

Albert John Taylor

Isle of Wight County Press - 11 February 1950

NEWPORT

Island Chess Champion's Death.

SUDDEN PASSING OF MR A. J. TAYLOR, OF NEWPORT

His many friends in the Island will learn with regret of the sudden death of Mr. Albert John Taylor at his home, 111 Carisbrooke Road, Newport, on Saturday. Had he lived another three weeks he would have celebrated his 86th birthday. Born on February 29th, 1864, Mr. Taylor always hoped to celebrate his 21st birthday, which was due in 1952, as he only had a birthday in leap years. A native of Newport, his father owned the only coffee tavern in the town in the upper High Street. After serving five years apprenticeship as a tailor with Mr. Matthew Loving, of Newport, he went to Southwick, near Brighton, to gain experience before returning to Newport to set up in business on his own account. He opened a business as a tailor and outfitter in the upper High Street, later moving to 65 High Street, which premises he occupied until his retirement 20 years ago. He resided in St. John's Road for several years and moved to Carisbrooke Road in 1934. A very keen chess player he represented Hampshire and the Isle of Wight in inter-county matches and held the chess championship of the Island. Some years ago he got together a team of eight members of the Island Chess Club, who went regularly to Parkhurst Prison to compete with teams of prisoners. These matches caused considerable comment, but were greatly appreciated by the prisoners. He was one of the oldest members of the St. John's Men's bible Class, and for many years had acted as its senior registrar. At the meeting on Sunday Mr. W. G. Sibbick, J.P. (leader) paid tribute to his long service to the class and his unfailing cheerfulness and kindness, saying he was a good Christian, a good comrade, and a man of deep sympathy and understanding. Mr. Taylor's wife died some six years ago. He leaves two sons and two daughters.

The funeral on Wednesday was conducted by the Vicar of Carisbrooke (the Rev. D. S. MacKenzie), a service at St. Mary's preceding the interment at the cemetery. The choir led the singing of one of Mr. Taylor's favourite hymns, "Lead us, heavenly Father," Mr. E. H. Abraham being at the organ. The family mourners were Mr. E. J. Taylor (son), Mrs. L. W. Padwick and Mrs. P. A. Verry (daughters), Mrs. H. C. Taylor (daughter-in-law), Mr. L. W. Padwick and Mr. P. A. Verry (sons-in-law), Mr. R. J. C. Verry (Brother Francis, grandson), Miss B. M. Padwick (grand-daughter), Mr. T. Nobbs (nephew), and Messrs. A. E. Chard and F. H. Gwilliam. Mr. H. C. Taylor and Mrs. T. Nobbs (niece) were unable to attend through illness. The St. John's Men's Bible Class was represented by Messrs. W. G. Sibbick, J. P. (leader), A. C. Early (deputy-leader), J. W. Blake (hon. secretary), H. B. J. Lower (organist, also representing Mr. H. A. Lower), F. W. Pullinger (also representing Mr. J. H. Pullinger), A. J. Williams, H. Morris, A. A. Knight, W. Matthews (also representing Mr. B. Matthews), and W. Simmonds. Also present were Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Eldridge and Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Welham, Mesdames A. E. Chard, C. E. Chard (also representing Mr. C. E. Chard), E. Duffey, D. H. Pay (also representing Misses G. and R. M. Jeffery), H. S. Newberry, V. D. Morris (also representing Mr. C. A. F. Morris), N. Lockhart (also representing Mr. A. W. Lockhart), Curtis (representing Mr. W. J. Whittington, J. P.), H. Phillips (also representing Mr. Phillips), F. Linington, R. J. Philpot, and L. Watts, the Misses I. Long (also representing Miss G. Long), A.

Jeffery, E. P. Hurry, F. Smith, B. J. Clarke, E. Attrill and M. Attrill, and Messrs. E. E. Weedon and S. C. Hillien (representing the chess club), F. Burton, L. F. Freemantle, P. Attrill (churchwarden), W. Nolan, J. Wadmore, J. F. Whittington, R. T., and P. G. Brackey, S. E. Whildey and P. W. Green (representing the Westminster Bank). The floral tributes included those from the St. John's Men's Bible Class and the staff of Messrs. A. E. Hook and Co. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements.

Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,
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