

TRAGIC DEATH OF VECTENSIAN SOCIETY'S SECRETARY

We regret to announce the death at Portway Hospital, Weymouth, on Thursday week, of Mr. **Leslie Albert SPRAGG**, hon. secretary of the London Vectensian Society. Mr. SPRAGG who was 28 years of age, was a native of Ryde, and formerly lived in Preston-place. In July he joined the Essex Regt. It appears that he was travelling with 27 other soldiers in an Army lorry near Bridport when the vehicle got out of control while descending a hill, crashed into some trees at the bottom and overturned. The driver was killed instantaneously, and Mr. SPRAGG died in hospital a few hours later. Several other men were badly injured. Mr. SPRAGG was the only son of the late Mr. Albert SPRAGG, of Ryde, and of Mrs. Frances FORD, of 45 Blythswood-road, Goodmayes, Essex. His father was killed in Mesopotamia during the last war. He was educated at Ryde Senior School, and in 1927 went to Goodmayes to live. For over 12 years he had been employed by the Builders' Accident Insurance Co. at Bedford-street, Strand, W. He was a young man of particular promise, and had done extremely well in his business career. For several years he had been a member of the London Vectensian Society, and kept in touch with many Island friends. On Miss Bidy BLACK's resignation from the hon. secretaryship he was appointed her successor, and Vectensians generally will deeply deplore his sudden passing. Mr. SPRAGG was a keen angler.

The funeral service took place on Tuesday at Ryde Baptist Church, which the deceased formerly attended, and was conducted by the Rev. P. Franklin CHAMBERS. Miss SAKER (organist) played "O rest in the Lord" and Beethoven's Funeral March. The hymn was "O God our help." The bearers were men of the Hants Regiment, and the coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and on it rested a cross of White and red flowers from the deceased's mother. The mourners were Mrs. B. FORD (mother), Mr. B. FORD (step-father), Mrs. B. HOYES, Mrs. W. HILL, and Miss P. SPRAGG. Among others present were Mr. W. G. DAISH, J.P., Miss DAISH, Mr. and Mrs. G. DOWNER, Mr. A. PHILLIPS, Mr. R. J. TRUCKEL (also representing Mr. B. STONE), Mrs. TRUCKEL, Mrs. WARRENER, Mrs. LEAL, Mrs. STANBRIDGE, and Mr. E. E. WEEKS. The floral tokens included those from the office colleagues of the Builders' Accident Insurance Co. and West-street Post-Office.
