

RETURNED SOLDIER'S DEATH

"POISONING BY PHOSPHORUS."

The inquiry was concluded yesterday by the Coroner (Mr. W. B. Geddes, P.M.) into the circumstances of the death of Uno Videkind Sandberg, a returned soldier, which occurred at the District Hospital on Friday, December 30.

David Thomas Solomon, chemist, of Prince street, said, that about a month ago the deceased saw him and complained that he was suffering from trench feet and could not sleep. He asked for a sleeping draught, but witness said he could not let him have one, and referred him to Dr. Holland, the deceased having asked for a returned soldier doctor. He did not know whether he saw Dr. Holland. On the night of Thursday evening, November 29, the deceased saw him again, and said that he was troubled with rats. Witness recommended him phosphorus paste, and gave him instructions how to use it, telling him to spread it on bread and place it near the rats' holes with some water nearby. Sandberg seemed to be quite rational, and did not say anything on that occasion about insomnia. There was nothing about his appearance or demeanor to show any suicidal intentions.

The Coroner found that the deceased died from the effects of poisoning by phosphorus, but whether accidentally or otherwise the evidence did not enable him to say.