

Death of the Chief Inspector of Factories.

The numerous friends of Mr. R. W. Clark, Chief Inspector of Factories in South Australia, in Narracoorte and other parts of the South-East will regret to hear that he died suddenly at his residence in Malvern, in Adelaide, recently. Mr. Clark was connected with the Loco. Branch of the Railway Department in the South-East for many years, and was at Beachport, Kingston, and Narracoorte. He resided at Narracoorte for a number of years, and was greatly esteemed by our community. At Narracoorte he was foreman of the carriage branch of the Loco. workshops, and was a first-class workman, and could turn his hand to anything where tools were concerned. Before coming to the South-East he was in the Fort Wakefield Loco. shops. Mr. Clark was born at Barnard Castle, Yorkshire, on November 11, 1859. As a boy he was engaged by the Midland Railway Company at Leeds. He arrived in South Australia in the steamer Garonne on September 14, 1878. He went to work for Mellor Bros., in Adelaide and afterwards joined the South Australian Locomotive Department. While in Narracoorte applications were invited for an inspector in the Factories Department, and Mr. Clark received the appointment, which dated from June 10, 1901. This meant his transfer to Adelaide. He became senior inspector on July 1, 1911, and on the death of Mr. John Bannigan he became Chief Inspector of the Department in April, 1920. He had an illness a few months ago, but it was thought that he had completely recovered from it. While a resident of Narracoorte with his wife and family he took an interest in the affairs of the community, and made a large number of friends. He took an active interest in St. Paul's Church of England while residing here. The Commissioner of Public Works (Gen. W. Hagne), who is the Minister controlling the Factories Department, stated that the late Mr. R. W. Clarke had been a conscientious, capable, and painstaking officer, and his death was a distinct loss to the service. He had a practical and extensive knowledge of his duties, which he had performed in a most satisfactory manner.