## ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 29th April 1950

**Retired Railwayman's Funeral.-** Many present and past railwaymen attended the funeral at the Congregational Church on Monday of Mr. Robert John SWEETMAN, of 9 Abingdon Road, who served the railway for over half a century. The Rev. T. J. FOINETTE conducted the service and Mrs. K. INGRAM (organist) accompanied the hymn "The Lord's my Shepherd."

The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. H. W. SWEETMAN (son and daughter-in-law, also representing Mrs. SWEETMAN, (widow), Mrs. F. HUMBER (sister), Mr. and Mrs. J. SWEET (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. W. E. SWEET (brother-in-law and sister, also representing Mrs. A. MOULD, sister-in-law), Mrs. A.COWLARD (sister-in-law, also representing Mr. and Mrs. G. LEAL, nephew and niece, and Messrs. I. and D. LEAL, nephews), Mr. F. CHESSELL (brother-in-law, also representing Mrs. CHESSELL, sister-in-law, and Mr. and Mrs. A. CHESSELL, nephew and niece), Mrs. E. KIMBER (niece, also representing Mrs. HADDON, sister-in-law), Mr. G. HUMBER (nephew), Mr. R. SWEET (nephew, also representing the Misses B. and M. SWEET), Mrs. R. FINCH and Mrs. E. MARTINGALE (nieces), Mr. F. WEBB (also representing Mrs. WEBB and Mrs. A. J. BUTCHERS), Mrs. WHITE, Miss J. WHITE, and Mr. and Mrs. C. OFFER. British Railways were represented by Mr. G. H. R. GARDNER (assistant for the Island, also representing Messrs. A. B. MACLEOD and J. E. BELL, former assistants), and Messrs. R. MEGGETT (locomotive foreman, Ryde St. Johns), W. BALE (locomotive foreman, Newport), H. A. FIDLER (civil engineers' department), R. W. TAYLOR and W. SMITH (chief mechanical engineers' department), W. G. WILLIS, J. LOCK, E. JACKSON, R. LAMBERT, W. HERBERT, and W. SMITH (locomotive works), E. COX, H. COOK, and R. TAYLOR (carriage and wagon department), and E. S. JACOBS (guard). Former railway employees present were Messrs, T. F. THOMPSON (late stationmaster, Ryde), W. WILLIS, T. H. WOODWARD, H. PETER, J. LACEY, J. H. BANNISTER, A. RUSSELL, G. VALLENDER, and C. WILLIS.

Among others present were Messrs. H. BASSHAM (representing the former I.W. Central Railway and Mrs. BASSHAM), G. CHEVERTON (representing the High Street Methodist Trust), H. G. JOLLIFFE, W. G. BEERE, A. JONES, H. T. BRADING, P. G. EXTON, and A. WEALTHY, Mesdames J. COLLIER (representing the Women's Bright Hour), G. CHEVERTON, R. MEGGETT, CHESSELL (representing Mrs. A. CHESSELL), E. J. GATTRALL, L. BUSHELL, A. BRADING (also representing Mr. A. BRADNG), G. THORNTON, PHILLIPS (also representing Mr. H. R. PHILLIPS), W. ATTRILL (also representing Mr. W. ATTRILL), and E. GALLOP, and the Misses E. GRAY, WHITE, M. BURDEN, M. SAUNDERS, and E. and A. ADAMS.

The interment was at Ryde Cemetery and the floral tributes included those from the staff of the motive power department and the carriage and wagon department of British Railways, Ryde; the Congregational Church; the Methodist Church; and the Elim Street Methodist Trust. Messrs. WHEELER Bros. made the arrangements.

Mrs. SWEETMAN and son thank all friends for flowers and messages of sympathy. Please accept this as the only acknowledgement.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Kate MacDonell