### Coalville Times At War

### Friday August 6<sup>th</sup> 1915 (Issue 1222)

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### WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT COLEORTON HALL

### V.C.'S DRAMATIC MEETING WITH RESCUED MAN

About 400 wounded soldiers in Leicester and county hospitals had an outing on Saturday, arranged by the Leicestershire Automobile Association. It was intended to visit Beaumanor, but the death of Mrs Perry Herrick necessitated a change in the arrangements and Mrs F. Abel-Smith, of Coleorton Hall, placed her grounds at the disposal of the promoters. Over a hundred cars, several of which were driven by ladies, were lent for the occasion and the route taken was via Loughborough and Gracedieu. The villagers of Coleorton gave the wounded soldiers a splendid reception, many displaying flags and cheering the men as they passed, while some ladies threw cigarettes to the Tommies. In the beautiful grounds of Coleorton Hall, associated with Wordsworth, the company spent a most enjoyable afternoon, the weather being beautifully fine.

Amongst those present at Coleorton were Mrs Abel-Smith, Countess Ferrers, Lady Joan Shirley, Lady Maude Hastings, Lady Hon. Mrs Skipworth, the Hon. Dorothy Maude, Miss Violet Abel-Smith, Miss Isabel Hastings, Mr and Mrs Evelyn Seymour, Mr and Mrs Radford, Mr and Mrs St. Quentin, the Rev. and Mrs H. Robinson, the L. H. Wellesley Wesley, Mr Michael Wesley, Mr Henry Abel-Smith, and Mr Alex Abel-Smith.

Whilst the men were recalling their exploits of the past few months a dramatic meeting occurred. Private Buckingham, V.C., the modest and fearless life saver of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, unexpectedly saw for the first time since he performed his deed of bravery at Neuve Chapelle on March 12<sup>th</sup>, one of the men he rescued under fire. It was his gallantry in regard to this particular man that was so much taken into consideration when it was decided to award the former Countesthorpe Cottage Homes boy the coveted V.C.

The rescues soldier, Corporal W. Tarry, "A" Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, had for a long time keenly desired to express his deep sense of obligation to the V.C. hero, and to whole heartedly congratulate him on the King's high recognition of the service rendered, but it had hitherto been impossible for him to do so. Corpl. Tarry was taken from the Base Hospital to Coleorton from the Charnwood Convalescent Home on Saturday, and he had not the slightest idea that Private Buckingham would be included in the company. It was whilst Tarry was making the best use of a pair of crutches – he was shot through the thigh – that the men met. Immediately they recognised each other, but for the moment neither spoke. Their vivid memories had temporarily got the better of them, but when they did speak it was one long stream of mutual congratulation.

Tea was served in a marquee on the grounds, and a concert, arranged by Mr G. W. Appleby, was gone through, the artists being Miss Edith Holloway, Mrs M. E. Wood, Mr J. Goddard, Mr H. Appleby, and Mr Ian McKensie. The Borough of Leicester Club and Institute Silver Prize Band, conducted by Mr S. Brown, also rendered a number of items.

At the close Councillor P. L. Baker expressed the thanks of all concerned to Mrs Abel-Smith for entertaining them. He mentioned that it was originally intended to go to Mrs Percy Herrick's at Beaumanor, but unfortunately owing to that lady's illness and subsequent death, the idea had to be abandoned. Whilst they deplored Mrs Perry Herrick's death, they admired the spirit of Mrs Abel-Smith, who, when told of the dilemma they were all in, said, "Bring them all here."

Cheers and musical honours were accorded Mrs Abel-Smith, who, in reply, said she needed no thanks. Mrs Perry Herrick was dreadfully distressed when she found that she could not entertain them, but she was so pleased when she knew they were going to Coleorton. Mrs Perry Herrick was a very charitable lady and she knew of no one who would be more missed.

The return journey was via Whitwick, Copt Oak and Bradgate.

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### **SOLDIER'S THANKS**

Copy of a letter sent to Bagworth by Private Jackson who was wounded and is now in hospital at Leicester:

"I take this opportunity of thanking the people of Bagworth (through Mesdames Jebbett and Webster) for the kindness shown to me and my colleagues. I feel I cannot find words to thank them enough, but would like them to know how much I appreciate their goodness and trust they will believe me to be ever grateful. Yours truly."

Jas. H. Jackson

### **IBSTOCK MAN KILLED**

Mr William Badcock, of Leicester Road, Ibstock, has received information that his son Harry was killed in France on Saturday night. He was a private in the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, and had been at the front nearly two months. A letter written by a comrade stated the young soldier was shot in the stomach and lived but a few minutes after. Before going to the front he was a member of the Ibstock Church Lads Brigade, and was educated at Coalville Grammar School. Rev. S. Flood, M.A., rector, will conduct a memorial service at the Parish Church on Sunday evening. Mr Badcock has another son in training in the Yorkshire Light Infantry (King's Own). Although other Ibstock men have been seriously wounded and at least one is a prisoner in Germany, this is the first death of one whose home is at Ibstock.

### **LOCAL CHIT CHAT**

The members of the Citizen Corps of Coalville and district had an interesting day on the Forest on Monday, notwithstanding that the rain somewhat interfered with the arrangements. A good number of Nottingham citizens are encamped on the Greenhill Lodge Farm and they were joined by the local men on Monday for various operations. They consisted on a attack upon the heights behind which lay the camp. But the defending force proved too numerous and too strongly placed for the attack to succeed. The whole scheme was excellently planned and executed, and was creditable not only to the officers, but also to all concerned for the skill and enthusiasm with which in the midst of drenching showers, they performed their evolutions. Such a performance shows that our civilian volunteers are taking every pains to qualify themselves to serve their country if needed, and that they are likely to be a nucleus for home defence if the occasion should arise. There was a drumhead service in camp on Sunday evening, conducted by the Rev. A. W. F. Blunt, vicar of Carrington, chaplain to the company, who gave an address on the meaning of citizenship, and its place in a scheme of Christian life.

For the purpose of taking the National Register the parish of Ibstock has been divided into six districts and the voluntary enumerators for these districts are: Messrs. W. M. Sykes, F. J. Rose, F. Holmes, W. Dunstan, T. Wright and J. A. Hume. The last named is for the Ellistown and Battram portion of the parish. The enumerators will receive the papers on August 9<sup>th</sup> and by the 14<sup>th</sup> all have to be distributed. The papers will be collected again on Monday August 16<sup>th</sup> and have to be delivered by the 21<sup>st</sup>.

With the absence of railway excursions, there would doubtless have been many more visitors to the Forest on Monday but for the wet weather, though there was a good number as it was. The presence of the Nottingham Citizens in camp and the operations in which they were joined by members of the local corps were an attraction and passed off successfully in spite of the opposition of the clerk of the weather.

The arrangements for the taking of the National Register in the Coalville Urban District are now complete. The Coalville Ward has been divided into fourteen districts, and the voluntary enumerators allocated to these districts are: Mr J. J. Brown and Miss Lindley; Messrs. G. F. Hurst and W. Serres; Mrs Belcher and Miss Dean; Messrs. D. Hooper and F. Pickering; S. C. Goacher and R. Williams; J. Haywood; Misses. Berrisford and Nicholls; Messrs. W. A. Clarke and W. Sharpe; E. Fisher and A. W. Clarke; T. Frith and Miss Hillyard; Messrs. S. C. Hale and G. Cresswell; R. J. Biddle and A. Harrison; J. E. Goodman and W. Tongue; and A. G. Ball.

Hugglescote is divided into six districts and the enumerators are: Messrs. A Choyce, J. Garratt, H. Freeman, Misses. M. J. Middleton, W. Mee and Hatchett. There are four districts at Ellistown for which the enumerators

are: Messrs A. James, J. A. Hume, A. Bellamy, the Rev. J. Hayhoe, J. Taylor, G. Lagoe, S. Hemsley, R. Blower and S. Armson.

The Whitwick Ward has been divided into six districts and the work and distribution and collection of the papers has here been undertaken by Misses. F. West and Carr; Misses Henson and Amy Henson; Messrs. J. T. Briers and F. Ducker; J. W. Eagles and A. Pegg; John Pegg and George West, and F. E. Needham and S. Turner.

The papers will be delivered between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> inst., and must be filled up by the 15<sup>th</sup>, all persons between the ages of 16 65 years, being required to sign the forms which will be called for on the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. The enumerators are sworn to secrecy and if they communicate without lawful authority any information acquired from the forms, they are liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or a fine not exceeding £20, or both. The Coalville Urban Council have appointed a sub-committee to carry out all the necessary details, consisting of Messrs. W. Fellows and S. Armson (Hugglescote), A. Lockwood and C. W. Brown (Coalville) and M. McCarthy and T. Kelly (Whitwick).

Mr J. Andrews, of Ravenstone, yesterday received a letter from Capt. Griffiths, stating that the body of his son, Pte. George Andrews, (whose death is reported on page 8) has been found and decently buried by an officer.

### WHITWICK AND THRINGSTONE CITIZEN CORPS

Sunday August 8<sup>th</sup>: Company drill at Headquarters at 10.30 am. Sunday Evening – Memorial Service, Company will assemble at Headquarters at 5.45 sharp and march to Thringstone Church for Memorial Service to the late Private Hall, killed in action.

### **IBSTOCK SOLDIER KILLED**

We regret the sad news received in a letter from the front on Wednesday morning by Mr Charles Badcock, that his youngest brother, Harry, had been killed in action on Sunday last. Harry Badcock was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. Badcock, of Leicester Road, Ibstock, and joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters in November last. He was a very promising young man, having gained a scholarship under the County Council entitling him to instruction at the Coalville Grammar School, a school he attended for a number of years. He was a member of the Ibstock Church Lads' Brigade and was employed at the Ibstock Collieries Ltd. There has been no official confirmation of the death as yet and there remains the slender hope that it is not true.

### DO YOU KNOW

That efforts are being made to secure a big batch of recruits locally to celebrate the anniversary of the war?

That seven more enemy aliens were dispatched from the county of Leicester to internment camps on Tuesday?

That a great patriotic meeting is to be held at the Whitwick Picture Palace next Thursday night?

That a memorial service for Pte. I. Hall, killed in action is to be held at Thringstone Church next Sunday night?

That there are over 30 lads who formerly belonged to the Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade now serving in the forces?

That sixty-five former scholars of the Coalville Primitive Methodist Church are serving in His Majesty's forces in addition to five who have fallen?

That the Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade has been recognised by the Government as a Cadet Company and the members will appear in khaki as soon as matters can be arranged?

# COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT.

NATIONAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1915.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Registration Firms under the above Act will be delivered to all persons between the ages of 15 and 65 from August 9th to 14th. Each person is required to fill in the Forms ready to hand to the Enumerators appointed, by August 16th.

Any person liable to Registration who may not have received a form, or who may have lost or destroyed it, or may have been otherwise prevented from filling up the form within the prescribed time can procure one within the Urban District at the following places:

COALVILLE: The Council Chambers. HUGGLESCOTE: Mr. W. Fellows, Main

WHITWICK: Mr. T. Kelly, The Rulway Hotel.

Severe penalties are provided in the Act for persons failing to register.

> J. FISHER JESSON, Clerk to the Council.

Council Chambers, Coalville, July 28th ,1915. A1706.

### THRINGSTONE BROTHERS KILLED

News has been received of the death of Pte. Isaac Hall, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Territorial Regiment who was killed in action on July 23<sup>rd</sup> by the enemy exploding a mine under a British trench. He was 20 years of age and brother of Pte. Ernest Hall, whose death we reported a few months ago. They are sons of Mr J. Hall, of Thringstone and were formerly engaged as colliers. A photo of Pte. E. Hall has already appeared in our columns and one of Pte. I. Hall, with further details will be published in our next issue.

### RECRUITING CAMPAIGN IN COALVILLE AND DISTRICT

### SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF MEETINGS

In commemoration of the anniversary of the war the Coalville and Hinckley District Recruiting Committee – Capt. Stevenson and two political agents for the Bosworth Division, Mr R. Blower and Mr W. Baldwin, with several helpers have been carrying on a vigorous recruiting campaign in the district this week and a successful series of meetings have been held.

Splendid assistance has been rendered by the Coalville Boy Scouts, who with their bugle band have

helped to "draw crowds together" in the villages visited.

On Saturday, Sergt.-Major Dye spoke at both the picture houses in Coalville and on Sunday, meetings were held at Coalville, Newbold Verdon, Kirkby Mallory, Earl Shilton, Barwell, Hinckley, Burbage, Wolvey, Sharnford, Sapcote and Stoney Stanton, the scouts and speakers making the journey in a brake and holding meetings in the open.

On Monday, the places visited were Coalville, Ashby, Blackfordby, Woodville, Moira, Overseal, Netherseal, Donisthorpe, Measham and Packington.

The places at which meetings were held on Tuesday were Nailstone, Carlton, Market-Bosworth, Shenton, Highton, Stoke, Dadlington, Sutton Cheney, Cadeby and Osbaston.

Wednesday's list was Huncote, Ellistown, Ibstock, Heather, Swepstone, Newton Burgoland, Shackerstone, Congerstone, Barton and Odstone.

The principal speakers were Lieut. Dawes (Hugglescote), Capt. Stevenson, Mr W. Baldwin, Sergt.-Maj. Dye and Mr A. W. Waldron (Hinckley).

Up to Wednesday night 45 recruits had been enrolled as a result of the meetings.

Yesterday, the places visited were Whitwick, Thringstone, Peggs Green, Worthington, Lount, Coleorton and Swannington.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE AT COALVILLE

### PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH ROLL OF HONOUR

A special war service was held at the Coalville Primitive Methodist Church on Sunday evening in memoriam of those who have died for their country in the first year of the great war and in intercession for those who are now serving with the forces. There was a crowded congregation including several members of the Coalville Citizen Corps, who prior to the service paraded in Marlborough Square.

The service was conducted by the Rev. T. Johns Martin and was of an impressive character. At the commencement the congregation sang the National Anthem, followed by the hymn, "Lord God of hosts." Other hymns were, "Hark, hark, my soul," "For all thy saints," "O God our help in ages past," and "A few more years shall roll."

After the reading from 1 Cor. 15c, the minister said the Committal, the congregation meanwhile standing and were asked to imagine themselves by the graves of the fallen formerly connected with that church, whose names were then read out as follows:

William Chambers, on H.M.S. 'Pathfinder', sunk on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

John Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, killed in action March 10<sup>th</sup> (not yet confirmed by the War Office).

Arthur Brownlow, 1<sup>st</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

John George Bennett, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, died of wounds, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

John Clibbery, 1<sup>st</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Also William Osborne Tabberner, of the Coalville Citizen Corps, died July 15<sup>th</sup>.

The names of the following were also read as having been invalided home:

Henry W. Hacker, Royal Engineers. Thomas Holyoake, 1<sup>st</sup> Leicesters. L-Corpl. Lee, Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Wilfred Lilley, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters.

In addition the preacher read a list of 63 men on service in the forces, these being:

### In the Navy

Edwin Finch, H.M.S. 'Adamant'. John Henry Finch, H.M.S. 'Benbow'. Dennis Hodgkinson, H.M.S. 'Zeelandia'. John Measures, Royal Marines. Samuel Clifford, H.M.S. 'Roxburg'.

### On Foreign Service

Sam Allen, 3rd Leicesters. Harold Booth, R.A.M.C. Harry Brownlow, 1st Leicesters. Alfred Castle, 5th Leicesters. Herbert Cato, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters. Ben Clibbery, 1st Leicesters. Alfred Dale, 1st Leicesters. Douglas William Drinkwater, A.S.C. John Eaton, 5th Leicesters. Joseph Eaton, 5th Leicesters. William Essex, R.A.M.C. Charles R. Frearson. John William Harper, 5th Leicesters. John Henry Hirons, Royal Engineers. William Henry Holyoake, 1st Leicesters. Alfred Platts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Northants.

Everard Victor Woollev. 5th Leicesters. Frank Williamson, 5th Leicesters. John Williamson, 5th Leicesters. Corpl. William Henry Leech, 9th Leicesters. Charles Leech, 9th Leicesters. George Lilley, 5th Leicesters. William Lycett, 7th Leicesters. Frank Middleton. Samuel Moore, 5th Leicesters. Ernest Nicholls. Joseph R. Owen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Contingent. Sidney Payne, 3rd Leicesters. Arthur Poole, 5th Leicesters. William Presland, 5th Leicesters. Percy Savage, A.S.C. George Taylor, 5th Leicesters. Thomas Taylor, 5th Leicesters. George Wilton, 5th Leicesters. Corpl. Walter Wright, Royal Warwicks. Herbert Wright, 5th Leicesters. Arthur Wright, 5th Leicesters. Henry Wright, 5th Leicesters.

### In Training

Frank Beesley, Royal Engineers. Ernest Bolton. Alfred Bolton, Royal Engineers. Christopher W. Booth, Grenadier Guards. L.Corpl. Bourne, 5th Leicesters. Ambrose Brownlow, 6th Leicesters. Ernest Brownlow, 5th Leicesters. Sidney Dodd, 5th Leicesters. Alfred Deakin, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters. Percy Ecob, 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Contingent. Moffatt Ecob. Horace Ecob. Harold Finch, 5th Leicesters. Joseph Grew, 10th Leicesters. Albert Hall, 5th Leicesters. John Harold Hall, Sherwood Foresters. Sam Holmes, 5th Leicesters, Wilfred Jones. Lawrence Jones, Sherwood Foresters. Victor Kelham, 5th Leicesters. George Henry Laywood, 5th Leicesters. Aubrey Kirk, 5th Leicesters.

An appropriate sermon was preached from the text Iss. Xi, 1. "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith you; God" by the Rev. T. J. Martin, in the course of which he said they had the certain hope that the sacrifice they were making was not in vain. If not another battle was fought, they had won one great victory and that was that they had freed the world from the domination of Prussianism. Already the world was emancipated from the worst scourge that threatened it for centuries. The mailed fist had had its day and instead of overcoming the world by brutal aggression and violence, even its best friends would be ashamed that they ever responded to its sway. Under its rule, in Germany – its home – Christianity had withered as a tender plant before the blast of an east wind, the foundation of morality had been changed from right to might, and science and education were instruments it used simply to bolster up its wickedness. The world Prussianised was a picture that none could look upon, even in imagination, without making a supreme sacrifice to avert such a calamity. There was much comfort in the fact that the cause for which their friends had given their lives was worthy, and that its success, thanks to their devotion and skill, was secured. They now knew that:

No multitude is mighty that has made all league with sin, Nor wealth nor wisdom can defend when evil rules within, For the meek shall overcome them, and the right this day must win, Since God is marching on.

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### PRISONERS OF WAR

### WHERE ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED

The Press Bureau on Thursday issued the following:

"Inquiries as to officers and men of the British army or navy who are reported as missing or who are believed to be prisoners of war in an enemy country should not be addressed to the Foreign Office, who can only undertake to make inquiries as to these classes through the United States Ambassador at the request of the War Office or Admiralty, to whom all such applications should therefore be made. The Foreign Office should only be addressed direct as to the welfare or whereabouts of British civilians or as to British interests or property in enemy countries. It should be noted that inquiries cannot be undertaken as to persons other than British nationality, though an exception may be made in the case of British born women who have married foreigners."

### **GERMANY AND THE DELAY OF PRISONERS' LETTERS**

The Press Bureau on Thursday night announced that His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received from the United States Ambassador a translation of a note verbale from the German Foreign Office, which runs as follows:

"The Foreign Office has the honour to inform the Embassy of the United States of America, in reply to their Note verbale of May 6<sup>th</sup>, that for military reasons it is impossible to make any departure from the regulation fixing at ten days the period for which prisoners' letters are (or may be) detained. The Foreign Office ventures to point out at the same time that everything possible is done by the military authorities to accelerate in other ways the correspondence of prisoners of war. – Berlin, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1915."

### PATRIOTIC BELPER FAMILY

Mr Jabez Walker, member of the Belper Board of Guardians, has six sons and a grandson with the colours, and he himself is a member of the Home Guard.

They are Private Alfred, 5<sup>th</sup> Notts and Derbyshires, wounded and in hospital, Private William H., Notts and Derbyshires in Egypt, Private Arthur, Sherwood Foresters, in training, Private John, 13<sup>th</sup> Sherwoods, in training, Gunner Herbert, R.F.A., in training, Pte. Edward, 13<sup>th</sup> Sherwoods, in training. Pte. Arthur (grandson), 12<sup>th</sup> Sherwoods, in training. This splendid example of patriotism has been brought to the notice of the King, who has sent an acknowledgement.

### **THANKS**

"Sir, Please thank the Tradesmen of Coalville who so kindly subscribed the sum of 18s towards the purchase of 1 set of boxing gloves and 1 football, also the gentleman who gave the cricket outfit; my men appreciate these gifts exceedingly. Thanking you on their behalf, Believe me, yours truly."

E. J. D. Stevens, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. 3/4 Super Com. Leicestershire Regiment.

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### **ASHBY CITIZEN'S CORPS**

Members of this Corps marched to Boundary on Sunday afternoon, under the command of Mr G. J. German, where they met the Woodville Corps, in charge of Mr Osborne, and the combined company drilled in a large field.

### **TERRITORIALS MINED**

### **FIVE MELTON MEN KILLED**

By the explosion of a mine B. Company 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (Territorials) has sustained 38 casualties in killed, wounded and missing. They were defending an important position within 300 yards of the German firing line, and exploded two mines which blew up 100 yards of the enemy's trenches. "In revenge for that," writes a Melton Territorial, "they blew up our trench. The mine was short, but it buried nearly all of us, our platoon suffering the worst. I am afraid there are over a dozen of our platoon killed and several injured. I was buried about four feet, and it took over an hour to get me out. I am now in hospital, having been shaken up a great deal."

The parents of five Melton Territorials – Privates J. A. Rogers, A. Pick, Simpson, Ibbotson, and P. Pennington – have received letters from an officer commanding B. Company, announcing that their sons have been killed, and they were buried behind the firing line.

Another letter states that the battalion were heartily congratulated by the general on the way in which the men acted when the mine exploded. The men worked their hardest to release their comrades who were buried beneath the debris, and also held the position until supports came to their assistance.

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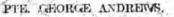
### **RAVENSTONE BROTHERS KILLED**

Much sympathy is felt for Mr J. Andrews, painter, of Ravenstone, and Mrs Andrews, on the death of their son, Pte. Geo. Andrews, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Territorial Regiment, who was killed in action on July 23rd and is the second son they have lost in the war.

The news was conveyed in the following letter dated July 27th from Capt. J. G. Griffiths, commanding B. Company, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment.

"It is with much regret that I have to write to tell you of the loss of your son, Pte. G. Andrews, on Friday night last, when the enemy exploded a mine immediately under the trench where your son was







LANCE-CORPL. J. C. ANDREWS. t - and 4 - then front in

hutumfari standing. Every search has been made for him, but unfortunately, we have been unable to find him and I am afraid he will not now be found. We shall erect a cross to his memory at the spot where he was last seen. Your son was always a good and cheerful soldier and will be much missed by his officers and comrades. Kindly accept my sincere sympathy and also that of the whole of my company in your sad bereavement."

Pte. G. Andrews enlisted in August last, and went to the front in February last. That was subsequent to his brother, L. Corpl. J. C. Andrews being killed and almost his last words on leaving were that he hoped to be able to avenge his brother's death.

In his last letter home, the deceased soldier related how he had been confirmed on the battlefield by the Bishop of Pretoria and attended his first communion service there on Whit Sunday. He made a request for a prayer and hymn book which was being sent to him by his aunt.

Before joining the forces, he worked in the Ibstock Colliery. He was 20 years of age last December. As a former member of the Ravenstone Church Sunday School and later the Bible Class, his death is much regretted by the church people and other parishioners.

Pte. George Andrews' elder brother, Lance-Corpl. J. C. Andrews, who was 24 years of age, was in the 1<sup>st</sup> Bedfords and was shot through the head by a German sniper on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This soldier was himself, also a sniper, having fired in the team which won the gold cup at Aldershot a few years ago.

### BAGWORTH SOLDIERS PROMOTED

Hearty congratulations are offered to Bagworth soldiers - Messrs. E. Cureton and C. Hubbard – on their promotion to sergeants of their respective regiments. Both enlisted at Coalville last November and previous to this were employed as clerks at the Desford and Nailstone Collieries. Sergeant Cureton was quite a useful man in the village previous to enlisting, having held a large number of offices in the district. He was instigator of the Infirmary parade at Bagworth. He is now assistant brigade signaller. Sergt. Hubbard is a son of Mr Harry Hubbard, of Bagworth, and is indeed a son to be proud of. We wish the new officers success. At present they are billeted in England.



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### **ASHBY POLICE COURT**

### **SOLDIER'S WIFE SUMMONED**

Georgina Sauners, (27), married woman, Measham, was summoned by William Trigg, beerhouse keeper, for being disorderly and refusing to guit his licensed premises at Measham, on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) was for the complainant and the defendant pleaded guilty. Complainant said he kept the Red Lion Inn, Measham. The conduct of the defendant, in his house lately had not been what it should be. On this occasion she came in after he had put her out, and she took up a glass and threatened him with it. One glass was broken. She kicked the door after he put her out the second time.

Defendant who said she was sorry, was fined £1 1s inclusive.

Her husband, who appeared in khaki, stated that he was in the Coldstreams and had been wounded. He would try to prevent his wife from going into a public house in future. He asked for time to pay. A fortnight was allowed.

### **CAPT. H. WRIGHT WOUNDED**

### HIT WHILE LEADING HIS MEN

Mr William Wright, of One Ash, near Loughborough, has learned that his son, Captain Harold Wright, of the 6<sup>th</sup> Royal North Lancashires, who was officially reported wounded a few days ago, is now lying at the General Hospital, No. 19, Alexandria, and it is feared, in a somewhat critical condition. It appears that he was wounded on the 28<sup>th</sup> July while leading his men, a shrapnel shell bursting near him and inflicting injuries of a grave character. This occurred somewhere in the Dardanelles, and Captain Wright was subsequently moved to Alexandria.

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### WHITWICK AND THRINGSTONE CITIZEN CORPS

A public meeting was held in the Whitwick Picture Palace last night presided over by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly. There was a good attendance. The chairman regretted that Whitwick had not responded enthusiastically to the opportunity of joining the corps. He hoped the men present who were not eligible for the army would join the local corps and put their heart and soul into it.

Major Stanhope Rolleston (Commandant of Leicester V.T.C.) addressed the meeting at some length on the value of the Citizen Corps and Major Burkitt, M.D., made a stirring appeal for recruits. A vote of thanks to Major Rolleston was heartily accorded. Previous to the addresses being given the proprietors of the Picture House gave a good show of pictures and the star artistes engaged gave a special turn which was much enjoyed. At the conclusion the members of the Citizen Corps appeared on the stage and led the singing of the National Anthem.

### **IBSTOCK SAILOR KILLED**

An intimation has been received that Petty Officer Harry Smith, of the Royal Naval Brigade, was killed in action at the Dardanelles on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Earlier in the war he was with the Naval Brigade in Belgium. He has served in the navy 9 years and before joining the navy lived at Ibstock with his sister, Mrs P. Wright, on Leicester Road, and was well respected in Ibstock.

### **LOCAL CHIT CHAT**

Pte. Harry Badcock, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, as reported in our last issue before enlisting worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery and not at the Ibstock Colliery as stated. We hope to be able to publish a photograph of the deceased in our next issue.

The work of distributing the National Register forms is proceeding this week, the forms are to be filled in on Sunday next, the 15<sup>th</sup>, when every man or woman will be required to answer the following questions:

Age last birthday.

If born abroad and not British, state nationality.

State whether single, married or widower.

How many children are dependant on you.

How many other persons are dependant on you excluding employees.

Profession or occupation.

Are you employed for or under any Government Department.

Are you skilled in any work other than that upon which you are at present employed, and if so, what.

Are you able and willing to undertake such work.

Penalties can be imposed under the Act for refusing to give information up to a sum not exceeding £5, and £1 for every day such refusal is maintained. Fines not exceeding £5 can also be imposed for giving false returns. Any enumerator or other official who communicates the contents of the forms to anyone without lawful authority is liable, on conviction, to hard labour for 3 months, and fines not exceeding £20, and it is intended to enforce the penalty strictly.

There will be about 100,000 enumerators, for the most part, residents in the districts who have volunteered their services. The maximum number of forms to be dealt with by one enumerator has been fixed at a thousand. Each enumerator is supplied with a memorandum book, in which he enters names, addresses and dates of leaving and collecting the forms. At each house he will enquire how many occupants there are between the ages of 15 and 65, and leave a form for every such person. About 23,000,000 forms have already been delivered to the municipal authorities in England and Wales. The registration in Scotland will be carried out at the same time, but under its own Registrar-General. The collection of the forms, which is expected to occupy about three days, will begin on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. Each enumerator then has to see that every form he or she has left at a house is properly filled in, and if it is not to get the point specified.

We have received from the Coalville Urban Council office, the following names, in addition to those published in our last issue, of ladies and gentlemen who have volunteered their services in connection with the National Registration and are assisting as enumerators at Hugglescote: Miss Whitmore, Miss Fellows and Miss G. Fellows, Messrs. W. Gimson, W. Gowdridge and H. Glover.

News has been received that Lance-Corporal Harry Cramp, of Ellistown, has been wounded in France, and is now in hospital at Boulogne. Before enlisting in the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Territorial Regiment, he carried on the business of a hairdresser at Ellistown. He was one of the first fifty to leave Coalville.

### **IBSTOCK SOLDIER'S DEATH**

Mr and Mrs William Badcock, of Leicester Road, Ibstock, have now received official confirmation of their son, Harry's death while on active service and they have been the recipients of many expressions of sympathy with them in their sad bereavement.

### **COALVILLE SOLDIER KILLED**

News has been received that Pte. H. Ing, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, son of Mr Jonah Ing, of Waterworks Road, Coalville, was killed in action on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Further particulars and a photo will appear next week.

### **HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER KILLED**

Just as we go to press we regret to hear that another local soldier, the son of Mr Massey, of the Hugglescote Botanical Brewery, has been killed in action, he having been shot through the head while doing sentry duty on Monday night. Further particulars will be given next week.

### **DESERTER**

Before Mr J. W. West, at the Coalville Police Court on Wednesday, Pte. Patrick Michael was charged with being a deserter from the Royal Engineers, Smethwick. He was apprehended in the Whitwick lodging house by P.C. Grewcock. Defendant said he enlisted in this name, but his true name was Percy Ball, and his home was at Ratby. He was remanded to await an escort.

### **DO YOU KNOW**

That Pte. Walter Adams, of the Leicestershire Imperial Yeomanry, has been on a visit to his home in Whitwick after being in hospital after a good spell in the trenches?

That Mr A. D. Orchard, of the Hinckley Volunteer Training Corps, won Mr A. E. Hawley's cup in the shooting competition for August with a score of 34 out of a possible 35?

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### **BELGIAN RELIEF FUND**

The weekly meeting of the collectors in connection with this fund was held in the Adult School Hall, Bridge Road, on Monday evening last. The hon. sec. (Mr F. S. Weaver) reported that the 38<sup>th</sup> collection from 10 districts realised £9 11s 1d.

### **LOYAL CANADIANS**

### FORMER COALVILLE MAN AND SONS AT THE FRONT

Mrs Underwood, wife of Mr H. Underwood, hairdresser, of Jackson Street, Coalville, has received the following cutting from a Montreal newspaper, which reveals splendid patriotism on the part of a former Coalville resident and his sons. The cutting is as follows:

"When the war started the family of Mr and Mrs William Owen, 1003 Greene Avenue, consisted of four sons and one small daughter. The eldest boy resigned a good position with R. G. Dunn and Co. to go with the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the first contingent. Today, Pte. William Ernest Owen lies in an English hospital with an eye gone and other serious wounds. When the call came for the second contingent the father gave up his position as foreman plasterer, and with the next eldest son, Joseph Richard, enlisted in the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He is now orderly for Capt. the Rev. A. P. Shatford. George the next in line, joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Highlanders and Harry 18 years old is doing guard duty at the camp for aliens at Spirit Lake. In addition, Mr Owen's brother, although 58 years of age, is at the front with his only son, and Mrs Owen's brother is also in the trenches."

Accompanying it was a letter from Mrs Owen in which she says the war is awful and she misses her boys very much. She has not had a letter from Willie for some time and is afraid that he has lost his sight. She continues: "But I expect I shall have to be patient. A mother has to have lots of patience. I feel grieved for poor Mrs Wardle. Kindly remember me to her. I feel it most in the evening when I am all alone, then I miss my dear boys and my husband very much. Dolly and me hardly know what to do with ourselves. First I try to sew and then I have to put it down. Then I try letter-writing and that is as bad. I shall be glad when it is all over. I wonder if you have seen my old neighbour, George Wilton, who lived on Belvoir Road, nearly opposite Jack Shaw's, also Mrs Lawrence. And how is Jack Topliss getting on. When I come home I shall certainly have a day or two with you, as I shall have a few old friends to see. I expect I shall see many changes. I wish everything would settle down, but they seem to think here it will last years yet. There are a lot of strange aeroplanes coming over Montreal and some seem to think that they are for no good. My boy has taught me how to shoot and has loaded me a gun. It hangs over the door. I pity the first German that comes into my place. I do hope the States don't go to war. It will make it bad for us."

### **ASHBY**

### YOUNG OFFICER'S DEATH AT THE FRONT

Second-Lieut. Bryan Osmond Dewes, 1st Middlesex Regiment, killed in France on 30th July, was the elder son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Dewes, of 32, Harley Street, London, and Glebelands, Blackheath. He was educated at Eastbourne and Repton. The gallant young and promising officer was the grandson of Mrs Dewes, of Rawdon Terrace, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. He was 20 years of age.

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### DESERTED SINCE RETURNING FROM FRANCE

At Hinckley on Tuesday, Josiah Corfield was charged with being a deserter from the Desford Convalescent Home since the 3<sup>rd</sup> last. He was arrested by P.C. Screaton, Bagworth, and when challenged said, "I absented myself from Desford Convalescent Home, where I have been since coming back to England from France, where I was wounded." He was wearing a military undervest, and had hidden his uniform in a field. He was detained pending the arrival of an escort.

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SOLDIERS

### **MEETING AT SHEPSHED**

The inauguration of a scheme to provide comforts at Christmas for all soldiers and sailors in the Shepshed and Charley district has been very cordially welcomed. A meeting was held at the Council schools to which all factories, workplaces, schools, etc., had been invited to send representatives. Mr J. Harriman, J.P., presided and there were also present Miss Goodall, the Rev. Canon Martens, the Rev. A. E. Pope, the Rev. A. Holt, B.A., (The Oaks), Messrs. C. Mee, J.P., A. E. Frost, M. Smith, T. G. Whyte, J. G. Foston, I. Hall, W. Pendleton, W. Coup, etc.

An interesting discussion took place, and on the motion of Mr Mee, seconded by Mr Pendleton, it was unanimously resolved to use every effort to make the scheme a success. It was stated that a number of factories, etc., were already taking the matter up with enthusiasm, and several expressions of regret for unavoidable absence that night had been received.

On the motion of Mr M. Smith, seconded by the Rev. A. Holt, it was resolved that those present form the committee, together with representatives from workplaces, schools, etc., with power to add to the number. The Rev. A. Holt and Miss Martin (Charley Hall) were appointed to obtain what funds possible in The Oaks district, and the further consideration was adjourned to Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup> inst.

### FOR GALLANT DEEDS

### THREE LOCAL SOLDIERS AWARDED THE D.C.M.

A supplement to the "London Gazette" issued by the Press Bureau on Thursday states that the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal to a long list of men for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty whilst serving with the expeditionary forces in France and Flanders, the Dardanelles and Turkey-in-Aden.

The list includes the names of two men – Private T. Newcombe and Private H. W. Page – of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, and that of the Squadron Sergeant-Major, J. P. Swain, of the Leicestershire Yeomanry.

S.S.M. Swain, who was formerly a farmer at Kirkby Mallory, joined the Leicestershire Yeomanry on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1902, and served in the South African War. He was a member of the "B" Squadron. He is described by Capt. Kaye as a fine soldier, and one of the smartest non-commissioned officers who trained under him. He was offered a commission in his regiment, but with a view to making the Army his permanent profession, decided to take a commission in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, with whom he is now serving in France. The deeds which won for the three local men the D.C.M. will be found below.

Private T. Newcombe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment

For conspicuous gallantry on the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> May, 1915, near Richebourg, l'Avoue. An officer was severely wounded during a night attack, about 20 yards from the German parapet, and at 1.30 am, Private Newcombe voluntarily went out, under fire of rifles, machine guns, shrapnel, and trench mortars to bring him in. The officer was too badly wounded to move, and Private Newcombe remained with him all night, and until he died on the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>, doing what he could for him. He crawled back to our lines after dark, exhausted with strain and exposure.

Private H. W. Page, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment

For conspicuous gallantry on the night of 14 – 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1915, near Richebourg, l'Avoue. A few men, under an officer, were putting out wire in a very exposed place in our front. The position was given by flares and the enemy opened a heavy rifle and machine gun fire, seriously wounding the officer. Private Page at once followed another officer over the parapet, and assisted to carry the wounded officer to safety under a heavy fire and continuous flares. He was always ready to undertake any hazardous work, and set a splendid example of great courage and devotion to duty.

Squadron Sergeant-Major J. P. Swain, Leicestershire Yeomanry (T.F.)

For gallant conduct and great coolness on the 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1915, at Ypres, in supporting and rendering valuable assistance to his officer, and giving a fine example of devotion to duty to his men.

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### MILITARY FUNERAL AT HINCKLEY

On Saturday afternoon the funeral took place with military honours at Hinckley of Lance-Corp. Arthur Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicestershire Regiment, who died on August 1<sup>st</sup> in King George's Hospital, London, from wounds received in action. The Rev. J. Griffiths conducted the service, and the coffin, which was enshrouded in the Union Jack, was borne to the grave by eight of the Leicestershire Regiment, a company of the same regiment forming a guard. A party of 14 from the same regiment fired three volleys over the grave and the "Last Post" was sounded by the bugler.

### Page 8

### **OUTWITTING THE GERMANS**

### **ELLISTOWN AND APPLEBY SOLDIERS' SMARTNESS**

### RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL

Pte. H. G. Starbuck, who was drafted from the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters to the Engineers, has written to his parents at Appleby Magna, saying: "I have a little comforting news to tell you. They sent us up to work in a crater that the Germans made when they exploded a trench. We ran into one of their mines that was ready for going up, so I got a pair of cutters and disconnected the battery wire. We then followed the sap up, and took out many explosives. It was a dangerous job, I can tell you, but we did it, and got out all the explosive and saved a good many from getting blown up. Lieut. Moore has recommended us to the general, so I expect we shall get a bit of praise for it. there were five of us engaged in the work. I was in the sap head getting out the explosive, and a chap from Donisthorpe, named Hurley, was behind me, while the Leicester chaps and Corporal Emmerson from Ellistown, were taking it out as we got it from the sap head. The Germans will be when they press the button and find there is no explosion, and that we have 'plucked their explosives'."

### **COALVILLE LOSSES**

### SYMPATHY WITH RELATIVES FROM COMRADES AT THE FRONT

We have received the following letter from the front:

"Dear Sir, the N.C.O.'s and men of No. 5 Platoon, B Company, desire me to express through your valued paper their deepest sympathy with the relatives and friends belonging to Coalville and district who were killed in action on July 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. (Friday), by a mine exploding under the trench they were holding. They wish to assure you that their loss will be ours as they had a great respect for the Coalville boys. They think it would help them to bear the loss by knowing that they were killed doing their duty. On behalf of the N.C.O.'s and men, B. Company, I am, yours faithfully."

Pte. J. F. Spriggs B. Company, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1915

### THRINGSTONE BROTHERS KILLED

Mr John Hall, of Thringstone, has received news that his son, Pte. Isaac Hall, 2521, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, B. Co. Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, through the mining of a British trench by the enemy. He was 20 years of age, single, and employed as a collier before the war, and is the second son that Mr Hall has lost in the war. The other was Pte. Ernest Hall, killed in action, as reported a few months ago, and who left a wife and three children residing in Talbot Street, Whitwick.

The sad news was conveyed in the following letter from Capt. J. G. Griffiths, commanding B. Co. Leicestershire Regiment, dated July 26<sup>th</sup>:

"It is with the deepest regret that I have to write to inform you of the death of your son, Pte. I. Hall, on Friday night last. The loss of your son is quite a blow to his company. Both I and the whole of my company liked him, he being always cheerful and ready to do his duty. He was at the time nobly defending his trench when the enemy exploded a mine under our parapet and your son was, I believe, killed instantly and could not have suffered any pain. He was buried by his comrades behind the firing line and I am sure as long as we are in this district his comrades will tend his grave carefully. The only consolation we have for his loss is that he died nobly defending his trench. Kindly accept my sympathy and also that of the whole of my company at the loss of your son."

In his last letter home, dated Friday, July 16th, Pte. Isaac Hall wrote:

"My Dear Mother and Dad, - I now have the pleasure of writing these few lines to you to let you know I have received your letter, parcel and "Coalville Times", and I was very pleased with the contents of the parcel and enjoyed them very much. I got your parcel on Tuesday a few hours before we set off for the trenches the same night. I am writing this letter from the trenches the second night in. We had it a bit rough. It tumbled down in rain and was raining about all night. Such nights as these make you think of the dear old home. We cannot say when it starts to rain. 'I think I will get in home out of the wet.' It is no use saying that, no matter whether it rains, blows or snows. It makes no difference, you have got to stick it, but we are well used to it now, no matter what sort of weather it is. Well, I am pleased to tell you I am still in the pink and best of health, hoping this letter will find you all the same at home. You say you would be pleased to see me at home on Bank holiday, not half so pleased as I should be to see you. Dear Mother, there was a bit of rumour about us having four or five days' leave after we had been out here for so long, but I don't hear much about it now. But never mind, I hope I shall be able to come home and see you all one of these fine days. Time and patience. We never, never know our luck. I am very pleased to see dad is doing alright with the old pony and hope he will remain so. We get all our letters and parcels come to us in the trenches now, and it seems so nice to get a letter to read from dear old England as soon as it gets light in the morning. Tell Rud I thank him very much for helping you with the parcel. Is Emma still going on alright? Does the little watch that I gave her still go and how is the old bike going on? Keep my corduroy trousers well aired because I don't think the was will last much longer, I hope not at least. Well, I think this is all I have got to say this time, so I close my letter with best love to you all, from your loving son.

Isaac.

Good morning. Cheer up mother, better days in store, I hope. I think I will go down for an hour or two's sleep now."

A memorial service was held at Thringstone Parish Church on Sunday night for four soldiers from the parish who have been killed in the war - Pte. T. Jones (schoolmaster), Corporal Moore, and Privates Ernest and Isaac Hall, (brothers). There was a crowded congregation, many people being unable to obtain admission. Among those present were the Right Hon. Charles and Mrs Booth, the members of the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps under Commander G. F. Burton, and the boy scouts. The bugle band of the latter headed the Citizens as they marched from Whitwick. The service was impressively conducted by the vicar, the Rev. C. Shrewsbury, M.A., who preached an appropriate sermon from the text "Men that hazarded their lives for Christ's sake." A special form of service was gone through and the hymns sung included, "On the resurrection morning," and "Holy Father, in thy mercy." It is proposed to erect a stained glass window in the church to the memory of all men from the parish who have fallen, when the war is over, and the offertory for this object realised a good sum.



At the close of the service Miss Crane (organist) played the Dead March, the congregation standing meanwhile, and one of the Whitwick Boy Scouts, James Richards, sounded the "Last Post." The service concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

### **BAGWORTH SOLDIER'S THRILLING EXPERIENCES**

### SHELLED BY THE ENEMY

Writing to his sister, Miss Smith, of Little Bagworth, Gunner P. Smith, who went to the front last November, says:



the day before. I hope this will soon be over."

"Just a few lines, hoping this will find you all well, as it leaves me in good health at present. I expect by now you have safely landed at home, and there is only one thing I wish, and that is that I could be there with you for a few days. I think it would be better if we could get a decent move on, something like they are getting on the Russians. I think they are getting the upper hand of them, and will soon be in Warsaw, and here we are still sticking at the same old line as before Christmas. I am sorry to tell you that they shelled our battery.

We were not all together, or there might have been a bigger list of names to look at in the paper. One of our men was killed outright by a piece that hit him at the back of the head, breaking his neck, and there were three wounded. One poor sergeant had a piece go right through him, passing through one of his lungs, but still they say there is a chance for him. The other two were not so badly hurt. On the last day of July, they put seven shells over in the same position, killing one Frenchman, and a bloke belonging to us. Still, I think we were lucky that there are no more, for you can just fancy waking up in a morning and seeing the shells falling on your four other guns. Our sergeant was lying in bed at the time and he got wounded. So you see what they will do if they have any idea you are there. They have so many spies they are all over the place. They have blown up the farm house close to us, two people only went out of it

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### A WOUNDED SOLDIER'S THANKS

Many eggs have been collected by the Ibstock school children, and sent to hospitals for wounded soldiers, and in some cases the address of the sender has been written on the egg shell. A little girl, Phyliss Wheatcroft, daughter of Mr W. Wheatcroft, Melbourne Road, Ibstock, has received an interesting letter of thanks, for an egg on which her address was written, from Pte. F. Powell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Guards, who wrote from Northumberland War Hospital, Gosforth, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

### **ASHBY BOARD OF GUARDIANS**

A letter was received from the Glen Parva Barracks giving notice of the removal of a soldier to the workhouse. The chairman asked whether the soldier's maintenance would be a charge on the rates. The clerk said it would. According to the Army Discharge Act, the man came back to his place of settlement. It was a case of a man who ought not to have enlisted.

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### LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Among the recent awards for bravery in the Dardanelles, the list of naval men upon whom the D.S.O. was conferred, includes the name of Engineer-Commander H. Lashmore, C.B., R.N., who is a cousin of Mr T. Lashmore, jeweller, of High Street, Coalville. The record states that during the time H.M.S. Inflexible was steaming to Tenedos – after having struck a mine – the engine-room being in semi darkness and great heat, the ship in possible danger of sinking on passage, a high standard of discipline was called for in the Engineer Department, a call which was more than met. Engineer-Commander H. Lashmore, responsible for the discipline of the engine-room department, was in the starboard engine-room throughout the passage, and set a fine example to his men.

During the past two weeks, Mrs J. J. Sharp, has received 29 packets of cigarettes from Mr W. Higgins' box, and 16 packets, 13 loose, and 4d from Coalville Liberal Club box, which have been sent to the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters at the front. Letters of thanks have been received from Major Toller and Capt. Sharp, as well as from many of the soldiers. Up to date, 851 packets and 173 loose have been sent out.

The balance sheet of the garden party recently held at Gracedieu for the Soldiers' Comforts Guild shows a profit of £134 17s 11d. The following were the items: Receipts: Gate money £43 11s 3d, tickets sold £46 17s 6d, sweet stall and bran tub, per Mrs and Miss Drewett £30 6s 3d; ice cream per Miss Hawthorn £3 5s 8d; sale of badges 5s 10d, subscription per Mrs S. W. Brown 2s 6d; concert per Messrs. Hay and Garrett £4 7s 11d, weighing machine per G. Hay £1 3s 6d, fortunes per Misses Hay and Jamie £1 9s 11d, fortune telling £3, clock golf 6s, skittles £1 17s 9d, captive football £1 1s 9d, bowling competition £1 14s 4d, bicycles £3 3s, motors 9s 6d, chairs £1 7s 9d, cloak room £1 0s 2d, total £145 10s 7d. Payments: Moss prizes 18s, Lashmore prizes 13s, nuts 6s, 3/5 Leicesters clearing grounds 5s, Mr Hill, cloak room attendant 3s, boy scouts £1, dancers 12s 8d, Hatter, carriage hire 12s 6d, Windebank conveyance of band £1, Ross bandsman's teas 11s, Briers brake hire and carting £3 3s, Wilkins printing and tickets £1 4s, Holmes printing 4s 6d, balance in hand £134 17s 11d, total £145 10s 7d.

R. J. Brown, treasurer.

### 1st (OR LEICESTERSHIRE) BATTALION

### PETERBOROUGH REGIMENT

### LOUGHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT COMPANIES

19<sup>th</sup> August, 1915. Dear Mr Chaplain Flood, - It is with the deepest regret I hear of the death at the front of Private Harry Badcock. Will you convey to his parents and friends my sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained, the only consolation we have is that he laid down his life for the King, country and for you and me. Let us hope that at the last Grand Roll Call we may be permitted to thank the brave lad personally for what he has done for us. – I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

C. H. Adams, Major C.L.B. (Second in Command). 50 Frederick Street, Loughborough.

### DO YOU KNOW

That a hundred wounded soldiers arrived at Leicester on Wednesday night?

That the Citizen Corps attended Coalville Church on Sunday morning?

That three men of Ellistown Church – J. Robson, G. Browne, and A. Neville – are now at the front?

That another train load of wounded from the front reached Leicester on Saturday night, and the men, 179 in all, were taken to the Base Hospital?

That about 200 wounded soldiers were entertained by Lord Braye, at Stamford Park, on Saturday, the outing being arranged by the Leicestershire Automobile Club?

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### **BELGIAN RELIEF FUND**

The weekly meeting of the collectors in connection with this fund was held in the Adult School Hall, Bridge Road, on Monday evening last. The hon. sec. (Mr F. S. Weaver) reported that the 39<sup>th</sup> collection from 8 districts realised £3 7s 9d.

### **COALVILLE SOLDIER WOUNDED**

### **BURIED IN A DUG OUT**

Mr and Mrs C. Allen, of Margaret Street, Coalville, have received a letter from their son, Pte. S. E. Allen, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Leicesters, formerly employed at Messrs. Stableford's Works, intimating that he has been wounded. Writing from King George's Hospital, London, on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., he states:

"I dare say you have heard about me being wounded again, if not I will try and give you an account of how it occurred. We had just returned from the firing line after having taken rations to the King's Royal Rifles, and were in the dug out, when a shell visited us, wounding seven and killing two of the nine of us who were there. We were buried with earth and timber so you will see what a miraculous escape I had from death. After being unearthed, which I know nothing of, because I had lost unconsciousness, it was found that I had been hit in both legs, which were soon attended to by the regimental doctor. I dare say I shall be in hospital for a month or two, as my left leg is very bad. I hope this will find you all well. I am in the best of spirits and longing to be with you once more. It is a most delightful hospital that I am in, there being everything that you could desire, which is not surprising seeing that it is a new one just opened. I wrote to Uncle Bill and Aunt Lizzie and have had a reply to say that they lost Cousin Fred on the 24th July, so my heart is with them in their sad bereavement."

We are pleased to hear that Pte. Allen is making good progress.

### WHITWICK QUARRYMAN IN THE TRENCHES

### **INTERESTING LETTER**

The manager of the Whitwick Granite Co., Mr J. H. Robinson, has received an interesting letter from one of the quarrymen, Pte. E. Freer, now at the front. He is a Shepshed man, one of four brothers serving in the army, two of whom have been wounded. One of the latter, George, is also employed at the Whitwick quarry. The letter is as follows:

"Dear Sir, - Just a few lines hoping it finds you quite well as it leaves me at present. I wish to thank you for the parcel and letter which I received quite safe. I am sure it will give you much pleasure to know I got it at the right time. It was fairly a livener for not one of us had a cigarette, and we could not get any. We are in the trenches and have been in 16 days. We don't know when we shall get out. I am sorry to say it was my brother that got wounded and I was talking to him at the time. When the shell burst over us there were nine or ten wounded with it. So we are not having it all honey, as a good many in England think. We shall soon have had six months of it now. I think it will not last much longer, as we are getting plenty of shells for them now. We have not been in a charge yet, but we have held some good positions. We are holding one of the most important parts in the line now. I think we shall soon be getting a rest; its about time. We have had a rough six months of it.

We have found one D.C.M. hero in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, a chap from Measham, named Starbuck, and he was worth it. They found a German mine under our trench ready for blowing up, and they got over a thousand

pounds of stuff out which was a risky job but it saved many a man's life as I think it would have soon gone up. It is terrible when they blow the trench up. I helped dig that other poor lot of chaps out the last time they blew us up. There were Melton and Coalville chaps in it.

I think this is all I can tell you at present, hoping to more good news for you next time."

### TO COALVILLE AND DISTRICT SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT

We understand that some of our men out at the front are feeling neglected because they have not received a gift from the Coalville and District women. If this is so in your case the reason is that we have not received your address or any application. We are only too anxious to do what we can for each one of you to show our appreciation of what you are doing. So send your home address and your present address to Mrs L. L. Baldwin, hon. secretary, 88, London Road, Coalville. When sending for socks state the size of boots.

### **ASHBY**

### **WOUNDED**

Mr C. Elliott, M.A., headmaster of the Boys Grammar School, has received information that his son, Private C. W. Elliott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sherwood Foresters, has been wounded in action. Following six weeks in hospital, Pte. Elliott again went to the trenches on 7<sup>th</sup> August, and on the 9<sup>th</sup> a shell burst close to him and he was wounded in the right side and thigh. He is now again in hospital. His comrade next to him was killed outright.

### **CITIZEN'S CORPS**

A field day was held at Willesley on Sunday, when the following companies took part: Ashby-de-la-Zouch, under Commandant G. J. German; Gresley, under Commandant Beaumont; Linton, under Commandant Dickinson; Woodville, under Sergt. Osborne. The officers and men numbered 110. Drills and exercises were performed, which included an attack by Gresley, Linton and Ashby. Woodville defending the position. Fortunately the weather kept fine.

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### **HUGGLESCOTE TERRITORIAL KILLED**

### **COMRADE'S TOUCHING LETTER**

After being at the front for six weeks, Pte. William Massey, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Leicestershire Territorials, was killed in action on Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. He was 19 years of age, and a son of Mr Richard Massey, mineral water manufacturer, of Hugglescote, whom he assisted in the business before joining the forces. He was included in the second batch of Territorials which left Coalville and received his training at Luton.

The sad news was conveyed in a letter dated August 10<sup>th</sup> from a comrade of the deceased, Pte. S. Summers, whose home is in Ashby Road, Hugglescote. The letter ran as follows:

"I am writing a few lines to tell you the sad news about your son, Will, who was killed on Monday morning, August 9th. He was shot through the head when on sentry and I hope it will be some consolation to you to know that he died without any pain. I was not far off at the time, but did not know he was shot till some time after. It was about four o'clock in the morning. I went to see him when they told me that the poor chap had been shot, but they had covered him over so that I could not see his face. When they told me it was Bill, I thought I should have dropped. He was like a brother to me. We always got on well together and he has been in my thoughts ever since. I saw him the night before and we had a chat together. He was just as cheerful as ever and I little thought that that would be the last time I should speak to him. Poor old chap! But we never know whose turn it is next, and we can only trust in Him who holds our lives in His hands. He died like a soldier, doing his duty for King and country. I will find out where he is buried and let you know. Break the news quietly to his mother because I know it will be hard to bear. With deepest sympathy with you in his loss, from his pal."

Sid Summers

On Monday last, Mr and Mrs Massey were visited by Mrs Wright, of Limby Hall, Swannington, who had received a letter from her boy in the trenches, telling her of Massey's death. In this letter the writer stated that Massey was killed just after they had made a charge. They had got into the trenches and the unfortunate soldier put his head up to look over and was immediately shot. At the time of writing (Tuesday) Mr and Mrs Massey had received no official intimation of the death.

The last letter they received from their son was written on Sunday, the day before he was killed, and was received by them on the Tuesday. He wrote:

"Dear Mother and Father – Just a few lines in answer to your welcome letter, which I got yesterday. I was pleased to hear from you and that you are all well as I am at present. It is rather rough weather here just now, plenty of rain and mud about. As I write this, I am in my dug-out with a pair of sandbags piled over my shoes and trousers, and they have got about half an inch of caked mud on them, which keeps me very warm and comfortable. We don't bother about dirt here. We are happy enough and keep smiling. We expect to be relieved tomorrow night, if all is guiet, and I hope it is. We are going in dug-outs about three miles away for six days in reserve for anything that might come and then we go back to the trenches again for six days when we shall have done our share as we shall have had 22 days of it. . . . . I received the 'Coalville Times'. You must not have any hope of me being able to get over, as I expect it will be a good while yet. I suppose you have got a letter by this time saying that Charlie Hatter (another Hugglescote soldier) was wounded. I have not heard from him yet. We are in the same trench that was blown up the other week and we can't help but think about it. I expect we shall be having some lively times here, but we shall be well prepared for them."





### **IBSTOCK NAVAL HERO**

### **KILLED IN THE DARDANELLES**

Petty Officer Harry Smith, of the Royal Naval Brigade, killed in action in the Dardanelles on July 14<sup>th</sup>. He was in the navy for nine years and was with the gallant tars who tried to save Antwerp before being transferred to another theatre of war. He formerly lived at Ibstock with his sister, Mrs P. Wright, of Leicester Road, and leaves a wife and two children.



### FORMER COALVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BOY

### **KILLED IN ACTION**

Pte. Harry Badcock, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. Badcock, of Leicester Road, Ibstock, killed in action on Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup>. He formerly attended the Coalville Grammar School having won a scholarship, and had also been a member of the Ibstock Church Lads' Brigade. He was the first soldier from Ibstock reported killed, though, unfortunately, there have been one or two others since.

A letter from a comrade states that deceased was shot in the stomach and expired in a few minutes. He enlisted in November and had been at the front nearly two months.

## DIED FOR A RIGHTEOUS CAUSE COALVILLE TERRITORIAL KILLED IN ACTION

As briefly reported in our last issue, Pte. H. Ing, of the 1/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Leicestershire Territorials, son of Mr Jonah Ing, of Waterworks Road, Coalville, was killed

in action on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The official letter, dated August 9<sup>th</sup>, from the Territorial Force Record Office, Lichfield, states:

"It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has this day been received from the War Office notifying the death of No. 1242, Pte. H. Ing, of the 1/5 Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, which occurred in the field on the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 1915, and I am to express to you the sympathy and regret of the Army Council at your loss."

Mr Ing has also received the following letter:

"The King commands me to assure you of the true sympathy of His Majesty and the Queen in your sorrow."

### Kitchener.

News of the sad event was earlier received in a letter, bearing the same date that the death occurred, from Lance-Corpl. Alfred Emmenson, of the D Co. 1/4<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, who writing from the front says:

"Dear Mrs Ing, - I am more than sorry that it has fallen to my lot to send you some very bad news indeed. Your son Harry, who belonged to the mining company attached to the Royal Engineers, was killed to-day in the trenches. A trench mortar fell near him and death was instantaneous. The shock to his company was very great indeed, for he was a popular member of the mining company. I myself have seen him prepared for burial and his effects packed up to be sent home. He will be buried to-night among his fallen comrades of



the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters and two of his pals will attend the ceremony on behalf of the mining company. I should do so myself but have met with a slight injury and am going into hospital to-night. Believe me, we are all deeply grieved for you and yours in this great trouble. You may, however, find some consolation in knowing that he did his duty bravely and well, never shirking work in any form, but always ready and willing for anything. His loss to us we cannot yet realise. May God give you strength to bear up against this awful trouble and remember that your boy died for a just and righteous cause."

### LATE MAJOR MARTIN'S WILL

### WITNESSES KILLED IN SAME ACTION AS TESTATOR

Major William Francis Martin, Leicestershire Yeomanry, of Mountsorrel, who was killed in action near Ypres on the 13<sup>th</sup> May last, and who had seen service in the South African War, left unsettled property of the gross value of £5,320 3s 11d, with net personally £5,135 18s 10d. Probate of his will, dated 28<sup>th</sup> October last, has been granted to his widow, Mrs Violet Anne Phillippa Martin, of the same address.

The testator left all of his property to his wife for life, with remainder equally between his two children, until the share of his daughter, Diana Violet Anne, shall amount to £200 per annum, and subject thereto all to his son, Robert Andrew St. George.

An affidavit filed with the will states that the two witnesses thereto, Lieut. Colin Peake, solicitor of London, and Lieut. S. P. D. Thomson, of Groby, Leicestershire, both of the Leicestershire Yeomanry, were killed in the same action as the testator.

### Friday August 27th 1915 (Issue 1225)

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SHIRKERS' INQUISITION

### PLAN TO SHAME THE MAN WHO HANGS BACK

A systematic plan for bringing the shirker into line has been arranged in Derbyshire, says a contemporary.

After the National Register forms have been tabulated, a civilian and a soldier will visit every man of military age, and ask him to join the Army or Navy. If he says "No," he will be asked to state his reasons. His answer will be taken down and reported to a local committee. Later a second visit will be paid to the man. If he still refuses his "reasons" will be published. It is argued that if this will not shame the shirker nothing will.

### **DESFORD WOUNDED SOLDIERS**

### **OUTING TO LEAMINGTON**

Favoured with fine weather, the wounded soldiers stationed at the Convalescent Home, Desford, were taken to Learnington on Thursday afternoon by the Earl Shilton and Barwell Motor Association. The arrangements were admirably carried out by the organising secretary, Mr L. M. P. Ney. A start was made from the hall at 2.45, and the cars, headed by Mr L. M. P. Ney's "pilot car," proceeded through Earl Shilton, Barwell, Hinckley, Wolvey, Walsgrave, Coventry, Kenilworth, and Warwick, arriving at Learnington about 4.45. The ruins at Kenilworth were inspected, and a halt was made on the bridge at Warwick for a view of the castle. In most of the villages people turned out in large numbers to give the soldiers a good cheer as they went along.

This was particularly noticeable at Wolvey, where on the return the cars were signalled to stop in the village square. Nearly all the inhabitants must have turned out, including the Vicar, to greet the men, and cigarettes, chocolates, plums, apples, bananas, and flowers in abundance, were thrown into the vehicles. In one car alone 52 packets of cigarettes were collected. As the cars were about to leave three hearty cheers were given for the people of Wolvey in appreciation of their generosity. Tea was provided at the Café Royal, Leamington, and was given by Mr Ney, secretary of the Association. After repast, cigars were handed round and before leaving a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr Ney, with the usual three cheers, proposed by Sergt. Everett. Mr Ney suitably responded, and spoke of the generous spirit displayed by the car owners in lending their vehicles for these outings. He hoped before the fine weather was over many more outings would be arranged. The return journey was made via Stoneleigh and Coventry and enthusiasm was at a very high pitch en route for the halt at Wolvey (as already mentioned), Hinckley and Earl Shilton. The Home was reached at 7.45, after a run of 75 miles in all. Those lending cars were Messrs. L. M. P. Ney, A. V. Hopecroft, C.C., W. H. Bird, S. Norton, H. Orion and George Geary.

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### PATRIOTIC HINCKLEY FAMILY

Mr and Mrs J. S. Holden, of the Queen's Road Nurseries, Hinckley, have four sons and two son-in-laws serving in the army.

### MARKFIELD SOLDIER KILLED

Mrs Dowell received a letter on Friday morning informing her that her husband (Pte. W. Dowell) had been killed while performing his postal duties "somewhere in France" on Tuesday afternoon. Photographs of his wife and four children, received that morning, were found in his pocket. Pte. Dowell was for some years at Markfield, and was very much respected.

### RECRUITS FOR 10<sup>TH</sup> LEICESTERS

### **ANOTHER BATCH LEAVES LEICESTER**

Recruits for the 10<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, to the number of 34, left Leicester on Friday for their training ground in the north of England, and were given a hearty send-off. The men assembled in front of the recruiting office, in Humberstone Gate, and, headed by the band of the Battalion, marched along Granby Street to the station, where a large crowd had assembled.

The men and their friends and relatives were in the best of spirits and the leave-takings on the station platform were of a hearty character. The train glided out of the station to the strains of a rousing march.

### **NORTON-JUXTA-TWYCROSS**

### **CHURCH PARADE**

The Gopsall and District Volunteer Home Guards held a church parade here on Sunday evening. They paraded at the Rectory with Captain Dr. T. J. Williams-Fisher in command, and Lieutenants J. Bennett, W. Hammersley, and J. Kirby. About 100 men answered the roll call. They marched to the church, where the service was conducted by the Rev. C. T. Moore, M.A., Appleby Magna. The Rev. H. R. Brigg, Orton-on-the-Hill, read the lessons, and the Rev. T. J. Williams-Fisher, I.L.D., preached an eloquent sermon on the supreme importance of self-sacrifice and everyone doing his share in the national crisis. The National Anthem was sung at the conclusion. The church was packed, many being unable to obtain admission.

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### **LOCAL CHIT CHAT**

Private Harry Lacey, of the Leicesters, has arrived for a short stay at his home in Highfields Street, Coalville, being convalescent after being in hospital from wounds received in action.

There will be very little football in Coalville and District this winter, it being realised that there is a sterner task for the young men to perform. The Coalville League has been abandoned for the season and there will be no cup or medal competitions. The Leicestershire Senior League is being continued as a combination, with six clubs, two of which are in Coalville (Town and Swifts) and one at Whitwick, and these will afford a little relaxation for those whose duties are at home and others who are too old for military service. There are, of course, many young men in this district who are rendering their country good service in the coal mines and other necessary works, and there can be no harm whatever in these indulging in a game of football on Saturday afternoons, providing a little recreation for themselves and some diversion for spectators who during the week and engaged in a matter which helps to keep the old flag flying.

Mr Wilfred Smith, son of Mr William Smith, of the Farm, Donington-le-Heath, is spending a few days' leave with his parents at Donington this week. He came straight from the front, where he has been for some months, having had some exciting experiences in the trenches. Before joining the army Mr Smith was a clerk in Lloyd's Bank at Leicester.

We are asked to state that the home of Petty Officer Harry Smith, killed in action in the Dardanelles on July 14<sup>th</sup>, whose photo appeared in our last issue, under the heading 'lbstock naval hero,' was at 23 1/2 New Bridge Street, Leicester, where his widow and two children now reside. He lived with his sister, Mrs P. Wright, of Ibstock, for a short time whilst working there.

We regret to hear that some person or persons were mean enough on Sunday last to break open and steal the contents of a box outside the Coalville railway station which was given by Mr John Whootton for the reception of cigarettes, which Mrs J. J. Sharp is sending to local soldiers at the front. A reward is offered to anyone who will give information leading to the identity of the offenders and they would be rendering a public service.

### DO YOU KNOW

That it is expected that the Leicester Howitzer Brigade will leave Leicester early next week to go into camp?

That the band of the 10<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, members of which have been recruiting in the district, gave a concert in Coalville Park on Sunday afternoon?

That Second-Lieut. G. M. Hewart, elder son of Mr Gordon Hewart, M.P., for Leicester, was killed in action at the Dardanelles between the 7<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> August?

That "Union Jack" Day in Leicester, on Saturday, organised to raise funds with the object of providing games and comforts for the wounded soldiers, was a great success, £861 being realised?

That the members of the Shepshed Volunteer Training Corps have guaranteed a full military guard – two N.C.O.'s and 15 men – for one night per week at the Brush Works, Loughborough?

### **COALVILLE SOLDIER WOUNDED**

Pte. F. Clay, son of Mr Albert Clay, of Park Road, is in hospital in France having been wounded through a grenade exploding in his hand. He is in the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicester Territorials and was among the Coalville first 50.

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### **BELGIAN RELIEF FUND**

The weekly meeting of the collectors in connection with this fund was held in the Adult School Hall, Bridge Road, on Monday evening last. The hon. sec. (Mr F. S. Weaver) reported that the 40<sup>th</sup> collection from 7 districts realised £2 19s 7d.

### **ABSENTEE**

Michael Roach, of Whitwick, was brought before Mr B. G. Hale, at the Coalville Police Court on Saturday, charge with being an absentee from the Royal Naval Reserves, stationed at the Crystal Palace, London. He had been apprehended by Inspector Dobney, at Whitwick, on the previous day. The magistrate ordered him to be handed over to the custody of the naval authorities.

### WHITWICK QUARRYMEN IN THE FORCES

The following is a list of employees serving with the colours from the Whitwick Granite Co., Ltd., Whitwick.

Thomas Crowson, Leicestershire Yeomanry.

Lakin Manderfield, 8th Leicesters.

Fred Harrington, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters.

George Freer, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters.

William Thorpe, 5th Leicesters.

George Walker, jun., 5th Leicesters.

Charles Stanford, 5th Leicesters.

Ernest Laundon, Royal Marine Artillery.

F. Spurr.

W. Hurst, 5th Leicesters.

L. Martin, 5th Leicesters.

Allen Lucas, 5th Leicesters.

Charles Milward, 1st Leicesters.

Ernest W. Hicklin, 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters.

Allen Rose, 8th Leicesters.

James Hickling, 8th Leicesters.

John Rodgers, 8th Leicesters.

George Walker, sen., 5th Leicesters.

Ernest Freer, 5th Leicesters.

William Gibson, 5th Leicesters.

James Cotterill, 5th Leicesters.

S. Unwin, 5th Leicesters.

G. Harry Bexon, 5th Leicesters.

George H. Clarke, Army Service Corps.

A. Bowley, 5th Leicesters.

John Heighton, Royal Naval Division.

Harry Chapman, 10th Leicesters.

J. Waterfield, 5th Leicesters.

Percy Whittaker, 5th Leicesters.

J. Bramley, 10th Leicesters.

G. J. Hudson, Royal Navy.

### Page 7 WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT SILEBY

### **ENJOYABLE OUTING**

In its patriotism the Leicestershire village of Sileby has given of its best, manhood, and it was not surprising on Saturday afternoon to see the villagers give an enthusiastic welcome to 150 soldiers from the Royal Infirmary, Gilroes, and North Evington Hospitals. As the motor cars of private gentlemen and members of the Leicestershire Automobile Club arrived, the people cheered again and again. Particular interest centred around Corporal Cottingham, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Lancers, who was having his first airing since he was

admitted to hospital on June 25<sup>th</sup>. His was the worst case of the lot, and although he had lost his left leg, and had his right shoulder badly shattered, he seemed bright and chatted freely to kindly sympathisers. He is a Londoner, and when asked how he met with his terrible injuries, he jocularly remarked, "Oh, on May 23<sup>rd</sup> an 80lb shell struck our gun, and the compression cap severed my thigh, and put my right arm out of action." This was not the only soldier minus a limb, for there were several without an arm or a leg, but they had recovered sufficiently to be able to knock about as nimbly as many ordinary men. There were among them, Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotsmen, but only one Leicester soldier was noticed. The rendezvous was The Grange, the charming residence of Mr C. H. Martin.

The games provided there were bowls, clock golf, croquet and billiards. The whole affair was under the auspices of the Leicestershire Automobile Club, and the arrangements were carried out by Mr C. G. Barradale, a Leicestershire solicitor. The Sileby Imperial Band was in attendance and under Bandmaster W. Freer, played selections. Tea was provided in a marquee, and while this was in progress the band played the National Anthems of England, Russia, and France. A capital concert was given by artistes from Leicester. Two duets, "The moon hath raised her lamp above," and "Somewhere a voice is calling," were rendered by Messrs. W. Payne and T. Hanson. Miss Annie Johnson gave two songs, including "Till the boys come home." Mr Albert created much merriment with his humorous songs, particularly "Sophy's Sweetheart." Mr Hanson's singing of "The Trumpeter" was immensely pleasing, and Mr Payne contributed some capital songs. The Rev. W. Tunley, Primitive Methodist minister, presided.

At intervals, cigarettes, fruit and minerals were distributed among the soldiers, who thanked Mr and Mrs Martin for their hospitality.

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### **HUGGLESCOTE AND WHITWICK LADS AT THE FRONT**

### INTERESTING LETTER FROM THE TRENCHES

We have received the following letter, addressed to the Editor, dated August 14th:

"Dear Sir, - I now take the pleasure of writing these few lines to you to let the people of the Coalville district know how we are getting on at the front. We are now out for a little rest after three weeks in the trenches, but it was pretty easy all but for one place, and they sent three bombs before we had been there five minutes. We had the luck to have our August holidays in the trenches, but did not mind because we hardly thought of it until we got out into the billets. During the first week we had three casualties by one of their bombs, the sort of bombs they call sausage bombs. They look about three feet long and turn over and over in the air until they reach the ground and then they make a noise like the bursting of a big shell. I expect we shall soon be back in the trenches again and we are ready after having a bath and change of clothing. I am pleased to say that there is a good many men from Coalville and roundabout answered the call of the country and although there is a lot gone west, there is still some left to share the fighting against the Huns. We have seen a few sights out here, some that we should not like to see in England. We will now bring our short letter to a close with best respects to all in Coalville and District."

J. B. (Hugglescote) W. H. B. (Whitwick)

### THE LATE PTE. MASSEY, OF HUGGLESCOTE

### LETTER FROM HIS PLATOON COMMANDER

Mr and Mrs R. Massey, of Hugglescote, have received the following letter in reference to the death of their son, Pte. Wm. Massey, killed in action which arrived too late for insertion in our last issue:

"Dear Mr and Mrs Massey, - No doubt by the time you get this, you will have heard from our Company Officer about the sad death of your son. It came as a big shock to all his friends, and they have asked me to express their sympathy to you in your sad loss. Perhaps it may comfort you a little to know that he died doing his duty, and that he was laid to rest by four friends, at the back of the firing line. His death came as a great loss to his company. Although he had been with us only a short time, he had many friends, and I know he could always be depended upon to do everything he was told. We had several parcels, but I divided them up

between the platoon, knowing it was his wish and we are returning the letter. I also got a letter from his cousin, but have sent it back to her. Must conclude now, hoping you will not take your loss too much to heart. – I remain, yours truly."

Sergeant Dobson, 1374. His Platoon Commander.

### THE LATE PTE. BADCOCK, OF IBSTOCK

### LETTER OF SYMPATHY FROM HIS COMRADES

Mr and Mrs W. Badcock, of Ibstock, have received the following letter:

"Dear Sir, - I am returning herewith, letter received today. You must excuse me opening it but it is part of my duty to open letters sent to men of my company, who have, unfortunately, got killed. No doubt you know before now that your son has been killed and I want to express the sympathy of every officer and man of my company, in the irreparable loss you and your family have sustained by his death. It may be some little consolation to you to know that he died a soldier, doing his duty to King and Country, and although he has fallen, his name must live in the village from whence he came, to fight side by side with those already here, for one common cause. He is buried in a little cemetery behind the scene of action and a cross marks the spot where he lies in peace. Again, assuring you of the greatest and deepest sympathy of us all, - I remain, yours respectfully."

R. Gorse. C. Qr.-M. Sergt. A. Company, 1/5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment

### SOLDIER CHARGED WITH STEALING A BICYCLE

### REMANDED AT COALVILLE

Before Major Hatchett, at the Coalville Police Court, on Monday, Edward Clarke, a private in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Leicesters, who appeared in khaki, was charged with stealing a bicycle, value £5, the property of Archibald William Lee, at Whitwick, on August 3<sup>rd</sup> last.

Police Inspector Dobney deposed to receiving information of the theft of a bicycle at High Tor on the date named and from his enquiries ascertained that the defendant had been in the neighbourhood. He traced him to 177, Trafalgar Street, London, and saw him there on Sunday morning with the bicycle in his possession. He told the prisoner he should arrest him on a charge of stealing the bicycle and he made no reply. Witness took him to Rodney Street Police Station, Wandsworth, where he was detained until being brought to Coalville. On his arrival at Coalville after being cautioned, the prisoner made and signed a statement in which he admitted stealing the bicycle.

Asked whether he had any question to put to the witness, prisoner made no reply.

Supt. Lockton asked for a remand to the Coalville Petty Sessions on Friday and the accused was accordingly remanded in custody.