

William Horsefield Emmett, J. P.

Rushworth Chronicle

17 January, 1941

Quite a gloom was cast over the district when it became known that the death of Mr William Horsefield Emmett had occurred very suddenly at his residence, "Shenstone", Stanhope, early on Saturday morning last.

His sudden death came as a great shock to his relatives and friends as he had not experienced any serious illness and had followed his usual avocation right up till the day previous to his death.

The deceased, who was well-known and highly respected in this district, has, for a number of years, carried on business as a storekeeper and land and estate agent at Stanhope, by his integrity, upright character and obliging disposition, had gained many friends in Stanhope, Rushworth and surrounding districts who will mourn the loss of a trusted and esteemed friend.

The late Mr. Emmett, was 59 years of age at the time of his death, was born at Collingwood and was the second son of the late Philip and Eliza Emmett, who later resided at Stanhope. He spent his school days at Blackburn and as a young man went to Kalgoorlie and worked on the water scheme there for a few years. He then returned to Victoria and started a cartage contract in Melbourne. When the Great War broke out in 1914 he answered his country's call and served in the Army Medical as a Warrant Officer.

On his return from the war he came with other returned soldiers to Stanhope and purchased land known as Shenstone, afterwards carrying on business as a general merchant and land and estate agent till his demise.

The deceased was well-known in all sporting circles and excelled in cricket, also taking part in all activities for the benefit of the community. He had been a member of the Independent Order of Rechabites for over 44 years, a member of the Returned Soldiers' League at Stanhope, a foundation of the Lauderdale Masonic Lodge which he was Past Master and was chairman and director of the Stanhope and District Co-operative Dairy Company. He was also a Justice of the Peace for the district.

At the age of 26 the deceased married Miss Mock, of Burwood, and there were 12 children of the union. He leaves, to mourn his loss, a widow, six sons, Bruce (Stanhope), Kenneth (Burwood), Bert (RAAF), Ivan, Mervyn and Malcolm (Stanhope), and six daughters, Isabel (Mrs. H. Hicks, Stanhope), Joyce (Mrs. Metcalf, Geelong), Phyllis (Mrs. Black, Elwood), Maisie (Mrs. Allen, Elwood), Gwen and Norma (Stanhope), to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

The mortal remains were interred in the Rushworth cemetery on Saturday last, Rev. W.H. Laity officiating, and the funeral arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Graham Diggle.

The I.O.R. service was conducted by Bro. E. Down, the R.S.A. by Mr. T. M. Matthews, and the Masonic service by Wor. Bro. T. H. Fraser. The chief mourners at the funeral were the sons and daughters, a brother and the Minister for the Air, Mr. J. McEwen, who represented Parliament.

The esteem in which the deceased was held was shown by the number of floral tributes received their being over 40, including wreaths from the directors and staff the Dairying Company, the Stanhope Tennis Club, the Methodist Church, Foley Bros. dairy produce Melbourne, Stanhope Cricket Club, Rushworth Branch Returned Soldiers, Rushworth Butter Factory Company, I.O.R Lodge and Lauderdale Masonic Lodge.

The funeral was one of the largest seen in the district, the casket being draped with the Union Jack and a large Union Jack was also carried on the hearse.

The pall-bearers, who were returned soldiers, were Messrs N. H. Enders, E. Wright, W. Paynter, A. Robertson, H. Wright, A. Shaw, S. Hunt and F. Taylor and the remains were carried to their last resting place by Messrs E. Hadfield, G. Ward, V. Brock, J. Martin, H. Gardiner and N. Crooks.

The flower-bearers were Messrs L. G. Dunn, H. Pocknee, W. Barrette, T. Hadfield, J. Mustey, A. Nelson and E. Hudson.