



CORONERS INQUESTS



Inquest

When Mr Matthew Collins, electrician of the Melksham rubber works, residing at Seend Cleeve returned home yesterday morning, after being on night duty, he failed to find his wife Winifred (27). Instead, he discovered a note on the table which read: - I can't stand this any longer. Look after the baby and yourself".

The husband sought assistance, and in the 15 feet deep well in the garden recovered the body of his wife by means of a garden rake which had been hurriedly attached to the clothes prop.

At the inquest, held by Mr A L Forester (the Wiltshire coroner) it was stated that Mrs Collins had been in poor health since the birth of the child last year. When her husband was on night duty she slept at her parents' home, half a mile away, and left there every morning on her cycle to go to her own house to get her husband's breakfast. Instead of doing so, she wrote the note.

Dr Spence, of Melksham, who said death was due to drowning, told the coroner that deceased suffered from graves' disease.

A verdict that deceased drowned herself in the well while suffering from that disease was recorded.

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