

ALMA

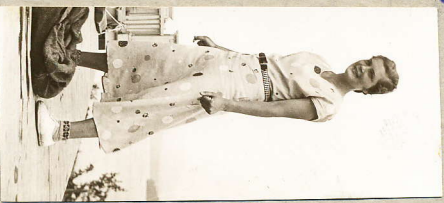
B. 23 Oct. 1913

M. ① 10 June 1939

② 17 Jan. 1958

THE FARM 1930

(NOTE THE SOCKS: BEING MADE AND WORN)



WITH STEVE LYMAN +

\* Steve Lyman was the son of an old friend of the parents. ("Aunt" Ann Lyman was a sister of Mrs Harriott, Harry Johnson's mother. She was a widow). Steve and his older brother Ben (or Phillip) when they needed summer jobs were employed by Daddy on the farm. They - with the Dase boys and the students helping out at the Sicut and Holman Smith Camps - also brewed the Howard girls at the Hermitage Club dances, etc.

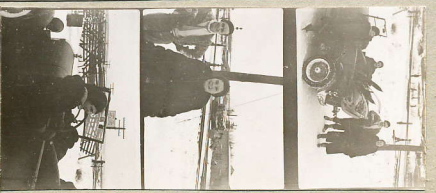


PATRICK ROLLESTON: B. 22 Oct. 1902, DUBLIN, IRELAND.  
D. 9 SEPT. 1947, BANBURY, ENGLAND

MICHAEL EBERT: B. 5 Nov. 1914, ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA  
D. 28 Dec. 1982, SEEFOLD, TIROL, AUSTRIA

Alma of the CREEPS: ie, "Crawpears"

and Ralter Independent Pipe Smokers" organized in definite opposition to the Pinguins who were good skiers. The original nucleus consisted of Peggy Jenkins, Ragnhild Taise, "Dimp" Thompson, Alma. Hazel was sort of honorary because she was older. Among the hangers on were Duncan Williams, Bill Hasler, Corky etc. At first there was a rented house in St Saviour (?) and then



Jan. 1st to 4th 1931 -

A "skiing" week - end.

Those present: Alma,

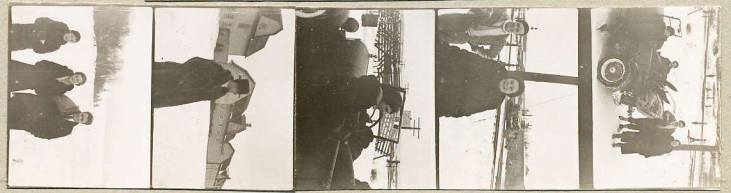
Evelyn (?), Hazel, J.E.M. Le-

Moine, Bob Douglas

(The camera and Parkard,

"Suisalder", belonged to Jack),

As I remember it, it was fantastically cold that week and - like 30 below F.



GIRLS OF SAGACITY, COURAGE

Base Days and the student's helping out at the Ellet and Holmen Smith Camps — also brewed the Howard quilts at the Homestead Club dances, etc.



Alma of the CREEPS: i.e., "European and Rafter Independent Pipe Smokers" organized in definite opposition to the Penguins who were good skiers. The original nucleus consisted of Peggy Jenkins, Ragnhild Tøse, "Dimp" Thompson, Alma. Hazel was sort of honorary because she was older. Among the hangers on were Duncan Williams, Bill Hasler, Corky etc. At first there was a rented house in St. Saviour (?) and then moved home in St. Adelaide.



GIRLS OF  
SAGACITY,  
COURAGE  
AND RAPACITY  
AND LARGE CAPACITY  
WE ARE  
THE CREEPS!

We occupied a cottage on the Thompson Estate in Ste. Adelaide. (To its time "There is a happy land far, far away") where she ~~she~~ hills you roam or on the Steeps As long as you're not too far from home you'll find the 'Creeps."

Of course there were other songs we sang on these wonderful ski trails! Such as: "The plumb line on the C.P.R. is so notoriously poor ..."



MOTHER, EVELYN (SAUNDERS), GEORGE + JACK SAUNDERS, GERHARD SANDER, ALMA. (THE CEDAR BENCH BEHIND IS ONE THAT DADDY MADE) THE SAUNDERS CAR.



SUMMER 1935.

ALMA IN "THE SHACK" (SOUTH HOME) WHICH THEY USED AS A LAB.



EXPERIMENTAL WHEAT FIELD AT THE FARM TAKEN BY GERHARD SANDER



When Alma knew that I was doing this Scrap Book she wrote answering some of my questions, one of which was, "Do you remember the snap of you and Gladys Robinson?" (pg. 13) and she says: "Yes, I remember the photo. My pants are hanging down. I always had trouble with the elastic on those things, I suppose I didn't have much shape and, also, I kept stretching them by showing those and-fur skirts into the pants so I could climb trees better." She goes on to say: "Daddy certainly did create an environment for us and I think the most remarkable thing about it was the freedom we had. It was not so fashionable in those days to give children freedom, and I don't think mother would have contemplated it if Daddy had not set the pace in all things. There were only three rules, as no doubt you remember: 1. No bare feet in the stable or barn yard (terramis); 2. No swimming within two hours of a meal and NEVER if you were alone; 3. No screaming — that could be done only if you were in serious need of help. Apart from these rules we did as we liked, although Daddy did remind us not to upset Mother by being late for meals, etc. But those were good manners, not rules, and to keep the domestic peace."

"I remember once breaking rule no 3, Sylvia and I were coming up from the lake to the old farm-house and for some reason I was slowing off how convincingly I could cry in distress if I wanted to go on the stage. I put on quite a performance, I suppose, but just as we got to the little white gate, Daddy appeared running down through the field. When he saw that we were alright he turned aside with a word but I saw that his face was red and he was breathing hard, and I suddenly realized that he had thought I was in distress. When we got to the house Daddy did not appear for quite a while, and Mother said, 'you really frightened him with all that noise, I was so ashamed that I was never able even to say I was sorry to Daddy, it has haunted me ever since.'"

And continuing she notes that the little white gate (it doesn't show in the picture Top Right on Pg 3 — just off to the left somewhere) was central to a lot of things in our young lives — "(It), I think, disappeared when the sheep were discontinued and it was no longer necessary to have the fenced-in pasture, but we went right on calling the spot the L.W.G. There was a big glacial boulder beside it (to the south)." She remembers, apart from the Glacial Boulder, the "Orange Tree" which was a big maple. "One day

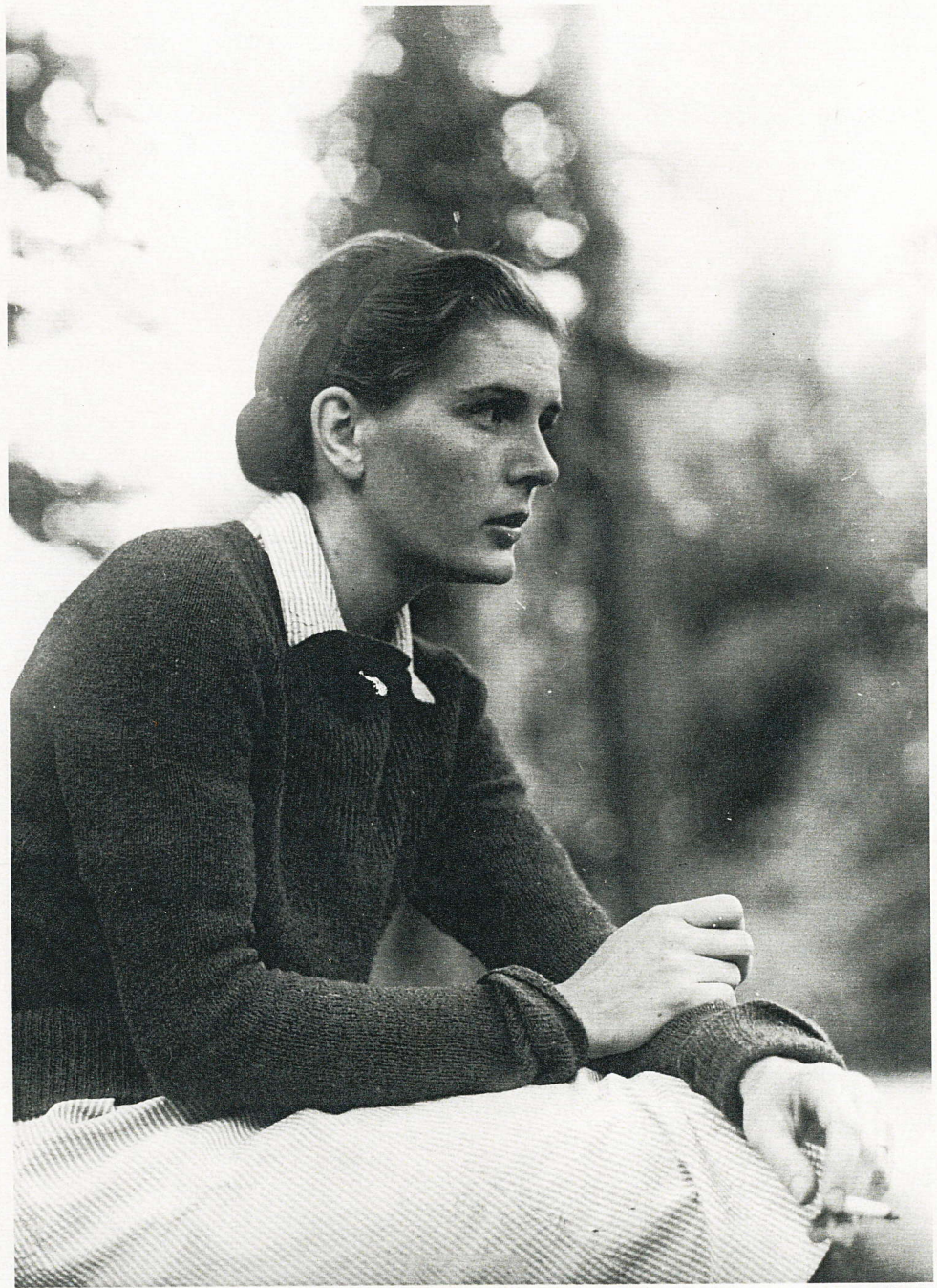
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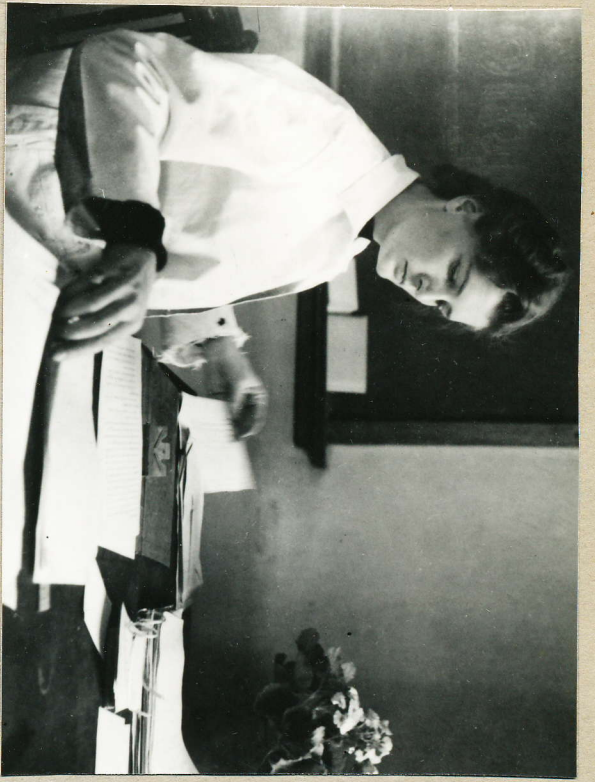
And continuing she notes that the little white gate (it doesn't show in the picture Top Right on Pg 3 - just off to the left somewhere) was central to a lot of things in our young lives - "(It), I think, disappeared when the sheep were discontinued and it was no longer necessary to have the fenced-in pasture, but we went right on calling the spot the L.W.G. There was a big glacial boulder beside it (to the south)." She remembers, apart from the Glacial Boulder, the "Orange Tree" which was a big maple. "One day Uncle Fred put 3 oranges at its foot and told me they had dropped from the tree. I sort of believed him - anyway for a long time I always looked under that tree hoping for oranges." There was a big silver birch between it and the L.W.G. which was special for Alma. Also wild ginger grew near the water fall below the pool in the stream, and there was a field of Oxtail, and lots of other exciting native plants.

Alma was always fascinated by plants. Even as a little girl she spent as much time as she could working in McKenna's greenhouses on Côte des Neiges, and, in company with Daddy, the farm was a perpetual source of discoveries for her.

Alma's response to my enquiries about her Scholarships and bursaries and things which got her through McGill was as follows: "Mr. Francis McLennan paid my McGill fees during the whole of my undergraduate four years. (His wife was my god-mother). Then in 1934 after I got my B.Sc. and after Daddy's death I just about gave up hope of doing a graduate degree, which I was very keen to do, and then heilicent phoned one day and said that Aunt Mary

# Note: When the time came that I (Hazel) spent most of my time on horse-back a special "good manners" rule became operative: A complete change of clothes before coming to the dining-table. Needless to say I ate most meals in the kitchen!





OCT. 1941  
ALMA IN HER LAB. AT  
MCGILL UNIVERSITY

From  
"Old McGill"  
1934

8



EASTER 1944



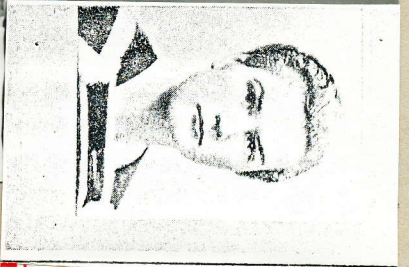
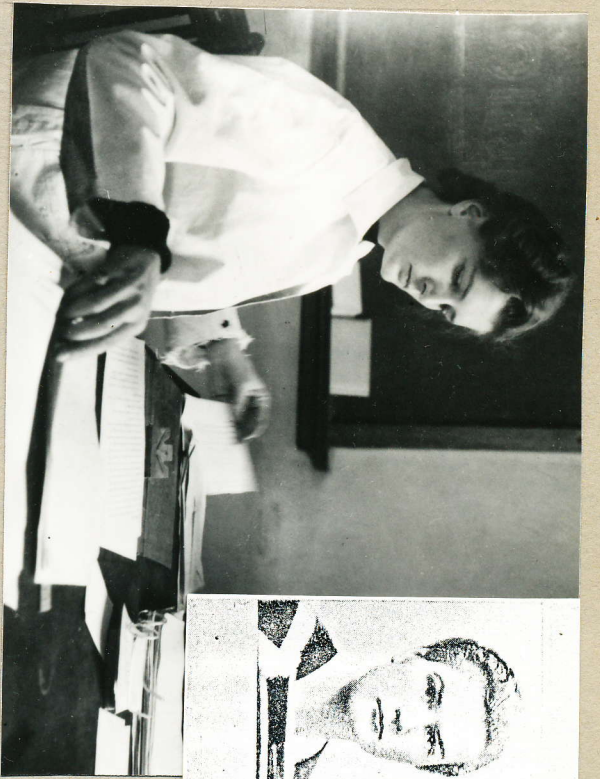
1946

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND



OCT. 1941 MONTREAL  
HAZEL MOTHER ALMA  
AND FRANCIS

By 1942 Patrick was on loan from  
Allean to be in charge of supply-  
ing materials for the R.A.F. and was  
stationed in New York where they  
lived in Greenwich Village and  
where Raddy was born.  
In the autumn of 1945 they were  
moved by Allean to Banbury,  
England.



HOWARD,  
ALMA C.  
The world knows little of its  
greatest people.

P.D. MAY 1938  
IN GENETICS

OCT. 1941  
ALMA IN HER LAB. AT  
MCGILL UNIVERSITY



OCT. 1941 MONTREAL  
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EASTER 1944



1946

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By 1942 Patrick was on loan from Alean to be in charge of supplying materials for the R.A.F. and was stationed in New York where they lived in Greenwich Village and where Raddy was born. In the autumn of 1945 they were moved by Alean to Banbury, England.



EASTER 1944

1946  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND  
ON A TRIP WITH PATRICK



BANBURY, ENGLAND  
PADDY AND FRANCIS



SPRING 1948  
ALMA AND PADDY

MOLENNAN - At Lorettville, July 19,  
1928. In her 79th year. Alma Stewart,  
wife of Francis Molennan. Funeral  
private. Please omit flowers. 170 2



CHRISTMAS 1955  
Hilltop House, Sandola Point N.B.  
EVELYN, FRANCIS, ALMA, JIM, MARTHA  
KATY BARBARA PADDY

By 1942 Patrick was on loan from  
Alcan to be in charge of supply-  
ing materials for the R.A.F. and was  
stationed in New York where they  
lived in Greenview Village and  
where Paddy was born.  
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England.



had left \$350.00 for my nephews or niece who wanted to complete a college education! (NOTE: Aunt Mary was Daddy's youngest sister. She was a school teacher and never married) and as far as he could see — he was the executor — I was the only possible candidate. So was I interested? You bet I was! But \$350.00 was not much more than the fees and if it had not been for you (Hazel) I could not have managed that first year, you were working for Southams and I remember when you got your job you were paid the fabulous sum of \$27.50 a week — untold wealth, I thought, and I think you did too. So you financed Grosvenor Avenue, with some help from lodgers, and I lived for free.

"Then", she continues, "for the next three years I got scholarships from the National Research Council (Ottawa) which gave me \$440.00 the first year, \$550.00 the second and \$660.00 the third. In 1938 I got my Ph.D. and then I had two yearly fellowships from the Finney-Howell Cancer Research Foundation in Baltimore, which kept me going as a research assistant and demonstrator in Genetics without cost to the University. After Francis arrived they did not renew the fellowship. Huskins (one of her professors at McGill) was really responsible for putting these grants for me and for putting me up for the Gov. Gen's Silver medal when I got my doctorate."

(AUG. + SEPT)

Loomington

(~~St. Catharines~~, Ont.)

Alma worked during the summer of 1932 for the Heiny Factory <sup>Loomington</sup> ~~St. Catharines~~, Ont. <sup>(?)</sup> ~~feeling~~ — as far as I can remember — batches of Tomato Soup. As it was a late summer the last crop of Tomatoes were still ripening when Alma was supposed to be writing an exam for McGill so McGill sent it up to the local clergy who invigilated as, Alma says, he also rehearsed the church choir in the room next door. She passed the exam.\*

On May 11<sup>th</sup> of 1933 she sailed in a Manx-Clayton Line freighter ("The M. Commerce") to Liverpool. Freeman Stevenson, Duncan Williams, two other passengers and lots of cows were also on board. Mother was visiting Jane and Chris in Oxford that summer so Alma, of course, visited too. When she was in London she stayed with

Chris' aunt Mrs. Leonard. On July 24<sup>th</sup> she went to Etzel, Bavaria to take part in an International Students Conference and then on to Switzerland where the Con-

(AUG. + SEPT)  
Alma worked during the summer of 1932 for the Heinz Factory (Leamington ~~St. Catharines~~, Ont.)<sup>8</sup>) fermenting — as far as I can remember — batches of Tomato Soup. As it was a late summer the last crop of Tomatoes were still ripening when Alma was supposed to be writing an exam. For McGill she McGill sent it up to the local clergy who in vigilated as, Alma says, he also rehearsed the church choir in the room next door. She passed the exam.\* On May 11<sup>th</sup> of 1933 she sailed in a New Chester Line freighter ("The M. Commerce") to Liverpool. Freeman Swainson, Duncan Williams, two other passengers and lots of cows were also on board. Mother was visiting Jane and Chris in Oxford that summer so Alma, of course, visited too. When she was in London she stayed with Chris' aunt Mrs. Leonard. On July 24<sup>th</sup> she went to Ettal, Bavaria to take part in an International Students Conference and then on to Switzerland where the Conference continued. On August 4<sup>th</sup> she was in Geneva staying with Duncan Williams' mother. Then she married Evelyn's wedding on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

The house on Grosvenor Ave. was sold in the summer of 1937. Actually, it would be more accurate to say that it was given back to its former owner and holder of the mortgage for the amount of the mortgage because it didn't sell and we couldn't in any way afford it any longer. I had been married in April 1937. So mother and Alma moved into the Grosvenor Apartments at the corner of Guy and Sherbrooke Streets. And when Jane and Chris and David came on furlough in 1938 Alma moved into the "Roach" (caterer's house on Milton Street so that the Brysons could live with mother. A lot of people at various times lived in the Roach House such as Peggy Jenkins and Dick and Ragn Tait and Jack Carter. Jack was a friend of Patrick Robertson and it was through him that Patrick and Alma met — I don't know at what date but, whatever, they were married at the Farm in June of 1939.

\* The exam. was for a Prize in Botany. She got half the prize and spent it on the trip to England the next year. She also had to make a collection of preserved plants and re-members that I typed the labels for her.

MARRIAGES

ROLLESTON-HOWARD. — On June 10th, 1939, at "Arwanis," Magog, Que., by the Reverend J. King Gordon, assisted by the Reverend J. B. McLauchlan, Alma Clavering Howard of Montreal to Patrick William Rolleston of London, England.



TO THE CEREMONY:  
LOIS GORDON AND  
HELEN CLAYTON



MOTHER AND ALMA



PICKING THE BOUQUET  
PATRICK AND JACK CARTER  
(REMODELED OLD HOUSE BEHIND)



MOTHER AND ALMA



THE REV. MR. J. KING GORDON  
THE REV. MR. C. B. McLAUCHLAN



THE CEREMONY (5:20 PM)  
GORDON AND McLAUCHLAN  
ALMA, PATRICK AND  
JACK CARTER



MOTHER AND ALMA



MOTHER AND ALMA



THE CEREMONY (5:20 PM)  
GORDON AND McLAUCHLAN  
ALMA, PATRICK AND  
JACK CARTER



ATTENDING THE CEREMONY ON "WINDY HILL"



AFTERWARDS:

FRED, JUNE & ISOBEL REVERLEY

OLIVE HOWARD, MOTHER, WILBERT

HOWARD

PATRICK AND ALMA ROLLESTON



HOWARD MURRAY, JACK CARTER'S BACK, FRED. REVERLEY

HAZEL, JUNE, ISOBEL, EVELYN, PETER R., PATRICK  
KAY R., ALMA, (HEAD OF) RAYMOND WEST

(BACK OF) JACK SAUNDERS

HELEN CLAYTON, RUTH GORDON, KING GORDON,

(GLIMPSE OF) BOB WOHAM, WILBERT, MARGARET

WONHAM, PEGGY (JENKINS) DONALD, MOTHER,

(GLIMPSE OF) OLIVE



JACK CARTER BEHIND THE BACK OF BOB MURRAY, HAZEL, PETER P. PATRICK, BACK OF BOB WENHAM'S HEAD, MRS. HOWARD MURRAY, MARG. WENHAM, PEGGY, WILBERT TALKING TO KING GORDON. ISABEL REVERLEY IN FRONT



PEGGY (UNDER HAT) WILBERT STILL TALKING TO KING G. PATRICK HELEN CLAYTON, LOIS G. GLUETH. ALMA. (IN BACKGROUND: AGWANIS HARBOUR + LEAD'S ISLAND)



PETER P. PATRICK, RAY P., ALMA, RAYMOND WEST, BACK OF JACK SAUNDERS.

Alma says, because I asked her to tell me how she met Patrick: "You thought P. and I met at your flat — Stanley's. Where you had asked him for a drink because Brooke Claxton told you to; but I don't remember that. I think it was to Roach Club in Spring 1938; or rather P. standing on the street with Jack Carter and me looking through the window and deciding in 1/2 second that that was the man I had to marry. Just like that. It took me quite a time to hook him."

"P. was Corpus Christi (Oxford) 1923. to 1926 (above) and he did English evening, but all his friends and real interests were in literature."

The following is her background for Patrick: "The Rebellion, Patrick's father, was a writer and poet whose work was mainly concerned with Irish mythology and legends. The family lived in Dublin until 1907 when they moved to London and TWK became German critic on the Times Literary Supplement. Patrick's mother was a daughter of

Stepford Augustus Brooke, a writer and literary scholar who left the Church of England, in which he was ordained, to found his own chapel, with unorthodox theology in London. (For more see "Portrait of an Irishman" by C.H. Releason — a son.)



PETER P. PATRICK, RAY P. ALMA, RAYMOND WEST, BACK OF JACK SAUNDERS.



ALMA + PATRICK AWAY, HELEN HOWARD MURRAY, HELEN CLATTON + BOB WENHAM

Other guests included: Campbell (Taping pictures), Humphrey Carver, Brooke Clatton, Germa Howard, Jimmy Saunders (aged 2 1/2) and Mrs. West.

"P was Corpus Christi (Oxford) (1923 - to 1926 about) and he did English evening, but all his friends and read interest were in literature." The following is her background for Patrick: "T.W. Rolleston, Patrick's father, was a writer and poet whose work was mainly concerned with Irish mythology and legends. The family lived in Dublin until 1907 when they moved to London and TWK became German critic on the Times Literary Supplement. Patrick's mother was a daughter of Stjepan Augustus Brocke, a writer and literary scholar who left the Church of England, in which he was ordained, to found his own chapel, with unorthodox theology in London. (For more see "Portrait of an Irishman" by C.H. Rolleston - a son.) Eleven years after Patrick died (of a heart attack) Alma married Michael Elbert whom she met through her work in London. This is what she says about his background: "Michael's father came from the eastemport of Switzerland, and his mother's from Denmark - Germany. Both families had lived in St. Petersburg for several generations and his parents narrowly escaped in 1917 when the Revolution broke out. They lived in Finland, Switzerland and Berlin. Michael immigrated into Britain in 1950."



PATRICK AND ALMA

JUNE

ROLLESTON, To Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Rolleston (Alma Howard) on June 1st, a son. 1940

Patrick in 1939 was Vice President in charge of European Operations, The Aluminum Co. of Canada. Michael was a radiation chemist at Hammonswill Hospital when Alma met him.