HAZEL BAINES – IN MEMORIAM

Many friends, colleagues and ex-students were saddened to hear about the passing of N Hazel Baines CSP, TLET, MSASP and Honorary Member of the SASP, in England, on July 16 1993

Hazel trained as a physiotherapist at Guys' Hospital, London, during the war years, and later qualified as a Chartered Society Teacher of Electrotherapy. She came to South Africa in 1948 and accepted a position as Electrotherapy Teacher at the University of the Witwatersrand. She took a particular interest in nerve stimulation and diagnostic and therapeutic procedures of nerve lesions, a new oncoming science at the time, in which she excelled. Always being a perfectionist, her techniques in this field were superb.

Later, Hazel worked at "Physiotherapy Advisor" for Medical Distributors (Pty) Ltd., in which capacity she taught many of her colleagues in hospital and private practice modern techniques at diagnosis and re-education by means of exponential and related currents. In between, she taught and assisted the staff of the Pretoria Physiotherapy School, when they were short of teachers. Hazel later went on to build up an important Private Physiotherapy Practice in the Northern Suburbs of Johannesburg, and became well known for the next eighteen years for the efficient way she ran this big practice and for the excellent work she did for her many patients.

In 1980 she returned to the UK and set up house in Kent but ten years later, she returned to South Africa. She had many friends here and had hoped to make her home here again, but increasing poor health made her decide to return to "the old country", where she died on July 16 1993.

Hazel gave a great deal of her time to the SASP where she was firstly Treasurer for the Southern Transvaal Branch, and later a most dedicated and successful National Treasurer.

Her hard work in these fields was not always appreciated or realised by her colleagues, but when she retired to England in 1980, the Society honoured her by making her an Honorary Life Member of the SASP in appreciation for what she had done for Physiotherapy and for the SA Society of Physiotherapy. As was expected, she put all her affairs in order and succeeded in saying "goodbye" to as many friends and relatives as possible.

The SASP and Hazel's many friends and relations in this country and overseas mourn the passing of a good friend and pioneer physiotherapist.

Our sympathy goes out to her brother, Michael, and her nephews and nieces.

Donations in commemoration of Hazel Baines can be made to The Coeliac Group of South Africa, P O Box 51489, Raedene 2124. Contact: Mrs M Kaplan.