James Morris Sibbick

Isle of Wight County Press – 29 December 1945

NEWPORT

Death of Mr. J. M. Sibbick.--Prominent in Oddfellowship and as a skilled horticulturist, and a man held in the highest esteem, Mr. James Morris Sibbick died on Saturday after a short illness at his residence, 27 Castle-road, at the age of 75. He was the eldest of seven sons of the late Mr. R. Sibbick, of Bowcombe Barn Farm, Carisbrooke and had spent all his working life in the borough. He leaves a widow, son, and two daughters, with whom much sympathy is felt. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in May. Mr. Sibbick was well known to bakers in all parts of the Island, as for 40 years he was the driver of delivery vehicles for Arnell Bros., of Home Mills. He had the distinction of being the first man in the Island to deliver flour by motor vehicle. That was in 1912, when, after having driven horses for 17 years, he took over the first motor lorry purchased by the firm, who led the way in this modern transport among Island millers. Since Home Mills were closed in 1935 Mr. Sibbick had worked as a jobbing gardener, chiefly for Mr. L. P. Mew, senior, at Rosebury, Watergate, and Mr. C. Morris Dabell at Westmill House. He had always been a very keen horticulturist, and at one time was a frequent prize-winner at the Carisbrooke Cottage Garden Society's and the P.S.A. Brotherhood shows. He was also one of the most active members of the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Oddfellows, which he served as Noble Grand on four occasions, and he had held the office of Guardian of the Lodge for some years. He and his wife were devoted workers at the old Primitive Methodist Church in Pyle-street, and since it was closed they have been members of the Congregational Church, where Mr. Sibbick for many years took a keen interest in the P.S.A. His wife is one of the oldest members of the P.T.E. Society. There was a large gathering of relatives, brother Oddfellows, and other friends at the funeral service at the Congregational Church on Boxing Day. The Rev. T. E. R. Langridge, who officiated, paid tribute to Mr. Sibbick's devotion to the church and Oddfellows and said he was a man rich in friends because of his good nature and high principles. Mr. A. Mearman (organist) accompanied the hymns "We cannot think of them as dead" and "Captain and Saviour of the lost," and played "O rest in the Lord" and Chopin's "March Funèbre." Members of the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Oddfellows formed a guard of honour at the church entrance. The chief mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Sibbick (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. F. Downer and Mr. and Mrs. G. Freeland, junior (sons-in-law and daughters), the Misses A. Downer and E. Sibbick (grand-daughters), Messrs. E., W. G., and A. V. Sibbick (brothers), Mrs. W. G. Sibbick, Mr. C. Prince, Mr. and Mrs. D. Floyd, and Mrs. H. Rugg, and Mrs. F. R. Guy (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), the Misses A. and E. Niblett, D. K. Sibbick , and J. Guy (nieces), Messrs, F. J., E., A. R., C., M., F., A., B., and L. Sibbick and Miss M. Sibbick (cousins), and Messrs. M. Gosden and P. Plumbley. Mrs. L. C. Niblett, of Chillerton (sister), ex-Police Inspector O. Sibbick, of Eastleigh (brother), and Mrs. G. H. Earwicker, of Southampton (sister), were unavoidably prevented from attending. Those representing the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Oddfellows were Bros. G. Dunford, T. Bucklar, F. Cooper, J. A. Gray, G. J. D. Hazard, G. Arnold, G. Attrill, F. Chiverton, H. Beacon, E. W. Earley, T. H. Alexander, A. D. Callaway, W. J. Way, and A. W. Lockhart. The P.T.E. Society was represented by Miss G. Cheverton (hon. secretary) and Mesdames W. Coleman and A. Rackett, and the P.S.A. Brotherhood by Mr. J. Clark (vice-president). Others present included Mesdames T. E. R. Langridge, F. Jacobs, A. M. Freeman, L. Wheeler, Willis,

Flux, and Buckley, Messrs. J. F. Launder, T. C., C. M. Dabell, A. A. Russell, G. and A. Joliffe,. C. Hart, J. A. Hayles, R. T. Wyatt, J. Fry, H. Way, G. H. Arthur, M. Cheek, R. Taylor, and W. Wallis, the Misses L. Langley, M. Freeman, and M. Orchard, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Woodmore, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Kemp, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Wallis. There were nearly 30 floral tributes, including those from the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Oddfellows; P.S.A. Brotherhood; P.T.E. Sisterhood; Mr. L. P. Mew, senior; Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Dabell; and the staff at West Mill House. Lieut.-Col. C. W. Brannon, M.C., T.D., D.L., and Mr. J. B. Alderslade were unavoidably prevented from attending. Mr. W. W. Wells made the arrangements.--Mrs. Sibbick and family gratefully acknowledge the kindness of Dr. A. A. Heathcote, the District Nurses, and neighbours, and all sending messages of sympathy and floral tributes.

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