

**Charles Morris Dabell**

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**NEWPORT BUSINESSMAN'S DEATH IN SOUTH AFRICA**

**MR. C. MORRIS DABELL**

It is with deep regret that we record the death, which occurred suddenly on Tuesday during a holiday tour of South Africa, of Mr. Charles Morris Dabell, of West Mill House, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, one of the Island capital's best-known business personalities. The news was received by cable from South Africa on Tuesday. Mr. Dabell, who was 67, had been away from the Island for almost seven weeks. Feeling the heat in Cape Town he decided to go by sea to Durban. He was taken seriously ill and was put ashore at East London, where he died in hospital.

He had a serious illness in May and June of last year, but it was thought that he had fully recovered, and he resumed his many business and social interests. He leaves a widow, son and daughter, and four grandsons, with whom the greatest sympathy is felt.

Mr. Dabell was a native of the island, the elder son of the late Alderman Charles Dabell, J.P., of Blackgang, who for many years rendered outstanding service as a member of public authorities, being chairman of the Rural District Council for 30 years. After being educated at Ventnor and Taunton School, he went to London to gain experience in the line of business which he was later to develop so successfully with his wife at 57 High Street, Newport. For a time he was with Messrs. Bourne and Hollingsworth, Messrs. D. H. Evans, and Gorrings, and returned to the Island in August, 1911, when he took over the Lilliputian Warehouse from Miss Wilcox. Mrs. Dabell took a great part in the development of what has become one of the Island's best-known fashion stores. The business expanded across the road to No. 58 High Street, and in 1935 the main shop was rebuilt on modern lines, with spacious windows and arcade.

Mr. Dabell performed many unobtrusive acts of generosity, and was held in the highest esteem by a wide circle of friends. During the 1914-18 war he was an instructor in the Royal Naval Air Service in Cornwall. Having spent his youth at Blackgang he had a great love of the sea, and when his father relinquished the position of secretary to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society he carried on the family tradition and had held the office for some 20 years. From 1924 to 1927 he was a member of the Newport Town Council. He was a member of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons, and had been through the chairs, and for some 20 years had been an active member of the Rotary Club, being its president in 1934-5. At the club luncheon on Wednesday the members stood in silent tribute, and President G. B Ramage said that all mourned the loss of a good Rotarian and a good friend.

Mr. Dabell was a keen golfer, being a past president of the Newport Club and a member of the Osborne Club, but his main pastimes latterly were snooker and bridge, which he played at the County Club, of which he was a director.

A memorial service is to be held at St. Thomas's Church, Newport, on Monday, at 2.30 p.m.

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