

## OBITUARY

### MR. WILLIAM POULTER

We regret to record the sudden death of one of the oldest native-born residents of Greensborough at Daylesford on Good Friday last in the person of Mr. William Poulter. The deceased, who was on a quiet holiday trip with Mrs. Poulter, was visiting relatives and was apparently in the best of spirits. In the afternoon after dinner he retired to enjoy a smoke. After a considerable time a search was made and he was discovered in an outhouse in a state of collapse. A doctor was summoned, but life was practically extinct, the cause of death being heart failure.

The parents of deceased were of the earliest pioneering stock, arriving in Victoria in 1849, and lived for six months in a tent at Emerald Hill (now South Melbourne), when that locality was bush and before Canvas Town was instituted. Removing to Lower Plenty, near Eltham, they resided there for three years, and then removed by bullock waggon through what is now the thickly-populated township of Montmorency. The river Plenty was crossed at a ford near the present Railway bridge and the couple settled in the immediate vicinity, on the property owned and occupied by Mr. Britnell, senr., in 1853, where the deceased was born in 1865, and where in later years and until quite recently he carried on a lucrative business of fruit growing and market gardening. This property is still under intense cultivation by Mr. Bruce Pope, and for over 80 years has been closely identified with the Poulter family.

In 1891 the late Mr. Poulter married Miss Alice Dalrymple, also a native of Victoria. Ten children were born of this union—Sydney, Olive (deceased), Jessie, James (killed in action in 1918 after two and a half years' active service), Norman, Joseph, William, Ethel, Alice and Nellie. In his younger days Mr. Poulter was identified with all forward movements in the district, particularly the agitation for railway communication, water supply, sanitation, street lighting, etc. Although at all times genial and non-assertive, his shrewd common sense and sense of humor made for mature consideration and put the brake on hasty or too en-

thusiastic adoption of new ideas. He was of a most friendly disposition and his keen memory of past events and old personalities of the district made him a welcome addition to discussion about either past or present affairs, his reliable memory being always at the services of inquirers, re the old pioneering days.

The body was brought from Daylesford by motor hearse and interred in the Greensborough Cemetery amid many old pioneers, relatives and former acquaintances in the presence of a large number of pioneers or their relatives and other residents of the district. The coffin was carried to the graveside by his four stalwart sons. The cortege was led from the house by a company of members of the Greensborough Druids' Lodge, of which the deceased was a foundation member. The pall bearers were Messrs. Arthur Poulter, Claude Snow, Lawrence Bourke, George Sparks, Jack Mitchell, Joseph Partington, James Knapsey and James Medhurst. The Rev. Binns (Anglican) conducted the burial service at the home and graveside, and Mr. Percy Jerse (Past Arch Druid) read the Druids' burial service.