Lancing Flying Fatality.

Distressing Occurrence.

Sad End of a Young Canadian Officer.

Interesting Evidence at the Inquest.

The site which attended the training of Officers and men for the work of the Royal Flying Corps was illustrated in a tragic manner on Thursday afternoon, when Lieutenant W. P. Shaw, a promising young Officer who came over to this country with the first Canadian contingent, was accidentally killed whilst making a flight from the Shoreham Aerodrome on the Adur Valley.

Lieutenant Shaw only came to Shoreham from the Canadian Camp on Salisbury Plain the previous day, and was His First Flight Unaccompanied by any of the particular type of machine which he was using at the time of the accident; but he is understood to have flown for the past eighteen months in Canada, where he was known as Instructor, and Captain Ross Hume, his Commanding Officer, told the Jury which was empanelled to investigate the circumstances on the following day that he had flown the machine thoroughly in every way, having the sole charge of a machine.

As a fact, the suggestion put forward at the Inquest was that the accident was due to over-confidence in the first place. In other words, Lieutenant Shaw was not supposed to have had a straining, and when the result was a accident, which developed into what is known a a dive, he probably lost his head.

Evidence at the Inquest.

The Inquest, which was conducted by the Coroner for West Sussex (Mr. F. W. Butler), took place on Friday afternoon at the Stansfield Institute on the Upper Shoreham Road, a portion of which is used by the Military Hospital, and the evidence was to the following effect:

Captain CHAPMAN, R.F.C., with the permission of the Royal Flying Corps, deposed that he was present at the scene, in which he had command of the flying. The deceased came from Ottawa, and belonged to the First batch of the Canadian Contingent on91909, and he was known by the name of Shaw. Witnesses did not know his real name, but, according to the Coroner, he had been flying for a long time, and on the day before the accident he was flying the machine without a licence.

According to the evidence, the machine was not in good condition, and the pilot did not have the necessary training to fly it. The accident occurred when the machine was over the college, and it was believed that the pilot lost control and fell. The machine was not damaged, but the pilot was killed.

Round by the College, and appeared to be about a thousand feet up. He made a steep turn, and then turned into the wind. The machine landed in the garden of the college, and the pilot was found to be dead. The machine was examined, and it was found to be in good condition. The pilot was known as Shaw, and was the only person on board.

The Coroner having briefly summed up the case, said that a verdict of 'Accidental death' would be returned in accordance with the evidence.