## ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 18th April 1953

## THE LATE MAJ. GEN. C. E. LAWRIE OF RYDE SOLDIER AND SPORTSMAN

We announce with regret the death on Sunday, at his residence, Copsefield. Pelham Fields, Ryde of Maj. Gen. C. E. LAWRIE, C.B. D.S.O., J.P. who, since his retirement from the Army in 1920, had been a prominent resident and closely associated with the sporting life of the neighbourhood. Although he was in his 89th year, he remained remarkably active until fairly recently. His death occurred after an illness lasting about three months.

Charles Edward LAWRIE was the youngest son of the late Andrew LAWRIE, of Chesham Place, S.W., and Mount Mascal, North Cray, Kent. He was educated at Cheam, Eton and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. He entered the Royal Artillery in 1884, becoming captain in 1893, brevet major in 1896, and major in 1900. From 1889 to 1892 he was employed with the Bechuanaland Border Police and was attached to the Egyptian Army for the next six years. He was special service in Lagos and in 1892 took part in the Jebus Expedition during which he was slightly wounded, mentioned in dispatches and received the medal and clasp. He was with the Dongola Expedition in 1896, when he was again mentioned in dispatches and received the Khedive's medal and two clasps. In the following year he was engaged in the Sudan operations, and with the Nile Expedition in 1898, and was present at the battles of Atbara and Kartoum, when he was awarded the D.S.O. and clasp, and mentioned in dispatches. He served in South Africa in 1899-1900 and was again mentioned in dispatches, receiving the Queen's Medal and three clasps. In the years between the South African and first world wars he served in various parts of the country and for a period in Ireland, being promoted to Lieutenant-colonel in 1910. In the early days of the first world war he went to France in charge of a division, and concluded his service in that country in charge of the Royal Naval Division. After the war he want to Iraq, and retired in 1920. He was created a C.B. in 1915, and was also a Commander of the Order of the Crown of Italy Legion of Honour. He was promoted colonel in 1915 and retired with the rank of hon. major-general.

General LAWRIE's earliest associations with the Island were in 1894, when he was stationed at Puckpool Battery. He was elected to the Royal Victoria Y.C. in 1895 and was the oldest member. He was also the oldest member of the Ryde Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club and formerly a prominent member of Ryde Golf Club. In his younger days he frequently hunted in various parts of the country. His favourite sport however, was sailing, and in his younger days he owned a small yacht. At the Royal Victoria Y.C. he was extremely popular and a much-revered figure. He was also keenly interested in cricket and soccer, and an expert bridge player. His only entry into public life was as a country magistrate, and he was most assiduous in his attention to these duties. He was a great reader, and particularly devoted to his garden. He is survived by three sons.

## THE FUNERAL

The Vicar (the Rev. R. H. BASSETT, R.D.) officiated at the funeral service at All Saints' Church, Ryde, on Thursday, assisted by the Archdeacon (the Ven. A. CORY). Mr. W. L. REED played Chopin's "Prelude in A minor" and "Adante Religioso" (Rowley) before the service. The choir let the changing of Psalm 23 and the singing of the general's favourite hymn "We plough the fields and scatter" and "Abide with me." The coffin was draped with the ensign of the Royal Victoria Y.C., and on it rested a cushion with the general's decorations and medals. The mourners were Comdr. F. R. LAWRIE, R.N. (retd.) and Mrs LAWIE, and Mr. and Mrs. P. E. LAWRIE (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr. A. R. LAWRIE (grandson), Miss Rosemary LAWRIE (niece) and Mr. H. G. A. HALLEN (valet). The congregation included the commodore and vice-commodore and large number of members of the Royal Victoria Y.C. Ryde Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club were also represented. Mr. REED played "O rest in the Lord" as the cortege left. Cremation took place at Southampton. Messrs. C. LANGDON were undertakers.

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