

Coalville Times – September 1916

Friday September 1st 1916 (Issue 1278)

Local News

Family Dispute at Whitwick

A Disgraceful Case

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, before Major Hatchett, (in the chair) Mr J. W. West, and Mr Levi Lovett.

Frederick Perry, collier, Whitwick, Frances Perry, his wife, and Norah Perry, his daughter, were summoned for assaulting Bowley Hurst, collier, at Whitwick, on August 11th, and Bowley Hurst and his wife, Elizabeth Hurst, were summoned for assaulting Frances Perry, on the same date. In each case there was a plea of not guilty.

Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for the Hursts, and Mr T. H. Moore for the Perrys.

The cases were taken together, Mr Sharp opening for the Hursts. He said the parties were related, Hurst and Perry being brothers-in-law, and it was an unfortunate family quarrel, but the assault on his client was so serious that he felt bound to bring it into court.

Bowley Hurst stated that he charged a relative of the Perry's at the last court with stealing coal, and she was convicted. The same night, he and his wife went to Whitwick Market Place to do some shopping. He went into the Star Tea shop, and had hardly got over the doorstep when Mrs Perry picked up a 4lb weight and threw it at him, hitting him between the eyes. He was nearly stunned, and the wound bled profusely. He produced several blood-stained garments. When he got out of the shop he saw P.C. Jelley, and handed the weight to him. The policeman advised him to go home, and he was doing so, but on the way he had to pass the Duke of Newcastle Inn. Just as he got opposite the door, Norah Perry saw him and fetched her father out of the public house, two or three others being with them. They knocked him down, Fred Perry knelt on him and he was badly treated. Ultimately, P.C. Jelley came up, and after he had been assisted into the yard, and his face bathed, he was able to walk home. He could not account for the assault, except for the

proceedings at the previous court. Mrs Perry, whom he summoned then for stealing his coal, was the wife of Fred Perry's brother.

By Mr Moore: Some time ago, a son of his left home and had since lived with his aunt (Frances Perry), but that was not the cause of the bother. He did not strike Frances Perry before someone threw the weight. He was not of a quarrelsome nature, and had never set himself up to be the best fighter in Whitwick.

By the clerk: The only time he had ever been convicted was once for violent conduct.

Elizabeth Hurst, wife of the complainant, stated that in Coalville after the case a fortnight ago, Frances Perry saw her, and told her they were a lot of rogues. The same night in Whitwick Market Place, Perry met her again and struck at her. A crowd collected, and then her husband came up. Mrs Perry then ran into the Star Tea shop. Witness's husband followed her and he came out almost immediately with the weight which had been thrown at him. His eye was "banged up". On their way home, about half-a-dozen attacked her husband near the Duke of Newcastle, including the three Perry's, and she thought they would kill him. All three defendants punched him, and kept her from helping him. She had her baby in her arms. Fortunately, P.C. Jelley came up.

By Mr Moore: There had been no bother over her boy having left her to go and live with the Perrys.

Martha Moore, wife of John Moore, carter and contractor, Whitwick, said she saw a crowd outside the Duke of Newcastle, and later Hurst came into her yard. His face was covered with blood, and she got him some hot water.

P.C. Jelley said he was fetched to the row in the Market Place and Hurst handed him the 4lb weight, and made a complaint. He advised the parties to go home. In the Star Tea shop he saw that a bottle of wine and some tins of salmon had been upset. The manager said it was done in the scuffle. Later, witness went in the direction of the Duke of Newcastle, and was met by Mrs Hurst, who said, "*They are killing Bowley.*" She had a baby in a push-chair. When witness saw Hurst again his face was badly swollen, and there was no doubt he had been badly knocked about.

By Mr Moore: When he first saw Hurst and Frances Perry in the Market Place they were striking at one another. He told them to go home, or he should report them for violent conduct. If Mrs Perry had gone home there would have been no bother near the Duke of Newcastle.

Sergeant Betts said that in consequence of the disturbance, he and P.C. Jones had to remain on duty until midnight to prevent Perry from going to Hurst's house. The concluded the case for the Hursts.

Frances Perry said she had no feeling over the coal stealing job, as if people did wrong they should suffer for it, but the bother was about the boy living with her. Witness went shopping in Whitwick Market Place when Bowley Hurst came up and accosted her. That was outside Mr McCarthy's shop. Later, he followed her into the Star Tea shop and struck her several times. They had a struggle in the shop. She did pick up the weight, but did not throw it at him. There were a lot of people there, and if she had thrown the weight it might have hit someone. She bowled it along, and it fell at Hurst's feet. Meanwhile, Mrs Hurst had thrown a parcel at her, hitting her on the arm. She said she should not be knocked about like that and went to tell her husband at the Duke of Newcastle Inn. Her husband and Hurst then had a fight.

By Mr Sharp: She picked up the weight in self-defence, but did not throw it at Hurst. She had not threatened Mr Hurst.

Charles Elton Pegler, manager of the Star Tea shop, Whitwick, deposed to a struggle taking place in the shop. He did not see the weight thrown and did not miss it till afterwards.

Grace Perry (14), daughter of Frederick Perry, said she saw the struggle near the Duke of Newcastle, and Norah Perry, one of the defendants, gave her version of the affair, alleging that the Hursts were the aggressors. It was a lie that her mother threw the weight at Hurst.

Fred Perry, the other defendant, said Bowley Hurst was beastly drunk. He (Perry) tried to keep out of his way, but struck him for his assault on his wife.

Helen O'Reilly (43), of Silver Street, Whitwick, also gave evidence. The summons against the Hursts was dismissed and Mrs Perry ordered to pay 7/6 costs.

Norah Perry was acquitted of assaulting Hurst, but her mother and father, Fred and Frances Perry, were each fined £1, and 1s 3d for witnesses, or 14 days.

The chairman said the Bench considered it a disgraceful case. The total to be paid by the Perrys was £2 10s, and Hurst had to pay 5/6 costs.

Ashby Board of Guardians

Temporary Rate Collector for Whitwick

Mr W. D. McCarthy, poor rate collector for Whitwick, wrote stating he had been called up to join the forces in September and asked the Board whether they would appoint his brother, Mr T. I. McCarthy, of Coalville, as deputy collector during the time he was serving in the Forces. Mr Briers asked whether they could do that.

The clerk: We should retain W. D. McCarthy as collector and appoint his brother to act temporarily during his absence.

Mr Briers then moved and Mr Andrews seconded that this be done. Dr Atkinson asked how it would be if Mr T. I. McCarthy was called up. Mr Briers: *He has conditional exemption.*

The resolution was carried.

Whitwick Quarryman Dies of Wounds

Official information has been received of the death of Private Samuel Green, Leicesters, who died in France shortly after being wounded in action. He was 34 years of age, and unmarried. Previous to joining the army last year he was employed at the Pelder Tor Granite Works, Whitwick, but resided with his parents at Charnwood Road, Shepshed, both of whom are over 70 years of age. Lieutenant J. Connoley, in a letter to Mr and Mrs Green says, "*He was brave to the last, and nobly did his duty. Our regiment has reason to be proud of such fellows.*"

Mr R. Sharp's Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged 2,555 eggs. Subscriptions: Mrs W. Lindley and Mrs A. White 2/6 each; 1/- each Mrs J. Burkitt, Mrs T. Toon, Messrs. M. Larner, Thompson, H. Conniff, W. Bowley, R. Wilkes, A. Whitmore and

H. Pearson; A friend 6d; anonymous 6d; Eggs: Messrs. Hawthorn Bros. 20; Mr D. Hincks 16; Mrs T. Priestley 12; Mrs Botham 5; Mr R. Sharp 10.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

Good audiences have been most interested in the various items of the splendid programme being screened here this week. The final episode of the "Exploits of Elaine" was a good one, and patrons will be sorry to see the end of this most excellent serial. "A Daughter of the Underworld" was also much enjoyed. – For the week-end, "Monsieur Lecoq, Detective" is a Thanhouser production of exceptional merit, which will be much enjoyed by Picture House patrons, and must not be missed. It is in four acts, and all will be found most thrilling. – Others are good. – It is announced that the Tuesday morning matinee will be held hence forward, as previously. – Next week's list see advertisement.

Friday September 8th 1916 (Issue 1279)

Local News

Mr and Mrs R. Sharp, of 106, Silver Street, Whitwick, has received the following letter in connection with their egg collection:-

"Dear Sir and Madam – Will you kindly convey my best thanks to all who have contributed from time to time to your collection of eggs for the sick and wounded soldiers in this hospital. I find that the large number of 2,187 eggs was sent last year, and 2,559 have been received up to the present this year. Many of these have been given when eggs were very scarce, and were therefore all the more welcome. The trouble you have taken, and the generosity to those who have given are highly appreciated, and I am sure that all the patients who have shared in the benefit of these gifts would wish to join in this message of thanks. Yours faithfully."

Louis N. Harrison
Lt.-Colonel, 1/5th Northern General Hospital
Leicester

Thunderstorm at Whitwick

Curious Lightning Effects Woman's Ring torn from her Finger

The heavy thunderstorm which passed over the district on Sunday between one and two o'clock, was particularly severe at Whitwick, where considerable damage was done and there were some peculiar happenings.

Perhaps the most remarkable of all was the experience of Mrs Richards, who resides in Brooks' Lane. She was sweeping the water through her back door when the storm was at its height, and the lightning was attracted by a gold keeper ring she was wearing on her second finger. The ring was torn off, and fell undamaged to the ground, leaving her finger cut and bleeding. For a time she suffered from shock, but when seen by our reporter on Tuesday had quite recovered except that her finger bore scars.

It was in this vicinity that most damage was done. Opposite Mrs Richards' house across a small field, a row of houses, in School Lane, owned by Messrs. E. Briers and Son, builders, were struck, the end house, occupied by Mrs Spencer, getting it the most severely. Here the chimney stack was demolished, the bricks falling with a crash into the yard and slates were torn from the edges of the roof on either side. The lightning appears to have run round these houses, as at one occupied by Mr Everard Wale, three or four doors away, a large hole was made in the rain-pipe, and the lightning then forced its way through a crevice in the wall into the pantry, where the plaster was all stripped off, and the bricks were blackened by the fire. Mrs Wale says there was a loud explosion in the kitchen, which adjoins the pantry. Fortunately, no one was hurt, though they were all very much alarmed. At Mrs Spencer's house where the chimney was struck the dinner being cooked was spoilt. In the yard adjoining, a valuable sow belonging to Messrs. Briers was killed by the lightning while in the sty, and the lightning conductor on a tall chimney stack was bent and one of the staples torn out.

But the damage was not all confined to this area. In Leicester Road, Whitwick, the best part of a mile distant, a house was also struck. This was one occupied by Mr I. Moreton, a roadman, and the only occupant at the time was Mrs Moreton, an old lady who was considerably alarmed, but not injured. Here the chimney stack was demolished and holes were made in the roof. The ceiling in the back room also

collapsed, and a large picture hanging on the wall in the front bedroom was smashed.

A lad named John Bonser, 8 or 9 years of age, who lives next door, was standing on the doorstep and received what he likened to an electric shock. He was struck on the shoulder, where there were signs of burning, and he states that the shock seemed to go right through him to the tips of his toes. He was soon alright again, and appeared little the worse for his experience when our enquiries were made on Tuesday. Bonser is one of the choristers at Whitwick Parish Church.

Situations Vacant

Wanted – 50 menders for hose and half-hose. Work delivered anywhere in the district. Apply 31, Cademan Street, Whitwick.

Coalville Tribunal

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Coalville urban district was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, Mr A. Lockwood, J.P., presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr Taylor (for the clerk).

The clerk read a copy of a circular letter to be sent to all men exempted for more than two months, pointing out that they were expected to at once join a Voluntary Training Corps. This was approved. Mr Briers asked whether the men working on munitions and in the coal mines had to do likewise.

The chairman: *I am afraid we can't make them.*

Mr Briers: *There are a lot of young colliers going about, who laugh at men in khaki, and I don't like to see it.* (Hear, hear).

A Whitwick marine store dealer who is a member of the Tribunal, appealed for his son, aged 18 years and 10 months, saying he was his right-hand man. He had seven men before the war and now only this one. He said they were supplying munition firms with scrap iron, etc. and put in several letters from such firms testifying to the importance of the supply being kept up. Applicant added that he wanted no favours as a member of the Tribunal, but asked them to treat the case on its merits. –

Two months allowed.

Do You Know That

Mr J. W. Davis, a well-known Coalville footballer, who received severe injury to his back while at work in the Whitwick pit, a few weeks ago, has now been discharged from the Leicester Royal Infirmary, and is making satisfactory progress.

Coalville Urban District Council

The monthly meeting of the Urban Council was held at Coalville, on Tuesday evening, Mr A. Lockwood, J.P., presiding. There were also present Messrs. F. Griffin (vice-chairman), M. McCarthy, T. Y. Hay, C. W. Brown, J. W. Farmer, B. G. Hale, J.P., W. Fellows, R. Blower, A. J. Briers, T. Kelly, with the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson), surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), assistant surveyor (Mr G. F. Hurst), and gasworks manager (Mr J. W. Eagles).

Medical Officer's Report

The medical officer (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported that the urban district continued unusually free from infectious disease, only one case of scarlatina in Hermitage Road, and one of measles in Cademan Street, Whitwick, being notified.

Whitwick Lodgers

The number of persons accommodated at Whitwick lodging houses during the month was stated to be 655, against 653 last month and 603 in August last year. The lodging houses had been inspected and found satisfactory.

Broom Leys as a Soldier's Hospital

The clerk read a reply from the public auditor, Mr Weigall, stating that there would be no objection on legal grounds to the Council allowing free water and gas to Broom Leys – It was in respect of an enquiry as to whether the Council would allow this in the event of Broom Leys being used for wounded or convalescent soldiers.

Mr Farmer said that as chairman of the Gas Committee he would like to give them a few figures before they came to any decision. Two years

ago it cost the Gas Committee £30 a year. In May last the returns from the gas works were down £33 a month, June £88 and July £65. He was no pessimist and he had no doubt they would go on alright, but he thought it only right to mention that. The chairman said the figures quoted as to the previous cost at Broom Leys covered a period when there was a great deal of extravagance, and they might have been considerably reduced. Mr Farmer said the gas works manager had estimated the cost in regard to this application at £50 a year.

Mr McCarthy said he agreed that they should be cautious. He would like the resolution passed previously to be read. Mr Blower pointed out that the Daylight Saving had no doubt largely accounted for less revenue. Then with a crowd of people like they had at Broom Leys, everybody would realise that it was not an easy matter to deal with. They did not understand the language and conditions and allowances had to be made. If a body of Englishmen were got together under similar circumstances he did not know that they would be any better.

The chairman said the regulations were not kept. After the caretaker had turned the lights out on occasions they were lighted again. The clerk then read a minute called for by Mr McCarthy. It was to the effect that for two years the Belgians were in occupation and the gas consumed was 133,000 cubic feet and 150,200 cubic feet, while for the quarter ending March the consumption was 57,100 cubic feet. The Council considered that as very excessive and decided on a free allowance of 50,000 cubic feet per annum from April 1st, all over that to be paid for.

Mr Blower asked what was the normal consumption at Broom Leys when used as a private residence. Mr Eagles replied that in round figures it was £25 a year. If it was now to be used as a hospital, gas would be burning at nights and they would probably require cooking stoves. He considered it would amount to £50 per annum.

Mr Brown asked whether other hospitals had similar conditions as they were asked to gauge. Mr Eagles said he had consulted a few other managers and they had not been asked to do it. The chairman said these hospitals were allowed a certain grant from the Government and this had to be supplemented by subscriptions.

Mr Fellows moved that the Council offer to supply 100,000 cubic feet of gas per annum free. Mr Griffin seconded and it was carried. It was also unanimously agreed to allow a free water supply. Mr McCarthy moved a vote of thanks to the Whitwick Colliery Co. directors for offering this fine

residence to the Government for the use of wounded soldiers and for having allowed it to be used by the Belgian refugees. The Council were the public body of this district and should recognise acts of that sort. Mr Griffin seconded and it was carried.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

“The Golden Pavement” at the beginning of the week here was a real good Hepworth, in four reels. – “Pimple, poor but Dishonest”, a good one, with many others. – There have been the usual good audiences. For the week-end “Forgive us our Sins” is a fine drama. Marguerite and Irene live in a peaceful country home with their blind mother. Everything goes well until Irene falls in love, and elopes with, George, a gay young visitor to the village. Arriving in the city, they begin a gay life, but as usual, this sort of thing doesn’t last forever, and a day comes when the end of their resources is reached. Marguerite meanwhile marries Dr. Stanley. This gentleman, however, plays a double game which eventually leads to tragedy. In the end, however, husband and wife pledge themselves to begin a new life. – Others are good. – See advertisement for next week’s list, another excellent one.

Friday September 15th 1916 (Issue 1280)

Local News

Mr Robert Sharp’s Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged 2,718.

Subscriptions to the fund: Constitutional Club (Coalville) company 9s; Liberal Club (Coalville) company 6s 1 ½ d; Liberal Club (Whitwick) company 4s 2d; 2/6 Mr John Atkins; 1s each, Messrs. T. Bourne, J. Boam, H. Springthorpe, F. Blow, and “A.J.B.”; 6d, Mrs J. Eagles. Eggs: 12, Mrs F. Popple and Mr R. Sharp; 9, Mrs T. Hull; 5, Mrs Botham.

Club Dinner

The annual dinner of the 5s sick and dividend club held at the Railway Hotel took place on Saturday afternoon, when Mr and Mrs T. Kelly excellently catered for a company of about 50. The dividend of 6/3 per member was paid out. A pleasant evening was spent under the

presidency of Mr T. Saddington, of Coalville, songs being contributed by Messrs. B. Johnson, J. Kelly, P. O'Mara, C. Haywood and others. Mr G. H. Hallam, of Thringstone, being pianist. The club was started again, all the old members re-joining and 14 new ones.

Do You Know That

There will be a "Quiet Afternoon" in the Whitwick Parish Church tomorrow?

Coalville Police Court

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr W. Lindley, and Mr John Wootton.

Ejectment Orders

Application was made by Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, for leave to proceed for ejectment orders and the recovery of cottages occupied by Charles Moore, marine store dealer, Whitwick, Wm. Upton, collier, Whitwick, and David Moreton, collier, Heather.

In the case of Moreton, Mr Sharp said the rent was only 2/6 a week, and the arrears were 28/-. The owner (Mr Ford), had allowed him every latitude. The man was a collier in regular work. Defendant said he could not get a house anywhere. An order to give up possession within thirty days were made, defendant to pay 2/6 costs.

The case of Moore was stated to have been settled. In reference to Upton, Mr Sharp said this was another case where the owner could not get the rent, £1 16s 3d being owing, though defendant was getting good money as a collier. This, however, was not the only thing. They were an undesirable tenant, and there were subsequent rows. Ordered to give up possession within thirty days, and to pay 2/6 costs.

A Thringstone Fight

Andrew Moore, of Whitwick, and Robert Hatton, of Thringstone, both colliers, were summoned for violent conduct at Thringstone, on September 4th. They did not appear. P.C. Jones said the men were fighting in the village street. Fined 12/6 each or seven days.

Glad to go to Prison

Emily Barker, of no fixed abode was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on September 7th. Defendant said she was guilty. She had been to the Wake, and was treated. She had had no food for some time and a drop of drink took hold of her. Sergeant Betts said the woman caused a disturbance in Whitwick Market Place, and had to be conveyed to the police station. As she was removed, she remarked that it would be a rest.

Lance-Corporal R. W. Berrington

Lance-Corporal Robert Wm. Berrington, of the Leicestershire Regiment, is another of the men to be honoured by his commanding officer, who in forwarding an intimation that Berrington has been awarded the military medal for gallantry in the field, offers his congratulations. Berrington joined the Army in September, 1914. He was educated at Whitwick National School and attended Whitwick Wesleyan Church, of which his late grandfather, Mr Wm. Berrington, was an esteemed member. He worked at Whitwick Granite Co.'s quarries for about 10 years, but prior to enlisting was employed at Enderby Quarry for about a year. He previously lived with his father, Mr John William Berrington, and grandmother, Mrs Wm. Berrington, at 90, Leicester Road, Whitwick, and has a good number of relatives in the neighbourhood. "Rob", as he was familiarly known locally was one of the most energetic members of the Whitwick Gymnasium, and School of Arms generously built and provided by the Right Hon. Charles Booth, of Gracedieu Manor, for the use of Whitwick and district, and the gymnastic and general training under Sergeant Stone (Seaforth Highlanders) inoculating, as it did, the spirit of discipline and quick decision in time of danger and emergency – in a well-trained mind and body – has borne good fruit on the field of battle, in the fierce struggle for the cause of right and freedom. The gallant soldier's father, it is interesting to note, was formerly in the Leicestershire Yeomanry in which he served for 21 years, retiring with the rank of senior corporal and being the possessor of an long-service medal.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

The pictures here this week are a very fine lot, and have been much enjoyed by the usual appreciative audiences – At the commencement of

the week "The Black Orchid" was the chief film. It was a thrilling story of British garrison life in India. – Others were good, and amongst them the Kineto war man was a good feature. – For the week-end the chief one is "Reincarnation," a fine Thanhouse. The plot is of great interest. A man is being tried for assault and robbery. The judge arrives at the truth through a chance shot, inspired by the vision of a previous existence in which he had tried a similar case, where he discovers that after giving his verdict he condemned an innocent man to death. This does not happen a second time. – Next week's programme includes two excellent 'turns'.

Friday September 22nd 1916 (Issue 1281)

Local News

Quiet Afternoon

On Saturday a quiet afternoon was held at the Whitwick Parish Church in connection with the forthcoming National Mission. There was a devotional service in the afternoon followed by tea and intercession with an address in the evening. The speaker was the Rev. F. C. Payne, M.A., vicar of St. Margaret's, Leicester.

Juvenile Missionary Effort

In connection with the annual effort by the juvenile's for the Missionary Society, special services were held at the Whitwick Wesleyan Church on Sunday last, the Rev. G. C. Main, of Manchester, and formerly of Coalville, being the preacher. There was a children's service in the afternoon. The collection realised £4 12s.

Whitwick Soldier Recovers Speech

Private A. B. Eagles, of the Leicesters, attached to the Essex Regiment, officially reported wounded, is a son of Mr J. W. Eagles, the manager of the Coalville Urban District Council's gasworks at Whitwick. He was struck by shrapnel in several places and as a result lost his speech for a time, but this has now returned, and he is making good progress in Woolwich hospital.

Mr R. Sharp's Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged 2,918 eggs.

Subscriptions: 2s each Mr J. J. Sharp, and a friend; 1s each, Mrs M. Burkitt, Miss E. M. Hunt, Miss A. S. Roulstone, Mrs T. Belcher, Messrs. H. E. Bastard, W. Aris, O. Burton, and G. Wilkins; 8 ½ d Mr J. Homer; 6d each Messrs. J. Greenwood and C. F. Regley.

Eggs: 14 Miss Bell, 9 Mrs Botham, 6 Mrs A. Briers, 10 Mr R. Sharp.

Coalville Tribunal

Exempted Men and Drilling

A meeting of the Coalville Urban Military Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, J.P., B. B. Drewett, B. G. Hale, J.P., C. W. Brown, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr Taylor (for the clerk).

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, represented a Whitwick painter and decorator, in an appeal for his son, aged 31, and married. He said the business had been in the family for over 100 years, and applicant now depended on his son for carrying it on. Two months allowed.

A Whitwick man, aged 29, married, who carries on a boot-repairing business at Bagworth, was allowed one month for medical examination. The following recommendations by the Advisory Committee were agreed to: Four months for a Coalville Co-Operative Society's motor driver, aged 30; conditional exemption for a motor driver, of Ellistown, aged 39; three months, for medical examination, for a Whitwick farm labourer, aged 38, the man having seven children; conditional exemption for a Bardon Hill cowman and shepherd, aged 27 and married; and four months for a Hugglescote man employed by the Co-Operative Society as a warehouseman.

It was stated that thirty letters had been received from men as to why they could not attend the drills of the Volunteer Training Corps and asking to be excused. Mr McCarthy suggested a special meeting to go through these because the circular sent out was most pre-emptory and domineering.

The clerk: *It was read out and you agreed to it.*

Mr McCarthy: *I don't remember. It looks bad now.*

Mr Blower: *It was read out, and you all agreed.*

The clerk: *I purposely did not send it until it had been approved by the Tribunal.*

Mr McCarthy: *It looks stronger now than it did then.*

Mr Blower said not a word had been altered or added. Mr Lockwood thought it not of significant importance to call a special meeting. The letters could be dealt with at the next meeting of the Tribunal. Mr Drewett said thirty letters took some going through.

The chairman: *We have asked them to give reasons if they can't drill, and we should consider those reasons.*

Mr Lockwood: *You can't make them go.*

The clerk: *If the reasons are not satisfactory you can withdraw the exemption.*

Mr McCarthy said a man working 12 to 14 hours a day could not be expected to drill. It was decided to consider the letters at a special meeting next Wednesday.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

"The Valkyrie" was a drama a little out of the ordinary run, at the commencement of the week, and was much enjoyed. – Others were good. – Those excellent comedians, Mark and Note, are also paying a welcome return visit, and they are having a good reception. – The comedy duo, Reely and Rieland, are appearing in a vocal, patter, and dancing act, and are very good. – The above two 'turns' must be seen during the week-end. – The 'star' picture is "The Long Arm of the Secret Service," a fine Thanhouser. There is plenty that will interest patrons in this production and it should be seen, along with other splendid films. – Next week, the theatre will be closed for cleaning, but will open again on October 2nd with something extra good.

Do You Know That

A committee has been formed to arrange an effort at the Whitwick Gymnasium for Whitwick soldiers?

Friday September 29th 1916 (Issue 1282)

Local News

Primitive Methodists in the Coalville circuit and other friends will be interested to know that on Friday, Mrs Newbury, of Whitwick, received a letter from her son, Private H. T. Newbury, of the Leicestershire Regiment, now in Mesopotamia, stating that he was well. He says it is terribly hot out there, and perspiration rolled off him as he was writing that letter, but he was pleased to say that his health continued good. Before the war, Private Newbury was a clerk at Messrs. Burgess and Son's elastic web factory, Coalville, and was a local preacher on the P.M. plan.

Baptist Church

Harvest thanksgiving services were held at the Whitwick Baptist Church on Sunday, Mr J. Lucas, of Leicester, being the preacher afternoon and evening. There were good congregations. At the evening service Miss Wheeldon sang a solo, Mrs O. Geary being the organist. The church was nicely decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables, and these were sold on Monday evening, following a public tea, which was well attended. A good sum was realised for the chapel funds.

P.M. Harvest Festival

On Sunday, Whitwick Primitive Methodist held their harvest festival, when the services were well attended, and the Rev. W. Hughes, of Leicester, preached morning and evening to good congregations. He also gave an address at a young people's service in the afternoon which was presided over by Mr L. Shilliam, and at which there were solos by Miss Maud Wheeldon, and recitations by Miss Walker, of Shepshed. A tea was held on Monday, followed by a sale of produce of which there was a splendid collection, and the proceeds of the effort were in advance of last year.

Accident

An accident happened on Whitwick railway station on Saturday afternoon to Miss Rowse, of Swannington. She arrived by a train from Loughborough, and in alighting, slipped and fell heavily onto the platform. She was rendered unconscious and was taken home. Happily, she has recovered from the effects of her mishap. On Wednesday, her aged father, Mr George Rowse was gathering apples when a bough gave way letting him fall some distance, and he was badly shaken and bruised.

Children Neglected at Whitwick

*Lazy Man Gets Three Months' Hard Labour
Fond of Lying in Bed*

At the Coalville Police Court, before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), and other justices, on Friday, George Prickett, labourer, of Whitwick, was summoned by Wm. H. Fitzsimmons, inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., Loughborough, for cruelty to children at Whitwick, on September 14th. He pleaded not guilty.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared to prosecute for the Society and said the trouble was that the man would not work. The offence was aggravated by the fact that defendant had suggested to his wife that she should get money by sacrificing her honour. Beatrice Ada Prickett, defendant's wife, said she was married in August 1913, and lived at St. Mary's Terrace, Whitwick. Since April, her husband had worked a week or two at the Whitwick Colliery, three days at Stableford's, a week at Coleorton Colliery, and seven or eight days hay-making. She seldom had more than 5s from the defendant. The neighbours gave her bits for the children and she had been helped by her mother. They had often been without food. Her husband was not ill, though he had been medically rejected for the Army. He was 34 years of age. When she called him up to go to work he would not get up. He had stopped in bed for three days at a time, and had not even got up to wash himself. For two months, she never had a hot meal, and they had lived on dry bread and sugar, and what was given them. When she had complained to her husband about having no money, defendant had told her he should not work, and told her to go on the streets. The two children had often cried for food.

Inspector Fitzsimmons said he visited defendant's house on September 1st, and saw the two children. They were quite clean and the house was clean. The children looked thin and delicate. There was nothing in the house, and witness got them food. He arranged for it to be obtained in small quantities as the wife said that if a lot of food was sent in at one time defendant would eat it. Witness called again on the 4th inst. at 9.45 and found them all in bed. Defendant's wife said they stayed in bed to keep warm as there was no fire. Witness stayed till defendant got up and he promised to go to work, witness telling him there would be serious consequences if he did not provide for his children. Defendant started at Stableford's the next morning, but when witness called on the 14th inst. he was in bed and made some excuse for not being at work. The man admitted that he was discharged from only one place. It was a case of absolute laziness.

Defendant said sometimes he felt well, and other days he could hardly crawl about. He was at work now at Stableford's and had worked overtime this week. He was willing to do what he could and provide for his wife and children. He thought he could manage the job he was at now. He was willing to submit himself to the examination of a doctor, if the Bench doubted him.

P.S. Betts stated that within the last two years defendant had received £40, £25 when his father died and £15 when his mother died. Defendant said he bought the home with that. Defendant's wife, recalled, said that when her husband had this money, he did not go to work till it had gone. He was sent to prison for three months with hard labour, and on the application of Mr Sharp, the Bench remitted the Society's costs.

Whitwick Man's Journey to India

An Interesting Diary

Private L. Robinson, of the Lincolnshire Regiment, formerly of 80, Cademan Street, Whitwick, writing from Calcutta, gives an interesting account of his journey to India just before last Christmas. He says he receives a "Coalville Times" every week, and passes it on to his Whitwick and Coalville pals. They have had some right royal times since being out there, and also some hardships, but they keep smiling. He keeps a diary of the voyage, as follows:-

Thursday, November 25th, 1915. We entrained at _____ Station at night, and had a hearty send-off by the people of that town. En route we

had the misfortune to lose one of our comrades, who fell out of the train and was killed. We had refreshments given to us by the Mayor and people of _____ which were greatly appreciated by us, arriving at _____ about mid-day.

Friday, November 26th. We embarked on a troopship, and set sail about 7.30 pm, escorted by destroyers.

Saturday, November 27th. We parted from our escort and encountered a rough swell, which proved too much for several of our comrades, and the remainder of the day was occupied in getting settled down.

Sunday, November 28th. There was still a heavy swell. Divine service took place, and the ship's usual routine occupied the remainder of the day.

Monday, November 29th. It was still cold, and the sea choppy, increasing towards night, everyone being glad to get into his hammock.

Tuesday, November 30th. Still same routine. Sighted the Portuguese coast about noon, arriving at the Rock of Gibraltar soon after, and were ordered to enter the harbour by a patrol boat for orders; we stopped about an hour and then received orders to proceed to Malta.

Wednesday, December 1st. Brought on warmer weather and we could see the North coast of Africa.

Thursday, December 2nd. The sea was calmer and nothing occurred, only the usual ship's duties and parades, etc.

Friday, December 3rd. We passed the island of Goza, and about noon we sighted Malta. Just before entering Malta, great excitement was caused by the seaman gunner firing two shells at a submarine, which caused it to disappear. Eventually, we anchored in the Grand Harbour, being cheered by the crews of several French men-of-war.

Saturday, December 4th. Everyone astir early, purchasing curios etc., from the Maltese boatmen. Our staff sergeants were allowed to go on shore for a few hours and we passed the remainder of the day watching the various sights in the harbour.

Sunday, December 5th. Was a repetition of Saturday, and we were pleased when we got underway for Port Said.

Monday, December 6th. The sea was very calm, and the sun getting very hot. We passed several shoals of porpoise or sea pigs. We also had the usual parades.

Tuesday, December 7th. Was a repetition of the previous day.

Wednesday, December 8th. Sea very calm, and the sun very pleasant. We sighted a lighthouse about 11.30 pm about 100 miles west of Port Said, and next morning entered a fine deep channel marked out by buoys, passing the statue of De Sesseps (the man who originated the scheme for building the Suez Canal), and anchored about 3 pm, being heartily cheered by the crews of several men-of-war. Immediately on arrival a swarm of natives started to coal, and it was impossible to keep clean.

Thursday, December 9th. Still coaling, and unloading cargo.

Friday, December 10th. Sorry to relate the death of Lance-Corporal Leach, whom we buried in the cemetery at Port Said. We got the welcome news that we were going ashore for an hour or two, and after having a swim, had a look round, we found it a very interesting place and then returned to the boat.

Saturday, December 11th. We set sail again about 3 pm, and passed through several lines of vessels, the crews of which gave us a parting cheer as we went slowly by. It was very interesting going through the Suez Canal. We passed several outposts and encampments and arrived at Bitter Lakes where we anchored till about 9 next morning.

Sunday, December 12th. Arrived at Suez Town, about 10 pm. stayed about an hour and then passed into the Gulf of Suez, being still in sight of land, the sea became rough with a strong head wind, the sun was also very powerful, giving us a taste of what we were to expect. I may as well mention here that there had been no lights allowed on board at night until we left Port Said.

Monday, December 13th. We were having a concert as we entered the Red Sea and passed several vessels homeward bound. The sea was still rough, and most of the troops retired early. Another day nearer our destination.

Tuesday, December 14th. Sea still choppy, and wind strong. Promotions came out causing a little excitement, and congratulations among the lucky ones.

Wednesday, December 15th. A very rough sea, the worst day of our voyage, also very hot, all of us longing for land.

Thursday, December 16th. Sea still rough, nothing unusual occurred.

Friday, December 17th. Sea still rough but we had an interesting concert in which some very promising talent was shown.

Saturday, December 18th. Still windy and sea rough, and we passed more boats. Everyone tired of life on board.

Sunday, December 19th. Divine service, inoculation; rough sea, strong wind.

Monday, December 20th. Usual ship's routine, sea going down, very hot, and strong headwind.

Tuesday, December 21st. Passed several small boats. We got orders to see to our equipment, kits, etc. we were also watching for our first glimpse of India.

Wednesday, December 22nd. We sighted land at last, reached Bombay roadstead about 9 am, and were towed through several docks, and finally tied up having reached India at last. We marched off in parties to the R.A.T.A. rooms where we could purchase refreshments, and also change our English money for Indian, then back to the ship for our kits. We entrained for Calcutta about 7pm and during the night we passed through some very hilly country, and slept aboard the train.

Thursday, December 23rd. Still travelling in the train and passed a very pleasant day viewing the country, which was very flat. Another night in the train, not very comfortable, sixteen in a compartment, as it was very hot in the day and chilly at night.

Friday, December 24th. Christmas Eve, a repetition of yesterday, but not very reasonable.

Saturday, December 25th. Christmas Day and we were all longing for our railway journey to end, but we passed another day in the train. We kept getting a bit of food now and again as best we could. We were three days and three nights travelling from Bombay to Calcutta, a distance of 1,400 miles.

Private G. Haslegrave

Private G. Haslegrave, of the 1st Leicestershire Regiment, enlisted on April 28th, 1915, was in the Big Push, September 15th and was wounded, being shot through the shoulder and right lung, and was placed in hospital in Gloucestershire, Prior to enlisting, he worked at the Ibstock Colliery, and lived at Hermitage Road, and his present address, 52 Silver Street, Whitwick.

Coalville Police Court

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr J. Ward, and Mr B. G. Hale.

Damaging a Wall

Samuel Higgins, Joseph Higgins, and Wilfred Briers, colliers, John Turner, Arthur Cooper, junr., and Bernard Concannon, junr., pit boys, all of Whitwick, were summoned for malicious damage to a wall to the amount of 5/- at Whitwick, on July 9th. Samuel Higgins and Wilfred Briers appeared and pleaded not guilty.

P.C. Grewcock said that in consequence of complaints he was on duty in Holly Hayes Wood in plain clothes on the date named (Sunday afternoon) and saw the defendant pull stones off a wall and throw them into the wood. It was purely mischief, and a lot of damage had been done. Charles Peach estimated the damage at 5/-. He said offenders had been let off before, but prosecutor (Mrs Jesson) was bound to take action to stop the practice.

Defendants were each fined 7/6 and 1/10 each costs, and damage, or 7 days.

Transfer

The licence of the Duke of Newcastle Inn, Whitwick, was temporarily transferred to Jos. Massey from John A. Waterfield.

Unshaded Lights

The following were summoned in respect of unshaded lights in buildings on various dates:

John Garritty, collier, Whitwick, did not appear and Supt. Lockton said it was only fair to say that this was before the warning given at the last court. Chas. Wm. Pegg, special constable, said he was on duty on the night of the raid and saw a bright light from defendant's house in Green Lane. The blind was not down. He knocked for ten minutes, but could waken no one and told neighbours who came out to see that the light was put out, while he went on his round. The light was out when he came back. Fined £3 3s or one month.

Joseph Baker, engine driver, Whitwick, pleaded not guilty. Sergeant Betts said he found the light burning after he had been and cautioned the defendant earlier the same night. P.C. Jelley corroborated.

Defendant said it was a tissue of lies. After giving his version of the affair, he was fined £2 2s or 14 days.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

CLOSED FOR CLEANING AND REDECORATING

Re-Opening, Monday October 2nd, with an extra fine programme.
See Advertisement for full particulars.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Burials

Cooper – At Whitwick, on Saturday. Clara Cooper, aged 39 years, of Silver Street.