

KILLED BY A RHINOCEROS

Okehampton Man's Fate

AFRICAN JUNGLE TRAGEDY

Carried Through Forest On Beast's Horns

THE tragic death of Mr. Heban Carpenter, aged about 30, who belonged to a well-known Okehampton family, has been revealed by the finding of his mutilated body in the Nyeri district of Kenya. Mr. Carpenter, who was single, left Okehampton for Kenya about ten years ago, and was in charge of a farm at Aberdare Mountains.

His widowed mother, Mrs. C. Carpenter, and his brother, Mr. C. Carpenter, who live at North-street, Okehampton, had heard from him recently. His sister is a schoolmistress at Newton Abbot, and another brother is a bank clerk. His third brother was killed in the North Sea during the Great War.

His ancestors have lived in Okehampton for many years, and his grandfather was on several occasions Mayor of the borough.

The discovery of Mr. Carpenter's body is, says a Press Association message from Nairobi, reminiscent of the recent unsolved mystery of the young Welshman, Mr. Theodore Powys, of whom the dead man was an intimate friend.

By a strange coincidence, like the ill-fated Welshman, Mr. Carpenter set out on his last fatal journey on horseback.

DEVOID OF CLOTHING.

He left the farm on which he was working in the early morning, and as he failed to return a search was instituted next day. The searchers first came across his riderless horse, and later discovered the body of Mr. Carpenter, devoid of clothing and in a terribly mutilated state.

It was at first thought that Mr. Carpenter had been the victim of an outrage by Samburu warriors, but a close examination, together with medical evidence, has disproved the murder theory.

The tracks of a rhinoceros were observed leading to a near-by forest, and a reconstruction of the tragedy tends to show that the horse slid, throwing off his rider, and that the latter was then attacked by a rhinoceros. Impaled on the fierce beast's horns, Mr. Carpenter was carried through the forest, this accounting for the tearing of the clothes from his body.

NATIVES ACQUITTED.

Mr. Theodore Powys, son of T. F. Powys, the well-known novelist, disappeared from a sheep farm in the Laikipia district of Kenya in October, 1931, and subsequently his bloodstained clothes and portions of his body were found.

It was alleged that he was the victim of ritual spear-blooding, and only in December last five Samburu warriors were tried on a charge of having murdered him. They were, however, acquitted after a week's trial, the Judge giving them the benefit of the doubt.

One theory of Mr. Powys's death was that he had been killed by lions, and the mystery has never been cleared up.

Mr. Carpenter was educated at Okehampton Grammar School and later at Tavistock Grammar School, where he became "first boy." He was a very keen athlete and a well-known Rugby footballer. He was interested in all kinds of sport, and was described as "a daring and fearless hunter."

