

Herbert James Hancock

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NEWPORT

THE LATE MR. H.J. HANCOCK

The funeral took place on Friday week of Mr. Herbert James Hancock, of 46 Quay Street, who died the previous Tuesday. Although he was 78 years of age, he was working in his newsagent's shop in Pyle Street up to three weeks before his death. An unassuming man, his life was bound up with his work and his home. A native of Winchester, he started work the day after he left school at the age of 12. For a wage of 4s. a week, he delivered papers for Messrs. W.H. Smith and Son at all hours, over long distances, and in all weathers, and eventually became chief assistant of the Winchester branch. Mr. Hancock was married 53 years ago, when he was promoted manager of Messrs. Smith's Newport railway station. He has regularly handled copies of the "County Press" since that time - for the last 25 years as agent, when he started his own business in Pyle Street. He was recently made a life member of the trade association "Old Ben." In later years he declined advice to take things easier, and continued to attend the shop at 6.30 in morning.

The funeral service was held at St. Thomas's Church, the vicar (the Rev. C.R. Farnsworth) officiating. The mourners were Pastor J. Dimmer (nephew) and Mrs. I. White (niece), both representing Mrs. S. Hancock (widow) and Mr. H.R. Hancock (son), who were unable to attend. Mr. R. Glassey (representing Mr. F. Chiverton) and Mesdames M. Dearsley, P. Cotton, K. L. Buckett, and Lieut. Handel Everett, of the Salvation Army. Representatives of Newport newsagents attended the service. The floral tributes included those from the National Federation of Retail Newsagents, and the local branch of the N.F.R.N. Interment followed at Newport Cemetery. Messrs. O.C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

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