

RYDE WOMAN DIED AFTER OPERATION

Describing it as an exceedingly rare case, yet, by strange coincidence, the second he had had to deal with within a week, the Coroner (Mr. J. V. BULLIN) recorded a verdict of death by misadventure on a Ryde woman who died shortly after having an operation. The inquest at Ryde on Wednesday was on Mrs. Elizabeth COOPER (42), of 2 Osborne View, Stroud Wood Road, Ryde, who died at the Frank James Hospital, East Cowes, on November 12th.

Dr. D. D. P. RAI said he operated on Mrs. COOPER to straighten both her big toes and to remove bunions. It was a minor operation and it was completed satisfactorily.

Dr. J. A. HOOKER, the anaesthetist, said that at the end of the operation Mrs. COOPER was perfectly normal and her pulse was quite good. She was taken from the operating theatre and he was preparing for another patient when a nurse told him she was worried about Mrs. COOPER's condition. She was still on a stretcher in the corridor outside the theatre and he found that she had stopped breathing. Artificial respiration was given, oxygen administered, and she was given a heart injection but she failed to recover.

Dr. P. D. SWINSTEAD, pathologist, said a post-mortem examination showed that Mrs. COOPER was suffering from no abnormalities. The operation--a minor one--had been successful. Cause of death was cardiac arrest due to anaesthesia.

In answer to the Coroner, Dr. SWINSEAD said it was a very rare case.
