DEATH OF MR. C. G. VINCENT A FORMER TOWN CLERK OF RYDE

We greatly regret to announce the death at The Cottage, Buckingham-road, Ryde on Friday night last, of Mr. Charles Greaves VINCENT, a former town clerk of Ryde, a former clerk to the St. Helens Local Board and District Council, and a well-known local solicitor. Mr. VINCENT, who had been in failing health for two years, passed quietly away at the great ate of 91, after a life of great usefulness. His death will be much lamented by the older residents who knew him, for he was a conspicuous figure in the life of the town and its neighbouring area, St. Helens, for many years, and he had played no small part in promoting the growth and development of both places. He was at all times a gentleman, one whom it was a pleasure to meet and to know, and whose friendship was highly valued. In a long career as an official of the two public bodies named, the Ryde Corporation and the St. Helens District Council, he was ever courteous and devoted to duty, and his interest in the welfare of the community and extensive legal knowledge. On several occasions when the Ryde Corporation were involved in litigation Mr. VINCENT was complimented by counsel on the excellent manner in which he had prepared the case, and this example of his ability was typical of all that he did.

The late Mr. VINCENT was admitted as a solicitor in 1862 and came to Ryde from London in 1864, when he entered into partnership with his cousin, the late Mr. Jonathan WORSLEY, a member of the famous Island WORSLEY family, after whose retirement Mr. VINCENT carried on the practice until his own retirement in 1923. He was clerk to the old Local Board of St. Helens and to the present Council for the long period of 54 years, relinquishing the position in 1926. In 1893 he succeeded the late Mr. John Wilson FARDELL as town clerk of Ryde, and he continued in that post with great credit to himself and benefit to the town until his retirement from office in 1920. For many years he acted as secretary to the Seaview Pier Company. He was not an ardent politician, but in all church matters he took a deep interest and for some years was churchwarden at Ryde Parish Church. In 1907 and 1908 he was president of the Isle of Wight Law Society, and until his death he shared with Mr Robey F. ELDRIDGE, of Newport, the distinction of being the last of the living perpetual Commissioners in this country. He leaves a widow, one son, Mr. C. W. VINCENT, a well-known solicitor in the town, and eight daughters, with whom much sympathy is felt.

The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, the first part of the service being held at the Parish Church. Canon G. A. JOHNSTONE officiated, assisted by the Rev. H. COLLIER, and the chief mourners were Mrs. VINCENT (widow), Mr. C. W. VINCENT (Son), Mrs. SANDERS, Miss VINCENT, Mrs. REECE, and Mrs. COWAP (daughters) and Mr. W. W. REECE (grandson). Among others present were the Mayor (Ald. J. B. PURNELL), the Mayor-elect (Ald. C. J. DE LAUNEY) and Mrs. DE LAUNEY, the Deputy Mayor (Ald. W. H. P. F THIRKELL), Ald. G. A. BLACKALL, and Messrs. Rowland RUSSELL and A. F. WRIGHT (representing the Ryde Corporation), Messrs. T. J. FAWDRY (town clerk), B. F. HOLNESS (surveyor), F. J. RYALL (rate collector), and H. T. ROSE (office staff), Major A. DENNIS, C.C. (chairman), and Messrs. J. J. RYDER, W. H. DALLIMORE, F. PLATER, T. F. SHEATH, T. LANDER, E. H. G. MASON and G. F. MILLER (members of the St. Helens District Council), C. PURSEY (surveyor), F. SPRAGG (foreman), and W. J. CALLAWAY (office staff). Messrs. H. Eldridge STRATTON (president), G. FARDELL, J. G. FARDELL, and E. H. WOOD represented the Isle of Wight Law Society, other members of which who were unavoidably absent being Messrs. W. J. BAILEY, J. H. BLACK, W. D. WAY BUCKELL, G. W. COLENUTT, J. C. W. DAMANT, A. W. DREW, James ELDRIDGE, R. J. ELDRIDGE, R. L. FLUX, and H. R. Palmer. Those also present included Dr. K. W. I. MACKENZIE, Mr. H. SWEETMAN, J.P., Mr. R. J. LEIGH (representing Lloyds Bank), the Rev. GOBLE, F. P. MELLISH, W. DORE, A. J. HOLMES, A. M. OSBORNE, S. WATSON, R. W. S. G. RUSSELL, G. NICHOLSON, W. L. MCISAAC, E. J. BENNET, R. LONG, G. M. HARDIE and M. C. RIDDETT (representing the Ryde Rotary Club), W. WHITTINGTON (from the office of Mr. C. W. VINCENT), C. A. LOCKE, C. H. COLLIS, John B. COOMBES, C.W. MOODY, C. LANGDON, F. BURTON, and E. P. MARVIN. The interment was at the Ryde Cemetery and though a wish was expressed that no flowers should be sent there were wreaths from the Mayor and Corporation, the Corporation officials, and from the president, committee, and members of the I. W. Law Society.

Messrs. WHEELER were the undertakers.