

FREDERICK ALBERT NEW

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NEWPORT BUSINESS MAN'S TRAGIC END

Widespread regret was felt in Newport when it became known that Mr. Frederick Albert New, of 64 Shide-road, Newport, had had a tragic end on Sunday, having been found by his wife with his throat badly cut. The late Mr. New, who was 54 years of age, was one of the best known and most popular business men in the town, having been for many years manager for Messrs. John Sheath and Company, of Nodehill. He was much liked and greatly respected by a wide circle of acquaintances, not only in the district, but throughout the Island. He was a regular worshipper at the Pyle-street Methodist Church, with which his family had been associated for many years. The exceedingly sad happening has aroused the utmost sympathy with his wife, son, and daughter.

THE INQUEST

An inquiry into the circumstances was conducted by the Assistant Deputy Coroner (Dr. H.Y. Mansfield, J.P.) at the deceased's residence on Tuesday. Inspector T. Willmott represented the police.

Mrs. Mabel New, the widow, gave evidence of identification. She stated that her husband had enjoyed fairly good health until March, when a cataract developed on his left eye. This seemed to worry him rather excessively and so interfered with his general health that a doctor was called in. He was away from business for a time, but had seemed fairly well since he resumed work on June 10th. He had been looking forward to having a holiday fairly soon. Mrs. New said that her husband, as was customary, assisted her with the housework during Sunday morning. At about 12.15 p.m. she went upstairs to have a bath, telling deceased to have a rest. When she came downstairs her husband had apparently gone out into the garden and she started getting dinner things ready. At about 12.45 p.m. she went into the garden and saw a piece of paper under a stone on the path. She identified the handwriting as that of her husband.

The following note, left by deceased, was read by the Coroner: "Don't go into the garden. Call the police. Can't stand it any longer."

Mrs. New said she hurried to the bottom of the garden where she saw her husband on some boxes in a fowl house bleeding from the throat. She sent for assistance, and the police and the doctor came. Her husband had never threatened to take his life; the thought that he might do so had never entered her head, he was always too much against that kind of thing.

P.S. Denness said that on being summoned to the house he saw deceased lying on the floor in the fowl house. First-aid had been rendered, but he passed away shortly after witness arrived and before he could be moved. Later witness found the blood-stained razor, produced, in the fowl house.

Dr. A.A. Heathcote deposed that deceased was dead when he arrived. There were two incised wounds, one either side of the throat, that on the right being the more severe. In March deceased was sent to an eye specialist, who assured him that his right eye was perfectly sound. Deceased became nervous and highly strung, and eventually witness placed him on the club for a short time. He was anxious to return to work, however, and witness thought he would be better at work than with nothing to do. — By Inspector Willmott: deceased had been assured that the operation which would have to be performed on his left eye was nothing serious.

The Coroner returned a verdict that the deceased committed suicide by cutting his throat while temporarily of unsound mind and expressed sympathy with Mrs. New and the members of the family.

THE FUNERAL

Mourning shutters outside business premises were general in the town when the funeral took place on Thursday and a beautiful display of 80 floral tributes and the very large attendance at the service at the Victoria Methodist Church were further evidences of the widespread empathy and regret the sad occurrence aroused. The Rev. J. Matthewman officiated, the choir led the singing of the hymns “Rock of ages” and “Abide with me,” and Mr. E.J.H. Quarrier (organist) played the Dead March in “Saul” at the close. The interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The chief mourners were the bereaved widow, Mr. Stanley New (son), Miss Muriel New (daughter), Miss A. New (sister), Mesdames P. Lacey and J. Reeves (nieces), Mr. F. Mansbridge (brother-in-law), Mr. E.H. Upward, Miss I.M. Long, Mrs. A. Westmore, and Miss E.C. Brooks: Mr. and Mrs. C.H. New, Mr. and Mrs J.F. New, Mrs. H. Sibbeck, Mrs. H. Smith, Mr. E. New, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Buckler (cousins), and Mrs. F. Buckler, senior (aunt). Among the other mourners who filled the church were the deceased’s fellow employees of John Sheath and Company (Messrs. G.H. Woodmore, W. Stark, W.G. Earney, H.W. Pointer, N.G. Pitman, and W. Maskell), Mr. Leigh Thomas and the following members of the staff of Leigh Thomas and Company: Messrs. V.L. Thomas, E. Willsted (secretary), W. Cole, W.G.B. Weeks, E. Dyer, B. Jackson, and F. Weeks; Messrs. S. Ramage and E. Green (Onward Tent of Rechabites), Mr. and Mrs. W. Upward, and Miss E. Upward, Mr. W.D. Way Buckell, Mr. C.G. Cheverton (representing the I.W. Farmers’ Trading Society and Mr. N.H. Evans), Mr. and Mrs. G. Smith, Miss Alexander, Mrs. Ramage, Mrs. Luffman, Mrs. E. Cooper, Mrs. Truscott, Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gentle, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gentle, Mr. and Mrs. A. Plucknett, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. F.G. Flux, Mrs. K. Westmore, Mrs. H. Long, Mrs. Chessell, Mrs. E.F. Heal, Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Long and Mr. E. Long, Mrs. Matthewman, Mr. and Mrs. H. Porter, Mrs. F. Russell, Mrs. Ranger, the following members of the Newport Victoria Sports Club

(Mrs. Bruce-Drayton, Mrs. P.E. Whiston, and the Misses Whiston, Lockhart, and Smith), and Messrs. W. Lane (Newchurch), C. Gapes, O.C. Hamilton, C. Wyatt, G. Snow, J.P., R. Stevens, W. Spanner, W.B. Fallick (representing Mr. G.C. Russell, T.C.), W. Guy (S. Guy, Ltd.), H. Heal, G. Jenkins, E. Hannam, A.H. Margham, E. Realey, S.O. Feben, F.F. Hollis, J. Scovell, F.A. Piper, J. Dove, M.J. Comer, H. Burt, T.A. Cleaver, A. Downer, W.H. Urry, R.A.H. Sibley, E. Morris (Plaish), W. Peach (Messrs. R.C. Gray), F.G. Morris, H. Hobbs, H.E. Blow, F.H. Gwilliam, B.B. Urry, F. Barton, F. Wyatt, W.W. Wells, L. Jordan, J.P., W.H. Taylor, A.F. Hart, P.H. Hole (Joseph Rank, Ltd.), A.H. Spencer, A.H. Guy (Shanklin), G.H. Heal, J.F. Launder (Shepard bros.), L.O. Smith, A.A. Westmore, W. Negus, G.H. Dunford, J. Dowden, S. Porter, F.J. Woodford, G. Norman, A.H. Hughes, S. Hollis, A.W. Kime, H. Morris, S.F. Holmes, F. Leal, W.G. Sibbick, F. Coleman, A.J. Moore, P.E. Whiston, W. Gray, and many other friends. Mr G.H Arthur (president of the Newport Victoria Sports Club) and Mrs. Arthur were unavoidably prevented from attending.

Among the wreaths were those from his sorrowing workmates at John Sheath and Company; the directors, staff and employees of Leigh Thomas and Company; the officers and members of the Onward Tent of Rechabites; members of the Carisbrooke Football Club; the members of the Newport Victoria Sports club; the staff of Messrs. Buckell and Drew; the I.W. Farmers' Trading Society; all at S.Guy, Ltd.; members and friends at the Victoria Methodist Church; and the staff of Messrs. Jordan and Stanley. Messrs. O.C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

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