

Charles Martin

**ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS
2 February 1946**

DEATH OF MR. C MARTIN, F.R.H.S., of Newport

FORMER COUNTY HORTICULTURAL INSTRUCTOR

Horticulturists throughout the Island, who remember him as the very enthusiastic and able county horticultural instructor from 1900 to 1936, will keenly regret to hear of the death on Thursday at his residence, Ellerslie, Mount Pleasant-road, Newport, of Mr. Charles Martin, F.R.H.S., at the age of 81.

His memory will long be cherished by all who love horticulture, for his advice was sound and practical, and his help always readily given. A Dorset man, Mr. Martin was chosen to succeed Mr. Samuel Heaton, the Island's first horticultural instructor, while in charge of the late Mr. J. S. White's estate at East Cowes. He proved an ideal instructor whose services were marked throughout by boundless energy and an ardent desire for progress. By practical demonstrations in summer, and indoor lectures during the winter months, he unremittingly pursued his educational work to the great benefit of amateur and professional alike. He was the prime mover in starting school gardens in the Island, and he remained in office long enough to see the fruition of many wise suggestions for the improvement of local horticulture. A notable instance was his insistence that growers should make greater use of the advantages conferred by the climate and soil of the Island to produce early crops for the mainland market. The striking advance in commercial growing in the last two decades has proved how reliable was his judgment.

He carried out a great deal of experimental and practical work in his gardens on the County Secondary School site, but these facilities were increasingly restricted, first by the erection of the school and Seely Library buildings, and subsequently by further additions demanded by rapid educational progress. His chief ambition, the provision of a county demonstration and trials garden, has yet to be realised. Evidence of his popularity was provided in 1921, when he completed 21 years' service. His admirers, taking a practical viewpoint, presented him with a motor-cycle to replace the bicycle on which he had until that time fulfilled his many engagements. He rendered excellent service also to local horticultural societies and must have judged at every Island show during his career. He was a valued member of and a frequent lecturer to the I.W. Horticultural Association, as well as holding office as vice-president. He was a man of charming courtesy.

Mr. Martin leaves a widow and daughter, with whom much sympathy is felt. His only son gave his life in the 1914-18 war. The funeral will take place on Monday, the first part of the service at 2 p.m. at the Congregational church, of which he was a devoted member.

**Isle of Wight County Press
9 February 1946**

Funeral of Former County Horticultural Instructor.

The funeral of Mr. C. Martin, F.R.H.S., of Ellerslie, Mount Pleasant-road, Newport, who died on Thursday week at the age of 81, took place on Monday, a service at the Newport Congregational church being followed by the interment at the Carisbrooke Cemetery. The Rev. T. E. R. Langbridge (minister) officiated, and the hymns were "Good the living" and the late Mr. Martin's favourite, "For ever with the Lord". Mr. A. Mearman (organist) played selections, including "O rest in the Lord" and Chopin's "Marche Funèbre" at the close. In an appreciation of Mr. Martin's life and work, the minister paid tribute to his ability to inspire others with his intense enthusiasm. His answers were ready almost before the questioner had finished speaking, and unlike many teachers he always gave

the reason behind his reply. They knew him as a regular and God-fearing worshipper at that church, and as one who, though he had not held office, took a very active and practical interest in church affairs. His loss would be very keenly felt.

The mourners were Miss E. Martin (daughter), Messrs. A. and W. Martin (nephews), Miss E. Baker (niece) and Messrs. P. G. Jenkins, W. Elliott, and C. Jolliffe. Those also present included Mr. A. L. Hutchinson (director of education), Mrs. Barrett (representing Mr. C. P. Barrett, county horticultural instructor), Mr. C. D. Buckhurst (assistant horticultural officer, representing the I.W. War Agricultural Executive Committee), Messrs. C. F. G. Bound, chairman, W. G. Sibbick, J.P. (vice-chairman), J. B. Doe, hon. secretary, and J. Salter, hon. Treasurer (representing the I.W. Horticultural Association), Mr. J. Harbour (Wootton Horticultural Association), Mr. A. G. Harrison (secretary of the Congregational Church, also representing Dr. G. L. Peskett), Mr. H. J. Davies (representing the County Secondary Grammar School), Mr. F. E. Whitcher, J.P., and Mrs. Whitcher, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hayles, Mesdames A. G. Harrison, H. J. Davies, Jolliffe, J. Hubbard, Goodwin (representing Capt. J. Goodwin, of Cowes), F. Launder, E. Higginbotham, A. G. Toogood, Harris, and Curtis, the Misses Quinton, Reynolds, Linington, Wheeler, A. N. Warne, E. Shalder, and D. Minns, Canon W. B. Hogg, Lt.-Col. the Rev J. M. Connor, D.S.O., and Messrs. E. R. Dore, C.C., G. Norman, C.C., G. C Russell, J.P., J. Dufton, E.J. White, H. G. Jolliffe, R. J. Eldridge, H. M. Ablitt, W. Upward, J. H. Linington, G. S. Hibberd, T. H. Alexander, D. W. Morris, W. S. Warne, L. G. Upward, J. Clark, W. H. Oughton (Sandown), G. Dunford, J. W. Head, W. Watts, A. Newbery, W. Matthews, F. Turnham, G. Attrill, and P. Jackman. There were many beautiful floral tributes. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements.

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