

DEATH OF DR. J. D. DAVIES, O.B.E., OF RYDE

We very greatly regret to announce the death of Dr. James David DAVIES, O.B.E., who until his retirement six years ago was for several years the doyen of local medical practitioners. Since his wife's death about four years ago he had been living with his daughter, Mrs. STANFORD, at Stantons Farm, Kingsclere, Newbury, where he passed away after about a fortnight's acute illness, though for several years he had suffered from bronchitis and heart trouble.

He was a son of the late Dr. Edward DAVIES, M.R.C.S., of the Court, Merthyr Tydfil, and was born on January 3rd, 1857. His grandfather was also a surgeon. His education was at Christ's College, Brecon, and Guy's Hospital. He took his L.R.C.P. and L.M. at Edinburgh in 1880, having in the previous year graduated as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England. He was ophthalmic assistant and assistant surgical registrar at St. George's Hospital, London, and later became a surgeon-captain in the Army in Ireland, saw service in the Egyptian campaign from 1882-5 and was at Tel-el-Kebir, for which he received the Khedive's Star and the Egyptian medal with the clasps "Tofrek," "Suakin," and "Tel-el-Kebir." On retiring in 1895 he became a partner with his lifelong friend Dr. Evelyn RICH and was later joined by Dr. F. J. WADHAM and subsequently by Dr. E. L. HORSBURGH. When Dr. RICH retired in 1919 he became senior partner and continued as such until his retirement about six years ago. For a long time he was consulting surgeon to the County Hospital and at the time of his death still held that post in an honorary capacity. During practically the whole of his professional career in Ryde he lived at Belmont, George-street, and on retiring went to reside at Petersfield for about a year before returning to take up residence at Grosvenor Lodge, Queen's-road. He was one of the old type of doctors and possessed a rare humour, a genial manner, and much personal charm, although he had a reputation for calling a spade a spade. He was singularly modest and hated ostentation. His practice extended as far as St Helens and Bembridge, and older residents will remember his military figure riding on horseback, in which manner he was in those days accustomed to make his rounds. Later he took a carriage and subsequently to a car, usually wearing an Inverness cape.

During the war he was principal medical officer at the Hazelwood hospital at Swanmore, and in recognition of his services received the O.B.E., the Medaille du Roi Albert, and the British Red Cross Society's medal. Apart from his professional activities, he was widely known as a horseman of great ability. In the olden days he hunted with the Hambledon Hounds and later with the I.W. Foxhounds, of which he was the oldest member. In a lesser degree he took an interest in the I.W. Beagles. He was an hon. member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

Dr. DAVIES married in 1892 Eleanor Mary, daughter of the late Mr. Frederick COBB, of Frensham, who died in 1937.

His only son John, who married a daughter of Major J. N. MEARES, died some years ago and his daughter Gwynedd about five years since. He is survived by another daughter, Eleanor, who married Mr. John STANFORD. The Doctor was held in the highest respect and regard locally, and his passing in his 83rd year severs another link with the old days of Ryde.

THE FUNERAL

The remains were brought to Ryde Cemetery for burial yesterday (Friday) afternoon. Canon R. S. MOXON took the service. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. John STANFORD (son-in-law and daughter), Miss DAVIES (sister), Major J. W. COBB (nephew), Mrs. STRODE (niece), and Dr. Evelyn RICH. Among those present were the Mayor (Ald. A. F. WRIGHT), Lieut.-Col. H. G. THOMSON, D.S.O. (representing the I.W. Hunt), Mr. P. S. M. THELLUSSON, J.P. (the Royal Victoria Y.C.), Mr. A. S. GORDON (secretary, representing the Royal I.W. County Hospital and Ald. A. ANDREWS, J.P.), Miss A. LAST (matron), and Sister SCRIMSHAW (the nursing staff), Dr. E. L. HORSBURGH, Dr. J. DOCKRAY, Major J. N. MEARES, Mr. G. FARDELL, Mr. J. G. FARDELL, Miss and Miss Ruth DERRY, Mr. A. L. BROWNE (manager, National Provincial Bank), Mrs. J. HAILES, Mrs. PITT, Mrs. Trevor TYLER, Sister ATTRILL, Nurse WILLIAMS, Miss NUTT (also representing Mrs. and Miss CARTER, The Cedars), Mrs. POWELL (Vectis Nursing Home), Miss STENNING, Miss LANGDON, Miss MEARES, Dr. CHURCHILL, Nurse TILLEY, Mr. and Mrs. J. Willis FLEMING, Mr. J. Y. JOLLIFFE, Miss Jean COCHRANE, Miss du BOULAY, Col. Sam DAVENPORT, D.S.O., Miss Macdonald MORETON, the Misses TABUTEAU, Sister ROWE, the Rev. and Mrs. H. Noel STUBBS, Mr. A. J. BALLARD, the Misses CARTER (Upton), Mr. B. de CASTRO, Mr. A. NOTTEN (former chauffeur and batman), Mr. and Mrs. C. A. LOCKE and Mr. R. PERKIS, Dr. F. J. WADHAM, Mr. H. Charley FOWLER, the Rev. Mr. ROWAN (vicar of Kingsclere), and Mr. W. H. DANN were unavoidably prevented from attending. The interment was beside his wife and a wreath of roses from the family was buried with him. In accordance with deceased's wishes there were no other flowers. The arrangements were made by Mr. C. LANGDON.
