Grace Ada Copson

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Newport Woman's Fatal Fall on Rug.

A Newport woman's fall on a rug made by herself led to her death at the County Hospital, Ryde, on Saturday, and the Coroner (Mr. R. E. A. Webster), at an inquest at the hospital on Wednesday on Mrs. Grace Ada Copson, aged 67, of 7 Lower St. James's Street, Newport, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Dr. J. Gower, house surgeon, said that although Mrs. Copson was admitted on Feb. 6th he was not called to see her until the day of her death. He gathered that she had fallen and hurt her thigh, and from an X-ray examination found that she had fractured the left femur and showed signs of pneumonia. Her condition was very bad and in spite of every attention she developed hypostatic pneumonia, from which she died.

Mrs. Eileen May Alston, of 34 Crocker Street, Newport, said Mrs. Copson's health had been poor since a fall three years ago. On Feb. 5th she paid a visit to her home and was told by Mrs. Copson's father (Mr. G. H. Dunford) that she had fallen. She found her lying on a mattress on the floor, complaining of pain in her leg.

Mr. Dunford, an art book-binder, said his daughter, who lived with him, was the widow of Joseph Copson, a railway porter. On the evening of Feb. 4th he went upstairs to bed and she preceded him to the landing. He went to his room and then heard her fall. He found that she had slipped on a rug, which she had made herself, and was unable to rise. He could not lift her into bed and laid her on a mattress on the floor. She was later attended by a doctor, who sent her to hospital. She had had numerous falls previously.

Mrs. Copson was much respected at Newport. For many years she had managed her father's business. Her husband was killed in the first world war. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Newport Cemetery, the minister of the Congregational Church (the Rev. Dr. N. Spoor) officiating. The mourners were Messrs. G. H. Dunford (father) and H. Dunford (brother) and W.O.1 Morrison, R.O.A.C. nephew). The arrangements were made by Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

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