

Percy Brunel Milsom

Isle of Wight County Press
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NEWPORT

Death of Mr. P. B. Milsom.—The death took place on Saturday of Mr. P. B. Milsom, on 78 Lugley-street, aged 69, after having been in failing health for several years. Mr. Milsom had been in the entertainment business since 1901, and was first with Poole's Myriorama Company. His wife was a Miss Poole, one of the celebrated family whose entertainments were so popular before the cinema was invented. He came to the Island in 1910, where he opened the first permanent cinema in the Isle of Wight at the Victoria-hall, Cowes. He afterwards started the Grand Theatre, Newport, in 1926, and remained there as manager until 1940, when ill health caused his retirement. He had a fine bass voice, and often sang in the cause of charity, his genial manner causing him to be very popular with a host of friends at Cowes and Newport. The funeral service was held in the Parish Church on Tuesday, the Vicar (the Rev. Canon W. B. Hogg) officiating. The mourners were Mr. P. J. Milsom, general manager I.W. Theatres (son), Mr. J. W. Poole (brother-in-law), Mr. G. Fardell and Mr. V. Badman (directors, I.W. Theatres), Mr. N. S. Squibb (Scala, Ryde), Mr. L. C. Fakes (Rex, Ventnor), Mr. W. E. Farmer (Grand, Newport), Mr. A. Turner (King's, East Cowes), Mr. A. V. Rogers (relief manager), Mr. S. B. Jones, Lieut. Gerald Jones, Mr. F. S. Garrett, and Messrs. T. Rice and J. Warder, representing the staff at the Grand Theatre. The interment was in Newport Cemetery. There were a number of beautiful wreaths, including one from the directors of the Isle of Wight Theatres and another from his colleagues. The arrangements were made by Mr. H W. Parnell.

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