## Frank Cooper snr

## Isle of Wight County Press 26 October 1935

DEATH OF MR. FRANK COOPER.- The death took place on Saturday, at 44 Upper St. James's-street, of a man whose skilled craftsmanship as a sculptor and monumental mason had made his name known not only throughout the Island, but much farther afield. We refer to Mr. Frank Cooper, who passed away at the age of 77 after having been in failing health for about a year and being seriously ill for about a month. Mr. Cooper was the son of George Cooper, a builder who erected much of the substantial Victorian house property in the borough. He commenced the monumental mason's business in Union-street and then moved to Nodehill about half a century ago and, thanks to his ability and integrity, and the skilful co-operation of his eldest son (Mr. George Cooper) since the War, it has continued to flourish. There are two other sons, Mr. Frank Cooper, who, after some years in the marble guarries in Italy, is now in business at Hove, and Mr. Fred Cooper, of Southampton, the well known designer of motor-boats, who produced the famous Miss England racers for the late Sir Henry Segrave. Mr. Cooper's wife died about nine years ago. For some 30 years, until 1914, the late Mr. Cooper was the enthusiastic hon. secretary of the Newport Fanciers' Association and a breeder and successful exhibitor of silver grey rabbits. After he had completed 12 years as secretary he was presented with a gold watch by the Society, which saw its most flourishing days under his wise guidance. He was also for many years joint secretary with the late Ald. Cornelius Salter of the Hand-in-Hand Friendly Society, which was dissolved during the War. A great lover of gardening, this hobby occupied most of his spare time. His quiet, unassuming friendliness endeared him to all, and his passing is mourned by a wide circle of friends. The funeral took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Wednesday, the Rev. W. H. Mackinnon (vicar of St. John's) officiating. The chief mourners were the three sons, Mr. J. Scovell (brother-in-law) and Messrs. F. and G. Chiverton and S. Warne (nephews), and F. R. Attrill (Ford Farm). Others attending included Ald. F. E. Whitcher, J.P., Mrs. J. A. Hayles, and Messrs. A. G. Harrison, F. Morgan, P. J. Baysand, H. Scott, T. Buckler, A. F. Holland (Ryde), I. W. Pitman, W. H. Urry, A. P. Knight, and W. G. Sibbick, and the following employees: Messrs. H. G. and J. Prouten, and G. Jacobs. The grave was adorned with evergreens and flowers and among a large collection of wreaths was one from the employees inscribed: "With deepest sympathy and great respect for a dear master," and one from the Newport Fanciers' Association. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements.

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