

**FALL FROM BICYCLE.  
RYDE YOUTH'S SAD DEATH.**

The sad circumstances relating to the death of **Albert Edward COOMBES**, 18, dairyman's assistant, residing with his mother at 89 West-street, who died as the result of a fall from his bicycle whilst on his round on Monday morning, were inquired into by the District coroner (Mr F.A. JOYCE) at the Primitive Methodist Schoolroom.

Mrs Kate COOMBES, mother of deceased who identified the body, said her son had been employed by Mr STAINER, dairyman, High-street, since May 1921, and had been engaged delivering milk, more recently on a bicycle. On Monday morning he commenced work as usual at 7 o'clock and when he returned for breakfast she asked him if he had had an accident, when he said he had but did not know how it happened. He complained of pains in the head which he attributed to the shaking up he received from the fall. He laid on the sofa and after dinner, feeling better he went into the kitchen but complained of feeling hot and then cold, so he returned to the sofa and went to sleep. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon she saw such a change in him that she sent for a doctor who was out, but Dr KENNEDY came about 7 p.m. and directed that he should be taken immediately to the Hospital. Deceased never had an illness since a babe and was not subject to fits.

Arthur Edward FLEMING, employed by Mr Rowland RUSSELL, butcher, High-street, stated that he was in the shop about 9.30 on Monday morning when he heard a milk can crash and on looking out, saw deceased collapse over his cycle, the can being on the ground. He went out to him and saw he had struck his head, but after about five minutes he came round and vomited. There was no traffic to collide with and he appeared to suddenly collapse. The young man was able to walk and was accompanied to his home by some friends. The machine was not damaged.

Dr Caradoc EVANS, House Surgeon at the County Hospital, said deceased was admitted about 7 o'clock on Monday evening. Witness was out at the time but returned at 7.45 and the young man was in a very weak condition, too weak for an examination and in a dying state. He was placed in a room to rest and died at 8.30 the same evening. Deceased had very bad concussion and in witness's opinion, fell over his bicycle owing to faintness.

The Coroner recorded a verdict that deceased died from concussion sustained by accidentally falling from his bicycle.

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