

**SUICIDE OF MRS. A.E. WEEKS
AT RYDE**

“A TRAGEDY OF MOTHERHOOD”

Deep sympathy is felt with Mr. A.E. WEEKS, J.P., and his four sons in the sad experience they have had by the unexpected death of **Mrs. WEEKS**, who was found dead at her residence, 28 Abingdon-road, on Wednesday. The discovery was made by her husband, who found his wife lying on the floor of the scullery, near the gas oven, death having taken place from coal gas poisoning. Yesterday (Friday) the Acting Deputy Coroner (Dr. H.Y. MANSFIELD) held an inquiry into the death at the High-street Methodist School, Ryde.

Albert Edward WEEKS, an official of the Post-office, deposed that his wife had not been medically attended for some years. She worried over little things. On Tuesday evening they walked to the Esplanade to see the Naval Review, reaching home about 11 o'clock. While at supper she remarked "I don't think it is really worth it," to which he replied "Perhaps we didn't appreciate it." On going to bed his wife appeared to be better than for some days, when she had worried a lot. Speaking with great emotion, Mr. WEEKS added "it is really a tragedy of mother love." When worried deceased's sleep was intermittent, at about 7.50 on Wednesday morning he awoke to find that his wife was not in bed. On going downstairs, he found the scullery door closed, another unusual thing. He could smell the gas strongly and on opening the door found his wife on the scullery floor about 6in. from the gas oven. The oven door was open and her head was resting on a cushion. The tap of the gas oven was turned on and one end of a flexible tube attached to the tap was close to her mouth. He turned the gas off, commenced artificial respiration, and sent for a doctor. His wife had never threatened to commit suicide.

In returning a verdict of suicide while temporarily of unsound mind, the Coroner expressed deep sympathy with Mr. WEEKS and his family.

In reply, Mr. WEEKS said he greatly appreciated the promptitude and kindness of Dr. EDWARDS. He also acknowledged the friendliness of P.C. SWANN, who had been more than a brother to him in his trouble.
