

Charles Oscar Sprake

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DEATH OF MR. C. O. SPRAKE, OF WOOTTON

WORKER FOR MANY GOOD CAUSES

After an illness extending over a period of six years, Mr. Charles Oscar Sprake, who was well-known throughout the Island for his connection with the former family brewing business of Sprake Bros., of Chale, died at his home, Ambleside, 133 High Street, Wootton, on Sunday, aged 72. An ardent church worker, he was a churchwarden at St. Paul's Church, Barton, until ill health forced him to relinquish his duties, and he had been a sidesman there for many years. The Newport Conservative Club have lost, in Mr. Sprake, one of their keenest members. He was always willing to aid voluntary efforts for local good causes.

Born at Chale, Mr. Sprake started work in the brewing business then carried on at the Star Brewery. During the 1914-18 war he served in the Cavalry Division of the Royal Engineers for four years, and in the second world war he was actively employed in A.R.P. work as head warden of the Pan 1 district of Newport. At that time, following his retirement when the family business was sold, he was living at Staplers, Newport, where he remained for about 20 years. He moved to Wootton six years ago. A staunch supporter of the Conservative Party, he had been a member of the Newport Conservative Club since he was a young man. He was a committee member for 21 years and a vice-president. As well as being a sidesman and latterly people's warden at St. Paul's, Barton, he also served on the Parochial Church Council for many years. A member of the Royal I.W. Agricultural Society, he was an active helper at the society's annual shows. At one time he was a voluntary collector for the former Contributory Scheme in connection with the Royal I.W. County Hospital. He leaves a widow, three daughters and one son. His younger daughter travelled here from the U.S.A. two weeks ago, with his only grandchild.

The funeral service at St. Paul's Church on Wednesday was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. L. J. D. Wheatley) and included the hymns "Through the night of doubt and sorrow," "Abide with me," the 23rd Psalm to Crimond and the chanting of the Nunc Dimittis, led by the choir. The family mourners were : Mr. P. Sprake (son), Mr. and Mrs. E. Brown and Miss S. Sprake (son-in-law and daughters), Mr. T. H. Sprake (brother), Mrs. D. Chiverton (sister), Miss V. Brown, Messrs. T. and R. Brown and Mrs. E. Brown and Mr. and Mrs. M. Brown (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law). The widow, Mrs. T. Roberts (daughter), Mr. W. Sprake (brother), Miss E. Sprake (sister) and Mr. T. Roberts (son-in-law, who is living in the U.S.A.) were unable to attend.

Representatives in the large congregation included those from the church Sunday-school, Mothers' Union, A.R.P. wardens of Pan I district of Newport, Messrs. R. Taylor and Son, Messrs. Francis Pittis and Son and Messrs. Joyce, Bundy and Cross. Among the floral

tributes were wreaths from members of St. Paul's Church Council, the Newport Conservative Association and the A.R.P. Pan I district wardens. Interment was in St. Paul's Cemetery. The arrangements were made by Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son.

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