

### RYDE YOUTH'S DEATH AFTER ACCIDENT

The story of a Ryde youth's death following an apparently trivial fall while playing in the Recreation Ground, was related to the Deputy-Coroner (Francis A. JOYCE, esq.) at the inquest at St. John's Parish room, Oakfield, on Saturday, on **Leslie Arthur JOLLIFFE**, aged 15 ½ years, of 9 Surbiton grove, Oakfield. The lad passed away on Thursday week while an ambulance was waiting to convey him to the County Hospital from his home. Inspector H. ROGERS represented the police.

William Shamrock BEENEY, a butcher's errand boy, of 8a Wellington-cottages, High street, Oakfield, told how he met JOLLIFFE at the Recreation Ground on Tuesday week and played games with other boys. When it was getting dark witness was chasing JOLLIFFE, who collided with an iron seat, striking the end of it. The seats were not dangerous. Deceased collapsed on the gravel path and witness helped him on to the seat, and he complained of his stomach. Witness went for help, but JOLLIFFE went home. There was a little gully and deceased might of tripped in that. There was no rope there.

Mrs. Mabel JOLLIFFE, deceased's mother, said her son told her he had fallen over a rope and struck his stomach on one of the seats. She found a small bruise and a puncture, He did not seem to worry much about it and she did not think it was enough to call a doctor. Next morning he commenced vomiting and she called in Dr. BURTON. He had a bad night on Wednesday and was continually asking for water after taking which he vomited again. On Thursday morning deceased told her he felt better and wanted to go to work, but she would not let him get up. At 1 o'clock Dr. BURTON called again and shortly afterwards he died. They were arranging to take him to the hospital, but he died before they could do so. Dr. Harold BURTON said he found deceased suffering from shock. At the post mortem there was a considerable amount of blood in the abdomen, which pointed to a severe injury from a blow or fall. He found a small puncture in one of the arteries leading to the small intestine. Death was due to shock and hemorrhage following an injury. All that was visible was a small bruising of the skin on the stomach. On Thursday afternoon his condition was definitely worse.

The Coroner said the facts were quite clear. He attached no blame whatever to the boy who gave evidence; he thought it was quite an accident. His verdict would be in accordance with the doctor's evidence and he could only express his sympathy with his mother in the unfortunate death of her young son.

Mr. R. LUGG (entertainments superintendent) expressed the sympathy of the Town Council in the occurrence.

### THE FUNERAL

Took place in the afternoon at St John's Church and the Rev.E.R. EVERETT officiated. The mourners were Mrs. JOLLIFFE (mother), Mr. C. MILFORD (brother-in-law), Mrs. PEARCE, Mr. A. E. and Mr. P. PEARCE, and Mrs. RUSSELL. Mrs. MILFORD (sister) was prevented by indisposition from attending. Mr. J. HART (manager of Messrs. PINKS, the lad's employers) was among those present, with Mrs. HART. The coffin was carried by four of the deceased's fellow employees, Messrs.A. FOULKES, A.L. MORRIS, W.DIAMOND, and F. SMITH. There were 18 floral tributes, including tokens from the staff and scholars of Oakfield Boys' School. The manager and staff of Messrs. PINKS; and the neighbours at Oakfield. The interment was at Westridge Cemetery. ---Mrs. JOLLIFFE and Mrs.MILFORD express their sincere thanks to Dr. M. BURTON for his attention and to the Town Council and numerous friends for messages of sympathy and choice flowers. Please accept this, the only intimation.

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