

# Death of Mr. Colin Craik

## DISTRICT LOSES FINE CITIZEN

A deep gloom was cast over Liverpool and surrounding districts last Wednesday, when the news became known of the death of Mr. Colin Craik, at his home in Austral, at the early age of 49 years. The sad tidings spread rapidly, and came as a great shock to his numerous friends and the community generally.

The late gentleman was widely and affectionately known for his unflinching friendly manner and geniality. He was always welcome wherever he went—indeed, his company was sought because of the pleasure radiated by his personality. Warm and sincere tributes were paid to the late Colin Craik in many ways and places during the past week, all reflecting the high respect and deep affection in which he was held throughout the southern districts—in fact, messages of sympathy were received from distant places.

Born in Globe 49 years ago, the deceased married Gladys Shumaker at Leichhardt in 1933, where they lived until they moved to Austral.

In the sporting world, he was a keen boxer, played an above average game of tennis, and was a good swimmer. Possibly he was best known in sport as a trotting enthusiast, having had interests in many top-class performers, and only very recently had the privilege of leading in Austral Pids as winner of the Trotters' Cup at Harold Park.

He was connected with many clubs, among these were Rotary, Old Tote, N.S.W. Trotting Club Ltd. and Masonry.

### SERVICE AT ST. LUKE'S

All walks of life and public organisations were represented in the crowded congregation that assembled at St. Luke's Church of England, Liverpool, on Thursday at 2 p.m., when a solemn service was conducted by the Rector, Rev. J. A. Ross.

Amongst those present were the Deputy Mayor of Liverpool, Ald. Leo Sullivan; also aldermen and Council's officers; almost every member of Liverpool Rotary Club, led by President Dick Bell; Mr. Stan Freeman, M.L.A.; Ald. K. Howick and officers of Fairfield Council; officers and members of the Masonic Order; President Bill Tibbs and members of Fairfield Rotary Club; Liverpool Ambulance Service; Mr. Roy Osmond, of Ashfield Ambu-

Ambulance Service; Mr. Roy Osmond, of Ashfield Ambulance, formerly of Liverpool; Liverpool A.H. and I. Society; representatives of practically every public and sporting organisation; Fairfield A. and H. Society; Liverpool Bowling Club; N.S.W. Trotting Club; parishioners of St. Luke's and members of the public from all parts of the district. Messrs. Wilson Rogers and Frank Ollis were the ushers.

The Rector, after an appropriate Scripture reading, and making feeling reference and paying warm tributes to the manly character and public spirited activities of the late Colin Craik, invited Mr. R. Bell, President of Liverpool Rotary Club, to address the congregation, as he had more intimate knowledge of their departed friend than had the Rector.

Mr. Bell said he felt humble but honored to take such a part in the service. He deeply appreciated the privilege of being requested to pay tribute to their late fellow citizen, when there were many others who could do so more completely. Any words of his would be inadequate to convey the loving feelings and sincere respect in which their late friend was regarded wherever he was known.

Colin Craik came to Liverpool 15 years ago, and soon became a popular figure at Austral, where with his family he settled on a large poultry farm. He had quickly established himself as a progressive citizen and was appointed to local committees. Later he was elected to Liverpool Municipal Council, where he capably served for about eight years. He was a charter member of Liverpool Rotary Club, also a Past President.

The late Mr. Craik was popularly known in various phases of public life and sporting activities, being a great lover of horseflesh, particularly trotters. His mother was still alive, to

horseflesh, particularly trotters. His mother was still alive, to whom he had been a wonderful son. They also deeply sympathised with his wife in the loss of a wonderful husband, and with his children—Joan and Ross—on the passing of a loving father.

The deceased gentleman had shown high principles throughout his lifetime. He had, even before being admitted to the ranks of Rotary, observed the motto, "Service above self, and for other people."

Colin Craik's eight years as an alderman reflected the confidence reposed in him by his fellow ratepayers. As a Rotarian he had lived right up to the ideals and ethics of that world-wide organisation, and had earned the affection and respect of his fellows. He had been highly esteemed in the A.H. and I. Society, Liverpool Bowling Club, Fairfield A. and H. Society, and all phases of sporting and public activities in which he took an active part.

Whilst mourning the deceased's passing, everyone would feel proud and pleased to have known him, and widespread and sincere sympathy was extended to his family and other relatives. Their thoughts and prayers were with the bereaved in their hours of sorrow and Divine blessing was sought to comfort them through their trials.

The Rector said he felt that the words of Mr. Bell re-echoed the sentiments of all people in the community. He referred to similar words used by Saint Paul 2,000 years ago, who had had similar experiences: having lost many dear friends.

After the service the funeral proceeded to Rookwood Crematorium. The huge number of beautiful floral tributes alone bore eloquent testimony to the great respect and loving regard he'd towards a departed friend. The cortege was the largest seen in the district for many years, stretching for over a mile along Hume Highway.

At the Crematorium, which was crowded, Rev. J. A. Ross again conducted the service, and the Masonic ritual was read by G.D.I.W. J. Whalan.

The late Colin Craik's mother is still alive, aged 84 and he has a brother and sister.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife Gladys, son Ross (16 years) and daughter Joan (Mrs. Johnson), who lives at Cabramatta.

The mortuary arrangements were carried out with courteous decorum by Funerals of Distinction.

