George Chambre Wilmot Townsend [5D33]

George's Obituary

MR. G. C. W. TOWNSHEND

The passing of Mr. George Chambre Wilmot Townshend, formerly of Ballynagorna, Co. Cork, who died peacefully at his home, 49, Ashburton Road, Croydon, marks the close of nearly 50 years' residence in the town.

Born in 1863, he was the eldest son of the late Nathaniel Townshend, of Derry, Co. Cork. He entered the National Provincial Bank over 60 years ago, retiring in 1923 as head of the premises department, in which capacity he was responsible for all business transactions in connection with the acquisition of land and buildings for new branches and extensions.

Mr. Townshend, a staunch upholder of the church and a lifelong Conservative, was also interested in many forms of sport. Besides riding one of the first safety bicycles, and being a keen sailor and model yachtsman, he was a founder of the Croydon Gymnastic Society, an exceptionally fine gymnast, and a redoubtable opponent in the ring. He devoted much of his time to teaching the young how to box. He was a very strong swimmer and a good long-distance runner, winning a number of prizes, almost up to the time of his retirement, in the bank's annual sports.

His son, Mr. B. W. Townshend, after holding important posts in the aircraft industry for 20 years, joined the Air Ministry in 1938, and took charge of technical development of air-sea rescue equipment, which saved over 11,000 lives in the war. He is continuing this work in the Ministry of Supply, for R.A.F., Naval and civil aircraft.

His daughters, Dr. R. C. Townshend, and Miss J. G. Townshend, are well known, the former for her medical work and the latter as founder and head mistress of Hawnes School for Girls, Ampthill.

Announcement of the death of George's wife, Eliza

TOWNSHEND.—On Nov. 15, 1937, at St. Leonards-on-Sea, ELIZA SUSAN (BESSIE), wife of GEORGE CHAMBRÉ WILMOT TOWNSHEND, of 49, Ashburton Road, Croydon, formerly of Derry, Rosscarberry, Co. Cork, daughter of the late French Gray, of the Ceylon Civil Service, in her 74th year. Funeral at Elmer's End Cemetery, Saturday, Nov. 20, at 11.45. (Cork and Ceylon papers, please copy.)