

Albert John Snellgrove

**Isle of Wight County Press
2 March 1929**

**DEATH OF
MR. A. J. SNELLGROVE, J.P., OF NEWPORT**

The death took place on Sunday, following quite a short illness from bronchitis, of Mr. Albert John Snellgrove, J.P., of Charlton, Cypress-road, well known as the proprietor of the old-established business of painter and decorator at Nodehill. Mr. Snellgrove, who was in his 78th year, successfully carried on the business which was founded by his father (Mr. J. E. Snellgrove) in 1851, and he also devoted considerable time in his earlier days to public work. He served for over 20 years on the Board of Guardians as a representative of the borough, taking a keen interest in Poor Law work and for about four years he was a member of the Corporation. In 1907 he was appointed a borough magistrate, and until deafness necessitated his retirement from public work he was a fairly regular attendant at the Bench.

He and his family have been valued workers at the Wesleyan Church for very many years. Mr. Snellgrove had with marked ability and devotion filled the offices of circuit and society steward, secretary of the Juvenile Missionary Association, treasurer of the Trust Fund, and sidesman. An ardent Liberal in politics he took a prominent part in the local activities of that party in bygone years, and up to the last he maintained a most active and helpful association with the Liberal Club, of which he was hon. secretary from its foundation about 25 years ago, as well as a vice-president.

He leaves a widow and family of four sons and four daughters. It is noteworthy that his father and grandfather also each had families of eight children. At the Borough Bench on Monday the Mayors made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Snellgrove, saying that one of the oldest and most respected members of that Bench had passed away that morning. Mr. Snellgrove was fifth on the list in order of seniority. He was sure it would be the wish of the magistrates and all connected with the Court that a vote of condolence should be passed with the widow and relatives. Mr. H. R. Palmer, on behalf of the solicitors practising in the Court, and Supt. J. Salter (Deputy Chief Constable), for the police, said they wished to be associated with the vote, which was passed in the usual way.

The borough standard flying at half-mast on the Town-hall, the general display of mourning shutters on business establishments, and the large attendance at the funeral service at the Wesleyan Church on Thursday bore striking evidence to the high esteem in which the late Mr. Snellgrove was held.

The service at the church was conducted by the Rev. A. W. Coulson (superintendent minister), assisted by the Rev. D. Hendy Davies (Congregational). The last named read the lesson and offered prayer, and the Rev. A. W. Coulson read the 90th Psalm and gave a short address, in which he paid tribute to the deceased's high character and work for the church and town. He said if the history of that church were ever written it would form chiefly a most interesting record of devoted and faithful service by men such as the late Mr. Snellgrove, who would be remembered with tender love and appreciation by all who knew him. They might well apply to him those words written of Barnabas, "He was a good man". The value of his example was shown by the fact that each member of his large family was connected with Christian work. Amongst the many services he had rendered to the church were those in the highest office a layman could attain to, that of circuit steward, and it could truly be said of him that he took the principles of his religion and applied them in a successful business life and in most useful work for the community. By his death the town had lost one of its most respected citizens, and that church was one of its best workers.

The hymns sung were “Now the labourer’s task is o’er” and “The saints of God”, and Mr. E. J. H. Quarrier (organist) played Chopin’s funeral march at the close. The interment was at Carisbrooke.

The family mourners were Mesdames G. Gentle, W. Spanner, N. F. Tyler, and J. J. Johns (daughters), Messrs. Edgar Snellgrove, of Acton, Stanley Snellgrove, of Catford, George H. Snellgrove, and Gladstone Snellgrove, of Winchester (sons), Messrs. Frank Snellgrove, of Calbourne, Walter Snellgrove, J.P., C.C., of Cowes, and Fred Snellgrove, of Stroud Green, N. (brothers). Miss Snellgrove (sister), Mrs. G. H. Snellgrove (daughter-in-law), Messrs. W. Spanner, N. F. Tyler, of Kensington, and J. J. Johns, of Shanklin (sons-in-law), Miss Ella Gentle (grand-daughter), Mrs. W. Snellgrove (sister-in-law), Mr. F. J. Hansen, of Bournemouth, and Mrs. S. A. Adams, of Epsom (brothers-in-law), Mr. A. J. Snellgrove, of Boston, and Mr. G. Snellgrove (cousins), Miss Hansen (Cowes), Mr. W. J. Bailey, sen., Mr. W. J. Bailey, jun., Mr. J. H. Black, Mr. R. S. B. Mullett, Miss Elsie Ryall, and Mrs. Pitman.

(only family mourners transcribed)

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