

# JUSTICE BOYCE.

## DEATH LAST NIGHT.

### Former State Minister.

The death occurred last night of Mr. Justice F. S. Boyce, who for the past eight years has been a member of the Supreme Court Bench, being the Judge in Divorce. He was aged 68, and was formerly a State Minister and one of the leading barristers in Sydney.

Francis Stewart Boyce was a son of the late Archdeacon Boyce, and was born at Pepper's Creek, Jumper's Flat, Rockley, New South Wales.

Educated at The King's School, Parramatta, the Sydney Grammar School, Rugby (England), and the University of Sydney, where he took his B.A., LL.B., in 1886, he set up legal practice in Sydney the following year, when he was admitted to the Bar.

Mr. Boyce came into prominence in the defence of the notorious Jimmy Governor, of the Breelong blacks, who had caused havoc in the western district.

Two judgeships later were offered to Mr. Boyce, one being a call to the District Court

nated to the Legislative Council. He made a deep impression on the leader, the late Sir Joseph Carruthers, and on March 4, 1924, he was appointed honorary Minister so that he could assist in dealing with legislation in the Council. Just before this, Mr. Boyce had taken the necessary steps to apply for ailk.

He remained honorary Minister and member of the Executive Council until June 17, 1925, and was Attorney-General and Vice-President of the Executive Council in the Bavin Government from October 18, 1927, until November 4, 1930.

He was appointed a Supreme Court Judge to act in Divorce Court jurisdiction in June 1932, when there was considerable congestion in that Court, and he succeeded the late Mr. Justice Langer Owen, who reached the retiring age in August of that year, as the Judge in Divorce.

Mr. Boyce took a keen interest in Church affairs. Among the various positions he held were Chancellor of the Diocese of Grafton and advocate to the Diocese of Sydney. He also held the offices of Grand Registrar and Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons, and president of the Prisoners' Aid Association. He maintained his interest in the University and the other schools he attended, and was practically the founder of Barker College, Hornsby, of which he was chairman for some time.

Mr. Boyce was a keen sportsman and played football for the University against Queensland. He was a past president of the Avondale Golf Club, but his favourite game later in life was bowls.

The funeral arrangements will be announced this morning.



Bench, the other to the Federal Arbitration Court as one of the Deputy Presidents. Mr. Boyce had political aspirations, however, although in 1916 he accepted an appointment as Acting District Court Judge.

#### POLITICAL CAREER.

He unsuccessfully contested a seat for the Legislative Assembly, and in 1923 was nominated to the Legislative Council. He made a