiring age of 70.

In civic affairs he has been concerned with progress and betterment associations, and for a lifetime has been a devoted worker for the Smith Family. As a gardener he has also merited acclaim.

This tribute endorses the President’s wishes for a happy time in their new life for Mr. and Mrs. Mintorn.

—A.P.F.

MRS. M. HOWELLS:

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Mary Howells (Councillor) has been on the sick list. Members send their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

VALE:

We record with regret the passing of Mr. L. C. Constantine on 1st September. Well known in educational and sporting circles, our late member joined the Society in 1961.

We also record the passing of Miss Lena Smith in August at Lichfield, Staffs, England. A sister of our member Miss Margaret Smith, the late Miss Smith attended our functions and became well known to a number of our members during a residence of some twelve months in Wollongong.

—A.P.F.