

“NOW THE LABOURER’S TASK IS O’ER”

FRANK WILLIAM RANDALL

End of a Life of Noble Service

STRIKING TRIBUTES AT FUNERAL CEREMONY

It is with very deep regret that we announce the death, which took place early on Friday morning, of Mr **Frank William RANDALL**, of “Mayfield”, Queen’s Road. Mr. RANDALL, who was 70 years of age, had been in failing health for some time and underwent a serious operation in a London nursing home some nine weeks ago from which he did not recover. His passing will be regretted by a wide circle of friends.

One of the best known and respected public men in Ryde, Mr. RANDALL was a senior borough justice. He entered the town council in 1895 when he was top of the poll in West Ward, and he was made alderman in 1909. He retired from the council in 1920 along with Mr. Henry SWEETMAN, and was succeeded on the Aldermanic Bench by his brother-in-law, Mr. J. B. PURNELL.

In 1905 he was chosen by his colleagues to be Mayor of the borough, an honour [*black mark.....*] by the fact that he was the youngest [*mark.....*] to fill the office, which he did with infinite credit to himself and the town. For three years he served with equal satisfaction in the position of deputy mayor. In 1907 he was made a Justice of the Peace for the borough. He was vice-president of the local branch of the Conservative Association. In 1926 Mr. RANDALL succeeded Mr. Charles BROWN, of Cowes, as chairman of Messrs GOULD, HIBBERD and RANDALL, of Newport. He was prominent in the organisations connected with the mineral water trade, being a past president of the Hants, Wilts and Dorset Mineral Water Association, and had been for some years a vice-president of the National Union of Mineral Water Manufacturers, and was an active member of the Parliamentary Committee in connection with that association.

In the realm of sport he brought to bear those qualities which had been so successful in his life generally, a charming sportsmanship. In his younger days he was a splendid Rugby player, and for some years captained the Southampton Trojans F.C. He was also an excellent tennis player in those earlier days. Subsequently, when the game of bowls was steadily winning its way into popular favour, he was one of the pioneers of the game on the Esplanade greens. He was a vice-president of Ryde Bowling Club and extremely popular on the greens, where he took part in club matches and competitions. He was also president of the Ryde Golf Club, which he helped to found, and filled a similar position in the Ryde Club. He married in 1893 the eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Alfred PURNELL, and leaves a widow and son and daughter.

The late Mr. RANDALL was a son of the late Mr. W. B. RANDALL, J.P., of Southampton, also a well-known public man, who could trace his descent from Sir Matthew HALE, Lord Chief Justice, and from Lady HALE to William the Conqueror. Dr. RANDALL, the well-known composer of church music, was another of his ancestors, and he was a distant cousin of the late Sir Henry IRVING. Mr. RANDALL came to Ryde in 1887 and purchased a mineral water manufacturing business in Church Lane. By his business acumen he quickly developed it, and in later years it formed one of three similar businesses to be merged into the well-known Island firm of Messrs. GOULD, HIBBERD and RANDALL, of which he became chairman of the board of directors. He was also prominently identified with the growth of the Ryde Gaslight Company since being elected to the directorate in 1907. During his chairmanship of the company, dating from 1917, the output has been doubled, and in 1927 he was largely instrumental in inaugurating the successful co-partnership scheme. Mr. RANDALL rendered conspicuous service to the borough. He was one of the most efficient chairmen of the Water Committee, and it was he who first mooted the idea of a bathing pool for the town. He always discharged his duties with great zeal and

earnestness, and was a keen debater and a lucid speaker.

Of later years, Mr RANDALL suffered from deafness, and it was largely through this cause that he began to fade out of public life. But he left behind him a record of public service which few could equal and none surpass, and if his sorrowing relatives can at this moment find any consolation to assuage their poignant grief it is surely in the fact that Mr. RANDALL'S name is universally revered throughout the Island. He lived a good life, a full life, and a noble life.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE BENCH

At the opening of the Borough Council on Monday the Mayor (Alderman C. J. DE LAUNAY) who was presiding magistrate, referred to the loss sustained in the death of Mr. RANDALL. They were all extremely sorry to know that he had passed away in a nursing home in London and grieved his loss with his family. He was an esteemed member of the Bench, and his judgement was very much relied on. A man of sterling worth they would miss his presence there extremely. The Mayor then referred to the late Mr. RANDALL'S public life, stating that he entered the council in 1898, in 1905 was Mayor of the borough, and acted as deputy mayor for three years, was made a J.P. of the borough in 1907, elected alderman in 1909, and retired from the council in 1920. One might describe him as a good sportsman, a very fine citizen, and a very valued member of the bench. All who knew him looked on him as an esteemed and honoured friend and he would ask the clerk to send condolences on behalf of the court.

The Court then stood for a moment in silence.

ANOTHER TRIBUTE

At the monthly meeting of the Ryde Hotel and Restaurant Proprietors' Association at the Royal York Hotel, on Tuesday, Councillor F.A. SAUNDERS referred in feeling terms to the death of Mr. RANDALL. He was a man for whom he had the greatest respect, a man who had given of his very best to the town. Mr. RANDALL was one of the founders, and later chairman, of the Ryde Advertising Association, and as such had been instrumental in bringing thousands of visitors to the town. Mr. A POLI seconded.

In support, Mr. A.C. WATTS said he had come into contact with Mr. RANDALL when both of them were members of Ryde Town Council. Mr. RANDALL was a true gentleman and he could not say anything higher of him. He was always straight and considerate, and fulfilled his position as Mayor of the town with admirable dignity, and by his death the town had lost a good public servant. He had made the Advertising Association the valuable organisation it was today.

The members stood for a few moments and the proposition was carried in silence.

THE FUNERAL

The funeral took place on Tuesday, the service being conducted at All Saints' Church, by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon G. A. JOHNSTONE, who was assisted by the Rev. Canon Hugh LE FLEMING, Vicar of Aldershot and formerly Vicar of Ryde. The hymn "Abide with Me" was sung, and as the coffin was borne from the church the "Nunc Dimittis" was played on the organ.

The mourners were: Mr. Kenneth RANDALL (son), Mr. Percy RANDALL, Dr. Ernest RANDALL and Mr. Alec RANDALL (brothers), Mr. William COLLARD, Mr. Ralph COLLARD and Miss Ethel COLLARD (cousins), Mr. J. B. PURNELL (brother-in-law). Dr. HOSFORD (son-in-law) was unavoidably absent.

A very large congregation testified to the respect and esteem in which the late Mr. RANDALL was held. Amongst them were the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman C. J. and Mrs. DE LAUNAY), Alderman G. A. BLACKALL and W. H. P. F. THIRKELL and Councillors Major C. L. ELLERY, H. E. INKER, A. F. WRIGHT, F.A SAUNDERS, R. R. RUSSELL, H. P. CHIVERTON, W. R. TAYLOR and E. C. GOBLE, Messrs. A. E. HARVEY, F. WELCH, G. HIBBERD, P. E. JENKINS, who represented Messrs. GOULD, HIBBERD and RANDALL, together with the following employees Messrs. C. EARLY, W. MUNDELL, A. SMITH, S. BURTON, H. BUTLER, (Newport), Messrs. C. ASH, J. GROVES, MUNDELL, HARRIS, JAMES

(Ryde), and Messrs. BROWN, ARNOLD, YOUNG, DOMAN and DENNIS (Ventnor). Mr. W. B. FORREST, President of the Hants, Wilts and Dorset Mineral Water Manufacturers' Association. Directors of the Mr. J. MOSTYN DOWDEN, representing the National Union of Mineral Water Manufacturers' Association, Directors of the Gaslight Company included Alderman G. E. MEARS, MR. C. E. LANGDON and MR. G. FARDELL (Clerk to the Borough Bench), MR. F. W. TAYLOR and more than 50 of the company's employees also attended. The Ryde Advertising Association was represented by Messrs. H. G. JOLLIFFE and E. R. SAUNDERS, the Ryde Club by Mr A. B. SUTTON and members of the staff. The Ryde Golf Club by Mr H. C. FOWLER and members of the staff, and the Bowling Association by Councillor F. V. GREEN (President). Mr. T. MELLANBY represented the Dudley Wayfarers, Messrs. W. G. BOWLEY and E. LUCK, the Ryde Sports Club and Mr. G. J. EVANS THE Ryde Conservative Association. Messrs. HOLLIS B. FOWLER and W. DORE represented the Chamber of Commerce. Others present were MR. H. SWEETMAN, MR. M. C. RIDDETT, MR. J. H. DOWN, MR. E. CHANDLER, MR and MRS J. CARROLL, MRS, H. WORDSWORTH, MR. L. W. REED, MR. and MRS. J. G. DUFFETT, MR. and MRS. J. P. WATTS, MR. M. OSBORNE, MR. H. H. HAPGOOD, MR. W. C. PEARCE, MR. C. RAYMOND, MR. HILL, MR. WALTER HILLS, MR. F. P. MELLISH, MR. H. PAGE, MR. J. B. COOMBES, MR. W. G. DAISH, MR. S. ATTWOOD, MR. J. R. SCOTT, MR. C. A. LOCKE, MR. Y. H. ADAMS, MR. H. P. GIBSON, MR. B. F. HOLNESS, MR. A. WINLEY, MR. E. W. GILBERT (Messrs. FRASER and WHITE), MR. C. WARNE, MR. F. WOODFORD, MRS. A. CARTER, MISS COLLARD, MR. H. C. AVERY, MRS. ELLERY, MRS. PURNELL, MR and MRS. L. C. YOUNG, MRS. G. WHITE, MRS. D. SMITH, MR. C. W. VINCENT and MR. E. C. LOADER.

Alderman A. ANDREWS and Mr. F. J. COLE (secretary, Hants, Wilts and Dorset Mineral Water Manufacturers' Association) were unable to be present.

Beautiful floral tributes were received from:

To my darling Husband from his loving Wife.

Ken and Molly

Jean, Peter and Ann

His three Brothers and their [?]

Will and Constance (cousins)

Norman and May (cousins)

Ralph and Fanny (cousins)

Mabel and Ethel (cousins)

Hubert and Margaret (cousins)

Jim and Alice

Clyde and Bessie

Elsie and Cecile

Vera and Ena

Arthur and Hilda [?]

Dr and Mrs B. Hogord[?]

John and M[?]

Mr and Mrs [?] and [?] (Southampton)

Sister THOMAS

Mrs IZARD (Highgate)

Employees at Ryde [?]

The Directors of Messrs Gould, Hibberd and Randall

The Office Staff at Messrs Gould, Hibberd and Randall

The Southampton Trojan Club, Sports Section

The Co-Directors of Ryde Gaslight Company

The Co-Partners and Employees of Ryde Gaslight Company

Committee and Members of the Ryde Club

Committee and Members of the Ryde Golf Club
Isle of Wight Conservative and [?] Association (Ryde Branch)
Directors National Union of Mineral Water Manufacturing Association
Isle of Wight County Bowling Association
Council and Members of Hants, Wilts and Dorset Mineral Manufacturing Association
Committee Ryde Advertising Association
Committee and Members of Ryde Sports Club
The Ryde Bowling Club
Members of Trinity Club
The Dudley Wayfarers
Ancient Order of Foresters
The Staff at Oaknell
Mrs. And Miss Sybil CARTER
Mrs. Robert BROWN (Wimbledon)
Captain and Mrs FISHERr (Wimbledon)
H. D. and E. W. GILBERT (Hayling Island)
Mr. and Mrs Edward LUCK
Mr. and Mrs H. SWEETMAN
Mr. and Mrs. Walter SWEETMAN
Mr. and Mrs. A. DRAKE
Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. TAYLOR
Mr. T. Edward LEWIS (Secretary National Union Mineral Water Manufacturing Association)
Mr. P. G. JENKINS (Newport)
May ALEXANDER and Genesta ROSLING
Mr. and Mrs. F. A. SANDERS
Mr. and Miss REED
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur TARRANT
Mr. Fred GREEN

On Tuesday evening a half muffled peal of Grandsire Triples containing 1512 changes was rung in one hour and ten minutes at the Parish Church as a last token of respect and esteem to the late Mr. RANDALL. The ringers were A. WHITE, treble; A. JACKSON, 2; H. DOWDEN, 3; A. BRADING (conductor) 4; P. LONG, 5; B.J.SNOW, 6; A. R.WARD, 7; W. KEMP, tenor; MR. G. H. COOMBES, the veteran ringer, was also present in the tower as a token of respect, and the usual weekly practice was abandoned.

The flag on the Town Hall was flown at half mast on Tuesday, and the gasworks and the works of Messrs. GOULD, HIBBERD and RANDALL were closed for the day. The Ryde Golf Club was also closed
