

Saturday 26 February 1977.

The twentieth annual dinner of the Past Presidents of the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association was held in the Garron Hotel, Mocherwell on Saturday 26th February 1977

Those in attendance were.

R. Paterson	-	1949
T. Myers	-	1953
W.M. Sharp	-	1961
G. J. C. Rae	-	1963
J. Donne	-	1965
A. D. Spence	-	1967
G. Prescott	-	1964
J. Y. Cootes	-	1971
J. Neil	-	1973
L. W. Turberville	-	1974
P. Hearty	-	1975

Messrs. Paterson, Sharp, Prescott, Spence, Neil, Turberville and Hearty were accompanied by

their wives Mr. John Neil was in the chair and the guest of honour was Mrs. Mary Black who that afternoon had been appointed President of the Association for a further year. She was accompanied by her husband Bill who at the Association's Annual General Meeting earlier that day had been ~~re~~ elected ~~the~~ General Secretary.

There were apologies for absence from Messrs. N. Bernie T. L. Chapman, K. A. Brown, J. Wright, J. Wainwright, W. Cowan and J. W. Williamson.

Mr. W. M. Sharp said the grace and after an excellent meal the chairman made special reference to the pleasure that all had in finding Tock Gulls sufficiently restored in health as to be present that evening. He then invited Mr. R. Paterson, the senior past president in attendance to propose the

## Course to the Scottish Amateurs Swimming Association

In so doing Mr. Paterson traced the history of the Past Presidents Dinner illustrated by pictures which he had brought with him. He also conveyed the good works of Willie Foulkes, Past President and Treasurer, who was now 'almost blind'.

The Scribe, Leslie Tusterville, then read the minutes of the 1976 meeting which were approved.

The President, Mrs. Mary Black, in replying to the Course to the Association said how pleased she was that the Annual General Meeting and the Past Presidents Dinner should be held in Motherwell, for many years the home of British Swimming and a town which had produced such legendary stars as Nancy Rick, Kathie Gibson, Nan Rae and others. She referred to the present difficulties facing the association but was sure that these would be overcome if all pulled together. She

was pleased that the suggestion made at last year's dinner regarding past presidents being invited to National events, had been implemented.

Mr. P. Healy, Chairman of the Scottish Sports Council and a member of the F.I.N.A. Committee was also invited to say a few words. He also spoke with affection of Motherwell and of the "halcyon days" of swimming in that town. His memories ranged over the years from 1943 when he was invited to give his first diving exhibition in Motherwell. He concluded by speaking briefly on the relationship of the Sports Council to sporting bodies in Scotland.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to reminiscences of various past sporting and social occasions and calling to mind memories of colourful characters.

The 1978 Annual General Meeting

of the Association was due to be held in  
the East District, probably in  
Edinburgh and Mr. Healy was  
asked to undertake arrangements for  
the Past President's Dinner.

Before the company dispersed Mrs  
Black presented the chairman John Neil  
with a bottle of Glenmorangie and  
Tom Myers proposed a vote of thanks  
to Mr. Neil for arranging such a  
happy function and for presiding at  
same.