William Finch

Isle of Wight County Press – 28 May 1927

Ryde Man's Death After Fall.

An inquest was held at the Mental Hospital, Whitecroft, yesterday (Friday), by the Deputy Coroner (F. A. Joyce, Esq.), on the body of William Finch, 54, of Wyford, Bellevueroad, Ryde, who died at the hospital on Tuesday. P.S. Arnold was the Coroner's officer.

George Neston Grant, of Seaview, Dover-street, Ryde, deceased's brother-in-law, said he was last in business as a posting master in Simeon-street, but had been retired some years.

The widow, Alice Ellen Maria Finch, said deceased had suffered from spinal trouble throughout his life. On April 25 he left the house to buy some cigarettes and fell down just outside. Dr. Heslop was summoned. It was found that he had fractured his thigh, and he was removed to the County Hospital, and a week later he was transferred to the Mental Hospital. He explained that he slipped on the edge of the pavement and fell.

Harry Cleave Taylor, baker's roundsman, of Stanley House, St. John's-road, Ryde, said he found the deceased lying in the road. No one else was in the road at the time.

Dr. W. J. A. Erskine, medical superintendent of the Mental Hospital, said deceased was admitted on May 1. Dr. Heslop had previously told witness that deceased had sustained a fracture of the neck of the femur. The spinal disorder from which he suffered was congenital. The pain and shock of the accident led to deceased becoming insane, and also to the aggravation of the disease cystitis, from which he suffered, and this induced kidney trouble and uraemia, which was the primary cause of death.

The Coroner returned a verdict accordingly, and remarked that but for the fact that the accident evidently accelerated the death it would have been unnecessary to hold the inquest.

Mr. Grant, on behalf of Mrs. Finch, feelingly thanked the medical officers and staffs of the hospitals for their extremely kind attention to the deceased.

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