

# Coalville Times – March 1916

Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1916 (Issue 1252)

## *Local News*

### *Baptist Chapel*

Anniversary services were held in the Whitwick Baptist Chapel, on Sunday. A public tea was held on Monday, the proceeds being for the chapel funds.

### *Liberal Club*

The 28<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the shareholders of the Whitwick Liberal Club was held in the public hall adjourning the club on Saturday night, Mr A. Needham presiding. The directors presented their annual reports as follows:-

“The directors regret to report that they are unable to pay a dividend this year. But it will be understood by every member that we have passed through a very trying time, through the increased heavy taxes (over £50 being paid on this item), increased charges on all consumable goods, and a shortage of hours for the sale. These have seriously contributed to reduced profits of trading consequently the members’ committee are not in a position to discharge the rent liabilities. These facts are responsible for the directors not being in a position to recommend a dividend for the past year. The directors recommend that the sum of £2/2/0 be paid for their services during the past year, and that the secretary receives £1/10/0 for his services. The retiring directors are Messrs. Thomas Kelly, Samuel Jarvis, G. H. Hallam, and Geo. Jessop, but they are eligible for re-election. The auditors, Messrs. A. G. Ottey and J. T. Briers, also retire, but are eligible for re-election.”

The four members elected on the new directorate were Messrs. T. Kelly, G. H. Hallam, A. Cooper and W. Burton, and Mr Anthony Needham was re-elected chairman, and Mr Kelly secretary. Votes of thanks were passed.

## *Coalville Tribunal*

### *Interesting Applications*

The Coalville Urban District Tribunal met in the Council Chamber on Monday night, Mr T. Y. Hay J.P., presided, and there were present Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, A. Lockwood, J. W. Fisher, B. G. Hale, J.P., and T. F. Fox, with Mr G. J. German and Mr R. Blower for the military authorities, and the clerk, Mr J. F. Jesson, and his assistant, Mr A. L. Bertenshaw.

John Corbett, waggoner and milkman on the Spring Hill Farm, Whitwick, asked for exemption, the applicant being supported by his employer, Mr Berrington. It was stated that there were 105 acres on the farm, and he was essential to carry on the farm work. Mr

German said there were three men for 105 acres. It was suggested that the man or employer should have appeared in person.

*Postponed for a month.*

The Forest Rock Granite Co., Whitwick, requested total exemption for James Arthur Hull, aged 32, who attends to the stone crushing machinery. Mr Briers appeared in support of the application and said he would not like to put an older man to that class of work. They had Government orders. Mr German said the man applied on January 26<sup>th</sup> and was refused.

Mr Briers: He applied on personal grounds then, and if I had known I should not let him have come then.

Answering further questions, he said Hull had worked for the firm for 12 years, and had done this particular work for 8 years. One mill had been standing since last April though shortage of labour, and if this man went this mill also would have to be closed and they would be unable to finish the War Office contract for which the authorities were pressing. Mr Lockwood asked how it would be if the man was ill.

Mr Briers: I don't know.

Mr Lockwood: All are being greatly inconvenienced now.

Mr Briers: I agree.

The case was put back for three months.

Other applications, chiefly in reserved trades were agreed to by the Tribunal, viz., John Hy. Moseley, cowman, Hugglescote; Ernest Henry Fisher, cowman, Hugglescote; Bertie L. Williamson, ploughman and waggoner, Bardon Hill (the only man on the farm); Sam Topliss, farmer, Agar Nook Farm; Leo. P. McCarthy, farmer, Whitwick; Charles Martin, waggoner, Whitwick; Samuel Hy. Wright, manager of the Charnwood Forest Laundry Co., Coalville; Benj. White, fish and game dealer, Coalville; and E. P. Higgins, engine-driver, Seal and Co., Whitwick.

### **Do You Know That**

Whitwick Parish Church is insured for £9,050 against damage by aircraft?

Mr J. Lester, schoolmaster, Thringstone, has been appointed commander of the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps, in place of Mr G. F. Burton, who has resigned?

Mr F. H. Deacon, of Hotel Street, Coalville, supplied the bride cake for Miss O'Reilly's wedding at Whitwick, on Wednesday, and also did the catering?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr W. Lindley, Mr H. J. Ford, Mr B. G. Hale and Mr Levi Lovatt.

*School Case*

John Wardle, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to send his child regularly to school – Charles Hart, school attendance officer, gave the facts. Defendant said the boy had been ill. He was 14 in April, and it was about time he left school.

The Clerk: You must conform to the law.

Mr Hart said defendant had been repeatedly warned since he was fined in July last year for the same boy.

Fined 5/- or seven days.

### *A Warrant*

John Storer, collier, Thringstone, was summoned for neglecting to pay £1/2/6 arrears on an order to contribute towards the support of his son in a Reformatory School. He did not appear, and the Bench issued a warrant for his apprehension.

### *Round the Theatres*

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

A very fine programme is showing here this week, and good audiences have much appreciated the same. "Episodes of Elaine," No. 10 was a good part, and the other pictures shown were up to the usual standard. – Two 'turns' are appearing, viz., Harry Orton and Dolly Onley, the all-comedy couple, who have kept the audiences convulsed with laughter. A real good 'show'. – Miss Dolly Collins, in her latest success, "Somewhere in France," a 'turn' well worth seeing. She has had a good reception. They should not be missed by week-end patrons. – The 'star' picture for the end of the week is "A Telephone Tragedy," a real good picture. Mrs Grayson was a wealthy, but elderly woman. Her nephew and niece, however, told her housekeeper that she was not safe in Susan's care. Late that night police received a telephone message:- "*This is Mrs Grayson, Wingate Park. I am dying, poisoned, Will Drake \_\_\_\_\_*" and then silence. Hurrying to the house the authorities were met by Susan, very excited, who led them up to Mrs Grayson's room, where they discovered the old lady lying dead upon the floor. Skilfully, the housekeeper tells of Mrs Grayson's quarrel with Will Drake, and casually mentions that the young man would benefit as the result of her death. At the trial the evidence given by Susan is mainly responsible for the sentence which is passed upon Drake. Eventually, however, certain facts are brought to light and Susan is taxed with the crime which she admits having committed. She never recovers from the fright and dies in half an hour. Her confession secures a pardon for Will Drake, and removes all barriers to the marriage of his sister and a young engineer, with the help of whom she has been able to establish the innocence of her brother. – This should not be missed. – Others are good. – Next week's programme, see advertisement columns.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### *Burials*

Moore – At Coalville, on Sunday, Alice Moore, aged 58 years, of Meadow Lane, Whitwick,

### *Marriage*

Miss O'Reilly's Wedding

### *Interesting Ceremony at Whitwick*

A good deal of public interest was created by a pretty wedding at the Whitwick Holy Cross Church, on Wednesday morning in which the contracting parties were Miss Annie O'Reilly, of Whitwick, and Mr John Ward, of Waterloo, Liverpool.

The bride, for some years worked as assistant mistress in the Holy Cross Day School, which post she recently resigned, and is a cousin of the priest at Holy Cross Church, the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, who after 28 years at Whitwick, enjoys a large measure of popularity. There was a large congregation to witness the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. J. M. Flynn, of Burton-on-Trent, uncle of the bridegroom.

The bride wore a dress of ivory charmeuse satin, with ninon bodice and sleeves, trimmed with Russian braid and swansdown; also a veil and orange blossoms. She carried a shower bouquet of pink and white carnations which, with a gold wristlet watch she was wearing, was the gift of the bridegroom. She was escorted to the altar by Father O'Reilly, who gave her away. The bridesmaids, Miss Helen O'Reilly (sister) and Miss Maggie Ward (sister of the bridegroom), wore saxe blue crepe de chene with lace collars, black taffeta hats lined with saxe blue, and they carried sheafs of lilies, the gift of the bridegroom.

A brother of the bridegroom, Mr Peter Ward, wearing the uniform of the Liverpool Scottish Regiment, acted as best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Papal blessing was given.

The register having been signed, Father Flynn said the nuptial mass, Father O'Reilly assisting as master of ceremonies. The school children sang the choral part of the service, the hymns including, "The Bells of Angelus." Mrs W. Carter, the organist accompanied the hymns, and played Mendelssohn's Wedding March as the wedding party left the church.

The guests included the Revs. Father Flynn, T. Kane, D.D., (of Waterloo, Liverpool), J. Hurley and P. J. Hayes (Loughborough), M. Parmentier (Newhall), Quilter (Hassop, Derbyshire), J. Drinkwater (Burton-on-Trent), J. Degan (Coalville) and P. O'Reilly (Ratcliffe College); Mrs Ward, mother of the bridegroom, of Waterloo, Liverpool; Miss Maggie O'Reilly (Birmingham); Mr and Mrs E. M. P. de Lisle (Garendon Park), Mr, Mrs and Miss McCarthy (Coalville), Mr and Mrs C. E. McKenna (Bardon Hill), Mr J. J. Sharp (Whitwick), Captain A. T. Sharp (5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters), Miss de Lisle (Garendon Park), Miss Milnes (Leicester), Miss Brotherton (Whitwick), Miss Barrett (Whitwick), and Miss Haridock (Richmond).

The wedding breakfast was served in the hall of the Holy Cross Schools. Many handsome presents were received.

## **Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1253)**

### *Local News*

#### *Coalville Tribunal*

Several of the public were present at a meeting of the Coalville Urban District Tribunal in the Council Chamber on Monday night. Mr T. Y. Hay, J.P., presided, and the members present were Messrs. B. G. Hale, J.P., M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, J. W. Fisher, and T. F. Fox, with Capt. Stevenson, Mr G. J. German, and Mr R. Blower for the military authorities and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Arthur Herbert Vesty, 20, a munition worker and formerly florist and gardener, Whitwick, applied for exemption on conscientious grounds. His faith was such that he could not, and would not, under any circumstances, take human life. He believed his present work was of more value to the nation. The Advisory Committee suggested that applicant continue to carry shells – to the gunners at the Front.

Answering questions, he said he objected to carrying shells at the front as he might have to fire some of them.

Mr Blower: Have you asked your employer to appeal for you? – No.

Where are you employed? – On the munition at the Colliery brickworks.

How long have you been there? – 2 ½ months.

The Chairman: Did you give up your work as a gardener to take up this work? – Yes, to do something for my country.

Didn't it occur to you that you are making bullets if not firing them? – That may be true, but it didn't appear to me that I should be really killing.

Mr German: Are you still willing to carry shells? – I am willing to stay where I am.

Do you consider your work of national importance? – I do.

The Chairman: I don't. – Then why did the Minister of Munitions apply for labourers and why are they there as 'starred' men?

You would not mind joining the R.A.M.C.? – Yes, if I can stay where I am.

Mr Brown: You want to do your part to help win the war? – Yes.

And we can only do that by killing, or they will kill us. – There are men who kill, and those on non-combat service.

Another member: How long have you had this conscientious objection? – Since the Bill was introduced.

The application was not allowed.

J. S. Dodd, carpenter and contractor, Whitwick, applied for whole or partial exemption, saying that he had a lot of contract work on hand. The Advisory Committee suggested a months' grace. Applicant explained his difficulties in regard to his contracts, and Mr Jesson said he would undertake to assist him free of charge in certain eventualities.

Mr Lockwood suggested that Dodd take advantage of that offer, as lawyers did not often give much away. (Laughter). A month was allowed.

Isaac Cyril Foster, hairdresser and tobacconist, Silver Street, Whitwick, applied for total exemption. If he went he said the business would have to be closed, and his sister, who depended on him, would be without means of support. Mr McCarthy said the applicant and his sister were orphans.

Three months were allowed.

The application of Hy. Danvers, farmer and waggoner, Whitwick, adjourned from the last court, was again considered. He said he was sorry he made a mistake last time in saying he was married on September 4<sup>th</sup>. It was December 4<sup>th</sup>.

The clerk: That is a big mistake.

Applicant: I didn't know I had made a mistake till I got home.

The clerk: You know you are married? (Laughter) – Yes.

It was remarked that he would have to be treated as a single man, not having been married before November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Applicant said the farm would have to be given up if he went. His father worked at the pit, and did not understand farming.

Mr German: What about your brother, aged 31? – He could not plough.

Why? – He has got small feet, (laughter) and could not stand the land work.

Mr Jesson: They are going to have ladies to plough now. (Laughter)

The application was refused.

### *Primitive Methodism*

The quarterly meeting of the Coalville Circuit of the Primitive Methodist Church was held at Whitwick on Saturday afternoon and evening last, presided over by the Rev. T. J. Martin with the Rev. J. A. Wales as secretary. The meeting was very well attended and nearly all the societies were represented. In the Preacher's Section it was noted that one of the preachers – Mr H. T. Newbury – had been recently called up on military duties, and the greetings and good wishes of those assembled were conveyed to him. The reports of the year's work were received showing progress in nearly every department. The financial standing of the various societies revealed the interesting fact that not one had an adverse balance at the end of the year. Large increases in income were reported and this was especially true of the missionary revenue, which was over £8 in advance of preceding years. There was also an increase in the number of members. The tea was given by Mr John Ward in honour of his having completed 25 years as a local preacher on the Circuit. A large number partook of the good fare provided. Hearty congratulations to Mr Ward were proposed by Mr J. R. Bennett (circuit steward) seconded by Mr Sparrow, of Heather, and supported by several brethren, including Mr T. W. Bourne, who spoke for the local Free Church Council. The Rev. T. J. Martin was asked to stay for a fifth year as the Superintendent Minister of the Circuit. He accepted and at the same time intimated that his ministry would close then at Coalville, that is, in July, 1918.

### *Young Men's Effort*

The young men's annual effort was held at the Hugglescote Baptist Church, on Sunday, when two sermons were preached by the Rev. R. G. Gange, of Sharnbrook, a former president of the Baptist Union. Unfortunately, the evening service was spoiled by the air raid warning. A shortened service was held, at which there was a moderate attendance. At the morning service there were songs and duets by the Misses Chambers, Anderson, and Evans. The collections were for the young men's benevolent fund, and amounted to £5/12/0, which was considerably less than last year's, and might have been expected under the circumstances. To make up for this, the Rev. R. G. Gange has promised to pay another visit.

### **Do You Know That**

The Whitwick and Thringstone Licensed Victuallers' Association, held their annual banquet at the Duke of Newcastle Inn, on Wednesday?

### *Round the Theatres*

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

A real good 'turn' is appearing here this week, viz., the Vimp Vera Trio, in a laughable sketch which has been loudly applauded by good audiences. The male impersonations are good, and the singing and dancing exceptionally smart. We advise patrons not to miss this during the week-end. A first-class 'show'. – The 'star' picture was No. 11, "Exploits of Elaine", which was good, as were others shown. – For the week-end, "A Daughter of the Jungle," must not be missed. Colonel Price is entertaining his guests at a reception and announces the engagement of his niece, Betty, to Jack Packard. Among the guests is Jim Crafton, who has left college temporarily in order to be at the reception. Crafton is Bett's former sweetheart. He asks Betty to join him in the garden. Upon reaching a little arbour with Betty, Crafton kisses her and she yields to his embraces. Jack sees Crafton kissing her and is heart-broken. He goes back to the house and returns with Betty's father. The Colonel is enraged and takes Jack into his library, where he tells Jack how Crafton's father ruined his life. Colonel Price then proceeds to tell a story and then learns to his great joy that the wild girl before him is his own daughter, who was stolen from him by a native whom he had discharged. When the party returns to the west coast, Jack and Col. Price's daughter marry.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### *Death of an Old Resident*

The funeral took place at Coalville Cemetery on Thursday of last week of one of the oldest inhabitants of the town, Mr Charles Hull Perry, who was 82 years of age and had resided for some years with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs E. Bilson, of 125, Belvoir Road, Coalville. The deceased was a Whitwick man, but had resided in Coalville for over 50 years, being formerly employed as a sawyer at Messrs. Stableford's Works for over 40 years. He was a gentle old man and to the end possessed all his faculties to a wonderful degree and he often related interesting reminiscences of old Coalville, or Long Lane as it was formerly known. He was a violist of some repute and in his younger days used to attend the Sunday School anniversaries in the villages for miles round, always being a very popular figure on those occasions. For over 30 years he was a member of the London

Road Baptist Church. His wife died about 20 years ago and he leaves two sons and five daughters all married. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. F. Pickbourne, the first portion being in the London Road Baptist Chapel. The chief mourners were the two sons, Messrs. H. Hull Perry (Coleorton) and Albert Edwin Perry (Coalville) and their wives; the five daughters, Mrs E. Bilson (Coalville), Mrs T. Bowley (Coventry), Mrs F. Moreton (Leicester), Mrs H. Bowley (Coventry), and Mrs J. Cole (Coalville), and their husbands; Mr H. Shaw, nephew, of Coalville, Mr Harry Bowley, grandson, of Coventry, and Mrs Briers, cousin, of Whitwick. The coffin was made at Messrs. Stableford's works and the bearers were Messrs. H. Hull, T. Hull, T. Kinsey and J. Peace. Wreaths were sent by the following:

Emma and Ernest, Mary and Herbert, Clara and Tom, Mahala and Frank, Agnes and Harry, Polly and Jim, Daisy and Albert, Gerty and Percy, Mr and Mrs John Shaw and family, Mr and Mrs Ramsay and the Coalville Liberal Club.

#### *In Memoriam*

In Loving Memory of my dear son, Pte. J. Wardle, aged 25, 52, Margaret Street, Coalville, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Grenadier Guards, killed in action on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1915.

"He sleeps not in his native land  
But 'neath some foreign skies  
And far from those that love him best  
In a hero's grave he lies"

From his sorrowing mother, brothers and sisters.

"Gone but not forgotten."

#### *Burials*

Holt – At Whitwick, on Monday, Josiah Holt, aged 78 years, of Hermitage Road

Cooper – At Whitwick, yesterday, Thos. Cooper, aged 40 years, of Brooks Lane.

Hollins – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, John Hollins, aged 55 years, of the Ashby Union.

### Friday March 17<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1254)

#### *Local News*

##### *Coalville Tribunal*

##### *Whitwick Butcher's Claim*

A meeting of the Coalville Urban District Tribunal was held in the Council Chambers, on Monday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, B. G. Hale, J.P., L. F. Fox, and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German and Mr R. Blower (for the military authorities), and the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson).



Thomas Benson, 36, of Pares' Hill, Whitwick, appealed for exemption. He said he was lamp and powder-box maker and general tinsmith, working for his widowed mother. If he went the business, which had been carried on for 50 or 60 years, would have to be closed. Applicant, replying to Mr German, said he had a brother working at Stableford's, and another brother 12 years of age. Mr McCarthy said the applicant was the only tinsmith in the district.

Mr German said it was a reserved trade. Mr Drewett said it was rather important if he repaired miners' lamps. Answering further questions, applicant said he had tried to enlist once, but was sent back because of the rush, that being early in the war. He was not living at home then. Postponed for a month.

A Whitwick butcher, aged 34, who applied for total exemption, said he managed the business for his widowed mother who was an invalid. He had to keep two sisters, one to help in the shop, and one to assist his mother. Answering questions, he said he did all the slaughtering and everything himself. He worked Sundays as well.

By Mr German: A man named Underwood used to assist him, but not for the last three months.

Mr Lockwood: You are so often that you kill on Sundays? – Yes, often.

The Clerk: You are not a conscientious objector, then? – No, I would kill anything (Laughter)

You are just the man we want (renewed laughter) – But you want something to eat besides Germans.

You can't eat them, you mean? (Laughter) – Yes.

Conditional exemption was granted while the circumstances existed.

George Frederick Burton, grocer and baker, Whitwick, applied for the exemption of his man, Wm. P. A. Bland, 26, of Talbot Street, Whitwick. He was stated to be a married man, and the case was adjourned till the married men are dealt with.

#### Whitwick Soldier Dies from Wounds

Mrs E. Howe, of 37, Talbot Street, Whitwick, has received the sad news that her husband, Private E. Howe, No. 12075, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicestershire Regiment, died in hospital on February 16<sup>th</sup>, from wounds received in action at the Persian Gulf, January 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>.

Private Howe, before the war was a Whitwick collier. As a reservist, he rejoined his regiment on the outbreak of war, and had participated in several battles. A pathetic feature is that since receiving news of his death, Mrs Howe has



received a letter written by her husband from hospital a few days before he died, stating that he hoped soon to be better, and to be able to do a bit more for “*Good old England.*” He also wrote the following lines:

*“I am the man that’s always ready  
Always game and always steady,  
To shoot and fight and hammer in  
In action always mean to win.”*

The deceased soldier’s letters were always written in a cheerful strain. A memorial service is to be held at St. Andrew’s Church, Thringstone, on Sunday.

### **Local Chit Chat**

The ages of five old people who have recently died in the Ashby Workhouse, aggregate 414 years, an average of a little over 82 years each. They were Mary Archer, aged 92, a native of Swannington, Susan England, 89, of Ashby, Mary Ellis, 73, of Thringstone, and Jos. Sanders, 81, of Whitwick. All had been in the house for several years.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr W. Lindley and Mr B. Hale.

#### *Transfer*

The licence of the Prince of Wales Inn, Whitwick, was temporarily transferred from Thomas Irons to George Cook.

#### *Drunk*

Joseph Walker, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk at Whitwick on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. P.C. Grewcock proved the case and defendant was fined 10/- or seven days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The usual ‘good’ houses are the order here this week, and “Exploits of Elaine,” No. 12, at the beginning of the week was good. The Flemings in a harmonising vocal scene, have had a great reception, and is an up-to-date and excellent ‘turn,’ well worth seeing. – For the weekend, in addition to a strong list of other films, “From the Dregs,” is the outstanding feature. Leading a wild and dissolute life, Roy at length exhausts the patience of his father and is forbidden the house. In spite of his failings Roy is a great favourite of his sister, Connie, and in leaving he promises her to try and lead a better life, and if he fails she will not hear of him again. Joining the army under an assumed name, he soon drops into trouble, and eventually gets a long term of imprisonment. After serving a year, Roy sees, at service in the prison chapel, his sister with the officer against whom he has so long desired to have revenge. Later, he sees the announcement in the paper of his sister’s engagement. This causes him to abandon his hatred for Lieut. Curren, and he apologises

for his past conduct. He is re-instated in the ranks, and later the regiment is sent on active service. Curren gets wounded, and Roy rescues him under heavy fire, but just as he is reaching safety he falls fatally wounded. From a locket found on Roy, the officer's wife identifies him as her long lost brother. A real good story. – Next week, another good lot, see advertisement for full particulars.

## **Friday March 24<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1255)**

### *Local News*

#### *Parish Meeting*

At the annual parish meeting in the school, on Monday night, the same persons as last year were nominated for the positions of overseers, parish constables, and assessors of taxes, and the meeting was of short duration, terminating with a vote of thanks to Mr M. McCarthy for presiding. – The present overseers are Messrs. G. West, T. Kelly and A. Needham.

#### *Unfaithful Wife*

##### *Coalville Solicitor Obtains a Divorce*

Mr Justice Herridge on Monday, granted a decree nisi to John Joseph Sharp, a solicitor, practising at Coalville, dissolving his marriage with Elenor Augusta Sharp, by reason of her adultery with Oscar Charles Trautmann.

The case was undefended, and the evidence put forward for the husband was to the effect that married in 1888, he lived with his wife at the White House, Whitwick. He had cause to complain of her conduct, but she denied that there was anything wrong, and he accepted her statement. The co-respondent was employed as an engineer at the Coalville 'Bus and Garage Co. of which the petitioner was secretary. He complained of his wife's familiarity with Trautmann, telling her that even if there was nothing wrong, she ought not to associate with him. There was one child of the marriage, a son, now 26. In October, 1915, his wife went to Brighton, and from there she wrote him that she would be stopping at a hotel in London on her way back. On November 8<sup>th</sup>, he went there, but found she had left, and on returning home, between three and four in the morning, found his wife with Trautmann. His gardener, Alpha Hutchby, came up, and there was a scene.

His Lordship pronounced a decree nisi with costs.

### *Round the Theatres*

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

A good programme is to be seen here again this week and the 'Three Jewels' in a novel and artiste dancing act are having a grand reception. They are a first class trio of acrobatic, toe, Dutch and military dancers. They should not be missed during the week-end. – "Exploits of Elaine" No. 13, was good and much enjoyed, as were also the other

excellent items. – For the week-end “The Offending Kiss,” is the chief film, and the following is the story. A remarkable instance of bravery and self-sacrifice is shown in the story of Kate, the sister of the wife of a Western settler. Kate has learned to know and love a Captain Haynes who is stationed at a neighbouring army post. One day Kate sees Haynes kiss Milly Lee, and, misunderstanding the circumstances, she becomes heartbroken and as a distraction, decides to join in a long journey across the plains which John and his sister had to undertake. During the journey a band of marauding Indians attack the party and Kate is captured and carried away. The others carry the news to the army post, and Haynes quickly organises a rescue party which he heads. In the pursuit, Haynes gets separated from his men and is also captured. Kate saves him from the stake by threatening to drop the Indian Chief’s child over the precipice. Haynes returns to his troops and brings them back to attack the Indians. They succeed in driving off the Indians who leave Kate behind, but one of the Redskins hides near the wigwam where Kate is sheltering and attempts to stab her. Haynes sees this, and just as the rascal is about to strike, pounces on him and kills him. As the party wend their way back to the fort, Haynes has the opportunity of explaining the kiss incident satisfactorily, and the lovers are joyfully reunited. – Others are good. – Next week’s list, see advertisement columns.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### *Burials*

Cairns – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Margaret Cairns, aged 13 months, of Talbot Street.

Baxter – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Ellen Baxter, aged 42 years, of North Street.

### **Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> 1916 (Issue 1256)**

#### *Local News*

#### *Severe Snowstorm*

#### *A Thirty Year’s Record*

The heaviest snowstorm for 30 years swept over Leicester and the county during the early hours of Tuesday morning, accompanied by hurricane winds.

Scenes in Coalville and district were quite unprecedented. In some places the snow had drifted to a depth of 6ft. People were practically snowed in their houses and to observe the order of the Urban Council to clear the snow away from the front of their premises, householders and business people had no light task, though in many cases it was cheerfully tackled. Business in every department was completely paralysed. Telegraph and telephone wires were brought down wholesale and lay in coils across the road in many parts of the district. People who wanted to telegraph or telephone were told at the Post Office and the Exchange that Coalville was completely isolated, there being no communication with anywhere. Telegrams could not be accepted, and none were received.

Coalville people also on Tuesday morning had the unique experience of having no newspapers or letters. The rat-tat of the postman was conspicuous by its absence. It

transpired that the mail van had been snowed up at Bardon Hill, and there it stuck till Wednesday. On Wednesday morning, a number of Coalville postmen were seen going in that direction with spades on their shoulders to dig the van out. In this they succeeded and Tuesday morning's letters were being delivered in Coalville about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The local train service was completely held up on Tuesday. Trains were said to have run into snowdrifts 6ft and 7ft deep, and could not get through. The Coalville and District motor bus service also had to be temporarily suspended.

The collieries also had to cease work on Tuesday, and at 3.30 in the afternoon, the sounding of Messrs. Stableford and Co.'s "buzzer" seemed ominous. But this, happily, was not to warn the people of the approach of Zeppelins. The firm could not get any slack and work had to cease at that time instead of going on till 7.15.

Very few children were found at the schools on Tuesday morning, and all the schools in the district had to be closed for the day. Housewives found themselves greatly inconvenienced. On Tuesday morning there was no milkman, no baker, and none of the tradesmen were able to make their usual rounds. Many people were seen fetching bread and other articles of food from the shops.

Unfortunately, on Tuesday night, a sharp frost set in, and this prevented the snow from going. Local butchers who usually visit the Leicester market on Wednesdays to buy stock were told that no trains were running, and it was found impossible to get by road. One of them, Mr George Henson, started off on horseback, but only got as far as the Bardon bridge where the snow covered the horse's flanks. As the usual stock sale could not be held at Coalville on Tuesday owing to the storm, some of the butchers were thus placed in a dilemma as to the week's supply of meat. Some hundreds of men were engaged in clearing the line between Coalville and Leicester and a train was able to run about midday, by which time a single line had been cleared.

### *Ashby Board of Guardians*

#### *A Whitwick Funeral Incident*

##### *Lid Falls off Coffin at a Whitwick Funeral*

The Rev. T. W. Walters complained that at a funeral at Whitwick, on Thursday last, the coffin was so shoddily made that when the men attempted to lower it into the grave, the lid fell off. On examination, he found that only two small screws an inch long had been put in, these being scarcely long enough to go through the cover and grip the coffin. He thought the Guardians should take steps to prevent the recurrence of such a scandal.

The Chairman: You are satisfied the coffin was of inferior make?

The Rev. T. W. Walters: Yes, I have never had anything of the sort before.

Dr. Atkinson said they should bear this in mind when accepting a new contract. It transpired that the contracts were being considered that day, and the matter was referred to the House and Contract Committee.

Mr Parker presented the report of this committee, recommending the acceptance of the following tenders: Coal, South Leicestershire Colliery Co.; Meat, Mr Harrison; Flour, Mr Adcock; Coffins, Mr Cutter; Boots, Mr Williscroft; and Groceries divided between several firms. – The report was adopted.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr W. Lindley and Mr L. Lovett.

#### *Affiliation Case*

Frederick Blinko (17), pony driver, Hugglescote, was summoned by Elsie P. Lakin, (17), single woman, Whitwick, to show cause etc. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the defendant, who denied the paternity. After a lengthy hearing the Bench ordered defendant to pay 3/6 per week from the date of the birth till the child is 14 years of age and 19/6 costs.

#### *Theft at Whitwick Colliery*

Geo. Ford, carter, Coalville, was charged with stealing 16 cwt of coal at Coalville, on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr T. H. Moore (Crane and Moore, Coalville) appeared to prosecute for the Whitwick Colliery Co. and defendant pleaded guilty.

Albert Rawlings, clerk in the employ of the Co. said the defendant was also in their employ as a carter. On the date named, witness saw him in the colliery yard with a load of coal, weighing 16 cwt, and value 9/10. Defendant said it was for the farm, and witness allowed him to take it without payment.

Liberty Clarke, also a clerk at the colliery, said he saw a load of coal tipped up outside defendant's house in Club Row. He spoke to the defendant's wife, and in consequence of what she said, he went to the office and made enquiries, after which he went to the colliery farm and saw the defendant. He asked him why he had taken a load of coal to his house, and he said he went to the colliery for a load for the farm, but took it to his home, and he was coming in the afternoon to ask witness to stop the money out of his wages. He also asked witness to say nothing about it. Defendant was entitled to a ton of workman's coal per month, at 6/8, and 1/- for drawing, but had not taken advantage of the privilege since last September. Defendant had a wife and one child, and his wages were £1/6/5 per week.

Fined 35/- and 5/- for witnesses, or one month, ten days allowed for payment. Mr Walter Lindley did not adjudicate in this case.

#### *Without a Rear Light*

Joseph Arnold, farmer, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to have a red rear light on his vehicle at Whitwick, on March 15<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty, and on the evidence of P.C. Grewcock, was fined 10/- or 7 days.

#### *Another Batch of "Light" Summonses*

There was another batch of summonses for Breach of Lights in Buildings Order, at Coalville, Whitwick and Swannington, on various dates.

Sidney Cart, grocer's manager, Whitwick, pleaded not guilty. P.C. Grewcock said he saw a light from Melia's shop in Vicarage Street, at 7.15. One light was not shaded at all, and shone on the footpath and road. Witness had previously cautioned the man several times. Defendant said the lights were so shaded as to make it impossible for the light to shine on the path. He could hardly see to give change. Fined 30/- or seven days.

### *Round the Theatres*

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There have been some good audiences here again this week, and much appreciation has been evinced by the excellent programmes provided. Ernest Marvon and Lily Vens, the dancing comedian and musical comedy girl in clean and refined comedy are a first-rate 'turn' and their efforts have been loudly applauded. They should not be missed. Little Sonia, the clever juvenile artiste, has also greatly pleased the audiences with her singing and dancing. – Episode 14 of the "Exploits of Elaine", was another good piece and will be much enjoyed, as will all the other subjects being screened. – Next week No. 15 of "Exploits of Elaine," and "The Toll of the Sea." Captain Nelson is in love with Virginia. He has her kidnapped and brought to the ship. There is a riot on board, and the ship is blown up in an explosion which follows Virginia's lover, on the look-out for pirates, discovers her in a hut to which she has been taken. He restores her to her father. For further particulars see our advertisement columns.