

DONINGTON HALL TRAGEDY

HOW ONE OF THE GUARD LOST HIS LIFE

INQUEST AND VERDICT

On Thursday at the Donington Hall internment camp, Mr T. J. Webb, Deputy County Coroner, conducted an inquiry into the circumstance of the death of Private Johnston, one of the guard, who was shot with a revolver on Christmas Day. Lieutenant Colonel Picot (commandant of the camp) and Major Cook represented the military, whilst Supt. Agar, of Loughborough, watched the case for the police.

Private G. W. Marshall stated that he was clearing up in the kitchen after dinner on Xmas Day when he heard Sergeant Driver and the deceased talking about a revolver. Deceased was asking the sergeant to show him some particular part of the weapon. Witness heard the shot, and saw the sergeant run to the assistance of the deceased, who had walked across the room. They were talking together in quite a friendly way. In reply to Lieut.-Colonel Picot witness said all three of them were quite sober. He heard no discussion about shooting. No word was spoken after the shot was fired, and Johnston died in three minutes.

Sergeant Driver, of the Royal Defence Corps, after being warned by the Coroner, said Private Johnston asked him to show him his revolver. He was in the act of doing so when it went off. The deceased and himself were on friendly terms. Witness had not an enemy in the camp so far as he knew. The revolver was given to him on October 2nd last. He believed that at the time it was loaded in three chambers. He had not been taught the use of the weapon. He was not at all sure at the time of the accident whether it was loaded or not. He was not conscious of having pulled the trigger. Witness had been 12 years in the service, and two years at Donington Hall.

Lieut.-Colonel Picot: *Were you not aware of the regulations that forbid the pointing of a rifle or pistol at another man? – I did not point the revolver at him, it was the last thing I should think of doing.*

But you shot the man? – Yes, unfortunately, I did.

Are you not aware that all the staff officers in this camp carry loaded revolvers? – I was not aware of that.

Are you not aware for what purpose this revolver was given to you? – Yes, for use in case of need.

Do you not know of the regulation which forbids non-commissioned officers talking to privates? – Yes, I was aware of that.

Supt. Agar: *Have you never cleaned the revolver since you have had it? – Only on the outside.*

Do you wish the jury to believe that you had carried this revolver since last October and did not know whether or not it was loaded? – I had never used it since it was given to me, and I was not at all certain when showing it Private Johnston whether it was loaded or not.

Did anybody give you any instructions as to the use of it when it was given to you? – No sir, I have had no instructions whatever.

How many chambers are there in the revolver? – Five, I believe.

An examination of the revolver showed that it had six chambers. Dr. Douglas Bedford, medical officer for the camp said he saw the deceased on Tuesday. There was a small bullet wound under the right clavicle, and no exit wound. Death would be almost immediate.

Lieut.-Colonel Picot stated that Sergt. Driver was a reliable and steady man, and he had been selected for promotion to an important position in connection with the prisoners of the camp. He was well thought of by all

the officers and men. The Coroner, reviewing the evidence, remarked that Sergeant Driver evidently felt his position very acutely.

The jury returned a verdict of "Death by Misadventure".

LIEUT. W. W. ODELL WOUNDED

Second-Lieutenant W. W. Odell, whose name appears in the list of wounded, is the well-known Leicestershire cricketer. He received his commission in the Sherwood Foresters as recently as September last.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

CONCERT AT LEICESTER INFIRMARY

An exceptionally interesting concert for the wounded was given at the Leicester Royal Infirmary on Saturday evening, under the direction of Mr Percy H. Wykes, the contributions including such well-known vocalists as Mr Ben Davies, the famous tenor, and Miss Margaret Balfour. The concert took place in the Oliver Ward, where all the wounded soldiers who were in a fit state to attend the concert were assembled, and there was also a number of visitors. The soldiers showed by their enthusiasm that they were well aware of the exceptional nature of the musical treat provided for them, and it was evident that the artistes were taking a delight in giving of their best for the benefit of the wounded heroes. Mr Ben Davies was suffering from a cold, but nevertheless he was very generous in giving encores, and his singing was marked by his customary artistic judgement and beauty of tone. Miss Margaret Balfour's fine contralto voice was heard at its best in a number of favourite songs, including Elgar's "Land of Hope and Glory" and Sullivan's ever welcome, "Lost Chord." Miss Maud Arnold is a brilliant cellist, and her contributions were greatly appreciated. Mr Charles W. Wade has a baritone voice of fine quality, and uses it with much skill, and his songs were among the most popular items in the programme. Mr J. H. Taylor caused great laughter with his humorous songs at the piano, given in his own inimitable style, and Professor Hamilton's exhibition of "modern magic" mystified and amused the very appreciative audience. Hearty thanks were accorded the contributors for their kindness. The concert concluded with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and God Save the King. Mrs W. Toller and Mr Percy H. Wykes presided at the piano.

HARRY LAUDER'S SON KILLED IN ACTION

Mr Harry Lauder has received news that his son, Captain John Lauder, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, was killed in action on December 29th. Following the announcement of his death a notice was posted at the Shaftsbury Theatre, London, cancelling Monday's matinee. Later, it was stated the performance would be resumed on Thursday night.

Mr Harry Lauder is prostrate with grief. As recently as Friday, a letter was received from Captain Lauder at the Shaftsbury Theatre. Father and son have not met since September. Captain Lauder had been wounded and gassed during his career at the Front.

Page 4

BAGWORTH

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

By the efforts of a local committee, with Mr Joseph Kirk as secretary, and Mr H. Percival as treasurer, 59 Christmas parcels, each of the value of 10/- have been sent to soldiers and sailors belonging to the village. The total receipts amounted to £31 16s 6d.

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Private Wm. Findell, of the South Staffordshire Pioneer Regiment, has written from France expressing thanks for the parcel which he received on Christmas night from the Swannington Committee, and he wishes them a happy and prosperous new year.

A marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between Captain Paul Phillimore, eldest son of the Rev. Arthur Phillimore and Mrs Phillimore, Willesley Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Augusta, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and the Hon. Mrs Tredcroft, Glen Ancrum, Guildford.

A train load of wounded soldiers arrived at the Leicester M. R. Station on Saturday night. There were 300 men, all sitting cases, of which 200 were taken to the Base Hospital, and the remainder to North Evington. Mr J. R. Corah was in charge of the arrangements for moving the men from the train to the hospitals, and cars were kindly lent by Mrs Mantle, Sir M. Levy, Messrs. E. Bentley, F. S. Brice, G. H. Carr, T. G. Charlesworth, J. Gipson Clarke, J. Frisby, J. W. Goddard, J. Latham, W. G. W. Reynolds, and W. H. Russell.

THRINGSTONE

GIFT TO SOLDIERS

The members of the Thringstone House Club, as a result of a Christmas effort, were able to send a gift of a postal order for 4s to each of the 45 soldiers serving from Thringstone village. Many letters of thanks from the recipients have been received.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Sir H. H. Raphael, M.P. for South Derbyshire, who enlisted in the Army as a private, has been promoted to the rank of Colonel?

The loan of deck chairs, easy chairs, and occasional tables for games, is required at the Broom Leys Hospital?

New Year's Day was marked by the calling up of thousands of men to the colours, exemption certificates having expired with the old year?

Private Hadyn Insley, of the Durham Light Infantry, at home on leave, on Sunday visited the Coalville Men's Adult School, of which he is a member, and gave a short address?

As a result of the recent Fanciers' Show at Coalville, 42 eggs were sent to the National Egg Collection for Wounded Soldiers, and a profit of £14 to the £15 was realised on behalf of the Y.M.C.A.'s war work?

Mrs W. Moss, of The Grove, Swannington, the leader of the Women's V.A.D. movement at Coalville, has been appointed as honorary housekeeper at the War Hospital, Broom Leys, Coalville?

LETTER FROM LANCE-CORPORAL PETER HART

The following is the copy of a letter received by the Rev. Father Degen, St. Saviour's, Coalville.

Dear Rev. Father – I am just thinking what Coalville will be like this Christmas. Many more Coalville lads, who are fighting in the service of their country, will no doubt also be returning their thoughts to their native town. I am writing to wish you and all the congregation, and especially Mr and Mrs Hunt and the members of the recreation class of St. Francis de Sales, a Happy Christmas. In a crisis such as we are passing through now, it seems unnatural to be sending the usual Christmas wish and greeting. All the same, all of us, who are away, want our people at home to forget the war for one day of the year at least, and no more suitable day could be chosen than Christmas.

Whilst in Mesopotamia, after Ted Hunt's death, I was down with enteric fever, and was shipped to Bombay in India. This is a fine city, full of magnificent buildings. I am much better now and have been transferred to a convalescent home at Wellington (India). I expect soon to be re-joining my regiment and to be in the thick of the big events that are coming off in 1917. I was glad to read in the "Coalville Times" about the shrine and roll of honour which you have put up outside the church. Asking a remembrance in your prayers and those of

the congregation and hoping to be back in Coalville by next Christmas, when, if not before, we shall (please God) have peace rejoicings. I remain, yours affectionately.

Peter Hart
E. Convalescent Depot, Wellington, Bombay, India.
December 3rd, 1916.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. B. B. Drewett, A. Lockwood, B. G. Hale, M. McCarthy, A. J. Briers, and C. W. Brown, with Mr R. Blower (military secretary), Captain W. E. Stevenson (recruiting officer), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Two months were allowed a Coalville watchmaker and jeweller passed for general service.

A Coalville baker said he was willing to close his business at the end of the month, and take up work of national importance if the Tribunal would allow him that time. This was agreed to.

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, represented a Greenhill farmer, in respect of an appeal by the military against the exemption of his man, aged 23, and single, passed B1. Mr McCarthy said it had been laid down by the President of the Board of Agriculture that no more men were to be taken from the land at present, and meetings were being held all over the country to encourage greater food production. Mr Blower said men would only be taken where substituted. The cases of all single men with conditional exemption were being reviewed. The case was recommended for substitution.

A bread deliverer in the employ of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, who applied on domestic grounds, and whose case was adjourned for him to produce a medical certificate of his wife's illness, wrote that his wife was now better and he had decided to join the Colours. He was learning a female his daily round. The appeal was dismissed.

A Hugglescote butcher, aged 35, whose case had been adjourned for medical examination, stated that he had been passed C3. Answering questions, he said he was willing to give any help he could in his country's interest. He would even assist the Co-Operative Society, his greatest competitors, if the Tribunal wished. Conditional exemption was allowed on two days a week being given to work of national importance.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, appealed on behalf of a Coalville factory manager, aged 31, the only man of military age in the Company's employment, and who had been passed for general service. One month allowed, or until substituted.

A Whitwick butcher, aged 38, married, with 4 children, in his appeal, stated that he had had the business about 12 years. He had not been medically examined. Answering questions, he said he would be willing to devote some time to other work of national importance. The case was adjourned for 14 days for medical examination.

A puncher and shearer at Stableford's applied on domestic grounds. He said he was 40 years of age, and had worked for the firm for 27 years. He had five children all under 12 years of age. He had passed B1. Mr Blower said this was one of the "combed out" cases, but there was nothing to prevent the man appealing on domestic grounds if he liked. The man said he would soon be 41 years of age, and his wife was in delicate health. He thought his case deserved consideration. Mr Brown said they used to hear a lot about single men first. In the shuffling that was going on, he thought this man might replace a single man. Two months allowed.

A Coalville licensed victualler, aged 39, who also works as a shearer at Stableford's in an appeal for further exemption said he had a wife in delicate health, and three children dependent upon him. His medical category was B1. Two months allowed.

A farm labourer, aged 39, and married, with seven children, applied on domestic grounds. He said he was employed by the Whitwick Colliery Co., having had to leave the mine owing to ill-health. The case was adjourned for a month for medical examination.

Another of Messrs. Stableford's shearers, aged 28, single, and passed for general service, appealing for exemption, said he was the main support of his parents, his father being 74, and his mother 69, and he also made a substantial weekly contribution to the support of an invalid brother who had four children. The Advisory Committee did not assent. Mr Blower said he ought to explain that the Advisory Committee thought that every credit was due to this young man for the way he was helping his parents and brother, but on principle, they felt they could not recommend exemption to so young a man passed for general service. One month was allowed.

A Battleflat farmer appealed for his son, aged 31, single, passed B2, the only man on 58 acres. Allowed till March 31st, or till substituted.

An Ellistown ironmonger and furnisher, aged 33 and married, passed C2, whose brother, a former partner, is serving in France, was allowed three months. In the course of his application, he said he had ten acres of land.

The Chairman: *Is it sown with wheat?*

Applicant: *No, it's grass.*

Mr McCarthy: *Plough it up and get some oats in.*

A boiler fireman at Stableford's, aged 31, married, with four children, appealed for exemption, and in reply to the clerk, said he had been passed for general service. One month allowed. It was stated that a substitute was being obtained.

A Hugglescote insurance agent working in the daytime at Stableford's wrote asking to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. – He was ordered to put in one drill a week.

A Coalville chemist's assistant made a similar application on medical grounds, and pressure of business. A doctor's certificate as to an injured knee was sent. Excused for 14 days.

The question of altering the night of meeting was discussed, it having been intimated that Wednesday was not suitable to Mr German, the military representative, now that the train service had been altered, and he would have to resign unless a more convenient time was chosen. The clerk said this was brought to the notice of Colonel Thorold, who was anxious to retain the services of Mr German, if possible. Mr Drewett said they would be sorry if Mr German did resign, as he had always discharged the duties with great courtesy and ability. (Hear, hear). In the discussion, it transpired that Wednesday was the night most suitable to the majority of the members, and eventually the matter was adjourned for a week.

Page 6

HUGGLESCOTE

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

With the object of providing funds to send parcels to Hugglescote soldiers, of whom there are about 300, a whist drive and dance were held in the Church Schools, on New Year's night, and 200 people being present. The M.C.'s for the dance were Messrs. D. S. Moore and T. Hatter, and for whist, Messrs. E. Darby, T. Shaw and F. J. Wainwright. The winners respectively were: Miss Bird and Mrs Willn, and Messrs. Saunders and W. Cooper. A duck, given by Mr W. Lander, was won by Master George Dean, and realised 25/- for the funds. Messrs. F. Garside and J. H. Dean shared the duties of pianists and a ladies' committee had charge of refreshments.

ASHBY

INFANT'S DEATH

At the Town Hall, Ashby, on Tuesday, Mr Webb, Deputy-Coroner for the district held an enquiry touching the death of Nellie Mary Elizabeth Taylor, aged 31 days, who died at Ashby on December 29th. The mother said she was the wife of Alfred Albert Taylor, of Normanton, and her husband was now a soldier on active service. The deceased was a delicate child. On December 21st, witness came from Normanton to Ashby on

a visit to her mother. On December 28th witness and the baby went to bed as usual, but at 6.45 the next morning she found the baby dead. Dr. Orchard, of Ashby, was of the opinion that death was due to convulsions, accelerated by premature birth, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

HUGGLESCOTE COLLIER LOSES BOTH SONS

LANCE-CORPORAL H. C. ELKIN



Mr and Mrs Herbert Charles Elkin, of 148, North Street, Hugglescote, have received a notification that the Army Council are regretfully constrained to conclude that their son, Lance-Corporal Herbert Charles Elkin, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died on September 25th, 1915, or since. On this date, after the battle of Loos, he was reported as missing, and his parents have heard nothing more of him since, until they received the Army Council's letter a few days ago. Sympathy with them in their loss is expressed.

Lance-Corporal H. C. Elkin was 21 years of age last December, and joined the Army soon after the outbreak of war, prior to which he worked at the Ibstock Colliery. His father is also a miner, employed at the Whitwick Colliery, and has now lost his only two sons in the war. The other, Private Amos Elkin, of the Grenadier Guards, was killed in action on January 30th, 1916.

LOCAL NEWS

PATRIOTIC WHIST DRIVE

A whist drive organised by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild in aid of their funds took place at the Christ Church Schools on Wednesday evening, and was attended by about 200 players. Messrs. S. Goddard, W. Eames, H. R. Brown, J. W. Farmer, S. W. Brown, R. J. Brown, and A. L. Bertenshaw, acted as M.C.'s. Eight handsome prizes had been given by various residents, and the winners respectively were Miss Hosking, Mrs Hagger, Mrs Green and Mrs Cooper; Messrs. W. V. Scott, the Rev. E. M. Evans, H. Freer and G. Walters. A number of men in khaki were present, and also two who have received their discharge from the army, and these lined up at the presentation of prizes, which was made by Company-Sergeant Major P. Stabler (formerly manager of Worthington Stores) who is now at home on sick leave after being nine months at the Front. He and the Tommies in France always regarded the Coalville boys as a lucky lot in getting such nice parcels from the ladies and gentlemen of the district. He assured the members of the Guild that their efforts were greatly appreciated by the men on service and he would like to propose a hearty vote of thanks to them. This was seconded by Corporal Jones, and carried with acclamation. Mr J. W. Farmer said it was the first time they had had a lot of men in khaki at a whist drive and he called for three cheers for them, and this was heartily responded to. A handsome box of chocolate was given by Mr J. R. Tebett, was won by Miss Hosking, the lucky number being 177, and the sale of 2d tickets for this realised £1 13s 6d for the funds. A cake, given by Mr P. F. Deacon, realised 10/10 in penny tickets and was won by Mr Garratt, who guessed the correct weight. After the whist drive, there was a little dancing. In the hands of a number of ladies, the catering was excellent.

T. W. GRAY,
Tailor and Outfitter,
Hotel Street, Coalville,
Begs to announce that having been called to the Colours,
he will have to **CLOSE** the Tailoring Dept. of
his for the duration of the War.
The Outfitting
Will be carried on as usual and he confidently appeals for a Share of the Public Patronage
to keep the home fires burning during his absence. He takes this opportunity to thank all his
clients for their support.
Good Selection of RAINCOATS, SOFT and HARD FELT HATS, SHIRTS, COLLARS,
TIES, GLOVES, etc., in Stock.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

AN ABSENTEE

Driver Henry Ernest Cope, was charged with being an absentee from the Royal Engineers, which he admitted. P.C. Howkins said he arrested the man at Chilcote. His proper name was Coulton, but he enlisted in the name of Cope. He was remanded to await a military escort.

MARKET BOSWORTH SOLDIER KILLED

Private John Howard Allcoat, of the Leicestershire Regiment, the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Allcoat, of Market Bosworth, was shot dead by a German sniper on November 16th. He and his brother, Private W. N. Allcoat, had been fighting side by side with the Leicesters in France and Belgium for the last 18 months. Twenty-two years of age, he was of magnificent physique, standing over 6ft 2in, and was invited on enlisting to join the Life Guards, but refused, saying, "*Where my brother goes, I go, and where he fights, I fight.*" The two were together when John was shot dead. Captain T. C. Howitt, of the Leicesters, writing to the bereaved parents, says that the deceased was admired by all the officers and comrades. He did excellent work in the company, and one could not possibly count the number of Germans he had accounted for. It was a great shock to his brother, but he stood it finely. Private N. W. Allcoat, deceased's brother, is mentioned in a number of letters Mr and Mrs Allcoat have received from officers. He helped carry his brother's body to the mortuary, and then

went back to his sniping-post, and after waiting and watching for some hours, shot the German who killed his brother, thus avenging his death.

HINCKLEY SURVEYOR HONOURED

Captain Edwin H. Crump, Royal Engineers, surveyor and water engineer to the Hinckley Urban Council, is amongst the officers named in Sir D. Haig's despatch for gallantry on the Somme. Honoured by the King with a commission in the Royal Engineers for service abroad in September, 1915, he went to the Front almost immediately and has proved a most popular officer.

Page 3

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

COLLIER "WHO OUGHT TO BE IN THE MUSEUM"

EFFECT OF CIGARETTE SMOKING ON RECRUITING

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Market Bosworth Rural District was held in the old Board room at Bosworth on Tuesday afternoon. Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presided, and there were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques, G. M. Arnold, W. Towers, Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representative), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

The clerk said there were 129 cases of which 60 had been assented to by the Advisory Committee.

A Wellsborough farmer, appealing for his horseman, aged 22 and single, said his waggoner had left to go on munitions. His tenancy expired on March 25th and he only asked for exemption until then. The chairman said he understood that men were not to be taken off the land yet. Mr Kirkman read a notice from the Board of Agriculture supporting this. The clerk said that did not affect the Tribunal. Mr Blower said they could take the men if substitutes were found. The clerk said the case of the waggoner was coming before the Tribunal that day and he said that applicant gave him notice. Applicant alleged that the waggoner gave him notice. The waggoner, now employed by a Shenton farmer, stated that the Wellsborough farmer's wife gave him notice to leave. He was allowed till June 30th and the Wellsborough appeal was dismissed.

An Ellistown farmer was allowed till January 31st, or till substituted, for his son, aged 18. He said this was the only man he had used to horses and he was working from 5am till 8pm every day, Sundays included. His farm was 151 acres.

In the case of a Ratby farmer's appeal for his man, aged 28 and married, it was stated that the Substitution Committee had visited the farm and reported that the man was indispensable. Allowed till June 30th.

Similar exemption was granted to the son of a Groby farmer, aged 19, passed C2.

A Bagworth farmer, who said he had also taken the Tooley Park Farm, Peckleton, making about 800 acres altogether, was allowed till June 30th for his cowman, aged 32 and married.

A Newbold Verdon farmer appealing for his son, aged 18, said he farmed 217 acres, and he only had his son and one other man. He had had two horses standing since last harvest time, when he had two soldiers.

The clerk: *Suppose they sent you two German prisoners.*

Applicant: *I should not mind so long as I got somebody.*

The Tribunal allowed till January 31st or till substituted. The clerk said that if the youth was passed in a low category by the medical authorities, applicant might retain him.

Applicant: *Oh, he is strong enough. He will pass alright* (laughter).

Mr Eggington: *We don't often hear them say that.*

Two Nailstone farmers in partnership, were allowed till June 30th, for a waggoner and cowman, said to be only 17, and similar exemption was granted to a Market Bosworth farmer, aged 32, and single, one of two brothers on a farm which, it was stated, was being excellently worked.

A collier, employed at a colliery in the Polesworth district appealed on domestic grounds. He said he was 34 years of age and married. His three brothers joined the army and one had been killed and another wounded. He was the only one left to help support his parents. Answering questions, he said he went to the colliery on June 8th last. He was formerly groom at Grendon Hall, but gave that up through ill-health, thinking the mine would suit him better. He had been passed for general service. The appeal was dismissed.

The military representatives asked for a review of the case of the head kennelman of the Atherstone Hunt kennels, Witherley, who had been exempted till March 19th, contending that it was not in the national interest that he should be so employed. The huntsman, representing Mrs Inge, the hunt mistress, said the latter did not really contest the case if she could retain him till his exemption expired. He was indispensable during the hunting season. The man was 39 years of age, married with one child, and had been passed for general service. A member remarked that the needs of the army were more important than fox-hunting. Major Wollaston said he would be satisfied if the exemption to March 19th were made final. It transpired that another hunt servant, passed B1, whose appeal was dismissed six months ago was still at the kennels. The huntsman said this man was called up but was sent back the next day. Mr Blower said B1 and B2 men were now being called up again. It was decided to make March 19th final.

A Shackerstone firm of wheelwright's were allowed till June 30th for two of their men both passed C1, and a similar period was granted to a Desford smallholder, who said he owned two cows, four goats, one horse, three sows, and six store pigs; also to a Desford grocer and provision dealer, aged 40 and married.

In the application of an Ibstock boot and shoe repairer, it transpired the man had given no particulars. Asked why he had not done so, he replied that he did not understand it. He was 36 years of age. Allowed till June 30th.

The case of a Ratby hosiery manufacturer was adjourned for medical examination.

Application was made by a Ratby carrier, coal dealer, brake proprietor and public scavenger, aged 36. He said he was a very busy man and if he had to go it would mean a loss to the parish. He did the work himself with the assistance of a collier.

A member (surprised): *Can you get a collier to work for you when he comes from the pit?*

Applicant: Yes.

The member: *Then that collier ought to be in the museum* (laughter).

Another member: *Oh, there are some who will work after they leave the pit.*

Exemption till June 30th was allowed.

A Barlestone farmer of 50 acres appealing for his son, aged 25, admitted in reply to the Tribunal that he had other sons working at the pit, but they knew that colliers would not work on the land after they left the pit.

The chairman: *I think it a scandalous thing that a man, because he is a collier, will not help his father on the land. The sooner it is brought home to them the better.*

The clerk said there had been more talk about this case than any other. The appeal was dismissed.

The case of an Ibstock builder, aged 35 and married, was adjourned for a fortnight for medical examination.

Till June 30th was allowed to a Twycross smallholder, aged 37 and married, who said he was putting in six days a week for a miller.

A farmer of Barlestone appealed for his two sons, aged 21, a shepherd, and the other, 25, a waggoner and ploughman. They were the only two on the farm of 151 acres. The father was asked whether he would accept German prisoners to work for him.

Applicant: *I would not have a German on the ground at any price.*

A member: *I would and I would make them earn their money.*

Allowed till June 30th for the shepherd and March 31st for the waggoner.

A Newbold Verdon carrier was allowed till June 30th, and a cycle repairer, also of Newbold Verdon, was told to get medically examined within 14 days.

Till March 31st was allowed the sons of a Nailstone farmer, and a Bagworth farmer, both aged 29, who work on the farms.

A Markfield builder, contractor, and publican, was allowed till June 30th, as was an Odstone farm foreman and shepherd, aged 21, passed B1, and a Witherley shoeing and agricultural smith, passed C2.

An Ibstock licensed victualler, carpenter and grazier, was allowed till March 31st, on giving three days a week to work of national importance.

An Ibstock grocer, general dealer and newsagent, aged 38, married, with four children, who had been passed C2, was allowed till June 30th, on giving two days a week to work of national importance.

A Stapleton blacksmith, aged 21, passed B2, was allowed till June 30th.

Appealing for the manager of the Star Tea shop at Ibstock, a representative of the firm said this was the only man in the Ibstock shop where there were five girls now employed. The man was 36 years of age, and had worked for the firm for 18 years. They were only appealing for shop managers and the places of 20 male employees had been taken by girls. The man was also overlooking the Whitwick branch shop. He had been passed for general service. He was allowed till June 30th.

An application was also made for the manager of Worthington's branch shop at Ibstock, aged 36, and married with three children. He had been passed for general service, but was the only man at the shop. Allowed till June 30th.

A Congerstone farmer, aged 73, appealed for his son, aged 18, a cowman, saying he had 250 acres, and only one other man. Answering a member, he said he made cheese for the workhouse. He used to come there as a Guardian for 20 years. Allowed till March 31st or till substituted.

A Markfield fish and fruit dealer appealing, surprised the members when he said he was only 41, he looked much older, and he was allowed till June 30th.

Similar exemption was allowed the son of a Stanton-under-Bardon farmer, aged 24, and passed C1.

An Ibstock grocer and provision dealer, on his application, said he was 41 last November. He was married and had one child. He was also working as an auxiliary postman. Allowed till June 30th.

During the consideration of another case, it having transpired that a young farm hand had been passed in the B class, Mr Eggington remarked that he was in conversation the other day with an eminent surgeon who told him that so many young men being placed in the B and C classes was the outcome of smoking cigarettes.

A member: *I know men who have smoked excessively on purpose, just before going to be medically examined.*

In the cases of men employed by Ibstock and Thornton farmers, exemption to March 31st, or till substituted was allowed.

Page 4

SHEPSHED URBAN TRIBUNAL

Mr C. Mee presided, and Mr G. E. Bouskell (Leicester) represented the military authorities.

A farm manager, aged 24, married, stated that he had 120 acres, of which 50 were arable, to attend to by himself and a boy, and what casual labour could be obtained. He employed gipsies last summer. If he had to go they would not sow, because they could not reap. He had passed B1. Conditional exemption was given.

A milk retailer, Class A, aged 38, married, was given three months.

The only assistant to the secretary of the Co-Operative Society which has 1,250 members and a turnover of about £48,000 a year, was granted three months. His age is 28, and his claim was supported by the local court A.O.F. which had 596 members in the State section and 354 in the voluntary, of which he was secretary.

COALVILLE SERGEANT MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES



Among the non-commissioned officers mentioned by Sir Douglas Haig in his recent dispatches for distinguished and gallant service and devotion to duty, appears the name of Sergeant F. A. Clarke, of the A.S.C., Divisional Train, France.

Sergeant Clarke was formerly a clerk in the Coalville Urban Council offices, and later at the Coalville Labour Exchange. He is a son of Mr Liberty Clarke, clerk at the Whitwick Colliery, who resides at 80, London Road, Coalville.

Page 5

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

HORSES AT THE WRONG END OF THE PLOUGH

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal in the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, when there were also present Messrs. A. J. Briers, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, M. McCarthy, J. W. Fisher, T. F. Fox, and B. B. Drewett, Mr J. G. German (military representative), Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Mr P. Blower (military secretary) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A Bardon Hill farmer, aged 66, appealing for his son, aged 24, single, and passed for general service, said he was the only man on the farm of 58 acres. He was the ploughman, waggoner and cowman, and worked 13 to 14 hours daily. Applicant was 66 years of age and could do nothing himself owing to ill health. Mr Briers said it was no use talking about producing more food if they kept taking men off the land. Mr McCarthy said the leading men connected with agriculture in the country had said it was insane to keep taking men off the land when more food was wanted. Mr Blower said the man would not be taken unless substituted, and the agricultural representative said it would be like substituting the head man, and would be difficult. Two months were allowed.

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, represented a master plasterer, of Hugglescote, 41, married, with one child, in an appeal for further exemption. He had passed C1. Recommended for substitution.

A lady farmer from the Forest appealed for her farm hand, aged 18, who had been passed B1. He supplied 140 customers on a milk round. Applicant said she had two sons in France. The Tribunal recommended that a substitute be provided.

A Coalville jeweller and clock and watch repairer, aged 41, in his appeal, said he was the only male left in the business, and he had been without practical help for two years. He had charge of the clocks at local schools, collieries and other works.

The chairman: *Do you look after this clock?* – pointing to one in the Council Chamber, which at 6.45 was at 1.45 (laughter).

Applicant: No.

Answering questions, he said his wife could look after sales in the shop, but not the practical part. He went through the South African War. He had passed C3. Mr Briers said they had another similar tradesman of Coalville before them last week, and gave him two months.

It was intimated that the military authorities were appealing against that, the man having been passed for general service. The military representatives, it was stated, took the view in these cases that the work was not of national importance. The Advisory Committee recommended that the applicant undertake work of national importance and the Tribunal confirmed this.

The manager of a grocery firm's Coalville branch shop, aged 37, passed B1, was allowed 14 days.

A Coalville lady pork butcher, who is ill, was represented by Mr C. E. Crane, in an appeal for the manager of her business, aged 34, and married, passed C2. The man did the buying, slaughtering and selling. Mr Crane pointed out the large trade done, and said that in the pork butcher's trade there was nothing wasted.

Mr Lockwood: *Not even the squeak* (laughter)

Mr McCarthy: *We are encouraging pig keeping now.*

The clerk: *This is pig killing.*

Mr McCarthy: *They can't kill them if we don't keep them.*

Two months were allowed on two days a week being given to work of national importance.

A Coalville plumber and painter, represented by Mr Crane, appealing for two plumbers, aged 38 and 40, both passed B1, stated that before the war he employed 30 men and now had only 12. He had more orders than he could attend to, and at Christmas-time refused a month's plumbing work on the Thornton estate for Lady Warwick. Two months were allowed in each case.

The Coalville manager for a Leicester firm of corn and cake merchants, aged 36, and married, was exempted for one month.

A Whitwick farmer, who appealed for his ploughman and waggoner, single, aged 29, and passed for general service, was asked whether he would agree to a substitute, and in reply, said it would have to be a good substitute, one who could plough and not like one he heard of who tackled the horses on to the wrong end of the plough (laughter). He had had a horse standing since August, which had not earned him a penny, because he could not get another man or lad. He would have to give up if the man was taken. The case was recommended for substitution.

Another Whitwick farmer appealed for his waggoner, single, aged 32. *"Has he been medically examined?"* was asked, *"Yes,"* replied the farmer.

Mr McCarthy: *And what is the result.*

Applicant: *Oh, it's too good* (laughter).

Answering further question, he said his own son had been in France some time. He would not wait to be fetched. He had just taught the man how to plough, and it would be a shame if he were taken. *"Can he plough straight?"* asked the chairman. *"Well, not very straight,"* replied the farmer, amidst laughter. The case was recommended for substitution.

A Coalville wholesale grocer and small-ware dealer, aged 40, married, with two children, was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp in an appeal for further exemption. It was stated that he visited eleven parishes' fortnightly taking goods by motor to 200 customers. Answering questions, applicant said he was passed for general service. His brother, over military age, assisted him in the business. Before the war, he had two assistants, but one had joined up. Two months (final) was allowed.

The clerk reported that four cases before the Tribunal at the previous sitting were being appealed against by the military.

A Coalville licensed victualler, who is also working at Stableford's wrote asking to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. He said he was connected with the Derby Police for seven years, and was accustomed to drills. He was fully occupied now. The Tribunal excused him.

It was decided to meet at 7 o'clock in future, instead of 6.30, to meet the convenience of the military representative.

IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE

Of my dear husband, Private Stenson Hardy, who was killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January 13th, 1916.

"A devoted husband, a faithful friend,
One of the best that God could lend;
He bravely answered duty's call,
His life he gave for one and all.
But the unknown grave is the bitterest blow,
None but an aching heart can know.
But as long as life and memory last,
We will remember thee."

Page 6

COMMISSION

Lance-Corporal Gilbert W. Tucker of the K.O.Y.L.I. son of Mr and Mrs Tucker, of Tamworth Road, has been granted a commission, and has joined an Officer's Training Corps. He enlisted in 1914 in the 20th Hussars. His eldest brother is an officer in the Leicesters, and another brother was killed in action.

WAR AGRICULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE

About 40 farmers, thoroughly representative of the district, attended a meeting in the Coalville Council Chamber on Thursday, called for the purpose of forming a War Agricultural Sub-Committee for the Coalville district to act under the County Committee. The local area comprises the Coalville urban district, with the parishes of Ibstock, Bagworth, Thornton, Stanton-under-Bardon, Bardon Hill, Copt Oak, Ravenstone-with-Snibston and Swannington. A total of about 20,000 acres.

Mr M. McCarthy, C.C., of New Swannington, presided, and addressed the farmers on the objects of the meeting, and Mr Prothero's letter to the County Committee were read and discussed, the meeting occupying 2 ½ hours. Mr M. McCarthy was elected chairman of the sub-committee, Mr A. J. Briers (Whitwick) vice-chairman, and Mr T. E. McCarthy (Coalville), hon-sec. A committee was appointed for each parish, and these were supplied with books to record the increase or decrease in 1917, compared with 1916, of the acreage devoted to the growth of wheat, oats, and potatoes. In the course of their enquiries, the committee also have to find out how many acres of grass land on each farm are being ploughed up. The returns have to be tabulated and sent to the County Committee to be embodied in Government statistics. The matter was taken up heartily, and the meeting was a great success.

A VISIT TO BROOM LEYS

COALVILLE'S SPLENDID WAR HOSPITAL

"It is a splendid place, and could not have been better had it been specially built for the purpose." These words of the Matron, spoken to a representative of this paper on a visit on Wednesday, aptly apply to Broom Leys, Coalville, which is now rapidly being transformed into a hospital for the reception of wounded soldiers.

As is well-known locally, Broom Leys is a fine residence standing in its own beautiful grounds, less than 1 mile from the town of Coalville, and on the fringe of Charnwood Forest. It is now the property of the Whitwick Colliery Company, and was formerly owned and occupied for some years by the late Mr H. R. Mansfield,

M.P., for the Spalding Division of Lincolnshire, the original owner, by whom it was built, being the late Mr Whetstone.

Soon after the war broke out, and Belgian refugees were flocking to England, the Whitwick Colliery Co. generously offered the building free of cost to the Belgian Refugee Committee, and for nearly two years, some seventy Belgians were maintained there by the people of Coalville and district. When the building became vacant again a few months ago, the owners again commendably came forward and offered it to the military authorities for use as a V.A.D. Hospital.

The idea was heartily taken up, and at a public meeting in Coalville, a local committee was formed to carry out the equipping of the hospital, with Mr Walter Lindley, J.P., chairman, Mr R. J. Brown, hon. treasurer, and Mr A. L. Bertenshaw, hon. secretary. These gentlemen are to be heartily congratulated on the progress made. It was estimated that one thousand pounds would be required and though this sum has not been reached, the response to the appeal has been very gratifying. Judging by appearances up to the present, the authorities have been very fortunate in their choice of a matron. When Miss Newton arrived from Bicester only a week ago, the place was in a state of chaos, and our visit revealed a wonderful transformation. Several members of the Coalville Women's V.A.D. have rendered valuable assistance, and, under the supervision of the matron, the work of getting the hospital ready is making excellent progress.

The large drawing room on the right hand of the main entrance has been fitted up as a ward for the worst cases, and contains 9 beds. Beside each bed is a locker for each soldier to keep his belongings. It is a cheerful room, with plenty of light, overlooking the lawns. This is the only ward on the ground floor. The room on the opposite side of the entrance hall is to be occupied by the matron, while a smaller one adjoining will be the assistant matron's room. There is a large dining hall which opens into a conservatory, and the latter is to be converted into a recreation room. A corner of the dining room is being fitted up with facilities for the writing of letters.

As 50 soldiers in all are to be accommodated, several of the bedrooms upstairs are set out as small wards, some containing six beds, some less according to the size of the room, while there are one or two single bedrooms for soldiers who may be suffering from shock, and have to be kept quiet. These are all admirably fitted up and have a most comfortable appearance. On a spacious landing which overlooks the park will be arranged lounges and deck chairs for the use of the soldiers and there seems to be no detail which has been overlooked by Miss Newton in her arrangements for the success of the hospital. There is to be a billiard-room fitted with a full-sized table, and a concert room in which a piano is to be installed, and concerts and whist drives will be arranged. Two bathrooms have been fitted up, as well as one for the staff, and the arrangements for the latter in every way leave nothing to be desired. The same may be said of the kitchen and culinary department.

It is interesting to note that this is the third war hospital which has been organised under the supervision of Miss Newton, so that the Coalville committee have the benefit of the services of a lady with considerable experience. The hospital at Bicester was opened with her as the head, while, prior to that she was in France, in charge of a hospital at Dieppe. Her efforts are being well backed up by the hon. assistant matron, Mrs W. Moss, of The Grove, Swannington, the leader of the Women's V.A.D. movement locally, who is unselfishly giving her time to this noble work. There are also in residence two nursing sisters, who, by-the-way, are sisters – and the staff will also include a cook and assistant cook, while the matron is also applying for a laundry maid, by which she hopes to effect a considerable saving. Arrangements have been made with the V.A.D. for two members to take night duty, and three are permanently required for day duty, in regard to which arrangements are not yet quite complete. Dr Hamilton and his assistant will be the medical attendants.

The hospital is to be opened on Saturday, the 20th inst. and the public are on that day to be allowed to make a tour of inspection at a charge of 1/- per person, the proceeds to go to a fund for providing tobacco, cigarettes and games for the patients.

Friday January 19th 1917 (Issue 1298)

Page 1

"EITHER THE NATION OR SOME ONE-MAN BUSINESSES MUST GO"

At Hinckley Tribunal on Tuesday, Captain R. W. Bedingfield, the recruiting officer, speaking of the urgent need for men under 30 years of age, said that either some of the one-man businesses or the nation would have to go to the wall.

The case of a hosiery counterman, who is also secretary of the Hinckley Hosiery Countermen's Union, was raised by the military representative. Mr G. A. Kenny, secretary of the Midland Counties' Federation, said the work was becoming increasingly difficult with the dilution of labour, and recently there had been an in connection with the importation of foreign-made hosiery, which meant shortness of work. There was a good deal of unrest in this connection.

It was stated that the man was the president of the Member's Union (females) with a membership of 515, but Capt. Bedingfield said he did not think the members of the union wanted a man to look after them in these times. It was decided to withdraw the conditional exemption, but to allow temporary exemption for two months' (final).

Page 2

WHITWICK WOMAN'S SEPARATION ALLOWANCE

DRAWN WHILE HER HUSBAND WAS AN ARMY DESERTER

REMARKABLE CASE OF FRAUD

A remarkable case before the Coalville magistrates on Friday was one in which Frances Roberts (36), married, of Whitwick, was charged with obtaining £17 8s by false pretences from H.M. Government, at Whitwick, on divers dates, and Thomas Roberts (36), her husband, a private in a training Reserve Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment, was charged with aiding and abetting.

Mr W. Simpson, of Leicester, appeared for the Director of Public Prosecutions, and stated that the woman had been drawing £1 9s weekly separation allowance while her husband was a deserter from the army. He was discharged from hospital at Glen Parva on October 1st, 1915, and was to have rejoined his regiment at Patrington, but instead of doing so, he went to his home at Whitwick, and stayed there with his wife for eight months, neither working his country, or anyone else, and in the meantime, his wife continued to draw her pay. He (Mr Simpson) was only calling evidence as to payments on twelve specific dates. The Bench might say, proceeded Mr Simpson that the army authorities or someone ought to have found this out sooner, but in dealing with hundreds of thousands of cases, opportunities for mistakes would occur, especially when the machinery for dealing with these cases had been hastily improvised. If the man had been ill he would have had proper hospital treatment, as, indeed he did have before his discharge.

Mary Higgins, of Church Lane, Whitwick, said she was formerly an assistant at Whitwick Post Office, and on many occasions paid the female defendant the sum of £1 9s separation allowance on her producing the Government form, and the defendant gave receipts.

Nellie Harris, Whitwick postmistress, also deposed to making several similar payments to the female defendant for separation allowance and produced the receipts.

Inspector Dobney (Coalville) stated that on September 29th, 1915 the male defendant, having been brought to the Coalville Police Station as an absentee, was seen off by witness at Coalville Station for Glen Parva. In June, 1916, defendant was again charged at the Police Station with being an absentee from October 1st, 1915, and he replied that he had been ill. Witness found three medical certificates on the defendant and asked him why he did not forward them to his commanding officer to which Roberts replied, *"I know better than that."* Witness also asked him whether his wife had been drawing the separation allowance while he had been at home, and defendant replied, *"Yes, I have had a good time."* Witness told him he would have to repay the money, and defendant replied, *"They can't get blood out of a post. I do not mean to do any more*

service." Witness said he knew that the two defendants were living together from October, 1915, till June, 1916, when Roberts was arrested in his own home by Sergeant Betts.

Benjamin Pain, orderly room sergeant of the Leicestershire Regiment at the Glen Parva depot, stated that on September 29th, 1915, Roberts was reported at the military hospital at Glen Parva. He was detained under observation until October 1st, 1915, when he was discharged as fit to travel to join his unit. He stated that he was in possession of a return ticket, Coalville to Patrington, and was supplied by witness with a railway warrant from Wigston to Loughborough to join the train there.

Lieut. N. G. Salmon, of the Leicestershire Regiment, Patrington, said Private Roberts was a deserter from his regiment from October 1st, 1915, till June 9th, 1916, and on June 17th he was tried by district court martial at which witness was present, and sentenced to six months detention. Witness produced documents showing that separation allowance ceased when a soldier was a deserter. The female defendant, on oath, said she did not think she was doing wrong in fetching her pay.

The clerk: *You knew your husband was a deserter?*

Defendant: *Yes, I know he was at home, but he was always ill.*

Further answering the clerk, she said she did not suggest to her husband once that she should write to Wigston about it. He was visited by Dr. Hamilton several times. All the time her husband was at home, she received 29s a week separation allowance, but her husband told her he was still under the Government, and she thought it was alright. She alleged that money had been withheld from her by the Army. From June 15th to July 13th, she did not receive a penny. The clerk said that was after this offence.

Mr Lindley remarked that the defendants had been receiving £1 a week from the Whitwick Colliery Co. In reply to the Bench, Roberts said he had been in the army since 1914. He drew nothing during the eight months he was at home apart from the allowance to his wife. Sergeant Pain, re-called, said no ordinary pay was issued to a man while in hospital, but the separation allowance would go on, and also the soldier's allotment to his wife. At the time defendants had six children.

Roberts said he had seven children now. He had suffered from influenza and shell shock. The chairman (Major Hatchett) said the magistrates considered it a crime against the nation for anyone in these times to take public money to which they know perfectly well they were not entitled.

The defendants were each sentenced to three calendar months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

EXPLOSION AT EARL SHILTON

YOUNG MAN'S HAND SHATTERED

A young man named Lee, who was, until recently, employed by Mr McCartney, Hinckley, had his right hand blown off in an accident at Earl Shilton. His brother had just returned home on leave from the Front, and Lee was examining the contents of the kit bag, when by an accident, a small "amateur" trench bomb exploded, his hand being shattered. After having been treated locally, he was removed to the Leicester Royal Infirmary, where he was detained. The brothers Lee were well-known locally as entertainers, and the injured man was already minus one of his legs.

Page 3

ASHBY BOARD OF GUARDIANS

GERMAN PRISONERS AT THE UNION HOSPITAL

A letter was read from Mr H. W. Joyce, for the War Agricultural Committee, stating that the Committee were desirous of having German prisoners to aid local farmers in cropping their land this season and it was proposed that they should arrive at an early date. There was a difficulty as to housing, however, and the Committee asked whether about 20 prisoners and their guards (about 25 in all) could be accommodated at the Workhouse. The Government provided food and clothing, and all that was wanted was housing and facilities for cooking. The Board would realise that the land would not be cropped fully this season without the farmers having additional labour. The Committee had the offer of prisoners and wanted to make use of

them, with the view of increasing the produce of the land as much as possible. The chairman said it had been suggested that the Board might allow the use of the isolation hospital for the purpose.

Page 4

WOMEN AND AGRICULTURE

In order to relieve the shortage of agricultural labour owing to the war, an effort is being made in the county of Leicestershire to establish a register of women willing to take up this work. The scheme has already been started in some districts and women in every social position have offered their services. A committee has been appointed, on which Lady Beaumont is the representative for Coalville and district. Information as to the duties, rate of pay, tuition, and other particulars, may be obtained from the following registrars with whom persons willing to render help to their country by assisting in this work of national importance should register:-

Coalville and Bardon, Mrs Hale, Bardon Road, Coalville.
Coleorton, Mrs Porter, Coleorton.
Hugglescote, Mrs D. S. Moore, Hugglescote.
Donington-le-Heath, Miss Moseley, Donington-le-Heath.
Osgathorpe, Mrs Peberdy, Osgathorpe.
Ravenstone, Miss Willett, Heather Road, Ravenstone.
Swannington, Miss S. Chester, Springfield, Swannington.
Thringstone, Mrs Towle, Thringstone House Club, Thringstone.
Whitwick, Mrs F. Burton, Whitwick.
Worthington, Mrs S. Knight, Manor House, Worthington.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

MEN IT IS NECESSARY TO CALL UP

C3 MEN FOR THE LAND

The Press Bureau on Tuesday night issued the following notice to farmers:

"The President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has received a communication from the War Office this morning to the effect that it has been found necessary to call up one-half of those men engaged in agriculture to whom the tribunals have refused certificates of exemption from military service.

Arrangements will be made as quickly as possible to place several thousands of Class C3 men at the disposal of the farmers, and the President hopes that in the national interest the farmers will do their best meanwhile to carry on in the very difficult circumstances in which they are placed."

STANTON-UNDER-BARDON SOLDIER KILLED

Private W. J. Orton, of the Coldstream Guards, whose name recently appeared in the official casualty lists as being a Bardon man, was a former resident of Stanton-under-Bardon, and a son of Mr J. Orton of that village. Private Orton enlisted in the Coldstream Guards in October, 1914, and had been on active service in France for 17 months. He was posted as missing on September 15th, 1916, and his parents have now been informed that he was killed in action on that date. He was 20 years of age, and before joining the army, was employed by the Cliff Hill Granite Co., Ltd. and resided with his parents at Stanton-under-Bardon.

CHIT CHAT

In the official casualty lists published on Wednesday, the wounded include the names of Private W. Lock (Ashby), and W. Wills (Hugglescote), of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Private S. Buthaway (Markfield), of the South Staffordshire Regiment.

Last autumn, after expenses of the tea provided for nearly 100 wounded soldiers were paid, the committee at Thornton had a balance in hand of £11 1s 10 ½d. Of this, £7 1s 10 ½ d, (together with £2 9s 6 ½ d, remaining in hand from December, 1915) was spent in providing parcels for the men at present serving in

His Majesty's Forces. The balance of £4 was spent in purchasing two hampers of pork pies, pastry and cakes valued £2 each. One hamper was sent to Gilroes Hospital, and the other to the V.A.D. Hospital, on December 23rd, 1915.

On every hand one hears expressions of quiet satisfaction at the decision to exchange civilian prisoners over forty-five. Our countrymen will have a rousing welcome when they return. I have heard it suggested, writes a correspondent that they should receive an official recognition of public sympathy for all the troubles they have undergone in the form of a certificate or medal. To judge from their letters, however, one gathers that to set foot on English soil again will be sufficient reward. There is some speculation as to the effect which may be produced by the returned Germans when they tell their countrymen of the comfort of the British internment camps. There can be no doubt that many of them will be heartily sorry to find themselves under Prussian rule again. Meanwhile, there is a little apprehension that the enemy may attempt to avoid a fair deal. But official quarters are hopeful that now the exchange has been decided upon it will be achieved without much difficulty. The exact date of the first return cannot, however, be predicted, though there is no reason to expect a lengthy delay.

It is most important that the scheme for the cultivation of waste land should be encouraged by all local authorities, so that applicants for garden allotments may be induced to come forward in large numbers. There is plenty of land available, and there ought to be plenty of people to work it, provided the scheme is properly explained, and organised in every district. Information as to the best method of proceeding ought to be freely disseminated, and it would not be a bad plan if prizes were offered for the best results from small cultivated areas. In the final stages of the war, the food problem may be the deciding factor. Undoubtedly the need for home-grown food will be astute, for this year, and our potato crop is small. But if everybody who can will lend a hand in the production of food, we shall avoid the scandal next winter of potatoes being sold by holders and speculators at £13 a ton.

On the initiative of the Coalville Urban Council, meetings have been held in all the wards, and arrangements made for a house-to-house visitation to urge the cultivation of more land and to ascertain the amount of seed potatoes that will be required. The movement is in connection with a Government scheme for producing more food from the land and it is to be hoped that every householder will enter into the matter heartily and do his utmost to make the scheme a success, since it is one which affects the vital interests not only of the people themselves, but of the whole nation. The progress of events so far has been encouraging. The meetings have been well attended and much enthusiasm displayed.

IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR LOVELL

Fell in action, November, 1916.

*Thy death, dear, o'er-shadowing, lies
Like a dark cloud 'twixt earth and skies
Casting a gloom, o'er
Moments, that once before
Half of the light they wore
Caught from thine eyes.*

*God values most the martyr's doom,
Thy name, dear, hence shall ever bloom,
And every thought of thee,
Now from all sorrows free,
Starlight to us shall be
Piercing the gloom.*

Joseph Degen

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

We were glad to receive a field postcard yesterday from Corporal A. E. Bradshaw stating that he is quite well.

The sum of £24 12s 8d was realised by the whist drive held on January 3rd on behalf of the funds of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild. The committee wish to express their thanks to all persons who so kindly assisted in making the arrangements whereby so good a sum can be given to assist in such a worthy object.

ASHBY

THE MILITARY CROSS

Lieutenant C. O. H. Clarke, R.F.A. (son of Mr W. H. Clarke, formerly of Ashby) has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry. He picked up a bomb, the fuse of which was burning, and carried it to a disused trench, where it immediately exploded. The prompt action of Lieut. Clarke probably saved many lives.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

MEMBER SAYS "THE TRIBUNAL IS TOO KEEN"

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, M. McCarthy, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. F. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr Briers said he would like to say a word before the business commenced.

Mr McCarthy: *Do you wish it to go in the Press?*

Mr Briers: *I don't care if it does.*

Proceeding, Mr Briers said, *"I think we are a bit too keen at this Tribunal. If you look at the papers and see what other Tribunals are doing, you will find that they are giving Class A men as much as six months and they are not men in business for themselves, but who are managing shops for firms. I notice that at Market Bosworth, Class A men were given till June 30th, but at this Tribunal (Coalville) we seem to have the idea, in regard to Class A men, that we have nothing to say, but "go," and I don't think it is right; I don't think it is fair to the men. If a man has a business we have a right to consider it. If it is a Class A man, no matter what his stock, it may be £2,000 or £3,000, we don't take that into consideration at all. Also, I don't think the Appeals Tribunal agrees with what we are doing. There is a hair-dresser from Whitwick – all respect to him, I am glad he has got off – but when he came before us we gave him a month final. He appealed at Leicester, and has got either till the first or the last day in March, I forget which, I think we should be a little more lenient."*

Mr McCarthy said they should study little businesses as well as big ones. Big businesses could better afford it, and could divide their responsibilities better than small business men. He knew that men for the army had to be found, but he thought it was time they stopped sweeping Class A men into the net. If he read alright the instructions of the Local Government Board, who acted under the War Office, it was men under 30 years of age whom the Authorities were anxious to get. The chairman then called for the first case.

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, appeared for a Coalville photographer, aged 38, married, with two children. He said the man was engaged at present taking photographs for the Ministry of Munitions. He was willing to undertake work of national importance, if he could have a little time to devote to his business. He had passed C1. He was allowed one month to finish the work he is on, and then to register at the Labour Exchange for work of national importance. Mr Brown asked what was work of national importance? Did it mean substitution anywhere for a general service man?

Mr Blower: Yes.

The clerk said the Military Authorities exercised reasonable discretion.

Mr Drewett: *Assisted by the Labour Exchange.*

The clerk: *Yes. They would not try to put a square peg in a round hole.*

Mr Crane also applied for a Coalville butcher, aged 33, married, with two children, stating that the business had been established 45 years, and the applicant had had it seven years. He had passed for general service. Allowed one month, as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

A Coalville grocer and off-licence holder, aged 39, married, with two children, was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, in an appeal for further exemption. He had been passed B2. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed one month.

In the case of a Coalville licensed victualler, aged 41, passed C1, a letter was read from the Labour Exchange that the man had been placed as a substitute and was doing work of national importance. Exemption was allowed while he is thus employed.

A Greenhill farmer appealed for his waggoner and general help, a single man, aged 20, on 120 acres. The youth was stated to be deaf and passed for home service only. The young man himself said he had been on the farm for 7 years. He had passed for general service. Exemption was allowed till a substitute is found. The clerk pointed out the discrepancy between the master's statement on the farm that the man was passed for home service, and the man's own statement that he was passed for general service. Mr Briers said the man had been examined twice, with two different results.

The chairman: *I am afraid that is so in some other cases.*

The clerk said that anyone putting down wrong statements on the form ran some risk. The chairman said these were the decisions of two different doctors.

Mr Drewett: *But the result of the last examination should be given.*

The chairman: *He may not know. I knew this applicant, and know he is a man who would not tell a lie.*

A Hugglescote builder and contractor appealed for his foreman bricklayer, aged 40. He said the man had been passed C1, but he had not the card with him. The clerk asked the Press to note, for the information of applicants that they should always bring their medical cards when appearing before the Tribunal. Mr McCarthy remarked that houses were wanted. Applicant said that when he had finished those he was on, he should not build any more. He should pull the poles down.

Mr Lockwood: *You won't pull the poles down when the war is over, shall you?*

The clerk: *You will want to put one or two poles up then, I should think.*

Two months were allowed.

The appeal of a Coalville plumber for his foreman, aged 28, passed B2, was adjourned for a week, the applicant being ill.

A Coalville firm of builders applied for the temporary exemption of their clerk, aged 18, asking for two months while someone else was trained to do their book-keeping. The Advisory Committee did not assent, and as the youth had not been medically examined, the case was adjourned for 14 days for this to be done.

An appeal on domestic grounds was made by a grocer's assistant in the employ of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, who is 37 years of age, and has seven children all under 16. The Advisory Committee recommended that the man be used as a substitute, which caused Mr Brown to remark that the Advisory Committee were rather keen. Two months were allowed.

A Coalville chimney sweep, aged 38, and passed C3, in his appeal stated that he had three nephews, and three cousins serving in the Forces. He was working from 3 o'clock in the morning till six or seven at night, and had orders for 80 tons of soot for wheat land. Allowed three months.

A Coalville butcher, aged 37, passed for general service, stated that both his men had joined up, and he was working single-handed. One month allowed.

Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for a Whitwick butcher, aged 33, who stated that his former partner was serving in France, and he had no assistance. He was passed C3. Mr Sharp said that several Whitwick butchers were appealing that night and if the Army took them all he did not know how some of them would get on for a bit of

mutton or beef (laughter). He thought this man was most usefully occupied at the present. One month allowed.

A similar term was allowed to the next two applicants, both Whitwick butchers, one 38, married with four children, and passed for general service, and the other aged 35, and single, passed B1, who manages the business for his mother who is an invalid.

Another Whitwick butcher, aged 24, married, who looks after a business of his widowed mother as well as his own, was allowed three months. It was stated that he was passed C2 and his brother was serving in the Forces.

There were four applications for employees by the Coalville Advisory Committee recommended that none of the cases be assented to. Mr Lockwood (manager) said two were bakers, both married, aged 37 and 39, with one and two children respectively. The first was a B1 man, and the other had passed for general service. Their bakery trade amounted to £1,000 a week, and the staff, which now included women, was having to work overtime. Answering Mr Briers, Mr Lockwood said the men appealed for were engaged in bread making only.

Mr Briers: *Then they are on the reserved list.*

Answering further questions, Mr Lockwood said they had 14 bakers now, which was about three short. If no confectionary was made, some of the men engaged on that would be available for bread making. In their confectionary, pork pies formed the largest item. Mr McCarthy asked whether the men were in a certified occupation. Mr German said it was entirely a question for the Tribunal. If it was a certified trade it was for the Tribunal to say whether any of the men could be spared.

Mr McCarthy: *We have the manager's word that they are working overtime.*

It was decided to allow two months, or till substituted, in both cases.

The next was the manager of the Ashby Road branch. He is 30 years of age, married, with two children, and passed for general service. Mr Lockwood pointed out that the military had objected to the Swannington man, and they were having to find another for there. Already 56 of the stores' former employees were serving with the Colours. He noticed that the Bosworth Tribunal allowed till June 30th to the manager of the Worthington's shop at Ibstock, and he was passed for general service. Others at Bosworth got similar exemption.

Mr Blower: *You didn't hear Bosworth referred to when they were sending a lot of men and you sent none.*

Two months, or until substituted were allowed.

The other case was the manager of the Stores central boot shop, aged 32, married, and passed for general service. In this case one month, or till substituted, was the decision.

A further 14 days' exemption from drilling with the V.T.C. was allowed a Coalville chemist's assistant, and an employee of Messrs. Stableford's who is working overtime, has five children at home, and his wife in the Infirmary was excused from drill.

In the three cases reported by Commandant Turner of neglect to drill, the clerk was directed to write to the men asking for an explanation. They were a Snibston painter, a Battleflat farmer, and an employee of Messrs. Stableford's. The military representative asked for the review of the cases of a Coalville jeweller, and a Coalville licensed victualler, also working at Stableford's, and the Tribunal agreed, the cases to be re-heard at the next meeting.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Many letters of thanks and appreciation have been received from the "boys" of Ibstock both on home on foreign service, for the Christmas parcels despatched by the Ladies Patriotic Committee. The secretary (Mrs W. M. Sykes) was handed the sum of 9/6 by Mr Fred Spencer, for the Soldiers' Comforts Fund, the proceeds of a football match held last Saturday. He was thanked by the Committee.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Captain C. P. Shields, Captain J. Barnett, and Captain W. D. Carruthers, all well-known in Ashby, have been mentioned in despatches from Sir Douglas Haig?

All men joining the Colours on or after February 1st will be issued with a razor, and recruits already possessing a satisfactory one, will receive 1s?

Mr and Miss Choyce, of the Hugglescote Select Dancing Class, have sent £3 3s towards the fund for providing gifts to the fighting men of Hugglescote and Donington-le-Heath?

Nearly £25 profit was realised by the recent whist drive at Coalville for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild, for which Mrs F. Goddard and Miss Moore acted as secretaries?

Two former Coalville Town footballers, Privates Osborne and Earp, the latter the son of Mr Thomas Earp, the club secretary, are at home on leave, having been wounded in action?

Private E. Goulson, son of Mr J. Goulson, of Belvoir Road, Coalville, who has been through the fighting on the Western Front from the commencement of the war, and has three times been wounded, is now on a months' time-expired leave, and is joining up again on February 6th?

Page 6

FORMER COALVILLE MAN'S DEATH

DUE TO ACCIDENT IN FRANCE

News has been received in Coalville of the death of Mr James Wordsworth Hordern, son of Mr W. Hordern, formerly in business as a draper, at Coalville, but who left the town for Canada some years ago.

The deceased, who was 24 years of age, enlisted in the Canadian Infantry on November 12th, 1915, and was killed in France on November 19th, 1916, by an accident while on duty as a runner for the Headquarters Staff. While cycling, he had a severe fall among the ruins of a French village destroyed by the war, and he succumbed to his injuries.

Writing to the Rev. F. Pickbourne, pastor of the Coalville London Road Baptist Church, Mr W. Hordern, who is now living at Dundurn, Saskatchewan, Canada, says James attended your Sunday School. He was a dear Christian lad, the flower of the family, and it was his earnest Christian principles which caused him to enlist, and to be willing to sacrifice his life for God and humanity. May He give success to the British forces.

BARDON HILL

SOLDIER'S COMFORTS GUILD

An entertainment was given in the old schoolroom on Saturday evening in aid of the funds of the Coalville and District Comforts' Guild who have sent numerous parcels to Bardon men at the Front. The programme was arranged for by Mr and Mrs T. Knight, who obtained the services of the Measham Concert Party. Piano, violin, piccolo and concert pieces were given by Messrs. J. Pope, G. Bradford, and G. Johnson, and songs were contributed by Miss N. Wileman, Messrs. E. Wileman, G. Bradford, W. Bradford, A. J. Moore, E. Whatton and Master E. Pope. The chairman was Mr R. B. Grant.

IBSTOCK D.C.M.'S DEATH

Mrs Chamberlain, of Melbourne Road, Ibstock, has received a letter reporting the death of her husband, Private George Chamberlain, D.C.M. on active service in France. It is intimated that he was overcome by gas. Private Chamberlain, who was a strongly-built young man, had worked in the coal mine from boyhood, and he joined one of the volunteer tunnelling companies, which went out from the collieries at the request of the War Office. With his devotion to duty he won his medal soon after reaching the scene of operations. A few weeks ago his mother died, and he was granted leave to attend the funeral. He was then full of vigour

and confidence and looked a fine specimen of England's fighting colliers. Upon his death two young children are left fatherless.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear son, Private James Haywood, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who was killed in action February 22nd, 1916, somewhere in France.

"Too far away thy grave to see,
But not too far to think of thee."

From his loving Father and Mother.

Friday January 26th 1917 (Issue 1299)

Page 2

BAR TO D.S.O.

COLONEL'S COPE'S GALLANTRY

Lieut-Colonel Thomas G. Cope, D.S.O. Royal Fusiliers, son of Ald. Thomas Cope, J.P. chairman of the Leicestershire County Council has been awarded a bar to his Distinguished Service Order medal.

Lieut-Colonel Cope, although wounded, continued to direct operations, and when the attack was momentarily checked, went out into "No Man's Land" under heavy fire to reorganise his battalion. It was while he was thus engaged that he was again wounded. The gallant officer was awarded the D.S.O. in April last for conspicuous ability in supporting his own line, affording help to capture craters, and gaining valuable information. Though wounded, he remained on duty till the next day.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED AT DESFORD

The committee of the Leicester and County Saturday Hospital Society entertained the soldier patients at Desford Hall to a special tea and smoking concert on Saturday. There are 48 wounded men in the hospital at present, and they were regaled with the very best in the way of good things for tea, in which they were joined by the members of the committee. The concert was of a first-class character, consisting of items both sentimental and humorous, contributed by those gifted and popular entertainers Madame F. Smart, Miss Lettie Nourish, Mr Walter Langford, Mr J. Goddard, and Mr Will Riley, pianist. Mr J. Gipson Clarke, the vice-president of the Saturday Hospital Society occupied the chair. Every item was heartily applauded, the men thoroughly enjoying the programme, which took two hours to get through. Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr H. H. Woolley and Mr Will Riley for arranging the function, and to the artists for their much appreciated efforts. The singing of the National Anthem concluded a most successful evening.

ASHBY SOLDIER KILLED

The official casualty lists published on Tuesday morning contained the name of an Ashby soldier, Private M. T. Curtis, of the R.A.M.C. as having been killed.

LADS OF 18 TO REPORT

EMPLOYMENT IN HOME DEFENCE

THE EXEMPTED CLASS

The Secretary of the War Office makes the following announcement:

"The War Cabinet has instructed the Secretary for War to call up for military service all lads as and when they attain the age of 18 years, instead of, at present, 18 years and seven months. The necessary proclamation will be issued immediately."

It is not to be understood that this implies any departure from present arrangements whereby no man is sent overseas until he has attained the age of nineteen. There is no present intention to depart from the existing arrangements or to modify existing orders on the point. The decision is to call up all lads as and when they attain the age of eighteen years to train them, and to employ them to home defence until they reach the age of 19. By doing this it will be possible to reduce the requirements for men of more mature years who are fit only for one or other of the lower medical categories.

All lads born in 1898 and in January, 1899, who are still in civil life, may report at once at the recruiting office in which they are registered. In any case they will be required to report in accordance with the proclamation which is about to be issued, subject always to the regulations under the Military Service Acts, 1911, or the instruction relating to attested men as the case may be. The only lads, as a class, who should not in the meantime report, are those who have passed through an apprenticeship in one or other of the skilled engineering trades, and who are fully engaged on war work in the shipyards or munition factories. Such lads should remain at their work.

Others who have passed through an apprenticeship as above, but who are not fully engaged on war work in the shipyards or munitions factories may report to their recruiting officer and request to be trade tested for posting as artificers. There are vacancies for such lads in the following corps: Royal Regiment of Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Flying Corps, Machine Gun Corps, Heavy Section (Tanks), Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps."

Page 3

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRERS GETTING SCARCE

A BUSY BAKER

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Ashby rural district was held in the clerk's office at Ashby, on Saturday. Mr T. Varnham, J.P., presided, and there were also present, Dr. Atkinson, Messrs. J. W. Fowler, A. Riley, J. T. Bradshaw, and F. C. Stevenson. Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Captain Phillimore (military representative), Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer), Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary), and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

The military representative asked for the review of the case of a Normanton-le-Heath farmer, aged 32, and single. The man formerly worked for his father as a cowman, but his father had recently died and he said he was going to manage the farm for his mother. The farm was 187 acres and there were 100 head of cattle. Captain Phillimore withdrew his appeal and the man retains his conditional exemption. In the case of a youth on the same farm, aged 19, single, and passed for general service, it was decided that it was a case for substitution.

In the next case, that of a Packington cowman, it was also stated that the man's aged father had recently died and he was now maintaining the holding of 45 acres, on which there were six cows, three horses, eight or nine young beasts and eight sheep. He did a little carting. He was willing to help other farmers in the district if he could. His mother was 72, and was born in the house in which they now lived. It was decided that the man, who is passed for general service, be not called up until substituted.

Conditional exemption was granted to a Chilcote farmer's man, whose case had been adjourned for medical examination, and was now stated to have been passed C2.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, applied on behalf of a Ravenstone licensed victualler, aged 39, married, with two children, and passed for B2. He said the man was an experienced miner and willing to go back into the mine.

The chairman: *There are more miners now than they want.*

It was stated that no man of military age could go to work in the mine unless he held a Colliery Court Certificate. The Advisory Committee recommended twenty-eight days to enable the man to find work of

national importance which would release a general service man, and this was confirmed, the applicant being instructed to register at the Coalville Labour Exchange.

A Swannington boot and shoe repairer, who is also a publican, appealed for exemption, stating that he would be 41 in March and was married, with four children. He was passed C1.

Mr Stevenson: *He will be 41 in two months. Will he be out of reach then?*

Captain Phillimore: *No.*

The Advisory Committee recommended that the man should get work of national importance, and release a general service man.

Mr Stevenson: *How will he do it? Is he to go to some young man and say, "Now you shoot off to the war and I will take your place."*

Captain Stevenson said it would be done through the Labour Exchange. The question was asked whether the man was not doing work of national importance now. Who would repair the miner's boots of the district if the man was taken?

Captain Phillimore: *They will get them done in Coalville.*

The clerk said it was a very difficult matter to get a pair of boots mended in Ashby.

Mr Bradshaw: *It is in Measham.*

Two months were allowed the applicant to find work of national importance to release a general service man.

The application of a Measham insurance agent was not assented to.

The National Brick Co. Heather, applied for the charginan of the clay pit, aged 39, single, and passed B2. Mr J. T. Jacques (manager) said they were employed on important work and were working night and day, Saturday afternoons and Sundays. This man was really indispensable. It would take three or four months to train another man. In reply to a question, Mr Jacques said he had never tried to get a badge for the man. Two months (final) were allowed.

Application was made for a Measham grocer's manager, employed by his mother. He was stated to be 24 years of age and married, and passed for general service. Mr W. P. Musson (Ashby) said the applicant, who was a widow, also the man, his wife and child, and sister, all depended on the business for a livelihood. Applicant had one son serving. Two months were allowed.

The military representative appealed against the exemption of a Coleorton waggoner, and the clerk said the farmer had written stating that he was surprised, as he thought the young man had joined the Army. He left his (the farmer's) employ last November, and he had not seen him since. It was stated that the papers had been sent to the Derby recruiting officer, in whose district the man was understood to have gone.

It was decided not to call up an Appleby Magna waggoner, aged 27 and single, until substituted.

In the case of a farm labourer, against whose exemption the military representative appealed, a member suggested that the man was somewhat mentally deficient.

The chairman (to the farmer): *Would he make a good soldier, do you think?*

The farmer: *I should not mind being before him when he was shooting.* (Laughter).

Captain Phillimore said the man had been passed for general service. Agreed not to call the man up till a substitute had been found.

In the case of a foreman baker of Measham, aged 31, and passed for general service, it was decided not to call the man up till substituted.

Conditional exemption was granted to a Newton Burgoland carpenter and also to the manager and general superintendent of the Heather Brick and Terra Cotta Works. It was stated that the man was 39 years of age, and had worked for the firm for 25 years. He did all the book-keeping and paid the employees, and he was the only man the firm had appealed for.

An Acresford smallholder was exempted so long as he remained at work of national importance.

A Thringstone smallholder and milk-seller, aged 25, passed for general service, whose exemption to January 1st was made final, applied for permission to make a further appeal, but as the conditions had not changed, this was refused.

Page 4

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S LETTER

The following are extracts from a letter from Private John V. Sheffield to his brother, Leonard Sheffield, Charnwood Street, Coalville.

"I am glad to say that I am keeping all right. Yes, Leonard, we have got to think that our Joe, who was killed in France, has gone to his reward, and is happier in Heaven than he was on earth. May his soul rest in peace, as also the souls of all those who have given their lives for their King and country. I received a nice letter from the manager of Bagworth Colliery the same day as yours came. You will be able to see it, as I am sending it home by this mail. We have a lot to put up with on active service, but we try to make the best of it. All the same I should like them to pay my return fare back to Coalville again. I should think myself lucky. If I do happen to land safe back home, I shall not be very keen to start work again in a great hurry. It is much nicer to walk about dressed up in your Sunday clothes every day. Speaking of clothes, I have more in that line at the present moment than I ever possessed in my life. But they are soldier's clothes, not civilian's.

I should like you to be here and see how they work in the Arabian villages and towns. You would be delighted, it takes hundreds of the natives to do a little bit of a job, and they keep up a constant rattle of shouts, cries and rows all the time. They are filling up a fair sized hole just outside our tent, and they make such a hullabaloo that there is no chance of getting to sleep for those of us who are not on night duty. There are hundreds of donkeys of all ages, colours and sizes. It is a treat to watch them. You would not believe how faithful and reliable they are unless you saw it with your own eyes. They go backwards and forwards to their work without the least trouble. They are not a bit stupid or obstinate like the English donkey. The people neither buy nor make carts out here. They just hang a couple of baskets or panniers on the donkey's flanks, and fill them up with soil, about four shovels full, and off the animals shoot like runaway traction engines or greased lightning.

Let me have as many letters as you can. When I know that all is well at Coalville, I do not trouble so much. Fondest love to father and mother, and to all of you. Remember me to Father Degen, and to all enquiring friends, God be with you all till we meet again."

WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT COALVILLE

A HEARTY WELCOME

Coalville received its first contingent of wounded soldiers on Tuesday afternoon, when a party of thirty, who have been in Leicester hospitals, travelled by the train due at Coalville at 3.25. The arrival of the train, which was about half-an-hour late, was awaited by a crowd of two or three thousand people, and the soldiers were given a most hearty reception. The matron of the hospital, members of the local committee, and Men's V.A.D. were on the platform, and had made excellent arrangements for conveying the men to the hospital, about a mile away.

As they left the platform, members of the Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild handed cigarettes and chocolates to each soldier, and their appearance was the signal for a hearty round of cheering from the crowd. None were stretcher cases, the men all being able to walk to the eleven or twelve cars which were in waiting. These were kindly sent by Dr. R. W. Jamie, Dr. J. S. Hamilton, Messrs. J. A. Johnson (Electric Theatre), W. Weston (Hugglescote), H. Gledhill, J. C. Hunt, A. I. White, W. Musson, Charnwood Forest

Laundry Co., T. Lashmore, T. Stinson, and T. Wright, and Mrs Abel-Smith (Coleorton Hall). There were more hearty cheering as each car drove away.

The finishing touches had been made at Broom Leys during the last few days, and the hospital, handsomely equipped, and comfortable in every way, was in complete readiness for the reception of the soldiers. The local subscriptions to the furnishing and equipment fund now exceeds a total of £1,000.

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

A roll of honour has been erected in North Street, Hugglescote, near the Post Office, containing the names of the men from that street who joined the forces. There are seventy names in all, which is a splendid record for one street, and eleven of the men are indicated as having fallen, while a number have been wounded. The names are neatly written on parchment of pretty design, and the whole is enclosed in a neat wooden case. The cost, about £7, is being defrayed by public subscription.

Mr A. N. Choyce, of North Street, Hugglescote, formerly a teacher in the Coalville Bridge Road Council School, has been given a commission in the Leicestershire Regiment.

It has been officially reported that Private F. W. Potter, of the Devonshire Regiment, has been missing since January 1st, 1917. Prior to the war, he worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery, and was formerly for several years in the employ of Mr J. Wileman, carter, of Donington-le-Heath. He was the sole support of his widowed mother, who resides at 9, Ashby Road, Hugglescote, and who lost her husband by a fatal accident in the South Leicestershire Colliery 17 years ago.

The treasurer of the Coalville and District Soldiers' Comforts Guild (Mrs J. W. Farmer) has received the sum of £2 16s from a concert at Bardon Hill, gratuitously given by the Measham Concert Party, and arranged by Mr and Mrs Knight.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The Mounted Section of the Coalville company of the Leicestershire Volunteers had a dinner at the Railway Hotel, on Wednesday night?

In the official casualty lists recently published, Sapper F. Turner, of the Royal Engineers was reported wounded?

Page 6

IN MEMORIAM

Mr and Mrs Heighton and family desire to tender their sincere thanks to all friends for their kind expressions of sympathy with them in the death of their dear son, A. B. John Heighton, 5576, Anson Battalion, B.N.D. Killed in action, somewhere in France, November 13th, 1916. 44, Green Lane, Whitwick.

In loving memory of our dear brother, Private James Haywood, 8th Leicesters, killed in action, January 22nd, 1916.

*"He bade no one his last farewell
He waived his hand to none
His spirit fled before we knew
That from us he had gone."*

From his loving sisters, Louise and Bella.

ABSENTEES

Before Major Hatchett at the Coalville Police Court on Monday, Privates Isaac Mycroft and J. Bird were charged with being absentees from the Leicestershire Regiment at Patrington since the 11th inst. Inspector Dobney gave evidence as to arresting the men at Coalville.

At the same court Privates S. Johnson (Griffydam) and A. Davis (Newbold), of the same regiment, were similarly charged, they having been apprehended by Sergeant Betts and P.C. Jones that morning.

All four men were remanded in custody to await an escort.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

DISSATISFACTION AT MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

THE PLACE FOR ANONYMOUS LETTERS

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal in the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr Battle (Labour Exchange Manager).

The clerk read the new instructions to Tribunals to the effect that Class A and B1 men under 31, were wanted for the Army, except those working on munitions and agriculture.

Mr W. A. Musson, solicitor, Ashby, appearing for an Ellistown lady in an application for her husband, who manages her business as grocer and off-licence holder, the man, she said, was an experienced collier, and was willing to work three days a week in the mine. He was passed C2. The chairman said they could not take a man into the mine without a certificate from the Colliery Court. Besides, three days a week would be awkward. Mr Musson said the man appealed at the Colliery Court and was told by the Inspector that he would give a certificate if the local Tribunal would give him exemption. He (Mr Musson) said it would be to the advantage of the collieries to get experienced men, now that all Class A men who had gone into the mines since August, 1915, were to be called up. If the Tribunal decided, no doubt the man would work six days in the mine. The case was adjourned for a fortnight for the military representative to get further information as to colliers.

A Coalville mineral water manufacturer, single, aged 37, and passed fit for general service appealed on the ground that he supported his aged parents. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed one month.

A Coalville plumber and painter appealed for two painters in his employ, one aged 37 and the other 28, both married, and both passed B2. He now had four men out of 23 before the war. Allowed to February 28th for the first man, and two months for the second.

A Whitwick licensed victualler, aged 41, married, with one child, in his appeal, stated that he was formerly a chargeman at the Whitwick Colliery, and was willing to return to the mine, or do other work of national importance – the case was adjourned for 14 days for further particulars as to the new regulations affecting miners.

A Coalville saddler, aged 36, married, with two children, stated that he was on work for Bagworth, Snibston and Whitwick Collieries, besides several farmers, and was working at high pressure. He was passed C1, and regularly attended the V.T.G. drills. Three months allowed.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, represented an Ellistown smallholder and carter, in an appeal for his son, aged 26, and lately married. Mr Sharp said the man attended to 8 cows and had a milk round. He also did carting. He had been twice medically examined, the first time being rejected, and a few months later passed B2. The applicant was 69 years of age, and depended on his son for a living. There were five sons working in the mine, and one was in the Canadian Infantry. Allowed till February 28th.

Mr Sharp also represented a Whitwick firm of builders in an appeal for a member of the firm, aged 31, who manages an undertaking business. He had charge of 13 horses and also assisted with other stock on 100 acres of land. The man had been passed C1 after once being rejected. Two months allowed.

The point was raised as to whether a man twice medically examined, once rejected and then passed A or B, should not be given a chance of another medical test. The clerk said they could not allow it.

The chairman: *We must take the last examination.*

Mr Brown said he knew a man who was suffering from nervous debility, passed B1. Another man whom he knew to be absolutely unfit for the Army had been passed for general service. They ought to allow another chance of medical examination. Mr German said it might be arranged in very exceptional cases, but that could not be taken as a general thing. It was stated that one of the men Mr Brown referred to was working now, and if he could work at home, he could work abroad. Mr Lockwood said that if an appellant was dissatisfied with the result of his medical examination he (Mr Lockwood) would be prepared to support another examination being allowed. The chairman said it depended, no doubt, on the need for men. It was suggested that when many thousands were being examined earlier, the test then applied might not have been so severe as at present, now that men were urgently wanted. The next case was then proceeded with.

An employee at Stableford's Works, aged 41 last August, who formerly managed a music store at Coalville, appealing for further exemption, said he had five children. He had passed for general service. The military representative said general service men were being taken from Stableford's who had worked there for many years. If one was left who went recently, it would cause dissatisfaction. Mr Hale (the manager) said he was a very useful man. It was stated that there were plenty of substitutes, and it was agreed that the man be substituted.

One month final was given to the next case, another employee of Stableford's passed for B1. The man said he was 31, and had five children under thirteen. It was stated that a substitute had already been found for this man.

One month final was also allowed the manager of the Whitwick branch shop of a grocery firm, aged 36, married, and passed B1.

The Coalville Motor Bus Co. appealed for a 'bus driver, aged 21, single and passed for general service. The manager said he only appealed because in March last, the man was medically rejected, and on the strength of that the company were at the trouble and expense to teach the man driving. Now after a few weeks as a driver the youth was wanted for the Army.

The chairman: *It has improved his health.*

Mr Lockwood: *If you are getting them ready like this, you are doing your bit.*

The manager said that in view of the peculiar circumstances, he appealed for another medical examination. It was proposed that the application be not assented to, but it was decided by a majority of one to allow 14 days' final.

A Whitwick hairdresser, aged 39, with two children, stated that he was working at Stableford's works in the daytime, and at his business in the evenings. He had been very ill and produced a local doctor's certificate that he was suffering from gastritis, on account of which he was at home nine weeks, but during his illness he was medically examined for the Army and passed for general service. Mr Briers said he was not at all satisfied with the results of the examinations of the medical board. He knew this man well, and if he was fit for general service, any man was. The case was adjourned for a month.

Two more of Stableford's employees, aged 33 and 35, the latter also a grocer and off-licence holder, were both allowed conditional exemption, and another employee of the same firm was excused from drilling with the V.T.C.

The clerk announced the receipt of an anonymous letter to the Tribunal.

The chairman: *In all my history I have never had anything to do with anonymous letters. They have come to me, but I have always put them on the fire. If the writer is a man he would sign his name.*

Mr Lockwood moved that the letter be placed on the fire, and this was agreed to.

The military representative: *I have plenty.* (laughter).

IBSTOCK

The Ladies' Patriotic Committee at their weekly meeting announced the receipt of three guineas from the Ibstock Palace directors, and £1 from Mrs T. Wain, who has been unable to attend the meetings owing to illness. This was passed to the Soldiers' Comfort fund.

Friday February 2nd 1917 (Issue 1300)

Page 2

HINCKLEY TERRITORIAL'S DEATH

Private Frederick Heward, a well-known Hinckley Territorial has died at a London military hospital from wounds received while in action with the Leicesters in July last. He leaves a widow, but no children. Heward was one of the crack shots of the regiment, and as a sniper rendered invaluable service. On being wounded he was brought to an English hospital, where he lay with a shattered leg for 3 months and then went to a convalescent home to build up his strength for a serious operation. The latter was performed on Monday of last week, and Heward died the same day.

When war broke out Heward left his employment at the Sketchley Dye Works in order to join the army. He had been connected with the Hinckley Territorials for 10 years, and as a marksman frequently helped the Hinckley Company to win the Burnaby Shield. He won several medals and many prizes, and once topped the tradesmen's prize list. While in training at Putnam Downs, before proceeding to France, Heward also won a silver cup for shooting.

At his funeral in Hinckley on Saturday afternoon, a firing party came over from Glen Parva and fired three volleys over the grave, the buglers also sounding the "Last Post".

The widow has within the last 3 months lost her husband and two brothers – Inspector A. Hood, of the Leicester Police Force, and Mr L. Hood, landlord of the Prince's Feathers, Hinckley.

A PLUCKY HUGGLESCOTE WOMAN

PUNISHED HER HUSBAND'S TRADUCER

The story of how a good-looking young Hugglescote woman stood up in defence of her soldier husband, now on active service, and punched his traducer in the mouth appealed so much to the Coalville magistrates on Friday that they dismissed the charge of assault which was brought against her.

The case was one in which Jane Snow (23), married, of Hugglescote, was summoned for assaulting Sarah Barnett, another Hugglescote married woman, on January 12th, and Wm. Barnett (30), collier, Hugglescote, was summoned by Elizabeth Collier, married, of the same place, for assault on the same date. Snow, whose husband is in France, pleaded guilty.

Mrs Barnett said they had words, and Snow punched her in the mouth. Defendant said Barnett told her her husband was an idle b_____, or he would not have enlisted. She stuck up for her husband, and hit the woman in the mouth. The Bench dismissed the case and Mrs Barnett had to pay 3/6 costs.

The defendant in the other case, Wm. Barnett, is Mrs Barnett's husband, and the complainant collier, is the mother of Mrs Snow. She said she was taking the part of her daughter when Barnett kicked her on the leg.

The clerk: *What did you do?*

Complainant: *I hit him back.*

The clerk: *Quite right too* (laughter). *Where did you hit him?*

Complainant: On the nose. He has such a big one (renewed laughter).

Jane Snow, the daughter, corroborated. Defendant denied the assault, and was supported in his denial by his wife. He was fined 10/6 or 14 days.

Page 3

ASHBY BOARD OF GUARDIANS

A COALVILLE SOLDIER'S PENSION

In the case of a Coalville soldier who had been admitted to the County Asylum, a letter was received from the Army Pay Office stating that a pension of 20/- per week had been allowed and enquiring whether the Guardians were making any claim on the pension towards his maintenance. It was stated that the soldier was a single man.

The chairman suggested that they should let it accumulate for the benefit of the man, who might be able eventually to leave the asylum and it would then give him a start. Mr Bullen thought they should make a claim as if the man was not in the asylum he would have to be kept. The clerk said the cost to the Guardians was 14s per week and unless the Guardians made the claim it might jeopardise the whole grant by the Local Government Board towards the maintenance of lunatics, which was 4s per head, per week. In these circumstances, it was agreed to claim the full 14s.

Page 4

WHITWICK MILITARY MEDALIST

INTERESTING PRESENTATION

An interesting event took place at the Whitwick Picture House on Saturday evening, when Private A. W. Concannon, of the Sherwood Foresters, a Whitwick man who has been awarded the military medal, was presented with a handsome marble clock, subscribed for by residents of Whitwick in recognition of his gallantry.

Private Concannon was awarded the medal for rescuing an officer under heavy fire. The presentation was made by the Rev. T. W. Walters (Vicar) who said Whitwick was represented in the Forces by some hundreds of men, and Private Concannon was the first of them to win the Military Medal, though the honour of gaining one had been won by another Whitwick man, Sergeant Berrington, who, he was sorry to say, had since been killed in action. The Rev. M. J. O'Reilly also complimented Private Concannon on the honour he had achieved, and the presentation was made amidst cheers. The gallant soldier briefly responded, expressing his thanks for the gift. Private Concannon was married at the Whitwick Catholic Church, when on leave some months ago.

WHITWICK MAN IN MESOPOTAMIA

WHERE THE MEN STAY AT HOME TO MIND THE BABIES

Writing to friends at Coalville, Private W. H. M. Bottrill, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose home is at 33, Talbot Street, Whitwick, and was formerly with Mr J. Peace, of High Street, Coalville, states that he is now in Mesopotamia and is "*in the pink*." He has been in that country for fourteen months, and has now been detached from his regiment, and is acting as hospital orderly at Basra. He says there are many kinds of diseases out there not known in England, one of which is sandfly, and sometime ago he had an attack of this with a temperature of 105. In the summer, it is tremendously hot, and in the winter, when it rains, it is like having a hose-pipe played onto you. The natives are very peculiar. The women go about with rings through their noses and round their ankles. They have no boots or shoes on, and the only dress they wear is a kind of sock bag. The men dress somewhat similarly. The women work very hard, while the men stop at home and look after the children.

The writer goes on to state that he has a Coalville pal with him – J. V. Sheffield, of Park Road – and they are both merry and bright, but hoping for the time to come when they will return to dear old Whitwick. He says his brother Bert was wounded on January 6th, 1916, and had been sent to England. He had received a letter from Bert since he arrived in England, and was glad to know that he was going on well.

He concludes, *"I shall have to cut my letter short now as I am on night duty. While I am writing this, David Robinson, from Thringstone, is in my ward. He is sick, and is waiting to go to India. I wish all my pals the best of luck, and hope soon to be with them again. Keep smiling."*

CORRESPONDENCE

ASHBY TRIBUNAL: A CHALLENGE TO THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Sir, The remark of the chairman of the Ashby Tribunal that 'there are more miners now than they want' which appeared in your last issue, is somewhat of a puzzle, and I would esteem it a favour if the chairman would disclose what grounds he had for making this statement. From this remark, it would appear that the miner is not required to work so hard or so much time, that coal is not a necessity either for home consumption or to supply the needs of our country, and to put it in a plain and straight way, the miner should be called to the Colours, while farmers remain at home enjoying the blessings of a peaceful life. Now, I mean to take the bull by the horns, and prove to you and others that miners are sadly wanted and that coal which their labour produces is of the most vital importance to our country in more ways than one. On the 25th October, 1916, a national conference of representatives of the coal mining industry was held in London. This gathering of some 1,700 delegates cost the Miners' Federation £8,500, and the Government £2,720, or thereabouts, a total of £13,220. Now, do you consider this amount of money was spent on holiday-making, or was there any need for this Conference? If the chairman will read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the following extracts of speeches of that day, he will, I am sure, alter his methods somewhat.

By Mr Herbert Samuel, *"The importance which the Government (note the Government – not Ashby Tribunal) attaches to the question of the maintenance and increase of our coal supply is denoted by the presence of the Prime Minister, Mr Asquith."*

By Mr Asquith, *"Coal mining, for many purposes, is the greatest of our national industries. The demands for coal is in excess of the supply, and the most serious and most formidable fact is the decrease of 34 million tons in 1915 to that of 1913. Coal, as you know well, is the basic element."*

By Mr Herbert Samuel, *"The duty of the miner is to get coal, more coal, and yet more coal, for coal is the motive force of the whole of our national machine, munition factories, their lathes, their drills, their planes, and all the vast variety of machinery move by the force of coal. Iron and steel works depend entirely upon coal, our explosives are made from the by-products of coal. So vital, so important, is the supply of coal that its deficiency has given cause for continuous anxiety to the Government for months past, and it is greatly indeed to the credit of the miners that the deficiency is not far greater. The miners know, and they realise, that every stroke of the pick is a blow at the Germans."*

I could go on and fill a column of this paper, but will close Mr Samuel's remarks by his final appeal to the miner, as follows, *"Give your utmost efforts to get coal, more coal, and yet more coal, not for your employers' sake, not for your own sake, but for Britain's sake."*

Now, Mr Chairman, what have you to say? If this is not enough to convince you that miners are wanted, will you accept a challenge from me to a friendly debate on this question? I will meet you in any place at Coalville, on Saturday evening, February 10th. Just a little showing that more coal would increase our food supplies. In exchange for coal, from Denmark and Holland, we get agricultural and dairy produce; from Spain we get sulphur, copper and iron ore; from South America, meat, grain, and other agricultural produce; from Norway and Sweden, special kinds of iron and steel, which are necessary for munitions of war, and other things.

Hoping that my letter will not transgress too much on your valuable space, and thanking you kindly, I remain yours truly.

George Jones
Newbold Verdon, Leicester

30th January, 1917.

BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL MEMBER AND THE COLLIERS

Sir, Heartiest thanks to the colliers of Ibstock who have willingly given "*practical*" demonstration of their sympathy to myself, and most of the small farmers in this village (to my knowledge) this last 40 years. It is far more helpful than the "*uncalled for*" remarks of the members of the Bosworth Tribunal about "*museum colliers*" and "mopping-ale butchers" (some of whom are teetotalers). Remarks which they decline to substantiate.

It is due to the help of the colliers that my milk supply (from eight cows) is available today, which otherwise would not have been owing to illness and depleted staff. We (myself and the milk consumers) are most grateful to them. Yours truly.

James Newman
86, High Street, Ibstock.
January 30th, 1917.

Page 5

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Father Degan, of Coalville, has two brothers in the British Expeditionary Force, and one of them has recently been wounded?

The Whitwick Colliery Co. Ltd, have applied for £100,000 in the War Loan, of which £37,000 is new money?

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, T. E. Fox, A. J. Briers and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr A. L. Bertenshaw, for the clerk.

A Coalville saddler, aged 32, married, with one child, stated in his appeal that he was engaged on contract work for local collieries and farmers. He had lost two men since the war and now had no assistance. Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, said the applicant was full up with work. Answering questions, applicant said his father did the work of South Leicestershire colliery for 30 years, and applicant was continuing it. He had not been medically examined, and he did not attest. It was remarked that the Tribunal had made a rule that all applicants should be first medically examined. Allowed 14 days for medical examination.

Mr Crane represented a Coalville plumber's labourer in an appeal on domestic grounds, the employer's appeal having been dismissed. He said the man was 40 years of age, married, with four children. He had been passed B1 but was not satisfied with that result. He put in a local doctor's certificate stating that he was suffering from gout in the foot and knee. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed one month for substitution. Mr German said they could not use a B1 man for substitution. Mr Brown said they should be assured that a man was fit for the Army before they sent him. Mr McCarthy said it would only be an expense to the county to send a man out, who was likely to be in hospital straightaway. The military representative said they were closing businesses, and this man, passed B1, was a labourer. After further discussion, it was agreed that the man have a month to get work of national importance.

An appeal was made on domestic grounds by a butcher employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 29, and married. He said his father had been bedridden for twenty months, and depended on him. His wife's mother also was partly dependent upon him. She was a widow and her only son had been killed in Mesopotamia. It was stated that the man had been passed for general service, and his employer's appeal had been dismissed. Allowed 14 days (final).

An employee at Stableford's as a puncher and shearer, who resides at Thornborough, appealed on domestic grounds, he was contributing to the support of an invalid brother and his aged parents were partly dependent upon him. He was a single man, aged 28, and passed for general service. The Advisory Committee did not assent. Mr German said the committee realised it was a hard case, but they could hardly do anything else. One month was allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for two employees, a motor-car driver, aged 30, married and passed for general service, and the other a bakery warehouse-man, of Hugglescote, aged 40, married, and passed B2. Mr Lockwood, in the first case, said the man did all the work with the motor himself, and was a very useful man. A woman or man who was not strong could not do the work owing to the heavy lifting. Answering the military representative, Mr Lockwood said over 60 of the Stores' employees were now serving in the Forces. Four or five had gone during the last few days, and one position was becoming acute. One month (final) was allowed. Mr Lockwood said the other man was doing important work in the warehouse for the bakers. He was 40 years of age, and had bad feet. Two months were allowed.

An applicant engaged with a threshing machine was excused from attending drill.

A Coalville firm of builders appealed for the exemption of their confidential clerk, aged 18, while they trained another man. The youth had been passed C2. Fourteen days (final) allowed to get work of national importance.

A month (final) was given the manager of a grocer's shop at Coalville, aged 27, married, and passed B1.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Thringstone farmer in an appeal for his cowman and waggoner, aged 24 and single, passed for general service. A member said it was a serious thing to take more men from agriculture. Two months for substitution were allowed.

A Coalville pawnbroker, clothier, and jeweller, aged 37, single, and passed for general service in the Tanks, suggested that he should be allowed a fresh medical examination. He said his height was 4ft 5 5/8th inches. He appealed on business grounds. Two months allowed.

A Standard Hill insurance agent, aged 24, single and passed C3, was ordered to be used as a substitute.

An employee of Stableford and Co., formerly a Coalville tailor's assistant, aged 39, and married, appealed for conditional exemption. He had previously had two months in which to find work of national importance. He had been passed for general service, and the Advisory Committee did not assent. Applicant said he had had a mishap since he was passed for general service, and he was allowed 14 days for another medical examination.

One month (final) was allowed a Whitwick baker, aged 30, married, and passed for general service. He appealed on domestic grounds.

Somewhat peculiar were the circumstances in the application of another Whitwick baker, aged 26, and married, passed B1. At a former sitting the man had been allowed exemption till substituted. The military representative said they had been unable to find a substitute as the man worked from four o'clock in the morning till 5 in the evening. They suggested that this appeal, which was on domestic grounds, should be dismissed. The Tribunal agreed, on the understanding that the former decision held good.

Page 6

BROOM LEYS HOSPITAL

A whist drive took place on Friday night at the hospital, members of the V.A.D. joining the soldiers for the occasion. Prizes were given by the V.A.D., the principal of these being awarded the soldiers, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

On Sunday evening a concert was given under the presidency of Mr Wm. Hurst, a capital programme being contributed by members of the Coalville Olympia Orchestra and others. The items included overtures by the band, a trip by Miss McGreal and Messrs. Marriott and Beale, piano solo by Miss McGreal, songs by Mr H.

Wright, Mr E. Briers, and Mr W. Brice, and a quartette by Messrs. E. Briers, A. Whitmore, B. Holmes and W. Baker. The concert was much enjoyed, there being several encores.

CORRESPONDENCE

INAUGURATION OF BROOM LEYS V.A.D. HOSPITAL

Dear Sir, Kindly allow us defenders of the good old Motherland, to thank the people of Coalville for the interest they are taking in us, by making everything comfortable and inconveniencing themselves on our behalf, and for our welfare. We are sure that it is heartfelt in every one of us, and we fully realise and appreciate all that they are doing for us. It is only one more clear proof that "Tommy" is not forgotten although the war is getting old and stale, and is apparently a trade.

When we arrived at Coalville from Leicester Hospital we were astounded at the tremendous reception we received. It served as a reminder to some of us of the time when we were drafted out at an early stage of the war. We got a hearty send-off then, but no better than the reception on arrival at Coalville, and we are desirous of thanking the people of Coalville for the cigarettes and other gifts they were good enough to bestow upon us.

Motor cars kindly lent by their owners whirled us to the Hospital where we found everything in perfect order and readiness for our arrival, which was further evidence of the interest evinced by the members of the V.A.D. Broom Leys has made an ideal hospital, with its extensive grounds and pure air and will be of the greatest benefit to convalescents. After an excellent tea there was music and conversation, and we soon settled down to our new home. Bedtime found us tired but happy in the comfort of our new surroundings, and a memorable day was brought to a close.

The Staff, under Miss E. Newton, as matron, are highly efficient, and wholeheartedly devoted to their task of restoring "Tommy" to perfect health. Arrangements have been made for entertainments, musical evenings, and whist drives, which will provide many happy hours. The first of a series of whist drives took place on the 26th ult., when an enjoyable evening was spent. Prizes were given by the members of the men's V.A.D., and distributed by Mr Eames, Commandant of the Men's V.A.D. No. 1 Detachment.

A concert was given on the evening of January 28th, which, needless to say, we very much appreciated, and we are looking forward to many such evenings. – I am, on behalf of the wounded soldiers at Broom Leys, yours truly.

Private Speddings
Loyal, North Lancashire Regiment.

Friday February 9th 1917 (Issue 1301)

Page 2

COUNTY APPEALS TRIBUNAL

A WHITWICK CASE

Sitting at the Castle, Leicester, on Saturday, under the chairmanship of Ald. T. Cope, the Leicestershire Appeal Tribunal dealt with 23 appeals against the decisions of local tribunals in various parts of the county.

The military representative appealed against the exemption of a single man (28), passed for C1, who managed a tailoring, drapery, and millinery business, at Whitwick on the grounds that the business was not in the national interests. – Major Welsman contended that the business belonged to the man's mother, and that if he were to join the business would not have to close, as there was a good staff. – The respondent stated that the business belonged to himself and his brothers, with his mother as trustee. If he had to go the business would suffer considerably, as he did all the buying. – The appeal was allowed, and the respondent was allowed till April 1st to put his affairs in order.

WHIST DRIVE

A whist drive was held in the Ellistown Church School, on Saturday evening with the object of providing comforts for local soldiers who are prisoners of war in Germany, Messrs. T. R. Grundy and G. B. Lagoe acted as M.C.'s.

Page 3

ASHBY VOLUNTEER FUNERAL

The funeral of Private John Richard Worrall, of the Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, who died very suddenly on Thursday, took place on Monday, with military honours, the bearer party and firing party being provided from deceased's platoon, from which the officer commanding, and a large number of volunteers also attended, Mr G. J. German, acting commandant, 2nd Battalion, was present.

The memorial service at the Wesleyan Church was conducted by the Rev. J. R. Sharpley, and was attended by nearly all the employees from the factory where deceased was employed, and also by the principal, Mr C. H. Parsons, J.P., C.C., and Mrs Parsons. At the grave the general salute was given in lieu of three volleys and the "Last Post" was sounded.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

Admirable arrangements are being made for the entertainment of the wounded soldiers (now almost 50 in number) at Broom Leys. On Saturday evening, a capital entertainment was given by the Coalville Mixed Concert Party, under the direction of Mr F. Clay. Mr L. L. Baldwin presided, and the programme, which was much enjoyed, was as follows:-

Glee, "Anchored", party; song, "A long, long trail", Miss May Astley; duet, "Spring will bring", Miss N. Chambers and Mr F. Clay; comic song, "A farmer's boy", Mr C. Massey; glee, "True till death", party; song, "Trooper Johnny Ludlow", Mr H. Shaw; song, "Blue Eyes", Miss Evans; glee, "Call John", party; comic song, "John James Henry", Mr S. Massey; glee, "O'er the hills", party; song, "My ain folk", Miss I. Anderson; duet, "Polly Hopkins", Miss Chambers and Mr Toon; song, "The man I love", Miss F. Gill; song, "There's a land", Miss N. Chambers; comic song, "A jolly good fellow", Mr C. Massey; glee, "Excelsior", party; Private McQuire, Gordon Highlanders, also sang "Annie Laurie".

At the close of the concert, the chairman announced that an Entertainment Committee had been formed with Mr Wm. Hurst as chairman, to arrange for the entertainment of the soldiers, and it had been decided to hold two concerts weekly – on Tuesday and Sunday evenings. Musical people in the district who would like to contribute to the enjoyment of the soldiers by singing or playing should give their names to Mr Hurst. Mr Baldwin added that on other nights of the week, billiards and other games had been arranged.

Another concert was given on Sunday night, at which Mr Hurst presided. Songs were given by Miss Dorothy Massey, Miss Marper, Nurse Farman, of the 1st Northern Hospital, Messrs. L. L. Baldwin, R. J. Brown, Pte. McQuire and another of the wounded soldiers. Mr S. W. Brown was the accompanist.

The members of the Coalville Men's Adult School on Sunday morning decided to send a quantity of Sankey hymn books to the hospital, it being stated that arrangements had been made to hold a short religious service on Sunday afternoon, to be conducted by the clergy and ministers of the district in turn. Another concert was given on Tuesday evening by Mr H. Gledhill, of the Railway Hotel.

Page 4

ASHBY SAILOR MISSING

Mr and Mrs Goodram, of Avenue Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, have received intimation from the Admiralty that the name of their son, William, who joined the Navy last year, does not appear in the list of survivors of the destroyer which was sunk in the fight with the enemy last week.

LOCAL NEWS

Sergeant W. Anthony Langsdale, of the Royal Fusiliers, who has been awarded the Military Medal in recognition of his conspicuous gallantry, was formerly engaged as a clerk in the Nottingham and Notts. Bank at Coalville. He enlisted in September, 1915. The officer commanding congratulated him upon his gallantry during an attack on the German lines, and in assuming command when his officers became casualties. Sergt. Langsdale is a son of Mr D. W. Langsdale, lace manufacturer, of 51, Sandon Street, New Basford. He is only 19 years of age.

A former Coalville Town footballer, Thomas Wm. Massey, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has recently been visiting his friends at Coalville, on ten days' leave from the Front. Massey, whose home is in Ashby Road, and who was formerly a collier, for some years played centre-half for the Town, and when he gave up playing, he acted as trainer of the team. He held this proud position during the season that Coalville Town won both the Leicestershire Senior and Coalville Times cups. He has been 21 months at the Front, and has passed through some exciting experiences, but he was looking remarkably fit when he left Coalville on Monday night on his return to France. He says how the soldiers enjoy a game of football during their leisure hours, and he has participated in some keen contests across the Channel.

MILITARY WEDDING AT WHITWICK

MISS MAUD WHEELDON AND QUARTER-MASTER SERGEANT E. ARIS

An interesting wedding was solemnised at the Whitwick Baptist Church, on Saturday afternoon, in which the contracting parties were Miss Maud Wheeldon, youngest daughter of the late Mr T. Wheeldon, and Mrs Wheeldon, of Forest View, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, and Quartermaster-Sergeant Ernest Aris, of the Field Ambulance. Before the war the bridegroom was a clerk at the Whitwick Colliery. The bride is a teacher at the Coalville Belvoir Road Council School, and very popular in the district as a contralto singer of exceptional merit, her services often being in requisition, and readily given in any good cause.

There was a large congregation to witness the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. H. C. J. Wix, of Loughborough, a former pastor at Whitwick. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr F. Wheeldon, was becomingly attired in a silk dress, trimmed with Limerick lace, and she wore a wreath of orange blossom and veil, and carried a pretty bouquet of lilies and carnations, the gift of the bridegroom. There were five bridesmaids – Misses Jessie Wheeldon (sister of the bride), Beatrice Aris (sister of the bridegroom), May and Gwennie Geary, of New Swannington, and Muriel Higgs of Heather (nieces of the bride). Misses Wheeldon, Aris and Gwennie Geary wore dresses of pale blue silk poplin and hats to match, Miss May Geary was dressed in pink silk poplin, and Miss Higgs in white embroidered voile. All carried pretty bouquets of lilies and chrysanthemums.

The bridegroom was accompanied by Staff-Sergeant Gulliver, of the same regiment, as best man, both appearing in their khaki uniform.

Mr O'Geary, of New Swannington, officiated at the organ, and as the party were entering the Church, played Lohengrin's Wedding March, and other suitable selections. The hymns, "Love Divine," and "How welcome was the call," were sung. At the close of the service, the organist played Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

A number of guests were afterwards entertained by the bride's mother at Forest View, and later, the happy couple left for Gillingham, Dorset, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bridegroom came on leave from Ireland, and is proceeding to France in about a fortnight's time. The bride will then resume her duties as a teacher at the Coalville Belvoir Road Council School. Before she left on Friday afternoon, the headmaster (Mr T. Frith) on behalf of the staff and scholars, presented Miss Wheeldon with a teapot, with an expression of their good wishes for her future happiness.

The bridegroom also received a cheque from Captain R. J. McConnell, and a silver egg-boiler from Captain Malcolm, officers of the regiment. There were also many other valuable and useful presents. The following is the list:-

Bride to bridegroom, leather suit case.

Bridegroom to bride, Limerick lace veil, collar and lace.

Mother of bride, household linen.
 Staff and children of Belvoir Road Council School, silver teapot.
 Miss J. Wheeldon (sister) eiderdown quilt.
 Mr Frank Wheeldon, case of silver salts, pepper, etc.
 Mr and Mrs T. Wheeldon (Oadby) mahogany-cased clock.
 Mrs Leonard Wheeldon, silver-mounted jam dish.
 Mr Leonard Wheeldon, oak bureau.
 Master Leonard Wheeldon, silver-mounted marmalade jar.
 Mr and Mrs F. A. Wheeldon, silver cruet.
 Messrs. Ken and Fred Wheeldon, silver salts.
 Mr and Mrs Higgs (Heather), tea knives.
 Miss Muriel Higgs, sofa cushion.
 Misses Margaret and Eileen Higgs, pin cushions.
 Mr B. Peake (Stafford) silver fish knives.
 Captain Malcolm (2nd Field Ambulance) cheque.
 Mrs Burkitt, silver cigarette case.
 Mrs T. Stinson, (Whitwick) case of silver spoons.
 Mrs T. Frith (Coalville) silver-mounted marmalade jar.
 Mr and Mrs Jas. Smith (Coalville) cheque and household linen.
 Mr and Mrs George Bennett (Leicester) table cloth.
 Miss Hettie Smith (Coalville) Devon china cheese dish.
 Miss Nora Smith, Devon china fruit stand.
 Miss E. M. Howes (Snibston) afternoon teacloth.
 Miss B. Allen (Whitwick) afternoon teacloth, tray cloth and d'orley.
 Mrs E. Eggleton, white embroidered pillow cases.
 Mr and Mrs H. Aris (Sutton), vases.
 Master K. Coleman (Coalville) Devon china fruit dish.
 Miss March (Coalville) cut glass and silver salts.
 Miss Miller (Coalville) silver sugar tongs.
 Mr and Mrs George Clay (Coalville) cut glass and silver butter dish.
 Mrs Toyer (Whitwick) fruit stand.
 Mrs W. Beniston, glass butter dish.
 Mrs H. Geary, decanter and glass.
 Miss H. Wharmby (Coalville) Devon china fruit dish.
 Mr L. Ratcliffe (Coalville) cheque.
 Mr and Mrs H. Mann, set table spoons.
 Mr and Mrs O. Geary, cheque.

COALVILLE PRINTER KILLED IN ACTION

RIFLEMAN J. B. HOLMES



We regret to record the death in action of Rifleman John Burton Holmes, of the King's Royal Rifles, son of Mr John Holmes, Midland Railway engine-driver, of Bridge Road, Coalville. The sad news was received by his mother in a letter from Lieut. M. T. Sampson, on Tuesday morning. Writing on January 31st, the officer stated; *"It is with the deepest regret that I have to tell you that your son, Rifleman J. B. Holmes, was killed in action on 25th of this month. He was killed by a shell which destroyed the dug-out where he was, and it must have killed him outright. He was buried about a mile behind our line, and the position of his grave has been notified to the Adjutant, and you will be told. The burial service was attended by Mr Lane, officer of this company, and by some of his friends in the company, and a cross, with a bronze tablet, has been placed on his grave. Believe me that I am deeply distressed to send you such sad news, and that all his friends here join in sympathy with you, but I am sure that you will think as he must have done, that his life, however dear to those who love him, was gladly given for his country. All his personal effects were handed to the Adjutant, who will already have sent them back to you, and any letters or parcels will be returned. If there is anything in which I can help you, any questions which I can answer, write to me, and I shall be only too glad to do so."*

The deceased soldier was 32 years of age, and single. He joined up on 19th June last, and went to France about a fortnight before Christmas. A field card from him stating that he was well, dated January 20th, was received by his parents on the day that he was killed. He always wrote in a very cheerful state.

Rifleman Holmes was a well-known and highly respected resident of the town, having been for the last ten years in business as a printer, at premises in Hotel Street, and he was the patentee of an excellent printers' device known as "Anti Set-off" which enabled printed matter to be handled while still wet from the press. He had lived in Coalville all his life, having served his apprenticeship at the "Coalville Times" printing works, and after leaving there he held positions as a journeyman printer at Bedford and Woolwich before returning to Coalville to set up in business for himself. His mother is one of the most active members of the Coalville Women's V.A.D., having put in a lot of time and work in the inauguration of the Broom Leys War Hospital, while his father is a well-known local musician, being very popular as the leading violinist at the various Sunday School anniversaries in the district. Much sympathy will be felt for them and the family in their great bereavement.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

A son of Mr G. E. Thomas, of Leicester, inspector at Messrs. Stableford's waggon works, Coalville, was on board the Laurentic, and has been posted among the missing. He was an officer in the navy.

Private R. Stanley, of the Hussars, described in the official list as a Coalville man, is reported to have died of wounds.

Sergeant J. W. Ward, of the Yeomanry, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Private S. G. Ruthaway, of the North Staffordshire Regiment, are reported as wounded.

The official casualty lists published on Monday contained the names of Private J. Bloor, of the Sherwood Foresters, of Barlestone, and Private J. Ladds, of the Leicestershire Regiment, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, as having been wounded.

In the casualty list last Thursday appeared the name of Private F. W. Potter, of Hugglescote as missing. He belonged to the Devonshire Regiment.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

PATRIOTISM OF IBSTOCK BUTCHER

A PLEASING INCIDENT

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Rural Tribunal was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. Oswald-Brown presiding. There were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques, G. M. Arnold, W. Towers, Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative), and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

In the adjourned cases of two brothers, farmers, of Stapleton, aged 20 and 23, both passed C2, six months were allowed. The cases had been adjourned pending the result of the appeal of another brother, passed B1, who was to be substituted.

Six months were allowed a Markfield smallholder, aged 35 and married, passed B1, who is also assisting his father on his farm, now that his brother had been called up.

An Ibstock builder, aged 35, married, who was stated to be very ill, had had his case adjourned for medical examination, but as this had been postponed by the military authorities owing to the man's ill-health, the case was adjourned for a month.

A Newbold Verdon engineer and cycle repairer, aged 26, married, whose case had been adjourned for medical examination, presented his card, showing he had been passed B2. He said he originally offered his services to the army and was rejected. Then he volunteered for munition work, and had heard nothing more.

He served four years in the Volunteers. The man was stated to be very useful to the district, in repairing tools for farmers, and he was allowed three months.

An Ibstock wine, spirit and beer retailer, aged 40, and married, in appealing for further exemption said he had fulfilled the Tribunal's condition of working two days' a week on work of national importance. Mr Jacques said the man was working for him, and produced his time-sheet showing the man had put in two days weekly. Applicant was allowed three months on putting in three days a week on work of national importance.

A Ratby hosiery hand, aged 39, married, with two children, stated in his appeal that he was passed B1. His wife was an invalid, and he appealed on domestic grounds. – Two months allowed.

In the next case the circumstances, said the clerk, were rather curious, it being that of an Ibstock ironmonger, aged 40, whose first appeal it was. Mr Jacques said he could explain it. The reason was that the man had been twice rejected, and on a third examination was passed B2. He was called up straightaway, so the appeal was in order. Mr Eggington said the man had had his ankle broken, and was unfit for military service. He repaired colliers' bicycles and seemed to be fully occupied. Allowed three months subject to the man putting in three days of work of national importance.

A Thornton builder and grazier, aged 34, married, with four children, said he did all the building work on Lady Warwick's estate. He had 12 acres of land. He had passed for general service. Allowed till March 31st, final.

An Ibstock farmer appealed for his son, aged 33, married, who assists him on the holding of 54 acres. There were 29 head of cattle, 9 milking cows, and four horses which were looked after by the man. He also had a milk round and daily supplied 120 customers. His father was about 60 years of age. He had two brothers in Ibstock, a butcher and a publican. He did not think it would answer if the two brothers put in 3 ½ days each a week on the farm. He had not been medically examined. One of the military representatives said that when a man had not been medically examined, they assumed him to be a general service man. The man stated that he had a contract for carting coal for the Ibstock Gas. Co. If he had to go, his father would have to sell up. Answering a question, he said his father had never milked a cow in his life. Before deciding this case, the Tribunal heard the case of a brother, a butcher in Ibstock, who is 34 years of age and passed B1. He said he had 11 ½ acres of land, and one milking cow. He had done some ploughing.

A member: *Could you plough with a pair of horses?*

Applicant: *Yes, if I had a day's practice.*

It was decided to give the butcher three months, on condition that he put in three days a week on his father's farm, and the appeal of the other brother was dismissed. On being informed of the decision, the butcher said he thought three days a week was rather too much, if he was to attend to his own business.

The chairman: *Your butchering will be less when everybody comes to 2 ½ lbs per week consumption of meat.*

One of the military representatives: *Butchers won't be wanted.*

The clerk told the applicant it meant three days a week on his father's farm, or army butchering. He said he would do his best.

The appeals of several Ibstock butchers were heard before they were individually decided. One was 29 years of age, and had been passed for general service. He had been working three days a week on a farm, and the clerk said he had a letter in glowing terms of the man's service. Applicant said he was not satisfied with the medical examination. One, 38, passed C3, had worked three days weekly on a farm, and produced a signed statement to that effect from the employer. Another, aged 30, passed for general service said he worked two days a week on a farm till he met with an accident, spraining his wrist through falling in the slaughterhouse. In another case, the man was 29, passed for general service, and he had been putting in four days a week on a farm. A member remarked that they had instructions that general service men under 31 were of more use in the Army than in civil life. There was a long discussion over these cases, in the course of which it was pointed out that it would be a serious thing for the people of Ibstock if the parish was practically denuded of butchers. If these three general service men were taken for the army, it would leave a population of 5,000 people with three butchers only, and one of these had been ordered to give three days a week to work of national importance. It was decided to allow the three general service men till March 31st, final, and the C3 man was allowed three months, subject to three days a week being given to work of

national importance. The four men were called into the room and the clerk informed them of the decision, and also read the Government circular pointing out that Tribunals would not be justified in granting exemption on business grounds beyond January 31st, to men under 31 years of age. – Mr Bouskell added that in giving the men to March 31st final, the Tribunal had gone beyond that, and there would probably be an appeal by the military.

The chairman: *It is a very hard case I admit.*

The clerk: *The Government leave the Tribunal no option.*

One of the men asked about his medical examination. Could he be examined again? The clerk said he only knew of one man succeeding in getting another examination, and that was on appealing to the War Minister direct. Another of the men said he would have to close down, and he would want financial assistance. He asked where he could get the necessary forms. Mr Blower said they would be supplied at the Post Office.

Mr Eggington: *We sympathise with you, but we have no option. That is what the Tribunal were up against.*

One of the applicants said he would like to thank the Tribunal for all they had done for them. *"I did not think when I came,"* he continued, *"that you could do anything more for us, but we should like to thank you for keeping us out of it so long. I am sure we all appreciate what you have done."*

The chairman: Thank you.

The men then withdrew.

Mr Blower: *That is the first time I have heard an expression like that at a Tribunal.*

The clerk: *It is absolutely unique.*

Mr Jacques: *And fancy it coming from Ibstock (laughter).*

Mr Eggington: *And they say nothing good can come out of Ibstock.*

The chairman: *It shows that patriotism is not dead in Ibstock.*

The next two cases were those of butchers from Barton and Congerstone, both 31 years of age. Neither had been medically examined and they were assumed to be general service men. They were allowed till March 31st, final.

The appeal of a single hosiery hand, of Ratby, aged 18, who said his widowed mother was dependent upon him, was dismissed. Also dismissed was the appeal of a Ratby builder for two sons and a workman.

An appeal on conscientious grounds was received from a Newbold Verdon chimney sweep aged 29 and single. He said for years he had been an earnest Christian worker and a colporteur of the Bible and Tract Society. He gave lectures on Biblical subjects to Sunday morning Adult Schools, and regularly conducted Bible classes for students at Coalville. A member remarked that the Army ought to take all parsons under 31. The appeal, which was said to be out of date, was dismissed.

The Superintendent of the Desford Industrial School, appealing for the farm bailiff at the school, aged 28, said the man was engaged training boys for farm work. Between 500 and 600 boys from the school were serving in the Army. – Allowed three months.

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Private A. B. Eagles, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has arrived at his home at Whitwick on sick leave, after being in hospital six months. Through being blown up by a shell and falling on his right arm, he has lost the use of that limb, though it is hoped that he will regain that in time. He is 23 years of age, and the son of Mr J. W. Eagles, of the Coalville Urban Council's gasworks, at Whitwick. Before the war, Private Eagles was chief clerk at Bridlington gasworks.

IBSTOCK WHIST DRIVE

A whist drive was held at the Liberal Club and Institute, Ibstock, on Wednesday evening last, organised by the Ladies' Patriotic Committee on behalf of their Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund. Prizes were given by Mrs Agnew, Mr and Mrs Ford, Mr and Mrs Dunncliffe, Miss Hind, the Committee and a contribution of £1 by Mrs W. Wain. – The prize winners were as follows: Mrs J. Baxter, Miss Frisby, Mrs Rolleston, Mr A. Holmes, Mr J. Underwood.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held in the Ibstock Parish Church on Sunday afternoon last in memory of Sapper Chamberlain, D.C.M., who was gassed while on active service some weeks ago. The Rector, the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., conducted the service. The Church Lads Brigade attended under Captain Wilson, Lieut. Humble and Sergt. Matts. Much sympathy was felt for Mrs Chamberlain, the widow, and her two children. Mr W. Dunstan played the Dead March, and the brigade buglers sounded the "Last Post" at the conclusion of the service.

RAVENSTONE SOLDIER DIES OF WOUNDS

SECOND TO FALL IN ONE FAMILY



Mr Arthur Brooks, a coal miner of Ravenstone, who is employed at the Snibston No. 2 Colliery, received a letter on Friday morning intimating that his son, Private Arthur Reginald Brooks, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, had died of wounds received in action in France.

The sad news was conveyed in a letter from the deceased's officer, who wrote as follows.

"Dear Sir, - It is with the deepest regret that I write to tell you that your son, Pte. A. Brooks of the "C" Coy of this battalion, passed away as a result of wounds sustained during the night of the 20th January. I am his officer, and during some work we were doing a shell fell among my party, and your son was one of those wounded. We got him off to the dressing station, but after going out of the trenches I learned that he died shortly after admission. He is buried in a quiet little place, and his funeral was attended by many of his comrades. it may be a great help to your sorrow to know that

he was one of the finest men I had, and that he was a very great favourite with the rest of the company. He was always willing, and always cheery. I feel sure that he died a most noble death, for a noble cause, and may God help and sustain you to bear the parting. – Yours sincerely, _____, 2nd Lieutenant."

Private Brooks was 22 years of age a few days before he received his fatal wound, and was a single man. When he enlisted he was employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society as a butcher, having learnt his trade with Mr C. Fryer, butcher, of High Street, Coalville, with whom he was engaged for four years. He was a bright young fellow, well-liked by all who knew him, and such sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents, who have now had two sons killed in the war.



The other was Private Wm. Brooks, of the Leicestershire Regiment, aged 27, who fell in action nine months ago. He was in Australia when war broke out, working in the bush, and he travelled some thousands of miles in order to join his county regiment. Mr and Mrs Brooks have another son, aged 20, employed on the M.R. at Moira, and he is expecting to join up shortly.

In the same row of houses in which Mr and Mrs Brooks reside at Ravenstone, there is another family who have lost two sons in the war- the sons of Mr and Mrs Andrews.

HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER KILLED

Mr and Mrs Tovell, of Sunnyside, North Street, Hugglescote, yesterday received information from an officer and chaplain that their son, Private Archie Tovell, aged 22, a machine gunner, attached to the Leicesters, was killed in action on February 1st, being struck on the head by a splinter from a shell, which pierced his steel helmet. He had previously been wounded, and returned to the Front after recovering in England. Before the war he was employed at Messrs. Burgess' and Sons factory, Belvoir Road, Coalville. Further details and a photo will appear in our next issue.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A social will be held in the Coalville Adult School, on Wednesday evening next in aid of the Soldiers' Comforts Guild, and V.A.D. Hospital?

On Sunday morning, the volunteers of Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick, under their respective commandants, paraded in a field off Hermitage Road, for inspection by an instructional officer from Brockton Camp?

LOCAL NEWS

A Coalville soldier on leave from Salonika, Frederick George Bradshaw, was married at the Coalville Parish Church yesterday, to Miss Annie Orton, of Ravenstone Road, Coalville. The Vicar (the Rev. S. Hosking) performing the ceremony in the presence of a good number of friends.

Friday February 16th 1917 (Issue 1302)

Page 2

ASHBY RURAL TRIBUNAL

COLEORTON FARMER OBJECTS TO SUBSTITUTE

THE CHAIRMAN AND THE COLLIERS

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Ashby Rural District was held in the clerk's office, on Saturday afternoon, Mr T. Varnham, J.P., presiding. There were also present, Messrs. J. W. Fowler, A. Riley, J. Rice, F. C. Stevenson, Dr. Atkinson, Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Major Garratt (from Glen Parva Barracks), Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer), Captain Phillimore (military representative), Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary), and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

The chairman said he was desired to call attention to the clause of the Defence of the Realm Act, whereby employers were bound to send to the Recruiting Officer a full list of their male and female employees on the form DR 17, supplied through any Post Office. This had not been complied with in a great many cases, and employers thereby rendered themselves liable to heavy penalties. Any alterations in the staff employed must be notified to the Recruiting Officer within seven days.

An Appleby farmer, aged 32, whose case had been adjourned for medical examination, stated that he had not been examined, because he had not had a free railway pass, as promised to him. Captain Phillimore said he could have had one by applying for it. Answering further questions, applicant said he went to be examined sometime ago, but it was deferred as he had had an accident to his foot. The chairman said that if men did not get medically examined, they would be taken as general service men. The case was adjourned till the next meeting for the man to get examined.

A Worthington timber cutter and sawyer, aged 27, and single, applied for conditional exemption on the ground that he was in a certified occupation, and fully employed, largely on work for Army purposes. In reply to the military representative, he said he had not been medically examined, but had had notice to go on the 14th inst. The application was granted.

An Appleby and Measham farmer, applied for his waggoner of Appleby, aged 36, and married. The applicant was stated to be two days out of date, and the man was really an absentee under the Military Service Act. Applicant said he was not aware of that. The man had worked for him for about four months. The application was refused.

In regard to the appeal for an Appleby cowman, it was stated that he had now joined the Army.

The military representative applied for the review of the case of a Newbold farm labourer and on it being stated that the man had left the employer who got him exemption, the certificate was withdrawn.

The cases of six employees of the Leicestershire Pipe Co., Worthington, were brought up by the military representative, and he said he had met the manager, and arranged for one to retain the certificate, three to be substituted, and two (single men, 18, passed for general service) the certificate withdrawn. – The Tribunal agreed.

A Coleorton farmer appeared to resist the appeal of the military representative against the exemption of his son, aged 25. Captain Phillimore said a substitute had been offered and refused. The farmer only wanted to pay 17s a week, and the man wanted £1. The farmer said the substitute only did a boy's work. He could not plough, and he could not cut a hedge. He dare not even go into the stable. He was afraid of the horse because it looked a bit sweet at him (laughter). He was there three days, and did not go into the stable all the time.

The chairman (jocosely): *You didn't get a horse for the purpose, did you?*

The farmer: *No, I have had the horse five years, come April.*

A member: *Do you expect to get a man for 17/- a week?*

The man replied that another farmer in the district was only paying that.

The chairman: *But are not they old worn-out men?*

The farmer: *They are men who can plough, and sow, and cut a hedge.*

He added that he had partly arranged with a young man, who had been rejected, to live in. "*What do you consider a fair wage?*" was asked. The farmer replied that he would not mind paying 11/- a week to the young man to live in. He added, "*When I was a youth, I could plough as straight as a line and do anything, and I only got £5 a year.*"

Captain Phillimore said substitution was blocked unless proper wages were paid. The standard rate must be paid. The chairman said there was no standard. If they got a good man now, and it was a matter of 1/-, 2/-, or 3/- more a week, they gave it him to keep him. A member remarked that he had been talking to the substitute, who told him, in regard to the horse that it was a very vicious animal. Eventually, the case was adjourned to enable an arrangement to be made.

The military representative asked for the review of the case of an employee of the Measham Shoe Co. A representative of the firm asked for the man to be exempted till Easter. The Tribunal allowed till March 15th.

At the close of the business, the chairman referred to a letter which had appeared in the "Coalville Times" and said he would like to make a personal remark. He was reported to have stated at the last Tribunal that there were too many men in the coal mines. No doubt he did say so, because that was his feeling, but when he made the remark he was referring to men who were not skilled miners, those who had gone into the mines since August, 1915, and were at the present time being fetched out by the military authorities. He only asked to be allowed to make this remark to get it in the Press. He was still of the same opinion that there were too many men in the collieries and that was based on what he was told at conferences and committees he had attended of colliery managers and other colliery officials. He was told that from one colliery alone, 300 or 400 men could be spared. That was why he had made the remark, and he thought he was right. The military representative presented a circular urging all men in the B3 and C3 classes to enrol in the new National Service Scheme, instead of under the Army Reserve Munition Workers, as hitherto.

MARRIAGE

The marriage has been arranged to take place in London, on April 11th, of Miss Tredcroft, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel and the Hon. Mrs Tredcroft, of Glen Ancrum, Guildford, and Captain Phillimore, eldest son of the Rev. A. Phillimore, at Willesley Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The prospective bridegroom is the military representative on the Tribunals in the Ashby district.

MILITARY MEDAL FOR IBSTOCK SOLDIER



An Ibstock soldier, Rifleman Wm. G. Richardson, of the King's Royal Rifles, has been honoured by the award to him of the Military Medal for gallantry and devotion to duty. He now lies in the Military Hospital at Chatham.

The gallant soldier is the son of Mr Wm. Richardson, draper, of Ibstock, who, together with his son, is to be heartily congratulated. Many will join us in wishing Rifleman Richardson a speedy and complete recovery.

HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER KILLED

STRUCK BY A PIECE OF SHELL



Mr and Mrs Tovell, of Sunnyside, North Street, Hugglescote, have received news that their son, Private A. G. Tovell, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action on February 1st. Writing on February 2nd, Lieutenant Cecil L. Saunders, states:- *"I regret that it is my lot to give you bad news. Your son, Private Tovell, was killed in action last evening. He had taken charge of a new position, when at about 6.45 pm, the Germans began shelling. Some high explosive shrapnel burst on the parades, and a fragment entering the doorway of the emplacement struck your son in the middle of the forehead, after passing through his steel helmet. Although your son lived for a few minutes, he did not regain consciousness, and I am sure his death was quite painless. He was a good boy, always willing, cheery, and ready to do whatever might be required of him, no matter how uncongenial or unpleasant the task might be. At the time of his death he was acting as a gun commander, and I had marked him down for further advancement. I knew him only as an officer knows a private, but even so, Mr Tovell, I learned really to love him. I am deeply grieved, and I can imagine the sorrow to you, who knew him intimately. I cannot write the usual*

consolatory phrases because they sound so empty and useless, but I would remind you that he played a man's part. He offered everything; his comfort, his prospects in life, when thousands hung back. He was a true Britisher, and that must, to some small extent, console you. I have some personal belongings of his which I will send to you, and when I know where he is to be buried, I will acquaint you with the place and circumstances. Yours very sincerely, etc."

Also dated February 2nd, was a letter received from the Rev. R. G. Lowndes, Church of England chaplain, who wrote:- *"I am very sorry to tell you of the death of your son, Private A. G. Tovell, who was killed in the line last night by a shell splinter which hit the poor lad in the head and killed him instantly. I have buried him this afternoon in the British Cemetery here in the presence of his officers and comrades. The commanding officer, Major Elwood, who was there, spoke highly of your poor lad, and said he would be a loss to the company. He said what a good lad he was, and that he saw and spoke to him about a fortnight ago, after*

service, on January 14th, when he then made his Communion. Two others were in that service with him, Sergeant Siddons and Sergeant Evans, were present at the funeral this afternoon. I wanted to let you know how, when the dear fellows are taken out here, our thoughts and prayers go out to their dear ones at home in their great sorrow and loss. Remembering our blessed Lord's words that "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends," we may pray with confidence for them, that in that place of light where sorrow and mourning are banished, there may be vouchsafed to them, everlasting rest, for they fell bravely and faithfully doing their duty to King and country, and, as we believe, in the cause of God and right. May the blessed Mother who stood sorrowing by the Cross for the loss of Her dear Son, intercede for all you poor mothers and father, in your sorrow, and may God bless and comfort you, and all His dear ones in your great sorrow and loss. You will like to know that the graves in the cemetery are well cared for, and a cross with an inscription on is erected. His belongings will be forwarded to you in due course through the War Office local records. With sincere sympathy and many prayers, yours faithfully."

The deceased soldier was 22 years of age in September last. Before the war he worked at Messrs. Burgess and Son's factory, in Belvoir Road, Coalville. He enlisted early in the war, and had returned to the Front after having once been wounded.

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Private Aubrey Hewes, of the A.S.C., son of Mr G. H. Hewes, of Ravenstone, has arrived home on leave from East Africa. He met with an accident out there, being thrown from a motor lorry and injuring his knee, and has been for a time in Devonport Hospital. Before the war, he was acting as chauffeur to General Sir. H. Smith-Dorien, and went to Africa in the same boat by which the General sailed.

Page 6

COALVILLE INSURANCE AGENT KILLED

ONE OF FOUR SOLDIER BROTHERS

News was received in Coalville on Wednesday that Lance-Corporal Arthur Wright, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose wife resides at 44, Berrisford Street, has been killed in action. The deceased soldier was only 23 years of age, and the young wife, to whom he has been married since he enlisted, in November, 1914, is left with one child. Before the war, he was a local agent of the Pearl Insurance Co. His parents live in Margaret Street, Coalville, and he was one of four soldier brothers. The other three are, Sergeant Walter Wright, of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who before the war was in the Coventry City Police Force, and Privates Herbert and Henry Wright, of the Leicestershire Regiment.

The news of Arthur's death was conveyed in a letter from Herbert to his sister, Mrs Jacobs of Margaret Street, the writer stating that his brother died a painless death, and he (Herbert) had seen the grave in which he was buried on February 5th.

Up to yesterday, no official communication had been received by the deceased's soldier's wife. She received letters from her husband on Thursday and Friday last, in which he then stated that he was well, but they were written a day or so before the date on which he is reported to have been killed.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Recently published official casualty lists contained the name of Sapper H. Curtis, Royal Engineers, of Coleorton, as killed, and Lance-Corporal G. M. Chamberlain, Royal Engineers, of Ibstock, as having died.

ABSENTEES

Before Mr L. Lovett, at the Coalville Police Court, on Tuesday, Privates John Tockey and Richard Freeman, of the Leicesters, were summoned for being absentees from Patrington since the 11th inst., having been apprehended at Whitwick, by Sergeant Betts. They were remanded to await an escort.

CONCERTS TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Two more concerts have been given during the week to the wounded soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital. On Sunday evening, when Mr Wm. Price presided, a capital programme was contributed to by Messrs. J. Springthorpe (the collier tenor), W. Reece, J. Harrison, Miss Ashley, and Miss Harper, while there were also items by some of the soldiers. On Tuesday evening, Mr W. Eames presided, when a most enjoyable programme was given by Mr Walter Baker's choir from the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of my dear husband, Company-Sergeant-Major Bishop, who died February 17th, 1916.

"When a father breathes his last farewell
The stroke means more than words can tell
This home seems quite another place
Without the smile of father's face."

From his loving wife and children.

Friday February 23rd 1917 (Issue 1303)

Page 3

HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER A PRISONER

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING

We are informed by Mrs Potter and family, of 9, Ashby Road, Hugglescote, that they have had news that Private W. Potter, previously reported missing, is now a prisoner of war in Germany. At the time of writing he was quite well, but was wanting food and socks.

DONINGTON HALL RATIONS

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr Macpherson stated that the War Office was not willing to appoint a committee to inquire into the question of utilising manipulative surgery for the treatment of wounded soldiers. Mr Hope stated that the rations allowed to officer prisoners of war at Donington Hall and elsewhere, had been brought into conformity with the scale suggested by the Food Controller. Mr Bonar Law stated that if a motion embodying the resolutions adopted at the Speaker's Conference were on paper, the Government would afford facilities for its discussion. On the order for the third reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill, the war policy of the Allies was discussed.

LOCAL NEWS

The Whitwick Volunteers marched to Coalville on Sunday morning and joined the Coalville Company in a two hours' drill in a field off Hermitage Road. There was a good muster, Mr Lester commanding the Whitwick Company, in which Private Daniel Martin Brown is the veteran and only bugler, who headed his company to drill. "Dan", as he is popularly known, served for many years in the regular Army, joining the 52nd Foot (Oxfords), and subsequently the 53rd Foot, the 1st Shropshires, the 2nd 85th (Bucks), the Berks' Militia, and finally the 3rd Leicester Militia, completing roughly 30 years' service. Up to the formation of the Whitwick Volunteer Company he had not blown a bugle after leaving the army, but at 58 years of age, he has taken on service again, and expects to don military dress in the near future. He joined the National Reserves at the outbreak of war, and much to his regret was not accepted for military service owing to his age.

RAVENSTONE

There was a happy party during the weekend at the house of Mr and Mrs G. H. Hewes, of Ravenstone, their three soldier sons all being at home on leave together. Private Aubrey Hewes, of the A.S.C., has returned from East Africa through an injury to his knee, and as he is returning to his regiment shortly, Lance-Corporal Reginald Arthur Hewes, of the Royal Engineers, and Lance-Corporal Cyril Horace Hewes, of the North Staffordshire Regiment, obtained 48 hours leave to join him. The latter was only recently called up, and

when he had been in the army only three weeks, received his first stripe. He is a shorthand typist at the Regimental Headquarters, being one of the many young fellows now holding similar positions who learnt their shorthand at the evening classes of the Coalville Technical School. He was formerly a clerk at the Ibstock Colliery. Since he was 13 years of age, Lance-Corporal Cyril Hewes had been the organist at the Ravenstone Wesleyan Church, and attired in khaki, he again officiated at the services on Sunday. Mr and Mrs Hewes had another son in the army, Frank, who was discharged after serving eight months in the Leicesters, and he has again been called up.

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

Under the auspices of the Co-Operative Women's Guild, a successful dance and whist drive was held in the Adult School Hall, on Saturday evening, the proceeds being to provide supplies of cigarettes and chocolates for the wounded soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital. The hall was packed. Mr J. Cooper played for dancing, the M.C.'s for which were Messrs. R. T. Bradshaw and W. Hancock. Messrs. H. Taylor and T. G. Marson acted in a similar capacity for whist and the prize winners were:

Gents: 1. Mr A. E. Treadwell (Bagworth); 2. Mr Hodges.

Ladies: 1. Mrs J. Lynch (Bardon Hill); 2. Mrs W. Blockley (Bagworth);

Mystery: Mr Allen (Bardon Hill).

There were 53 tables. A cake guessing competition was won by Mr Williamson, who guessed the exact weight, 3lb 15oz. Refreshments were admirably served, and it was a most enjoyable evening.

Page 4

SHEPSHED TRIBUNAL

Mr C. Mee presided, and Mr G. E. Bouskell represented the military authorities. The question was raised whether the application of a lace company was in time for their cashier and warehouseman, but as both men were Class B2, the cases were heard, and the men given three months each.

A firm of boot and shoe manufacturers who had already lost 38 men, made application for 14. Twelve were given three months each and a single man (Class A) two months final, and a married man (Class A), 29 years of age, not assented to.

COUNTY APPEALS TRIBUNAL

A COALVILLE CASE

The Leicestershire Appeals Tribunal considered 23 cases at the Castle on Saturday morning, under the presidency of Alderman Thos. Cope. The other members were Messrs. A. E. Hawley, B. H. C. Fox, J. T. Topham, G. J. Brooks, C. J. Plant, J. Bailey and G. Murray Smith.

The military representative appealed against the previous decision of the Tribunal to grant exemption to a man passed for B1, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, on the ground that it was more important in the national interest that he should be taken for military service. Mr Bennett, for the employers, submitted that the work was of great importance, and the man was better employed as he was. The appeal was allowed.

Page 5

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The Coalville Soldier's Comforts Guild has received cigarettes as follows: 161 packets and six loose from the Coalville Liberal Club, per Mrs Kinsey; 30 packets from Mr W. Higgins' box and 10 packets from the Midland Station box.

Mr Solomon Willett, a student-teacher at the Bridge Road School, Coalville, who has been called up with the 18 year old class, was the recipient on Friday last of a handsome wristlet watch from the scholars and teaching staff.

Second-Lieutenant L. H. Pearson, of the Leicesters, son of the Rev. L. H. Pearson, vicar of Rothley, formerly headmaster of the Market Bosworth Grammar School for 22 years, has been awarded the French Croix de Guerre (officers).

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Every British soldier's grave in France is being most carefully attended to Mr Macpherson stated on Wednesday in the House of Commons?

It is understood, says the "Times" that with a view to securing the necessary number of men fit for general service, a general revision of all exemptions outside certain scheduled employments is in contemplation?

The exemption of certain teachers, students and officials of educational establishments under the Board of Education in medical category A, or under 31 years of age in medical category B1, have been withdrawn?

At a meeting of the Loughborough Board of Guardians, the workhouse master on Tuesday stated that all casuals of military age who had lately passed through the casual ward were medically unfit, and those not possessing a certificate, would be brought to the notice of the recruiting officer?

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE CALLING UP OF EXEMPTED MEN

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

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. applied for the exemption of a brick-setter, in their employ for the last 20 years. The man is 37 years of age. Two months were allowed.

Mr C. E. Crane represented a Coalville butcher in his appeal for the further exemption of his only man, aged 36, and married, with one child. Applicant stated that he was over 70 years of age, and if this man was taken applicant could not carry on the business, as the man did the slaughtering. Since the last appeal, the man, who had been passed C2, had worked two days a week on a farm at Donington. The Advisory Committee did not assent, and it was stated that C2 men were being called up. One month (final) was allowed.

A Coalville firm of engineers appealed for a horse-driver in their employ, aged 40, married, with five children. A representative of the firm stated that 25 of their men had joined the Forces, and others taken for munition work. It was heavy work, and could not be done by an old man. The man had passed C1. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

A Coalville grocer, aged 37, married, passed C2, applied for conditional exemption. The Advisory Committee suggested one month (final). Messrs. Crane and Moore, solicitors, Coalville, wrote that the applicant held a conditional exemption certificate, but had received a call-up letter, stating that all exemptions had been cancelled. They were not aware of any such order, but they advised their client to lodge an appeal. Mr German said Captain Stevenson had instructions to call these men up.

The Chairman: *Then we want some information from the clerk.*

Clerk said he knew of no new regulations. If a man holding an exemption certificate was to be called up, the military representative should first of all ask the Tribunal to review the case, and it would be for the Tribunal to decide.

Mr McCarthy: *We want to know where we are.*

Mr German: *Captain Stevenson has had instructions and acted upon them.*

Mr Brown said this was making the Tribunal look foolish, and was placing them in an invidious position. Several applicants recently given exemption by that Tribunal had shown him call-up letters they had received, and he believed that people were being frightened into the Army, though at the local engineering works they were doing better for the country than they would be doing in the Army. If this was to be the case, he should refuse to sit on the Tribunal. The chairman said there might be some mistake. Mr McCarthy suggested that the Tribunal adjourn until the matter was cleared up. It was an absolute farce, and he declined to sit there until they knew where they were. Mr Drewett said they had not had Captain Stevenson's explanation yet.

Mr McCarthy: *He says he had instructions to call them up. We don't want to be here fooling. I have plenty to do.*

Major Wellsman said a calling-up notice did not prevent a man appealing to the Tribunal for his certificate to be reviewed. Mr McCarthy said that up to now the military representative had given notice to the Tribunal if he wanted an exemption certificate reviewed. Now they had another view put to them that the military could call up men, and they could appeal again, but some of them got a bit frightened. Captain Stevenson said he took exception to the remarks that men were being frightened into the Army. He did not wish to do anything of the sort. He sent these letters out by the instructions of the War Office, and the men had a right to appeal within seven days. He added that everybody who went to the Recruiting Office was given every assistance, and he took exception to the remarks.

Mr McCarthy: *I apologise. I did not mean it in that light. I say that the men, sooner than have any humbug, walk to Leicester and join up. It is their weak nature.*

Mr German: *As far as I am concerned these men are entitled to have their cases reviewed.*

Mr Brown: *And the military call them up.*

Captain Stevenson: *Any man has a right to appeal within seven days, and until the Tribunal has decided, they will not be called up.*

The chairman said they understood one another a bit better now.

Mr Fisher: *By what authority was it put on the call-up papers that exemptions were cancelled?*

Captain Stevenson: *By the authority of the War Office.*

Major Wellsman said that the sending of a call-up notice did not mean driving a man into the Army. It was a challenge, and if the man held a certificate, he could appeal for it to be reviewed. Mr Lockwood said that had been explained to the Tribunal, but the people concerned did not know that. The clerk said the point was whether the Tribunal would hear this appeal without a request from the military representative for review. On Mr German making such a request, the Tribunal agreed. The grocer was allowed two months (final).

A Coalville pork butcher's assistant, aged 35, who had been called up, though previously exempted till March 10th, appealed again, and Mr Crane took the same objection as in the last case. Two months (final) were allowed.

Two months were also allowed to a Coalville building firm for their horse-man, aged 40 passed C3.

A Coalville ironmongery firm appealed for one of the partners, aged 40, married with two children. Another partner stated that before the war they employed 14 men, and now only three. Three months allowed.

A Hugglescote plumber and pipe-fitter, aged 36 and single, appealed for temporary exemption, stating that he voluntarily gave up his war badge to join the Canadian forces. He had been accepted, and was waiting for orders. He was passed for general service. Fourteen days (final) was allowed.

A Hugglescote master plasterer, passed B1, aged 35, was allowed one month (final).

The appeal of a Whitwick carter for his assistant, aged 18 and single, passed C1, was dismissed.

Two months were allowed a Hugglescote builder and undertaker for a bricklayer in his employ. The man had passed C3. He was 38 years of age, and had a delicate wife and six children.

A Coalville milkseller and dairyman, aged 30, married, and passed C1, applied for further exemption. He said he supplied 700 customers daily, besides the V.A.D. Hospital. Answering Mr German, he said a lady could not do it. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

Mr Crane represented the Coalville manager for a Leicester firm of oil cake and corn merchants in an appeal for further exemption. This man was 36, married, with two children, and had been passed B1. One month (final) was allowed.

Fourteen days for substitution were allowed a Coalville baker and confectioner, aged 39.

An employee of Stableford's Works, formerly a Coalville tailor's assistant, passed C1, who said he had five brothers serving in the forces, was allowed two months, though the Advisory Committee did not assent.

Two months were allowed a Coalville saddler, represented by Mr C. E. Crane. This man was stated to be 32 years of age, married, and had passed B1. Asked whether he attested, applicant said he did not, in view of his appeal. He thought it wrong to promise to serve the King one day, and appeal the next.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society were allowed two months for a grocery warehouseman, aged 35, and married. Mr German asked for the review of all conditional exemptions, and those of apprentices. Answering Mr Drewett, he said that was a new order. Mr German said it would be for the Tribunal to give their decision.

A Coalville general dealer's appeal to make a further application, his exemption expiring on March 10th, was not allowed.

A Coalville licensed victualler's appeal to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. was not assented to, one similar application by an employee at Stableford's was allowed.

A letter was read from Mr J. S. Turner, Commandant of the Coalville V.T.C., pointing out the good work being done by the Corps. Mr German agreed that the Tribunal should support the Corps all they could.

Page 6

HUGGLESCOTE

A social and whist drive to provide funds for gifts for the wounded soldiers of Hugglescote and Donington, was held in the Church School, on Tuesday evening, about 200 being present. Mr T. Hatter was M.C. for the dance, the pianists being Miss Forgham and Mr J. H. Dean. Messrs. E. Darby and F. J. Wainwright were the M.C.'s for whist, and the prize-winners were:

Ladies: 1. Mrs Darby; 2. Mrs Wainwright.
Gents: 1. Mr H. Langham; 2. Mr G. Lynch.

WHITWICK

MILITARY MEDALIST

It is reported that Corporal A. Percy Hicken, of the Leicesters, is the third Whitwick man to be awarded the military medal. His wife and children reside in the City of Three Waters.

HONOUR FOR THORNTON SOLDIER

Private F. Dilks, of the Leicestershire Regiment, with the British Expeditionary Force, has received a letter from Major-General Campbell, commanding _____ Division, congratulating him on his distinguished conduct in the field. The letter states, *"Your commanding officer, and Brigade commander have informed me that you distinguished yourself in the field on September 26th, 1916. I congratulate you on your fine work."* Private Dilks is the only son of Mr F. Dilks, of Thornton, where he resided prior to the war.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private J. C. Cope, of Bardon Hill, is officially reported to have died. He was in the Leicestershire Regiment, and was attached to the Machine Gun Corps. In the official casualty lists published on Wednesday, appeared the name of Private H. M. Grainger, Leicestershire Regiment, of Thringstone, as having been killed in action. Private Grainger was about 28 years of age. Before the war he was engaged by Messrs. W. Moss and Son, builders, Coalville, as a bricklayer's labourer.

COALVILLE SOLDIER KILLED



The photograph is of Lance-Corporal A. Wright, recently killed in action, as reported in our last issue. His wife and child reside at 44, Berrisford Street, Coalville.

COALVILLE AND NATIONAL SERVICE

LOCAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Now that the great War Loan is out of the way, the next step in the path of victory is the voluntary effort in connection with Mr Neville Chamberlain's National Service Scheme, and constant attention is being called to this scheme by the liberal notice given to it by the Press, and by the National Service posters, which are now appearing everywhere upon walls and hoardings.

The matter, so far as it affects the Coalville urban area, has been placed in the hands of a National Service Committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, under the chairmanship on Mr A. Lockwood. – Messrs. S. Armson, A. J. Briers, F. Griffin, H. T. Bastard, M. Downes, J. Kirby, E. Orton and F. J. Wainwright, and this committee is now engaged in formulating its programme.

The committee would like it to be widely known that every man between the ages of 18 and 61 is expected to support the voluntary scheme. 3,000 to 4,000 forms should be filled up and sent in from this district, and they appeal to any ladies and gentlemen, who feel that they might assist with any clerical, canvassing, and other work may involve, to send in their names.

Letter card enrolment forms may be obtained at the Post Offices, the Labour Exchange, or at the Council Offices, Coalville, from the Hon. Secretary to the committee, Mr G. F. Hurst, who will be pleased to supply any further information required.

Friday March 2nd 1917 (Issue 1304)

Page 1

CHASING AN IBSTOCK DESERTER

SERGT. ILIFFE'S REMARKABLE STORY

At the Hinckley Police Court on Thursday, Isaac Allen (24), an Ibstock soldier, belonging to the Leicestershire Regiment, was brought up in custody charged with being a deserter since March or April of

last year. Sergt. Iliffe said prisoner came home from Patrington in March of last year, and walked about the district for a fortnight in uniform. As witness suspected he was overstaying his leave he made efforts to interview him on the subject, but Allen avoided him each time. Each time he visited his home he was not to be found. Witness told the mother and relations the risk they were running in assisting him to keep out of the Army. When the summer arrived, witness went about in plain clothes, and slept out at nights, and witness arranged search parties of special constables and others, without, however, succeeding in catching him. Prisoner was traced to Coventry, Leicester, Nuneaton, Nottingham and other places. Recently he came home again, and witness arranged another search party. The house of his brother was searched, and then his mother's. Allen, running out of the latter scantily clad, jumping a high wall, and in the darkness escaping. Witness, however, continued his search, and eventually found him at his mother's. He was suffering from ague as a result of his recent adventures, and told witness his uniform was upstairs. The officer added that Allen told him he volunteered to go out to Mesopotamia in March last, but on getting back to his home overstayed his leave, and was afraid to go back. He added that he was glad to be captured, in order to put an end to the life he had been living. He (witness) had not received any notification from the Army authorities as to prisoner's desertion, but they ascertained from Wigston that the Army wanted him. The magistrates ordered prisoner to await the arrival of an escort. The chairman said they considered Sergeant Iliffe had been most assiduous in tracing and following up the man, and recommended that a gratuity of 10/- be paid to him.

BARLESTONE YEOMAN WINS MILITARY MEDAL

Lance-Corporal F. Chapman, of the Yeomanry, whose mother resides at Hood's Yard, Barlestone, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery and devotion in the field. His brother is also serving in the Army.

SOLDIERS WIN BILLIARD MATCH

At the Broom Leys Hospital on Monday night, a billiard match with Thringstone House was won by the soldiers by 478 to 467, the scores being as follows: - Gunner Hogan v T. Lees, 94 – 100; Pte. Hamilton v J. H. Stinson, 100 – 40; Pte. Myers v T. Simpson, 100 – 77; Pte. Wright v J. Rossell, 95 – 100; Gunner Beckett v F. Wheeldon, 77 – 100; Corpl. McElroy v W. Dickens, 12 – 50.

GIFTS TO THE HOSPITAL

The following gifts to the Broom Leys Hospital are gratefully acknowledged: Cakes, Mrs Walker and Mrs Moss; cakes and fruit, Mrs Bailiss; magazines, Mrs Hay; loan of gramophone, Mrs Houghton; cigarettes, Mrs Butler; eggs collected in Hugglescote and Donington by Miss Moseley, from Mrs Fisher, Messrs. D. S. Moore, W. Lander, S. Dean, Knight, A. Hunt, Moseley, F. Henson, Handford, W. Smith and D. Griffin.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

Mr Wm. Hurst presided at a concert for the wounded soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital on Sunday night. A good programme included songs by Mr and Mrs Harry Finch, Miss Harper, Messrs. R. J. Brown, L. L. Baldwin, and one of the soldiers, and there were also selections by the Coalville Coronation Band Quartet Party. On Tuesday evening a concert was given by Mrs Aris (Whitwick) and party.

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Readers will observe that the size of the "Coalville Times" has been further reduced this week, and we desire to inform them that we are reluctantly compelled to take this step through the recent action of the Government in restricting imports. Paper is affected, perhaps more than any other article, except those totally prohibited, and not only is paper now about three times the cost it was before the war, but it is also very difficult to obtain. Our staff is also greatly depleted through members being called to the Colours. We therefore ask the indulgence of our readers while these abnormal conditions last, and hope it may not be long before we are able to publish a full sized paper as in peace days. Meanwhile, by making the very best use of our space, we shall be able to give all the local news. By temporarily dropping the preacher's column, the dressmaking column, railway and motor 'bus timetables, and a few general items, adopting methods of closer type-setting, reports of all local events will be given fully as hitherto. It may be pointed out that we are not alone in arriving at this decision. Many newspapers are not only reducing their size, but are also

increasing their price, in the hope of being able to thus ride over the crisis. The price of the "Coalville Times" will still be one penny, and we shall endeavour as hitherto, to make it a bright newsy sheet, still as acceptable to our many readers serving abroad, as to those at home.

The Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild have decided to give the proceeds of their recent social to the funds of the V.A.D. Hospital, and not to spend the same on chocolates and cigarettes for the soldiers as stated in our last issue. The social realised the splendid sum of £17/12/6, which included 16/2 from the guessing of a cake kindly given by Mr T. Grosert.

Pte. A. Jarvis, on active service, writing to Mrs L. L. Baldwin, secretary of the Coalville District Soldiers' Comforts Guild, says he wishes to thank the Guild for the grand parcel received, and he hopes all are well. He says the weather has been very severe, but is now a little warmer. He adds, *"I must say the Coalville Guild has been very good to us lads out here, but we have been having it thick and heavy since the push started. I should like to thank the women of Coalville and district for all they have done, and ask Mr Wilkins please to put this in the paper. I have the "Coalville Times" every week. It is wonderful how we get the parcels back when we write for them, and we ask you to keep on looking well after the Coalville lads. Great credit is due to you all. Again thanking you."*

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Women are now being employed by the Coalville Urban Council to sweep the roads?

The amount received to date towards the cost of the proposed soldiers' and sailors' memorial window in Thringstone Parish Church is £38/13/1?

Mr Walter Handford, of the Leicesters, who was one of the first fifty Territorials to leave Coalville, and has been wounded, is at home on leave?

The Rev. W. H. Wills, pastor of the Coalville Ebenezer Baptist Church, who since leaving about two months ago, has been at Haslar, near Gosport, is at home on leave this week before proceeding to France for Y.M.C.A. work among the troops, and he will be absent till July. He will preach at the Ebenezer Baptist Church on Sunday?

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

APPRENTICES TO JOIN UP

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, M. McCarthy, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The military representative asked for the review of the case of a Belton youth, aged 18, employed at the Coalville Wagon Works as a painter. As the man was not present, and there was thought to be some misunderstanding, the case was adjourned for a week.

A Coalville plumber appealed for the conditional exemption of an apprentice, aged 20, who resides at New Swannington, and whose christian names were stated to be "Oliver Cromwell". Applicant said this was the only apprentice left out of four. He was patriotic enough to let his two best apprentices go within two months of the beginning of the war, and another had since gone, also his son. This apprentice had once been conditionally exempted during the period of his indentures. Mr German said a new order had come out that apprentices were liable to service. Applicant said he was working night and day, and had a months' work standing, so repair pipes burst through the frost. He had been called up in the night and from his Sunday dinner to stop the flooding of houses through burst pipes. One month (final) was allowed.

A Whitwick lady farmer appealed for her farm hand, aged 18, who had milk round, with 160 customers. Allowed till substituted.

A Coalville mineral water manufacturer, aged 37, single, in an appeal for further exemption, stated that his mother was an invalid and she and his aged father were dependant on the business, which he carried on. The applicant was passed for general service, and the Advisory Committee did not assent. A member said

this was a hard case, and if this man went, every man should go. The military representative said he did not agree. The question was whether this business was of national importance. One month was allowed.

A Coalville builder appealed for his apprentice, aged 19, single, stating that he was the only bricklayer he had. He asked for exemption for 12 months, when his indentures would expire. One month (final) was allowed.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Whitwick firm of builders, whose apprentice, aged 19, and single, passed for general service, was appealed against by the military representative. Mr Sharp said the man was engaged on important work and was the solo support of his widowed mother. He had a brother serving. One month (final) was allowed.

The military representative also appealed against the exemption of a draughtsman's apprentice at Messrs. Wootton's Engineering Works, aged 18, single, and passed for general service.

The chairman: *Is he badged?*

Mr German: *It doesn't matter if he is.*

A representative of the firm said the youth was eligible for a trade card. His apprenticeship had two more years to run. One month (final) allowed.

A Whitwick butcher, in his appeal, stated that he was 35, single, and carried on the business of a butcher for his mother, who was an invalid and dependent upon him. He said he was working all hours and Sundays as well, and he had to go drilling at that.

Mr Hale: *Is that why you look so well?*

Applicant: *It is the fresh air sir. I have always had a good colour.*

A member remarked that it was a good business and would have to close if this man went. One month was allowed.

Another appeal by the military representative was against the exemption of a single man, aged 18, passed B2, working at Coalville Wagon Works, as a dresser in the foundry. Case adjourned for a week.

A Hugglescote painter, appealing for his only man, aged 33, married, and passed C1, said his son had been killed in France. His eldest son had been sent back from the Royal Engineers and was now working on munitions. The Army doctors told him not to go back to the painting for at least two years. Applicant added that he depended on his man to carry on the business. He had three quarters of an acre of garden ground which he attended to himself and it took him all his time.

Mr German: *You don't grow flowers do you?*

Applicant: *I grow all sorts, and my garden is an example to anyone. I was the first to start the flower shows which are held in the district.*

The Advisory Committee recommended two months, and this was agreed to. A member said this did not compare favourably with other cases. There were men engaged in more important trades to whom they gave only a month. It was pointed out that he was a C1 man.

The member: *I don't care. They are calling these men up.*

A Coalville firm of loom and shuttle makers appealed for an apprentice, aged 19, single, and passed C1. Applicant produced examples of the man's work, and in reply to Mr German, said a good joiner could not do it. Mr Fox (a member of the Tribunal who is a carpenter) said it would take a carpenter 12 months get into this particular work. Mr German said he knew something of joinery, and knew men who would do such work in less than three months. Two months allowed.

The Tribunal dismissed the appeal of the Coalville branch manager of a grocery firm, aged 36, married, and passed B1. The appeal was on domestic grounds.

Mr J. J. Sharp supported the appeal of a Coalville general dealer and off-licence holder, aged 39, married, with three children, and also supporting a mother-in-law. He had passed B2. He was drilling with the Volunteers in the mounted section. One month allowed.

A Coalville widow, appealed for her son, single, aged 18, who is engaged driving a motor lorry for a munition firm at Birmingham. Her only other son she said was serving in France, and from whom she had an allowance. That was her only income besides what she had from her son at Birmingham, who was really supporting her and his grandmother, who lived with applicant. It was stated that the man had been passed for general service. The mother produced letters from the Birmingham firm that the man was on Government work and should not be taken. The military representative said the firm should have applied. This was a domestic claim. One month allowed.

A cycle dealer appealed for his youth, aged 19, engaged on repairs. He brought the youth with him, and his diminutive size caused some amusing remarks.

The chairman: *How old are you?*

The lad: *Nineteen.*

A member: *He looks 12.*

Applicant: *That is what his mother says.*

The chairman: *He will grow, and will be a big man later on.*

Mr McCarthy: *He had better join the Yeomanry.*

The chairman: *There are some little and good ones, you know.*

Applicant, replying to a question, said the lad had worked for him five years.

The clerk: *He wasn't very big when he began then, was he?*

Applicant said the lad really wanted to join the Army, but he (applicant) thought he was doing better work where he was. He would leave it to the Tribunal. He added, amidst much laughter, "*He is the only man I have.*"

A member: *Two months, and see if he will grow.*

This was agreed to.

One month (final) was allowed a Whitwick baker for his son, aged 18, and passed for general service.

The application of a Coalville master butcher to re-open his case, after having been granted two months final, was not allowed. He is 24 and married.

A Coalville wheelwright, who has a son in the Army, appealed for his other son, aged 32, married, who assists him in the business, and was allowed till substituted.

In two cases, it was stated that the men had joined up since the appeals were lodged.

Page 3

MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday evening, a memorial service for the late Pte. Herbert Grainger, of the Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action, was held in the Thringstone Wesleyan Chapel, where he attended before joining the Army. There was a large congregation and the service was conducted by Mr A. Caurah, who paid an eloquent tribute to the deceased. Among other things, he mentioned what a good lad Grainger was to his mother during her illness. The choir sang "Vital Spark", and the service was of an impressive character.

IBSTOCK

A football match for the benefit of soldiers and sailors was played at Ibstock, on February 24th, between Mr J. Adcock's team (Ibstock) and Mr T. Price's team (Coalville). A good game resulted in a win for T. Price's team by 3 goals to none. Scorers: Messrs. P. Underwood, T. Price and A. Starkey.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private R. Hughes, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, previously reported missing, is now reported killed. He was in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

News has been received that Private Thomas Allen Thorpe, of the Highland Light Infantry, was killed in action in France on February 13th. He was 20 years of age and single, and before the war managed the branch shop for a dye works in Ashby Road, Coalville his parents being residents of Loughborough. The deceased soldier was a member of the St. Saviour's Catholic Church, Coalville, and when he was last in Coalville on leave, he told Father Degan he was going into action, or about to face great danger, if he had not time to write, he would despatch two field post cards on the same day as an intimation. Father Degan received two such postcards on February 11th and now comes the news that Thorpe was killed on the 13th.

ELLISTOWN SOLDIER'S DEATH

It is with much regret that we record the death of Private Percy Deacon, only son of Mr and Mrs T. Deacon, of Ellistown, which has occurred under exceptionally sad circumstances. The deceased joined the Army only a month ago, and was attached to a Training Battalion, at a camp near Cannock Chase, Staffordshire. He had not been there long before he contracted fever, his weakened condition through an attack of influenza about the time he joined up, rendering him the more susceptible to the disease. During the last few days, his condition became serious, and a telephone message was received in the early hours of Wednesday morning stating that he had passed away. The late Mr Deacon was 26 years of age, and leaves a widow and one child. Before the war he assisted his father in the role of baker and confectioner, at Ellistown, and was well-known in the locality, being held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. For some years, like his parents, he had been a member of the Hugglescote Baptist Church, Much sympathy is felt for the young widow, and the mother and father in their great bereavement. The body is to be brought to Hugglescote for burial in the Baptist churchyard.

Friday March 9th 1917 (Issue 1305)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Firms who have once made a full return of their employees have not to make another return, but to notify their recruiting officer concerned of any alteration each month?

A train of about 250 wounded soldiers arrived at Leicester on Sunday afternoon, and the men were removed to North Evington and the Royal Infirmary, the customary arrangements having been made?

Out of 26 appeals before the Market Bosworth Tribunal on Tuesday, 13 were dismissed, and several of the others only allowed time while substitutes are found?

LOCAL NEWS

The recent dance and whist drive at the Whitwick Holy Cross School, organised by the Coalville Volunteer Mounted Troop, realised £20 for the Broom Leys V.A.D. Hospital. The troop visited the hospital on Sunday afternoon, and paraded in front of the building, presenting a smart appearance. The sum named was handed to Mr W. Lindley, J.P., as chairman of the Hospital Committee, who thanked the volunteers for their splendid effort.

Colliery Recruiting Courts are being held in Leicestershire this week under the presidency of Mr Wm. Saint, H.M. Inspector of Mines. With him, as assessors, are Mr E. D. Spencer (representing the owners), and Mr S. Buckley (the men), the military representative being Mr J. S. Turner, Commandant of the Coalville Volunteer Corps. The courts are being held at various collieries. On Monday, Nailstone, Bagworth and Desford were visited; on Tuesday, Ibstock, Ellistown and South Leicestershire; Wednesday, Snibston and Whitwick; Thursday, Coleorton and Worthington; finishing today with Donisthorpe and Rawdon Reservoir pits, Moira. The men dealt with those who had gone into the mines since August 14th, 1915, and the surface men, and a good number have been taken.

A musical treat is in store for the people of Coalville and district at the Olympia Theatre on Thursday next, which will be anticipated all the more eagerly since the performers will be wounded soldiers from the Broom Leys Hospital, and the proceeds are to be devoted to the games fund at the hospital. The leading spirit is Private Wilcox, who is an entertainer of exceptional merit, and has done much to entertain his brother Tommies on the battlefield, having made a tour of the trenches. Two concerts are to be given next Thursday, one at 10.30 in the morning, and the other at 7.15 in the evening. Those who have not purchased tickets should do so at once, as the events are sure to be a huge success.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

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

The clerk reported the receipt of a new list of instructions to Tribunals, and said that owing to the shortage of paper, only two copies were available, instead of one for each member as hitherto. He read the principal points in the instructions. It was stated that a critical stage in the war had been reached, and it was imperative that more young men should be obtained for the Army. With this in view, it was advised that exemptions to men under 31 be revised. It was also stated that the exemption allowed hitherto to men engaged in religious work was now removed, and they were liable to be called up in the ordinary way.

The chairman: *It is wise we should know that.*

Proceeding, the clerk said it was now within the power of the Tribunal to grant an applicant another medical examination by a special Medical Board if they thought the special circumstances merited it. In regard to the sole proprietors of one-man businesses, it was suggested that the Tribunals had not kept the regulations sufficiently in view, and every effort should be made to secure co-operation between traders to reduce hardship.

Mr Blower said he would like to mention a point which had been cleared up with regard to old miners. Hitherto, when men placed in a low category had been exempted by the Tribunal on getting work on national importance, had not been allowed to go into a mine, though the men may have been old miners. He put the question to the president of the Colliery Courts which had been held in the district during the week, and the reply was that if the Tribunals recommended it, such men could go into the mine and managers might set them on.

Mr McCarthy: *Do the managers of the collieries know that?*

Mr Blower: *Yes, it has been made clear.*

One month final was allowed a dresser in a foundry at a local wagon works, the youth being aged 18, and passed B2.

The military appealed against the exemption of another youth, aged 18, employed at the same works, passed C1. Mr Hale (the manager) said they were on important work, and were very short-handed. Two months allowed.

A Coalville printer's apprentice, aged 19, passed B1, was appealed against by the military authorities. The printer pointed out the serious position he was in through other men having been taken, and said he was led to understand that he would be able to retain this apprentice until he was out of his time. Mr German said he was frequently getting new instructions. Applicant said he was having to work late every night, and that following a long illness. He did a lot of work for the local collieries and put in two letters from colliery secretaries to this effect. In the whole of the Coalville urban area there were only two journeyman printers left, and he had one, who had been rejected. Two months allowed.

A Whitwick painter and sign-writer was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp in an appeal for his son, aged 31, married, passed C2, who practically carried on the business, the aged father being ill. Mr Sharp said the man supported his parents besides his wife and child. One month allowed.

A Coalville hairdresser, aged 34, married, with two children, in his appeal stated that he was rejected last May, and on re-examination was passed C3. Two months allowed on giving three days a week to work of national importance.

A grocery shop manager employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 30, married, with two children, appealed on domestic grounds. It was stated that the man had been passed for general service, and when the Co-Operative Society appealed, they were allowed two months, or till substituted, but the military appeal against this was upheld at Leicester. Applicant said he had a boy very ill, and was to undergo an operation. One month allowed.

An Ellistown farmer, aged 69, appealed for his son, a dairyman and wagoner, aged 25, and married. Mr J. J. Sharp said the farmer was a confirmed invalid. Applicant said he was rejected on the first examination and passed B2 at the second. The farm consisted of 17 acres of grass land. He supplied 100 customers with milk, and kept his father and mother, and his wife, all living in one house. Two months allowed.

The military representative appealed against the exemption of a baker employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 34, married, and passed for general service, Mr German said the man was ordered to train with the V.T.C. but had not done so. Mr Lockwood said that was perhaps accounted for by the fact that the men worked nights. Ten men from their bakery had joined the Forces, and the staff included women, and overtime was being worked. Mr German asked whether it was not a fact that they had high-class machinery, which could be managed by men not highly skilled in baking. Mr Lockwood said theirs was a trade union shop, and the members would object to a tailor or a shoemaker coming in. One month, or till substituted, allowed.

The case of five Whitwick master butchers, all married, were taken together. In three cases, men passed B2, C1 and C2, the Advisory Committee recommended three months and the other two, general service and B1 men, one month, the understanding being that the three men left should carry on the business of the other two. Mr Brown asked whether the military authorities would arrange that. Mr German said the men would have to arrange it among themselves. Mr Brown said there should be some guarantee. Mr Briers said they were all one-man businesses. Mr Drewett suggested giving a certain time to the lot to see if they could come to an arrangement among themselves, it being understood that two had to go. Mr Lockwood said he did not think they would arrange it themselves.

The chairman: *It would be to their advantage to do so.*

Mr Lockwood: *To the advantage of those left.*

It was stated that there were six butchers in Whitwick, the other one having previously been given one month. It was decided that three be taken and three left, and the men were called into the room altogether, and told that they would be allowed a month to arrange among themselves for three to carry on the six businesses, after three had gone. One of the men remarked that if he went, the business would close. Mr German said it was for them all to do their best. They had put it off as long as they could, and now the position had to be faced. The clerk pointed out that if the men did not formulate a scheme themselves, the Tribunal would say which of them would have to go. Mr German said the medical categories would have to be taken into account. At the request of the Tribunal, he suggested that the three to go should be the general service man, B1 and C1 men. Answering a question, Mr German said C1 was of higher military value than B2. It was pointed out that age and family responsibilities would also be taken into account. Mr J. J. Sharp, who appeared for the men, said they realised the difficulty of the Tribunal. Eventually, Mr German arranged to meet all the men on Monday night to talk it over.

The cases of six Coalville butchers were next considered. Three were employed by the Co-Operative Society, and three were in business for themselves. Mr Lockwood said the Co-Operative Society could not carry on now, and some of the shops were being closed. The three master butchers and one from Hugglescote were called in together and told the cases were adjourned for a month for them to make an arrangement, two to go, and the other two to carry on the four businesses. Replying to Mr Crane (for one of the men), the chairman said the Co-Operative Society's butchers were being dealt with in a similar manner. Mr Lockwood said the Co-Operative business was more than equal to all the others put together. Ten of their butchers had already gone.

Mr Brown: *We can assure Mr Crane that there will be no favouritism.*

It was arranged for Mr German to meet the men to talk matters over on Monday night, and similar with the Co-Operative Society, all the cases being adjourned for a month.

Mr German presented a list of names from the V.T.C. Commandant of men who had failed to drill, the names being read, and it was agreed that if the men failed to drill, without a valid reason, the military representative call them up at once. Mr Briers said this condition was not imposed by the Market Bosworth Tribunal. Mr Drewett said they had nothing to do with Market Bosworth. Mr Briers said some of the men were working night and day now. Mr Hale said that would be an excuse. If the Tribunal made an order and did not see it was carried out, they might as well stay at home.

Page 3

WILL OF CAPT. LYNES

Captain Wynne Parr Lynes, K.R.R.C., of Tooley Park, near Hinckley, and formerly of Ravenstone, who died on October 14th, at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Millbank, eldest son of Colonel Lynes, of Garthmoilio, Denbighshire, has left estate of the value of £6,430/2/6 with net personality £5,816/18/7. Administration is granted to his widow, Mrs Violet Ethel Lynes.

GIFTS TO THE HOSPITAL

The Matron wishes to acknowledge the following gifts to the hospital. Eggs collected by Miss Moseley (Donington), from Mrs W. Smith, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Sketchley, Mrs Underwood, Mrs Fisher, Mrs D. S. Moore, Mrs Simons, Mrs S. Dean, Mrs Knight, Messrs. J. Smith, J. Handford, and J. Moseley. Also eggs given Miss E. Jesson. (Ashby).

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE HOSPITAL

A capital concert was given to the wounded soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital, on Tuesday last week by Mr F. Wheeldon's concert party. The following was the programme: Song, "Up from Somerset", Madam Wheeldon; song, "The Sunshine of your Smile", Mr A. Baker; duet, "Life's Dream is O'er" Madam Clay and Madam Wheeldon (encore "The Old Folks at Home"); song, "The Englishman", Miss Smith; duet, "The Larboard Watch", Messrs. Baker and Waterfield; song, "The British Navy", Mr A. Baker; song, "Anchored", Madam Wheeldon; song, Miss Smith; duet, "Excelsior", Madam Clay and Madam Wheeldon, (encore, "The Farewell"); song, "Thora", Mr Waterfield; song, "Dear Home Songs", Miss Gertie Baker.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

The soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital were entertained to an excellent tea on Saturday in celebration of the birthday of the matron. The dining room had been tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the tea was much enjoyed. Prior to the tea, photographs were taken of the patients, nurses and friends. On the invitation of the matron, Canon Broughton proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the donors of the tea, which was carried with three ringing cheers, and Private Wilcox thanked Canon Broughton and all who had assisted, on behalf of the men. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing, singing, and a whist drive, and a most enjoyable time was brought to a close with the singing of the National Anthem. The following ladies provided the gifts: The Co-Operative Women's Guild, £2 worth of eatables; Mrs Abel Smith, flowers and plants; Mrs Green, Scotch scones; Mrs Baldwin and Mrs Coleman, trifles; Mrs Moss and Mrs Baker, decorations; Mrs Cooper, Mrs Harper and Nurse Martin, cakes and fruit; Mrs Monk, jellies; and Misses Moore, cakes.

NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

A special committee of the Coalville National Service Committee was held at the Urban Council offices on Wednesday evening, Mr A. Lockwood presiding. There were also present, Messrs. E. Orton, M. P. Downes, F. Griffin, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, F. J. Wainwright, W. Battle and G. F. Hurst (hon. secretary). The chairman gave a report on his attendance the previous day at a national service conference in London, attended by about 600 delegates and addressed by Mr Neville Chamberlain and Lord Rhondda. He said all were expected to enrol under the scheme, no matter what work they were on, and if it was considered they were already on work of national importance they would not be called up. It applied to miners and munition workers, as well as others, including professional men. Appeals from the employers would be heard.

If the scheme was not a success, compulsion was foreshadowed. A vigorous propaganda, in which the aid of the local Press, public bodies and associations, labour councils, places of worship and entertainment, was to be invited, was urged upon the delegates, this to include public meetings and house-to-house canvas. Mr Orton said the thanks of the meeting were due to the chairman for his report. As the chief days had been fixed for 24th and 26th March, it would be necessary to alter the dates of the Coalville canvas, which had been decided to commence on the 12th and finish on the 19th, but it had been suggested at a meeting of the canvassers held earlier that evening, that they should commence the canvas on March 19th and finish on the 26th. This was agreed to, and other details discussed, public meetings in all the wards being decided upon.

THE LATE PTE. T. P. DEACON

FUNERAL AT HUGGLESCOTE

The funeral took place in the Hugglescote Baptist Burial Ground on Saturday afternoon of Private Thomas Percy Deacon, of Ellistown, whose death occurred from illness on Wednesday, at a camp in Staffordshire, where he was in training, having been in the Army about a month. The deceased was so well-known in the locality that a large crowd of people assembled to witness the internment, sympathy with the bereaved relatives being widespread owing to the sad circumstance surrounding the death. Among those present were the Coalville Fire Brigade, of which the deceased was a former member, and representatives of the Hugglescote Baptist Church, the late Mr Deacon being a member and secretary of the choir, and former secretary for the Sunday Scouts.

The chief mourners were: Mrs T. P. Deacon (widow), Mr and Mrs T. Deacon (father and mother), Misses Kathie and Freda Deacon (sisters), Mrs Hurst (grandmother), Mr George Hurst, the Rev. W. E. Hurst, Mr and Mrs Jas. Hurst, Mr and Mrs George Higgins, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs George Wade (mother-in-law, of Shepshed), Mrs W. A. Wade, Mrs E. Handford (Shepshed), Mr T. Archer (Barwell), Mr A. Archer (Leicester), Mr and Mrs J. Gutteridge, Mr and Mrs E. Orton (Coalville), Mr and Mrs T. Lawrence, Mr Maurice Wade, Mr and Mrs E. Smith (Shepshed), Mrs Tiegle, Miss Deacon and Miss Hatchett.

The body was enclosed in an oak coffin, with brass mountings, the breast-plate bearing the inscription, "Private T. P. Deacon – Res. Batt. Died February 28th, 1917, aged 26 years." It was met at Hugglescote Station, the hearse and coaches then proceeding to Ellistown for the mourners, and returning to the graveyard. The bearers were Messrs. D. Burton, G. Cooper, T. Cox and George Armson, all members of the Baptist choir. The service was conducted by the Rev. C. Barker (pastor), assisted by the Revs. J. Hayhoe (Ellistown), and W. Williams (Birmingham).

There was a handsome lot of floral tributes from the following: His sorrowing wife and baby; Mother, Father and Sisters; Mother, Father, brother and sister, (Westroyd, Shepshed); Grandma Hurst; Aunties Edith and Emily; Aunt Amy, Uncle Will and Leicester cousins; uncles, aunties and cousins, of Shepshed; Mr and Mrs Orton; Auntie Lizzie and cousins; Auntie Edith and Uncle Arthur (Leicester); Auntie Alice and Uncle Sam (Birmingham); Mr and Mrs J. T. Lawrence; Frank and Cissie; Lizzie and Enoch (Heatherdene, Shepshed); Mr and Mrs J. Hume and Allan; Mr and Mrs W. Fellows and family (Hugglescote); Mr and Mrs W. Smith and family (Donington); Mr J. Ellis; Mr and Mrs Gough and family; Auntie and Uncle and Nancy Gutteridge (Coalville); Mr and Mrs Lagoe and Rifleman and Mrs H. Lagoe; Mr and Mrs E. W. Guy; Mr and Mrs Howard Baseley; Mr and Mrs Harry Smith; Syd Hemsley; Mag, Gertie, Lizzie and Olive; Hugglescote Baptist Choir; Hugglescote Baptist Sunday School; Officers and men, Coalville Fire Brigade; Officers and men, Hugglescote Company, V.T.C.; the Rev. C., and Mrs Barker's young men's and young women's classes; Mr and Mrs Derry and family; Uncle George; Aunt Emmie, and Uncle Jim.

The deceased's mother is the president of the Ellistown Women's Adult School, and at the Coalville Adult School on Sunday, the members passed a vote of sympathy with the bereaved relatives.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held at the Hugglescote Baptist Church on Sunday evening, when there was a large congregation, which included the members of the Hugglescote Company V.T.C., to which the deceased formerly belonged. The pulpit was faced with two flags (the Union Jack) crossed, and the service was impressively conducted by the Rev. C. Barker, whose address was based on the words found in Matt. 14c., 12v. He spoke of the christian life lived by the deceased soldier, of his excellent work for that church and

Sunday School, his geniality and good companionship, and said this must be a comfort to those left behind. Like thousands of others were doing, he had given his life in a noble cause, and it was acceptable in the sight of God. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." It was something to be proud of that Jesus gave a commendation like that. An early death was not necessarily a premature one. There was work to be done on the other side of Jordan, and if God wanted workers, why should he not call the best. In a nobler sense, Percy Deacon had gone to the Front. Life was not to be measured by years. It depended upon what they put into it. The life was longest which had the most in it of divine service. Piety in life was the only guarantee of peace in death. During the service the hymns sung were "Son of my soul", "Looking unto Jesus", "For all the saints", and "At evening time". Mr E. W. Guy (organist) played, "O rest in the Lord" and at the close gave a fine rendering of the "Dead March in Saul," the congregation standing meanwhile.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

The official casualty lists recently published contained the name of Private P. Watson, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, as having been killed in action. He was in the Leicestershire Regiment and had previously been reported missing.

Three killed, one missing and presumed killed, and one twice wounded, is the great war sacrifice made by a family named Hall, of Hinckley. The killed are Sergeant W. Hall, Gunner W. S. Hall, and Private C. S. Hall. The missing soldier is Private George Hall and Private J. S. Hall, the one twice wounded.

Page 4

SOLDIER'S THEFTS

EXTRAORDINARY STORY AT ASHBY POLICE COURT

SERGT. FOX COMPLIMENTED

Some remarkable facts were disclosed in the Ashby Police Court, on Saturday, during the investigation of two charges of theft in which a local soldier was concerned, and smart work by Police-Sergeant Fox brought a compliment from the Bench.

Wm. Poyser (32), labourer, Ashby, and George Edward Lancaster (42), private in the Leicestershire Regiment, late of Ashby, were charged with stealing one bottle containing peppermint, to the value of 7/6 at Ashby, on February 19th. Poyser pleaded guilty, and Lancaster not guilty. Alice Ball, landlady of the Lamb Inn, at Ashby, stated that her husband had been called to the Colours. The bottle of peppermint (produced) was value 7/6. Stanley Bradshaw, sales representative of the British Petroleum Co., lodging at the Lamb Inn, said he called time at 2.30 and the two defendants remained in the bar, and asked for Oxo. Witness said they had no hot water, but went through to the kitchen to ask the landlady about it. While he had gone the men went out. Later, he missed a bottle of peppermint from the shelf behind the bar.

P.C. George Henry Norton said he visited the house of Lancaster and saw both the defendants there. Lancaster asked witness what he wanted, adding, "*I am sorry we have not anything to drink, but you can have a drink out of that bottle of water on the table.*" Witness examined the bottle, and found it to contain peppermint. He cautioned them and told them he suspected them of stealing it from the Lamb Inn that day. They replied that they knew nothing about it, and did not know how it got into the house. They accompanied him to the Lamb Inn, and told the landlady they knew nothing about it, but they would pay her for it to stop the bother. She replied, "I shall have nothing to do with it. I have placed it in the hands of the police. It is not the first you have had." They made no reply. The defendant, Lancaster, who was in khaki, stated, on oath, that he left the public house before 2.30 and went straight home, and went to bed, intending to return to Brockton Camp the same night, but missed the train. He went to the Lamb Inn again the same night and saw Poyser there. He invited him to his house, saying he was not going back till morning. When Poyser got to the house, he produced the bottle from his pocket, and that was the first he (Lancaster) saw of the bottle. Poyser said he got drunk through his friend. Lancaster, coming over on leave, or it would not have happened. He had been called up to join the Army on Tuesday, and hoped the Bench would be lenient. Defendants were each sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

There was a further charge against Lancaster of stealing a quantity of Army clothing. Defendant said the things belonged to him. Some of them had been sent to him as presents from the people of Ashby. P.S. Fox stated that he and P.C. Cobley visited prisoner's house on February 25th, and had a conversation with his wife. Then he searched the house and found two khaki scarves, two towels, and a body belt. He next searched a hen-roost in the yard, which was locked up. He found four blankets concealed in a tub. Afterwards witness went to a house at Millbank occupied by Fanny Bosworth and her sister, who were friends of the prisoner and his wife. He found there three blankets, one shirt, three pairs of pants, four pairs of socks, one pair of puttees, pair of braces, two caps, one jack knife, cigarette holder and case, a housewife's set (needles etc.), one pair of gas goggles, pair of gloves, and two shaving brushes. Witness communicated with the officer commanding Brockton Camp and the prisoner was brought to Ashby under escort the previous day. Witness cautioned him and charged him, when he replied, "*They are all my property.*" Witness asked him why he wrote his wife telling her to move the things from the house, and he replied that he should own to nothing. Witness also asked him if the things were his, why he kept sending them by parcel post to Ashby. Prisoner said some of the things had his number on. Police Sergeant Fox said defendant's number was on the shirt. If the goods had belonged to the defendant, he had no right to send them home.

William Brierley, sergeant in a training reserve battalion, of the Leicestershire Regiment at Brockton Camp, said the pile of goods produced were Army property. A soldier should have kit with him. The articles produced were more than three men would have. No man was allowed to bring Army blankets away at all. It was an offence for a soldier to part with his kit. Answering the Bench, prisoner said he had been to France twice. The first time he was buried and the second time he was invalided home. Sergt. Brierley, in reply to the chairman, said the prisoner was classed as temporarily unfit for active service, but likely to become fit. Witness did not think the prisoner would be discharged from the Army in consequence of the conviction in the previous case.

Supt. Lockton: *This man is over age.*

Sergt. Brierley: *No man is over age who is fit.*

Prisoner said he was willing to go to France again. He had never tried to get out of it. The sentence was two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, the sentences to be consecutive, prisoner thus getting four months in all for the two offences. P.S. Fox was recalled, and the chairman said the Bench wished to congratulate him on the way he had investigated the case. It was very creditable to him.

Sergeant Fox: *Thank you, sir.*

WHITWICK SOLDIER'S DEATH



Official news has been received by Mrs Wibberley, wife of Mr F. Wibberley, of 19, Silver Street, Whitwick that her son, Private John Henry Wyatt, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died in hospital at Boulogne, on February 19th, from wounds received in action.

A chaplain (the Rev. P. M. Despres) writing to the mother after the deceased had been wounded stated, "*This afternoon, I saw your son, Private J. H. Wyatt, No. 10389, of the Leicestershire Regiment, in this hospital, where he is receiving every care. I very much regret to say that he has been wounded in the head, legs, and hands, and is in a very serious condition. He was unconscious when I saw him, except for the few moments in which he told me your address. However, we must continue to hope and pray that if it be God's will he may be spared. At all events, we must strive to look up and hold up our heads until the anxious time is over. My prayer is that God may strengthen and help you throughout these trying days. I can assure you that your boy is in splendid hands, and is surrounded by everything that skill and care can give him. With my best wishes and heartfelt sympathy.*" One of the nursing sisters also wrote, "*I regret to say that your son is still very ill, and I am sorry to say that there is very little hope for his recovery. It will comfort you perhaps, to know that he suffers no pain. He was badly wounded in the head, arm, legs and face. We are doing everything possible for him, and I am sorry to have to give you such bad news. I will let you know of any change. Sincerely yours.*"

These letters were followed by the notification of his death. Private J. H. Wyatt was 20 years of age, single, and before the war worked at the Whitwick Colliery as a putter. He joined up soon after the war began – on August 25th, 1914 – and had experienced a good deal of fighting. His father was killed in the Whitwick Colliery disaster about 19 years ago. A mate from Whitwick named Whitmore, with whom Wyatt enlisted, was killed last July.

PEGG'S GREEN SOLDIER HONOURED

HIS BROTHER KILLED

According to the "London Gazette", Lance-Corporal T. Curtis, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. Lance-Corporal Curtis is a Pegg's Green man, and worked at Coleorton Colliery before joining the forces, and has been in France nearly two years. His mother has received news that another son, Sapper Harold Curtis, of the Royal Engineers, who was first reported missing, believed killed, is now officially reported killed on 29th June last. Sapper H. Curtis was a well-known Pegg's Green footballer.

BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

IBSTOCK LICENSED VICTUALLER'S APPEALS

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Market Bosworth rural district was held in the old board room on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding, and there were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, J. T. Jacques and G. M. Arnold, with Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Major Garratt, and the clerk (Mr F. Bouskell).

Mr E. D. Spencer (engineer) appeared in support of an appeal by the Ellistown Colliery Co. for two assistant loaders and setters in the sanitary pipe works, both single, aged 19 and 34, and passed C2. Mr Spencer said there were only four men of military age now employed and the other two were passed C3. The men were unfit for military service, and he wished he could have seen them. The clerk said the men had been placed in the C class by the military authorities and that was final as far as the Tribunal was concerned. It was pointed out that the appeals were out of date, and they were dismissed.

A Nailstone Wood farmer, aged 27, single, joint tenant with his mother, stated that he had been passed for general service, but had met with an accident, his hand having been injured by the explosion of a gun. The appeal was dismissed.

The Tribunal dismissed the appeal of an Ibstock licensed victualler, aged 36, married, and passed for general service. He had previously been exempted subject to giving three days a week of national importance, which he had fulfilled. Also dismissed was the appeal of a Desford market gardener.

Another Ibstock licensed victualler, aged 39, married, and passed C1, was allowed three months, subject to him working six days a week on work of national importance. His exemption hitherto had been on him giving three days a week to such work.

A Newbold Verdon farmer, appealing for his son, aged 19, a ploughman and wagoner, was told that the youth would not be taken till substituted.

Six months were allowed an Ibstock builder, aged 35, married, who was stated to be seriously ill.

A Carlton grazier and horse-breaker, appealing for his son, aged 18, who assists him in his business, stated that the youth was only 4ft 11in and weighed 94 lbs. He was passed B1. The chairman read a telegram received by Major Garratt from the War Office on the previous day, stating that every available 18 year old man in Classes A or B, must be called up at once.

An Osbaston collier and smallholder appealed for his son, aged 18, who assisted him as a market gardener. Applicant said that on the previous day at the Colliery Court, he himself was passed for general service. It would be serious if they took both of them off the holding. He had been a collier for 22 years, a stallman for 15 years, but from March to September, 1916, was out of the pit for his health, and he signed the national

register as a small-holder. On Major Garratt giving an undertaking not to call the father up, the Tribunal dismissed the appeal for the son.

The headmaster of the Market Bosworth Grammar School appealed for an assistant master, aged 35, and married. The case had been adjourned from June, 1916, pending the decision of the Board of Education. The clerk said the Board of Education had referred these cases to the Tribunal. The headmaster said he was losing one assistant shortly, and possibly another. He has been trying for six weeks to secure two women teachers without success. The whole school would have to be carried on next term by applicant. The boys between 14 and 17 were at a critical period, and as there would be a trade war after this war, they should be as well-equipped as possible. The man also stated strong domestic reasons for exemption. Allowed till August 5th.

The appeal for a Fenny Drayton youth, aged 18, was dismissed.

A Sheepy farmer, appealing for his son, a horseman, who will be 18 in a month, stated that he had two sons killed in the war. Adjourned for a fortnight for medical examination.

A blacksmith, of Sheepy Magna, appealed for his assistant, his son, aged 18, passed for general service. Dismissed.

A Ratby woman, who said her husband was ill, appealed for her son, aged 18, a shoe-presser. She said he was the main support of the home. Appeal dismissed.

A Groby man, aged 37, in his appeal, said he was a coal merchant, carter, cab driver and carrier. He had four children. Allowed six months.

The Ibstock postmaster, aged 35, passed C2, married, with three children, was allowed six months.

A Stapleton boot-head setter, aged 33, married, with three children, stated that he had been passed C2. He lost his father 12 months ago. He had 400 yds of allotment, and his mother 800, on which he would assist. His employer was appealing on business grounds at Hinckley the next day. Dismissed.

A Kirkby Mallory smallholder appealed for his farm labourer, aged 18. He said his son was in the Army, and he wanted to keep the holding till his son returned. Dismissed.

An Ellistown farmer appealed for his son, aged 23, a waggoner. It was stated that the man had been exempted before, but allowed this to run out, having joined the Naval Reserve. He had been discharged, and the military claimed him, but his father said he was indispensable to the farm, being a good all-round hand, and the only man on the farm, 217 acres. Allowed till March 31st, or till substituted.

Three months were allowed a grocer, oil merchant, and general dealer, of Sutton Cheney, aged 32, passed C3.

A Dadlington farmer was told that his son would not be taken till substituted though the exemption had expired. The clerk said it was till a certain date, "or till substituted".

A Ratby hosiery hand, aged 38, asked for two months' exemption, stating that he had served 8 years in the Colours, and 8 years in the Reserve. He went through the South African War, and spent three years in India. The appeal was allowed.

A Barlestone greengrocer's was the next appeal, and as the man is 41 years of age, a member remarked, "*You don't want these, do you?*"

Major Garratt: *We will soon, I am afraid.*

Conditional exemption was allowed on the man enrolling for national service, to produce proof of his enrolment within one month.

The case of an Ibstock farmer's son was mentioned, the youth being 18, and single, and has three brothers serving. It was adjourned for a fortnight. About 20 other cases were assented to.

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR'S APPEAL

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Ashby rural district was held at the Clerk's Office, on Saturday afternoon, Mr T. Varnham presiding, when there were also present, Messrs. J. W. Fowler, A. Riley, J. T. Bradshaw, J. Rice, F. C. Stevenson, and Dr. Atkinson, with Captain Phillimore (military representative), Mr J. R. Champion (agriculture representative), Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary), and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

An Appleby farmer (32), whose case had been adjourned for medical examination, presented his card, showing he had been passed for general service. He assisted his father on the farm of 60 acres. Allowed till April 1st, final.

In the case of a Coleorton farmer's appeal for his son, passed for general service, it was stated that the case had been adjourned to enable the authorities to find a substitute, which had not yet been done. The chairman said it was a matter for the substitution committee. This led to a discussion in which it transpired that the substitution committee has never met, and was practically non-existent. Mr Baldwin said that what substituting had been done was by the military authorities. Mr Stevenson said he understood that 30,000 Class C men were to be returned from the Army to work on the land. It was stated that this had not materialised. Dr Atkinson asked what about the German prisoners who, they were told, were coming to Ashby a short time ago. Mr Stevenson said they could have German prisoners, but only in batches of 75, with 35 guards, and they had to be housed. Dr Atkinson said they were to be housed at the Workhouse. The chairman said this man had been given temporary exemption till substituted. Mr Stevenson said there were about 40 similar cases in the district. He thought the Tribunal could do the substituting. Captain Phillimore said the Coleorton farmer referred to was offered a substitute, but it was not satisfactory.

A member: *The wages were not good enough.*

The farmer himself said he did not know where to get another man. Answering the chairman, he said he had not advertised. He would pay a man 12/- a week to live in, or 25/- to live out, but a cottage was not to be obtained in Coleorton. It was decided to let temporary exemption continue until a satisfactory substitute was found.

A Heather licensed victualler, 35, working at Stableford's Coalville, applied for further exemption, stating that he was now on work of national importance. The military representative stated that when the man was before the Tribunal previously he had been passed B2, but he had since been again medically examined, and passed for general service. Applicant stated that he had been working at Coalville from 6 am till 5 pm, and then doing his work at home in the evenings, it often being nearly midnight when he got to bed. It was remarked that the man was only doing labouring work at Stableford's and the running of a public house at Heather was not of national importance.

Mr Stevenson: *There will be no beer to sell directly.*

Dr. Atkinson: *A good job too.*

Applicant was allowed till April 1st, final.

A pottery company appealed for a clay maker in their employ, residing at Lount, aged 33, and married. Before going to this job, it was stated that the man was a butler. He had lately been off work, suffering from blood poisoning, and his medical examination had been postponed on that account. The appeal was disallowed.

A Packington blacksmith appealed for his son, aged 18, who assists him in the business, and is passed B2. Applicant said he had the shoeing of about 140 horses, besides repairs for farmer and others. The agricultural representative said it was very difficult now to get horses shod, and it would be serious if more blacksmiths were taken. The chairman said food production was as important as munitions now and farmers could not do their work if the horses were not shod and the implements not kept in repair. Conditional exemption was allowed, and the military representative said he could not agree to that for a youth of 18. The chairman said that was the Tribunal's decision.

In regard to the appeal for a farm hand at the Altons, aged 18, it was stated that he had joined the Army.

A Willesley farmer, who appealed for his son, aged 18, and passed for general service, was asked whether he would be satisfied if a good substitute was found. He said he would. It was agreed that the youth be substituted.

Two months final were allowed the Measham Shoe Co. for a laster, aged 18, and conditional exemption for a foreman.

The Measham Colliery Co. applied for a cashier and book-keeper, aged 39, and single. The manager said they had tried to get another suitable man and failed. A member suggested that in the present time of stress the partners or the manager might take a hand in the work. Applicant said both partners were on service, one in the Navy and one in the Flying Corps. When war broke out men were encouraged to go from the Colliery, and 33 per cent went. Temporary exemption till substitute was allowed.

A similar decision was given in the case of a Chilcote farmer who appealed for his nephew, an assistant, aged 18.

A Gelsmoor farmer, and colliery manager, having 60 acres of grass land, appealed for his labourer, aged 40, who looks after his cattle. It was stated that the man had seven children. He was a good farm labourer and might be more usefully employed than in his present position. The appeal was not assented to, with the view of getting the man on to another farm.

A farmer, of Sweptstone Fields, appealed for his son, aged 20, single, who was a cowman. He said one man had been called up, and this would leave him with two sons. Temporary exemption till substituted was allowed.

Appealing for his nephew, aged 18, and single, a Swannington butcher and grazier said he depended on the youth for the slaughtering, as he (applicant) had an injured hand. The youth also went on a round with the cart, applicant being on another round at the same time. The man was passed B1. Answering the chairman, applicant said he himself was of military age, and had exemption. He would manage himself, but for his hand. It was not assented to.

A Packington farmer appealed for his cowman, aged 28, married, and passed for general service. The man had four children. Answering the chairman, he said he did not think the man could be substituted.

The chairman: *If this man told you he was indispensable and asked you for another 10/- a week, should you give it to him?*

Applicant: *I give him what I can afford.*

Exempted till substituted.

A Measham widow appealed for her son, aged 28, single, who carries on the business of carter and coal dealer. The man had been passed B1. Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) pointed out that the man was the sole support of his mother. His father recently died. Two months' final were allowed.

Conditional exemption was allowed to a Ravenstone youth, of no occupation, who was said to be an invalid.

A Worthington man, aged 18, employed as a carter of coal and lime, appealed on conscientious grounds. Answering the chairman, he said he had been a Christadelphian for twelve months. They had to attend the meetings for a certain time before being accepted as members.

The chairman: *How long?*

Applicant: *It all depends on how you get on with your knowledge of the truth of the Scriptures.*

The chairman said the certificate of membership dated only from November last. Mr J. Hanson, of Sheffield, said he was one of the Elders of the Order, and supported the application.

The clerk: *The appeal is signed by you?*

Yes.

Dr. Atkinson asked whether anyone could appeal for somebody else, whose objection to military service was on conscientious grounds? The clerk said it was permissible. Mr Hanson said it was permissible in other courts. They had not manufactured this man's conscience. His brother was a Christadelphian, and his brother's conversation made him interested, whereby he left the Wesleyan body and went to the Christadelphians in February, 1916. He went satisfactorily through an examination, lasting two to three hours, to become a member, and from the conversation which he (Mr Hanson) had had with the young man, it was clear that his mind was made up. He was opposed to military service, but was willing to do work of importance for the nation.

The chairman: *He has only been a member since November, which looks bad.*

The clerk: *The war commenced before he had this objection.*

Mr Hanson: *That is purely a coincidence.*

A member said the man ought to be sent to the Army at once. The application was not assented to.

Friday March 16th 1917 (Issue 1306)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A roll of honour at the Thringstone House Club contains the names of 30 members serving in H.M. Forces, and is not yet complete?

About 60 soldiers and nurses from Broom Leys Hospital are expected at the Thringstone House Club tomorrow for tea and various games?

LOCAL NEWS

We have received a field postcard from Pte. S. Smith, of Coalville, dated February 26th, 1917, stating that he is quite well.

Ten more wounded soldiers arrived at Coalville on Monday. They travelled by the 3.25 train from Leicester, and were conveyed to the Hospital in motor cars kindly lent by Mr A. I. White, and Messrs. Coleman and Sons. There are now 50 soldiers at the hospital.

The committee of the Coalville Charity Parade and Gala held a meeting last week under the presidency of Mr W. Lindley, J.P., when the question of holding a parade this year was deferred for three months, this being on account of the state of affairs due to the war. A meeting will be held on June 6th, to further consider whether a parade shall be held this year.

We have been asked to settle a discussion which has been going on among Leicestershire soldiers in a camp in the Midlands, concerning the Coalville Charity Football Cup. A soldier writes asking the question, "Is it true that Shepshed Albion have won the cup five times?" The answer is in the negative. Shepshed Albion have only won the cup once, and this was in the year 1900, though they have been in the final several times. The cup has been won the greatest number of times by Coalville Town F.C., who, as far as the records show, annexed the trophy in the years 1898, 1905, 1907, 1908 and 1911. Hinckley United won the cup in 1910 and 1912, South Wigston in 1906 and Whitwick Town in 1896 and 1897. The winners for the last three years were Leicester Fosse 1913, Whitwick Imperial 1914, and Loughborough Corinthians 1916.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE CASES OF MEN OVER 31

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. B. B. Drewett, M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, A. Lockwood, T. F. Fox, J. W. Fisher, and A. J. Briers, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A lady grocer and off-licence holder, of Ellistown, appealed for her husband, a former collier, who assisted her in the business. He was allowed one month to get work in a mine.

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, appeared for a Hugglescote boot and shoe repairer, aged 40, with a wife and six children. He had been passed C3. Three months allowed.

The same solicitor represented a Coalville chemist in an appeal for his dispenser, aged 31, married, and passed C3. Three months allowed.

A Whitwick mineral water company, for whom Mr J. J. Sharp appeared, appealed for their manager and bottler, who is 41 years of age, has five children and is passed C2. Mr McCarthy said he knew this business well, being one who helped to start it in 1879. It was stated that the man was also manager of the Whitwick Liberal Club. A member suggested that the time occupied at the Liberal Club might be given in a more useful direction. It was suggested for the military authorities that the man might give assistance in the case of a Coalville mineral water manufacturer, whose case was coming up again shortly. Three months allowed.

A Coalville ironmongery firm appealed for a motor driver who delivers oil and petrol to the farmers, shops and collieries. The man was 30 years of age, married, with one child, and passed C2. Two months granted.

A Coalville tailor and outfitter, married, aged 33, passed C1, appealed for further exemption. He stated that he had been working full-time at Stableford's since December 27th, as ordered by the Tribunal, and his spare time in the evenings was given to his business. Two months allowed.

An important point was raised at this stage by Mr Briers, who recalled a resolution passed by the Tribunal a short time ago, on the request of the military authorities, giving permission for cases over 31 years of age to be reviewed. After what he had read in the papers he thought that was out of order, and it was a waste of time to be going through the cases of men over that age, most of whom were C2 and C3 men. He appreciated the work of the military representative, who was doing his best, but the Tribunal had to do their best for the men who came before them. Many of them were men with businesses and large stocks and should be careful how they dealt with these cases. He did not like coming there and having to say, "*If you please*" to the military authorities, or be told that the military would appeal against their decision. He moved that the minute might be rescinded. Mr McCarthy quoted the proceedings of the Luton Tribunal reported in the London Press. The military representative said he was instructed to appeal against all conditional exemptions and the Tribunal said that if that was correct they had better adjourn. They appealed to Lord Rhondda, as president of the Local Government Board, who said the military authorities were wrong. His instructions were for appeals to be made against the exemption of men under 31, except cases in which there were special circumstances. A similar question was raised at Northampton Tribunal. He (Mr McCarthy) asked what were the new instructions received from the Local Government Board a week ago. They had nothing to do with the War Office. The clerk said the circular for official use stated that it was the cases of men under 31 which should be reviewed.

Mr McCarthy: *What is the date of that?*

The clerk: *March 1st.*

Mr McCarthy: *In face of that, I will second Mr Briers' resolution.*

Mr Lockwood said they would appear changeable if they passed a resolution at one meeting and rescinded it at another. They had to consider the circumstances all round, and the position the country was in. If they reviewed the cases, they had before them the circumstances at the time. It did not mean that they would send everybody who came up. They had urgent messages that men were wanted for the Army, and they had to hold the balance evenly between applicants and the military authorities. They should not blow hot and cold, but try to be fair to all. Mr Drewett said that when the Tribunal passed that resolution, it was not understood that the military authorities would call up men indiscriminately. The chairman said he took it that they were to review all cases under 31, and gave the right to the military representative to bring any special cases before the Tribunal. Mr McCarthy said Mr Lockwood had said they might appear changeable, it was their bosses – the Local Government Board – who were changeable. When they passed that resolution they had not these instructions. To say that they blew hot and cold was childish and baby talk, worthy only of children at school, and for a man with the public experience of Mr Lockwood to talk like that surprised him. They were all as patriotic as one another. They were holding the balance evenly between the Army authorities and the trade of the country, and they had definite instructions dated March 1st, that they were to review cases under 31 years of age. If a special application was made to review a case over that age, they

would fall in with it. He wanted to know where they were. Mr Lockwood said he would like the terms childish and baby talk to apply to Mr McCarthy's remarks as well as his own.

Mr McCarthy: *I am obliged for the compliment, and I gladly leave it to the public to judge between the two when they read it in the paper.*

Mr Brown said the same statement had been made at the Coalville Tribunal as at Luton, and if such a statement was not correct and official as to the calling up of men, it should not be made to the Tribunal. Mr Blower said the military representative at Coalville had never said that he had instructions to appeal against all conditional exemptions. All he asked was for cases to be reviewed, and they had not brought farmers at all. It was only other trades that the Tribunal might judge on present day circumstances. It did not mean that they would have to go.

Mr McCarthy: *The circular says 31 and under, and the military say anyone under 41. That was the vital point. Why should they exceed their instructions?*

Mr Blower said they had no option in cases up to 31 years of age. Mr German had asked for their permission for others.

Mr McCarthy: *Instead of giving a blank cheque to Mr German, if he will ask for particular cases to be reviewed, we can decide.*

Mr German (military representative) said he could not understand what Mr Briers meant. He thought some members of the Tribunal appreciated that he had tried to be fair (hear, hear). He knew something of business, having had business training, and he had tried to treat the men who came before them from a business point of view, as well as from the military point of view. Mr Briers said he appreciated the work of Mr German. He had a duty to perform and was expected to do it.

Mr German: *I am not out to get everybody into the Army. I want to see common sense used.*

Mr Briers: *If we have been switched on to the wrong way, it is important we should get on to the right one. I am sure I appreciate the gentlemanly way in which Mr German has discharged his duties.*

Mr McCarthy: *I –*

Mr Drewett (interposing): *There should be a limit to these speeches.*

The chairman: *We must review all cases up to 31, and I take it Mr German will only bring exceptional cases over that age.*

Mr Briers then said he would withdraw his motion, and the other business proceeded.

A Coalville bakery and firm were allowed two months for a baker, aged 40, married, and passed C2; and a Coalville licensed victualler, aged 39, employed at a local works, who has three children, and is passed B1, three months.

A Coalville dairyman, aged 22, and single, passed C3, in his appeal said he supplied 500 families with milk. He had three brothers who had joined the Army, one of whom had been killed, and one wounded. Replying to Mr German, he said he had not drilled with the V.T.C. for three months, being too busy and he had been unwell. A woman could not do his job. One month (final) allowed.

Three months were allowed a Ravenstone farmer's assistant, aged 25, and single, who had joined the Army once, and was discharged for physical reasons, having since been passed C2.

A baker in the employ of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 39, passed for general service, and who has three children, was allowed two months on domestic grounds.

A B1 boot and shoe repairer, aged 22, of Bagworth, was allowed one month; an Ellistown baker, C3, married, with three children, three months; a Coalville painter's mate, aged 37, who has five children, and two sons in the Army, one month.

A loom and shuttle maker, of Coalville, 22, single, C2, two months; a Hugglescote builder, 33, C2, two months, Mr Sharp appearing for applicant, and a Coalville student of chemistry, 18, a fortnight for medical examination.

A Coalville plumber was given leave to make a further appeal for an apprentice, passed C3, and a Hugglescote builder was excused from drilling with the V.T.C. on producing a medical certificate of unfitness.

Page 3

SUCCESSFUL APPEAL

At the Leicestershire Appeals Tribunal at the Castle, Leicester, on Saturday, Ald. T. Cope, presiding. Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville), represented a Coalville applicant aged 37 years, and passed for C2. The applicant, he said, was the sole proprietor of a grocery business, which he had held for the last 16 years. He was only a C2 man, and a very bad one at that. The assistants were girls, and the applicant's father was unable to manage the business. Three months conditional exemption was granted.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



News has been received by Mr Wm. Setchell, Midland Railway drayman, and Mrs Setchell, of Highfields Street, Coalville, that their son, Pte. John Wm. Setchell, of the King's Royal Rifles, was killed in action on February 28th.

Bugler A. Johnson, of the same regiment writes, *"I am sorry to inform you of the death of your son, William. He was killed on February 28th by a piece of shrapnel through the head. He was buried decently and our chaplain was there, and read the burial service over him. He was well-liked by all his comrades, and you have their deepest sympathy. You can rest assured that he died a hero's death."*

The deceased soldier was 25 years of age and before the war, worked at Messrs. Burgess and Son's factory, Belvoir Road, Coalville. He had served four years in the Territorials before war broke out, and signed on for a fifth year – the memorable 1914 – so that he had been in the forces from the commencement, though he had only been in France about 8 months. He leaves a young widow and one child, who are residing at Coventry. The widow has received a letter from the deceased's officer, notifying his death. Private J. W. Setchell was one of Mr T. Frith's old boys, of the Belvoir Road School, and he was also a former Sunday School chorister at St. James' Church, Snibston, where a memorial service is to be held next Sunday evening.

Private H. Houghton, of the Leicestershire Regiment, an Ibstock man, is officially reported killed.

Private W. H. Clewlow, of the Machine Gun Corps, has died of wounds. He belonged to Newbold.

Private W. Hall, of Whitwick, in the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Mr A. G. Ottey, of Thringstone, has been notified that his son, Eric, has been dangerously wounded, having been shot in the leg. Both father and son will be remembered as popular members of the Gracedieu Park Cricket Club, and many friends will wish Eric a speedy recovery. Yesterday he was reported a little better.

Mrs Harper, of Wood Street, Ashby, has received information from the Records Office, Woolwich that her husband, Private G. A. Harper, A.S.C., died of wounds at Basra, Mesopotamia, on 8th March. Private Harper, who leave three young children with his widow, was formerly coachman to Mr Chas. Ratcliffe, Highfields.

Mr and Mrs Benj. Shipman, and family, of Ratby, learn that Pte. Albert Shipman (21), of the Leicesters, was shot in action on March 2nd, died on the 5th, and was interred on the 6th. He was brother to the well-known Leicestershire fast bowler, Wm. Shipman, and was also engaged previous to the war on the Leicestershire ground staff, being stationed at Ashby. Mr Shipman has another son serving in the trenches, and the professional cricketer joined up this week.

The wife of Sergeant A. Quilter, who resides at the Green, Hugglescote, has been officially notified that her husband is suffering from bronchitis and has been removed from France to a hospital in Scotland. He is an old Territorial, and has been in the war from the commencement. He is in the Leicestershire Regiment.

Mr A. Griffin, of Donnington-le-Heath, member of the firm of Griffin Bros., builders, Hugglescote, has been notified that his son, Private J. Griffin, of the Leicesters, is dangerously wounded in the head from gunshot, and his uncle, Mr Frederick Griffin, vice-chairman of the Coalville Urban Council, has proceeded to France, in response to a telegram, the soldier's father being ill. Private Griffin is about 19 years of age, and before joining up was learning the trade of a joiner at the firms' works.

News has been received that Sapper C. H. Walker, of the Royal Engineers, died on March 6th, from wounds received in action – a fractured scalp. He formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery, and resided with his sister, Mrs Smith, of 15, Meadow Lane, Donnington-le-Heath, his parents being dead. He had been buried once previously in a mine explosion, and for rescuing him and others, a comrade named Briggs, of Hugglescote, was recommended for the D.C.M. He was one of Mr W. Fellows' Old Boys, of the Hugglescote Baptist Day School.



Private H. W. Grainger, Leicestershire Regiment, recently killed in action. He lived at Thringstone, and was formerly a bricklayer's labourer, employed by Messrs. W. Moss and Son, Coalville. (Picture left)

Page 4

SHEPshed TRIBUNAL

The Shepshed Tribunal sat at the Council Schools on Friday evening, Mr C. Mee presiding. A report from the V.T.C. respecting the attendances made was considered by the Tribunal, and in several instances notices were ordered to be given requesting attendance at the next meeting, and a case of failure to revoke the exemption allowed. The military representative said in view of the great importance of more men being provided, he wished the Tribunal to consent to the exemptions granted to all men between the ages of 18 to 31 years being reviewed without delay. It was decided to issue notices for the attendance of all these men on the 21st inst.

Friday March 23rd 1917 (Issue 1307)

Page 1

A WARNING TO LETTER WRITERS

The War Office announces that the public should be warned that in view of the great importance of preventing information concerning the embarkation of troops for overseas from becoming generally known, letters for officers and men under orders to embark must be addressed to the last station in the United Kingdom of the officer or man concerned, and not to the port of embarkation. Any letter which contravenes this warning will be treated as undelivered.

LOCAL NEWS

It is interesting to note that there have been several promotions among officers of the local Volunteer companies to whom congratulations are offered. Mr G. J. German, of Ashby, and Mr J. Stenson Turner, of The Chase, Whitwick, have both been gazetted temporary captains in the 2nd Battalion of the Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, the former being placed second in command. Captain German is commandant of the

Ashby-de-la-Zouch Company, and military representative on the Coalville Tribunal. Captain Turner is the commandant of the Coalville Company and acted as military representative at the present Colliery Recruiting Courts. Two other officers to be honoured are Mr Stenson Freckelton, commandant of the Woodville Company, and Mr J. Lester, of Thringstone, commandant of Whitwick and Thringstone Company, who have both been posted temporary lieutenants, and another officer of the Ashby Company to receive promotion is Mr C. E. S. Hussey, who is gazetted second lieutenant.

Another Coalville military promotion is that of Captain H. E. Powell, formerly of the Remount Department in Egypt, who has been advanced to the rank of Major, and appointed Assistant Director of Veterinary Services in Egypt. Major Powell has an extensive veterinary practice in Coalville district, amongst the collieries and farms, and before the war was a Lieutenant in the Leicestershire Yeomanry. He formerly resided on London Road, Coalville, where his practice is being carried on by Mr Tunney.

Several of the soldiers at Broom Leys Hospital have been discharged on leave, prior to re-joining their regiments. Another contingent, numbering 34, arrived at Coalville Station by the 3.25 pm train from Leicester, on Monday. They were met by the Matron and members of the V.A.D., and conveyed to the Hospital in motor cars, kindly lent by Mr A. I. White, Mr J. H. Land, Mr J. G. Hunt, Mr W. Weston (Hugglescote), and Dr. Hamilton.

Many friends will congratulate Sergeant S. E. Perry, of the Leicestershire Regiment, on having been granted a commission. The gallant officer has had much active service, and has twice been wounded. He is the son of Mr S. Perry, of Silver Street, Whitwick, where he was very popular before the war as Scoutmaster. Lieutenant Perry is now at home on leave, but is expecting orders shortly on being posted to a regiment.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal in the Council Chamber, on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. B. B. Drewett, M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, B. G. Hale, T. F. Fox, and A. J. Briers, Captain Stevenson (Recruiting Officer), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The Military Representative intimated that he intended to appeal against exemption granted to a Coalville licensed victualler, and a Coalville tailor and outfitter, both working at Stableford's.

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, represented a Coalville plumber in an appeal for two workmen, aged 40 and 38, both passed B1. Two months allowed in each case.

Two months were also allowed the assistant manager of the Coalville branch of an assurance company, aged 35, married, and passed C3.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, appeared in support of the application of a Whitwick licensed victualler, formerly a chargeman at the Whitwick Colliery. The man said he was 41 years of age last January. He was passed C1. The Advisory Committee recommended that the man got work at a colliery. The chairman said they could take men on at the collieries now. They could not until recently. Allowed 14 days to get work at a mine.

A Coalville plumber appealed for a painter in his employ, aged 38, married, and passed B2. He said he had four men now, and had 23 before the war. Two months allowed.

A Hugglescote building firm appealed for their confidential clerk, aged 35, married, and passed C1. It was stated that he was the commandant of the Hugglescote V.T.C. The Advisory Committee did not assent, and the Tribunal allowed one month final.

A Coalville printer and newspaper proprietor appealed for his son (works manager), and a partner in the firm, aged 35, married, with one child, and passed B1. It was pointed out that the man was the only one left who could work the linotype machine. Since the last appeal an apprentice who used to assist had joined up. Allowed until substituted.

Three months were allowed a Coalville farmer of 43 acres, with 15 beasts and three horses. He said his age was 40, and as he had not been medically examined, it was agreed that he must produce a medical certificate next time.

A bread maker, aged 29, married, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, appealed on domestic grounds. He was passed B1. He had a delicate wife and three children. He would be willing to join up later on, if allowed an extension of time. One month allowed, a medical certificate of his wife's illness to be produced.

The case of a Coalville butcher, married, aged 33, and passed C3, was adjourned for 14 days to come up with the other butchers.

A banksman at the South Leicestershire Colliery, who lives at Bardon Hill, and was formerly a shire horse man and general agriculturist, was ordered to return to farm work and register at the Labour Exchange at once. He was a married man with no family, 39 years of age, and passed for general service.

A Coalville butcher's manager, aged 34, single, passed C3, was allowed two months on producing his medical certificate.

The manager of a Coalville wine and spirit store, aged 34, passed C3, who had been exempted on him getting work of national importance, was stated to be working at Stableford's and he was allowed further exemption while so employed.

Three months were allowed a 'puncher' at the same works, who is 40 years of age, and has a wife and five children.

A Whitwick tobacconist and hairdresser, aged 40, married, with two children, appealing for further exemption said he was working at Stableford's as instructed by the Tribunal on his last appeal. He was passed for general service. Mr Briers said this man was in the Whitwick Colliery disaster nearly 20 years ago, being one of the few men who came through the fire, and he had not enjoyed good health since.

The chairman: *And yet they passed him for general service?*

Mr Briers: *Yes, I was not at all satisfied with the medical examination when I heard the result.*

The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed three months while the man remains at his present employment.

Three months were allowed an Ellistown ironmonger, aged 40, passed C2, married with two children. He said his brother, a former partner, was serving in the Army.

A grocery assistant, married, aged 37, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, appealed on domestic grounds, stating that he had seven children, all under 16. He was passed C2. Allowed one month, and to register for national service.

An Ellistown pork butcher, 36, married, passed C3, who is an experienced miner, was allowed 14 days to get work at a colliery.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for two bakers, aged 37, and 39, passed B1 and C3, and both married. Mr Lockwood said about a dozen from the bakery had joined up, and the present staff, including several females, were working overtime. Two months were allowed the C3 man, and the case of the B1 man was adjourned for 14 days, there being some question as to whether the appeal was in order.

Page 3

IBSTOCK

Mr and Mrs Wm. Rollestone, Melbourne Road, Ibstock, received private notification last week-end that their son, Pte. John Rollestone, had fallen in action. This has not yet been confirmed officially, however.

Mr George Rollestone, High Street, Ibstock, has been gazetted 2nd Lieutenant, and expects to take up his commission (as from March 1st) very shortly. He has been in training for 12 months, and previous to then carried on the business of draper and outfitter at Ibstock. He is attached to the Leicesters.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

In connection with the death in action of Private H. Houghton, of Spring Road, Ibstock, a memorial service was held in the Parish Church, on Sunday afternoon last, conducted by the Rev. S. Flood, M.A. The Ibstock Church Lad's Brigade attended, and sounded the "Last Post" at the end of the service. Mr W. Dunstan presided at the organ and played the "Dead March" in "Saul". The Rector addressed the congregation during the service, and made appropriate reference to the nobility of the sacrifice made by the deceased soldier.

A BRIDE'S EXCITING EXPERIENCE

An Ashby bride, Miss Edna Price, had a rather exciting experience on Wednesday afternoon. With the gentleman who was to give her away, she was being driven to the Holy Trinity Church to be married to Mr Wilkinson, when the horses attached to the brougham, took fright and ran away, bolting up the main street towards Coleorton. Luckily, the driver got the animals under control on this occasion, and got the party to the church in time for the wedding, but when returning to fetch other friends from the church after the ceremony, the horses once more got out of hand, and, colliding with a standard on the pavement in High Street, the brougham was damaged. The bridegroom has recently joined the Army, and the bride has been acting as housekeeper to Mr W. H. Pickering, of Market Street, whose death occurred at Leicester on Tuesday.

CONCERT

A concert was given to the wounded soldiers at Broom Leys on Tuesday by Mr H. Gledhill, ably supported by Miss N. Gledhill (elocutionist), and Miss Vendy (vocalist). Both these artistes, although very young, acquitted themselves admirably, and their items, were loudly applauded. Mr H. Hallam, of Thringstone was a very able accompanist, and his playing of popular choruses, in which the boys heartily joined, made the evening a very enjoyable one.

ABSENTEE

Before Mr J. W. West, at the Coalville Police Court, on Tuesday, Sapper Ernest Albert Sparks of the Royal Engineer was remanded to await an escort, having been an absentee from his regiment since March 6th. He was apprehended in Margaret Street by P.C. Langham.

SOLDIER'S WEDDING

The wedding has taken place at Marham, Downham Market, of Pte. Jas. Wm. Hardy, of the R.F.C., now on active service in France, and Miss Bessie Florence Hunter. The bridegroom is a Coalville man, and formerly resided at Hermitage Road, Coalville.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

At St. James' Church, Snibston, on Sunday evening, a memorial service for Private J. W. Setchell, recently killed in action, was conducted by the Rev. F. W. Atkins (vicar), who preached an appropriate sermon from the text, 1 Cor., 13c., 12v., "They shall I know even as also as I am known." Suitable hymns were sung, "The Story of the Cross", being rendered at the close. There was a good congregation.

ENTERTAINMENT TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS

On Sunday night last, a concert was given at the Broom Leys Hospital, Coalville, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Hurst, by Mr Eagles' party from Whitwick. During the interval, fruit, kindly provided by Mr Eagles, was distributed. At the conclusion of the concert, Mr Bourne proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes, to Mr Eagles, and to the chairman, which was cordially carried. Mr Eagles and Mr Hurst responded. The following was the programme.

Hymn, "Stand up for Jesus"; pianoforte duet, "Chilperic", Misses G. and V. Bourne; song, "My Dear Soul", Miss Burkitt; recitation, The Bargain Scene in the "Merchant of Venice", (Act 1, scene 2); Mr Harold Stinson; song, "A friend of mine", Miss M. Wheeldon; song, "There's a Land", Mr Dickens; recitation, "The Story of a Penny", Miss Burkitt; song, "The Shepherd's Cradle Song", Miss Goddard; hymn, "Eternal Father"; song, "Cushla Machree", Miss M. Wheeldon; pianoforte selection, "Moonlight Memories", Miss Burkitt; song, "Little Grey Home in the West", Mr Dickens; song, "Christina's Lament", Miss Goddard; recitation, Two Scenes

between Hubert and King John, Mr Harold Stinson; song, "The Long, Long Trail", Miss Burkitt; National Anthem, Miss Gladys Bourne, L.L.C.M., was the accompanist.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private A. Hammersley of Ibstock, if officially reported missing. He was in the North Staffordshire Regiment.

Previously reported missing, and now reported killed, are Sergeant J. Adcock, of Stanton-under-Bardon, and Private T. Brown, of Thornton, both of the Leicestershire Regiment.

Mrs Haywood, 166, Brunswick Street, Leicester, has received official information that her husband, Pte. J. Haywood, Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action on July 14th, 1916. He was formerly employed at the Nailstone Colliery. His wife is left with one child.

Mr John Cope, M.R. signalman, Waterworks Road, Coalville, was recently officially notified that his son, Pte. John Leslie Cope, who enlisted in the Leicesters, was "believed drowned". It has since been officially intimated that Pte. Cope, previously reported believed drowned, is "now reported missing," and his brother, Douglas, writing to his father, said he was sorry to state Leslie had been drowned. The missing soldier was wounded on January 13th, 1916, and sent to India. On recovery, he was transferred to the machine gun corps, and was missed when on board ship going to Mesopotamia. Before the war, deceased was a milk salesman at Coalville, and formerly at Osgathorpe.

Page 4

ASHBY POLICE COURT

TRANSFER

Mr J. J. Sharp, (Coalville), applied on behalf of Benjamin Hill, butcher, Coalville, for the transfer to him of the license of the Donnington Arms, Donnington-le-Heath, from George Edwards, who it was stated, had joined the Forces, and had gone to France. The application was granted.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

A HARD CASE FROM IBSTOCK

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Tribunal was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. O. Brown presiding. There were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, J. T. Jacques, G. M. Arnold, Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), and Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr Frank Bouskell (clerk).

A lady baker, of Ibstock, who is a widow, appealed for her son, aged 19, passed B2. It was stated that a man formerly in her employ had been taken as a substitute and her son was the only one left to assist in the business. He said he was working 16 hours a day, and seven or eight hours on Sunday. The clerk said exemption to May 28th had previously been granted, but this was an application by the military authorities for a review. It was decided that the previous certificate should stand.

A Markfield applicant, who was described as a builder, contractor, farmer and publican, stated that he was 30 years of age, married, with four children. He had not been medically examined. Two brothers were serving in France. This was also a military appeal for review and it was agreed that the certificate allowing till June 30th should stand.

A similar decision was given in the cases of a Groby stud groom, 19, single, passed C2, and of a Newbold Verdon carrier and carter, aged 30, and married.

A Newbold Verdon cycle and motor engineer, aged 26, married, passed B2, in reply to the chairman, said he could drive a motor tractor, having been in the trade for 11 years. It was suggested that the man should volunteer for national service, or join the Army. It was decided to withdraw the previous certificate and allow one month final.

An Ibstock smallholder and carter, appealing for his son, aged 18, and single, who assists him in the business, said he already had three sons in the Army, and one had been wounded. There was another son at home, aged 16. Applicant had a milk round, and a good carting business.

The chairman: *We sympathise with you very much in having three boys already in the Army, and we are sorry we cannot let this boy off.*

Applicant: *It is very hard.*

The chairman: *We have no option.*

Applicant: *You look like taking all mine, then.*

Several members: *We sympathise with you very much.*

Six months were allowed to a Peckleton farmer, 38, and single.

The clerk said the next case was a somewhat unusual one. It was an application for exemption by a school teacher, to the Hinckley Tribunal, who had sent it on to Bosworth, as the applicant, a single man, the son of a Baptist minister in the Bosworth district, had previously been before the Bosworth Tribunal, and the case dismissed. After that he went to Hinckley and obtained a situation in a school. The man was liable to military service, and the Education Authorities, who employed him were liable to be proceeded against under the Act. The man had no right of appeal now. A member said the man ought to have been called up by the military authorities. Another member said they should call the attention of the military to the Education Committee having employed a man liable to military service. The clerk was directed to place the whole of the facts before the Army Council, and also to write to Mr W. A. Brockington, County Director of Education, asking for an explanation of why a man whose appeal had been dismissed by that Tribunal, had been set on as a teacher in a school at Hinckley.

The Tribunal dismissed the appeal of a Snibston man, single, aged 38, described as a farm hand and stockman, but who was stated by several members to be a carpenter by trade.

A Shaw Lane smallholder, aged 39, passed B1, was allowed till June 20th, subject to taking up other agricultural work seven hours a day.

A Congerstone butcher and farmer, 31, married, with two children, who had been allowed till March 31st final, applied for leave to appeal again. He said he had been passed B2. He did the slaughtering and selling all himself, and milked the cows. Members said other butchers who had been similarly dealt with had joined up. Leave to appeal again was refused.

A Congerstone tenant farmer, aged 28, in his appeal, said he was a tenant of 160 acres under Lord Howe, but was shortly leaving, and had taken a farm of 40 acres at Newbold, near Ashby. The appeal was dismissed, the man not to be called up before March 25th.

The domestic appeal of a Ratby hosiery hand, aged 35, married, passed for general service, was dismissed.

The Nailstone Colliery Co., appealed for their manager, aged 37, a coal despatch clerk, 36, and cashier and confidential clerk, 29, all passed for general service. The latter was stated to be the only male clerk left in the head office, and it was important that he should be retained. They now had four lady clerks. After some discussion, the manager was allowed 6 months, and the other two appeals were dismissed, a member remarking that the Government were now controlling the mines and they had plenty of officials to spare. The manager offered to give in private some particulars of the work which Government control involved, but the Tribunal thought it unnecessary.

A Shaw Lane miner and grazier, married, aged 36, appealed. Mr Blower said this was a man refused exemption by the Colliery Court but he was alright now, as the calling-up papers had been cancelled for two months, to see if there were 20,000 volunteers from the mines.

A member: *It seems to me, he is as safe as houses if he stops in the pit.*

A bricklayer employed by the Nailstone Colliery Co., who appealed, had since written stating that his calling-up had been cancelled. This was said to be a similar case to the last, and a member said the man was taken on at the colliery after his appeal had been dismissed by the Tribunal.

A Markfield carrier was allowed 6 months, and three months were granted to a Barlestone cycle dealer, aged 37, passed C3, on him having volunteered for motor tractor work; also three months to a Markfield plumber and publican, aged 37, passed C2, subject to him volunteering for national service.

COALVILLE NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

MINERS AND ENROLMENT

A meeting of the Coalville National Service Committee was held in the Council Chamber on Monday evening. Mr A. Lockwood, J.P., presided and there were also present, Messrs. E. Orton, J. Kirby, J. Hume, F. Griffin, W. Battle, F. J. Wainwright, H. T. Bastard, and A. J. Briers, with the secretary (Mr G. F. Hurst).

The secretary read the draft of a circular which it was proposed to send to employers of labour in the district, asking them to give a guarantee to employees volunteering for national service, that in the event of them being taken away, their situations should be kept for them, on normal conditions again being resumed. This was approved.

A letter was read from Mr J. A. Johnson, proprietor of the Electric Theatre, Coalville, in reply to one sent by the secretary, stating that he would be glad to help the committee all he could. He had received a number of slides from London which he was showing at his cinema performances.

Sir Maurice Levy, M.P., wrote that he would be willing to address public meetings at Coalville and Whitwick on Saturday evening, March 24th, and it was stated that meetings had been arranged. Mr Hurst said he had also written the Parliamentary National Service Committee in London, for a speaker to accompany Sir Maurice Levy, and also to address a meeting at Hugglescote, but he had had no reply. It was agreed that a meeting be held on Saturday night, if speakers could be arranged.

In reply to the circular sent to employers of labour, urging them to encourage their men to enrol, a letter was read from Mr Ramsay, manager of the Ibstock Colliery, suggesting that miners were not expected to enrol, as there was no work of greater national importance than coal mining. Mr Orton said that was not the point. Everybody was asked to volunteer, and it was for the Director of National Service and his staff to decide. The chairman said that if any men enrolled who were already on work of national importance, they would not be called up. If it was to be a success, the scheme had to be universal.

A letter was read from the manager of the Coalville Olympia Theatre, stating that he would be pleased to exhibit the slides.

The Hon. H. D. McLaren, M.P., who had been invited to address a public meeting in the district wrote to the secretary, as follows:

"I am in receipt of the letter which you have written to me on behalf of the National Service Committee. I very much regret to have to say that my work in London leaves me absolutely no spare time, and I fear it is impossible for me to arrange, as you suggest, to address a meeting in the Coalville district on the subject of the National Service Scheme."

The secretary stated that he had sent out circulars to the various labour bodies, clubs and other organisations, asking them to do their best to help the scheme. Answering the chairman, Mr Hurst said he had arranged the canvassing, but there were two districts in which he could do with some help. Mr Briers said the special constables were assisting at Whitwick.

COALVILLE V.A.D. HOSPITAL

THE SOLDIERS' CONCERT

The two concerts given in the Coalville Olympia on Thursday last week, by soldiers from the V.A.D. Hospital and friends, were a great success, and it is anticipated that the splendid sum of nearly £70 will be realised for the hospital entertainment fund. There were two large audiences, the Theatre in the evening being packed, and the performance, which was of a high-class and meritorious order, was greatly enjoyed. The following was the complete programme:

Overture, selected, Olympia Orchestra; song, "Keep your Hands Off", Pte. Wilcox; song, "Until", Pte. Wright; humorous song, "Archibald", Pte. Briggs; song, "Home and Victory", Miss Holt; concerted item, "We Don't Want a Girl", the Three Will-Be's; song, "Long, Long Trail", Pte. Beckett; song, "The Kipling Walk", Miss Harper; song, "The Perfect Day", Pte. Wright; humorous song, "To Cheer Him Up", Pte. Cross; song, "Take me back to Blighty", Pte. Wilcox; monologue, "My Lost Golosh", Miss Roland; song, "When you Come Home", Pte. Wright; song, "Wibbley Wobbly Eyes", (encored "When Paderewski Plays"), Pte. Wilcox; song, "Boys of the King", Miss Holt; humorous song, "Cut yourself a piece of Cake", (encored "Oh, Tomorrow Night"), Pte. Briggs; song, "Tennessee", Pte. Beckett; humorous song, "Standing at the Corner of the Street", (encored "Eliza had hold of my Hand"), Pte. Cross; duet, "The only Girl in the World", (encored), Miss Harper and Pte. Wilcox; song, "Are you from Dixie", Pte. Wright; sketch, "Watching the People Pop In", Miss Holt, Corporal McElroy, Sergt. Smith and Pte. Cross.

Mr L. L. Baldwin, who presided, thanked the public for patronising the concert so splendidly, and also expressed thanks to the concert party themselves. He pointed out that the soldiers had given much time and trouble in preparing the event, which was for the benefit of comrades who would come to the Hospital after they had gone, as only that day they had received orders to leave the Hospital and so would not derive any benefit themselves. He particularly mentioned Pte. Wilcox, without whom the concert could not possibly have been carried out (cheers). Mr Baldwin gave briefly the military history of three of the performers. Sergeant Smith, he said, immediately on the outbreak of war came from Canada and joined the Scots Guards. Corporal McElroy, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, went all through Mons, and was 30 months in the trenches with only one break. Pte. Wilcox, after 12 months in the firing line, was sent out with a concert party and for 8 months toured the trenches, cheering his comrades in arms. Proceeding, Mr Baldwin thanked the members of the V.A.D., Messrs. E. W. Guy, A. Clarke, J. Locker and W. Burton for writing the band parts, Mr Brock (Olympia manager), Miss McGrael and the Olympia Orchestra for assisting at the rehearsals, and to Mr Wright (Ashby Road), for lending his motor car. As a souvenir of the occasion, he then handed to each man a leather pocket wallet, suitably inscribed, and to the ladies who had helped, he presented a copy of the programme, signed by each one of the wounded soldiers who had taken part. The latter all left the Hospital the next day, going to their homes on leave, prior to re-joining their regiments.

Friday March 30th 1917 (Issue 1308)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A flag day is to be held in Coalville and District tomorrow for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild?

The amount received to date towards the proposed Soldiers' and Sailors' memorial window in Thringstone Church is £39/5/5?

M. Glynn, Whitwick – To our customers. During the absence of Mr E. Glynn, who has joined His Majesty's Forces, the bespoke department will be carried on as usual?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The treasurer of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild (Mrs J. W. Farmer) wishes to acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of ten francs, direct from the seat of war, from Lieutenant F. Scott, of Coalville, in appreciation of gifts sent to boys in his battalion. Also £2 from the Whitwick "Woman's Own", and £3 16s from the Whitwick Wesleyan Young People's Guild.

SHOT IN A MOTOR LAUNCH

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S DEATH

Letters have been sent to Mrs F. Griffiths, of 7, Stone Row, Coalville, notifying the death of her brother, Private Richard Stanley, of the Hussars, which occurred in Mesopotamia, in January.

Captain Blomfield writes, "*I am writing to you of the sad death of your brother, who died from wounds received in my motor launch with me when we were ambushed by treacherous Arabs on the Euphrates on New Year's Day. You probably know that he had latterly been attached to the inland water transport service*"

here, and he had been away from the Hussars for some time. He came to me as my motor launch driver on November 28th last, and had been running my motor launch on the Euphrates ever since. I had grown very fond of him, and we had planned together that some day when the war is over, he would leave the Army and be my chauffeur in England. Alas, fate decreed otherwise. On the morning of January 1st we were attacked unexpectedly by a gang of treacherous Arabs, and he was dangerously wounded in the left side, and a Sepoy with him also was hit. When the launch was nearly surrounded, I managed with two friendly Arabs, to jump into the water and to drag the launch across the river into safety. The launch had 15 bullet holes in her, but she remained afloat. We got your brother safely into hospital, but I am sorry to say there was no hope for him, as the bullet had caused severe internal haemorrhage, and he died at four o'clock on the morning of January 2nd. He was buried at a place called Junction Camp on the Euphrates and I am going to put a cross over his grave. I know how deeply you will feel this, and it was particularly hard after 7 ½ years' exile from England, which seemed so nearly over. I send you a photograph of your brother, taken in the launch at Basra on December 2nd, just before we went up the river. I cannot tell you how upset I am at losing him. He was one of the best fellows I have ever met."

Another letter received is from Captain T. R. Bruce, who states that the deceased was a keen boxer, very popular with his comrades, a splendid soldier and absolutely trustworthy, reliable and willing worker. Private Stanley was 25 years of age and had been over seven years in the Army, being in India when war broke out. Before joining the Army he lodged with his sister, Mrs Griffiths, in Mammoth Street, and worked in the Whitwick brickyard, His father was the late Edward Stanley, of Mammoth Street.

Page 3

COALVILLE V.A.D.

Members of the Coalville V.A.D. will dig up part of a field at Broom Leys next Sunday morning to grow vegetables.

Eleven more wounded soldiers arrived at Coalville on Monday afternoon, and were conveyed to the Hospital in motor cars lent by Mr A. I. White and the Charnwood Laundry Company.

The Matron begs to acknowledge with thanks the following gifts: For the whist drive; Canon Broughton, presents; Miss Hawthorn, wallet; Mrs Hook and friends, eggs, fruit, etc; nursing staff, presents; Co-Operative Women's Guild, cakes weekly from 3rd March; Miss Ena Jesson, Ashby, eggs; and eggs collected by Miss Moseley from Mrs W. Smith, Mrs Hunt, Mrs C. Cross, Mrs Underwood, Mrs Lander, Mrs York, Mrs Simons, Mrs Knight, and Messrs. J. Handford and J. H. Moseley.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held in the Coalville P.M. Church on Sunday evening for Lance-Corporal A. Wright of the Leicestershire Regiment, who was killed in action on February 5th. The service was conducted by the Rev. T. J. Martin, and the choir, under the direction of Mr F. Clay, rendered the anthem, "Wait, I say, on the Lord". Mr W. H. Richards being the organist.

Lance-Corporal Wright was formerly an insurance agent, and was only 23 years of age, his wife and child residing in Berrisford Street, and his parents in Margaret Street. He was one of four soldier brothers.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mrs J. M. Bamford, of Waterworks Road, Coalville, has been informed officially that as no further news has been received relative to Sapper Reynold George Bamford, of the Royal Engineers, who has been missing since May 12th, 1916, the Army Council have been regretfully constrained to conclude that his death took place on that date, or since. (Photograph to left)

News has been received that Corporal J. Rolleston, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr B. Rolleston, of Ravenstone Road, Ibstock, died of wounds received in action in France on March 9th. He had been in France nearly two years. A brother,

also in France, is serving in the Sussex Regiment. Corporal Rolleston formerly worked at the Nailstone Colliery.

Previously reported missing, Private J. H. Curtis, of Ashby, is now reported killed. He was in the Leicestershire Regiment.

Private A. Bayliss, of Ibstock, Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Private F. Jarvis, of Coalville, is officially reported wounded. He is in the King's Royal Rifles.

Private Ernest Stinchcombe (19), St. John's Terrace, Hugglescote, formerly employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, was killed in action on March 20th. Further particulars and a photo will appear in our next issue.

NATIONAL SERVICE

A meeting of the Coalville National Service Committee was held in the Urban Council Offices on Monday evening, Mr Lockwood presiding, and there were also present, Messrs. H. T. Bastard, A. J. Briers, J. Kirby, F. J. Wainwright, E. Orton and G. F. Hurst (hon. secretary).

It was decided to write letters of thanks to Sir Maurice Levy and Mr Llewellyn Williams for addressing the public meetings on Saturday night. The secretary produced sanction for the expenditure incurred in organising the meetings and also read the National Service Department's cinema programme. In response to the Committee's circular, replies were received from a number of employers favourable to guaranteeing the positions of employees who volunteered on their return from national service work.

IN MEMORIAM

*"Worthy of true respect was he,
From those he left behind,
A better husband there could not be,
Nor one more true and kind.
There is one bond death cannot sever,
Loving remembrance will last forever."*

Sapper R. G. Bamford, Waterworks Road, Bardonia Road, reported missing May 12th, 1916, now officially reported killed on that date.

From wife and children.

In loving memory of Gunner Frederick Cracknell, killed in action, April 2nd, 1916.

*"Sleep on, loved one, your duty done,
For England you did your best,
For those who loved you most in life,
Will miss you most in death."*

From his loving Father, Mother, Sisters and Brothers, and Sweetheart.

Page 4

COALVILLE POLICE COURT

EJECTMENT ORDER

Representing the owner, Mr W. P. Shephard, Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, applied for an ejectment order against Sarah Brownlow, widow, Coalville. Mr Sharp said the defendant's husband had been killed at the Front, and on that account, every consideration had been shown to her, but she was a very undesirable tenant, and £7 18s 6d was owing for rent, up to February 12th, though she was at work and had a substantial allowance

from the War Office. The rent was 5/- a week. An order for possession to be given up within 30 days was made.

NATIONAL SERVICE CAMPAIGN

MEETINGS AT COALVILLE, HUGGLESCOTE AND WHITWICK

In accordance with a good programme of propaganda work in support of the National Service Scheme, the local committee for the Coalville district organised three very successful meetings on Saturday night. A house-to-house distribution of forms had been made during the week and the meetings were to impress the public with the importance of filling them up before the collection commenced on Monday.

AT WHITWICK

The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A.), presided at the meeting in the Whitwick National School, and was supported on the platform by Sir Maurice Levy, M.P., the Rev. J. A. Wales, Mr T. Kelly, and Mr A. J. Briers. There was a capital attendance. The chairman read a letter from the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, regretting inability to be present owing to illness, but expressing his willingness to do all he could to help forward national service. Proceeding, the Vicar said the position of the country was unprecedented in history, and it behoved every man to do his best. He himself had filled up a national service form and so had no hesitation in asking everybody else to do so (applause).

Sir Maurice Levy said all were needed to render what service they could to bring about a speedy and complete victory for Britain and her Allies. No greater blessing could come to them than victory in the great fight for freedom in which they were engaged. He was sure that every man and woman in this country realised the enormous sacrifices being made by our soldiers and sailors hour by hour and day by day, and surely those at home should not hesitate in any task they were called upon to perform to assist their gallant defenders (applause). He referred to the early days of the war, when our men underwent enormous hardships against an enemy which had been preparing for years, but we were now superior to the enemy in every way and victory was certain if only every man and woman did their best. So the Government appealed to them to enrol. He was not sure that the scheme adopted was the most expeditious, but that did not deter him from urging them all to enrol. From the beginning of the war he had rendered what service he could, and was pleased to do so. But he would have preferred a scheme whereby any shortage of shipbuilders, munition or other war workers in any district could have been ascertained, and the men supplied, with the aid of the national register, trade organisations, and the Labour Exchange. However, they had to make the scheme before them a success, and to do this, all must enrol. If their services were not called upon, it would show that they were willing to do the best they could. There was hardly a home in the country which had not a father, son, brother, or relative in the war, and they wanted to see them back. That being the case, they would all realise the importance of doing all they could to bring the war to a successful conclusion. Referring to the submarine menace, he said they were having to face a danger which they never thought could occur in modern warfare, and this made a greater call upon the country. They had to protect every ship to save the lives of innocent women and children, and to ensure our food supply, while they also had to build more ships to chase the submarines, which he assured them was being successfully done every day (applause). When he told them that from Britain to France they had conveyed eight million men and hundreds and thousands of horses, without losing a man or a horse, they would realise what a magnificent performance the Admiralty had accomplished (cheers). He asked them to realise that they belonged to the greatest Empire the world had ever seen, and that they were called upon to do their utmost to uphold it. He then invited questions.

Mr T. Kelly asked Sir Maurice whether he thought that the Government did right in putting the wages at 25/-. Sir Maurice said that was only a minimum and not a maximum. Many men were wanted for agriculture and in some districts the wage paid was not much above half that.

Mr Kelly: *Shame.*

Sir Maurice: *I agree.*

He added that if the rate of pay for any work in the district was over 25s, the rate would be paid, and if a man was taken away from his home, he would also have a subsistence allowance of 2/6 per day (hear, hear). Answering another question, the hon. member said no landlord had a right now to raise the rent, and a tenant could not be turned out for refusing to pay an increased rent. The Rev. J. A. Wales moved, and Mr A. J. Briers seconded a vote of thanks to Sir Maurice Levy for his address, Mr Briers referring to the splendid

work being done in London by their member, who had saved the country thousands of pounds (applause). The vote was heartily accorded.

Sir Maurice, responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to find the meeting so unanimous on this important question. It was the first time he had had the pleasure of meeting their vicar on the public platform, and he moved a hearty vote of thanks to him. Mr S. Perry seconded, and it was carried with acclamation, the reply of the chairman, and the singing of the National Anthem, terminating a successful meeting.

THE COALVILLE MEETING

The Coalville meeting in the Adult School Hall was presided over by Mr A. Lockwood, J.P., who was supported by Sir Maurice Levy, Messrs. Llewellyn Williams (London), E. Orton, F. Griffin, C. W. Brown, and G. F. Hurst (secretary to the local committee). There was a good attendance.

The chairman explained that a committee had been appointed by the Urban Council to carry out the work in connection with the scheme so far as that district was concerned, and they had organised the meeting with the idea of clearing away any doubts which may be entertained and used against the enemy. They had not to leave it all to the lads in the trenches, but all had to take their part, and after that meeting, he hoped they would all be eager to be of service to the country in its hour of peril (applause).

Sir Maurice Levy first paid a tribute to the work of the local committee and its energetic secretary, and said it was like bringing coals to Coalville for him to come there to urge upon them the importance of the scheme, seeing that they had been doing, and were doing, all that was possible to induce the majority of the people in that area to offer their services to the State. Possibly some of them had said to themselves that from the earliest days of the war they had done all in their power to help the country in this great war, which they hoped, and believed, would be terminated at no distant date by a great and glorious victory for Great Britain and her Allies, but he thought they would agree that, after all, possibly others might be better judges themselves as to whether they could render greater and better services than they were doing at the present time. A large number of men fit for military service were probably doing work which those over military age or unfit could do just as well and so release the fit men to go to the Front where their services were so much required. Therefore, they had to consider how best they could serve their country. They were all anxious for the day when they would have a honourable and lasting peace, and that being the case, they had the right to ask themselves, *"What can I do to aid those brave soldiers and sailors who are fighting our battles?"* Had the Germans effected a landing in England he was sure every man would have been in earnest in defending his country. He asked them to be as determined now as if our land had been invaded, and use every effort to see that the enemy was vanquished and overwhelmed and never able again to bring upon civilisation such a curse as they had brought. The greater the efforts put forward at home the sooner the men would return, and the part they were asked to undertake was small in comparison with what the men in France were doing (cheers). If all rendered all the service they could, they would have no misgivings as to the result of the war. They would see by the events of the last few weeks that we were masters of the situation, and they must now weaken that position by letting the men run short of what they required. He was recently at Headquarters in France, and he knew that the feeling of the men there was that they had the Germans beaten (cheers) and what they said was, *"If the people at home will give us ample supplies, you can leave the job to us, and you will not be disappointed."* (Applause). That was the spirit of the men. It was no so in the early days of the war when they were having to face an enemy who had been preparing for 40 years, and the position now was a fine testimonial to the working classes of this country (cheers). They were now almost through the danger zone, but if they relaxed their efforts they might fall back into it. They were on the outer ring and if the people were loyal they would burst through to victory (cheers).

The chairman said some of them who might be earning £2 or £3 a week, were under the impression that if they volunteered they would be put on the land at 25/-. They were assured that was not so, but that jobs would be found for which they were fitted, and round pegs would be placed in round holes, not in square ones.

Mr Llewellyn Williams said the war was not of our seeking. History would acquit Britain of any responsibility for it. He went on to say that everything they held dear was at stake. Through many visits, he thought he knew Germany, but she had at last revealed herself in her true colours. Her triumph meant the abolition of democracy in Europe, also the destruction of those forces to which our common christianity owed its origin. Twenty years of his life had been given to international journalism, and it was because he was a pacifist that he was in favour of this war, being satisfied that there was no hope of peace except by the destruction of the

Germany they had learned to know during the last two years and eight months. By enrolling in the National Service Scheme, they would greatly strengthen the hands of the Government. Questions were invited, but none were asked. Mr E. Orton moved, and Mr C. W. Brown seconded, a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was carried with acclamation, and the meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

HUGGLESCOTE

The meeting at Hugglescote in the National School was also well-attended, and was presided over by Canon Broughton. A stirring address was given by Mr Llewellyn Williams, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was recorded on the motion of Mr F. Griffin, seconded by Mr Lindley.

LEICESTERSHIRE MINERS WANTED FOR THE ARMY

MASS MEETING AT COALVILLE

In connection with the appeal of the War Office for the voluntary enlistment of 20,000 miners for the Army, a mass meeting of miners was held in the Coalville Olympia Theatre on Sunday afternoon. Major Garratt, from the Glen Parva Barracks, presided, and there was a fairly good attendance, the theatre being about half full.

The chairman said it was Class A men, between the ages of 19 and 23 that were particularly wanted. They were on the eve of great events, and such men were urgently needed. From what they saw in the papers, Germany was in a pretty bad way, and was likely to make a last desperate effort. The Allies, therefore, wanted plenty of men in reserve, and it was important that they should start training at once. So he appealed to the young men to enlist that day, and follow the splendid example of men who had already gone.

Major Rolleston said the Government were determined to bring the war to a successful conclusion at the earliest possible moment, and to see to it that those who brought this terrible war on Europe, and had carried it on in such an atrocious manner, should never be in a position to do so again. The sooner the war was brought to a successful conclusion, the loss would be the loss of life and suffering caused. There was a real chance of bringing the war to a successful termination this year if the men and munitions of the Allies were ample for the purpose, but an offensive could only be successful by striking hard, striking often and all the time, and to do this they must have plenty of reserves in training. Unless they ended the war successfully within the next six months, there was the danger of it dragging on for another year or more. He had considerable experience of the working of the Tribunals, and it was a heart-breaking task to send men of 40 to the Army, leaving their wives and families, and breaking up little businesses in which they had invested all their savings, while there were so many single young men left in the country (applause). So he appealed to the young men to join up that afternoon. He then moved the following resolution:

“That this meeting of miners of Leicestershire agrees to give its whole-hearted support to the appeal now being made by the War Office, with the approval and concurrence of the Miners’ Federation, for the voluntary enlistment of 20,000 miners for immediate service with the Colours in this hour of the country’s need.”

Councillor Kelly (Leicester), seconding, said the sacrifices they were making were for liberty of Europe and the freedom of mankind. They had been forced into the war, but now they were in it, they meant to see it through to the end. It might be considered an anomaly to hold recruiting meetings and appeal for volunteers, when the Military Service Act was in force, but owing to the importance of the mining industry the Act was suspended for the time being in regard to miners, but it had been agreed that this appeal should be made for 20,000 volunteers. Leicestershire’s proportion would only be about 150, and surely that number would respond. He appealed to men between 19 and 26 to enrol. A number of wounded soldiers in the audience joined in the appeal, and offered to escort volunteers to the platform.

Mr T. Dennis, of Moira, said he had been sent with a colleague to represent the miners of South Derbyshire who were looking to Leicestershire to give them the lead. A meeting of the South Derbyshire men was to be held in a few days, and he would report then on the Coalville meeting. An Englishman’s home was his castle, and surely it was worth defending.

Councillor Pearce (Leicester) next addressed the meeting. The miners, he said, had written a glorious page in the history of our country, and he could understand their leaders appealing to the Government not to make conscripts of the miners, but to give them a chance of volunteering. Men working in the mines rendered their country a great service, but 20,000 of them were needed now to join the Army to help in the final victory over

the enemy. He felt sure they would respond. He pointed out that such a meeting as that would not be possible in France, because there the men had all gone.

The resolution was then put and carried. A lady in the audience remarked that her husband had gone, leaving her with four children and she thought the single ones ought to go (hear, hear). The appeal was renewed, and the names of several recruits were taken. The meeting closed with the National Anthem, played by the Coalville Coronation Band which had played patriotic selections in the town prior to the meeting.

Friday April 6th 1917 (Issue 1309)

Page 1

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

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

A letter was received from the Army Authorities, through the Local Government Board, that owing to the need for men, Tribunals should not take too long a holiday for Easter. It was decided not to meet on Easter Wednesday, but to resume as usual in a fortnight's time.

Two months each were allowed to two employees of a Coalville plumber, who said he now had 4 men out of 23 before the war. One man was married, aged 28, passed B2, and the other 20, single, passed C3. Answering Mr McCarthy, applicant said he had had an order to repair spouting at Whitwick Holy Cross Church for six months, but had not yet been able to get at it.

A Whitwick firm of builders and undertakers represented by Mr J. J. Sharp, were allowed three months for a horseman and manager of the undertaking business, aged 31, married, and passed C1.

A Coalville elastic web manufacturing firm appealed for a loom-tuner, single, aged 27, and passed C1. It was stated that of 370 employees, 335 were females and there were only four men employed of military age. It would mean a displacement of female labour if this man was taken. Allowed one month or till substituted.

A single man, aged 37, passed for general service, managing an aerated water business at Coalville, in his appeal for further exemption said his father and mother were dependent upon him. The Advisory Committee did not assent, it being stated that they realised it was a hard case, but they could not allow a single man to remain while they were sending married men with businesses. Two months allowed, provided applicant at once gets work of national importance three days a week.

A Donington-le-Heath farmer, aged 32, single, was allowed six months, it being stated that men could not be spared from the land.

Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for a Coalville off-licence holder and general dealer, aged 40, with wife, three children and mother-in-law dependent upon him. He was passed B2. A certificate from the V.T.C. Commandant was produced stating that the man had joined the Mounted Section, and was regularly attending the drills. A month was suggested, and it was pointed out that if the Tribunal meant to allow further appeals it was unfair to give only short periods and put applicants to the expense of employing a solicitor every time. The chairman said the applicants pleased themselves about that.

A member: *We have to be keener on the war barometer than on the solicitor's fees.*

The clerk: *I agree* (laughter).

One month was allowed.

A Whitwick butcher, aged 35, single, and passed B1, appealed for further exemption. The question was asked whether this was one of the Whitwick butchers whose cases were adjourned for an arrangement to be made. The clerk replied in the negative. Answering the chairman, the Military Representative said the

butcher's cases would come on at the next meeting. There was no hope of them being settled. Applicant said his mother and sisters depended on the business. He was working all hours, Sundays as well. One month allowed.

The Military Representative asked for the review of the case of a Coalville inn-keeper and carpenter, aged 35, married, and passed for general service, suggesting that the man, now employed at a local wagon works, should be substituted. Mr J. J. Sharp, for the appellant, said the man was already on work of national importance. He had five young children. A letter was read from the firm, stating that the man could not be spared. Mr Hale said large orders for woodwork were sent out of the town by the firm, because they could not do it fast enough. Two months allowed.

A Hugglescote builder and contractor appealed for his only bricklayer, aged 40, married, passed C1, and who has two children and an invalided wife. Mr McCarthy said they wanted houses. Another member said bricklaying was not of national importance.

Mr Blower: *It is as important as making ginger beer.*

Two months allowed.

Six months each were allowed two Hugglescote farm workers, aged 29 and 20, both single. The Military Representative appealed against the exemption of a wood machinist employed by a Hugglescote building firm, aged 35, and married. The man said he had not been medically examined, as he had had conditional exemption and he only had conditional exemption and he only had the notice on Monday. The question was raised as to whether the notice should not have been sent to the employer. The clerk said the man would notify the employer. Allowed 14 days for medical examination.

The exemption of a Coalville master builder was also appealed against by the Military Representative. The man was 33 years of age, married, with one child, and passed for general service. He said he was full up with work. He had attended the V.T.C. drills. He was in poor health, though passed for general service twelve months ago. Two months ago were allowed and it was suggested the man be again be medically examined.

The Military Representative also appealed for the review of the case of the Swannington branch manager, for the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 30, married, and passed for general service, and referred to by the military as a fine man physically. Mr Lockwood said the man went to Swannington because the previous manager was taken for the Army. The rest of the staff were boys and girls. The Society had been well tapped and they were feeling the pinch severely now. They had met the Military Representative fairly in all departments. They had just given up a man in the butchery and they had substitutes in the bakery. The man had drilled with the V.T.C. Answering Captain German, Mr Lockwood said they had not had to close any shops, but had curtailed the hours. They had had conditional exemption for this man in an arrangement with the military authorities. Captain German said those arrangements had to go now. One month was allowed, to be substituted if possible in the meantime.

Another military application was against the exemption of a Co-Operative Society bakery warehouseman, aged 40 and married. Mr Lockwood contended that the man was usefully employed. He had been drilling with the V.T.C. Answering Captain German, Mr Lockwood said this man could not manage the Swannington shop. One month allowed.

There were two other Co-Operative cases but it was pointed out that they were out of order, as they had been to Leicester, and had to be dealt with there.

The case of a Hugglescote stonemason, aged 38 and married, appealed against by the military, was adjourned for a fortnight in the man's absence.

The Tribunal granted applications to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. by a Coalville licensed victualler, and a Whitwick hairdresser, both working at the wagon works, also a Coalville representative of an insurance company on medical grounds, the man being passed C3. A similar application by a Hugglescote builder who sent a doctor's certificate, was refused.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Two miscellaneous concerts are to be given at the Coalville Olympia on Sunday, April 22, in aid of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild, and the artistes already engaged include Miss May Eaves, Mr Chas. Keywood, and Mr Warden Burke?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

A field postcard from France, received at Coalville from B. G. Beck, states that he is quite well.

The Director-General of National Service appeals for 10,000 women to come forward at once to train for work on the land. Five thousand are to be taught milking and dairy work, and 5,000 will train as general farm workers. Forms are to be obtained at all post offices.

Mr H. T. Newbury, of Whitwick, serving with the forces in Mesopotamia, has been promoted to the rank of corporal. Before the war he was a clerk at Messrs. Burgess and Son's factory, Belvoir Road, Coalville. He joined the Leicesters, and is now attached to the Royal Engineers in the clerical department.

COALVILLE SOLDIERS IN AFRICA

AN INTERESTING LETTER

An interesting letter has been received by Mr D. Mawson, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, from Mr George H. Smith, formerly on the office staff of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, and now serving with the forces in Africa. Thanks are expressed on behalf of the writer and his comrades for a cheery letter received from Mr Marston and stating how much they appreciate the "Coalville Times" which is sent to them. *"If you could only see how eagerly we read it, you would smile"*, he adds. The letter proceeds, *"This country has not been all sunshine to us, but taking things all round, we have little to complain about. At the time of writing I am in good health and strength, though I have had malarial fever. One of the most interesting sights is seeing the natives trained, and I shall never forget the scene when they brought in some prisoners. They were very pleased, and sang with all their might. A ration convoy is also interesting. I have had a little experience in this work. I went with five other men and one N.C.O. with a party of 120 natives and 30 bullocks. The natives did not like the idea of going, being afraid of what they call the 'jungle devil', and it was getting dark. But we got a move on, and after five hours trekking, arrived at our destination, thoroughly tired. I shall never forget that night. We had to go through jungle, sand, bush and hills, and we had a task in not knowing the way, but after a good rest we returned to camp none the worse for our journey."*

Having described how two traitors, who gave information to the enemy were punished, the writer goes on to state that it is most amusing to see a native dance. *"They dress in all colours, some like Europeans, and they dance to the beating of a drum."* Concluding, Mr Smith says he often thinks of the pleasant hours he spent in the shorthand class at the Coalville Evening School, and he sends his kind regards to his former comrades at the Coalville Men's Adult School. One of the party is J. Stevens, an old Coalville Town footballer.

AMERICA AND THE WAR

The United States Congress met again on Tuesday to act on President Wilson's request that it should declare that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany. It is generally assumed that a declaration to the effect indicated will be adopted in the course of two or three days at most.

It is accepted as a foregone conclusion that the declaration, when it does come to a vote, will pass both Houses by overwhelming majorities, though small groups of pacifists are expected to make a fight at the last minute. Indications are that the nation is solidly behind Mr Wilson.

COALVILLE SOLDIER WINS BOXING MATCH

During the Leicestershire Regiment's stay in Ireland, considerable interest was taken in the boxing competition for the middle-weight championship cup, and it is interesting to note that the trophy was won by a Coalville soldier, Bandsman (the drummer) Weston, who is a son of Mr T. Weston, of 160, Belvoir Road, Coalville. Weston gave a fine display of the noble art, and his success was very popular with the men of the

regiment. He is 21 years of age and before the war was working at Messrs. Stableford and Co's Waggon Works at Coalville, as a stamper. Bandsman Weston recently arrived in France.

ASHBY

THE VOLUNTEERS

Lieutenant Finlay, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, has been appointed Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, and has visited Ashby and Woodville detachments.

Page 3

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Private Norman Burrell, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, reported missing July 14, 1916, now officially reported killed on that date.

From his sister and brother-in-law, and sweetheart.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

The official casualty lists published during the week state that Pte. W. Dodwell (Coalville), Pte. J. Griffin (Hugglescote), Pte. A. Marlow (Ravenstone), and Pte. T. Tonks (Ibstock), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, have been wounded.

News has been received that Private Thomas Usherwood, of Highfields, Coalville, has been accidentally killed in France by the explosion of a revolver. He was one of the first fifty Territorials to leave Coalville. Further details and a photo will appear in our next issue.

Private G. A. Harper, of the Army Service Corps, an Ashby man, is reported to have died of wounds.

Lance-Corporal F. Hart, Leicestershire Regiment, of Breedon-on-the-Hill, has been wounded.

Mr and Mrs Charles Richardson, Charnwood Road, Shepshed, have received a letter from the chaplain informing them of the death of their son, Lance-Corporal Thomas Richardson, Leicesters, who was shot be a sniper on March 19th. Lance-Corporal Richardson was 22 years of age, and joined the Army two years ago. Last year he went with his company to Ireland at the time of the rebellion, and returned to England at the beginning of the present year, going to the Front about 6 weeks ago. His eldest brother, Private John Henry Richardson, of the Leicesters, aged 31 years, was reported missing on October last.

Mr W. F. Bradshaw, of 5, Gutteridge Street, Coalville, has received news from the War Office stating that his son, Corporal A. C. Bradshaw, was wounded on March 13th, and is suffering from a gunshot wound in the knee and shell shock. He has written to his parents stating that he is going on as well as can be expected. Corporal Bradshaw formerly worked for Messrs. Stableford and Co., at Coalville, He was among the first fifty Leicestershire Territorials to leave Coalville, and is one of four soldier brothers.



HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER KILLED

Mr and Mrs Stinchcombe, of St. John's Terrace, Hugglescote, have been notified of the death of their son, Pte. Ernest Stinchcombe, killed in action on March 20th. The news is contained in a letter from an officer, who pays a tribute to the deceased soldierly qualities, and says he had a painless death, being shot in the head.

Private E. Stinchcombe was 19 years old, and his father, Mr W. Stinchcombe is a quarryman employed by Messrs. Ellis and Everard at Bardon Hill. He joined the Army in September last, and went to France on January 17th. Before the war he was employed as a vanman by the Coalville Co-Operative Society. A brother of the deceased, Private W. Stinchcombe, is serving in the Horse Guards. He was in the retreat from Mons, and fought in the Battles on the Marne and the Aisne, being wounded. He came to England and, having recovered from his wounds, returned to

France, landing on the same day as his brother Ernest (January 17th), though they never met. The following is a copy of the letter received from Lieut. C. H. Hassall.

"It is my painful duty to write you concerning the death of your son. He was in my platoon and I am writing on behalf of the rest of the men to convey our deepest sympathy to you. He had only been with us a short time, but had fully gained the respect of all. He was a very brave boy, and always did his duty most cheerfully. He was killed about 9 pm on the 20th March, and I am quite sure his death was painless. Again expressing my deepest sympathy."

CORPORAL J. ROLLESTON



Son of Mr and Mrs B. Rolleston, of Ravenstone Road, Ibstock, died of wounds received in action in France, March 9th.

STANTON-UNDER-BARDON BROTHERS KILLED

Mrs Statham, of Stanton-under-Bardon, has received news from the War Office that her son, Acting Sergeant John Adcock, Leicesters, was killed in action on July 14th, 1916. He was previously reported missing. He was 20 years of age, and joined up on September 2nd, 1914. He had won a certificate of merit at an Army school of instruction. Private J. L. Adcock, was a brother (who joined at the same time), and was killed in action by a shell on August 27th, 1916. He was 21 years old.

SIX-A-SIDE CONTEST

In connection with the Coalville Swifts F.C. local Soldier's Cigarette Fund, a six-a-side contest took place on the Fox and Goose ground on Saturday. Unfortunately it was a bitterly cold day, snow falling during the afternoon, and this mitigated against the success of the event. There were about 100 spectators and tickets were sold prior to the day. Four teams entered. J. Sanderson's (Coalville) team defeated Ravenstone 1 – 0, and Thornborough won 2 – 1 against W. Common's (Coalville) team after playing extra time. In the final Sanderson's team beat Thornborough 4 – 0. The referees were Mr T. Wharmby and Mr T. Price. The six winners were each presented with a weekend case, and owing to the small entry other prizes were withheld.

CONCERT AT BROOM LEYS

A concert was given at the Hospital on Sunday night last, Mr W. Hurst presiding, and the following programme was rendered: Hymn, "Rock of Ages"; song, "The Arab's farewell to his Steed" Mr Garratt; song, "Keep on Hoping" Miss Hay; song, "The Death of Nelson", Mr W. Price; song, "Love's Garden of Roses", Mrs P. Brown; song, "A perfect day", Private Wright; hymn, "Sun of my Soul"; song, "Three for Jack", Mr Garratt; song, "There's a ship that's bound for Blighty", Miss Hay; recitation, "Saved by the stroke of a pen", Corp. Cant; song, "The garden of your heart", Mrs P. Brown; Mr S. W. Brown was the accompanist. The usual vote of thanks, proposed by Mr W. V. Scott, and the singing of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

CHILDREN ENTERTAIN SOLDIERS

A very pleasing and successful entertainment was given at the Broom Leys War Hospital on Tuesday by the scholars of Belvoir Road Council School under the guidance and conductorship of Mr Thos. Frith, headmaster, ably assisted by lady teachers of the school. The following was the programme:

Song, "Sweet and Low", introductory speech, T. Chambers; song, "Farewell"; recitation, (a) "Not this tide", Winn Thornley, (b) "Promoted", Mabel Wright; song, "The Old Folks at Home"; introductory speech continued; song, "Bonnie Dundee", Maud Holyoak; recitation, "The Loss of the Birkenhead", Cyril Gibson; song, "Hearts of Oak"; recitation, "Love of Country", Leonard Smith; song, "Down where the bluebells grow"; recitation, "The Englishman", Lottie Gray; song, "The Soldier's Farewell"; recitation, "Kitchener", Winnie Bourne; song, "Kathleen Mavourneen", Mrs Aris; recitation, "The Charge of Leicester Brigade", Albert Hull; song, "I know a bank"; recitation, "The Soul of France", Grace Colver, Ethel Wileman and Thirza Stacey; song, "Belvoir roadians"; recitation, "How Sleep the Brave", Leonard Measham; song, "Lullaby"; recitation, "That's not the way at sea", Doris Haywood; "The Sneezing Song".

During the interval oranges, chocolates, and other comestibles, thoughtfully provided by the youthful entertainers were distributed amongst the wounded soldiers by the scholars; this touching incident receiving the marked appreciation of the men. At the conclusion of the entertainment, Mr W. Hurst, chairman of the Entertainments Committee, who presided, moved a vote of thanks to Mr Frith, his assistants, and the young folks. This was seconded by Lieut. Holt, and enthusiastically approved. Mr T. Frith replied, and moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, which was also carried. The proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem, one verse of which bore special reference to the soldiers, sailors and airmen, who are fighting for King and country.

Page 4

COUNTY APPEALS TRIBUNAL

COALVILLE CASE CAUSES AMUSEMENT

Some amusement was caused at the County Appeal Tribunal, Leicester, on Saturday by the action of a respondent to a military appeal. The Military Representative (Major Wellsman) stated the grounds of the appeal at some length, and the respondent, a Coalville tailor and outfitter, then expressed his thanks to the Court, remarking that he did not need any further exemption – he had taken the bull by the horns and joined up. (Laughter). Before addressing the Court when the next case was called, Major Wellsman took the precaution of asking the man if he had joined up.

A Coalville licensee, employed in making castings of vital importance to the Army in France, quoted several letters sent to his employers from the Ministry of Munitions in reply to the appeal of the military representative against the Coalville Tribunal's decision to grant him exemption till June 20th. The Court decided that he was a skilled man employed on skilled work of great importance, and therefore dismissed the appeal, endorsing the decision of the Coalville Tribunal.

The Military Representative appealed against the decision of the Coalville Tribunal in granting two months to a Coalville printer's apprentice. The employer explained the difficulties under which he was working, and said he had told the military representative that if the Tribunal's decision was allowed to stand, he would not appeal again at the expiration of the two months, which would be May 7th. The Tribunal decided that the man should not be called up until May 15th.

RECRUITING MEETING AT IBSTOCK

A mass meeting was held at the Ibstock Picture Palace on Sunday afternoon last, which was largely attended, and an appeal was made for voluntary enlistment in connection with the War Office agreement with the Miners' Federation to endeavour to recruit 20,000 miners voluntarily.

The Ibstock Town Band, under Bandmaster James Cooper gave a selection of music, the following pieces being played, "On the March", "Creza Borgia" and "Hope and Glory".

Mr J. T. Jacques presided, and was supported by Colonel Drew and Major Garratt from Glen Parva Barracks, Mr W. A. Brockington, M.A., County Director of Education, Mr W. Dunstan, National Schoolmaster, Ibstock, Captain W. E. Stevenson, of Coalville District Recruiting Office and Mr Reuben Blower. The Coalville detachment of the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment was also present, under Captain S. Turner.

Mr Jacques opened the meeting by explaining the arrangement which had been come to between the Miners' Federation and the War Office, and hoped that they would secure the enlistment of a good number of volunteers from such a large meeting. They understood the Army required more men and still more men until the Germans were finally beaten. He was proud of the way in which the miners had responded to the call of the country since the war broke out. The mining community had supplied an enormous number of men under the voluntary system. The Army Authorities wanted 20,000 more, and they were obtaining them if at all possible in the way their Federation approved. He asked them to come forward and back up their Federation.

Mr W. A. Brockington moved a resolution pledging the meeting's wholehearted support of the War Office appeal. He said they had got to win the war, and must have men to do it. If they did not win it would mean that all their ancestors had lived and died for would be lost – their liberty. He had been to Germany years ago, and could say they could not appreciate their liberty here fully if they had not lived there and seen the restriction that hedged in the lives of the German people at every point. He knew Germany and their flummery philosophy. He knew what it would mean to the humblest home in England unless they won the war. They must continue fighting to win the war, so that England would be a happier and brighter place for those who came after them. They were not going to shame the "Leicesters" who fought and died that England should live. It was no longer now a cry "Standfast", if was "Forward". They called to men to play their part. There was the call of blood, the finest recruiting officer known. He appealed to the women of Ibstock to use their influence and make it easier for the men to go. They were drawing nearer to the end of the war, and he appealed to the young manhood of Ibstock to help see it through and keep aflame the lamp of freedom.

Mr W. Dunstan seconded, saying he was an old Volunteer, and had offered his services either for home or abroad. He had lived and worked amongst the miners for many years, and knew they would not fail them. The war would only be won by the side which could find the biggest number of men; that could obtain the supremacy of the sea, and produce the most silver bullets. It would be won by the nation which could show a majority with the noblest sense of duty which summoned up the efforts of their ancestors who secured their liberties. He had between seven and eight hundred "old boys" on his books who had given their services to the country. They were looking with confidence to the miners of Leicestershire, and trusted they would not be forsaken. It was a time for individual effort. The resolution was carried.

Colonel Drew said it was a fact that men were wanted and emphasised that this war was one which would settle the fate of the whole world. It could not last much longer. The Germans were on the move, but England was fighting practically all over the world, and must have more men.

Major Garratt and Captain Stevenson addressed the meeting, and at the conclusion Mr R. Blower moved the usual vote of thanks to the speakers. Mr G. Forman asked if a man who volunteered from that meeting would have choice of regiment. On a reply being given in the affirmative, Mr W. Newman signified his willingness to enlist, and was accordingly accepted.

The recruiting campaign has been carried on in the villages during the week. Meetings were held in the schools at Newbold Verdon and Barlestone, on Monday night, the Vicar at each place presiding. On Tuesday night, the meeting was at Desford, under the presidency of Mr F. Nutt, and on Wednesday, Bagworth was visited, Mr J. Emmerson occupying the chair at a meeting in the school.

COALVILLE URBAN COUNCIL

The last meeting of the year of the Coalville Urban Council was held on Tuesday night, Mr A. Lockwood, J.P., presiding. There were also present, Messrs. F. Griffin (vice-chairman), M. McCarthy, A. J. Briers, T. Y. Hay, C. W. Brown, J. W. Farmer, B. G. Hale, J.P., W. Fellows, with the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson), surveyor (Mr G. F. Hurst).

War Bonus

It was reported that the Council had considered in committee, the question of giving a war bonus to the officials and it was decided that the same be not granted.

Highways Committee

The surveyor reported that two of his carters had been called up for military service, that two of the older men had taken their places, and two women set on as road sweepers.

The committee recommend it be left in the hands of the clerk and surveyor to settle the question of the removal of the Fire Station at Whitwick.

Friday April 13th 1917 (Issue 1310)

Page 1

IBSTOCK

LADIES PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

This committee organised a highly successful whist drive and dance at the National Schools, Ibstock, on Easter Monday on behalf of the fund for our local soldiers' and sailors' comforts. Refreshments were served by the ladies of the committee, and the whist prizes were given by Mrs Williams (a Dalton rosebowl), Mr Lovell, of Leicester (a box of chocolates), Mr R. D. Thomson, Groby (a gent's umbrella), and the remaining prizes, a wallet, a flower vase, and a tobacco pouch were subscribed for by Mrs Charles Harratt, 10s; Mrs B. Wain, 10s; the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., 5s; Miss Dunstan, 5s; and other smaller amounts. The pianists were Miss Storer, Miss Pickworth, and Mr Shepperd. A cake, given by Mrs Williams, was competed for, and was won by Mr Wm. Rowell, who returned it, and a subsequent sale realised £1 14s. Mrs Lane also gave a box of chocolates for competition, which was won by Miss Wain, of Heather.

ASHBY

The marriage of Captain Paul Phillimore and Miss Augusta Tredcroft, was solemnised at St. James, Spanish Place, London, on Wednesday. The bridegroom is the son of the Rev. Arthur Phillimore and Mrs Phillimore, of Willesley Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and is the military representative to the local Tribunals. The bride is a daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and the Hon. Mrs Tredcroft, of Glen Antrum, Guildford.

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Field postcards received from Privates V. Lardner and S. Smith (Ibstock) state that they are quite well.

Congratulations will be offered to Mr Leonard Coleman, of the Royal Flying Corps, who has recently been promoted to the position of first air mechanic. He is on active service in France, and is the son of Mr Charles Coleman of the firm of Coleman and Sons, Coalville.

Captain J. S. Turner, Commandant of the Coalville Company, Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, left on Saturday with six men of the company for Brockton Camp for a week's military training. The men were fully equipped and were joined en route by volunteers from other companies. Captain G. J. German, second in command of the Battalion, has also gone to the camp.

Lance-Corporal A. Carr, of Ashby Road, Coalville, who is in one of the bombing sections in France, has been awarded the military medal for bravery in the field. He was formerly engaged as a striker at Messrs. Stableford and Co's Waggon Works, and at a meeting of his fellow workmen called for another purpose, in the Adult School Hall, on Friday night, a resolution congratulating him was unanimously carried, and a copy is to be forwarded to him in France.

KHAKI WEDDING

The wedding took place at the Baptist Chapel, Whitwick, on Saturday of Miss Evelyn Beniston, youngest daughter of the late Mr T. Beniston, of Hermitage Road, and Sergeant H. A. T. Mann, Royal Engineers, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. Mann, North Street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. H. C. J. Wix, of Loughborough (late of Whitwick) in the presence of a good congregation. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr Wm. Beniston, and was attired in a dress of champagne paillette silk, and a wreath and veil lent by her sister. She carried a pretty sheaf of lilies. There were five bridesmaids, Misses G. Mann, M. Mann, N. Beniston, A. Silver and A. Stansall, and they all wore regimental crested brooches, the gifts of the bridegroom. Mr H. Mann acted as best man. A reception was held by the bride's parents, and Sergt. Mann rejoined his regiment on Wednesday. They had a splendid lot of presents.

Page 3

WAR MEMORIAL AT ELLISTOWN

A war memorial was erected at Ellistown on Saturday, being situate opposite the hotel at the four cross roads. It is in the form of a large wooden tablet and executed in oak, being a gift to the parish of Mr R. Blower.

The roll of honour contains the names of 15 men from the parish who have made the great sacrifice, and their names, name of regiment, place they died and the date, have been beautifully printed on the scroll by Mr A. B. Bellamy. The inscription at the top, surmounted by a cross is, *"For King and Country. In memory of Ellistown men who have fallen in the great war,"* and at the foot appear the words, *"Greater love hath no man than this."*

At the opening ceremony, the Vicar (the Rev. F. Boothby) referred in appropriate terms to the brave men whose names were there recorded and those from the parish still serving and in the name of the parishioners, he thanked Mr Blower for his gift, and Mr Bellamy for her beautiful work of art.

BAGWORTH OFFICER KILLED

News has been received that Lieutenant Alfred Emmerson, of the R.F.C. has been killed in action with an enemy aeroplane, both he and his pilot receiving mortal injuries. Before the war, he was a teacher at the Bagworth school, and joined the Leicesters as a private. After receiving his commission, he was attached to the R.F.C. Much sympathy is felt for his young wife, and parents, his father, Mr J. Emmerson, manager of the Bagworth Colliery, now having two sons killed in the war, while another is a prisoner of war in Germany, and has not been heard of for over 3 months.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Driver Ernest Poyser, accidentally killed in Egypt, April 18th, 1916.

*"There's a grave by Eastern waters,
Where the painful sunbeams shine,
And there, in loneliness they laid
That dear husband of mine:
And in the pride of strength, of youth,
With all his promise bright,
As if the splendid morning sun
Was quenched in sudden night."*

From his loving wife.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

The official casualty lists contain the names of Corporal C Bradshaw, of Coalville, and Private E. Cross, of Hugglescote, as having been wounded. Both are in the Leicestershire Regiment.

An unofficial report has reached Ibstock that Private Bertram Redshaw, son of Mr and Mrs Samuel Redshaw, Melbourne Road, was killed recently during the advance on the Western Front. He was attached to the North Staffs Regiment. He was but little over the age required for military service, and was a very quiet, inoffensive youth. This makes the fourth old scholar of the Wesleyan Reform Sunday School to fall in action.

In the official lists published yesterday appeared the name of Pte. F. Smith, of Coalville (Leicestershire Regiment) as having been wounded, and Pte. F. W. Potter, of Hugglescote (Devonshire Regiment), previously reported missing, is stated to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

Page 4

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Ashby Rural District Tribunal was held on Saturday, Mr T. Varnham presiding. There were also present, Dr. Atkinson, Messrs. A. Riley, J. W. Fowler, D. Rice, J. T. Bradshaw, F. C. Stevenson, Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Capt. Phillimore (military representative), Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary), and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

A grocer and general dealer, of Highfields, Coalville, married, aged 39, appealed for further exemption. He had a practical knowledge of butchering, and a condition of his previous exemption was that he assisted the Coalville Co-Operative Society. He said he did that for a time, but fell ill, and when he went back the Society would not take him on. He produced a medical certificate of unfitness to work at that time. Answering a question, applicant said he had now been passed for general service. The appeal was dismissed.

A Snarestone grocer and licensed victualler, formerly a chemist's assistant at Coalville, was represented by Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) in an appeal for further exemption. It was stated that the man was 31 years of age, married, with one child. He was formerly medically rejected, but had now been passed B3. He was willing to give three days a week to work of national importance. Conditional exemption was allowed on four days a week being given to national importance, farm work being suggested.

The Ashby Co-Operative Society appealed for the manager of their Donisthorpe branch, aged 18, single, and passed for general service. The chairman of the Society, asked whether the man could not be substituted, said they had had two substitutes in the bakery, and a lot of bread was spoilt. One month final was allowed, to be substituted, if possible, in the meantime.

A Hoo Ash (Ravenstone) farmer appealed for his man, aged 39, married, and passed B1. Conditional exemption allowed.

A Heather miller, who also does the scavenging of the village, appeared in regard to the application of the military representative for the review of his case. The exemption was allowed to continue subject to the man giving part time to work of national importance. A similar decision was given in the case of a Sweptone carter.

One month final was allowed a Packington shop assistant, aged 18, single, and passed for general service.

A Heather farmer applied for his cowman, passed B2, and was allowed conditional exemption.

A Worthington pipe firm appealed for a pipe burner, aged 37, married, and passed B1. A representative of the firm said they had tried other men and had had kilns spoilt, which was a serious matter. The case was adjourned for a month with a view to an arrangement for the firm to keep the man if they would give up a general service man.

An Osgathorpe farmer appealed for his son, aged 18, and single, saying he could not afford to pay a man. The chairman said he could not understand a farmer saying, with the price of agricultural produce what it was, that he could not afford to pay for labour. Applicant said his son was of very small stature, weighing only 6 stones, 8lbs. The case was adjourned for medical examination.

A Newton Burgoland threshing machine proprietor, appealed for his engine-driver, aged 32, and single. Now the threshing was nearly done, he wanted the man for ploughing. Appeal dismissed if a general service man (the military secretary to ascertain), two months exemption if in a lower category.

A Measham farmer appealed for his waggoner and milker, aged 18, and married, and was allowed till substituted, and three months were allowed an Oakthorpe farmer for his son, a horseman and milker, aged 19, and passed B1.

Conditional exemption was granted to a Willesley farmer for his son aged 21, passed B1, and it was stated that a younger son passed for general service would be taken.

A Worthington miller and farmer, aged 26, and single, passed for general service, appealed for exemption. It was stated that the man had a brother, a sawyer, also passed for general service. Conditional exemption was allowed.

In accordance with the instructions to review the exemptions of men under 31, a number of cases were then gone through, and in most of the cases, there being no objection from the military representative, the exemptions were allowed to stand.

One of the cases was that of a New Swannington draper and dealer, who was represented by Mr J. F. Jesson. It was stated that the man, passed C1, was allowed conditional exemption on getting work of national importance, and he was now working at Stableford's. He was allowed to retain his certificate.

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S SAD DEATH

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT



In connection with the sad death of Private T. H. Usherwood, in France, briefly recorded in our last issue, the following is a copy of a letter received by the bereaved parents, Mr and Mrs T. Usherwood, of Highfields, Coalville, from Lieutenant H. S. Simpkin. *"It is with the deepest sympathy that I have to inform you of the death of your son. His death occurred under the most unfortunate circumstances while cleaning a revolver. No one was actually with him at the time of the accident, and it is impossible for me to give you fuller details. As no doubt he may possibly have informed you, he was my servant. To me, he was more than a friend, and I cannot express my feeling at such a happening. May God help you to bear this terrible loss. I have all his personal belongings, and will be sending them to you. I am expecting to be over home in a very short time, and I will make it my duty to call and see you at Coalville. Again, accept my deepest sympathy."*

Private T. H. Usherwood, who was 22 years of age, joined the Leicestershire Territorials soon after the outbreak of war and was one of the first fifty to leave Coalville. He had been at the Front over two years, and after having participated in several charges on the German trenches and experienced a great deal of active service, it is particularly sad that he should have met with his death as the result of an accident, and much sympathy is felt for his parents. Before the war, Private Usherwood was on the office staff of Messrs. Wootton Bros. engineers, Coalville, and he was a member of the Highfields Wesleyan Church, and a teacher in the Sunday School, being also on the Wesleyan plan as a local preacher on trial.

Mr T. Usherwood, deceased's father, is a Midland Railway engine driver, and has three other sons serving in the forces.

RECRUITING LEICESTERSHIRE MINERS

MEETINGS AT WHITWICK AND HUGGLESCOTE

The recruiting campaign among Leicestershire collieries, in connection with the War Office appeal for 20,000 volunteers from the mines, was concluded with meetings at Whitwick and Hugglescote, on Thursday evening last week. The meetings were arranged to be held in the National School at each place, but the attendances being small, the speakers went into the open, and addressed small groups of men standing outside.

Mr M. McCarthy, C.C., was chairman of the Whitwick meeting, and he asked the young men to remember the sacrifices which had been made for them. What would have been the fate of their wives, mothers, sisters and sweethearts had there been a German invasion? They ought to thank God for the little army which saved England.

Mr W. Dunstan (Ibstock) referred to the heroism of the miners on the occasion of the Whitwick Colliery disaster, and their readiness in the face of great danger to go into the mine to save their comrades. He asked, therefore, would they not show the same spirit towards the lads who needed their help in France?

Major Garratt, of Glen Parva Barracks, said the job could not be finished off without they had more men. He hoped some of them would take the chance, and do their duty like men. An appeal was then made to the young men to give in their names.

At the Hugglescote meeting, Major Garratt again pointed out that the appeal for 20,000 volunteers from the mines was being made with the consent and approval of the Miners' Federation. Class A men, between the ages of 18 and 31 were wanted, and particularly those between 19 and 23, because that was the fighting age, and they could stand the strain better. It was a great privilege to have the opportunity of coming forward as volunteers rather than being taken as conscripts, and he hoped there would be a good response. He pointed to the splendid example of the Colonies where they almost tumbled over another to enlist.

Mr W. Dunstan said it was a cry from the trenches. It was the men in France who were needing help. He understood there was a strong minority among the miners opposed to the voluntary scheme, and he suggested that the Miners' Federation should undertake to find the 20,000 men and guarantee them. If they did that it would place the Federation on a pedestal, and add enormously to its influence in the nation. Miners had always been noted for their bravery, and he had always admired them for that. Everybody believed that the war must soon be won and to do that they must have the men, not only for the Army, but every individual must do his duty. Each one should ask himself, "Am I doing my duty, or am I leaving it to my pals?" It was a war between the democracy of the world and a privileged class. For 700 years the men of Britain had fought for the liberty we now enjoyed. Were we going to lose that liberty all through a few Prussian swankers? He hoped not.

Appeals were made for recruits and a brief meeting in a drizzling rain, closed with a vote of thanks to Mr Dunstan, proposed by Mr W. Baldwin, who said this was a miner's effort, and it was up to them to make it a success. They would have choice of regiment. In his reply to the vote of thanks, Mr Dunstan, who is headmaster of the Ibstock Church of England Schools, said between 700 and 800 old boys of his were serving in the Forces.

Friday April 20th 1917 (Issue 1311)

Page 1

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Recent casualty lists contained the names among those wounded of Pte. J. H. Eales (Coalville), Essex Regiment, Privates H. Barker (Whitwick), F. Goddard (Coalville), and Lance-Corporal T. B. Swain (Markfield) of the North Staffordshire Regiment.

HUGGLESCOTE

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held at the Parish Church on Sunday evening for Private E. Stinchcombe, recently killed in action. He was a former member of the Church Lads Brigade, and the Brigade, with their bugle band, attended, the "Last Post" being sounded. The Rev. H. V. Williams preached.

STANTON-UNDER-BARDON

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GIFT FUND

A prize-drawing and football match was held at Stanton-under-Bardon on Saturday last, for the benefit of the above fund; also in the evening a whist drive and dance was held in the Council Schools. There was a large attendance on both occasions. Music for the dance was rendered by Mr J. Deane and Mr B. Brown was M.C. Mr A. Lanes was M.C. for the whist drive and the prize winners were:

Ladies: 1 Mrs Turner; 2 Miss E. Cave.

Gents: 1 Mr J. Dorsett; 2 Mr E. Hucknall.

Refreshments were given by some of the ladies of the village. The committee are hoping to realise about £35.

IBSTOCK

We regret to state that Mr and Mrs Redshaw, of Melbourne Road, have received official confirmation of the death in action of their son, Private Bert Redshaw, and engaged in the recent fighting on the Western Front. Previous to the war, he was well-known as a local carter.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

From a whist drive and social at Ravenstone on Easter Tuesday, the splendid sum of £13 1s has been realised for the Coalville and District Soldiers' Comforts Guild?

The matron of the V.A.D. Hospital is arranging a large garden party at the hospital for Saturday, the 19th of May?

Two concerts in aid of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild will be held in the Coalville Olympia on Sunday?

The whole of the wounded soldiers at Broom Leys Hospital were invited to the Coalville Olympia Theatre by the manager on Tuesday night, and the programme was greatly enjoyed and appreciated?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Lance-Corporal T. B. Swain, of Markfield, has been awarded a military medal. Further details will appear in our next issue.

Private J. E. Eagles (son of Mr J. W. Eagles, of Whitwick, manager of the gasworks) who is serving in the R.A.M.C. has been appointed a chaplain to the forces in Egypt. Before enlisting he was studying at Handsworth College.

Twenty more wounded soldiers arrived at the Broom Leys Hospital on Tuesday, and 15 yesterday. They were conveyed from the station in motor cars lent by Messrs. J. H. Land, T. Stinson, Coleman and Sons, J. C. Hunt, Mrs Hamilton, and Dr. Jamie. This makes a total of 70 soldiers now at the hospital.

Private Arthur Wright, of the Leicesters, has been awarded the military medal for gallant conduct on the battlefield. He is 20 years of age, and formerly resided with his grandparents at 68, Hermitage Road, Coalville. He was wounded last September, and has now returned to France. The gallant soldier was one of Mr T. Frith's old boys of the Belvoir Road School.

The following letter from a Coalville soldier (Venice Ewart Beard) in France, as a tribute to the work of the Soldiers' Comforts Guild, speaks for itself. *"Allow me the pleasure of congratulating the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild on their splendid effort recorded in the 'Coalville Times'. There are two remarkable things about their work which appeals to me. The first is their untiring efforts to obtain funds, and the other, the large amount of time put in by individuals knitting socks and scarves for our benefit. Sacrifices are being made on every hand I'm sure to secure such good returns. The full extent of their labours will never be realised until we return home to tell of it personally. After thirteen months out here I can speak of the value of a good pair of gloves, and a scarf to keep one warm during these cold nights on the top of the trenches."*

The matron of the Coalville V.A.D. War Hospital wishes to acknowledge gifts as follows: Mrs Abel Smith, Coleorton Hall, surgical trolleys, bread cutter, polishing brushes, egg cage, boilerette. Eggs from Mrs York, Mrs Hunt, Mrs S. Dean, Mrs Fisher, Mrs Simons, Mrs Knight, Mr J. H. Moseley, Mrs W. Smith, Mrs D. S. Moore, Mrs F. Henson, Mrs C. Cross, Mrs Forgham, Messrs. H. Smith, J. Handford, Pruden, Mrs D. Griffin, Mrs Lander, Mrs J. Holt. Women's Co-Operative Guild, cakes. London Road Baptist School, eggs and gifts.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE CASES OF THE BUTCHERS

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night. Mr T. Y. Hay presided, and there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, A. J. Briers, B. B. Drewett, J. W. Fisher, Captain G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. appealed for a brick-setter in their employ, stated to be 37 years of age, and married, passed C1. They had only nine men now, including the foreman, in the brickyard. Two months were allowed as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

A similar decision was given in the next case, the appeal of a Coalville building firm for their foreman bricklayer, aged 39, passed B2, married, with three children.

A Whitwick painter, aged 64, appealed for his son who carries on the business single-handed. Mr J. J. Sharp, for the applicant, said the man was classed C2, and had one child. The business, which had been established over 100 years, would have to be closed if this man went. The chairman said it was reported that the man had only made five out of 23 drills with the V.T.C. Mr Sharp said it was due to an injury to the man's foot in an accident some time ago. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed one month.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented an aged Thringstone farmer in an appeal for his cowman and waggoner, aged 24, single and passed for general service. He was stated to be the only man on 70 acres. The applicant was anxious to keep on the farm for his son when he returned from France. It was suggested as a case for a substitute. The military secretary asked whether a substitute could be got to work from 5.30 in the morning till 8 in the evening.

Mr McCarthy: *Yes, if you pay him.*

It was agreed that the man be substituted.

A clothing firm appealed for the manager of their Coalville branch, a single man, aged 24, and passed for general service. The appeal was dismissed.

A boot and shoe repairer at Bagworth, 29, married, passed B1, said in his appeal that if he had to go it would close his business, which was in essential one in a colliery district. Dismissed.

An ex-licensed victualler, of Coalville, aged 40, passed C3, applied for conditional exemption, stating that he proposed to resume his former occupation as a chargeman in a coal mine. The Advisory Committee suggested that the man be used as a substitute. Answering a question, applicant said he was a practical miner, and preferred that to other work. "*Are you willing to take other work?*" asked Captain German. "*I suppose I shall have to be willing*", he replied. It was stated that if the man went into the mine, they could not get another for him. It was decided that the man be used as a substitute.

A similar decision was given in the case of a man, aged 37, passed C1, the father of five children, all at school, who was appealed for by his employer, a Coalville plumber and painter.

The manager of one of the Coalville Co-Operative Society's grocery shops, aged 31, and passed for general service, appealed on domestic grounds, a child being ill. One month (final) was allowed.

A Coalville student apprentice to a Leicester chemist, aged 18, and passed for general service, was appealed for by his father. He asked for exemption till the youth had sat for an examination on July 17th and

18th next. A member said the law was that a man would not be sent to France till he was 19. Another member said the youth might get into one of the military laboratories. Two months were suggested, but the military representative asked how they could send a man of 40 and break up his business, if they were to allow lads of 18 to stay. Eventually, one month was allowed.

The military representative: *Is that final?*

The chairman: *No.*

Captain German: *I want to be clear. I shall have to appeal against that. If I didn't they would appeal against me.*

Applicant said his son had had training in a Cadet Corps.

The military representative asked for the review of a case of a Hugglescote milk-seller who had conditional exemption. He was 37 years of age, passed for general service, married, with no family. Answering Captain German he said he had no cows. He bought the milk. He had over 200 customers. Though he had been passed for general service, his eyesight was bad. One month (final) was allowed.

The cases of 14 butchers were next dealt with. The chairman said he understood that the butchers could not agree amongst themselves who should go, and who should stay at home to carry on the businesses. Capt. German said that was so. Mr Lockwood said three of the Co-Operative's butchers were mentioned and they agreed to give one up. Capt. German said he knew nothing of that. They wanted general service men. Mr Blower said Mr Lockwood mentioned to him they were willing to give one up but he did not say which one. At the request of the military representative, the cases were then considered in private.

After considerable discussion, all 14 butchers were called into the room. The clerk asked whether they had come to any arrangement during the month previously allowed them, and if not, whether they were likely to if allowed another month. The reply, in both cases, was in the negative. The chairman said it would have been better if the butchers could have arranged it among themselves, but failing that, the Tribunal would have to deal with the cases separately.

Replying to Captain German, the butchers stated that there was no Butcher's Association in the district. Mr C. E. Crane (who represented one of the men) said it was not because they wished to be obstructive that no agreement had been arrived at. It was because of the difficulties in each individual case. Mr J. J. Sharp, who appeared for another of the men, said they felt some diffidence about it. Those who stayed at home would feel uncomfortable if they had arranged for others to go.

Mr Hale: *They realise, I suppose, that a certain number have to go.*

Mr Sharp: *They quite appreciate that.*

The cases were then taken separately, the first being that of a Whitwick butcher, aged 33, married, with no family, and passed B2. Mr Sharp said that a former partner was in France. The next was a B2 man, aged 29, married, with one child. Mr Sharp submitted that the man was better employed now than he would be in the Army. He was working two days a week on a farm, a note to this effect from Mr S. Berrington, farmer, being handed in. Answering Captain German applicant said he had attended week-night drill regularly. He was a Wesleyan local preacher, and could not drill on Sundays, being engaged in the pulpit. Another applicant was 38 years of age, married, with four children, and passed for general service. He had drilled regularly with the V.T.C. The fourth man, aged 23, and married, said he had lost the sight of one eye. He was passed C2. He also carried on his mother's business as well as his own. The last case was a C1 man, aged 40, and married with two children. It was stated that another Whitwick butcher was given a month a fortnight ago. He was single, 35, and passed B1.

It was decided to leave the cases in abeyance for a week, when the other butcher's cases are to be considered, in order to deal uniformly with the whole.

A Coalville licensed victualler, employed at the wagon works, was excused from drilling with the V.T.C.

The Commandant of the Whitwick V.T.C. sent a list of names of irregular attendance at drills, and it was decided they be asked for an explanation.

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S DEATH FROM ACCIDENTAL WOUNDS

Mr and Mrs A. Kirkland, of 48, Berrisford Street, Coalville, have been notified by the War Office that their son, Private Geo. Firban, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died in France, on March 24th, from wounds accidentally received.

The deceased soldier formerly worked at the Whitwick No. 3 pit. He enlisted at the great recruiting meeting at the Coalville Olympia soon after the outbreak of war, and would have been 20 years of age on April 11th. His father is a miner at Bagworth Collier.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr and Mrs T. Usherwood and family of Highfields, Coalville, and the fiancée of the late Private T. Usherwood, Leicestershire Territorial Regiment (one of the first Coalville Fifty), accidentally killed in France, desire to thank most sincerely all friends for the many kind letters and tokens of sympathy received in their great bereavement.

NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Mr A. Lockwood presided at a meeting of this committee in the Council Chamber on Monday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. H. T. Bastard, J. Kirby, M. Downes, E. Orton, and G. F. Hurst (secretary). The reports from the canvassers were considered, it being shown that in the Coalville urban district, about 200 people had enrolled. The reports to the Director General on the progress of the campaign were read and confirmed. Accounts amounting to £5/11/6 were produced and approved. A letter was read from the Leicestershire Miners' Association regretting that they could not appoint a representative of the Association to serve on the committee. A letter was also received from Sir Maurice Levy, Bart, M.P., acknowledging the committee's appreciation of his services. The committee instructed the secretary to endeavour to ascertain what further duties were required of the committee.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Two hospital trains arrived in Leicester during the early hours of Saturday morning. The first arrived at 2.10 with 80 cot and 20 sitting cases. Twenty cot cases were taken to the Royal Infirmary, and the rest to the Base Hospital. The second train came in at 4.40 with 330 walking cases. These had come direct from the recent fighting, and were tired, tattered and torn, but were all very cheerful and most optimistic as to the way in which the Germans were being beaten back. They were all taken to North Evington Infirmary.

CONCERT AT BROOM LEYS HOSPITAL

An enjoyable concert was given to the soldiers at Broom Leys Hospital on Saturday evening, Mr W. Hurst presiding. The programme, which had been arranged by Mr E. Flamson and party, was as follows: Duet, "Li Corricolo", Miss L. Gill and Mr Oliver Ratcliffe; song, "In old Kentucky" (encored), Miss Burkitt; recitation, "1169", Mr A Carter; song, "When you come home", Pte. Wright; song, "Dear old Blighty" (encored) Miss F. Miller; song, "The boys in khaki", Mr E. Flamson; song, "For King and country", Miss G. Toon; song, "The laddies who had fought and won", Miss Toon; recitation, "The French Soldier" (encored), Miss Burkitt; duet, "The Tulip and the red Rose", Misses Miller (Shepshed); recitation, "Old Mother Hubbard", Mr A. Carter; song, "My old pal", Miss Hay; song, "Rosebud", Pte. Cottrill; song, "Pushed me into the Parlour", Mr W. Brearley; song, "I've got my eyes on you", Mr E. Flamson; Miss Burkitt (Whitwick) and Mr Oliver Ratcliffe were the accompanists. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr S. Pool (Hugglescote), to all who had assisted. Mr W. Hurst seconded, and it was heartily carried. Cigarettes were distributed to the soldiers by the lady friends. The proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem. After the concert, dancing was indulged in for a short time.

Page 4

ASHBY POLICE COURT

LICENSES TRANSFERRED

On the application of Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) the license of the Donington Arms, Donington-le-Heath was transferred to Benj. Hill, from George Edwards, who has joined the Forces. Other licenses transferred were the Bowling Green Inn, Ashby, to Chas. Wm. Illsley from Thomas Harris, who has joined the Army.

FORMER COALVILLE CYCLE RACER KILLED

A letter has been received from Sapper H. H. Pink, recording the death of a Coalville soldier, William Wright, who he states, was well-known in Coalville some years ago as a cycle racer. The letter continues, *"He was in the orderly room when Fritz was sending shrapnel over. Four of them were standing together, poor old Bill was the only one to catch it. A shrapnel bullet came through the window and went through his heart, death being instantaneous. I can tell you he is missed by all the company. No matter what you asked him to do for you, nothing was too much trouble to him. He was buried in a nice little cemetery here, and we shall look after his grave. We are getting a wreath."*

Since the above letter was received, enquiries have been made by Wright's friends, and the following reply has been received from Major H. Vickman, of the New Zealand Forces. *"I got your letter last evening, and am sorry indeed to have to reply confirming the rumour which has reached you. It came as a great blow to all of us when he was killed in the office on March 12th by shrapnel which burst outside, and broke through the window. He was buried here with others who, like himself, nobly made the great sacrifice. Your friend was a great favourite with everyone, and you may well feel proud of him. He was dispatch riding here for just on a year – one of the most trying jobs, particularly in the freezing winter that anyone could undertake. I have seen him called upon to go for miles along unknown roads in the worst of weather, and at all hours of the night, but never once heard a murmur of complaint. He was always the most cheerful of souls. Nothing was too much trouble, and no obstacle was allowed to prevent him from doing what was required. I trust that knowing what a lot we thought of him may help to make the loss seem lighter to you."*

The deceased soldier left Coalville for New Zealand about five years ago, and went to France with the second New Zealand contingent.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

FARMERS WHO OBJECT TO SUBSTITUTES

The Market Bosworth Tribunal on Tuesday dealt with 120 cases. Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presided, and there were present, Messrs W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques, W. Towers, G. M. Arnold, Major Wollaston, and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

The appeal of a Barton butcher, aged 31, passed C2, was dismissed.

Six months were allowed a Stanton butcher and farmer, aged 29, passed for general service.

The proprietors of Sheepy Mill, appealed for a flour deliverer, married, aged 30, and passed for general service. Three months allowed.

The mistress of the Atherstone Hunt, Mrs Inge, of Thorpe Hall, Tamworth, appealed for four hunt employees, the huntsman, aged 39, married, with four children, and passed C1; the first whip, aged 31, passed B2, married with two children; the second horseman, aged 39, passed B1, married with two children, and the stableman, 41, passed B1, married, without family. Mrs Inge said two men had joined the Forces since the last appeal, and there were now only two men in the kennels. The maintenance of hunting, with the object of encouraging the breeding of horses, was regarded as of national importance. Over 65 of her employees had joined the Army. She did everything she could to encourage the young unmarried men to go, and they were each given a present on joining up. If these men could not be retained, it would mean the breaking up of the Hunt. Mr Prothero was anxious that they should carry on. She added that the men were willing to assist the farmers all they could. It was stated that the pack of hounds had been reduced from 63 couples to 35 couples. Six months each were allowed to the huntsman and stableman, three months to the first whip, and the appeal for the second horseman was dismissed.

A Markfield butcher, aged 32, married, with one child, and passed B1, was informed that his appeal was dismissed, he not having kept the condition of previous exemption to put in two days a week at work of national importance.

Some discussion took place in regard to substitutes on farms, complaints being made that farmers were not trying to make the best of substitutes if they were asked to give up their sons. The chairman said many of the substitutes sent out to farms had no previous knowledge of farm work. The clerk quoted a case of an inexperienced man who volunteered for farm work and when asked why he volunteered, he replied that when the officer came round and asked for men he put up his hand, because he thought it would be a nice change (laughter). The chairman said the sooner people realised the necessity of working with the material at hand the better. Some men, he knew, had said they would not have a woman on the land, but they would be glad to so before they were done. A man who refused a substitute simply because he wished to retain his son did not deserve any sympathy. Mr Kirkman (agricultural representative) said a difficulty in taking substitutes was because houses could not be found for them. A house was not to be got in Barlestone.

The Tribunal decided that in such cases in future they would determine whether the substitutes offered were satisfactory. Several of these cases were considered – the young sons of farmers, whose exemptions had expired, and they were told they would be allowed till substituted to the satisfaction of the Tribunal.

A Bagworth farmer who appeared in respect of his son, aged 29, passed for general service, said he could not afford to pay a substitute. The chairman said that surely a man 29 years of age on a farm was not getting less than 25/- a week. The farmer was bound to pay that sum now. It was stated that this applicant had refused a substitute, though an excellent man was offered. Answering a question, the applicant said his son used to be in the Yeomanry. *"What did he join the Yeomanry for?"* asked a member.

Applicant: *He joined because his brother was in the Yeomanry.*

Replying to further questions, applicant said he had another son who was a farmer, and a younger son, aged 21, was working on munitions. The chairman told applicant that he was very unwise not to accept a substitute as he would lose his son, and be left without anyone. The applicant said he should have to make the best of it. The appeal was dismissed.

In another case, that of two farmers' sons, aged 22 and 24, the applicant, a Kirby Mallory farmer, said that if his sons were taken they could take the farm as well. If he could get someone to give him £400, the same as he paid when he went in, he would give up the farm tomorrow. He was told his sons would have exemption till they were substituted to the satisfaction of the Tribunal.

The appeal of an Ibstock publican was dismissed, and that of his brother, a butcher, was put back for review in a fortnight's time.

A lady draper, of Ibstock, appealed for her son, who manages the business. He was stated to be 24 years of age and single, and passed for general service. He had been assisting in farm work at Whitwick. Two months final were allowed.

The appeal of an Ibstock farmer for a youth, 18, was dismissed.

The husband of a Market Bosworth postmistress appealed for further exemption. He was 38 years of age and passed C3. He was engaged whole time in postal duties. Allowed three months.

An Ibstock joiner, builder, and undertaker, 32, passed for general service, married, with two children, appealed for further exemption. A member said it was difficult now to get repairs done to buildings in Ibstock and district. Allowed till June 30th.

A Newbold Verdon grocer and provision dealer, aged 31, and passed for general service, was allowed till May 31st (final).

A Bagworth farmer was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor (Coalville), in an appeal for his son, aged 24, and passed B1, who manages the farm, being the only man on ninety acres. Six months allowed.

An Ibstock builder, aged 39, and passed B1, was allowed till June 30th, and three months were granted to an Ibstock greengrocer and market gardener, aged 41, on him giving two days a week to work of national importance.

A Market Bosworth licensed victualler, aged 38, passed C3, married, with four children, was allowed three months.

An Ibstock draper and hawker, aged 40, said he had not been medically examined and the case was adjourned for a fortnight for this to be done.

Friday April 27th 1917 (Issue 1312)

Page 1

COALVILLE SOLDIER IN THE DESERT

Writing to Mr R. Carr, of James Street, Coalville, from "Somewhere on a desert" not far from the Holy Land, Mr G. H. Smith, formerly an employee of the Co-Operative Society, and now serving in the Forces, states that he has received a parcel forwarded. The cake and cigs were in good condition, and he and his pals very much enjoyed the same. At the time of writing he was resting before going on guard. He had a rather unusual experience recently, riding with others in railway trucks for some hours over the desert. It is remarkable, he says, that British troops can be landed anywhere. The letter continues, *"I am pleased to say the food we get is very good and I have never yet gone short of drink or food. No doubt you will be surprised when I say we get white bread of a dark colour. I get the "Coalville Times" and always read the Tribunal report. I don't know what the married men think about so many single ones still being kept at home. Up to now I have got on fairly well. Of course, I have had some jolly rough times, but taking things on the whole, I must not complain."*

NOTICE

MR J. H. LAGER

DAIRYMAN AND MILKSELLER

Who is called to the Colours, begs to inform his numerous customers that his business will be carried on as usual, during his absence, under the supervision of his wife, and hopes for a continuance of their patronage. London Road, Coalville.

IBSTOCK

A memorial service was held in the Ibstock Parish Church on Sunday afternoon last in connection with the death in action of Private George Rolleston (already reported in our columns). The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., and the Ibstock Church Lad's Brigade, under Captain Dr. Wilson was in attendance, sounding the "Last Post" at the conclusion. There was a good congregation, and Mr W. Dunstan presided at the organ.

A memorial service was held in the Ibstock Wesleyan Reform Church on Sunday evening, conducted by Mr George Clamp, of Donisthorpe, in connection with the death in action of Private Bert Redshaw. A deputation attended from the Earl Howe Lodge, M.U. of Oddfellows and there was a large congregation present. Private Redshaw had passed through the Wesleyan Reform Sunday School, and had remained attached to this place of worship up to the time of joining up.

COALVILLE SOLDIERS' COMFORTS

Two very successful concerts in aid of the funds of the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild were held in the Olympia Theatre on Sunday. At each performance, afternoon and evening, there was a full house, the audience including many of the wounded soldiers from Broom Leys Hospital, and an excellent programme was much appreciated. The principals were Miss May Evans (soprano), Mr Chas. Keywood (baritone), and Mr Warden Burke (violinist), with the Orpheus Glee Singers and a full orchestra.

The opening piece in the afternoon was an overture by the band, "The Maid of Artois", and later they played excellently symphonies by Schubert, and gave a very fine rendering of "Maritana". Miss Evans, who is well-known to Coalville audiences, by her successes at the Philharmonic Society's concerts, sweetly sang, "The Smile of Spring," and "Waiting," which were a couple of delightful items. Mr Keywood, in the uniform of the Royal Garrison Artillery, at once established himself a favourite with a perfect rendering of that fine song, "England mine." He has a splendid voice, and being down for three songs, meant singing six, for he was vociferously recalled each time. His first encore was "The Yeoman of England", and after singing "Arm, arm ye brave," and "Homeland" he gave respectively "The Trumpeter", and "Perfect Day". The audience would fain have had more. Mr Warden Burke, the talented local violinist gave two exquisite solos, "Cavatina" and "Fantaisie" and the Orpheus Glee Singers contributed in no small degree to the harmony of the afternoon, their items, "The Singers", "Resting" and "O, Divine Redeemer", all being well rendered. The party consisted of Mrs W. Smith, Mrs G. Clay, Mrs Aris, Miss Newman, Messrs. W. Smith, A. G. Ball, E. Briers and W. Reece.

At the evening concerts, the orchestral parts were practically the same. Miss Evans sang "In Summer-time", "Lo, here the gentle lark", (with flute obligato by Mr W. Clarke) and "The Reason" and Mr Keywood's items were "The Lord is my Light," "The Lost Chord", and "Your Land and Mine". As encores to the two latter, he repeated, by request, "Arm, arm ye brave", and "England Mine." Mr Warden Burke was encored for his violin solo "Salterella" and the part songs were "Moonlight" and "Lullaby".

Mr J. W. Burton conducted, and the accompanists were Mrs de Ville (Ellistown), and Mrs J. W. Burton. The orchestra was comprised of the following: First violins, Messrs. H. Williamson and Warden Burke; second violins, Messrs. E. Marriott and W. Kendrick; viola, Mr J. Burton; cello, Mr W. Hemsley; double bass, Mr A. Williamson; flute, Mr W. Clarke; oboe, Mr Shaw; clarinet, Mr R. Thornley; bassoon, Mr W. Baxter; cornets, Messrs. T. Garratt and J. Eales; and trombone, Mr H. Yates.

Mr L. L. Baldwin, on behalf of the Guild, thanked the public for supporting their efforts so well, also the ladies and gentlemen who assisted, particularly Mr J. W. Burton, to whom the conception of the concerts were due. During the last 2 ½ years, the Guild had sent parcels to nearly 2,000 men from that district. All would understand that no light undertaking, and it involved much trouble, but it was cheerfully undertaken, and there had been a generous response from the public to meet the large expenditure which necessarily had to be incurred. He wanted to emphasise the fact that the Guild was not a charity. They looked upon it as a great privilege to the women of the district to be able to send comforts to the men fighting their battles, and he invited the public to assist all they could in seeing that no man was missed. To avoid overlapping, they had had to adopt the rule of only sending the goods that were applied for. So it was up to them all who had relatives in Forces to let the Guild have the names and addresses of the men, and what the articles were that they required.

COALVILLE MINISTER IN FRANCE

Writing from France, where he is engaged with the Y.M.C.A. among the troops, the Rev. W. H. Wills, pastor of the Coalville Ebenezer Baptist Church, says he would be grateful if the people of Coalville would supply him with as many magazines and weekly periodicals as they can, as he finds he can distribute any number to great advantage among the boys. Two nights last week, he was on all night, in addition to his own work in the day, supplying the brave fellows with free tea and cocoa, on their way to the firing lines, and he had been able to distribute to them thousands of papers of all kinds. Thousands of boys are cheered in this way, but his stock is limited. The letter continues, *"If only the people at home could see the faces of the lads when I go out with my bundle of papers and New Testaments, they would see that I was never without a good supply. On Friday morning last, about 4 am, tired out myself, but laden with papers, I got into a truck where a number of men were, who had not been out of the truck for 14 hours. When I offered them my papers and magazines, they all said with one voice, 'Bravo, boys! Papers from old 'Blighty'. Cheero'. For the next two hours I forgot my own weariness, and found joy and inspiration in the interested manner of these lads in the home papers.*

Perhaps it would guide you if I give you a list of papers that I know are greatly appreciated:

- 1 All the magazines containing good stories.
- 2 All the humorous papers, such as Punch, Tatler, Sketch, etc.
- 3 All picture papers, and London pictorials etc.
- 4 Any Christian periodicals

The work I am engaged in is increasingly interesting here in my own hut. But this extra work is transcendently the greatest boon to the men I have ever experienced anywhere, so I know the Coalville friends will do their best to give these lads a bit of real "Blighty sunshine". Parcels should be plainly addressed as follows:- The Rev. Wm. Hunt Wills, Y.M.C.A., A.P.O., S. XI, B.E.F., France."

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

On Whit Monday, there will an Old English Fair in the Coalville Market Place in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild funds?

The amount collected in Coalville, Whitwick, Hugglescote, Ravenstone and Bardon, on the last flag day for the Prisoners of War Fund was £53 17s?

Private T. Brown, Ibstock, of the King's Royal Rifles, has been informed this week that he will be presented with a military medal on re-joining his unit?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Regimental Sergeant-Major Penman, of the Leicestershire Regiment, and stationed at Loughborough, visited Coalville, on Sunday morning and conducted the joint drill of the Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick Companies of the Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment.

One of the survivors of the hospital ship, "Lanfranc" torpedoed on the night of April 17th, was Private J. Griffin, of the Leicesters, elder son of Mr A. Griffin, of Donington-le-Heath, whose death occurred on Friday last. Private Griffin was dangerously wounded a few weeks ago, and was visited in hospital in France by his uncle and aunt, Mr and Mrs F. Griffin, his father then being too ill to make the journey. The wounded soldier, we understand, is making good progress. On landing in England, he wrote of his ship having been torpedoed and stating that some Germans on board were drowned.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

BUTCHER'S CASES FURTHER ADJOURNED

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

The cases of the butchers in the urban area were considered. The Whitwick men's appeals were heard at the last sitting and decisions adjourned until the others were heard. There were seven Coalville cases, which were taken separately, four being employees of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, and the others, three private traders. The latter were aged 32, 38 and 34, passed respectively C1, and two general service. All are married, and each has two children. Mr J. J. Sharp and Mr C. E. Crane appeared for applicants. In the four Co-Operative cases, Mr A. Lockwood (manager) stated the facts. The men concerned were the general manager and buyer, aged 38, passed for general service, married with seven children, the managers of the Coalville East, Bagworth and Ibstock branches, the ages being 36, 27 and 30, passed C1, C3 and general service, all married. In other cases an Ellistown butcher was stated to be 29 years of age, and passed B2, and a Hugglescote butcher, 36, passed C3. The Advisory Committee recommended one month (final) for all the general service men, and one month in the other cases.

Mr Briers said he claimed to be as loyal as any member of the Tribunal, but he wanted them to remember what they were there for, which, he took it, was to hold the scales evenly between the military and applicants. This trade had been put on the reserved list, so that the Government regarded it as of national importance, and it was not work that women could do. In regard to the three Coalville private traders, they were all over 31, and he would move that they have one month, not final, and they would see how things went on.

Mr Drewett pointed out that a tremendous wastage was going on, and the men at the Front wanted support. The policy of drift was suicidal. They should decide how many had to go from each district and then let the categories decide. Mr Lockwood said there would not be so much difficulty if all were treated alike.

Mr McCarthy: *You mean taking all England?*

Mr Lockwood: *Yes, every industry. We should defer our judgement pending the coming out which commences on May 1st. There are men here of 37 and 38 with 7 children, and there are single men, 20 and 21, with no family ties, yet walking about. We should be doing nothing wrong by waiting for a week or two until a general system is arrived at.*

Mr Brown said it was not fair to send men up to 40 while there were so many young fellows about and no scheme to rope them in. After further discussion, it was decided to further adjourn the whole of the cases for another 14 days, pending the new arrangements, which come into operation on May 1st.

A Coalville engineering firm appealed for a horse driver, aged 41, married, C1, with five children, and one month was allowed to enable the man to find work of national importance.

One month (final) was allowed a loom maker's apprentice, aged 19, and single, passed C1.

A Coalville saddler, represented by Mr C. E. Crane, was allowed two months. He was stated to be 32 years of age, passed B1, and married, with two children.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society applied for the first hand in a grocery warehouse, aged 35, married, and passed C2. One month was allowed. During the consideration of this case it was stated that it had been carefully gone into by the Advisory Committee, whereupon Mr McCarthy observed by the Advisory Committee were appointed to advise the military representative to get all the men they could, and not give a lead to the Tribunal. The latter had to hold the balance fairly between the trade of the country and the Army.

Another employee of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, engaged at the Bagworth branch, appealed on domestic grounds. He is a C2 man with seven children. It was decided that he be left as a substitute. Answering Mr McCarthy, the military secretary said that meant leaving the man in his present employment, and taking a higher category man from the same firm.

Two months were allowed a Coalville building firm for a waggoner, aged 40, passed C3, and married.

A Coalville chimney sweep, in his appeal said that if he was taken there would be an epidemic of chimney fires in the district, and it was work no novice could do. He was 38 years of age, passed C3 and had 5 children. He worked 14 hours a day. Exemption was allowed on two days a week being given to work of national importance.

One month was allowed a Hugglescote builder, aged 38, married, and passed B1. Mr J. J. Sharp, aged 38, married, and passed B1. Mr J. J. Sharp said the firm had 35 men before the war, and nine now.

A farm labourer, employed by the Whitwick Colliery Co., aged 39, C2, married with seven children, appealing on domestic grounds was allowed two months.

Two months were also allowed the confidential clerk of a Hugglescote building firm, who is the commandant of the Hugglescote V.T.C. He is 35, married, with two children, and is passed C1, his appeal being on domestic grounds.

RECRUITING MEETING AT IBSTOCK

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS

At Market Bosworth Police Court, on Wednesday, Thomas Mee and Eli Ward, colliers, Ibstock, were summoned for disturbing a public recruiting meeting at Ibstock, on April 1st. Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) for the defendants, pleaded not guilty. Sergeant Iliffe stated that on the date named he was at a miners' recruiting meeting in Ibstock Picture Palace, attended by about 600 people, mostly miners. The chairman was J. T. Jacques and Mr W. A. Brockington (Leicester) and Mr W. Dunstan (Ibstock) besides military representatives, addressed the meeting. The meeting was disorderly, and there were frequent interruptions by the

defendants, particularly Ward. His language was very bad, and he was under the influence of drink. There were also frequent interruptions by Mee, and the chairman told him he had better go on to the platform, which he did. He came into the audience again, and, standing on a chair with his back to the platform, commenced to give an address, while there was a speech being given from the platform. Many complaints were made, and the speakers could not make their points, being inaudible at times.

By Mr Jesson: *He had known the men for some years and they had always been respectable men.*

Mee was formerly a soldier for 12 years in the Leicesters, and went through the South African War, having been in the siege of Ladysmith. The meeting was disorderly the whole of the time, but had defendants left when he requested them, the others would not have been so bad. Some of their remarks were in relation to soldier's pay. P.C. Potterton corroborated.

The defendant, Mee, said he was discharged from the Army after 12 years with a clean record. He had no desire to hinder recruiting, and had collected £30 in the Ibstock district for wounded soldiers and it had been distributed according to the list (produced). The meeting was disorderly all through, and several times he called for order. If he could have made his little speech as he tried to do, it would have been in favour of the Army.

Wm. Stanton and Wm. Goddard, colliers, Ibstock, said they were both at the meeting, which they admitted was a bit lively, but the defendants were not disorderly. The chairman said that in the first instance it seemed a serious case, but after hearing the evidence, the Bench accepted Mee's explanation, and in regard to Ward, though he might come within the purview of the Act, in view of his previous good character, they would dismiss this case.

BOSWORTH LICENSED VICTUALLER DIES OF WOUNDS

News has been received in Market Bosworth that Sapper Bert Goode, of the Royal Engineers, has died of wounds received in action. Before the war he was the licensee of the Red Lion Hotel, Market Bosworth. He was 25 years of age, and leaves a widow and one child. He was the only son of Mr and Mrs Goode, of the Railway Hotel, Hinckley.

Page 4

MARKFIELD SOLDIER AWARDED MILITARY MEDAL



Mr T. Swain, of Main Street, Markfield, has received intimation that his son, L.-Corporal T. B. Swain, 5th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal with congratulations from the Major-General commanding the 4th North Midland Division, and below is a copy of the communication.

"No. 5913, L/Corp'l. T. B. Swain, 5th Batt. North Stafford Regiment. – Awarded Military Medal – For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the action on the night of 13/14th March, 1917. This N.C.O. was in charge of a Lewis gun. His No. 2 was wounded, and he himself was shot through the throat. The remaining two men of his team were lost in the darkness. Although he was the only man with his gun, and unable to get through the enemy's wire, he carried on. Later, when compelled to retire, he was again hit in the thigh, but he still stuck to his gun, and brought it safely out of action. – Recommended 17/3/1917"

L.-Corpl Swain, up to the time of joining the Army, was on the office staff of the Cliff Hill Granite Co. Ltd, and his many friends are very pleased to hear that he has been honoured as above. He is at present in hospital in England, but recovering from his wounds.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of my dear husband, Lieut. Thomas Dooley, who was killed in action in France, May 1st, 1915.

*"As the tempest wildly raging,
Rends the heavens apart
Lo, with pain, grief and sorrow
Rends the heart."*

From his loving widow, mother and father.

Mr and Mrs Ed. Briers, of Hermitage Road, Whitwick, and the fiancée of the late Private Norman Burrell, of the Leicestershire Regiment, desire to thank most sincerely, all friends for the kind sympathy shown to them in their sad bereavement.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Reported missing on July 14th, 1916, Pte. Norman Burrell, of the Leicestershire Regiment is now concluded to have been killed on that date. He formerly resided with his sister, Mrs Edward Briers, of 62, Hermitage Road. He went to France on July 29th, 1915, and in May last was at Whitwick on leave. As far as is known, this is the 25th Whitwick man to be killed in the war. A memorial service for Private Burrell was held in the Whitwick P.M. Chapel on Sunday, when the members of the Whitwick V.T.C. attended, and the preacher was the Rev. T. J. Martin, of Coalville.

Mr and Mrs W. Bakewell, of Bakewell Street, Coalville, on Monday morning, received official confirmation of the death of their only son, Private Wm. Thos. Bakewell, of which they had heard from other sources a few days before. Deceased was in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and the letter from the record office, Warwick, states that he was killed in action on April 9th (Easter Monday). 2nd Lieutenant J. Sowerby has also written as follows: *"I am very sorry indeed to have to inform you that your son, Pte. W. Bakewell, was killed on the afternoon of Easter Monday. We had made a successful attack in the morning, and were holding the trenches taken from the Germans. During the afternoon, we were shelled, and one shell dropped in the trench where your son was, killing him and wounding two others. His death was instantaneous, and, therefore, he suffered no pain. He was buried next morning in the churchyard of the village nearby. Your son was a very good soldier. He took a great interest in his work, and was very well thought of by officers, N.C.O.'s and men, who are all exceedingly sorry about his death, and offer you sincere sympathy."*

Another letter received from a comrade states that deceased was one of the best of chums. Private T. Bakewell was 22 years of age, and was at home on leave only eleven weeks ago. He joined the Army in November, 1915, and had been nearly a year in France. He was a good shot, and had acted as a sniper. He always wrote most cheerful letters home, and in the last one received, said the Germans were on the run, and at the rate they were going would soon be in Berlin. Before the war, deceased worked for Mr C. H. March, plumber and painter, High Street, Coalville, by whom his father is also employed.

News has been received by Mr and Mrs Geo. Peck, of 118, London Road, Coalville that their only son, Lance-Corporal Oswin J. Peck, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has died from wounds received in action. Lieut. J. W. Jamie, son of Dr. R. W. Jamie, of Coalville, writes, *"I am sorry to have to inform you that your son has died of wounds received in action on April 16th. He was hit in the attack on a village, and I saw and spoke to him just before he was taken to the dressing station. He was wonderfully brave and very cheerful. He had recently been congratulated on his excellent work as a battalion scout, and he had been recommended for promotion. His loss will be very keenly felt by all, as his habitual cheerfulness made him very popular. If there is anything I can do for you in the way of giving further particulars, please write, and I will do all I can."*

A nice letter has also been received from the Rev. J. D. Thomas (chaplain) who says that the deceased was so brave that after being wounded, he would walk, instead of being carried, so that others who could not walk, might be taken away, but he had to give in after a while. The writer adds, *"You will be glad to know that on Easter Sunday, I had a communion service which he attended. I can remember him now as he knelt before me, and again last Sunday before he went into action, he was also present for the same purpose. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy. He died fighting most bravely in the service of his country."*

Lance-Corporal Peck had just turned 21 years of age. He had been a server at the Parish Church since he was 11. Before the war he worked for Messrs. Stableford and Co, by whom his father is also employed.

Mr J. T. Dale, a collier, employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery, and residing at Victoria Road, Coalville, has been informed of the death of his son, Private Alfred Dale, of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported missing. The news is conveyed in a letter from a comrade, who forwarded some of the deceased's belongings. Private Dale was only 19 years of age, and formerly worked at South Leicestershire Colliery. He was a popular member of the Coalville Swifts football team.

Private A. Furlong (Bardon Hill) of the Northumberland Fusiliers, is reported to have died.

Private F. W. Cooper (Hugglescote), F. Pearce (Markfield) and J. Rae (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Private H. Wright (Ashby) of the King's Own, Yorkshire Light Infantry, is reported to have died of wounds.

News has been received that a Whitwick soldier, Private Frank Capell, is dangerously ill with enteric fever in the East. Privates Ottey and H. Bonser, of Whitwick, previously reported as dangerously ill, are now stated to be progressing satisfactorily.

Mr and Mrs Jos. Baker, of Ashby Road, Hugglescote, on Saturday received a letter stating that their son, Private M. Baker, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been severely wounded in France. The soldier's father is a deputy at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

We regret to announce that Ibstock has lost another of its young men, by the death in action of Private Thomas Capers, whose death was officially notified to the family last weekend. Private Capers was well-known and respected as a Church of England Sunday School teacher, and worker. He was employed as an insurance agent prior to being called up.

Private J. Sherwin (Coalville) of the South Staffordshire Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now officially reported wounded and missing.

Private Wm. Buck, Leicestershire Regiment, whose wife and children reside in Hermitage Road, Coalville, was wounded on the 12th inst.

Friday May 4th 1917 (Issue 1313)

Page 1

About seven o'clock on Monday evening a convoy of wounded soldiers arrived at the London Road Station, Leicester, and were conveyed by the V.A. detachments, under the supervision of Mr A. W. Faire (County Director) to the local hospitals. There were no cot cases, the 313 patients being men who had been "winged" in the recent fighting on the Western Front, and many of them gave an indication of the sort of ground on which they had to fight by their uniforms being plastered with dried mud from the fields of France. Many regiments were represented, including Midland ones, and there was, at least, one man who hailed from Leicestershire.

HUGGLESCOTE LADY IN EGYPT

Nurse Doris Moore, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. S. Moore, of Hugglescote, who is engaged in a military hospital at Alexandria, writes an interesting letter to the "Hugglescote Parish Magazine" describing a visit she has paid with two other nurses to Luxor. After describing the railway journey, via Cairo, Miss Moore says, *"We arrived at Luxor at 9.30. A dirty little station, not much bigger than Hugglescote, and crammed full of Arabs and Dragomen (latter are guides). We pushed our way through the crowd, with Arab women crying for 'baksheesh', that is, begging for piastres, and found the Luxor Hotel 'waggonette' waiting for us. It was drawn by two donkeys, and there we were we three, three other sisters and four officers, pushed into this thing with all our luggage and the local hotel porter too. However, we were driven through the streets of Luxor with the children, donkeys and goats all playing in the dirt together, and got to the hotel safely. Breakfast was ready for us, so we tucked in well. Eggs and bacon, hot toast and butter and apricot jam, tea*

and coffee. After that we went to our rooms and had a jolly hot bath and changed ready to proceed to do some sight-seeing, as we hadn't a minute to waste, being only there for three days. We chose the dragoman and he was there at 11 am to take us to the Luxor Temple. Luxor town or village is not a very big place in itself, but it's the temples and tombs which are the interest to the place. Luxor Temple is just on the banks of the Nile. It was built by two kings in 1500 BC, Rameses II and, I think, Ceaser I, I'm not quite sure about that. It has 164 columns, 66 ft high, 6 inch in diameter, and all carved with kings and people praying to the gods and sacred bulls, and all their various ways of praying and offering sacrifices. All this carving was done by flint, before any tools were thought of. I picked a piece up, so probably I will send it on. It's really marvellous to think how it could all be done. The pillars are all one piece of granite, cut and carved by the flint. In the centre of one of the courts is a stone altar dedicated to the Emperor Augustus, in the life of Jesus Christ. That is also carved, and an obelisk, made of one piece of granite, standing 72 ft high that is the last of the three obelisks. One was taken to New York, and one is on the Thames Embankment, and this one is left in Luxor Temple, among four huge statues of Rameses II. It was getting near lunch time then, so we walked to the Museum, which was not far from the hotel. It had only three rooms but full of curios, such as mummy beads, (beads found in the tombs on the mummies), scarabs, the sacred insect of the Mohammedans, which is nearly always buried with them, and various shapes of flints and skeletons, etc. We arrived back in the hotel at 1 o'clock for lunch and told the dragoman to be ready at 2 pm to take us to Karnak. He was there waiting for us with a carriage and pair of horses, but one sister had such a bad headache, she was unable to go with us. The drive to Karnak was very pretty, sometimes like a country road in England, very narrow with trees on either side, and palm groves with mud houses on the right. It is three miles away from Luxor, and the first you come to is an avenue of sphinx, 1,000 sphinx with heads of camels. At the end of the avenue is Talume Gate, built in 250 BC. Karnak is the largest temple in Egypt, it stands on 134 acres of land, and was built by Rameses III, Rameses X, and Rameses XII, in 1,200 BC. There are 135 lotus columns, all carved, one was built by Rameses I, 54 by Caesar I, and the rest by Rameses II. They are 66 ft high, and the carving is simply glorious. Among the ruins are two obelisks, one is the largest in the world, 106 ft, one piece of granite, brought from Assouan to Karnak in 7 months, 7 hours and 7 minutes, and to think that a piece of work like that could be moved by human hands and brought all those miles. It was built by Queen Absku in 1,500 BC. Close by is the sacred lake, where they used to wash before they entered the temple. Leading down from the temple to the river is another avenue of sphinx, this time with ram heads, built by Rameses II in 1,333 BC. The drive home was lovely, the sun was going down, and the after glow shone through the palm trees. We got back soon after 5 pm in time for tea, and then had a quiet evening after the journey and sight-seeing".

Page 2

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Lance-Corporal Oswin J. Peck, of the Leicestershire Regiment, recently killed in action, was held at Christ Church, Coalville, on Sunday morning, being concluded by the Vicar, the Rev. S. Hosking. The deceased soldier had been a server at the church for some years, and acted in that capacity when he was over on leave only six weeks ago.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. B. B. Drewett, A. Lockwood, M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, T. F. Fox, and A. J. Briers, with Capt. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. Taylor, for the clerk.

A Hugglescote builder appealed for a bricklayer, aged 38, passed C3, married, with six children, and was allowed two months.

Similar exemption was granted to a Coalville saddler, aged 37, who works for local collieries, and to a youth, 19, employed as a cycle repairer.

The military representative asked for the review of a conditional exemption certificate granted to a Coalville architect. Mr Blower explained that all the cases were being reviewed. The question was asked whether there were any other similar cases, and the military secretary said there was another architect in the town, but he was a tax collector and was protected by the Inland Revenue. After the statement of the architect appealed against, the certificate of conditional exemption was allowed to stand.

Another review, at the request of the military was that of a B1 manager of a grocery firm's Coalville branch, who had been allowed conditional exemption. He was 40 years of age with four children. It was stated that the firm had appealed for no single men. Three months allowed.

An employee of the Coalville Urban Council was appealed against by the military representative. He is a general service man, 36 years of age, married, with three children. The Coalville Urban Council surveyor said this was the second man at the waterworks, and without him they could not run the waterworks.

Mr McCarthy: *We should have to drink all ale or whiskey* (laughter).

Conditional exemption was allowed while at this work.

A Whitwick baker and another Whitwick man appealed against were stated to have joined up, and a Whitwick boot maker had been used as a substitute.

Conditional exemption was allowed a Coalville carter, aged 33, passed C1, with six children. The military appeal against the conditional exemption of a Coalville fitter employed at a waggon works, who is also manager of a Coalville club, was not allowed. The man is 39 years of age, and Mr Hale said he was rendering useful service. A man of 39 was not much use as a soldier, and he was doing better work where he was. Work which might be done in Coalville was having to go outside because they were shorthanded. The decision entitled the man to retain his certificate.

The case of a Hugglescote bricklayer was adjourned for a week at the request of the employer, who was ill.

A Whitwick painter and decorator said he could not spare the only man he had left out of seven, whose exemption was appealed against. He was 37 years of age, and passed for general service. The employer said he was a special constable, and was helping all he could. He had injured his knee drilling with the V.T.C., and had to undergo an operation.

A member: (jocosely) *Can't you claim damages from the Government?* (Laughter)

The military secretary said this was about the only general service man of that age left in the district. One month, or till substituted, was allowed.

A Whitwick baker and grocer, 35, general service, married, with two children, was allowed to retain his conditional exemption certificate on another man in his employ being allowed to go.

Two months were allowed a C1 baker and grocer of Donington-le-Heath, married with two children.

Another military appeal was against a loom overlocker, at a Whitwick factory, aged 35, and passed for general service. A representative of the firm said they were having a job to get along now, and if this man was taken he did not know what they would do.

The chairman: *He is a general service man you know.*

The representative: *If they would fetch all general service men and take them according to age we should know where we are* (hear, hear).

Mr McCarthy pointed out that the man had five children. He also said 130 girls were employed, and the factory was about to be enlarged. They did not wish to cripple trade if they could help it. After further discussion the case was adjourned for a fortnight for further information.

The Tribunal refused the appeal of the military representative against the exemption of the Coalville head salesman for a Leicester firm of fruiterers. The man is 33 years of age, passed C1, married, with two children. It was stated that the man had had a brother killed in the war, another crippled for life, and as the only son left he was supporting his widowed mother. He retains his conditional exemption certificate.

A Whitwick beerhouse keeper, formerly a Leicester Fosse footballer, who is now working also as a riveter at the local waggon works, was appealed against, having been passed for general service. He is 37 years of age, and married, with four children. The military representative said this man had only been at the local works eight months and yet general service men who had been there for years had been taken. Mr Hale said

the man did the work for ten years before he took this public house. Answering Captain German, the man said he had not drilled with the V.T.C. as his wife had been ill, and he could not leave home in the evenings. He was allowed to retain his conditional exception certificate.

A Coalville farmer appealed to be exempted from drilling with the V.T.C., and it was agreed to allow it during July and August only.

Page 3

ASHBY SOLDIER'S THRILLING EXPERIENCE

Private George Watts, of the Artillery, writing to his parents, Mr and Mrs Watts, of Ashby, states that he was in the _____ when it was sunk by a torpedo. There was not much of a shock. The soldiers were calm, of course. Most of them had seen worse things than that. The majority were saved, but several boat loads of men were tipped into the sea. He did not go in a boat, having a lifebelt on he got in the water, and had a swim for it. The water was lovely and warm, but of course, there was nowhere to swim to. It was a matter of keeping out of the way till picked up.

IBSTOCK

MEMORIAL SERVICE

In connection with the death in action of Rifleman T. Capers, as reported in our columns last week, a memorial service was held in the Ibstock Parish Church on Sunday evening last, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. S. Flood, M.A. Members of the Ibstock Parish Council, Fire Brigade, and the Church Lads Brigade (under Captain Dr. Wilson) attended the service. Mr Dunstan presided at the organ and played the Dead March ("Saul"). The "Last Post" was sounded on the Brigade bugles. A beautiful wreath, bought by members of the Sunday School, of which deceased was a teacher, and also one from the family, was hung at the foot of the Roll of Honour in church, and there were many evidences of the sympathy felt for the bereaved family.

WHIST DRIVE

On Saturday evening a whist drive and dance were held in the Whitwick Holy Cross Schools to provide gifts for Whitwick soldiers and sailors. There was a good attendance. Mr R. West played for dancing and the M.C.'s were Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and A. Slattery. Mr F. Harper was the M.C. for whist and the lady winners were

1 Mrs Howe; 2 Mrs B. McCarthy

There was a debate as to the winners of the gentlemen's prizes, which were withheld pending settlement by the committee.

COALVILLE PRINTERS IN FRANCE

Private W. S. Page, of the Durham Light Infantry, formerly employed at the "Coalville Times" Printing Works, now in France, writing to the foreman (Mr C. E. Marston) on Easter Sunday, says, *"I expect you were surprised to hear of my sudden departure from 'Blighty', though to me it seems ages since I was there. I often think of you, and the others at the old shop, especially when the 'Coalville Times' arrives. I hope you are as well as I am, for I can assure you that although it is rough living here, I feel as fit as a fiddle. . . . Things are beginning to hum out here now, and there is a feeling in the air that there is 'something doing'"*

Another letter received by Mr Marston is from Private A. Richardson, attached to a machine gun corps, of Crescent Road, Hugglescote, also a former member of the "Coalville Times" staff. Private Richardson recently landed in France and says it is a bit different from being in England. They are not hard done to, and get plenty of food. He adds, *"You would laugh to see our washing parade. At six o'clock in the morning we go down the village to a big stream with towel and soap in hand. We had a route march yesterday, ten to twelve miles, and today we all had a fine steam bath in turn, which, I must say, beats hot water. Being under canvas is not very nice sometimes, especially when the rain comes in, but we smile and sing at all times. But although we are such merry soldiers, there are times when one thinks of home and his dear ones, and I*

hope and trust that this summer will see the finish, and that we shall be in 'Blighty' again before another winter."

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

The soldier patients from Broom Leys War Hospital were the guests to tea of Mrs F. Abel Smith, of Coleorton Hall, on Monday afternoon. Seven brake loads were conveyed, and formed quite a cavalcade. One wit of the party made the remark, "*That it was a jolly fine recruiting wheeze.*" The party (nurses and men) were soon at home in the beautiful grounds, with games, sports, and the gramophone, and the literary people were very interested in the Wordsworth associations, and the poetry on the ruins.

FOOTBALL AT THE FRONT

A football match in which a number of Leicestershire men took part, was played recently between a company of the Royal Engineers and a French team. The former won by nine goals to none. The Engineers' team was as follows; Sapper Crump, Lance-Corporal C. Blythe, and Sapper Banson, Sappers Millichamp, J. West, and C. West, Sapper T. Brown, Sapper A. Rennocks, Sergt. Pearson, Q.M.S. Pope and C.M.S. Cooper. The goal scorers were J. West (2), Pope (2), Cooper (2), C. West, Rennock and Pearson. The match aroused a great deal of interest, and there was a large attendance of spectators.

NATIONAL SERVICE

A meeting of the Coalville National Service Committee was held in the Council Chamber on Monday night. Mr A. Lockwood presided, and there were present, Messrs. E. Orton, J. Kirby, J. E. Hume, H. T. Bastard, A. J. Briers, W. Battle, and G. F. Hurst (hon. secretary).

Mr S. Haywood was elected on the Committee as a representative of the local branch of the Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. A circular was read in reference to obtaining women for farm work, and the secretary was directed to make certain enquiries. A circular from headquarters outlined the new scheme for national service, which, in a nutshell, said Mr Orton, aimed at keeping men in essential trades in their own districts. Mr Hurst pointed out that the new scheme was supplementary to, and did not wipe out, the old one, and volunteers for national service would continue to be enrolled. The volunteers would be used to fill vacancies as they occurred. It was suggested that co-operation of various businesses would have to take place, and also the co-operation of traders with the object of saving manpower and material. The question was discussed as to what the committee could do to find substitutes for the men who were shortly to be combed out from various works, and eventually the matter was deferred for more definite instructions.

Major Hamilton wrote from Headquarters thanking the secretary for his excellent reports. The information given, he said, was very useful, and had enabled him to give full details to his committee. It was emphasised by the meeting that volunteers for national service are still wanted, and they should continue to enrol.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private Roland Hall, of the Manchester Regiment, late of the Leicesters, whose mother and step-father, Mr and Mrs Smith, reside at 5, Club Row, Coalville, is officially reported to have been killed in action on the 14th April. He was 33 years of age, and before leaving Coalville to live at Manchester, he worked at Whitwick Colliery, and also the South Leicestershire Colliery. Private Hall gained distinction as a boxer whilst serving in a battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment in India, where he won several trophies, and in Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley, and other places was well-known in the ring. He was a reservist of the Leicestershire Regiment, and re-joining the army at Manchester, was afterwards transferred to the Manchester Regiment. He was a single man.

News has been received that Lieut. T. Davenport, son of the late Mr T. Davenport, wine and spirit merchant, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, has been killed in action.

P.C. Culpin, of Ellistown, received news on Monday that his son, Private William Culpin, of the Durham Light Infantry, has been wounded in the legs and was now in hospital in France. Private Culpin is 19 years of age.

Mr Bywater, chimney sweep, of Forest Road, Hugglescote, has been notified that his son, Driver E. Bywater, of the R.F.A. has been wounded in action, and is now in hospital in France suffering from a severe gunshot wound in the shoulder. Before the war, he was working as an engineer in Birmingham.

Mr H. Brown, a tailor in the employ of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, and residing at James Street, Coalville, has been officially notified that his son, Private H. E. Brown, of the Wiltshire Regiment, was wounded in the left shoulder on April 5th in Mesopotamia, and is now in hospital.

Sportsmen throughout Coalville and district will regret to learn that Private John Surman, of Bardon Hill, has recently been killed in action. He joined the Leicestershire Regiment a little over 12 months ago, and was later transferred to the Northumberland Fusiliers. Before the war he worked at Bardon Quarries, and lived with his uncle, Mr James Surman, at 14, The Old Row, Bardon Hill. The deceased soldier was a popular footballer and cricketer with the Hugglescote clubs, and was also on the ground staff of the Leicestershire County Cricket Club.



The following is a copy of a letter received by Mr Surman from the deceased's officer. *"It is my painful duty to inform you of the death of your son. I feel sure it will lessen your grief to know that his death was instantaneous. Your son was one of the best of my platoon, and I feel his loss very much. He was always brave, and willing in duty. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your sad bereavement."*

(A photograph of Private John Surman appears to the left)

Driver Reginald Poyser, Machine Gun Corps, son of Mrs Poyser, widow of the late Mr Wm. Poyser, the Calais, Ashby, was killed in action on the 12th April. An officer in the corps, writing to the deceased's soldier's widow (who is living with her father, Mr Arnold Wright, Station Terrace, Swannington), said that Driver Poyser was devoted to his duties and was respected by his comrades. The widow, who was married at St. George's Church, Swannington, only six months ago, is a school teacher at Ashby.

Before enlisting Private Poyser conducted a horse-slaughtering business at Ashby, succeeding his father, who carried it on for several years. Deceased's brother, Charles, served in an artillery regiment, but met with an accident during training in England, and is now disabled.

Mr Joseph Baker, of Ashby Road, Hugglescote, a deputy at the South Leicestershire Colliery, has received a letter from his third son, Lance-Corporal Major Baker, of the Leicestershire Regiment, stating that both his feet have had to be amputated, owing to the wounds he received in action. He is in hospital in France, and expecting soon to come to England. He is 21 years of age, and used to work at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

Private J. D. Adkins, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been wounded in action, the injury being to his shoulder, and he is now in hospital. His parents reside at Whitehill Road, Ellistown, and before the war, Pte. Adkins worked at the Ellistown Colliery.

Mr and Mrs T. Heward, of Ashby, formerly of Hugglescote, have received a letter from a chaplain notifying the death of their son, Acting-Bombardier A. S. Heward, of the R.F.A. who was killed at his gun. The deceased soldier would have been 29 years of age last Sunday. Before the war he was a clerk, and used to play full-back for the Coalville Town F.C.

Mr and Mrs Heward have received the following letter from the chaplain, *"I am very sorry to tell you your son Acting Bombardier Heward, A.S. O/D/152 was killed yesterday (24th April) whilst doing his duty and standing at his post at the guns. Death was instantaneous, so he was spared any suffering. I buried him in the afternoon in one of the British Cemeteries. His grave will be well looked after. He will be sadly missed by all ranks, all his officers speak so highly of him. Please accept my very deepest sympathy in your great sorrow, and may God comfort and strengthen you and help you to bear the heavy cross He has laid upon you."*

Also, the following letter has been received from the deceased's officer, Lieut. H. W. Palfreyman, *"It is with deepest regret that I have to inform you that your son, Bomb. A. S. Heward was killed in action yesterday morning. While serving his gun he was struck by a splinter of a shell and was killed instantaneously. He was buried by the Divisional Chaplain in the British Cemetery here in the presence of an officer and several of his*

comrades. Your son was a fine example of a soldier, and was one of the most popular men in the Battery, and his loss will be keenly felt by us all. If it can be some slight consolation to you in your great loss, I can assure you of the sincerest sympathy of every officer and man in the Battery."

Mr and Mrs George Yates, of Church Lane, Ravenstone, have been notified of the death in action of their youngest son, Private George Yates, of the Leicestershire Regiment. The news is conveyed in a letter written by Lieut. J. W. Jamie, son of Dr. R. W. Jamie, of Coalville, who writes, *"It is my painful duty to inform you that Pte. Yates has died of wounds received in action on April 16th. Pte. Yates had been doing splendid work throughout the attack, which was in progress, and at the time of being wounded, was lying close to me awaiting orders. The shell which severely wounded him also killed Private Knifton, who, I believe, comes from Ravenstone also. Your son was a quiet, conscientious soldier, always willing to do someone a good turn and was very popular. He will be very much missed. He suffered little pain, as he passed away on the way up to the dressing station. He has been buried a few miles away from the front line, and his grave will be looked after. Please accept my sympathy, and if there is anything I can do, write and let me know."*

Private Yates enlisted in November 1914, before he was 17 years of age, and owing to his youth, he was 19, he had only been in France seven weeks, having been with his regiment during their stay in Ireland. He was an old Ravenstone C.E. School boy, and a chorister at the Parish Church. As a boy, he possessed a beautiful voice, and his fine singing occasioned much favourable comment. Before the war, he worked at the Ibstock Colliery, where his father is also employed. The parents have received a beautiful letter from the deceased's old schoolmaster, Mr L. J. Burge. Mr and Mrs Yates have five sons, George being the youngest, and there are two others now in the fighting in France, one in the Yeomanry, and the other in the Coldstream Guards. The latter was wounded in the Battle of the Aisne. A memorial service is to be held in Ravenstone Parish Church next Sunday evening.

As stated in Lieutenant Jamie's letter, this same shell which mortally wounded Pte. Yates, also killed Pte. Jack Knifton, son of Mr and Mrs C. Knifton, of Coronation Cottages, Coalville Road, Ravenstone. In a letter to them, Lieut. Jamie writes, *"I am very sorry to have to inform you that Private Knifton was killed on April 16th by a shell. The battalion was making a night attack on a village and your son had been doing splendid work all through. I was only a few yards away when the shell burst, and he must have been instantly killed, suffering no pain. His personal effects will be sent on to you. He has been buried a few miles behind the lines, and his grave will be well looked after. Always cool in the face of danger, he will be much missed by all. The chaplain, the Rev. J. T. Thomas has also written, stating that the deceased was buried alongside several comrades in the Brigade Cemetery. Deceased was 21 years of age, and formerly worked at Coleorton Colliery, though immediately before the war he was employed at Messrs. Burgess and Sons' factory, Coalville. He joined up in August 1914. He used to attend the Ebenezer Baptist Sunday School, and was a member of the Bible Class. A brother of the deceased is a well-known musician. The father, Mr Charles Knifton, works at the Snibston Colliery. He has two other sons in the Army."*

THANKS

Mr Capers and family, of Orchard Street, Ibstock, desire to thank most sincerely all friends for the kind sympathy shown to them in their sad bereavement.

Mr and Mrs J. Surman, 14, Old Row, Bardon Hill, desire to thank most sincerely all friends for kind expressions of sympathy extended to them on the death of Private J. Surman, recently killed in action. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Arnold Spencer, the beloved youngest son of T. H. and R. Heward, died "at his post, doing his duty", somewhere in France, on Tuesday, April 24th, 1917, aged 28.

"Greater love hath no man than this. That a man lay down his life for his friends."

In loving memory of our dear son, Pte. Frederick Massey, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who died on May 1st, 1916, of wounds received in action in France.

*"We often think of days gone by,
When we were all together;*

*A shadow o'er our lives is cast,
A dear one has gone for ever.
Not dead to those who loved him,
Not lost, but gone before.
He lives with us in memory still,
And will for evermore."*

From his loving Father, Mother, Brothers and Sisters.

Page 4

CORRESPONDENCE

A SOLDIER'S SUGGESTION

Dear Sir, As one of the patients at the Broom Leys War Hospital, I would like to thank the people of this friendly place for their warm-hearted sympathy and kindness in every way. However, there is just a plea I should like to make for my fellow patients. There is a chance for all religious bodies and social clubs, etc, to help us, either with organised ramble, concerts, lectures and parties. A soldier in hospital or convalescent, has a dull time unless he is a heavy reader, or a good letter writer. Could not a representative district committee be formed to consider this matter and work out a scheme suitable to "the boys" requirements? Anything done on our behalf would be warmly appreciated.

Yours gratefully

"ARDUA"

Broom Leys V.A.D. Hospital, Coalville. April 28th, 1917.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

GIRL CLERKS AT COLLIERIES

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Tribunal was held on Tuesday, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding. There were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, J. T. Jacques, and G. M. Arnold, with Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

An Ibstock draper and clothier, aged 40, passed B1, in his appeal, said he was carrying on the business without help, and he had a big round. Allowed till July 31st.

The Rector of Market Bosworth wrote in support of a Market Bosworth builder's appeal stating that the man had kept the Church Lad's Brigade going for the last three years, and 25 of the lads had joined the Forces. Applicant said he had a lot of work on hand. He had passed for general service, was married, with no family, and 36 years of age. Allowed till June 30th.

An Osbaston licensed victualler and farmer, aged 38, married, with four children, and passed for general service, said he had 35 acres, and was looking after 18 acres for his sister, whose husband was killed in France a fortnight ago. Allowed till July 31st.

A Peckleton farmer appealed for his only man, working as a horseman, cowman and labourer, aged 38, and passed for general service, married, with two children. Applicant said there were 50 acres, and he was looking after the farm for his brother who was in the Army. Members contended that one man was enough for 50 acres of grassland, and the applicant himself, who was 38 years of age, and passed B1, had secured exemption. The appeal was dismissed.

In the application of an Atterton farmer for his waggoner, aged 34, and passed for general service, it transpired that there was another general service man, aged 24, on the same farm which is 140 acres. Applicant said the younger man was to be substituted. The waggoner, who has five children, was allowed 6 months.

In reference to substitution, Major Wollaston said he had between 50 and 60 on his list waiting to be substituted.

Mr Eggington: *And how many men are there on the list to be used as substitutes?*

The military secretary: *Not many.*

The manager of a boot factory at Barwell, aged 34, who resides at Barlestone, applied on personal grounds, but as there was an appeal by the employer before the Hinckley Tribunal, which had been adjourned for a fortnight, to allow the man to be medically examined, the appeal was dismissed.

The Ellistown Colliery Co. appealed for an assistant accountant, aged 32, passed C3, married, with one child, and a land sale weigh clerk, aged 34, B1, married, with three children. Answering the chairman, Mr Bellamy, who represented the Co., said they now had ten clerks altogether. Four were of military age, the other two being a railway weigh clerk, aged 32, and a clerk in the brickworks, who was badged. They had no girls, but were employing boys. Two men had joined up since the company last appealed, and two more were going in September. It was remarked that this firm had never tried female labour, and there was not a typewriter in the place. Mr Bellamy was asked how they managed to get the man in the brickworks badged, after the appeal had been dismissed by the Tribunal, and replied that Mr Cope, chairman of the Appeal Tribunal, told them they could appeal for a badge if the man was on Government work. The man was badged by the Ministry of Munitions.

A member: *Why don't you get these two badged?*

Mr Bellamy: *We come to you for that.*

He added that these two men were absolutely essential to the carrying on of the business. It was most difficult to carry on now. If these men were taken, girls would be no use.

Mr Towers: *Girls have been a success at other collieries, so they say.*

Mr Bellamy: *We have tried boys.*

The chairman said the Tribunal objected to men getting badges after being dismissed by the Tribunal. Mr Bellamy said it was on the remark of Mr Cope that they appealed for a badge.

The chairman: *I can't understand a remark like that.*

The C3 man was allowed three months, and the appeal for the other was dismissed.

An Upton farmer, appealing for his son, aged 21, and single, said he was previously exempted till substituted. He added, *"The first substitute they offered me had only one arm, and what use was he?"* The certificate, till substituted, was allowed to stand.

Three months were allowed a Ratby joiner and undertaker, aged 35, married, and passed C3. He said he was the only undertaker in the village, and was very busy (laughter). *"Are the people of Ratby dying quickly then?"* asked a member. Applicant said there had been plenty for him to do lately.

A Ratby hosiery hand, 35, passed for general service, who is the organist of the Ratby Parish Church, was allowed one month on a personal appeal.

A Sheepy farmer, appealing for his single cowman, 18, was asked, *"Have you done all your sowing?"* He replied, *"Yes, and it is coming up."* He had 223 acres, and had had to work hard himself.

Mr Kirkman: (Agricultural representative) *He that by the plough would thrive; himself must either hold or drive.*

Allowed till substituted.

The Desford Colliery Co., appealed for two of the office staff, a cashier and assistant secretary, aged 36 and married, C1, and the chief clerk, 32, married, C3. Mr Brooks, representing the Co., said they had lost ten clerks out of 12 and were carrying on with difficulty. The men who had gone had been replaced by boys and

girls, and two of the boys, coming 18, were going next month. *"How are the girls getting on?"* asked a member.

Mr Brooks: *They are alright under good supervision. We have five now.*

Major Wollaston: *And they are doing very well?*

Mr Brooks: Yes.

Answering further questions, he said they had twelve clerks before the war, and 11 now. Ten had joined the Forces, and their places were taken by boys and girls and an old man of 70. Another girl was being trained. If exemption was allowed these two men he would not appeal for the youths of 18. Six months were allowed in each case. A member remarked that the way the Desford Colliery was carrying on with the office work was a pattern for the Ellistown Colliery. The chairman said that in the event of Ellistown appealing against the Tribunal's decision, the clerk would draw attention to what they were doing at Desford.

Mr W. C. Stevenson (Sweepstone) representing the local War Agricultural Committee, applied for a re-hearing in the case of a Congerstone butcher and farmer, whose appeal had been dismissed. He said the man carried on an extensive butchery business, and had 22 acres of land. Local residents appealed to the War Agricultural Committee, stating that it would be a serious thing for the district if the man had to go. The Committee considered the case, and as the man was only passed B2, they thought it should be re-considered.

The chairman: *Are the War Agricultural Committee going to take up all the cases we dismiss?*

Mr Stevenson: *If our notice is drawn to cases, we make enquiries, and if there are good grounds, we appeal.*

The application was refused.

A Stapleton smallholder, a tenant of the County Council, appealed for his son, aged 18, and single. As he has 50 acres, the appeal was dismissed.

Most of the other cases were appeals for young farm hands, and they were mostly allowed exemption till substituted.

Friday May 11th 1917 (Issue 1314)

Page 2

BARDON HILL

A memorial service to Private Jos. T. Surman, a cricketer, whose death in France was recorded last week, was held on Sunday evening at St. Peter's Church, where he was formerly a chorister. The Rev. H. V. Williams, preached the sermon, concluding by saying that Joseph Surman had played a good game, but had been bowled out by the fastest ball he had ever faced, and had retired to the pavilion.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

One of the soldiers at Broom Leys Hospital addressed the Coalville Women's Adult School on Sunday afternoon?

On behalf of the Buckingham Memorial Fund, the Misses W. and N. Heward, and D. Windebank, N. Wardle and E. Murby, collected £1 12s on Saturday at Markfield?

Two aeroplanes descended in field at Ravenstone about seven o'clock on Saturday night, and their departure soon afterwards was witnessed by a large crowd of people?

The soldiers from the Broom Leys Hospital will be entertained by the Coalville Men's Adult School for tea, music, and games in the Bridge Road School tomorrow?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The treasurer of the Coalville V.A.D. War Hospital, gratefully acknowledges the receipt of three guineas from the employees of R. Walker and Sons Ltd. (4th donation).

A field card received from H. A. Wilkins states that he is quite well.

The prize drawing in aid of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild, for which Messrs. T. W. Underwood and E. Darby (Hugglescote) acted as hon. secretaries, has realised the splendid sum of £108 19s 8d.

Private H. Waltham, of Bardon Hill, formerly chauffeur to the late Dr. Hamilton, of Coalville, writing from France, encloses a copy of a photograph of a football team in which he figures, taken under shell fire. We regret that we cannot reproduce the photograph, but it is interesting to note that during two years in France the team has played over a hundred games, and only suffered defeat once, 1 – 0 in the Corps final. Waltham was formerly a well-known footballer in this district.

Another party of wounded soldiers arrived in Leicester at 6.10 on Saturday morning, in charge of Captain Wortley. There were 155 cases, all "cot". Fifty-five were conveyed to North Evington, and the remainder to the Base Hospital.

The treasurer of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild (Mrs J. W. Farmer) acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £5 3s 6d for the funds, realised from the sale, at 2d each, of copies of a poem on the war, written by Mr W. Evans, a railwayman, of Oxford Street, Coalville. The poem, an interesting one, contains 20 verses of four lines each.

Private W. Bottrill, of the R.A.M.C. formerly of Whitwick, writing to friends from Mesopotamia, on March 27th, says that his wife informed him a few weeks ago that they were having cold weather in England. *"We could do with some of that sort out here"* he adds, *"as the sun is terribly hot during the day and at night we cannot get much sleep for the sand-flies and ants, but I am trusting that by the time you get this it will all be over. We are doing some good work in the R.A.M.C. for the sick and wounded and I shall be able to open a doctoring place of my own when I get back to dear old Whitwick. I may say that I am keeping in good health myself and that is everything out here. I am 'in the pink' and keep smiling. Hope you are all doing the same."*

A letter has been received by Mr D. Marston, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, from his nephew, Regimental Quarter-Master Sergeant A. Cave of the Leicestershire Regiment, who, writing on May Day, speaks of the beautiful weather now prevailing in France, though the endless stream of motor lorries, ammunition carts, wagons etc., causes clouds of dust to rise which cover everything. He adds, *"We are sleeping almost on the top of our big gun, and they kick up a frightful row all day and all night, but it does not disturb us much as we are so used to them. It only makes us wonder how they stand it on the other side. You may think we are slow in pushing the Germans back, but you have no idea of the strength of the Hindenburg Line. However, it can't stop us, and when we have got the whole of it, perhaps our advance will be a little quicker. At the moment of writing, our guns are, and have been doing for some time, pounding their line to bits. The more the artillery fire, the easier it is for the infantry. I hope you are all in the best of health. I never felt better in my life."* Quarter-Master Cave, who is about 24 years of age, joined up immediately on the outbreak of war, and has been over two years in France.

CORRESPONDENCE

BROOM LEYS HOSPITAL

Dear Sir, On behalf of the "boys" at the Broom Leys War Hospital, we wish the reply to the letter signed, "Ardua", which appeared in your issue of Friday last.

We all wish to repudiate most indignantly the suggestion that we have a dull time here. On the contrary, we would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who contribute directly or indirectly to our comfort and amusement. The people of Coalville and district have been most kind to us, and we consider the letter an insult to them, and a slander on us.

We DO appreciate what has been done for us, and hope that the men who follow us will have as happy a time as we are having now. We are, dear sir, yours very truly.

E. Parkinson, Sergt.
Will. H. Tagg, Driver
Stanley G. McCombie, Private
D. T. Paul, Sergt.

Coalville V.A.D. War Hospital,
7th May, 1917.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

FIVE BUTCHERS TO JOIN UP

A meeting of the Coalville Military Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night, especially to deal with the cases of fifteen butchers in the urban area. Mr T. Y. Hay presided, and there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

It was decided to take the cases in private. There were six butchers from Whitwick, seven from Coalville, and two from Hugglescote and Ellistown. After lengthy deliberation, it was agreed that a Whitwick man, single, aged 35, and passed B1, and another from Whitwick, B2, aged 33 and married, be allowed one month final; two Coalville men, both passed general service, both married, aged 34 and 29 (the latter employed by the Co-Operative Society) and an Ellistown man, aged 29, married, passed B2, all were allowed one month final.

This means that five out of the fifteen butchers have to join the army at the expiration of one month. The other ten were allowed two months' temporary exemption, conditionally on them giving all possible assistance in the business of the butchers who have joined up, and drilling with the V.T.C.

Page 3

A COALVILLE MILITARY MEDALIST

Mr C. Walker, an engine driver, of James Street, Coalville, has received news that his son, Sergeant W. Walker, of the Leicesters, has been awarded the military medal for gallantry in action. Sergt. Walker is one of Mr T. Frith's old boys of the Coalville Belvoir Road School, and before the war was working as a collier.

HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER HONOURED

Another Coalville Belvoir Road School old boy to be honoured is Private W. Lewis, a machine-gunner, who has been congratulated by his commanding officer for distinguished conduct on the field. Major-General Campbell has written to the gallant soldier as follows: *"Your commanding officer and Brigade commander have informed me that you distinguished yourself in the field on April 9th, 1917. I congratulate you on your fine work."* Private W. Lewis is 25 years of age, and a son of Mr and Mrs H. Lewis, of 74, Crescent Road, Hugglescote. He joined up in February 1916, and has been in France about 10 months.

GIFTS TO THE V.A.D. HOSPITAL

The Matron begs to acknowledge gifts of eggs from Mrs Green, Mrs Hale, Mrs Land, Mrs Hanley, Mrs Savage, Mrs York, Mrs Silcock, Mrs Forgham, Mrs Fisher, Mrs D. S. Moore, Mrs Simons, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Knight, Mrs Pruden, Mrs Harris, Mrs W. Smith, Messrs J. Handford, and J. H. Moseley, the scholars of the London Road Baptist School, scholars of Whitwick National School, and cakes from the Co-Operative Guild.

BROOM LEYS HOSPITAL

An excellent concert organised by Miss Burkitt, was given on Tuesday evening last. Mr Wm. Hurst presided, and the following was the programme. Duet (pianoforte) Misses Bourne; song, "When you come home", Miss Baker; recitation, "Gunga Din", Sergt. Paul; song, "Angus McDonald", Miss Maud Wheeldon; song, "The Homeland", Private McCrumbie; monologue, "One Month's Notice", Miss Burkitt; song, "The Swallows", Miss

Goddard; humorous song, "The Huntsman Guv", Mr Bellward; recitation, "The Mysterious Guest", Mr H. Stinson; humorous song, "Why did I", Mr Bellward; song, "The Trumpeter" Miss Maud Wheeldon; song, "Piney Ridge", Miss Burkitt and Mr Harold Stinson. The accompanist was Miss Bourne, L.L.C.M.

After the programme Private Tagg proposed a vote of thanks to the entertainers. This was seconded by Sergeant Parkington and enthusiastically carried. Miss Burkitt suitably responded. The National Anthem concluded the proceedings.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Acting-Bombardier J. S. Andlan (Ashby) of the Royal Garrison Artillery, has been wounded.

Private H. Vickers (Leicestershire Regiment) of Bagworth, has been wounded.

Official information has been received that Private Bertie Roughton, of the Highland Light Infantry has been missing since March 14th. He was an Ashby man.

News has come to hand that a former Bagworth soldier, W. Holt, late of the Barrel Inn, and now of the "Fighting Fifth" has been wounded in action.

Sergeant B. W. J. Wilkins, of the Leicesters, son of the late Mr W. Wilkins, solicitor, and Mrs Wilkins, Leicester Road, Ashby, was wounded on April 15th and is now in hospital at Rouen.

The official casualty lists published on Monday contained among the wounded the names of Private J. Miller (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Lance-Corporal J. Saunt (Ibstock) of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Mrs Scavsbrook, of 143, Waterworks Road, Coalville, has received news that Private W. King, of the West Yorks. Regiment, has just undergone an operation in hospital in England and is going on nicely. He was wounded by shrapnel in the right leg above the knee on April 29th.

Mr and Mrs Wearne, of Leicester, formerly of Forest Road, Coalville, have received information that their son, Lance-Corporal Chas. Wearne, of the Durham Light Infantry, was killed in action in France, on April 25th. Before joining up, he was employed by Messrs. Hollis Bros. of Hull.

According to information received by his mother who resides at Bakewell, Derbyshire, Lance-Sergeant Eric Morgan, Sherwood Foresters, has been killed in action. Before the war the deceased was in the Territorials, and was in camp at Bridlington at the outbreak of hostilities. He was sidings porter at Cliff Hill on the M.R. and later was appointed under-shunter at Mantle Lane Sidings, Coalville. Deceased was single.



Mr Edward Barnes, of Stanton-under-Bardon, late of Ellistown, has received news that his son, Private A. Barnes, of the Lancashire Fusiliers was killed in action on the 15th of April, 1917. Mr Barnes has received the following letter from the deceased's officer, 2nd Lieutenant W. M. Robinson. *"It is my painful duty to write expressing our deepest sympathy with you in your terrible bereavement. Your son, by his soldierly qualities and geniality, made that true comradeship which, at a time like the present, carries through all difficulties. Your son died as a Britisher, fighting for the noble cause. On behalf of the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the company. I again express deepest sympathy."*

(A photograph of Private A. Barnes appears to the left)

A telegram from the War Office, on Monday to Mrs Choyce, of 36, North Street, Hugglescote, announced that her son, 2nd Lieutenant A. N. Choyce, of the Leicestershire Regiment, had been wounded in action, and is in hospital at Boulogne, suffering from a gunshot wound in the left arm. 2nd Lieutenant Choyce, who is 23 years of age, was formerly a teacher at the Bridge Road Council School, Coalville. He received his commission in December, and went to France in February.

Police-Constable Culpin, of Hugglescote South, is notified that his son, Private Culpin, of the Durham Light Infantry, reported in our last issue as having been wounded, had had to have both legs amputated below the knee in consequence of the wounds. Private Culpin is only 19 years of age, and before enlisting was a railway clerk at Leicester. He is the second Hugglescote soldier just recently to be thus crippled, the other being Lance-Corporal M. Baker, as reported last week.

According to information received through unofficial channels, one of the three soldier sons of Mr G. H. Grant, time-keeper at Messrs. Ellis and Everard's quarry, Bardon Hill, was killed in action on May 1st. The deceased soldier, Lance-Corporal John Thomas Grant, was a machine-gunner in the Leicestershire Regiment, was 26 years of age, and had been about two years in France, prior to which he worked at the quarry. He was nephew to the quarry foreman, Mr R. B. Grant. His two brothers are both serving in France.

News has been received in Hugglescote of the death of Lance-Corporal Roy G. H. Beadman, which has occurred in a hospital from cerebra-spinal meningitis. The young soldier, who was barely 19 years of age, and was in training in the South of England, was the son of Mr Thomas Beadman, formerly employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, and residing at Forest Road, Hugglescote, but who has now gone to live at Penge, South London. Mr Beadman had two sons and has now lost both. The elder, named Cecil, was killed in action a few months ago. He was a draughtsman employed at Messrs. Wootton Bros' Engineering Works, Coalville. The younger brother who has just died in hospital, after leaving Coalville Grammar School, which he attended as a scholarship winner from the Hugglescote Church School, entered the London City and Midland Bank, and was engaged at the Swadlincote branch when he joined up.

Mr and Mrs Chas. Heighton, of 44, Green Lane, Whitwick, have been officially notified that their son, Private George E. Heighton, of the Machine Gun Corps, was killed in action on April 9th. He was a single man, 31 years of age, and immediately before the war was working at the Ibstock Colliery, though for many years he was employed Messrs. Stableford and Co's Works at Coalville. He joined the army in January 1916, and had been in France nearly 12 months. His father is employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery. This is the second son that Mr and Mrs Heighton have lost in the war, the other being Able-Seaman John Heighton, of the Royal Naval Division, who was killed in action in France, on November 13th last year. He was a single man, 24 years of age, and before the war worked at the Whitwick Granite quarry. There are two other sons, and both are in the army serving in France.

Information was received on Saturday morning that 2927 Private Ernest Burton, Leicestershire Regiment, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Benjamin Burton, Brook Street, Shepshed, was killed in action in France, on April 29th. Deceased was one of three brothers serving with the Colours, and volunteered over two years ago. He was stationed in Ireland for some months, and went out to France early in the present year. Private Burton was well-known and highly esteemed, and the deepest sympathy is felt with his relatives and friends. He was 35 years of age and unmarried.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Reynold G. Bamford, R.E. age 25, missing May 12th, 1916, now reported killed in action.

*"Good, noble, and brave
Oft to him our thoughts do turn:
One of the best"*

From his widowed Mother, Brother, Sisters and all.

In ever loving memory of Joseph William Cowley, who died for his country, somewhere in France, May 8th, 1916.

*"The golden evening brightens in the West,
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest,
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.
Alleluia*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost*

Alleluia"

From his loving Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers, Ivy, Alf and Fred.

Page 4

COALVILLE POLICE COURT

BAD NEWS FROM THE FRONT

Hilda Dunbar (35), shop manageress, Whitwick, was summoned for a breach of the Lighting Regulations at Whitwick, on April 21st. She pleaded not guilty. P.S. Betts said a bright light was shining from the Star Tea Shop right across the road at ten o'clock. She had been previously cautioned and convicted for a similar offence. Defendant said it was a very faint light. No one was more patriotic than she, and she had sacrificed all. Her husband was on the battlefield, and had been reported missing. She was supporting two children and trying to do her bit. P.C. Jelley corroborated the sergeant's evidence. Mr Lindley said it was a simple matter to shade the light. It was no pleasure to the Bench to see the woman brought there.

Supt. Lockton: *And I am sure it is not to the police. That is why they have cautioned her.*

The chairman said the Bench sympathised with the defendant, who had had bad news from the Front, and they would not fine her. She could go. In announcing the decision, and expressing sympathy with the defendant, who wept bitterly as she stood in the dock, the chairman displayed some emotion.

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

SOLDIERS ON THE LAND

A meeting of the Tribunal for the Ashby rural district was held at the Clerk's Office, on Saturday, when Mr T. Varnam presided, and there were also present, Messrs. A. Riley, J. Rice, J. T. Bradshaw, F. C. Stevenson, Dr. Atkinson, and J. W. Fowler, with Capt. Phillimore (military representative), Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative) Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary) and the clerk (Mr George Farmer).

A Packington farmer was allowed conditional exemption for his stockman, passed C2.

Another Packington farmer appealed for his cowman, a general service man, aged 29, and married with two children. Captain Phillimore said a substitute would have to be found in this case. Applicant said he had had a soldier to help him on the farm, but he was not much use.

Mr Fowler: *I have had a good one.*

Applicant: *Some of you gentlemen had the first picking* (laughter). *They have been riddled, and I had to put up with one left in the riddle.* (Renewed laughter).

Mr Champion said some of the soldiers were excellent farm workers.

Mr Fowler: *I had a "ripper".*

Mr Champion said that if any farmer wanting extra help at any time, if he would only let the local War Agricultural Committee know, they would assist. That was what they were appointed for. Allowed till substituted.

The son of an Osgathorpe farmer, whom the latter appealed for, was stated to be 18 years of age, and passed C2. The father said the lad was very small, and only turned the scale at 94lbs (about 6 ½ stones). Conditional exemption was allowed, the lad to assist on other farms if required by the War Agricultural Committee.

In respect of the appeal by a Heather farmer for his cowman, it was stated that the man had joined up, and the farmer was short-handed. It was suggested that he should apply for a soldier.

During a discussion on another farmer's claim, the chairman said they must see that farmers had the help to enable them to carry on and produce food. He added, *"If the war ceases, not in our favour, it will be because we have nothing to eat."* When it was suggested that the War Agricultural Committee might assist in a certain case, the chairman remarked that the committee would soon have a thousand acres on their hands, and practically no labour.

In the following cases, all passed for general service, it was agreed that exemption be allowed till satisfactory substitutes had been found, Chilcote farm hand, 18, single; Willesley shepherd and cowman, 23, single; and Swannington cowman, 18, single.

An Appleby farmer's son, aged 33, passed for general service, in his appeal, stated that his father had met with an injury. Allowed till July 1st.

The Donisthorpe Colliery Co. appealed for a weigh-clerk, aged 28, married, and passed for general service. Mr J. Armson, manager of the Colliery, said that among other things this man had to complete the Government returns in respect of 400 colliers at the pit for the purposes of income-tax.

Mr Stevenson: *If we take him, the Government won't let them off this tax, will they?* (Laughter)

Mr Armson: *They won't get the returns so quickly*

Dr. Atkinson jocosely asked whether there was any wage limit. He noticed on one of the forms produced that one collier was credited with earnings of £80 in a quarter (over £6 a week). Mr Fowler asked whether a young lady could not be found to do the work.

Mr Armson: *The general feeling in regard to ladies employed is that it takes three or four to do two men's work.*

It was agreed that the man be exempted till a substitute was found.

The Coleorton Colliery Co. appealed for a clerk and assistant manager, aged 30, and were allowed till the man can be substituted.

Conditional exemption was granted to a Worthington sanitary pipe burner, the firm having given up another man.

A lady grocer, of Measham, appealed for her son, the manager of the business. Previous exemption had been allowed to enable her to train another son, passed C3, and at this time had expired, the appeal was not assented to.

A Heather butcher, aged 40, single, passed B1, said he was the only butcher in the village. He also took meat to adjoining villages, and asked what the people would do for meat if he had to go.

Mr Stevenson: *They would have to fetch it.*

The Chairman: *And that would do them good. Some of them are waited upon till they are too lazy to do anything but stand at the doors gossiping.*

The appeal was not assented to.

A Swannington boot and shoe repairer, who is also a licensed victualler, stated in his appeal that he was passed C1, was 41 years of age, and had five children. He was willing to be used as a substitute.

The Chairman: *What should you do about the licensed house?*

Applicant said he should give it up if he had to work away from the district.

The Chairman: *It's not much good to you?*

Applicant: *No, I have only sold two barrels since April 5th.*

The Chairman: *You are not doing much harm, then.*

It was agreed that the man be used as a substitute.

In regard to the appeal for a Worthington farm hand, it was stated that the man had passed B1. Dr. Atkinson said he could not understand that, as the man had only one eye.

The Chairman: *They must have been on the wrong side of him* (laughter).

The case was adjourned for further medical examination.

Conditional exemption was granted to a B2 driver of a threshing engine of Newton Burgoland, and a B2 grazier of Pegg's Green, was ordered to put in full-time on a farm as the condition of his exemption.

Friday May 18th 1917 (Issue 1315)

Page 1

35 patients were discharged from Broom Leys War Hospital on Monday last, and 37 new cases arrived by the 3.25 pm train the same day. Cars were lent by Messrs. A. I. White, C. Hunt, R. Tebbett, J. Land, A. Tyler, Dr. Wykes, Coleman and Sons, Charnwood Forest Laundry, T. Stinson and Weston.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A garden party in aid of the Hospital funds is to be held at Broom Leys tomorrow afternoon?

Privates G. Clarke and J. E. Pears, of Coalville, and Private J. Collier, Ravenstone, all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are officially reported wounded?

Seaman S. W. Hemsley, son of Mr T. H. Hemsley, Ellistown, postmaster, formed one of the gun crew at the burial a short time ago of one of the heroes in the channel fight?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The Church Lad's Brigade (King's Royal Rifles Cadets, North Leicestershire Battalion), will hold their annual parade. Competitions and sports in a field kindly lent by Messrs. Ellis and Everard at Bardon Hill, on Whit Monday afternoon.

A field postcard received from Pte. G. F. Beck, T.M.B., states that he is quite well.

The soldiers from Broom Leys Hospital had another enjoyable outing to Coleorton Hall on Friday. In the absence of Mrs Smith, Miss Smith acted as hostess, and gave the visitors a good time. Tea was provided and various games took place in the grounds. The journey was accomplished in brakes, and on the way to the hall there was an unfortunate incident, a horse attached to a waggonette falling down and dying by the roadside. The men got into the other brakes, and apart from this, everything passed off most successfully, and the soldiers had a very enjoyable day.

Lt.-Col. R. E. Martin, C.M.G. of The Brand, Woodhouse Eaves, has kindly consented to judge the Warner Cup, and Ferrers Shield competitions at Bardon Hill on Whit Monday, in connection with the parade of the C.L.B. King's Royal Rifles Cadets (North Leicestershire Battalion).

Private James Horace Hall, who has been at Coalville on sick leave this week, returning to his regiment on Tuesday, was one of the first fifty Territorials to leave the town on a memorable day in October 1914. He was wounded in the arm in the famous charge by the Leicesters at Hullock, on October 13th, 1915, and returned to the Front after his recovery. His incapacity for service at present is due to trench feet. Private Hall before the war worked at Stableford's. He is a son of Mr James Hall, of 86, Belvoir Road.

Mr W. A. Brockington, who has been gazetted temporary Major of the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Voluntary Regiment, was, it will be remembered, chiefly instrumental in raising the Leicestershire Cadet Battalion, composed of boys from all the grammar schools in the borough and county. It has a membership of nearly 900, and besides the large number of cadets who have joined the ranks of the army, about 41 have either

received their commissions direct, or have passed into the various O.T.C. Major Brockington is also the author of an instructive book on military training. "The Elements of Military Education" is the title of the book, which has been favourably received by the military critics and has already attained a large circulation. Major Brockington is also well-known as the Director of Education for the county. Major W. G. S. Rolleston and Major C. F. Oliver are in command of the 1st and 3rd Battalions, Leicestershire Volunteer Regiments respectively, and Major Brockington now assumes command of the 2nd Battalion.

At a meeting of the War Agricultural Committee for the Coalville district, Mr M. McCarthy presiding, and which was attended by 30 members, a resolution was unanimously passed strongly protesting against the decision of the County War Executive Committee to transfer the area served by Coalville to the jurisdiction of the Ashby War Agricultural Committee, pointing out that Coalville district was a very important one, comprising 20,000 acres, and the suggested alteration was very unfair to the agriculturists of this district, and prejudicial to the best results being obtained in regard to an increased production of foodstuffs.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

The soldiers from the Broom Leys Hospital (about 70) accompanied by the Matron and nurses, were the guests of the Coalville Men's Adult School in their Bridge Road Hall on Saturday. An excellent tea was provided, and was followed by games and music. A short whist drive took place for which three capital prizes were given by Mr B. B. Drewett, Mr A. Lockwood, and the school social committee. Mr H. Taylor acted as M.C. and the winners were:

1, Private F. Gardner; 2, Lance-Corporal Hutchinson; 3, Private Farrell. Mrs W. Moss presented the prizes.

Other games were played and during the evening an enjoyable programme of music was carried out. The contributors were Miss Ada Hallam, of Leicester, who sang beautifully and was encored each time, Miss Ivy Anderson (also encored), Messrs. E. Briers, A. Mason and W. Shaw (songs) and Mr A. Carter, who was encored for his recitation, "The 11.69". There were also concertina selections by Mr T. Elsworth, which were much applauded, and overtures by the school orchestra under Mr J. Locker, and Miss Lockwood was the accompanist. Coffee and buns were supplied at the close, and before the soldiers left they gave three hearty cheers for the members of the Adult School. The cost of the treat was defrayed by voluntary subscriptions of the school members, 55 contributing, and Mr Frank Cook acted as treasurer.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mr F. Brunt, of London Road, Coalville, has received news that his son, Charles Frederick Brunt, formerly in the Navy, has been wounded in action, and is now in hospital at Manchester, having had several toes amputated. He is about 32 years of age, and single.



Lieutenant P. W. Jarvis, son of Mr T. Jarvis, of Ellistown, and of the 12th Hampshire Regiment (formerly of the 8th Northants) who was reported missing on April 24th, is now in hospital in Salonika, severely wounded. When war broke out he was assistant schoolmaster in Peterborough, and also a member of Peterborough Rowing Club. In September 1914, he joined Kitchener's Army and in the following month was given a commission. He went out to Egypt 12 months last December, and after being there several months he was transferred to Salonika.

(A photograph of Lieut. P. W. Jarvis appears to the left)

The death of Lance-Corporal J. T. Grant of Bardon Hill, reported in our last issue, is confirmed by a letter which the widow has received from the deceased's officer, who writes as follows, "*I very much regret that it has fallen to my lot to inform you that your husband was killed in action on May 1st. He was one of my best N.C.O.'s always cheerful and willing, and we shall miss him very much in the transport. Your husband was buried yesterday (May 1st) and as soon as I can get full particulars I will write you again. Again expressing my deepest sympathy in your great loss, believe me,*" etc.



Lance-Corporal Grant was attached to a Machine-gun section of the Leicestershire Regiment. He was 23 years of age, and had been about two years in France, formerly working at the Bardon Hill Quarry. His last letter to his wife was dated April 15th, in which he acknowledged the receipt of a letter and parcel. The weather was awful, raining every day, but they tried to keep smiling. He wished to be remembered to all friends, and expressed the hope that he would soon see his wife and baby again. A memorial service is to be held on Sunday evening.

(A photograph of Lance-Corporal J. T. Grant appears to the left)

Private R. Wilkins (Hussars) of Ashby, is officially reported to have died of wounds.

Mrs Warren, of Wood Street, Ashby, has received news that her husband, Pte. Warren, of the Leicesters, has been killed in France.

Mr and Mrs Ault, of Ashby, have been informed that their eldest son, Pte. H. Ault, R.E., has died of wounds received in action in France.

Pte. F. Mugglestone, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, has been killed in action in France. His widow and children live in North Street, Ashby, and the news was conveyed to Mrs Mugglestone by a War Office letter on Wednesday. The deceased soldier was well-known as the driver of the omnibus for years, to and from the railway station.

Private S. Wilkins (Royal Lancaster Regiment) of Hugglescote, is officially reported wounded, also Pte. J. T. Wright (Royal Warwickshire Regiment) of Market Bosworth, and Pte. W. H. Morley (Rifle Brigade) of Ashby.

Official intimation has been received that Pte. J. Bennett (Leicesters) has been killed in France. The deceased enlisted just after war broke out, and was previously employed as a collier at Bagworth. His widow resides at 3, Lower Garden Street, Leicester, and his parents live at Bagworth.

News has been received in a letter from a chaplain who conducted the funeral that Lance-Corporal Arthur E. Quilter, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr Samuel Quilter, of Battram, has died from wounds, having been shot in the thigh by a sniper. He was _3 years of age, and before the war worked at the Nailstone Colliery, where his father is employed as a deputy. He is an old scholar of Mr Hume's and the first Battram Council School boy to be killed in the war.

Private J. Bird (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment is officially reported wounded.

The relatives of Pte. Walter King, of the West Yorks Regiment, have been informed that he was wounded in the leg on April 29th, and is now in hospital at Reading. He formerly resided at Bardon Hill.

Mr and Mrs Collier, of Ashby, late of Ibstock, have received news this week that their son had been killed in action in Mesopotamia. Fred was a very popular boy amongst Ibstock friends, and the bereavement is all the more distressing as Mr and Mrs Collier have already lost a nephew whom they brought up, in the war. The deceased was a hairdresser and tobacconist at Ibstock prior to enlisting.

Mr and Mrs Hy. Dennis, of High Street, Ibstock, have been informed that their son, Joseph, has been killed in action in France. Pte. Dennis voluntarily enlisted some time after the war broke out, and was in the Leicesters at the time of his death.

Private E. F. Yates (Coleorton) and D. Marriott (Ashby), both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

MILITARY FUNERAL AT COALVILLE

The funeral took place with military honours at Coalville Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, of Private Henry Hodgetts, son of the late Mr Jos. Hodgetts and Mrs Hodgetts of Ashby Road. The deceased, a single man, was in the Leicestershire Regiment, and had served about 16 years in the Colours, and the Reserve. He enlisted in 1901, prior to which he was working as a shoehand, and he took part in the South African War,

being the possessor of two South African medals (Queen's and King's) and a clasp for the Transvaal. He spent about 6 ½ years in India. On the outbreak of the present war, he was working at the Snibston Colliery, and residing with his mother at 77, Ashby Road, and was called up as a reservist. He was over two years in France, and was three times wounded – once at Neuve Chapelle, when he was shot in the head. He was discharged from the Army a few months ago.

The first part of the funeral service on Tuesday afternoon was held in the Primitive Methodist Church, and was conducted by the Rev. T. J. Martin. There was a large crowd at the cemetery, the procession thither being headed by a firing party of the Leicesters from South Wigston Barracks, under Sergt. W. Godwin. After the committal, the soldiers fired three volleys over the grave, after which they fixed bayonets and presented arms, whilst a bugler sounded "The Last Post". The coffin, which was covered with the Union Jack, bore the inscription:

"Harry Hodgetts, died May 11th, 1917, aged 41 years."

Deceased's mother, brothers, sisters, a good number of other relatives attended as mourners. Beautiful floral tributes were from his mother; aunt (Mrs Latey), uncle and cousins; brothers and sisters, Arthur and George, Florrie and Annie; and Wm. Moore. There was also an artificial wreath in red, white and blue from his sisters, and two artificial wreaths in globes, one from friends and neighbours, and the other from his fellow workmen.

THANKS

The widow and parents of the late Lance-Corporal J. T. Grant, Machine-Gun Section, Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action on May 1st, desire to thank friends most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy extended to them in their bereavement.

Bardon Hill.

Page 4

CAPTAIN BALL'S FATE

LAST SEEN OVER THE ENEMY LINES

With reference to the statement that Capt. Ball, D.S.O., R.F.C., is missing, a letter has been received at his home in Nottingham from Captain Blomfield, explaining that Capt. Ball went up with ten other pilots on the evening of May 7th. He was actively engaged with his usual success. About eight o'clock he was seen not very far over the enemy lines, and perfectly all right. The light was then failing, and he had not been seen or heard of since.

Friday May 25th 1917 (Issue 1316)

Page 1

BARDON HILL

MEMORIAL SERVICE

There was a large congregation at St. Peter's Church on Sunday evening, when a service was held to the memory of Lance-Corporal J. T. Grant and Pte. J. Kingham, of the Leicester Regiment. The service was taken by the Rev. R. P. Farrow. Suitable hymns were sung, and two buglers sounded "The Last Post".

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The concerts at the Coalville Olympia on April 22nd have resulted in £57/14/3 being handed over to the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild?

The result of the Palace lecture on "The work of the Navy" at Ibstock, organised by Mrs Agnew, local secretary for the Missions to Seamen, on behalf of sailors' comforts, realised the sum of £10/6/4?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Lieut. H. C. Tucker, of the Leicesters, who is mentioned in General Haig's despatches, is the son of Mr and Mrs H. Tucker, of Tamworth Road, Ashby. He held an appointment as surveyor under the Leicestershire County Council, and was identified with the Boy Scout movement.

A great attraction at Coalville, on Whit Monday, will be the Old English Fair, which is to be held in the Market Place in aid of the funds of the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild. The fair will be opened at 11 o'clock and the stalls will be found laden with all sorts of useful and fancy articles. From two o'clock onwards there will be entertainments, Morris dances, skittles, Aunt Sally, and all the "fun of the fair". At six o'clock, the Coalville Coronation Band will play for dancing. There will be no charge for admission to the Fair.

Page 3

A SWANNINGTON MILITARY MEDALIST

Mr and Mrs Joseph Thurman of Snape Hill, Swannington, have received news that their son, James, who is with the forces in France, has been awarded the military medal. In a letter he has sent home the gallant soldier states that the medal has been awarded to him for carrying messages and he has been complimented by his company commander and platoon officer. He adds, *"We are winning hands down now, and they know it. They haven't got a heart in them like Tommy, and are soon on their knees begging for mercy."*

LOCAL NEWS

ABSENTEE

Charged before Mr J. W. West on Wednesday at the Coalville Police Court with being an absentee from a training battalion at Rugeley, James Gee, formerly a Thringstone collier, was remanded to await an escort. P.C. Jones said the man was sent to work on a farm near Boundary, but he left there to go home where he was apprehended.

DEALER FINED £2

Before Mr J. W. West and Mr F. Griffin at the Coalville Police Court on Wednesday, John Wm. Dobson, general dealer, Hugglescote, was charged with being an absentee under the Reserve Forces Act, P.C. Culpin, who arrested the man, said Dobson admitted having no exemption papers and not having worked in a coal mine for seven years. He had been travelling the country as a general dealer. Defendant was fined £2 and remanded to await a military escort.

MOTOR VOLUNTARY CORPS

A meeting was held at the Coalville Conservative Club on Tuesday evening to consider the question of forming a detachment for Coalville and District of the Leicestershire Motor Volunteer Corps. Mr A. B. Moss presided, and there was a good attendance. A committee was formed to make a canvass of the district to ascertain the extent of the local support likely to be obtained and a further meeting is then to be arranged, to be addressed by Major F. B. Roberts, the officer commanding the County Corps.

CONCERT TO WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Mr Fred Clay's party gave a very enjoyable concert to the soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital on Wednesday evening, where Sergeant Scott presided. A capital programme was as follows:

Part song, "True till Death", party; song, "It's a long way from home", Miss Astley; song, "Hybrias the Cretan", Mr W. Reece; part song, "Alice, where art Thou?", party; song, "Algernon", Miss Gill; duet, "Maying", Miss Chambers and Mr F. Clay; quartet, "The Bulldog", male party; part song, "Excelsior", party; part song, "Anchored", party; song, "Tit for Tat", Miss Chambers; quartet, "A Catastrophe", male party; song, "Absent", Miss I. Anderson; part song, "Killarney", party; song, "Off to Philadelphia", Mr W. Reece; duet, "By Jove",

Messrs. F. Clay and H. Finch; song, "The Man I Love", Miss Gill; part song, "Comrades", party; song, "The Perfect Day", Corporal Bains.

GARDEN PARTY

A garden party was held at Broom Leys on Saturday, arranged by the matron, assisted by the nursing staff, male members of the V.A.D. and "the boys" in aid of the hospital funds. Unfortunately it was a wet day, and this greatly interfered with the attendance. The opening ceremony, at which Mr W. Lindley, J.P., presided, was performed by Mrs Booth, of Gracedieu Manor, who was supported by Lady Beaumont of Swannington, and both spoke of the excellent arrangements at the hospital for the comfort of the soldiers. A large marquee in which tea was served was prettily decorated with the national colours, and owing to the rain, two of the wards were cleared for indoor games. Selections were played by the Coalville Coronation Band for dancing, and there were also concerts by Mr J. Heath, the Misses Holt, and other friends from Leicester. A hat trimming competition was won by Gunner Wells. But for the weather, the event would doubtless have been a greater success, though the attendance was fairly good. Many friends contributed articles and provisions, and to these thanks were expressed.

CONCERT AT BROOM LEYS

A very enjoyable concert was given on Sunday night at the Broom Leys War Hospital. It was organised by Mrs De Ville and Mr Warden Burke. Mr Wm. Hurst presided, and the following was the programme:

Hymn, "All hail the power of Jesu's name"; brief address on the hymn tune "Miles Lane", Mr Walter Brown; pianoforte duet, "The Iron Chest", Mrs De Ville and Private Tagg; song, "My Ships", Miss Swann; violin solo, "Hearts and Flowers", Mr Warden Burke; song, "Beloved, it is Morn", Mr W. Hemsley; song, "In a child's small Hand", Miss Swann; violin solo, "Hungarian Dance", Mr Warden Burke; pianoforte duet, "Volkaliad", Miss F. Deacon and Mrs De Ville; song, "Nearer my God to Thee", Miss Swann; duet, "The Moon hath Raised", Misses Howe; violin solo, "Air, with variations", Mr Warden Burke; song, "Sleep, Baby Sleep", Miss A. Scott; song, "If ever", Mr W. Hemsley; song, "Angus Macdonald", Miss Swann; violin solo, "Salterelle", Mr Warden Burke; Mrs De Ville and Private Tagg were very efficient accompanists. A vote of thanks to the artistes was proposed by Sergt. Parkinson and cordially passed. The singing of the National Anthem brought an agreeable evening's entertainment to a close.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mrs Hall of Ashby Road, Coalville, has received a letter from a hospital matron and chaplain in France, notifying her of the death of her husband, Sergeant John Hall of the Leicestershire Regiment, who before the war was a furnace man at Stableford and Co's works. He was 26 years of age and leaves a widow and two children. The letters stated that he died in hospital from wounds received in action. He was in the Territorials before the war and went out with the first draft. The deceased soldier was an old boy of the Belvoir Road Council School. His father, Mr Chas. Hall, of 62, Beresford Street, Coalville, who works for the Urban Council, has another son in France.

News has been received by Mrs Harper, of the Castle Inn, Hugglescote, that her husband, Capt. E. W. Harper, of the A.S.C. is in hospital in Alexandria. He was on board a ship torpedoed in the Mediterranean some time ago, and was rescued after being in the water for four hours. He was wounded in the head and right knee, but the letter received on Saturday last states that he is making satisfactory progress.

Official casualty lists published on Saturday showed that Pte. R. Archer (Ashby) of the Sherwood Foresters was missing, and Ptes. J. W. Buck (Coalville), A. E. Knighton (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Pte. L. Haywood (Whitwick), of the Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) all wounded.

Pte. E. A. V. Frisby (Coalville) of the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and Pte. E. Clarke (Whitwick) of the Northamptonshire Regiment, are reported wounded and Pte. O. Bishop (Whitwick) of the Northamptonshire Regiment is reported missing.

Sergeant Frank Middleton, third son of the late Mr John Middleton, of Victoria Street, Park Road, Coalville, is in hospital in France with an injured eye, caused by being struck with a piece of shrapnel. Before the war he was a coal miner. He is 21 years of age and has recently been promoted from corporal.

Pte. G. A. Clarke (Coalville) of the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) has been wounded.

Company-Sergeant-Major M. R. Hines (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is officially reported wounded.

Private G. H. Chapman (Coalville) of the Essex Regiment, is officially reported killed in action.

Privates J. Collier (Hugglescote) Pte. E. Poxon (Ashby) and A. Wright (Coalville) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Private G. Smith (Ibstock) of the King's Royal Rifles Corps, are all reported wounded.

Ptes. T. Moore and W. Whitehurst, of the Leicestershire Regiment, both of Coalville, are reported wounded.

Mr and Mrs Philip Collier, of Derby Road, Ashby, have received intimation that their only son, Pte. J. F. Collier, of the Leicesters, has been killed in action in Mesopotamia.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Samuel Quilter, of Battram Road, Ellistown desire to thank most sincerely many friends for kind expressions of sympathy extended to them on the occasion of the death of their son, Corporal A. E. Quilter, Leicestershire Regiment, who died of wounds received in action in France on May 2nd, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In dear and loving memory of our brother, Lance-Corporal H. T. Burton, killed in action, May 26th, 1915. Also of our mother, Sarah Burton, of London Road, died November 21st, 1912.

In loving memory of our dear son, Private Frederick Chamberlain, of the 9th Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, May 24th, 1916. Age 20 years.

*"Sleep on dear one, in a far off land,
In a grave we may never see
But as long as we and memories last,
We will remember thee.*

*Farewell, my parents, dear sister and brothers kind,
And to the fondest Friend, to whom I love, I leave you all behind."*

From his loving mother, father, sister and brothers, and his sweetheart, Jessie.

Page 4

WHITWICK BAPTIST MINISTER CALLED UP

INTERESTING CASE AT THE COALVILLE POLICE COURT

An interesting case came before the Coalville magistrates on Friday, when Arthur Dalton (31), Baptist minister, Whitwick, was charged with being an absentee, under the Reserve Forces Act, from Wigston, since May 10th. Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville), for the defendant, pleaded not guilty.

Captain W. E. Stevenson, Recruiting Officer, Coalville, said the point in the case was whether the man was wholly a minister, or only partially so. If he was wholly a minister, he was covered by the Act; if not, he was an absentee. One day last week, witness received instructions from Glen Parva Barracks to issue to the defendant a calling-up notice and, failing his appearance to issue a summons. On his registration card of August, 1915, he was described as an insurance agent. Nothing was said about him being a minister of any denomination. About June last, he appealed to the Wigston Tribunal as an insurance agent, and a lay pastor. The clerk (perusing the Tribunal papers) said that was so, and the applicant was granted conditional exemption under a War Office permit. That was subsequently withdrawn, and another appeal on April 24th last was not assented to, the applicant being advised to bring his case before the Courts within 14 days.

Mr Crane admitted that the man was called up on May 10th, and that subject to the point in question, he would be liable to military service. The onus was on the defendant to prove that he was entitled to exemption. Defendant said he was the pastor of the Whitwick Baptist Church and residing at Whitwick. He was 31 years of age, married, and had one child. He had not always been in the Baptist ministry. He entered Cliff College in 1907 to train for the Wesleyan ministry. Leaving there, he was pastor of the Sussex Road Wesleyan Church, Southport, and was there for about a year, being in sole charge. He then went to Jacob Street Wesleyan Church, Accrington, being circuit minister about six months. He then had a nervous breakdown, and the doctor advised him that for a time he must give up church work. He returned to his home at Wigston, and was medically advised to take up outdoor work. He took an insurance agency, and as his health gradually improved, he acted as supply minister, still retaining his status as a Wesleyan minister. He had kept a record of his appointments. In 1909 he had preached on 26 occasions; 1910, 51; 1911, 35; 1912, 43; 1913, 44; 1915, 61, and 1916 on 51 Sundays. This year he had preached on 19 Sundays out of 21. He had been paid for these appointments as part of his living. He left Accrington in 1908.

Mr J. W. West (a magistrate): *It has always been your intention to be a minister?*

Defendant: *Yes, I only took up insurance work temporarily on account of my health.*

Proceeding, Mr Dalton said he entered the Baptist ministry at the beginning of 1916 and had an invitation to the pastorate of a church in Norfolk, but he did not accept it owing to the air raids. He was appointed pastor of the Whitwick Baptist Church on April 9th last year, and that was his only means of livelihood. He had full charge, and was entitled to perform all the functions of a Baptist minister.

By Captain Stevenson: *He had always considered himself a minister, and the reason he put insurance agent on his national registration card was because he was doing that work temporarily and he did not realise the seriousness of the entry. He had been passed for general service.*

Thomas W. Bourne, draper, Whitwick, said he was one of the deacons of the Whitwick Baptist Church. The defendant was recommended by a minister as a suitable candidate for the Whitwick pastorate and he was invited to preach. That culminated in an invitation being sent to Mr Dalton on March 13th, which he accepted and commenced his ministry on April 8th. They recognised him as the minister in sole charge of the Whitwick Baptist Church and he was paid a fixed salary.

The clerk: *Do you usually have a resident minister at the Whitwick Baptist Church?*

Witness: *Yes.*

The Rev. T. Roberts, pastor of the Fleckney Baptist Church, said he had known the defendant as a regular supply minister for the last two years. Witness baptised the defendant in February 1916, and he then became a member of the Baptist community. When witness first made the acquaintance of the defendant, he understood that Mr Dalton was desirous of becoming the pastor of a Baptist Church. Witness wrote, recommending him to Mr Bourne, of Whitwick.

On this evidence, Mr Crane submitted that he had proved the defendant was a regular minister. The clerk said the point was whether he was a regular minister at the time he became liable for military service in 1916. Mr Crane said he had proved that the defendant was a regular supply minister.

The clerk: *He took appointments for different denominations. Was he a regular minister of a religious denomination?*

Mr Crane: *I submit that he was. They are all grouped as Free Churches.*

The magistrates were some time considering the case, and on their return to Court, the chairman said they were satisfied on the evidence that the defendant, on June 24th, 1916, was a regular minister of a religious denomination and the case was dismissed.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

AN ELLISTOWN BUTCHER'S APPLICATION

Mr T. Y. Hay presiding at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, B. G. Hale, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr Lockwood asked whether any changes were likely to take place in regard to the work of the Tribunal.

The chairman: *I am not aware of any.*

Mr Lockwood: *I thought our operations were to be limited.*

The clerk said he had no instructions. The chairman said the authorities had arranged to take all general service men from the coal mines taken on since August, 1914.

Mr Drewett: *We have no jurisdiction over them, have we?*

The clerk: *Some are before us tonight on domestic grounds.*

The military authorities asked for the review of the case of a loom-turner and overlocker employed at a Whitwick factory, contending that he should be in the army. The man was passed for general service, and had 5 children. Mr McCarthy said there was another man employed by the same firm and the two should be taken together. A representative of the firm said the latter man was passed C2, and could not well be dispensed with. With regard to the loom-turner, he said he was the only skilled man left. They were employing 120 girls. Three months exemption was allowed, conditionally on the man remaining at the same work.

Three men employed by a Hugglescote building firm were appealed against by the military representative. Two were bricklayers, aged 40, C1 and 33, general service, both married. The other was a woodwork machinist, 35, B1, married. A member of the firm said that before the war, they had 14 bricklayers, and now only 4. The average working hours in the winter were 48 a week, and these men had averaged 55 ½ hours a week and they were on important and essential repair work. The C1 man had four children. There were only 12 bricklayers now in the whole urban area – Coalville, Hugglescote, Whitwick and Ellistown. In regard to the wood machinist he said they were bound to have such a man, or they could not carry on. It would not be safe to put a man to that work who was not thoroughly used to it. The C1 bricklayer was allowed three months, the general service man one month (final) and the woodwork machinist, two months.

A Coalville firm of bakers was allowed conditional exemption for a baker, aged 41, and passed C2, and a Coalville ironmongery firm was allowed two months for a deliverer of oil and petrol, aged 30, C2 and married.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, represented a Whitwick painter in an appeal for his son who carries on the business. The man was 31 years of age, and passed C2. Three months allowed, it being stated that the man was drilling regularly with the V.T.C.

A baker employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed on domestic grounds. He said he was 39 years of age, and had three children. He had been passed for general service, but was led to understand that he had to be examined again. Two months allowed, the man to be again medically examined in the meantime.

A Hugglescote master builder, passed C2, aged 34, and married, was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp in an appeal for further exemption, it being stated that he was now on three new houses, half finished. Applicant said he had built 25 houses since the war started. Three months allowed, and a similar decision was given in the case of a Hugglescote farmer who appealed for his cowman, 34, married, with 3 children. The man is to be medically examined in the meantime.

Mr J. J. Sharp, appealing for a Coalville grocer and off-licence holder, aged 40, B2, said the man was supporting his mother-in-law besides his wife and three children. The applicant was allowed two months to obtain work of national importance.

Two months each were allowed a Hugglescote farmer and dairyman's son, aged 26, B2, a Hugglescote painter, 33, C1; a Coalville loom and shuttle maker, 23, single, C2; a Coalville insurance agent, 36, C3, married.

A coal-sorter and general labourer at the South Leicestershire Colliery, passed for general service, aged 33 and single, whose certificate by the colliery court had been withdrawn, appealed on the ground of his mother's illness, and was allowed one month (final).

A Coalville licensed victualler, who is also a practical miner and had worked in the Ellistown Colliery since last July, appealed for further exemption. He said he was 37 years of age, married, with four children. He was passed for general service. He also did some farming and stock breeding. He went into the mine at the suggestion of the Tribunal. Except for eight years, he had been a miner all his working life. One month was allowed.

A colliery banksman and coal-sorter at the South Leicestershire Colliery, aged 33, passed for general service, appealed on the ground that he had an invalid wife and three weakly children. He said he had worked at Stableford's for ten years, and had to leave on account of ill health. Two months were allowed for another medical examination.

A Coalville miner and forgerman, aged 26, passed for general service, appealed on domestic grounds, saying he had a wife and two children, and a sick father. Answering the chairman, he said he was one of the men combed out of the pit. He went into the mine (Snibston) 13 or 14 months ago, before which he worked for years at Stableford's. He was willing to go back to his old job. One month (final) allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for a bakery warehouse man, married, aged 40, and passed B2. Mr Lockwood said the man was not strong physically, and he was usefully employed where he was. They had not another man to put in his place. Two months allowed.

A Whitwick baker, aged 30, passed for general service, married, with one child, who appealed on domestic grounds was allowed one month (final).

An Ellistown butcher wrote asking the Tribunal to re-hear the case of another Ellistown butcher who had been assisting him since his son joined the Army. The chairman said they gave weeks of consideration to the cases of the butchers. The Military Secretary said he was not there when the butcher's cases were decided or he would have mentioned that the man referred to was doing the applicant's slaughtering. It was suggested that the military authorities arrange with one of the butchers exempted to assist, and this was decided, the application to re-open the case being declined.

CHURCH LADS BRIGADE

By the recent Army Order the Church Lads' Brigade Cadets have become affiliated to the King's Royal Rifle Corps, the famous 60th. The friends and supporters of the Church Lads' Brigade will appreciate this honour which comes as a real recognition of the leading part which the C.L.B. has taken in the cadet movement in the United Kingdom. Its companies form more than half of the Cadet Force. The connection between the King's Royal Rifles and the C.L.B. has been very close during the war, for at the beginning a special battalion of the King's Royal Rifles, which has served with great distinction at the Front, was raised and equipped from the ranks of the C.L.B., while C.L.B. recruits as they reach the age of 18 are posted to a special battalion of the 60th. Besides the special work of this sort, there are at least 200,000 members and ex-members of the C.L.B. serving with the Colours, and among very many distinctions too numerous to give in detail, members of the C.L.B. have won no less than 11 V.C.'s. The Governing Body have appointed the Rev. Edgar Rogers M.A., who for the past five years has been the Brigade chaplain, to be secretary in place of Col. W. M. Gee, who died recently.

WOUNDED IN "NO MAN'S LAND"

ELLISTOWN SOLDIER'S DEATH

Mrs Harper, of Whitehill Road, Ellistown, has been officially notified of the death of her husband, Pte. Wm. Edward Harper, of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, which occurred on May 15th from wounds received in action on 3rd inst, causing him to lie for some days in "No Man's Land" before being brought in.

One of the nursing sisters, writing to Mrs Harper, states, "*You will have heard by now about your brave husband. He lay for some days on the field of battle, but was able to crawl about at night and drink from water bottles lying about. His wound was only in the foot, so he said he did not suffer great pain, and had faith in God all the time. An officer brought him in to the R.A.M.C. post, and they sent him down to us. His foot had got blood poisoning in it by that time and he died from the effects of that and the long exposure. He seemed so happy and pleased to be in bed and taken care of that he never realised that he was not going to recover. He said of you, "Tell her I am in the pink, and hope to be about again soon. Give my love to her and*

the children." After that he became unconscious and passed peacefully away. He had not really suffered at all, and was enjoying an orange this morning. With all sincere sympathy" etc.

The chaplain also writes that the deceased passed away on May 15th. He adds, *"His eleven days in No Man's Land had been spent with God, and he readily partook of the Holy Communion An officer of the Somersets tells me how almost impossible it was to get in the Oxford and Bucks wounded owing to the German snipers, especially if the wounded lay where your husband did, right up by the German trenches. Some stretcher bearers were killed trying to get the wounded in."*

A letter was also enclosed by the chaplain written by the latter at the dictation of the deceased, being his last message to his wife. He stated, *"I got hit on May 3rd in our attack, when I was near the German trench. I took off my equipment, and lay in a shell hole for 5 days, and then crept out at night for three nights, and back again to the shell hole. I was found by an officer of the Somerset Light Infantry, who had me brought in. My fondest love to you, Willie and Silas (his two children). I am in good hands now, and hope to write myself shortly."*

Private Harper was 31 years of age and before the war was a miner at Ellistown Collier. He enlisted on September 14th, 191⁴, and had been to Salonika. He had fever and dysentery and was for a time in hospital in Malta, afterwards coming to England for about six months. He went to France only two months ago, after being at home on leave. His father, Mr Edward Harper, of Whitehill, Ellistown, has another son in France.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

YOUNG COLLIERS' APPLICATIONS REFUSED

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Rural District Tribunal was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding. There were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques, G. M. Arnold, W. Towers, Major Wollaston (military representative), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

Exemption till August 22nd, conditionality on him putting in three days a week on work of national importance to the satisfaction of the Tribunal, was granted to an lbstock butcher, aged 38, and passed C3. It was remarked that the applicant was assisting in the business of a butcher who had enlisted and was killing beasts for another.

A Sutton Cheney farmer appealed for his son, a shepherd and milker, aged 26, passed C1. He said his farm had been viewed, and he was willing to break up more land if required. The chairman said that if they had to break up more land, they could not take more men from the land. Allowed six months.

An engine-driver and fireman, employed by the Bagworth Brick Co., aged 41, was granted a further six months, and another lbstock butcher got three months on giving three days a week to national importance.

During the appeal of an lbstock blacksmith, 31, passed B1, a member said the man was working 14 or 15 hours a day, and 3 months were allowed.

A coach-builder and wheelwright who lives at lbstock, and has a workshop at Hugglescote, appealed for further exemption. He was 34, married, with three children, and passed for general service. He was described by members of the Tribunal as a hard worker and was allowed three months.

The appeal of a Carlton farm hand, who had been working in the mine was dismissed, he being 31 years of age, and passed for general service.

Three months each were allowed a Bagworth carter who is also the mail driver aged 40, and passed C2; a night stoker at the lbstock Gasworks, passed C2; the farm bailiff at the Desford Industrial School, and a Sutton Cheney baker, 36.

A Markfield tenant farmer, C2, aged 35, was allowed six months, also a Westtick working farmer. The chairman remarked amidst laughter that, "working" farmer was a new classification.

An Orton-on-the-Hill publican who assists a local farmer, on appeal by the latter, was allowed three months. The man was 36 years of age, and passed C2.

A Ratby hosiery hand, aged 40, married, with four children, was allowed three months on a personal appeal.

Mr Jacques: *They don't want men of 40 in the army.*

A Barlestone miner and market gardener, 39, passed for general service, said he offered to release his son for the army when he was last before the Tribunal, provided he could stay at home. His son was still at home, having been medically examined and put in the C class. Applicant, who has five children dependent, was allowed three months.

One month (final) was allowed a Markfield miner, aged 21, passed for general service, who appealed on account of the illness of his wife. He also went to work in the pit two or three days after the national registration, being a sanitary pipe worker before then.

A Shaw Lane (Markfield) grazier, who also works at the Nailstone Colliery, aged __, passed for general service, made a personal appeal. He said he had worked in the pit since he was 21, but was out at the time of the national registration, owing to an accident in the Ellistown Colliery. The appeal was dismissed.

Also dismissed was the appeal of a colliery banksman, residing at Bilston, aged 34, passed for general service, married, with two children.

Three months were allowed an Ibstock ironmonger and cycle repairer, aged 41, passed B2, subject to him giving three days a week to work of national importance. The latter was the condition of previous exemption, and Mr Eggington said the man had attended to it very religiously apart from an illness he had had.

An Ibstock wine and, spirit and beer retailer, aged 41, appealed for further exemption. He had been working three days a week on work of national importance, and he was allowed a further three months on giving six days a week to work of national importance.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for two single men employed at the Ellistown Colliery, one a fitter's labourer, aged 24, and the other, a sawyer, 27, passed for general service. Both were stated to be supporting widowed mothers and one of them a widowed sister. Both appeals, which were on personal grounds, were dismissed.

An Ibstock tax collector and insurance agent, aged 39, passed for general service, was allowed six months on giving two days a week to work of national importance.

Friday June 1st 1917 (Issue 1317)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The amount received to date towards the cost of the War Memorial window to be placed in Thringstone Parish Church is £39/10/5?

Mr J. P. Hogan of 34, Regent Street, Leicester, formerly of Coalville, was on May 17th, gazetted second lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery?

Colonel T. M. Booth, D.S.O., eldest son of the late Rt. Hon. Charles Booth and Mrs Booth, of Gracedieu Manor, is mentioned in despatches by Sir Douglas Haig?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Three or four aeroplanes have passed over Coalville during the last few days, and one which descended in the 15 acre field at Donington-le-Heath on Sunday evening, attracted a good deal of attention. The machine circled several times before coming to the ground, and the departure of the airman soon afterwards was witnessed by a large crowd of people.

PATRIOTIC CONCERT AT COALVILLE OLYMPIA

FOR THE BROOM LEYS HOSPITAL

A concert, organised by Mr H. Gledhill, of the Railway Hotel, Coalville, in aid of the funds of the Broom Leys V.A.D. War Hospital, took place Thursday last week, and from a musical point of view was a great success. The attendance though good, was not as large as might have been expected.

The singing of the Welbeck Orpheus Quartette Party (Messrs. Bloor, Witham, Hodgkinson and Massey) was very fine, and the contributions by Mr Gledhill and his daughter likewise delighted the audience immensely, but the favourite of the evening, undoubtedly, was Mr H. G. M. Henderson, of Derby, whose songs to his own accompaniment at the piano, were a real treat. Though down on the programme for four items, he was vociferously recalled each time. His contributions were mostly humorous, though, *"passing from the ridiculous to the sublime"* as he himself put it, he finished with a fine old song, rendered with great feeling, *"Make new friends, but keep the old."* Many expressed the hope that it would not be the last time that a Coalville audience would hear Mr Henderson.

The following was the programme:- Glee, "Here's Life and Health to England's King", quartet party; quartet, "Lovely Night", party; song, "You never know, you know" (encored, "Conversazione"), Mr H. G. M. Henderson; duet, "Battle Eve", Messrs Bloor and Hodgkinson; recitation, "Lasca" Mr H. Gledhill; tenor solo and chorus, "Doan ye cry, ma Honey", Quartet Party; song, "Bob up serenely" (encored) Mr H. G. M. Henderson; song, "Sound of the Drum", Mr D. Massey; musical monologue "Green Eye of the Yellow God" (encored "A little girl's thanks to a soldier") Miss Norma Gledhill; quartet, "The Rosary", Quartet Party; chorus, "Comrades in Arms", (encored "Little Tommy went Fishing") Quartet Party; song, "Parody and Piffle", (encored "A laughing Song") Mr H. G. M. Henderson; musical sketch, "Jimmy Law" (encored "When I was a boy at school"), Mr H. Gledhill; quartet, "Beware" (encored "Jacques Compound"), Party; song and harmonised chorus, "The Old Black 'Oss", (encored "Make new friends, but keep the old"), Mr H. G. M. Henderson; song, "Nirvana", J. Witham; song, "Tom, O' Devon", Mr J. Massey; quartet, "A Soldier's Farewell" (encored "The Long Day Closes") Party. The National Anthem – The Olympia Orchestra also assisted.

The concert was greatly enjoyed, and Mr Gledhill and all concerned are to be highly complimented on their effort.

SNIBSTON

PATRIOTIC WHIST DRIVE AND SOCIAL

A very successful social and whist drive were held in the Snibstone Council School on Wednesday night to provide comforts for Ravenstone and Snibstone soldiers and sailors. Over 200 people were present. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. W. Hewes and F. Plowman, and the gentlemen winners were Messrs. W. Price (Ravenstone) and W. Geary, and the ladies, Mrs Rogers, Mrs Hart and Mrs Sketchley. The Rev. J. C. Wallace, Chaplain of Ravenstone Hospital, whose wife presented the whist prizes acted as M.C. for the social, at which there were songs by Miss Eva Hull (Leicester), Miss Hewes, Miss Smith, Messrs. Wm. Price, R. T. Bradshaw (Coalville), Masters T. Wright and Walter Price, Mrs W. Hewes (piano) and Master W. Hewes (violin) played for dancing. There was a guessing competition for a cake given by Mrs Dancer, and this was won by Mrs Congrave, whose estimate of the number of currants in the cake (816) was 800. Mrs J. Dolman gave a doll, the name of which no one was able to guess, and it was sold, as also was a box of chocolates given by Mrs Francis. The committee of ladies who carried out the arrangements included Mesdames Wright, Dancer, Dolman, H. Hewes, Francis, Plowman, Geary, Handford, Sketchley and Sibson.

Page 3

SWANNINGTON PUBLICAN AN ABSENTEE

Before Mr B. G. Hale and Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court on Thursday last week, John George Lidwell, bricklayer and publican, of Swannington, was charged with being an absentee under the Reserve Forces Act since April 17th. Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer) said the man had been before the Ashby Tribunal and was offered conditional exemption on his undertaking to leave the public house, the Robin Hood Inn, which he declined to do. His case was taken to the County Tribunal at Leicester, and dismissed.

Witness had been sent several notices ordering him to report himself, the last one being on April 17th. He had also had several interviews with Lidwell, who, however, declined to present himself. Lidwell said the reason he had not reported himself was that he did not see why he should join the Army. He is about 39 years of age, and married with a family – while so many single young men were walking about. He said Captain Stevenson had been a gentleman to him, and he also wished to thank the police for their courtesy towards him. He realised that they were only performing their duty. The magistrates said they were sorry to see Lidwell in that position, but they had no alternative but to fine him £2, and order him to be handed over to the Military Authorities. An escort arrived for him later in the day.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Private H. Hodgetts – Recently buried with military honours at Coalville. Fought in the South African War and twice wounded in the present war. His aged mother resides at 77, Ashby Road.

(A photograph of Private H. Hodgetts appears to the left)

Mrs G. Walker of Queen Street, Shepshed, wife of Private George Walker, Leicestershire Regiment, who is at present serving in France, has received intimation that their son, Private J. T. Walker, South Staffordshire Regiment, who has been reported missing since February last, is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Gunner A. B. Dowling (Ashby) of the Royal Horse Artillery, is reported wounded.

Private R. Wainwright (Bagworth) of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and Private J. Murfin (Ashby) Leicestershire Regiment, are reported killed in action.

Private A. E. Knifton (Coalville), Leicestershire Regiment and Private A. Latham (Hugglescote), Duke of Wellington's Regiment, are reported wounded.

Lance-Corporal A. Adkins (Ellistown), Ptes. C. A. Bird, J. C. Cave, C. Jennings, F. Palmer, W. Peters (all of Coalville), J. Hunt (Ashby), G. H. Peach (Packington), J. T. Sharp (Ibstock), H. P. Stevens (Shepshed), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are officially reported wounded.

Mr and Mrs Mason, of Burton Road, Ashby, have been informed that their son, Lance-Corporal Ronald J. Mason, Leicester Regiment, has been killed in action in France. He enlisted in the early stages of the war. He was 20 years of age. Mr and Mrs Mason have two other sons in the army.

A letter from a comrade to Mr and Mrs Charles Cross, of North Street, Hugglescote, received on Tuesday, states that their son, Rifleman Ronald Albin Cross, of the King's Royal Rifles, was killed in action on May 21st. The deceased was 19 years of age, and had only been in France five weeks. He enlisted last September, and before the war was assisting his father in his business as baker and confectioner. Deceased was a member of the Young People's Bible Class at the Coalville Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Mr and Mrs J. A. Moulton, of 166, Belvoir Road, Coalville, were officially notified on Monday that their son, Pte. John Albert Moulton, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action in France on May 3rd. The deceased soldier was 24 years of age, and single. He formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery. Joining the army on September 3rd, 1914, he went to France on July 29th, 1915, and was twice wounded – on July 14th, and September 25th, 1916. Mr Moulton, the father, works at the Whitwick Colliery. He was formerly landlord of the Waggon and Horses Inn, Whitwick, and a bell-ringer and chorister at the Whitwick Parish Church for many years. The deceased soldier was also a former chorister at the same church.

Rifleman E. H. Rimes, of the King's Royal Rifles, was wounded in action in France on April 23rd, being hit by a sniper from a shell-hole. The bullet passed through his right hand and writing on May 26th, he says that he is now convalescent. Before the war, he was the manager of the Coalville branch shop of the British and Argentine Meat Co. Ltd, and resided at 15, London Road. He says how pleased he was to receive a copy of the "Coalville Times", lent to him by a Coalville man named Hancock. His present address is Rfn. E. H. Rimes, King's Royal Rifles, 4 Camp, 5 Convalescent Depot. S. Coy, Section 23, A.P.O., B.E.F.

Private G. W. Wilton (Coalville) of the Manchester Regiment, is reported wounded.

Mr J. Barrs, a collier, of Ibstock Road, Ellistown, on Monday received a letter informing him of the death of his son, Private George Barrs, of the Leicestershire Regiment. A telegram received on the Saturday previous stated that the young man had been wounded in action. This is the second son that Mr Barrs has lost in the war, another named John, having been killed about six months ago.

Gunner J. C. Stinson, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, is in hospital suffering from a double compound fracture of the leg sustained in an accident during the performance of military duties near Winchester. Going down a hill when he was driving, the brakes failed to act, and the vehicle from which he was thrown, passed over him. We are pleased to hear that he is going on nicely, and hope he will make a complete recovery. Gunner Stinson is well-known in the Whitwick and Coalville district, having formerly been a popular footballer, keeping goal for the Whitwick and Coalville Town clubs. His father resides at Sharpley, Whitwick.

Mr and Mrs W. Turner, of the Ashby Lodge, Gracedieu, have been notified by the Admiralty that the ship on which their son, Alec, was engaged as a wireless telegraphist, was sunk on May 20th, and that his name does not appear in the list of survivors. Much sympathy will be felt for the parents in the supposed loss of a most promising son. Alec Turner was only 19 years of age, and when he joined up had just completed his term as a student teacher at the Coalville Bridge Road School, where he was a great favourite with the children, and very popular with his fellow teachers. As a lad he attended the Thringstone Church of England School, and won a scholarship under the former headmaster, Mr E. S. Bealter, now of South Wigston. He attended Ashby Grammar School, where he had a very successful career, and adopting the teaching profession, was posted to the Coalville Bridge Road School. He joined the Forces about nine months ago, and after a few months' training at the Crystal Palace, volunteered for service at sea on a patrol boat. He was at home on '48 hours' leave only on the Sunday as his ship went down on the following Sunday, and he then spoke of the dangerous nature of the work, but was in very cheerful spirits, and gave a thrilling account of his vessel having sunk a German submarine only a short time previously. Mr W. Turner, who is gardener to Mrs Booth, of Gracedieu Manor, has another son in the Forces, who has been over on leave this week.

The official list of wounded published yesterday contained the name of Pte. W. King, of Bardon Hill, who is in the West Yorkshire Regiment.

Private Alfred Harrington, Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs F. Harrington, Kirkhill Street, Shepshed, has died at a hospital in France as the result of wounds received in action on May 3rd. Deceased was 19 years of age, but had been in the army about 2 ½ years. At the invitation of the War Office his father went to France to see him, starting from Shepshed on May 11th and returning a week later.

A SWANNINGTON MILITARY MEDALIST



Private J. Thurman – Son of Mr and Mrs Jos. Thurman, of Snape Hill, Swannington, who, as reported last week, has been awarded the military medal.

Page 4

OLD ENGLISH FAIR AT COALVILLE

GREAT WHITSUNTIDE ATTRACTION

An old English Fair, organised by the members of the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild in aid of their funds, was held in the Coalville Market Place on Monday, and was a great success. The Guild

has over 2,000 names of local soldiers on the books to whom they have sent comforts at different times and the excellent work they are accomplishing naturally brings a ready response to any appeal they make. A beautiful day and the fact that there was no counter-attraction in Coalville, on Monday, was all in favour of the Guild, and the event attracted thousands of visitors.

The arrangements beforehand involved a good deal of work, but this was cheerfully undertaken by the ladies of the committee under the presidency of Mrs B. G. Hale, with Miss Hale as secretary, and gifts for the stalls come in readily and when the sale commenced at 11 o'clock, the stalls were well laden with all manner of articles. The Market Place had quite a festive appearance. Flags were flying and streamers of bunting were arranged in the fair with pretty effect. Messrs. H. G. W. Howe, D. Sansome, C. Allen and other helpers were busy early in the morning giving effect to these decorations.

Prior to the opening, which was quite informal, the Coalville Coronation Band played selections and paraded the town. The following were the stall holders:

Fruit stall: Misses Fellows and Taylor and Mrs George Taylor.
Millinery: Mrs Goodwin and Misses Ward and Bott.
Ice cream and lemonade: Misses Johnson and Glover.
Sweets: Misses W. Weston and B. Gutteridge.
Crockery: Misses Blythe and E. Taylor.
Fancy Goods: Misses Greasley, McCrae and M. Hatchett.
Plain linen: Misses Moore and Pickworth, Mrs R. Blower, Mrs Blythe and Mrs Bellamy.
Grocery: Misses D. Matterson and B. Thompson.
Flowers: Mrs W. Shaw and Mrs Dancer.
Confectionery: Mrs Burton and Misses Dawson and Robinson.
Eggs and dairy produce: Mrs Allen, Mrs Middleton, Mrs Booth and Mrs Slatter.
Rummage stall: Mrs Hale, Mrs Hatter, Mrs Clarke and Mrs J. H. Massey.
Lavender sellers: Missed D. Bird and E. M. Bird.
Bran tubs: Misses Sherwin and Trudgen.
Amusements: Misses Hale, Fowkes (2), D. Massey, Dunstan, Johnston and Wollerton.

Many of the ladies were prettily attired in Old English dresses. There were many side attractions, including skittles, Aunt Sally, and various other games. Half-hour concerts which proved very popular, were given with the assistance of Mr F. T. Bellward (Bardon), Mr H. and Miss Gledhill, Mr Marwood (violinist), Misses Smalley, Hawthorn and McDuff, Mr Slattery (skipping rope dancer, of Whitwick) and Mrs Allen, of Bardon with her performing dog. Miss Hosking had charge of a palmistry tent, in which many hands were read by Miss Goode, of Leicester, and the Maypole and Morris dancing by the Bridge Road Council School children, under Mr J. H. Massey, was watched with great interest by a huge crowd, and added considerably to the coffers of the fair. In the evening, the Coalville Coronation Band played for dancing.

Useful assistance was rendered during the day by the Boy Scouts under Scoutmaster Williams, of The Limes, Ravenstone, and refreshments for the various workers were kindly provided by Mrs Hale at Messrs. Stableford and Co's offices.

Another interesting event in connection with the fair was a cricket match between a team from Stableford's Works and 22 munition girls on the Waggon and Horses ground. This was a great financial success, £9/10/- being taken at the gate apart from the tickets sold. Unfortunately, during the game, one of the ladies (Mrs Haughton), was struck with the ball and received a nasty cut over the eye. The gentlemen had to bat, bowl and field left-handed, and the ladies won an enjoyable game. The following were the scores:

Stableford's

P. Poole	c Taylor	33
S. Briers	b Brotherhood	2
W. Deakin	b Sale	9
A. Palmer	b Badcock	3
P. Brown	b Badcock	18
J. Jackson	b Badcock	2
A. Andrews	b Badcock	2
L. Tabener	b Haughton	19

E. Tabener	b Haughton	19
E. Catlow	b Haughton	14
S. Allen	not out	5
Extras		<u>4</u>
Total		130

Munitions Girls

E. Badcock	c Andrews	33
M. Williams	b Jackson	5
D. Lovett	c Brown	9
C. Sales	c Tabener	8
S. Stevens	lbw	6
M. Brotherhood	c Allen	1
D. Larner	c Catlow	2
M. Gurley	b Poole	10
M. Deakin	b Poole	1
Mrs Haughton	b Catlow	1
Mrs Bale	c Brown	8
E. Roberts	c Poole	8
E. Billson	b Allen	8
F. Carter	c Tabbener	1
E. Johnson	c Briers	4
Mr J. Taylor (capt)	not out	12
S. Fairy	c Briers	0
E. Willars	b Allen	6
L. Ketcher	c Brown	6
F. Kendrick	c Brown	0
Extras		<u>12</u>
Total		156

The committee desire to thank Messrs. Howe, Sansome and Allen for undertaking the decorations; Mr A. W. Tyler for lending the market stall; the Wyggeston Hospital Trustees for allowing the use of the fair ground; Mr Williams and the Boy Scouts, and the police for their assistance; all who helped at the concerts; Mr Joe Massey for carting goods; Mr Colver for lending the marquee; and Messrs. Coleman and Sons for the use of their tent.

FORMER FOSSE FOOTBALLER KILLED IN ACTION

News has reached Hinckley of the death in action of Private George Warren, who before joining up last summer was the licensee of the Three Tuns Inn, Hinckley. He had only been at the Front a few weeks. A letter from the commanding officer of deceased's regiment states that Warren was shot through the head, and died instantly. Officers and men regretted his death, not merely that he was a good soldier, but because he was the "life and soul of the regiment". Pte. Warren was well-known as a footballer. He first came into prominence as a member of the old Burton Swifts club, afterwards assisting Sheppy United in the second division of the Southern League, and Hinckley Town in the Midland League. He was transferred from Hinckley to Leicester Fosse and subsequently figured conspicuously in the Nuneaton team in the Birmingham Combination and Coventry City in the Southern League. On the cricket field he was a first-rate stumper, and in the billiard saloon one of the best cueists known in the Hinckley district.

Friday June 8th, 1917 (Issue 1318)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A Leicester man has named his baby boy, Douai Cambrai St. Quentin Laon, because he had four sons who have fought at one or more of those places?

MINERS AND THE BOSWORTH DIVISION

MR L. LOVETT, J.P. DECLINES

MINERS' APPEALS AGAINST MILITARY SERVICE

The monthly meeting of the Council of the Leicestershire Miners' Association was held at the Leicester Hotel, Coalville, on Friday evening, Mr Ry. Toon presiding.

Mr L. Lovett, J.P., the agent, intimated that he had decided for health reasons, not to accept the Council's invitation to become prospective candidates for the Bosworth Division. The matter was considered, and it was decided to take steps to secure another candidate, and with this object in view the matter is to be brought before the various lodges of the Association in the near future.

The question of the repair of tools at the Bagworth Colliery was discussed and it was left in the hands of the agent. A vote of sympathy was passed with the family of Ald. House, president of the Durham Miners' Association, and vice-president of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, lately deceased.

The agent reported that from instructions he had received in reference to the calling to the Colours of men who had entered the mines since August 1914, any such men who desired to appeal had to apply to Mr Wm. Saint, H.M. Inspector of Mines, of Glentworth, Stafford, for Form 21, and this had to be duly filled up and returned to Mr Saint within seven days of them receiving the call-up papers.

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Mr R. D. Thomson, of the Ibstock Collieries, has handed a cheque value £10 to the Ibstock Allotment Committee to provide assistance for soldiers' wives who may find some difficulty in cultivating their gardens.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

News has been received in Whitwick that Pte. Arthur Worrell, of the Leicestershire Regiment was killed in action near the Persian Gulf on April 23rd last. He joined the Army soon after the outbreak of war, formerly working as a collier. His home was in North Street, Whitwick, where his family now reside.

Further lists of wounded contain then names of Ptes. E. G. Walding (Hugglescote) of the Household Battalion, E. S. Harrison (Coalville), Leicestershire Regiment and Gunner A. C. S. Templeton (Belton) of the Royal Field Artillery. Pte H. Fern (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported as suffering from shell shock.

Mr W. Hayes, assistant superintendent to the Britannic Assurance Co. of 38, Belvoir Road, Coalville, has been notified that his son, Pte. Horace Hayes, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, was killed in action in France, on May 26th. The news is conveyed in a letter from another Coalville soldier, Pte. Arthur Haggard, of the same platoon, who writes, *"It is with very great sorrow and regret that I have to tell you that Horace was killed in action on Saturday morning, May 26th. I did not happen to be with him at the time, but have since learned all the details. The corporal of the platoon did everything possible, but death was instantaneous. The corporal gave him a decent burial and erected a cross. I am very sorry this has occurred and feel deeply grieved for you in your hour of trouble. Horace was well liked by all, and his company sympathise with you."*



Pte. H. Hayes who was 21 years of age, and single, enlisted on March 25th, 1916, and proceeded to France in September of the same year. He was formerly a grocer's assistant in Worthington's Stores at Coalville. Mr and Mrs Hayes have another son, Joseph Henry at the Front, he being a bombardier in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

Mr and Mrs Hayes have received the following letter from the deceased's officer, *"It is with deep regret that I write to tell you that your son, Pte. H. Hayes, was killed by a German shell early last Saturday morning, May 26th. His loss is keenly felt by we, his comrades in "A" Company, as he proved himself a true friend and brave soldier, who always did his duty regardless of self. Please accept the sympathy of officers and men who mourn with you in your sad bereavement. P.S. Your son was given a Christian burial, and a cross has been erected over his grave."*

Ptes. G. Bailey, S. Hudson (Ashby), F. Hall (Whitwick) and T. Curtis (Coalville) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded. Also Driver R. Walker (Swannington) of the Royal Engineers, and Pte. S. Ottey (Ibstock) of the Lincolnshire Regiment.



Writing to Mr and Mrs John Barrs, of 7, Richmond Terrace, Ibstock, the Rev. C. J. Horsley Smith (chaplain) states, *"It is with very deep regret that I have to tell you that your son (Pte. George Barrs, Leicestershire Regiment) passed away yesterday evening in spite of all efforts to save his life. He became unconscious and died quite peacefully. It will be a comfort to you to know that he suffered no pain. Please accept my sincere sympathy in your sad bereavement. Your boy died nobly, and gave his life for his country. I shall bury him in the military cemetery here today, and will remember you in my prayers at his grave."* The letter was dated May 26th. The chaplain had written the previous day stating that Private Barrs was severely wounded in the thigh, and was in hospital adding, *"He wishes me to send his love, and he is anxious that you should not worry about him."*

Another letter, which was from Corporal T. Newton, states that the deceased died like a British soldier, and all the platoon joins with the writer in expressing sincere sympathy with the parents. Private George Barrs was the second son of Mr and Mrs Barrs to have been killed in the war. He joined up just after the outbreak of war and had been two years and five months in France. He was one of Mr W. Fellows' Hugglescote Baptist School old boys, and before the war was working at the Ellistown Colliery.

Writing to Mr and Mrs Charles Bradford, of Hermitage Road, Coalville, a captain of the Staffordshire Regiment states that their son, Pte. Jno. Bradford, of the same regiment, is reported missing, but they are not to lose hope, as it is quite possible that he may be a prisoner of war. He is 20 years of age and was apprenticed to Mr Pickworth, draper, Coalville, though immediately before the war he was employed at the Snibstone Colliery. He had previously been wounded, but had recovered and returned to France. A field postcard dated May 20th, stated that he was then alright. His father is a collier at the South Leicestershire pit.

After being kept in suspense for three weeks as to the fate of their son, Pte. Ernest C. Lewin, of the Staffordshire Regiment, reported wounded and missing, Mr and Mrs F. Lewin, of Park Road, Coalville, have now received news that he is a prisoner of war at Gefangener Lager, Germany. The soldier himself has written a postcard which, dated April 14th, was nearly two months coming, stating where he is and asking that arrangements be made to send food to him. No reference is made on the card to him being wounded. He is 28 years of age and married, his wife residing at Grantham. Before the war he was in business as a picture framer etc., at Long Eaton. He joined the Leicesters about two years ago, and being transferred to the Staffords, went to France last November. His father is employed at Messrs. Wootton Bros. Engineering Works, Coalville.

The official lists of wounded recently published included Ptes. A. Adcock (Ibstock), W. Bailey (Markfield), H. Grewcock (Heather) and A. H. Smith (Coalville), Lance-Sergeant F. Middleton (Coalville), Lance-Corporal T. Smith (Newbold Verdon), Lance-Corporal G. Waterfield (Whitwick) and Sergeant B. J. W. Wilkins (Ashby) all of the Leicestershire Regiment.

Pte. J. Sherwin (Coalville) of the South Staffs Regiment, previously reported wounded and missing, is now reported as being a prisoner of war.

Corporal J. Riley, son of Mr and Mrs A. Riley, Leicester Road, Ibstock, is reported missing. Pte. G. Riley, brother of Corporal Riley, was also in action on the same occasion, and was in a very perilous position for many hours. He was confined in a shell hole near the enemy forces, but eventually, under cover of darkness,

found his way back to the British lines. After a short absence for rest and recuperation he is back in the trenches, and writes hopefully with respect to the probability that his brother may be living, though if so he is a prisoner.

Mr and Mrs J. Callier, of Derby Road, Ashby, have received information that their son, Lance-Corporal J. F. Callier, was killed in action in Mesopotamia, on April 23rd. Deceased, who was 21 years of age, enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment in 1915, and was drafted to Mesopotamia about a year ago.

Mr and Mrs Yates, of Packington Road, Ashby, have been notified that their son, Pte. A. H. Yates, Canadian Signalling Section, was killed in action in France, on May 25th. He enlisted in Canada in December, 1915, and went to France in September last year. He was 28 years of age.

Mr Henry Richardson, son of Mr Thomas Richardson, of Donisthorpe, and formerly of Ashby, was killed in action on May 21st. He joined the Canadian forces in August, 1915, and was gazetted in March this year, and went to France on May 9th.

A SWANNINGTON MILITARY MEDALIST



Private Jim Gardner, of the 5th Leicesters, son of Mrs Thurman and the late Mr David Gardner, of Peggs Green, Swannington, has been awarded the military medal for bravery in carrying messages whilst on active service in France.

PECKLETON NURSE HONOURED

Miss Mabel Esther Price, assistant matron of Paddington Infirmary, has recently been decorated for distinguished service. Miss Price joined the first British medical contingent for the Italian Front, receiving six months' leave of absence from the Infirmary. The unit took station at the Villa Trento, behind the lines of the Isonzo, and did good service in succouring the wounded in the early days of the campaign. When the King of Italy visited the Front, accompanied by Prince Arthur of Connaught, Miss Price was presented, and received the Italian War Ribbon. During part of the time she was in temporary charge of the hospital. Miss Price is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Price, of Peckleton, Leicestershire.

CORRESPONDENCE

THANKS

Mr and Mrs W. Hayes and Family, of 38, Belvoir Road, Coalville, desire to thank most sincerely the many friends who have kindly expressed sympathy with them on the occasion of the death of their son, Pte. Horace Hayes, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who fell fighting in the defence of his country in France, May 26th, 1917.

Page 4

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, J. W. Fisher, M. McCarthy, A.

Lockwood, Captain G. J. German (military representative) J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), R. Blower (military secretary) and J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk reported the receipt of instructions as to sending pink forms to the military authorities containing particulars from the national register of men between 41 and 49. There were over a thousand of these, and they were being prepared.

A letter was read from Mr John German, secretary to the Leicestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee, asking the Tribunal not to impose the condition of drilling with the V.T.C. in cases of exemption granted to agricultural workers, it being suggested that the hours they were employed, including Sundays, made it very hard. Mr Drewett said they had generally excused men from drilling if engaged on agricultural work, or giving a good reason to be excused. The chairman said they would bear it in mind.

A Snibston miner, 26, passed for general service, who, it was stated, was one of the combed-out miners, appealed to have his case reopened. He had been granted one month final and, knowing the law, allowed the time to pass during which he could have appealed to Leicester. He was an experienced furnace man and was prepared to go back to his old trade if allowed. He sent a letter from the local wagon works, stating that he formerly worked there as a furnace man for 10 years, and was a good workman. They would employ him again if permissible. The Tribunal decided that they could not interfere.

A Coalville ironmongery firm appealed for one of the partners, aged, 40, married, with two children. The other partner appeared and, answering questions, said his brother was first rejected, then passed C3, and on re-examination on the previous day was placed B1. He was mainly engaged in the agricultural implement department, for which, before the war, three men were employed, and now there was only this man. Mr Champion said he had made enquiries into the case and was satisfied that the man was doing work of national importance. Farmers must have implements. The Advisory Committee recommended conditional exemption and this was agreed to.

Two Coalville plumbers and painters, each applied for two men. In the first case, the men were aged 40 and 38, both passed B1, and the others were aged 28 and 38, and both passed B2. In each case two months were allowed.

A Hugglescote widow appealed for her son, aged 25 and single, stating that her only other son was in France, and she depended on the one at home. She had had a long illness. It was stated that the man was a "combed-out" miner. The Advisory Committee did not assent, and one month (final) was allowed.

A Hugglescote building firm appealed for the managing partner who also said he worked the wood machinery. Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, said the man was very essential to the business. He was 39, married, with one child, and passed B1. Nine men were employed. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

An assistant foreman of coal sorting at the South Leicestershire Colliery, single, aged 25, and passed for general service, appealed on domestic grounds, saying he was the sole support of his widowed mother who had been bed ridden for some weeks. He said he was not well and thought he would not be passed for general service if re-examined. One month (final) allowed.

A Hugglescote builder's clerk appealed on domestic grounds, stating that he was 26 years of age, married, with two children, and had been passed C1. He was commandant of the Hugglescote V.T.C., having acted as such since the Corps was formed soon after the war broke out, and he thought he was doing better service than if he joined the Army. One month allowed.

The employers appealed for a loom overlocker and tuner at a Whitwick elastic web factory, the man being 27 years of age and married, passed C2. A representative of the firm said this man was also attending to their engine, being the only man who could do that. About 120 girls were employed at the factory and this man was quite indispensable. One month allowed.

A general service butcher, aged 30, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, appealed on domestic grounds, stating that he had a wife and three children. On an appeal by his employers, one month final was allowed, and that expired on the 9th inst. One of his children was very weak and his wife was also delicate. He had two brothers at the Front. Fourteen days (final) allowed.

A Whitwick painter and plumber, 34, passed for general service, appealed on domestic grounds. He said he was taking his only child to Leicester Infirmary for treatment for deafness and had hopes of it being successful. They would have to drop that if he had to join the army. One month (final) was allowed.

A Coalville master builder, 34, and married, appealed for further exemption, stating that since the war commenced he had built 29 houses in the district and would have built more if he could have got the labour. Answering questions he said he had passed for general service. He had a lot of repairing work on hand, and was having to do it all himself. He was on a contract now for two houses. Two months allowed.

A Hugglescote builder appealed for the only bricklayer left out of five, forty years of age, married and passed C1. He had more work than he could do. Eight of his men had left him. At present he was building three houses, and they were working 14 hours a day. Granted two months.

A banksman at the South Leicestershire Colliery, single, 32, appealed on domestic grounds. He said he lived at Hermitage Road, Coalville, and his aged mother was knocked down by a bicycle and her thigh broken a fortnight ago. She had a stroke in the night, and had not spoken since. One month allowed.

Friday June 15th, 1917 (Issue 1319)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Captain J. S. Turner, in command of B Company, 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment has passed first class through a musketry course at Bisley?

A memorial service will be held in the Whitwick Baptist Church on Sunday morning next at 10:30 on behalf of Pte. J. A. Moulton, Pte. J. Heighton and Pte. A. Worrell, who have lost their lives in the war?

Having been offered a commission, Sergeant A. T. Dobney, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Police Inspector T. Dobney, of Coalville, has returned from France to enter an Officers' Training Corps?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The splendid sum of £25/2/8 ½ for distribution among local soldiers and sailors was realised at the whist drive and social recently held at the Snibstone Council School. In our report of the proceedings, Miss Lakin's name was accidentally omitted from the list of ladies who arranged the event.

Mr Thomas Wills, boot and shoe repairer, of Hugglescote, on Wednesday, received the joyful news that his son, Pte. William Wills, Leicestershire Regiment, was coming over on leave from France, and would arrive the next day. It was conveyed by telegram, and in informing our reporter of the fact, Mr Wills said, *"It is the first telegram I have ever received in my life, though I am 60 years of age, and it fairly knocked me over a bit."* Mr Wills was naturally delighted at the prospect of seeing his boy, whose photo, with the telegram, were displayed on the window of the little workshop where Mr Wills does his cobbling.

POSED AS WOUNDED AUSTRALIAN

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES AT COALVILLE

A remarkable story was told at the Ashby Police Court on Saturday in a case in which Thomas Henry Henshall, soldier, late of Coalville, was charged with obtaining £5 by false pretences from Edwin Hodges between December 23rd, 1916 and January 15th, 1917; also with obtaining £3 by false pretences from Arthur Lockwood on January 15th at Coalville.

Edwin Hodges, collier, 132 Ashby Road, Coalville, stated that on January 1st the defendant came to his house accompanied by his wife. Witness had known his wife previously. He said his name was Tom Koster and he came from Melbourne, Australia. He was in the Australian uniform and said he was a wounded soldier. He was wearing two ribbons, which, he said represented the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Military Medal, which he gained while serving on the Somme. He had seven days further leave, and asked if

he and his wife could stay at witness's house during that time, to which witness agreed. At the end of the week, witness remarked that the time was getting short, but the prisoner then showed him a telegram he had received stating that he had another seven days leave. A few days later defendant showed witness another telegram stating that £25 was being forwarded to him. On the strength of that, he asked witness to lend him some money as he wanted to fetch his kit. On this occasion witness lent him 10/-. The defendant went away and returned the next day with a kit bag and rifle. Some days later prisoner showed him another telegram received apologising for the money not having been sent. On Saturday, January 13th, a further telegram was left at the house for prisoner, stating that the money had been despatched that day, and this was followed by another telegram stating that it would not get through that day. On the following day prisoner said he was having a motor car to go to Birmingham to see his aunt before going back to the Front. He took his wife and asked witness and his wife to accompany them. On the way to Birmingham, prisoner told witness that as the money had not arrived on the previous day, no doubt his aunt would advance him some. When they got to Smethwick, where the aunt was supposed to live, defendant got out and said he would go and see his aunt and make arrangements for them to go and have dinner. He returned in about a quarter of an hour, and said he was very sorry, but his aunt had motored to Sutton to buy some poultry. He asked witness to lend him £3 and he did so. They all went into Birmingham in the car and had refreshments which the witness paid. They all returned in the car and made a call at Ashby, putting up at the Old George Inn. While there, prisoner suggested that they should settle with the driver. The amount was £2, and if witness would give him £1, he would pay the man. Witness gave him the £1, but found out later that prisoner told the driver he would settle with him in the morning. Next day, prisoner said he was going to Leicester to see why his money had not come. He would be back the same night, and would settle with them for lodgings. Witness did not see him again till he saw him in court that morning. Witness said that altogether he lent the prisoner £5 and had received nothing from him. Witness lent him the money because he believed prisoner's statement that he was a wounded Australian soldier, and because of the telegrams shown to him by prisoner that £25 was being sent to him. A few days after defendant had gone, another soldier came and claimed the kit bag, saying he wanted it before going back to his regiment.

By the defendant: *Witness took him to the Workingmen's Club. It was not while there that witness arranged the motor car ride. Witness had no occasion to go to Birmingham; it was prisoner who arranged the motor car ride. Witness had no occasion to go to Birmingham; it was prisoner who arranged for the motor car. Witness lent him quite £5 altogether.*

Supt. Lockton stated that at 8.30 that morning he saw the prisoner in the cells at the Police Station and asked him whether he required anything. He said he should like to know what he was charged with. Witness handed him the two warrants taken out against him and told him, after he had read them, that anything he might say would be given in evidence either for or against him. Defendant then said, *"I shall make a clear breast of it, and shall plead guilty. And I hope that all the offences that I have committed will be taken into consideration when I am tried."* Witness put that into writing and the defendant signed it. When formerly charged, prisoner said that in regard to the decorations, he was charged at Barnsley with wearing them.

The clerk: *You are not charged with that now.*

Prisoner: *I did borrow money off Hodges, but not to the extent of £5.*

Asked whether he had anything else to say, prisoner said there were not as many telegrams as stated by Hodges. He only received three telegrams – one relating to the extra leave, and two with respect of the £25. The second case was then gone into.

Arthur Lockwood, secretary to the Coalville Co-Operative Society, residing at 41, Bridge Road, Coalville, stated that on Sunday, January 14th, he went to Mr Hodges' house shortly after nine pm, and there saw the prisoner. He was in khaki, and was introduced to witness as being a wounded Australian soldier. Next day, between 12 and 1 pm prisoner came to see him at his office, and said he had got through his money, but he had plenty more in the bank in London. He asked witness to advance him £3 to enable him and his wife to go to London. Witness told him he did not know him sufficiently well to let him have £3, but would let him have 10/-, which he gave him. Prisoner gave a receipt (produced) and said he would send the money back next day. Witness advised him to go and see another resident of Coalville who would probably assist him. Later the same day, prisoner again called at the office and said he had seen the other gentlemen who could do nothing for him, and he asked witness to advance him another 30/-. He said he had fought for his country and had been wounded. Witness let him have another 30/-. Prisoner told a very plausible story. He said he had to get back to his regiment, failing which the consequences would be serious, and it was nearly train time. Witness had not heard of or seen the prisoner again from that day to this. Witness made enquiries at

the address prisoner gave and getting no reply concluded that he was an impostor. None of the £3 had been returned to him. Defendant said that was true and he was sorry. He said he had been a soldier in the Scots Guards and was transferred to the Black Watch. He was wounded, and while on leave in London, had his kit stolen. Supt. Lockton repeated his evidence given in the former case. Prisoner said he had nothing to say and called no witnesses. He was committed for trial at the Leicestershire Assizes on both charges.

Page 3

BAGWORTH

MILITARY WEDDING

The wedding has taken place at Hyson Green, Nottingham, of Corpl. Reginald Frederick Astle, of Bagworth, and Miss Eve Alice Langstone, fourth daughter of Mr and Mrs Langstone, of Newark, The bride was given away by her father, and was attended by Miss Nellie Langstone as bridesmaid. Mr Horace Astle acted as best man. A reception was held at the bride's sisters home, a good company being present. Corporal Astle of the Leicestershire Regiment, went to France in February 1915, and remained till August in the same year, when he was badly wounded at Hill 60, in a mine explosion. He is now acting as a machine-gun instructor in England. He is the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Astle of Barlestone Road, Bagworth. The happy couple were the recipients of many useful and valuable presents.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Official notice has now been received that Rifleman R. A. Cross, R32802, King's Royal Rifles, was killed in action on May 20th. Deceased was 19 years of age and formerly helped his father, Mr C. Cross, as baker and confectioner at North Street, Hugglescote.

(A photograph of Rifleman Cross appears to the left)

Mr T. Y. Hay, of Forest Road, Coalville, manager of the Whitwick Colliery, and a member of the Coalville Urban Council, on Wednesday received a telegram from the War Office stating that his son, Lieutenant R. Hay, of the Royal North Lancashire Regiment, was wounded on June 8th. A second telegram stated that the officer had been admitted to the General Hospital at Rouen, on June 10th, suffering from gunshot wounds in the left leg, and finger (slight).

Mrs Marsh, of Jackson Street, Coalville, widow of the late Mr J. J. Marsh, manager of the Coalville Liberal Club, yesterday morning received information from the War Office that her son, Pte. John Joseph Marsh, of the North Staffs Regiment, was killed in action on May 24th. On the same day, Mrs Marsh received a letter from the deceased, bearing the postmark May 22nd, in which he stated that he was once more back in the battalion, after being in hospital suffering from inflammation of the legs. He was then in fairly good health, and they were having some nice weather, "*tres bon*" as the French say. The official notification of his death was preceded by a letter from the deceased's commanding officer who wrote, "*I am sorry to tell you that your son was killed while the battalion was in action a few days ago. I am sure it will be a great comfort to know that he died like a soldier. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your grief, and the sympathy of his company where he will be greatly missed.*" Pte. Marsh was 22 years of age, and formerly worked at Stableford's. Mrs Marsh's other son, Bernard, is serving in Africa.

Pte. _ Wright of Coalville, Leicestershire Regiment, and L.-Corporal D. G. Quincey, of Market Bosworth, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, are reported wounded.

Corporal J. Riley, reported missing, has written to his parents at Ibstock, stating that he is wounded and a prisoner. The letter reached Ibstock on Monday. Corporal Riley says he is being well treated and adds that his wound would have been good for 'Blighty', but he was on the wrong side of the hedge.

Lance-Corporal George Waterfield, formerly employed in the offices of the Whitwick Granite Co., and well-known in the district as the hon. secretary of the Whitwick Imperial F.C. his home being in Church Lane,

Whitwick, was wounded in action on May 5th, and is now in hospital in Scotland. His injuries are to his left wrist and right foot.



Mr J. W. Fletcher, railway station master at Hugglescote, on Thursday received a letter from the War Office stating that in the absence of any further news of his son, Harold, the War Council concluded that he was killed in action in France on July 30th, 1916 (or since). He had previously been reported missing. The deceased was in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. Before the war, he was chief L. and N.W. clerk at Wolverton, Bucks. He was 25 years of age, and only a few months before he was reported to be missing, was married to Miss Geary, of Highfields, Coalville, while over from France on leave. Mr Fletcher has another son in the Forces.

(A photograph of Pte. Harold Fletcher appears to the left)

Ptes. G. W. Wood (Ashby) and W. Wright (Coalville) both of the Leicestershire Regiment and Acting-Corporal A. Lovett (Ashby) of the North Staffs Regiment, are reported wounded. Pte. C. McMeechan (Ashby) of the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) is reported wounded.

Mrs S. Yates, of Farm Town, Coleorton, has received notice from the War Office that Pte. A. Yates, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was wounded in action on April 2nd, and is now in hospital in Rouen. He is stated to be suffering from severe gunshot wounds in the head.

Mr W. Eggington, J.P., C.C., of Ibstock, on Tuesday, received a telegram from the War Office, stating that his son, Lieut. A. T. Eggington, of the Royal Engineers, was wounded in action on June 6th. Further details would be sent when received. Lieut. Eggington, who is 29 years of age, and single, had a distinguished career at Market Bosworth Grammar School, and before the war was science master at Great Marlow Grammar School. A further telegram received on Wednesday stated that the wounded officer had landed in England. He is now in Manchester Hospital.

Last Friday, Mr and Mrs John Harper, of 179 Belvoir Road, Coalville, received a telegram from the military authorities stating that their son, Sergeant J. Harper, had been dangerously wounded. This was followed by another telegram received on Monday, stating that he died on June 7th from the wounds. Sergeant J. Harper was one of the first fifty Territorials to leave Coalville, the party which had such a hearty send-off from Coalville Station on an October day of 1914, and very few of whom now survive. He was a single man, 25 years of age, and was employed at Stableford's Works as a blacksmith's striker before the war. He was recently at Coalville on leave, his injuries being sustained within a week of him returning to the Front. His father is a foreman at Messrs. Burgess and Son's elastic web factory. Mr and Mrs Harper's other two sons are also in the Army.

Mrs Smith, a widow, of 60, Lower Main Street, Hugglescote, has been notified that her son, Pte. Wm. Smith, of the Highland Light Infantry, has been missing since May 1st. Captain W. A. Murray writes, *"It is with the deepest sympathy that I write to inform you of the posting of your son, of my company, as missing. He went out on patrol with his platoon on the evening of May 1st, and after an encounter with the enemy, he could not be found, despite search. The officers in charge of the party went out again in search of your son, but could find no trace of him. There is a strong possibility that he may have been taken prisoner. He was a particularly good, and brave soldier, and we are all very sorry to lose him. The officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the company desire to be conjoined in their sympathy in your natural anxiety, and in hopes for his speedy restoration."* Pte. Wm. Smith is a single man, 30 years of age, and before the war worked at the Ibstock Colliery. His widowed mother has two other sons, one recently discharged from the army, and the other at Salonica. She received the last letter from William on May 1st, the day that he was missed, stating that he was out of the trenches and was then quite well.

The following, all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded; Ptes. F. Black and J. Smith (Ibstock), E. Blount, R. Candy, and G. H. Stone (Ashby), E. Hakins (Shepshed), A. Poole (Thornton), L-Corpl. J. Prime (Newbold Verdon), and Pte. _ B. Cooke (Whitwick), the latter of the North Staffs Regiment. Pte. H. Collins (Ashby) of the Gordon Highlanders, has been wounded.

A SOLDIER'S BEREAVEMENT

Much sympathy is felt for Lance-Corporal T. Wood, of the Leicestershire Regiment, one of Coalville's military medallists, on the death of his wife, which took place last Friday under sad circumstances. The deceased, who resided in Highfields Street, was taken ill only on the previous Monday, and her death came with painful suddenness. The funeral took place at Hugglescote Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, the service being conducted by the Rev. T. Cottam, Wesleyan minister. A short service was held at the house, during which the hymn, "Jesu, lover of my soul" was sung. The chief mourners were the husband, Mr and Mrs S. Wood (father-in-law), and mother-in-law, Mr and Mrs Jowett of Draycott (father and mother), Mr and Mrs P. Rose, of Draycott (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs Jowett of Castle Donington, Mr and Mrs Newton of Coalville, Mrs Watts, Miss N. Wood (sisters-in-law and brother-in-law), Miss Juff, representing the Draycott P.M. Sunday School, Mrs Fritchley of Draycott, Miss Henman, of Loughborough, Miss Johnson of Whitwick, members of Mrs J. Hall's (Coalville Wesleyan) Society Class, members of the Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild, and members of the Coalville Wesleyan Church. The bearers were, Messrs. C. Bradshaw, S. Stacey, L. Fisher, S. Walker, A. Stevenson and C. Brown. The coffin was of polished elm with brass furniture, the inscription being, "*Ivy Melinda Wood, died June 8th, 1917, aged 28 years.*" At the grave side where a good number of sympathisers had assembled, the hymn, "Safe in the arms of Jesus" was sung. There was a beautiful lot of wreaths sent by the husband, Mr and Mrs Wood (father and mother); brothers and sisters, Alf and Nellie, Harry and Alice; sister and brother, Louie and Fred Newton; sister and brother, Pattie and Alf Watts; cousin Horace and Harriett; Muriel, Percy and Dennis; mother, father and Beatie; Uncle Ted and Aunt Lizzie Collier; Alf, and Ethel; Mr and Mrs J. Brewin; grandmother; aunts and uncles Eliza, Maggie, Jack and Joe; brother Sam (in France), and Gladys of Castle Donington; the teachers of the Coalville Wesleyan Sunday School; Mr and Mrs Fritchley (Draycott), uncle Charlie and family, Draycott; the neighbours, aunt Louie and Harry, Leicester; uncle Alf, Aunt Lizzie, Eadie, and Leslie; Jimmy and Joe; and artificial wreaths from Mrs Hall's Wesleyan Society Class, and the Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild.

COALVILLE OFFICER HONOURED

AWARDED THE MILITARY CROSS AND PROMOTED TO A CAPTAINCY



Many Coalville residents will be pleased to learn of the honours which have been bestowed on Captain F. Scott, of the Leicestershire Regiment, third son of Mr W. V. Scott, L. and N.W. stationmaster at Coalville. When at home on leave on Friday, the gallant officer received a telegram from the Adjutant, congratulating him on having been awarded the Military Cross, while only a day or so previously, he had been gazetted captain, dating from October 26th, 1916.

Capt. F. Scott was studying at the Cambridge University before the war broke out. He joined up almost immediately and received his Commission in December 1914, having for 18 months before the war been in the Officers' Training Corps at Cambridge. He was made Lieutenant on July 15th, 1916. Three times wounded, he has participated in much of the fighting. Captain Scott was educated at Ashby Grammar School and before going to Cambridge was a student teacher in the Bridge Road Council School, Coalville. He has an elder brother serving in the Forces, and a younger brother, Clifford Ernest, was killed in action in 1915.

Captain Scott is the first Coalville officer to win the Military Cross, and has received many congratulations.

THANKS

Lance-Corporal T. Wood, Leicestershire Regiment, desires to tender his sincere thanks to the many friends who have kindly expressed sympathy with him in his recent bereavement.

Highfields Street, Coalville
June 13th, 1917

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE CASES OF COLLIERY CLERKS

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday evening when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, Captain German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Three months were allowed the manager of a Whitwick mineral water firm who, it was stated, was engaged in dangerous work which could not be done by a female or inexperienced person. He had lost the sight of one eye through the bursting of a bottle. The man was 41, married, with a family of five children, and passed C2. Mr J. J. Sharp represented the applicants, the employers, and urged that it was a case for conditional exemption.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for the first hand in a warehouse, aged 35, and married, and the clerk said it was out of order as the claim was not on grounds D, which was a domestic appeal. Mr Lockwood said there had been some mistake, and it was agreed that the form be amended. Mr Lockwood, giving the particulars, said the man was passed C2, and married. A brother of his had been killed at the Front, and he was helping to support his parents. Two months were allowed.

The following were all appeals by the military on the ground that the men would be better employed in the national interest if they were in the Forces. The first was the manager and commercial traveller of a Coalville grocery firm, a representative of which said the man was 29 years of age, married, with no children, and he was praised for general service. He had been in the employ of the firm for 16 years. Since the last appeal, the trade had increased 20 per cent, and applicant was now assisting in the management of the Highfields factory. A military representative said the latter statement did not help the case if the firm was so busy. One month allowed.

Coalville Co-Operative Society's Desford branch manager, aged 33, and passed for general service. Mr Lockwood said the man was granted conditional exemption previously. They had only one man left at the branch now to manage, which could not be done by a female. The man had lost a brother in the army. Several more of their employees had lately joined the army, making 50 in all. Two months allowed.

Another Coalville Co-Operative Society's employee appealed against was the first hand in the Ibstock grocery branch shop, aged 32, and married. Mr Lockwood said four men from this branch were in France and their places had been taken by five girls. Answering a member, Mr Lockwood said this man was not the manager of the branch. He had three brothers in the Colours, and was a sergeant in the local volunteers. One month (final) allowed.

A general service grocer and dairyman of Coalville, aged 33, said he was more busy now than when he was granted exemption before. Since he was medically examined he had had an illness. He was working with only female labour, his brother being engaged on a farm. They were both working 14 to 16 hours a day.

By Captain German: *They had opened a branch shop at Hugglescote, which was managed by his wife. He was drilling with the Volunteers. He gave half a day to this every Sunday. His brother's farm was about 41 acres.*

Two months allowed.

The representative of a grocery company appealed for the manager of the Coalville branch shop, aged 38, married, with two children. He said they were not appealing for anybody under 35, and 2,300 of their employees had joined the Colours. Before the war they had four men in the shop and a boy, now there were four females and three boys besides the manager. He was passed for general service. Two months allowed.

In the appeals against three clerks at the Whitwick Colliery, Mr W. Lindley, J.P., secretary of the company appeared. It was stated that two were labelling and despatching clerks, one 35 years of age, married, with two children, and who had not been medically examined, and the other, 33, married, with no children, and passed for general service. The former had been with the firm for 19 years. The third was a sales clerk, aged 32, married, with one child, and passed C1. Mr Lindley said that in August 1914, they had 16 clerks, of whom

8 had joined the Forces, one had died, and they now had seven regular clerks and seven temporary. They had no women clerks, and he did not want them to tell him as Mr Cope told somebody else at the Appeal Tribunal that an office without women clerks was not up-to-date. Instead of women clerks he had two lads, 16 years of age, who were doing as well as they could. Answering Captain German, Mr Lindley said only one other clerk was of military age. He went on to explain that the difficulties they were working under. He claimed that the man 35, was absolutely indispensable, and as to the Class A man, he asked the Tribunal to grant him at least six months to enable them to get into a new system of dispatching, arranged by the Government and then the case might be reconsidered.

Mr McCarthy: *How many more six months is the war going to last?*

Mr Lindley: *I am afraid it won't be over by then.*

In regard to the C1 man, he said he was originally C3, through defective eyesight. It required an experienced man to do his work. The office work now was much greater than before the war. They were having to make many returns to the Government, deal with £2,750 war loan payments, 2,750 war savings certificates, and greater than all, make out the income tax returns of the workmen. He submitted that all three men could not be engaged on work of greater national importance. After some discussion, conditional exemption was allowed the dispatch clerk, aged 35, and the other two were allowed six months each.

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co., were represented by Mr W. Hurst, in regard to the military appeal against six clerks. Two of these were at Snibston Colliery, one a weighing and dispatching clerk, aged 38, married, with one child, and the other a pay clerk, 35. This man, said Mr Hurst, had been medically rejected quite recently. The dispatch clerk had been at the colliery 24 years. The four at the South Leicestershire Colliery were a weighing and dispatching clerk, 26 and married, a chief clerk and cashier, 41, married, with 4 children, and a ledger clerk, 37, married, with two children. Before the war, said Mr Hurst, they had 13 clerks of military age, one was rejected and five joined the Army. They now had two girl clerks, a man of 67, and youths. Two of the latter would soon be of military age and would have to go. Half his (Mr Hurst's) time was taken up with things which were the outcome of the war.

The chairman: *It wants a clerk or two to do the extra work.*

Mr Hurst said it was a great strain and some of the leading men at the Colliery were breaking down in health in consequence of it. It was stated that the four clerks at South Leicester Colliery were all passed for general service and Mr Hurst said that was astonishing in one case, as the man was originally placed C3. He said he would not appeal for any man who ought to go, and had not done so for members of his own family, but he thought it was a great shame to keep taking married men with families while there were about the district so many lusty young fellows, 18 to 22, who were to be seen with the eternal cigarette in their mouths. He could hardly express his feelings.

The chairman: *Many of us feel like that.*

Mr Hurst: *I hope so.*

Further answering Captain German, Mr Hurst said all the clerks but one had been employed by the firm since boyhood. Mr Blower said each colliery was entitled to one weigh clerk and could have got exemption for them had they applied at the Colliery Court. Conditional exemption was granted to the two Snibston men and to the South Leicester cashier and the weigh clerk, one was allowed three months, and the other one month, all the men to drill with the V.T.C.

A Coalville appeal to be excused from drill with the V.T.C. was adjourned to the next meeting, a fortnight hence. Captain German said there were several men at Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick, who were not fulfilling the condition. Mr Briers said some of them were working 12 hours a day, and then had to do their gardens; how could they drill. Captain German said allowance would be made for that. It was agreed that the clerk write to the men for an explanation.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

AN IBSTOCK ONE-MAN BUSINESS

A meeting of the Military Tribunal for the Market Bosworth rural district was held at Bosworth on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding. There were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, G.

M. Arnold, J. T. Jacques, Major Wollaston, Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Mr W. C. Kirkman (agricultural representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

A Ratby hosiery hand, 36, passed for general service, appealed for further exemption, stating that his wife was ill. He was allowed till July 22nd.

A Newbold Verdon man, 29, who said he was a fruit grower, smallholder and scavenger, was allowed three months. It was stated that he had not been medically examined, and it was decided that the military authorities be notified.

A general dealer, 32, of Sutton Cheney, who distributes oil etc, in the village, was allowed three months.

A Barton Fabis farmer, appealing for his son, 20, passed for general service, said three men had left his farm, and the son was indispensable. His eldest son (one of three referred to) joined the Forces, and had been reported missing. Exemption till substituted was allowed.

An Ibstock licensed victualler, 39, passed C1 was allowed a further six months' exemption on him continuing to give six days a week to work of national importance. It was stated that up to the present the man had satisfactorily fulfilled the condition.

An employee of a Ratby hosiery firm, aged 26, appealed for a re-examination. He said that originally he was rejected as unfit for any form of military service, and on being examined a second time was passed for general service. He suffered from asthma and eczema, which was frequently breaking out on his body and bleeding. He was under a local doctor for this, and the doctor told him it could not be cured, but only relieved. Several members commenting on the case thought it somewhat remarkable that a man totally rejected should be passed for general service on re-examination. A military representative said the illness might not have been apparent the second time. It was decided to adjourn the case to enable the man to get a certificate from his local doctor.

A Ratcliffe Culey farmer, appealing for his son, said the youth had passed for general service, but he could not be spared from the farm which consisted of 200 acres, and there were 36 milking cows and other stock. Exemption till substituted was allowed.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, represented an Ibstock gents' outfitter, in an appeal to re-open his case. He said the man, who is 24 and passed for general service, was allowed two months' final, which expired on June 17th. Applicant managed the shop, which provided comfortable living for him and his widowed mother. During the two months, the mother had tried to get a substitute. Three applications were received in response to advertisements, one from a man 77, who was out of the question, another withdrew his application, and they were in correspondence with the other man, but the terms had yet to be arranged. Mr Blower asked the age of this man.

Mr Sharp: *Forty-two.*

Mr Blower said this was on the list of restricted trades and unless the man had been rejected for the Army or was a discharged soldier, they could not set anyone on between 18 and 61. A member suggested that this was a one-man business, and it would be a pity to close it. It was started by the father and the son was brought up into it, and had carried it on since his father died four or five years ago. The question was raised as to whether a woman might not manage the business, with the assistance of a youth under military age, though some time would be required to train them. The Tribunal decided to allow the man a further two months, to be final, and Major Wollaston remarked, "*You'll have to look up the man of 77 now.*"

Mr Sharp: *I am afraid we shall.*

In a number of assented cases, terms of three months and six months were allowed, mostly to farm workers.

AMONG THE EGYPTIAN TOMBS

HUGGLESCOTE LADY'S INTERESTING EXPERIENCES

Continuing her narrative in the Hugglescote Parish Magazine, of a visit to Luxor, Miss Doris Moore (daughter of Mr D. S. Moore, of Hugglescote) who is acting as nurse in a military hospital in Egypt, writes, "We made an appearance to breakfast, being due out at 9 for the Tomb of the Kings, Mustafa, our dragoman, was ready for us with all the tickets for entering the tombs, etc. We walked down to the river, which was only two minutes' walk from the hotel, and there was a small boat waiting to take us across, as Thebes is on the other side. It took about ten minutes to get across and the water was so cooling, as it was then getting very hot. When we landed, our donkeys were waiting for us so we mounted and set off in fine style. We first went full gallop over the land where the Nile overflows, and then we turned off and went along a sort of what we called camel tracks. They are high banks, sometimes by the river and sometimes dividing the land; of course, there are no hedges or things like that here. Then we came to sand and hills. The range of hills can be seen for miles away. After riding for two hours we went winding round the hills, which are called "The Wall of the World", we dismounted and left the donkeys under a shed arrangement made of rushes for shelter from the sun. The day was very hot, and the sun glared on the sandstone of the hills, which seemed to make it worse. We followed the guide and he opened a wire door, and we read on the inscription it was the tomb of Rameses IV, about 1,200 B.C. Down the steps we went and along a dark passage, of course, we all had candles, and there was a stone coffin in which the mummies had been, and was now in Cairo Museum, and the carving on the walls was simply glorious this time, painted in blue and red, with all the different crowns of the Kings and Queens; one for Upper Egypt, one for Lower Egypt, one for truth and justice and happiness, and all holding the key of life and winds and the evil eye to keep away some of the gods. Most of the tombs were a quarter of a mile away down under the hills, and English and Frenchmen have excavated these tombs, some as late as 1905, and they are still busy finding more. There are 350 tombs found now. The next one we went into was that of Amenophis II, 1,500 BC, very much like Rameses VI and the carving in the colours too. The last one we saw was Caesar I, 1,100 BC. This one was very long and the carving more preserved but still the same things carved; it seems more wonderful than ever to see all that beautiful work so far away down under the earth, and for men of today finding it out. All the mummies were sent to the museum in Cairo. Then we went to the Temple of Gurna, built by Rameses I and Caesar I in 1,400 BC, with its massive pillars and walls still carved; after that we climbed a hill 250 metres high (a metre is 40 inches) and when we got to the top we found our donkeys waiting to take us down. We looked towards the left and saw the land where we had come, the Nile with its sails, and Luxor Temple, and Karnak, and miles beyond, and then over to the right was a stretch of the Sahara Desert. We got on the donkeys and rode along a narrow path on the edge of the hill. The donkey knew the way well enough, but one false step and we might have been down on the rocks below. We started off again on the donkeys and came to the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. This is altogether different from the other temples, it was in three terraces and stood under "The Wall of the World" with its rows of pillars, Queen Hatshepsut reigned over Egypt after the death of her husband, Thotmes II, and she was not a good sovereign by any means. From this we rode along to the Ramesaeum Temple, built in 1,333 BC by Rameses II, who reigned 77 years, had 111 wives, 171 sons and 3 daughters, and all this is carved on the walls. In one of the courts is the great statue of Rameses II, now lying on a block of granite, being brought down by the Romans. It was carved out of one piece of granite, and every dimple and joint are as plain as anything, and all done with the flint. It weighed 1,218 tons, and was 19 metres high, so that will give you an idea of its size. I picked up a piece of thorn which was growing, and it's just the same kind as the Crown of Thorns was made of, the thorns are nearly 2 inches long. I hope I can keep it safely until I get back to show you. We arrived back at the hotel to tea about 5.30. In the evening we went for a sail to Karnak. The moon was not quite full, but quite light enough for us to see "The Wall of the World" and the temples we had seen earlier. We were on the river half-an-hour and the small landing stage led up to the avenue of Sphinx with the ram heads. Karnak Temple was really glorious, far better than by day, which was absolutely lovely then. We wandered round the ruins and every part of carving could be seen perfectly. We never get evenings in England anything in comparison with Egypt. There is no twilight here, the sun simply goes down, and shines all colours in the after-glow. We got a lovely view across the water to the horizon, which I shall never forget as long as I live. We arrived back somewhere about 11.30."

Friday June 22nd, 1917 (Issue 1320)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A clock will be presented to L-Corporal Hicken M.M. at the Whitwick Picture House tomorrow night?

The Government is considering the question of making the dependents of those killed by air raid eligible for a pension?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Mr J. W. Eagles, manager of the gasworks of Whitwick, has received a letter from his son, the Rev. J. E. Eagles, which had apparently been sunk and recovered from the sea, the writing all being blurred, and scarcely decipherable. The Rev. J. E. Eagles has recently been ordained Wesleyan minister, and is now acting as chaplain to the Forces at Cairo.

ASHBY

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A SOLDIER

Before Mr George Brown, on Monday, James Howard Hilton, a soldier, late of Ashby, was charged with obtaining £4 by false pretences and by means of a worthless cheque, on 16th February from Wm. Henry Boss, of Measham. Supt. Lockton stated that prisoner had been recently discharged from Vernon Park Military Hospital, Stockport. He asked for a remand, which was granted.

IBSTOCK

A memorial service was held at the Ibstock Parish Church on Sunday last in connection with the death in action of Private Leonard Lovett, who was posted as missing last year, and has now been officially reported as killed. The Rector, the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., conducted the service, and the Church Lads brigade was in attendance, and sounded the "Last Post". The deceased soldier leaves a wife and four children.

A memorial service was held in the Baptist Church on Sunday evening last in connection with the death in action of Private J. Dennis, son of Mr Hy. Dennis, of Ibstock. Pastor Hy. Cowling conducted the service and a good number attended, including a delegation from the Oddfellows, M.C. The choir sang "The Homeland", and the pastor made appropriate reference in his sermon to the supreme sacrifice made by the young soldier.

Page 3

B3 AND C3 MEN

UNDER 26 FOR CALLING UP

Large numbers of B3 and C3 men under 26 are being called up. Those not wanted immediately as army clerks will be given a moderate course of physical exercise, in order to settle the question whether they can be trained into fit men. A number of B3 and C3 men above the age are receiving notice to report for duty as army clerks.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Pte. E. H. Taylor (Heather) of the Machine Gun Corps is reported wounded.

Previously reported missing, Pte. F. Haywood (Whitwick) of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, is now reported wounded and a prisoner of war.

Pte. A. Woolley (Ravenstone) of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Lance-Corporal B. Morley (Whitwick) and Pte. J. Callier (Ellistown) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported killed in action.

Pte. A. Marlow (Belton) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported wounded, and Pte. F. N. Hull (Ashby) of the Honourable Artillery Company, previously reported wounded, is now posted as wounded and missing.

Mrs Shaw, widow of the late Mr Joseph Shaw, of the Halfway House, Coalville, has been notified by the War Office of the presumed death of her son, Pte. J. Shaw, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, who was posted as missing on July 1st last year. Pte. Shaw was a young single man, and was formerly employed at Stableford's Waggon Works, Coalville.

Mr and Mrs Harper, of 179 Belvoir Road, Coalville, have received news from the War Office that their son, Sergeant J. Harper, died from wounds received in action on June 6th. He was in the Leicestershire Regiment, being one of the first 50 Territorials to leave Coalville. A letter received from Captain A. G. Moore states, *"It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that your son, Sergeant J. Harper has died of wounds received on the night of June 6th. A shell dropped in the road killing and wounding some men who were with your son. Please accept the deepest sympathy of the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the company. Your son was a general favourite with everyone and we deplore his loss bitterly. As you no doubt know, he was in charge of the company Lewis gun, and was a thoroughly capable instructor and a most valuable man. I shall have a very hard task to replace such a man. He did his duty and was a thorough sportsman, always bright and cheerful. Words fail me to express my deep regret in your sad loss. If ever a man did his duty for his country, it was your son and he died a soldier."*

A further letter has been received from a comrade at the Front, Fred Williamson, of Park Road, Coalville, whose brother was killed in action some months ago. Williamson writes that the deceased was a second brother to him. He was a hero and game to the last. He was a soldier through and through and was well liked and respected by all in the battalion, by whom he will be much missed. *"I saw dear old Jack before he went up,"* continues the writer, *"and he was telling me what a good time he had whilst at home on leave. That was the last I saw of him. The next thing I heard was that he had been badly wounded and died a few hours afterwards. He was like so many others, he gave his life for his friends, and you can guess how I felt it. I felt it more having lost a brother myself. I cannot write much more as I know you will be upset. But in closing, let me say, let us all be ready for the time when we shall meet Jack in the land where there is no war and put our trust in the 'One that sees All'."* Deceased was 25 years of age and single, and was formerly employed at Stableford's Works.

News was received from the War Office on Wednesday night that Sapper Herbert Briers of the Royal Engineers, was killed in action on June 7th. A letter from a comrade received the previous day stated that the deceased was hit when going out and died when being carried back to the dressing station. Sapper Briers was 25 years of age and was married a week before going to the Front twelve months ago, his wife residing at Whitwick. He was the youngest partner in the firm of Briers and Sons, builders and undertakers, of Whitwick.

Ptes. A. Bayliss (Ibstock) and J. W. Moore (Coalville), both of the Leicestershire Regiment are reported wounded.

Leslie B. Payne, son of the Rev. G. E. and Mrs Payne, of the Manse, Quorn, has been somewhat seriously wounded in action, and is now in hospital in England. He is progressing favourably. He enlisted in the Leicesters in January 1916, and had been in France some months.

Lance-Corporal J. Hickman (Ashby) of the Worcestershire Regiment, previously reported missing, is now reported to have been killed in action.

News has been received by Mr and Mrs T. Peach, Bridge Street, Shepshed, of the death of their youngest son, Company Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Peach, on Sunday, June 10th. An officer writes, *"He was bringing up rations at the time, and an enemy shell fell almost at his feet, killing him and another man instantly, and wounding another. He was my most valued and trusted N.C.O. as well as a personal friend, and I assure you of my deepest sympathy and that of the whole battalion."* The gallant soldier before he joined the Colours was associated with the Church of England Schools and a member of the Parish Church choir and C.L.B. He also was a member of the Parish Church C.C. and Amateur F.C. and occasionally played for the Shepshed Albion F.C.

News has been received by the parents of Sergeant A. C. Brown, Leicestershire Regiment, reported missing from May 3rd, that he is wounded and a prisoner of war. The sergeant states on his card that he is progressing favourably. His home is at Penistone Street, Ibstock.

Ptes. S. Hargrave (Thornton), T. Houghton (Heather), G. H. Monk (Ibstock), W. Sykes (Coalville) and Corporal E. Freer (Hugglescote) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Previously reported wounded, Pte. T. Brotherhood (Whitwick) of the Machine Gun Corps, is now reported wounded and missing. Lance-Corporal D. A. Attfield (Thornton) Leicestershire Regiment, is reported suffering from shell shock.

WHITWICK

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Ptes. J. A. Moulton, A. Worral and J. Heighton was held at the Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday morning, and was impressively conducted by the Vicar in the presence of a large congregation. During the service, Mr T. Belcher sang the solo "O rest in the Lord" and the organist, Mr R. G. West, played the Dead March. Muffled peals were rung on the bells.

WEDDING

An interesting wedding took place by special licence last Monday. The consenting parties were Miss L. A. Beniston, eldest daughter of Mr J. T. Beniston, of 18, Scotlands Road, Coalville, and Sapper H. E. Pountain, of Derby. The bride was given away by her father. She was becomingly attired in white, and black picture hat, and was attended by her sister as bridesmaid. They received many useful presents.

HUGGLESCOTE SOLDIER'S BRAVERY

AWARDED THE MILITARY MEDAL



The good news has been received that Corporal Victor Woolley, a Hugglescote soldier, has been awarded the military medal for bravery in the field. For several hours he remained under shell fire repairing telephone wires and re-established the communication which had been broken. The following is a copy of the official notice of the award. "No. 240591, Corporal E. V. Woolley, Leicestershire Regiment – Awarded the military medal. – At Cite-de-Riaumont, on May 24th, 1917. This N.C.O. was out for over four hours under heavy shell fire, during which time he mended 20 breaks in the line. For over two years in this country he has done most excellent work with the signalling section. He has always been the first to volunteer for any dangerous work on the line. – Recommended for immediate reward, 31st May, 1917."

The gallant soldier was in the Leicestershire Regiment, being one of the first 50 Territorials to leave Coalville in October, 1914. He is an old boy of Mr T. Frith, headmaster of the Coalville Belvoir Road School, and is the fourth from this school to win the medal. He is 25 years of age and single. Before the war he worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery and resided with his sister, Mrs J. Harrison, at 35 Breech Cottages, Hugglescote.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Cross and Family, North Street, Hugglescote, desire to thank all friends who have kindly expressed their sympathy towards them in the sad bereavement through the loss of their son, Ronald, killed in France, May 20th, 1917.

Mr and Mrs J. Harper, of 179 Belvoir Road, Coalville desire to tender their sincere thanks for the many kind expressions of sympathy received on the occasion of the death of their son, Sergeant J. Harper, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who died of wounds received in action in defence of his country, on June 6th, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private A. Brownlow, 1st Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, June 21st, 1915.

*"Two years have gone and still we miss him
Some may think the wound has healed
But little do they know the sorrow
Deep within our hearts concealed."*

*Quick and sudden came the call
Your sudden death surprised us all
A loving husband, a faithful friend
One of the best God could lend*

*But the hardest part is yet to come
When the warriors do return
When we miss among the cheering crowd
The face of our beloved one."*

From his loving Wife and Child, his mother-in-law and Father-in-law; and Father and Mother.

Page 4

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Varnham presided at a meeting of the Ashby Rural Tribunal on Saturday, when there were also present, the Rev. C. T. Moore, Messrs. A. Riley, J. W. Fowler, J. Rice, J. T. Bradshaw, Captain Phillimore (military representative), Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative) Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary) and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

The military representative made an unsuccessful appeal against conditional exemption to a Worthington farm hand, the man retaining his certificate.

A Swannington cowman was allowed till July 16th (final) and the case of a colliery banksman of Swannington was adjourned for the man to be medically examined.

The appeal for a Measham farm assistant was adjourned and an Appleby farm assistant was allowed till August 1st (final).

A "BOGUS HERO" AT COALVILLE

SENTENCED AT THE ASSIZES

At the Leicestershire Assizes on Saturday, Thomas Henry Henshall, 24, soldier, pleaded guilty to obtaining £3 in money from Arthur Lockwood by false pretences at Coalville, on January 15th. He also admitted obtaining several sums of money, amounting to £5, by false pretences from Edwin Hodges at Coalville.

Mr Disney, who prosecuted, said it was a most disgraceful case. Prisoner was known as "the bogus hero of Barnsley", his practice being to go about the country posing as a wounded soldier. For some time he remained in the Barnsley district, where he was made a great deal of. Subsequently, he moved on to Leeds, and later came to Leicestershire. Sometimes he wore the V.C. ribbon, and nearly always carried a D.C.M. ribbon, while at one time he had apparently lost an arm, and at others he walked on crutches. As a matter of fact he had never been on active service. At Coalville, he obtained the money mentioned by inducing the people to believe that he had a large sum coming to him in a short time. He was married to a young girl at Coalville, and took her to London, where he deserted her after pawning the wedding ring. He was now undergoing sentences amounting in all to 12 months for previous offences – Supt. Lockton said Henshall, when charged to him, admitted the offences, and that he would like some other offences to be taken into consideration. He had married a woman at Leicester, going to London, pawned his wife's wedding ring and left his wife destitute. He had married in the name of Tom Coston. He had been convicted at Hanley, Stoke, Stafford, Birkenhead, Clerkenwell, (six month's imprisonment for illegally wearing military decorations, and at Barnsley. The people of Coalville took him around, and did him right well. At Barnsley, he had his arm strapped to his body, and addressed recruiting meetings, being made quite "a little god of, and treated as quite a gentleman."

Prisoner pleaded for a chance to reform, but his Lordship, in sentencing him to 18 months hard labour, said he had been guilty of the meanest frauds a man could commit.

Friday June 29th, 1917 (Issue 1321)

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The amount subscribed to date towards the Soldiers' and Sailors' memorial window proposed to be erected in St. Andrew's Church, Thringstone, is £39/18/1.

In connection with the proposal to form a Coalville detachment of the Leicestershire Motor Volunteer Corps, Major Roberts, Commander of the Corps, will address a meeting of those interested at Coalville next Thursday night?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Major G. German gave a lecture in the Town Hall, Ashby, on Tuesday to the Volunteers on "the attack". There was a large attendance, which included officers and men from Coalville, Hugglescote, Whitwick, Woodville and Moira. Major German, who went to France with his battalion in the early part of the year, has just completed a course at Aldershot, and is to re-join his regiment shortly.

Company Sergeant-Major J. Rowland Hill, Leicestershire Regiment, of Ashby Road, Coalville West, is on leave for a few days from a hospital in the Midlands to which he was admitted suffering from trench fever. Before mobilisation he had served 18 years in the Leicestershire Volunteers and Territorials, being in camp in Bridlington when the nation was called to arms. His army service totals twenty-one years and a half, and his trench experience 20 months, during which he received a slight wound, which did not necessitate his relinquishing duty. Sergeant-Major Hill went out to the South African War when he had enteric fever. He has recently been awarded the D.C.M. Before the war, Sergeant-Major Hill was employed at Messrs. Stableford's Works.

Death has this week removed three old residents all residing within a short distance in Margaret Street, Coalville. Their ages aggregated 218 years, Mrs Elliott being 82, Mrs Dooley 68, and Mr Wm. Upton 68. Mrs Dooley was the mother of the late Lieut. T. Dooley, who rose from the ranks and was one of the first of Coalville's soldiers to win the D.C.M., being shortly afterwards killed in action.

It is interesting to note that four old boys of the Coalville Belvoir Road Council School have brought honour to their old school and the town as well as to themselves by winning the military medal for bravery on the battlefield. They are Tom Wood, Walter Lewis, William Walker and Victor Woolley.

RAVENSTONE

WESLEYAN SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

Special services in connection with the school anniversary were held at the Ravenstone Wesleyan Church on Sunday last, when two appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. J. A. Hopwood, of Bardon Park, and there were large congregations. The children sang their hymns nicely under the direction of G. H. Hewes, and Cyril Hewes, who appeared in khaki, on leave for the occasion, officiated as organist.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Son of Mr and Mrs Dennis, of High Street Ibstock, recently killed in action. He was 24 years of age, and joined the army on the outbreak of war, prior to which he was employed at the Ellistown Colliery.

(A photograph of Pte. J. Dennis appears to the left)

Mrs Beale, of 70 Melbourne Street, Coalville, has received a letter from the Rev. C. B. W. Buck, chaplain, notifying the death of her husband, Pte. George Arthur Beale, of the Leicestershire Regiment. The writer states *"Will you please accept my very sincerest sympathy with you and yours in the great loss you and we out here, have*

sustained in the death of your husband, Pte. G. Beale. I am very sorry indeed, but trust that God will help you and comfort you in your great trial, and have you in His keeping till that day when you will meet again in that happy land beyond the grave. And in the meantime I am sure the knowledge that he died doing his duty nobly for his King and country will be an immense source of pride and comfort to you. He was buried, you will glad to hear, with the full service of the Church of England in a nice little cemetery just behind the line. He has a grave to himself, and a cross with full inscription is being put at the head of the grave which is duly registered with the authorities who look after them all very well. If you wish for a photo you can obtain one on writing to the Director of Graves Registration, War Office, Winchester House, St. James' Square, London, S.W. and giving his name, initials, number, rank, regiment and date of death. Once more assuring you of sincerest sympathy."

Pte. G. A. Beale was 24 years of age, and joined up the day after war broke out, having previously served in the Territorials. He leaves a young widow and child. Before the war, deceased worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery. He is another of the Belvoir Road Council School old boys to make the supreme sacrifice. Only recently he was at home on leave, having been back at the Front less than a fortnight.

Lance-Corporal Benjamin Morley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, reported killed in action, was a former collier, of Whitwick, a single man about 23 years of age. His parents are both dead. His sister, Mrs Redburn of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, has been officially notified of the death.



Posted as missing on July 1st, 1916, Pte. J. Shaw, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, is now presumed to be dead. He was the son of Mrs J. Shaw and the late Mr J. Shaw of the Halfway House, Coalville, and the Army Council have written to the mother stating that they are regretfully constrained to conclude that his death took place on the date stated, or since. The young soldier was formerly employed at Stableford's Works.

(A photograph of Pte. J. Shaw appears to the left)

News has been received that Pte. Ernest Roome, of the Leicestershire Regiment is missing. Before the war he worked at the Whitwick Colliery, and lodged with his brother Albert, in Leicester Road, Whitwick, being a single man, 24 years of age. Another brother resides at Pare's Hill, Whitwick. Pte. Roome, who was an old boy of the Whitwick Church of England School, enlisted early in the war and had been in France over two years. The last heard of him was eight or nine weeks ago when he wrote acknowledging the receipt of a parcel and sending Miss Roome, of Pare's Hill, a silk handkerchief.

Mr. W. T. Pickbourne, of Northampton, who preached at the Coalville London Road Baptist Church flower services last Sunday, has received news only on the previous day that his son had been killed in action in Palestine. Mr Pickbourne, who is a cousin of the Rev. F. Pickbourne, of Coalville, had four sons, and they all became soldiers. Two of them, besides the one killed, have been wounded.

Mr and Mrs Thomas Richards, of 150, Church Lane, Whitwick, have been notified by the War Office that their son, Pte. Samuel Richards, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died on June 10th from wounds received in action in France two days earlier. He was a single man, 25 years of age, and before the war worked at the Whitwick Colliery, where his father is employed. He joined up in August, 1914, and had been previously twice wounded, returning to the Front the last time in March last. He was an old boy of the Whitwick Church School.

A letter from the Infantry Record Office, Lichfield, to Mr G. L. Lawrence, of St. Andrew's Cottage, Thringstone, states that his son, Pte. Wm. Lawrence, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was posted as missing after an engagement at a place not stated, on May 3rd. The soldier's officer also writes, "Your son was reported as missing on May 3rd. I have made enquiries and a sergeant in this company reports that he saw him wounded at the beginning of the attack. He was put in a shell hole in a place of safety, but since then nothing has been heard of him, at least from this end. What I suggest may have happened is that he has been taken to hospital, and is too unwell to write. We never hear to what hospitals they are taken, otherwise we should be able to give you information. Permit me to add my deepest sympathy in your anxiety."

A letter has been received by Mrs Warren, of Albert Street, Coalville, from her son, Walter, stating that he has been wounded in the right arm and chest and is in hospital at Manchester.

In a long list of missing Leicesters published on Monday appeared the names of Pte. J. Archer (Newbold Verdon), Sergeant A. C. Brown (Ibstock), Lance-Sergeant W. E. Corbett, Pte. R. Freeman and Acting Corporal J. L. Harrington (Shepshed), Pte. A. R. Hewer (Barlestone), Pte. W. Hind (Ellistown), Pte. W. Lawrence (Thringstone) and Pte. E. Roome (Whitwick).

Corporal H. Marson and Acting Company-Sergeant-Major J. Priestley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, both of Coalville, are reported wounded.

The friends of Private Arthur Everet, Staffordshire Regiment, a former insurance agent of Ellistown, who was taken a prisoner of war soon after going to France, will be glad to hear that he is well. He *"longs for liberty"* according to a letter to his sister.

Pte. Victor Whyman, North Staffordshire Regiment, reported dangerously wounded on June 7th, has had a leg amputated. Pte. Whyman, whose home is at Griffydam, joined up from Rangemore Hall, where he was gardener in Lady Burton's service, in October 1916, being then only 17 years of age. He went to France in March 1916, and his marksmanship was so excellent that he was soon made a sniper. He set a fine example of patriotic courage, and his many friends will all wish him a good recovery.

Lance-Corporal R. J. Mason (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported to have died of wounds.

Pte. F. Callier, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose name appeared recently in the official casualty lists as having been killed was formerly a hairdresser at Ellistown in the employ of Mr John Cramp. When the latter's son, Henry, joined the Army, Callier, took his place in managing the business and was himself called up about 20 months ago. After training he was drafted to Mesopotamia and letters received from a friend there state that he was shot by a sniper as they lay side by side. This was on April 23rd. Callier's battalion were the first to enter Baghdad. The deceased was a single man, 22 years of age, and was a native of Ibstock, being a member of the Ibstock Wesleyan Church, and a Sunday School preacher. Before going to Ellistown he was at Barwell, where he learnt his trade. His parents, formerly of Ibstock, now reside at Ashby.

Pte. Henry Cramp, of Ellistown, one of the first fifty volunteers to leave Coalville, is now in hospital in Malta. After recovering from wounds received in France, he was sent to Salonica.

We regret to announce that Sapper Isaac Lewis, an Ibstock volunteer, has been killed in the recent fighting on the Western Front. He leaves a wife and one child. His single brother, John Lewis, has just come out of hospital having lost a leg and received a crippled hand in the fighting in France.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Dennis and Family of High Street, Ibstock, desire to thank all friends who have kindly expressed sympathy with them in their bereavement through the loss of their son, Joseph, killed in action, May 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private Frank Blake, of Bardon Hill, killed in action on July 1st, 1916.

*"Sleep on, dear brother, in a far-off land,
In a grave we may never see
But as long as life and memory lasts,
We will remember thee."*

From his sister and brother, nephew and niece, Maltby, Yorkshire

INTERESTING PRESENTATION

An interesting event took place at the Whitwick Picture House on Saturday evening, when Lance-Corporal A. P. Hickin, a Whitwick soldier of the Leicestershire Regiment, was honoured by his fellow townsmen by a public presentation in recognition of his winning the military medal.

A handsome clock was presented to Hickin by Father O'Reilly, who was accompanied on the platform by the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters), Mr G. F. Burton, Mr H. T. Bastard (members of the presentation committee), Mr F. Blow, Mr D. Martin and others, besides the gallant soldier and his wife. His parents who reside at Swannington, were in the audience.

Father O'Reilly said it gave him great pleasure to have the privilege of making the presentation. Civilians at home could not realise all the soldiers were going through for their sake. At home they had peace and comfort; they might be troubled with their everyday work and little worries, but they could form no idea of the hardship, suffering and privation which was being endured by the brave lads out yonder. If they did get a little rest, it was in dug-outs where there were no feather beds, but often plenty of water, slush and snow. They had to do their trench work with the guns roaring and shells bursting around them, and then, when the order came "*Over the top lads, and good luck to you*", what did they have to face? They had no idea except just what they could conjure up in their imagination. It required great courage, coolness and bravery on the part of our men, and these were the qualities displayed by the gallant corporal whom they were honouring that evening. When shells were falling and death was all around him, he was cool enough and brave enough, though at great danger to himself, to go out and save his wounded officer (applause). For that brave deed they were making the presentation that night (cheers). He hoped that Corporal Hickin would come back to them with the flag of peace waving in his hand, and that he would always have pleasant memories of that evening. Father O'Reilly concluded by saying that he had much pleasure in presenting the clock as a small token of the high esteem in which Corporal Hickin was held by his fellow townsmen, and they hoped he would prize it, knowing that it represented their heartfelt gratitude for what he and his comrades had done for them (loud applause).

The Rev. T. W. Walters said he would like to add a few words. This was the third time a Whitwick man had brought to Whitwick the honour of winning a military medal, and they were all exceedingly proud of that fact. But he could not help thinking on an occasion of that sort that 30 Whitwick men had gained the supreme honour of laying down their lives on the field of battle. Thirty of their splendid fellows would never come back to Whitwick, and future generations would look back on this awful warfare and would say that one of the greatest honours that could come to any man was that of death on the battlefield in the cause of freedom and everything that man holds dear. But that honour which had been gained by 30 Whitwick men brought those in the homeland much sorrow and weeping. It was a mixed honour. An honour which thrilled them in one way, and cut them to the quick in another way. Therefore, the honour brought to Whitwick by Lance-Corporal Hickin was like a bright ray of light in the darkness of war. It was an honour which shed its glory on the whole town, and they were proud of it. They congratulated Lance-Corporal Hickin on having gained the medal, and they congratulated themselves on the fact that he was a Whitwick man, and had brought this honour to their ancient town. They hoped and prayed that Lance-Corporal Hickin would come back safely, that the end was not far distant, and that for many happy years to come, he and Mrs Hickin would be able to look upon the clock as a reminder of the gratitude of his fellow townsmen in bringing this great honour upon the town as well as upon himself (applause).

Lance-Corporal Hickin briefly expressed his thanks, which were supplemented by a few words on his behalf by a relative, Mr Dan Martin, an old soldier of 37 years' service, who appeared in the uniform of a Leicestershire Volunteer. The band of the Boy Scouts, who also lined the platform, then sounded a general salute.

The inscription on the clock was "*Presented to A. P. Hickin, of the Leicesters (Military Medallist) by citizens of Whitwick, 1917.*" As indicated in the speech of Father O'Reilly, Hickin was awarded the medal for going out under heavy fire and carrying back to the British lines his wounded officer, a second lieutenant. He is 32 years of age, and his wife and their five children reside at the City of Three Waters, Whitwick. Before the war, he was employed at the Whitwick Colliery. He joined up voluntarily soon after the war started and has been two years and three months in France.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

APPLICANT WITH SEVEN SOLDIER BROTHERS

ALL EXEMPTED MEN TO DRILL OR JOIN UP

A meeting of the Coalville Urban Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, B. G. Hale, A. J. Briers, Capt. Stevenson (recruiting officer), Captain German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk) and Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative).

The clerk read a letter from Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer) as follows, *"I am directed by the Headquarters of the Northern Command York, to bring to your notice the following list of Commissioners appointed in connection with civil liabilities of recruits. Should you receive an application from a recruit or a person seeking exemption from military service, who states that he is unable to meet his civil liabilities if he joins the Colours, will you kindly inform him that his application should be made to the gentlemen within whose district he resides, viz., Leicester and Rutland, F. K. North, 17, Friar Lane, Leicester, and A. Quicke, County Hall, St. Mary's Gate, Derby"*. The clerk suggested the letter be handed to the Press representatives and the Tribunal agreed.

The clerk also read a circular from the Central Appeal Tribunal relating to one-man businesses, and in regard to one case which had attracted a good deal of attention, it was stated that there were special circumstances and they had not departed from the principle laid down of dealing with cases on their merits.

A revised list of certified occupations was presented by the clerk, and Mr Blower said there were not many alterations. Plumbers had been put in, but there were more trades taken out than put in. In cases where trades were taken out, exempted men should apply again or they might be called up. Answering the chairman the clerk said he did not think any cases before them that night would be affected.

Several other circulars were also read by the clerk, who remarked that it required a Philadelphia lawyer to deal with them. It was decided that copies be obtained for the members.

Three months were allowed a Hugglescote boot and shoe repairer, aged 41, and passed C3. He said he had had the business 16 years.

In an appeal for a bricksetter by the South Leicestershire Colliery Company, it was stated that he was the only bricksetter left, and the total number of men now left in the brickyard was only nine, including the foreman. The man, who is 38, and passed C1, was allowed two months.

Similar exemption was granted to a foreman bricklayer (39) appealed for by a Coalville building firm.

A Whitwick collier and licensed victualler, 41, the father of six children, made a personal appeal. He said he worked in the pit from boyhood up to the time he became a professional footballer for Aston Villa. He was now working at the South Leicestershire Colliery. Two months allowed.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, represented a Coalville licensed victualler and collier in a personal appeal. He said the man was 37 years of age, and had a wife and four children. He was a practical miner, but took a public house eight years ago. He kept a boar pig for breeding purposes, and also a motor car for hire. He was now working at the South Leicestershire Colliery. Conditional on him keeping at colliery work, he was allowed two months.

A weighman, employed by the Whitwick Granite Company, aged 40, and passed B1, who said he had only one finger and thumb on the right hand, was also allowed two months. He has five children.

Mrs Haydock, of Charnwood Towers, applied for her gardener and coachman, who also looks after the electrical lighting and manages the water supply. He is a B1 man, 40 years of age. One month allowed.

Conditional exemption was allowed a "combed-out" miner, passed for general service, in which the circumstances were stated to be exceptional. He said he was 24 years of age, and appealed on account of

the ill-health of his wife. His mother and father were partly dependent on him. Seven brothers had joined the Army, and two had been killed.

Three months were allowed an Ellistown C3 baker, 27, with three children, who said his wife was ill.

A loader at the Whitwick quarry, 41, passed B1, married with four children, was allowed two months.

A Coalville man, 36, married with 2 children, appealed owing to the state of his health. He said he worked as a chargeman-shifter at the South Leicestershire Colliery and had been passed for general service. But he suffered from rheumatism, having had an attack of rheumatic fever some time ago, and he would like another medical examination. He produced a local doctor's certificate stating that applicant was suffering from heart trouble and an enlarged liver. This was dated 4 days after he was passed for general service by the Army doctors. A second local doctor's certificate referred to the applicant's rheumatism and weak heart. The case was adjourned for 14 days for further medical examination.

The Advisory Committee recommended the dismissal of an appeal of a Coalville man working at the South Leicestershire Colliery, aged 36, and passed for general service, but on being informed that the man had seven children, the Tribunal allowed two months. Mr Blower said the number of children was not stated on the claim before the Advisory Committee. The man said he used to work at Stableford's but left there to go to the pit to get more money to support his large family.

A Hugglescote bricklayer, 33, passed for general service appealed personally on the ground that the separation allowance was not enough to keep his wife and two children. He asked for three months exemption to enable him to get his potatoes to help his wife. Captain German asked how other people managed on their separation allowance. He pointed out that it was more now than it used to be. The chairman asked whether this was the chief point of the application. Applicant said it was.

The chairman: *I am afraid we can't interfere with that.*

Mr Lockwood: *It is the law of the land.*

Applicant: *It is my duty to fight against it if I can. It is not my duty to go and leave my wife in poverty.*

One month (final) was allowed.

A general service collier, aged 28, married, with two children, stated in his appeal that he formerly worked as a blacksmith's striker, and was willing to go on munition work at any shop the Tribunal liked to name (laughter). One month (final) was allowed.

A Coalville wholesale and retail fruiterer, 22, single, passed for general service, asked for time to enable him to dispose of his business. He said he was formerly C3.

The Chairman: *You ought to be glad your health has improved so much* (laughter)

Applicant: *Perhaps it has and perhaps it hasn't.*

The Chairman: *You are bound to go by the medical men.*

Applicant: *They are not all alike.*

One month (final) allowed.

Two months were allowed the manager of the Coalville branch of a tea company, aged 40, and passed for general service after being previously rejected.

A Coalville house agent and tax collector, appealing for his son, 18, passed B3, who assists him as a clerk, stated that four sons were in the Army and one, who was rejected, was on farm work. Captain Stevenson wrote that in taking one of the four sons he promised applicant not to oppose the appeal for this man, but he left it to the Tribunal. Two months were allowed and the young man on farm work was granted conditional exemption.

An Ellistown ironmonger, 40, whose partner is serving was allowed three months, his category being C2, and three months were allowed a Coalville grocer, 41, general service, who also farms 43 acres of land.

The caretaker of the Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for the manager of their boot department, aged 33, and passed for general service. Mr Lockwood said the man had six men under him in the repairs department, and only 2 girls and a boy to assist him in the shop. He had to do all the buying, which was a difficult job just now. Answering Captain German, Mr Lockwood said a substitute was offered, but he was nothing like equal to the job. One month allowed for substitution.

The Co-Operative Society also appealed for a bread-checker, 41, and as Mr Lockwood raised the question as to whether the man was not over age, the case was adjourned.

The military representative appealed against the exemption of a Hugglescote building firm's foreman joiner, 36, married, and passed B1. The head of the firm said he should have to close the joinery shop if this man went. "Should you close if the man died?" asked Captain German.

Applicant: *I don't know whether I shouldn't.*

Two months allowed.

There was a batch of applications, chiefly from Whitwick and Thringstone, to be exempted from drilling from the V.T.C.

Mr Hale: *I will move that they all drill or join up.*

Mr Drewett: *I will second it. It is the least they can do when you think of the sacrifices the lads are making out yonder.*

All the applications were refused. The chairman said that if the men were engaged in the harvest, no doubt the Commandant would excuse them if applied to.

Mr Drewett: *We have said that over and over again.*

Captain German said the Volunteer officers and N.C.O.'s were not playing at it. What with week-end camps, etc., they were putting in a lot of time, though all were men who had plenty to do in their civil occupations.

SOLDIER'S FALSE PRETENCES

REMARKABLE CASE AT ASHBY

A remarkable story was told at the Ashby Police Court on Saturday, in a case in which James Howard Robert Hilton, soldier, late of Ashby, was charged with obtaining the sum of £4 by false pretences from Wm. Hy. Boss, at Measham, on February 16th. Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) appeared for the prisoner, who pleaded guilty.

William Henry Boss, engineer, Measham, stated that he met the prisoner on the road between Ashby and Measham. Prisoner said, "*You did not expect to see me in khaki,*" and he replied, "*No.*" They had some conversation about coal contracts, prisoner saying that he and his father were coalowners in Lancashire. The prisoner then told him that he had left home in a great hurry on the previous night, and asked where he could get a cheque changed. Witness offered to cash it for him. The cheque was drawn on the Wigan branch of the London City and Midland Bank. Witness gave him £4 for it. The prisoner was a stranger to witness, but they met by appointment through correspondence in reference to a colliery investment. Prisoner represented himself as the former manager of a colliery in Colorado and witness believed him. The cheque was paid into his daughter's account and was returned marked "No account."

By Mr Jesson: *He had not ascertained that the representations of the defendant were false, but he believed them to be.*

Mr Jesson said that was the whole essence of the charge and he would ask for permission to alter his plea to one of not guilty. The Bench agreed. Further answering Mr Jesson, the witness Boss said he was endeavouring to find capital to put in a colliery. He was only interested so far as he would draw commission if he succeeded. He regarded the prisoner as a prospective customer when he advanced him the £4.

By Supt. Lockton: *Since then, he had neither seen nor heard anything of the defendant till that day.*

P.C. Holmes stated that on June 16th, he received the prisoner in custody from the Stockport police, and read the warrant over, and cautioned him. Prisoner replied, *"That is for Ashby?"* and witness said it was. He said, *"I understand it. Where shall I be tried?"* Witness told him and defendant said he should write and see if he could get their family solicitors to defend him. Supt. Lockton stated that on the 19th inst. he saw the prisoner at the Police Station and told him and that whatever he might say would be given in evidence for or against him when he was tried. Defendant said, *"I don't know whatever makes me do these things. At times, I appear to lose control of myself."* Witness remarked that he was sorry to see a man, who had apparently been well educated and did not know what made him do it. It was not true that he had been manager of a colliery in Colorado, nor that his father was a colliery owner.

By Mr Jesson: *It was true that the man was in the United States from 1910 till early in 1915.*

The witness, Boss, recalled, said the prisoner told him that his father was the owner of a large colliery in Colorado, where they were getting a seam of anthracite coal, 16 ft thick, and were turning 17,000 tons a day, which they were sending to France at a less price than it could be delivered from anywhere else. He also said that they had constructed a railway several miles in length and built a village larger than Measham to accommodate the workers.

Mr Jesson submitted that in face of Mr Boss's admission, there was no charge for the prisoner to answer. The clerk said there was Supt. Lockton's evidence, and the Bench ruled against Mr Jesson. Addressing the magistrates Mr Jesson said the defendant was 30 years of age, and a married man. His parents were connected with collieries or engineering works at Wigan in Lancashire and he had four brothers, two of whom were in France, and one was in hospital wounded. He joined a Yorkshire Regiment in December, 1915, and rose to the rank of Corporal, being a valuable man in his unit on account of his engineering knowledge. Unfortunately for him, before his unit was called out he had the misfortune while engaged in sapping work to meet with injury to this thigh as a result of which he had been in hospital for over twelve months. He was the son of respectable parents, and Mr Jesson asked the Bench if they found him guilty, to be as lenient as possible.

The Bench decided to convict, and the question was asked whether anything was known against the prisoner. Supt. Lockton said he had a warrant from the Warrington Police charging the prisoner with obtaining £22 10s at Warrington by means of a cheque to which the prisoner had signed the name of his father, the latter refusing to honour the cheque. Prisoner asked, through Mr Jesson, that this might also be taken into account by the Bench in passing sentence. Prisoner was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

LOCAL SOLDIER'S BRAVERY

Many Coalville residents will be interested to learn of the honour which has been bestowed on Lance-Corporal H. Baker of the Leicestershire Regiment, for bravery in action. Though having resided at Shirebrook before the war, the gallant soldier has associations with Coalville, inasmuch as he is the son-in-law of Mr J. J. Bettison, of Shirebrook, formerly of Belvoir Road, Coalville, and district superintendent for the Britannic Assurance Co. Lance-Corporal Baker who is 27 years of age, enlisted in August 1914, and has been in France since June 1915. He was wounded in July last, and was in Stafford Hospital. He worked at Worsop Colliery and was very popular with his workmates and fellow sportsmen. The following is the official report of the brave deed.

"Your commanding officer and brigade commander have informed me that you distinguished yourself by your great resource and initiative in a raid west of Hulluch on the night of 17-18 April, when in command of a Lewis gun you put a German machine-gun out of action."

Signed C. Ross, Major-General, commanding Sixth Division.

Recently, Lance-Corporal Baker was reported as killed, but in a letter sent afterwards he said he was very much alive. In a letter to his wife last week, he said he was pleased to say he had been before the General and had got his ribbon. It was a fine sight.

Friday July 6th 1917 (Issue 1322)

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Sergeant J. Robson, who is on leave from France, visited Ellistown last week. He is with the British Mission attached to the Portuguese troops and acts as interpreter. This was his first leave after being in France twelve months.

Captain T. E. Jesson, Leicestershire Regiment, has been gazetted acting-Major in his battalion. Major Jesson is the clerk to the Coalville Urban Council, and during his absence on military service, the duties are being fulfilled by his brother, Mr J. Fisher Jesson.

Considerable interest was created by the descent of an aeroplane in Mr Price's field at Thornton on Monday evening. Necessary repairs to the machine delayed the airman's departure until about eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning.

An aeroplane descended at Market Bosworth on Sunday afternoon, owing to engine trouble, and in alighting collided with a fence, whereby one of the wings was damaged. The airman was not hurt. The machine was packed up and fetched away on Monday.

Writing from France to Mr C. E. Marston of the "Coalville Times" office, Pte. Alf Richardson, a former printer at these works, says that he is A1. He has met "Wally" out there, referring to a youth who was formerly employed by Mr H. Underwood, hairdresser, and the other day he also met a Stanton-under-Bardon cricketer, with whom he used to play in the happier days.

Pte. Arthur Wright, of the Leicestershire Regiment, writing from the North Evington Military Hospital, says he has noticed the report in the "Coalville Times" that four old boys of the Coalville Belvoir Road School have won the military medal and adds that we can go one higher than that, as he was awarded the medal on July 14th last year. This makes five medallists among the Belvoir Road old boys, which is an excellent record. Wright says he is hoping to be discharged from hospital soon.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE B3 AND C3 MEN

A meeting of the Coalville Urban Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding, and there were also present Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, Capt. German (Military Representative), Capt. Stevenson (Recruiting Officer) and Mr A. L. Bertenshaw (for the clerk).

A discussion took place in regards to what had appeared in the Press as to B3 and C3 men not engaged as clerks or trades which would be useful to the Army, it having been stated that they should be allowed to return to civil employment. A circular was read from headquarters that Tribunals were to treat all these cases on their merits.

Mr W. P. Musson (Ashby) appeared for the gardener at Abbot's Oak, stating that he would be 41 in August. He had been rejected but on re-examination was passed B2. He had charge of four acres of garden, over one of which was devoted to vegetables, and he only had a boy to assist him. If the man was considered not to be on work of national importance he was willing to work three days a week on a farm. Lady Joyce wrote supporting the appeal. Mr Musson added that the man was an excellent gardener, but would make a poor soldier. Applicant said he held two certificates from the Royal Horticultural Society for botany and gardening. He had charge of three glass houses with tomatoes and cucumbers. Three months allowed.

A Coalville firm of chemists were allowed three months for a dispenser, aged 31, married, and passed B1.

Two months were allowed a Coalville coal carter, 36, C1, married, with five children, also an employee of a Whitwick firm of builders and undertakers who has care of 12 horses, a C1 man, 31 and married.

A Coalville printer was allowed three months for his foreman compositor, aged 34, married, and passed C1, after being previously rejected. Appealing for his son, aged 38, C1 a baker and grocer of Donington-le-

Heath, said he was 67 years of age, and could not manage without his son. The business had been established over 200 years. One month.

A Coalville ironmongery firm in an appeal for an assistant, 36, stated that before being classed B1, the man was twice medically rejected and would like another medical examination. One month allowed and to be re-examined.

The proprietors of a Coalville elastic web factory were allowed one month for their mechanic, aged 25, and passed for general service.

Three months were allowed a C2 farm labourer, 39, employed by the Whitwick Colliery, the man having a wife and seven children.

A Hugglescote builder and undertaker appealed for his only workman, a Whitwick resident, 38, passed B2, and the father of six children, Two months.

One month (final) was allowed a general service colliery banksman of Whitwick, aged 32, and single, and a Coalville saddler, 32, B1, married was allowed three months.

A Donington carter appealed for his man, 35, single, and passed B1. The employer said he worked in the mine and would have to leave if the man was taken. The man had previously been rejected three times. A letter was put in from Ellistown Collieries stating the applicant was a useful man to them and they would be sorry to lose him. It was pointed out that there was a big difference between B1 and three times rejected, and fourteen days were allowed for further medical examination.

A Whitwick farmer appealed for a general service collier, 31, who, he said, worked half a day at the Whitwick Colliery, and half a day on the farm every other day. The chairman said there were no half days at the pit. Mr McCarthy said that no doubt the farmer regarded eight hours as only half a day. Applicant, in reply to the chairman, said the man worked the full day at the pit, and worked on the farm the rest of the day. The chairman asked why it was that the man, if a miner, had no exemption card.

Capt. German: *He has been combed out.*

Applicant said the man used to work at the quarry and had gone into the mine since August 1914. The man was his son-in-law and lived at the farm. Mr McCarthy said a farmer's son often worked 16 hours a day. They were never done. Applicant said he had two colliers helping him, and one had been called up. He must have one man. Mr McCarthy said the case should be taken before the War Agricultural Committee. This man might go full time on to the farm now. The chairman said he was evidently a decent man. He worked in the pit and then pulled his coat off and helped on the farm. He (the chairman) admired him for it. As the Whitwick Colliery Co. were considered to be really the man's employers, and the man had been "combed out" by the Colliery Court, the Tribunal decided that they had no jurisdiction.

An Ellistown motor and cycle dealer appealed for the only man he had left. He was 21 years of age, and passed C3, after having been rejected. Applicant said his son and one other man had joined up. Two months.

A bricklayer employed at the Snibston Colliery, 34, passed for general service, appealed on domestic grounds. He said he had three children under three years of age, and supported his sister. His mother had recently died. Allowed one month (final).

A Coalville milk-seller and dairyman, 23, single, C3, was appealed for by his father, who said this was the only son left out of four. One had been killed, one wounded, and the other had been four times in hospital. Mr McCarthy again referred to the telegram to the Hull Tribunal affecting B3 and C3 men, and asked, "*Is that telegram a farce, or is it a fact?*" The clerk said they had to deal with all cases on their merits. The Military Representative pointed out that one milk seller, a married man, had gone. It was stated that that man was passed for general service and Mr McCarthy said they should take into account the fact that this applicant had sent three sons to the Army. Two months allowed.

A Hugglescote man, 31, general service, married, with no family appealed on personal grounds. He was clerk in charge at this brick and pipe works at Ibstock Colliery, whose appeal at Market Bosworth was

dismissed, and he said he was also secretary of the Hugglescote National Deposit Friendly Society. One month (final) allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for the yard man at their new premises, a C3 man, 32 years of age, and married. Two months allowed.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Drummer H. Watson (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Private E. Flamson (Heather) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported killed in action.

The parents of Corporal J. P. Dennis, reported killed in May last, have received a letter from him, stating that he is a prisoner of war in Germany.

An official list of wounded Leicesters published on Saturday, included the names of Pte. F. Wheeldon, of Whitwick, Pte. J. W. Coulson (Shepshed) of the Manchester Regiment, is also reported wounded.

Mr Thomas Simpkin, carriers, Upper Main Street, Hugglescote, and his wife, have received news from a chaplain and nurse in France that their son, Charles, serving in the Leicesters, has been dangerously wounded. He joined up about six months ago.

Police-Sergeant Betts, of Brook's Lane, Whitwick, has received news that his son, Private Wilfred Betts of the Notts. and Derbys Regiment, was wounded in action on June 7th. Pte. Betts was formerly chauffeur to the late Rt. Hon. Chas. Booth, of Gracedieu Manor, and this is the second time that he has been wounded.

P.C. Culpin, of Ellistown, had news on Wednesday morning from his son, Pte. G. W. Culpin, who is in hospital at Fulham, stating that he was going on as well as could be expected. Pte. Culpin, who was formerly a M.R. clerk at Leicester, has had to have both feet amputated as the result of wounds received in action, but his father, who recently went to see him, is assured by the medical authorities, that the crippled soldier when well enough, will be able to be fitted with artificial feet by which he will be able to walk without the aid of crutches.

Signaller J. W. Brotherhood, of the Leicestershire Regiment, writing from France states that the report in the "Coalville Times" of June 22nd, that his brother, Pte. T. Brotherhood (Whitwick) was wounded and missing is incorrect. He is seriously wounded but is not missing, being in hospital at Boulogne. The report, we may add, was from official sources. Brotherhood adds that the British soldiers are adding to their laurels every day, and disaster in Germany is inevitable. Even the Boches admit now that Germany is cracking up. Brotherhood says he receives the "Coalville Times" every week and finds it a real help.

Private Henry Gadsby of the Leicesters, whose relatives live at Midland Road, Ellistown, was officially reported to be suffering from severe shell-shock in a hospital in France, three weeks ago, since when his friends have heard nothing of him. The vicar, the Rev. F. Boothby is interesting himself in the matter, and has been in communication with the War Office.

HUGGLESCOTE MAN A PRISONER

Mrs Jos. Smith, widow, of 60, Main Street, Hugglescote, on Tuesday received a postcard from her son, Pte. Wm. Smith, of the Highland Light Infantry, who was reported missing on May 1st. He writes from Geferngenenlager Minden, Westphalia, Block 3, Group 3, as follows: *"Dear Mother, Just a few lines to say I am still alive and am being treated fairly well. Make enquiries how to get a parcel through to me. I think they are sent by the British Red Cross Society. Give this address to anyone who wants to write to me. Am allowed to receive any number of letters, but can't send one very often. Let me know how things are looking over there and how Joe and Jack are getting on. Will write again as soon as I can. Bill. Note my new number, 54,597."*

The postcard was dated June 1st, 1917. Before the war Pte. Smith worked at the Ibstock Colliery. All three of Mrs Smith's sons joined the Army early in the war. Joe has been discharged and Jack is at Salonika. A letter received from him last Friday stated that he was well.

LEICESTERSHIRE HEROES

UNVEILING OF A TEMPORARY MEMORIAL

On Thursday afternoon, the temporary memorial to the men of Leicester and the county who have fallen in the war was unveiled in the Municipal Square, Leicester, by the Duke of Rutland, in the presence of a large company. The memorial is in the form of a large curved screen, with a centre panel and two side panels, the concave side towards the fountain. The building is of brick, with a cover of hardened plaster. On the west side there are some two thousand names, on the east side the names are temporarily placed, until they can be remodelled in the same way as those of the other. Over the centre panel is the words, "*Temporary Memorial to Leicester and Leicestershire Men, 1914 – 1917*".

The ceremony was presided over by the Mayor (Ald. J. North) who was supported by the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, the Mayoress, the Bishop of Peterborough, the Bishop of Leicester, Mr H. Goodacre (High Sheriff), the Rev. Dr. Freeman and the Rev. J. D. Carnegie.

An address was delivered by the Bishop of Peterborough, in the course of which he said he ventured to interpret the occasion as a solemn parade of Leicester and Leicestershire men to salute those gallant brothers who had given their lives in the service of their country. Their attention would shortly be directed to a list of over 2,000 names of those who had without hesitation given up all for the service of the empire, not only as it existed today, but in generations to come. He expressed, in the name of the whole of that great assembly, their deep sympathy with the dear ones that they had left behind. The occasion was not only a solemn salute to those who were gone, it was also a solemn re-dedication of ourselves to the cause for which they died. This great struggle was literally an epoch-making contest between the forces of autocracy, on the one hand, and the forces of democracy on the other; it was tyranny versus liberty.

The Mayor said the memorial was to serve as a reminder, "lest we forget", of the devotion to duty and the heroic sacrifice of the Leicester and Leicestershire men who had given their lives in the defence of our liberty and for the maintenance of the honour of our country. In due course, no doubt, a fitting memorial of a permanent character would be provided such as would keep fresh and fragrant the memory of these noble heroes, and serve as an example and inspiration to succeeding generations.

The Duke of Rutland, before the unveiling ceremony, said the number of ships in which Leicester and Leicestershire men were serving which were represented on the memorial, was 33, and the number of regiments 101. The number of names of men serving on ships was 95, and the number of soldiers 2,034, a total of 2,129. The memorial would serve to keep fresh in the memory of every Leicester and Leicestershire man the names of those who first answered the roll-call of their country, and who now had answered the final roll-call. Leicester and Leicestershire men had been serving all over the world, by sea and land, and had done their duty most gallantly, as everyone who had knowledge of Leicestershire men in any regiment would tell them.

After the unveiling, the "Past Post" was sounded.

ELLISTOWN'S FIRST MILITARY MEDALLIST

The first soldier from Ellistown to win the military medal is Pte. W. Hammersley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose wife and child reside on the Ibstock Road. The news is conveyed in a letter written by the soldier to P.C. Culpin. Pte. Hammersley had previously won the Distinguished Conduct Medal. He is a native of Leicester, where his widowed mother resides. He formerly worked at Ellistown Colliery.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED

Mrs Collins and visitors staying at St. Joseph's, Charnwood Forest, entertained a party of wounded soldiers from the Broom Leys Hospital on Wednesday afternoon. Sports and games were arranged, and everyone spent an enjoyable time.

MARKET BOSWORTH POLICE COURT

ROBBED A SOLDIER

Alfred H. Coe (15), shoehand, Earl Shilton, was charged with stealing 2s, the property of Pte. L. Keeton, at Peckleton, on June 13th. Complainant said he was in the Durham Light Infantry, and on the date named was working with some machinery on a farm at Peckleton, having now moved to Nailstone. He left his coat and waistcoat in the stockyard and later missed 2s from his coat pocket. He said he did not wish to be hard on the lad, on account of his mother, adding *"I had a mother once."* P.S. Sanders said defendant admitted taking the money while the soldiers were at work and gave some of it to another lad, but the latter denied this. Defendant's parents had since handed 2s over to witness. Supt. Smith said the defendant was a bad boy. He would not work and encouraged other boys to go about with him. He had previously been charged with stealing a watch and a bicycle. His mother was a respectable woman. The latter pleaded for another chance for the lad who was nearly 16, and then would join the Navy. The Bench put the boy on probation for 12 months.

SOLDIER'S WIFE FINED

Marie Brown, wife of an Ibstock soldier, was summoned for not sending her two children regularly to school. Defendant said the children were ill, and produced a doctor's certificate, but the clerk said that did not refer to the period they were away from school. Hy. Freeman, school attendance officer gave the facts, and the Bench imposed a fine of 5s in each case. She said she owed 6s on the last fine yet. The Bench allowed time to pay.

Page 4

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

SEVERAL IBSTOCK CASES

Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presided at a meeting of the Market Bosworth Tribunal on Tuesday afternoon, when there were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, G. M. Arnold, J. T. Jacques, Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), R. Blower (military secretary) and F. Bouskell (clerk).

In all there were 102 cases, which occupied three hours.

A Sheepy Magna insurance agent, 39, making a personal appeal, said he was rejected in 1916, and passed B1 this year. He was experienced in agricultural work, and was willing to devote three days a week to that. Allowed three months, subject to him doing this.

A farm labourer from Kirkby Mallory, 40, B1, was appealed for by his employer. Applicant said the man was the only one he had on 100 acres. It transpired that the man had only been at the farm work a month, having previously been a groom. He said he was formerly C3, and this was the first time he had been called up. It was suggested that the man might be replaced by a soldier, but a member remarked that there were no good ones left. He had two soldiers on his farm and they could have them. Three months were allowed, subject to the man keeping at his present occupation.

A Desford farmer's son, 30, married, was allowed six months, having stated that he had worked on the farm all his life. The clerk said the man was protected by the recent circular, having worked on the farm before March 31st. Mr Blower remarked if a farm was overstocked a man might be taken, with the approval of the War Agricultural Committee. Mr Eggington said a number of cases would be coming forward of men who had gone into agricultural work to escape military service. The chairman said they would know how to deal with them. The clerk said that under the circular, applicants must have been engaged in agriculture prior to March 31st.

A Newbold Verdon smallholder, 39, married, and passed for general service was allowed conditional exemption so long as he worked on his holding, 34 ½ acres, which he said he had occupied for five years.

An Ibstock miner, 29, passed for general service, stated in his appeal that he had been a miner for 12 months, and before then was a farm bailiff and skilled sheep-shearer. The application, which the clerk said

was out of date, was dismissed. A member remarked that the man went to the pit to evade military service, and now wanted to go to agriculture to do the same.

A Desford licensed victualler, 40, married, passed B1, who also farms 42 acres of land, was allowed six months.

A Ratby hosiery hand, whose case had been adjourned from the last court for a local doctor's certificate, forwarded the certificate stating from what the man suffered, and was not suitable for military service. It was remarked that the man after being rejected, had been passed for general service. Three months, subject to him giving his whole time to agricultural work.

An Ibstock boot and shoe repairer, 36, and a Sheepy wheelwright, 39, were both stated to be in certified occupations, and were each allowed six months.

An Ibstock miner, 36, whose personal appeal was out of date, was stated to have joined up.

A member: *He went into the pit, and now he has got "ripped"*.

The case of a Desford grocer, 40, was adjourned for a month for medical examination.

An Ibstock builder who said he would be 42 next month and had five children under 13 years, was allowed six months.

A fish and fruit dealer, of Markfield, who has a grey beard and looks much more than his age of 41 years, appealed for further exemption. Six months allowed.

A Barlestone coal carter and carrier appealed for his son, aged 18 and single, who assisted him in the business and with twelve acres of land. The appeal was dismissed, but as the youth is assisting in grass cutting, he is not to be called up until August 2nd.

Six months were allowed a Newbold Verdon coal carter and carrier, aged 30, married, with two children. He said he was coal carting four days a week, and the clerk said a coal carter over 25 years of age was in the certified list. If over 31, a carrier was also exempt.

A Shackerstone firm of wheelwrights were allowed 6 months for a C1 wheelmaker, aged 37, and conditional exemption for their painter, aged 39.

An Ibstock builder, joiner, and undertaker, 32, passed for general service, said he was working over 70 hours a week, and was refusing a lot of work. People only had work done that was absolutely necessary, owing to the high prices. *"It gives you a shock when you make the bill out,"* he added, *"let alone those who have to pay."* Mr Eggington said it was very difficult to get work of this kind done. They could not leave a place like Ibstock with only one man to make coffins. Three months allowed.

Similar exemption was granted to a Stapleford blacksmith for his man, 21, married, and passed B2.

A Markfield plumber, 37, C2, who was said to be a very useful man in the district, was allowed six months.

An Ibstock fishmonger, 40, B1, the father of eight children, was allowed six months on giving two days a week to agriculture, and an Ibstock builder and contractor, 42 next October, and who has a son serving, was also allowed six months.

A Market Bosworth builder, 37, general service, Market Bosworth butcher, 34, married, C1, and a Ratby carrier, carter and scavenger, 37, general service, were allowed six months each, the butcher to work two days a week on the land.

The caretaker of the Ibstock Isolation Hospital, appealed on his own account, and Mr Eggington remarked that the committee ought to have lodged the appeal as the man was doing work of national importance. They were unanimous that the man should be retained. He had dug between three and four acres of land at the sewage works, which they could not plough, and it was now under mangolds.

Mr Arnold: *If he doesn't do it, the committee will have to do it* (laughter).

Mr Eggington: *Well, you are a member of the committee and you will have to help.*

Six months allowed.

Similar exemption was granted to a C2 licensed victualler of Shaw Lane, Markfield, who said he suffered from sciatica, but helped on a farm.

In the case of a Stapleton rough-stuff cutter (boot hand) the point was raised that the employer had not appealed. The clerk said that if the man was skilled, he was in a certified occupation and a man was protected by the list whether the employer appealed or not, so long as he was in a certified trade. Mr Eggington said it was not skilled work. The appeal was dismissed. The clerk remarked that in all the domestic appeals, it was remarkable that the men had delicate wives.

The chairman: *We will have to vary our procedure, and see their wives and ask them what their husbands are* (laughter).

An Ibstock builder, formerly of Ellistown, B1, who said he worked mostly for a colliery, was allowed six months.

The representative of an elastic web factory at Ibstock, appealed for a foreman, 29, previously rejected and now passed B1. There were over 60 girls employed, and this was the only skilled man. Six months.

A tea company applied for the manager of their Ibstock branch shop, aged 36, married, and passed for general service. A representative of the firm said there were six girls and two boys taking the place of men serving. The man was a food distributor in a mining district and it was important that miners should be well fed. A member remarked that it was hard on small traders who had to close their businesses and go, and leave these shops going on.

Another member: *To capture their trade.*

The appeal was dismissed, the man not to be called up before August 2nd.

There was a similar application by a grocery firm, for the manager of their Ibstock shop, also 36, general service, and married. In reply to a member, a representative of the firm said that though many of their employees were in khaki, they had not had to close any of their shops. But it was very difficult to carry on. Dismissed, the man not to be called up before August 2nd.

A gardener at the Desford Convalescent Homes, 30, married, C1, was allowed six months. A letter from Surgeon-Major Kelly stated that this was the class of man who on being passed into the army, were filling the wards of the hospitals.

An Ibstock grocer, newsagent and general dealer, 28, C2, was allowed six months on putting in 30 hours per week at agricultural work. He had been working two days a week at Ravenstone Mill, but as others similarly exempted had been putting in three days, the Tribunal made all alike, and decided that in each case the number of hours should be shown.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, appeared for the Ibstock district representative of an insurance company, 31, married, B3, and six months were allowed.

The appeal of a B1 insurance agent, of Sutton Cheney, formerly C3, was not entertained. The clerk said there was no jurisdiction. The man was given two months (final) twelve months ago, but was not called up as he was, until re-examination, C3. The case could not be reopened.

The appeals of a Stapleton clicker, 30, B1, a Market Bosworth chauffeur, 30, general service, and a Ratby hosiery hand, 40, B1, were all dismissed.

B3 AND C3 MEN

THE RECENT INSTRUCTIONS TO RECRUITING OFFICERS

The Local Government Board issues the following announcement:

"There appears to be some misapprehension with regard to an Army Council instruction recently issued as to men in medical categories B3 or C3. The instruction was issued to recruiting officers and directed that for the present, men in the medical categories in question are not to be called up or posted unless they are clerks or are following a trade useful to the Army.

So far as the Tribunals are concerned, they should deal with the cases of men in these medical categories in the ordinary course on their merits in accordance with the directions already issued to them. In any case in which exemption is not justified, and is, therefore refused, the men will be available for the army if they should be required, or may be used as substitutes."

Friday July 13th 1917 (Issue 1323)

Page 1

IBSTOCK

Sergeant John Wm. Henson, 16th King's Royal Rifles, has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished conduct on the field in the recent fighting on the Western Front.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Of 350,000 members of the Church Lads' Brigade who have joined H.M. Forces, five thousand are from Leicestershire?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The military authorities have issued instructions that no soldiers who are engaged on agricultural work are to be withdrawn from the land until further notice. This instruction applies to all the classes of soldiers who have been made available for agricultural work.

We are pleased to hear of the promotion of Mr Maurice Wilson Boot, son of Mr Arthur Boot, of Park Road, Coalville, who has been given a commission in the Royal Flying Corps. Second-Lieutenant Boot, who is 19 years of age, from the commencement of the war till last November was clerk for Captain Stevenson at the Coalville Recruiting Office and he then joined the Artist's Rifles, and was transferred to the Royal Flying Corps in February. He has got through his cadet course and is now at Castle Bromwich, receiving instruction in flying.

A biplane descended in Mr Harris's field near Bardon Hill on Friday, and attracted a large number of spectators. When the airman tried to rise later, he had an accident, and the machine was badly damaged on alighting, though the aeronaut escaped injury. The police took guard over the machine till the evening and during the night members of the Hugglescote V.T.C. were in charge. The damaged biplane was fetched away on a large motor lorry on Saturday.

The Church Lads' Brigades of Leicestershire have a good record in connection with the war, three having won the D.C.M., 8 the Military Medal and one, the Croix de Guerre. Sixteen have become officers, 42 sergeants, and 34 corporals and lance-corporals. The number enlisted from the Hugglescote Company is 49, of whom seven are killed or missing and 12 wounded. One has won the Military Medal. The Ibstock Company is represented by 33, of whom five are killed or missing and six wounded, and one has won the D.C.M.

An interesting event at the Broom Leys V.A.D. War Hospital on Monday night was the presentation to the Matron (Miss Newton) of a gold wristlet watch, subscribed for by the wounded soldiers, resident nurses and a few friends as a token of their good wishes and in appreciation of her services during the six months she has been at the hospital. The matron left for London on Tuesday morning. She has had a very happy time during her stay at the hospital and is grateful to many Coalville friends for the assistance they have given her

in trying to make the wounded soldiers comfortable and happy, particularly the members of the Co-Operative Women's Guild for mending all the linen, and providing cakes for the soldiers' teas on Sundays, and other friends who have given eggs, etc. The presentation was made by one of the soldiers, and Mr B. Morris spoke for the V.A.D. Numerous letters received by the matron from soldiers justify to the good treatment received at Broom Leys and the happy time spent there. In the hearts of many of the wounded soldiers who have been here, Coalville, evidently has a warm place.

LIFE IN PRISONERS CAMP IN GERMANY

ELLISTOWN SOLDIER'S INTERESTING LETTER

Private A. Everett, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, who is a prisoner of war in Germany, in the Friedrichsfeld (bei Wesel) camp, and was formerly an insurance agent at Ellistown, has enclosed in a letter to Mr R. Blower, an open letter to all his Ellistown friends. Writing on June 1st, he states.

"Dear Friends, I feel that I owe you all a debt of gratitude which I shall never be able to repay, and in case you may think I have been ungenerous in not writing to you, I take this medium of stating that we are restricted to writing four postcards and two letters per month, and as I have kind thoughts of you all, and would like to write to you all, you will perceive my difficulty. I have received but few letters this year, and it may be possible that some letters have not reached me. I have not found out the sender of a parcel in November 1916, and hope this acknowledgement will come before the donor. I am receiving parcels from Leicester regularly, and I thank each one for their kindness to me. I often think of you all as I saw you last. I cannot write all that I should like to as letters have to pass the censor. Our life is as the average Englishman makes it, very cheerful, notwithstanding other things too numerous to mention. We have football matches and some of them are very fine ones. Cricket, rounders and tennis are the chief outdoor games. Inside, we have draughts, dominoes and cards for all who care for them, and then some possess music, sometimes very good, but when several instruments are playing different tunes, it is quite a hurdy-gurdy, and the opposition is generally keen. I am pleased to record a new innovation recently commenced in this camp. It is an evening school, and we have some splendid teachers. The chief subjects are, shorthand, book-keeping, building, construction, elementary grammar and arithmetic, and in both courses an advanced class also. Besides this, a poultry keeping class and a general lecture, debate or other interesting subjects on Monday evenings. We also have a church here for the English, Russian and French. I trust ere long I shall be with you, but that is like bottled preserves. I must wait until the cork is drawn. May it be soon. May you all be preserved in the time of danger, difficulty, trouble and anxiety is the sincere wish of A. Everett." Several photographs were also enclosed.

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Varnham presided at a meeting of the Ashby Rural Tribunal on Saturday, when there were also present, the Rev. C. T. Moore, Messrs. A. Riley, J. W. Fowler, F. C. Stevenson, J. T. Bradshaw, J. Rice, Captain Phillimore (military representative), Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Mr W. Baldwin (military secretary) and Mr George Farmer (clerk).

The applications for exemption of two Swannington colliers were not allowed, though in one case it was agreed that the man be not called up before August 1st.

A Measham farm assistant was exempted on medical grounds, and the appeal of a Ravenstone farmer was adjourned for medical examination.

The manager of a Measham boot and shoe business was allowed three months, and a similar period was granted to a Bardon quarryman.

A Swannington butcher, Normanton waggoner and an Appleby farm hand all secured conditional exemption, and an Oakthorpe carter is to be used as a substitute, two months temporary exemption being allowed.

In the case of a Heather printer, it was decided that the man have exemption, conditionally on him being used as a substitute, and a similar result attended the application of a Measham farm bailiff and gardener.

Two months (final) were allowed a Donisthorpe collier, and a Measham plumber was granted till August 7th (final).

A Coleorton farm hand and a Normanton wheelwright were both allowed till October 1st and the case of a Lount pipe hand fettler was adjourned.

The military representative appealed for the withdrawal of the exemption granted to a Ravenstone waggoner, but this was disallowed.

WHITWICK MILITARY MEDALLIST



Private R. C. Whitmore, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who, as reported in our last issue, has been awarded the Military Medal, for his coolness and bravery in the way he worked a Lewis gun at a critical time during a recent attack, is a son of Mr Thomas Whitmore, a collier at the Whitwick Pit, residing at 35, Church Lane, Whitwick. Pte. Whitmore also worked at the Whitwick Colliery before the war. He is 21 years of age, and was formerly drummer for the Whitwick Boy Scouts. He joined the army two years last May and was over on leave last Whitsuntide. It was in his first engagement after returning to France that he performed the deed for which he had been awarded the medal. In a letter written to his parents on June 26th he states, *"I was pleased to receive your letter when we got out of the trenches. I am sending the paper given to me when I was presented with the Military Medal ribbon this morning. I suppose you will be surprised when you know this, but I hardly expected it myself. I just carried out my duty, and I am glad to say that all is well."* Private Whitmore is a nephew of Mrs Tivey, of the Leicester Hotel, Coalville.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mrs Beale of 37, Melbourne Street, Coalville, has now received the official notice of the death of her husband, Pte. George Beale of the Leicestershire Regiment, particulars of which were given in a recent issue. The notice states that the death of Pte. Beale took place on the field, on June 9th, and expresses sympathy with the widow.

(A photograph of Private George Beale appears to the left)

Pte. J. Waterfield (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

The official lists of wounded published on Saturday contained the names of Pte. J. Pears, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, and Lance-Corporal J. Heighton of the London Regiment, both of Whitwick.

Private R. W. Flanagan, well-known in Leicester football circles, and who had a trial with Leicester Fosse, is now at the Base Hospital, badly wounded. He has already undergone one operation and is progressing as well as can be expected. Private Flanagan was struck by a piece of shell between the left hip bone and the groin. He was picked up and carried to the dressing station. There his injuries were classified *"Shrapnel wound, left hip, with septic poisoning, very severe"*.

Official information has been received by Mrs Hibberd, who with her two children, resides at Hall Croft, Shepshed, of the death of her husband, Pte. J. W. Hibberd, Sherwood Foresters, which occurred on July 2nd in a casualty clearing station as a result of gunshot wounds received in action on June 25th. The deceased soldier was 32 years of age. Called up in September of last year, he went to France in the following December. Previous to this he lived at Beeston, where he held a position as groom gardener.

Mrs Bennett, Brook Street, Shepshed, received official news that her eldest son, Private Bernard Bennett, Leicesters, died in a casualty clearing station on July 2nd from gunshot wounds. July 2nd was Private Bennett's 22nd birthday. He belonged to the Shepshed Company of Territorials and would have completed his four years of service next September. Immediately on the outbreak of war he went with his company to train at Luton, and subsequently to France, where he had been for considerably over two years, having been home on leave once, nearly a year ago. He was one of a family of six, the remainder being younger. His

father, Private Uriah Bennett, Leicesters, joined up about two years ago and went to Ireland at the time of the Sinn Fein outbreak. At present he is serving as a stretcher-bearer in France where he went in February last.

The official casualty lists published on Tuesday morning contained the names of Company Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Peach (Shepshed) of the Leicesters, killed in action, and Private S. Richards (Osgathorpe) also of the Leicesters, died of wounds. Among those reported wounded were Pte. E. V. Whyman (Ashby) of the North Staffs Regiment, and Pte. J. H. Worth (Bagworth) of the Durham Light Infantry.

We regret to announce the death of Private George Cooper, who was killed in action on the Western Front on the 3rd inst. Private Cooper was attached to the Lewis gun section, and prior to joining the Colours was in business as a boot and shoe maker, on Leicester Road, Ibstock.

A letter from Sapper Jesse Blakemore, mate of Sapper Isaac Lewis, who was killed in action on the Western Front, on the 19th June, has been received by Mrs Lewis. The writer says their section felt his death very keenly, as he was very much liked by his comrades. He states he had just left Lewis to go on duty, when the Germans suddenly began a bombardment, and he was the first to fall.

Mr and Mrs Ault, of Market Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, have received news that their second son, Sergeant Thomas Ault, Leicesters was shot by a sniper last Sunday. Sergeant Ault belonged to the original Ashby and Coalville Company of the Territorials, and was in camp at Bridlington when the war broke out.

Private Ernest Flamson, of the Leicestershire Regiment, officially reported killed in action, was a brother of Mr W. H. Flamson, of Marsh's Yard, Heather. The deceased soldier was 23 years of age, and joined the army on the outbreak of war, prior to which he was working at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

Mr F. Wheeldon, of Whitwick, who has four sons in the army, has received official notification that two of them have been wounded. Pte. L. Wheeldon was admitted to hospital at St. Omer, on June 8th, suffering from wounds to his thigh (severe) and Pte. F. Wheeldon is in hospital at Rouen with wounds to his left leg, received on June 4th. Both are in the Leicestershire Regiment.

Private Chas. Simpkin, of Hugglescote, reported in our last issue as seriously wounded, is in the King's Royal Rifles, and not the Leicestershire Regiment as stated. In his last letter to his parents, he stated that he was making satisfactory progress.

A long list of wounded Leicesters published yesterday included the names of Ptes. E. Adcock, J. Eaton, L. Smith and A. Walker (Coalville), Ptes. G. Brown, W. Clare and F. M. Radford (Ibstock), W. Hurt, J. Lakin, W. E. Lester and G. H. Wortley (Shepshed).

Pte. W. Grew (Ashby) of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry is reported wounded.

Among those reported suffering from shell-shock are L-Corporal J. H. Gadsby (Ellistown), L-Corporal J. E. Freeman and Pte. L. Mandersfield (Shepshed) and Pte. G. H. Stone (Ashby).

Pte. J. Bradford (Coalville) of the North Staffordshire Regiment is reported as missing.

Pte. H. Kendall (Ashby) of the Lincolnshire Regiment is reported wounded, also Corporal J. H. Ridgeway (Snarestone) and Pte. L. Wheeldon (Whitwick) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Pte. A. Johnson (Breedon-on-the-Hill) of the Machine-Gun Corps.

Unofficial news from comrades has come through to the parents at Belton, of Corporal Wm. Knight, of the Yeomanry, that their son was killed on the night of June 21 – 22. He was 22 years of age, and had been in the Yeomanry for six years. He worked for a time at Coalville before the war. In August 1914 he was mobilised and went with his regiment to the Front the next year and passed through without a scratch or hurt that tragic day in May, 1915. His father, Mr Frank Knight, of Forest View, Belton, has two other sons serving with the Army. From the letters which have been received, young Knight was leading his men back to the trenches after some fighting when a bomb burst near and killed him.

THANKS

Mrs Lewis and family wish to thank all friends who have so kindly expressed sympathy with them in their recent bereavement in the death of Sapper Isaac Lewis, on June 19th last.

Mrs G. Beale (widow), 37, Melbourne Street, Coalville and Mr and Mrs Geo. Beale, (mother and father) desire to tender their sincere thanks to the many friends who have so kindly expressed sympathy with them on the death of Pte. G. Beale of the Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in defence of his country on June 9th, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Lance-Corporal Christopher Fairbrother, died of wounds received in action in France, July 13th, 1916.

*"For home and country our beloved one fell,
But now we trust that all with him is well,
And though war's terrors on the earth increase,
He dwelleth in the Land of perfect peace."*

From sorrowing Father, Mother, Brothers and Sisters and Fiancée, Ravenstone, July 13th, 1917.

Page 4

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

BUTCHER'S CASES AGAIN CONSIDERED

HOW MANY HEART VALVES ARE THERE?

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood and A. J. Briers, with Captain German (military representative) Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr J. Fisher Jesson (clerk).

About 22 cases were dealt with.

A furniture dealer applied for the manager of his Coalville shop, who is 30 years of age, married, and passed C3. Three months allowed, as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, appeared for a Whitwick firm of builders and undertakers in the appeal for one of the two partners, aged 33, married, and passed C1. He said there were originally three partners, and as recently as June 7th one of them was killed in action. The partnership was being re-constructed and it was the intention of the man appealed for to take the agricultural part. At a previous medical examination, the man was totally rejected. Before the war, the firm employed over 40 men and these had been reduced to 14, one of whom was over 70, and two others over 60. There was plenty of work to be done. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

A Coalville architect, 38, married, with one child and passed B1 appealed for further exemption and a member remarked that he was also a tax collector. A military representative remarked that the latter was not a protection. Three months were allowed, Mr McCarthy remarking, *"Before the three months are up, we hope it will all be settled."*

Two months were allowed a Whitwick elastic web firm for a C2 loom turner, it being stated that there were only two practical men to look after machines were 120 girls were employed.

Representing a Coalville grocer and hay and corn dealer in an appeal for his son, single, aged 31 and passed B1, Mr J. J. Sharp urged that an important trade was done in fodder, which was managed by this young man. He also pointed out that at a previous medical examination, the man was suffering from valvular disease of the heart, and if the valves were affected he was not likely to be fit for the army. When Mr Sharp was talking about the valves of the heart, the chairman put the question "How many valves are there?"

Mr Sharp: *Four*

The chairman: (jocosely) *Very good, I thought that would catch you, but it didn't* (laughter).

Applicant's father said he had 11 acres of land, never kept less than four horses, and in the winter often kept half-a-dozen beasts and as many pigs. One month was allowed.

A Coalville "combed out" collier, working as a shovelman shifter at the South Leicestershire Colliery, again appeared before the Tribunal. His case had been adjourned for a further medical examination and he had again been passed for general service. He said they told him that 17 week's rheumatic fever was nothing. "Didn't they examine you?" he was asked. "Yes, in a form," replied applicant. Answering another question he said they were not the same doctors who examined him this time as before. "Did they use a stethoscope on you?" "Yes, but I don't think the decision was right." Proceeding, applicant said he was 36 years of age and had two children. He formerly worked at Stableford's but left in 1915 through a shortage of work. "Or was it to get more money?" asked a member. Applicant said there was not more than a shilling a week in it. He said he also represented a boots and drapery firm in his spare time, and had a considerable amount of money out in his name. One month (final) allowed.

The cases of four Whitwick butchers were all taken together. They are all married and the ages and categories, 29, B2; 23, C2; 39, general service; and 40, C1. In regard to the two latter, a Whitwick lady butcher wrote that they were assisting her in her business as only butchers could, doing the buying, killing and helping her on her country round, and but for their help she would have to close the business. The chairman said they previously considered these cases very fully, and concluded that these men were doing work of national importance, and were essential in supplying the public needs. Two months allowed.

Five Coalville butchers (three employed by the Co-Operative Society) and one at Hugglescote were granted similar exemption. All are married, and the other particulars are as follows: 37, general service; 32, C1; 36, C1; 39, general service; 25, B2 and 37, C3. It was stated the exemptions were on the same conditions as before – that the men help in keeping the businesses going of men who had gone.

The Tribunal decided that they had no jurisdiction in the case of a Donington farmer's appeal for a single man, 21, employed at the Ibstock Colliery passed for general service, and who assists on the farm. It was stated to be a "combed out" case, and the farmer was not the real employer.

A Hugglescote lady appealed for her son, 18, general service, working as a colliery banksman. She said her husband was ill, and the lad was their chief support. The young man himself was not strong, and was not allowed by the manager to go into the mine on that account. It was stated that the woman had had two sons killed in the war – one recently.

The chairman: *Then she has suffered.*

Mr Blower: *And the daughter's husband is in France.*

Mr McCarthy said it was only right they should take it into account when families had done so much. Three months allowed.

A "combed out" Snibston collier, 31, passed for general service, married, with three children said he worked in the pit before the war and since and was a practical miner, but came out owing to his health. He produced a local doctor's certificate to the effect that he was suffering from rheumatism and dyspepsia. One month allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society were allowed one month each for a bread deliverer, 32, married, B2, and the manager of the ready-made clothing and outfitting department, 26, married, B1. Mr Lockwood said both men were previously rejected. In regard to the outfitter's manager a substitute was suggested, but the military secretary said this was classed as a non-essential trade, and a substitute would not be allowed.

A Coalville cycle dealer appealed for his assistant, aged 19, and passed C1, remarking that in Germany they were keeping all the cycle repairers at home. "How did you get to know that?" asked the chairman. Applicant said it came through trade sources. Mr McCarthy remarked that the Kaiser and his men would want all the bicycles they could get to run away. One month allowed.

An Ellistown application to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. was refused.

ASHBY

Memorial Service for men who have lost their lives in the war was held in connection with the sung Eucharist at the Ashby Parish Church on Sunday morning. Suitable hymns were sung.

Friday July 20th 1917 (Issue 1324)

Page 1

NOTICE

MR ALBERT JOHNSON

(having been called to the Colours) wishes to inform the residents of Coalville, Hugglescote, Ellistown, Battram and Swannington districts that he will cease to call with his drays after Saturday, July 21st, 1917, and is closing down his business for the period of hostilities. He wishes to give his sincere thanks for their patronage and help in making his fruit business a growing success. At the close of the war, Mr Johnson hopes to be able to carry on his trade with the same and customary keenness in making his standard of satisfaction appreciated by all. All debts due to him will be collected by his appointed collector, and all business transactions will cease from July 21st, 1917.

(Signed) Albert N. Johnson
16, Jackson Street, Coalville.

DESFORD INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

OLD BOY'S BEQUEST

On Saturday, Mr Oxley, the Superintendent of the Desford Industrial School, received a cheque for £80, half of which has been left, by will, to the school by an old boy named Frederick Bacon, who was assisted by the school to Canada. After working there successfully as a baker, he joined the 1st Canadian Contingent of the Expeditionary Force, and was killed in France in July, 1916.

During the war two old boys have obtained commissions on the field; others are cadets. Three have gained the D.C.M., and one the Military Medal. Thirty-eight have been killed, and nine have been made prisoners.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The King has adopted for his House and Family the name of Windsor?

The question of forming a Coalville squadron of the Leicestershire Motor Volunteer Corps has been further postponed?

Arrangements are being made for a big patriotic demonstration at Coalville, on Saturday, August 4th, the third anniversary of the declaration of war?

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mr and Mrs Thomas Tugby, of 90, Highfields Street, Coalville, on Sunday received a letter from the War Office intimating that their son, Private John William Tugby, of the Leicestershire Regiment who was posted as missing on September 25th, 1916, was now concluded to have been killed in action on that date or since. He was a single man, 24 years of age, and was formerly employed by Messrs. W. Moss and Son, builders, with whom he served his apprenticeship as a bricklayer. He was a Belvoir Road School old boy, and a popular member of the Coalville Y.M.C.A., being held in the highest esteem by all his associates. He joined up on August 15th, 1914, a few days after the declaration of war, and went to France in July, 1915. The deceased's father is also a bricklayer by trade, and worked for Messrs. W. Moss and Son for 32 years, but for over two years he has been incapacitated through ill-health.



Private P. Thornton (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported missing.

Pte. Albert Leonard James, formerly of Loughborough, was killed in action on June 8th. He was the son of Mr E. W. James of 79, Storer Road, Loughborough, and was apprenticed to Mr W. Castle, pianoforte dealer, leaving some 11 years ago to settle in British Colombia. In October 1915, he joined the Canadian Forces and went to France last February. A letter has been received from his captain, stating that Pte. James took part in an engagement on June 8th and was killed instantly by a shell. The writer added that *"he was a good brave soldier, and one we could ill afford to lose."* The deceased soldier was 37 years of age, and leaves a widow, who is a native of Coalville, and two sons in Kerrisdale, Vancouver.



Sapper Isaac Lewis of Ibstock. Reported killed in action on the Western Front, on the 19th June.

(A photograph of Sapper Isaac Lewis appears to the left)

Gunner W. Summerfield (Bardon Hill) of the Royal Garrison Artillery is reported wounded, also Sergeant J. R. Wright (Thornton) of the Machine Gun Corps.

Pte. J. H. Betts (Whitwick) of the York and Lancaster Regiment is reported wounded.

Acting-Corporal J. D. Harrington (Shepshed) of the Leicestershire Regiment previously reported missing, is now stated to be a prisoner of war.

Regimental-Quartermaster-Sergeant A. Cave of the Leicestershire Regiment, has had the misfortune to break his wrist in France by a fall from his horse, and is now in hospital in Birkenhead. He has been over two years at the Front. Before the war he was employed by Messrs. Hart and Levy of Leicester, and his parents, Mr and Mrs A. Cave, reside at 7 Guthlaxton Street, Leicester. He is a nephew of Messrs. C. E. and D. Marston, of Coalville.

The casualty lists published on Saturday contained the name of Private W. Dalby (Osgathorpe) of the Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action and among the wounded was that of Private J. White (Thringstone).

Mr and Mrs Turner of the Lodge, Gracedieu, have now been officially notified of the death of their son, Alec. The report received from the Admiralty some weeks ago was that his ship had been sunk, and his name did not appear in the list of survivors. The authorities have now assumed his death. The deceased was on the threshold of a promising career in the teaching profession. He was very successful as a student at the Ashby Grammar School, and was a pupil teacher at the Coalville Bridge Road Council School, before he joined the Navy and became a wireless operator. His father is a gardener to Mrs Booth, of Gracedieu Manor. A memorial service for the deceased is to be held at the Thringstone Parish Church on Sunday next.

IBSTOCK MILITARY MEDALLIST



Sergeant John William Henson, 16th King's Royal Rifles, has been awarded the Military Medal, for distinguished conduct on the field in the recent fighting on the Western Front.

(A photograph of Sergeant John William Henson appears to the left)

LEICESTER JOURNALIST RECEIVES A COMMISSION

A former Leicester journalist, Sergeant F. C. McQuilkin, Leicestershire Regiment, formerly chief reporter on the "Leicester Advertiser" has been granted a commission in the Royal Marine Light Infantry.

HINCKLEY PRIVATE RISES TO MAJOR

Captain W. R. T. Whatmore, son of Mr and Mrs C. A. Whatmore, of the High School, Hinckley, has been promoted to the rank of Major. As a private, Major Whatmore enlisted in the Leicesters in October 1914. He has since been on active service in France. Major Whatmore is now at Aldershot on a senior officer's course. He is only 24 years of age.

A COALVILLE DENTIST'S BUSINESS

At the Leicester Borough Tribunal on Tuesday, a registered dentist applied for the removal of exemption for his son, who assisted him as a dentist and mechanic. His other son was a surgeon-dentist in the Army, and they, between them, were keeping his business open at Coalville. The son now applied for was married, and had two children, and was chiefly employed at the Leicester office. Since the last time of application he had been under the doctor for heart trouble, and also had a tubercle knee. Three months were given.

IBSTOCK OFFICER WINS MILITARY CROSS

Lieutenant Alfred Thomas Eggington, of the Royal Engineers will have the hearty congratulations of many friends in the Ibstock district on having been awarded the Military Medal, news of which was received by his father, Mr W. Eggington, J.P. of The Hawthorns, Ibstock, a day or two ago. The gallant officer has been in France over two years, and had previously been mentioned in dispatches. He was recently wounded in action. He is Mr Eggington's youngest son, 28 years of age, and single. As a student he had a very distinguished career at the Market Bosworth Grammar School, and when war broke out he was science master at Great Marley Grammar School. His scientific knowledge has enabled him to render excellent service with the Engineers on the Western Front.

ANOTHER COALVILLE MILITARY MEDALLIST

SIXTH BELVOIR ROAD SCHOOL "OLD BOY"

News has been received that Corporal Horace Hing, formerly of Coalville, now serving with the Canadian Forces in France, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. He is a Belvoir Road School "old boy" and makes the sixth from this school to have been similarly honoured.

Corporal Hing was formerly a fireman on the Midland Railway at Coalville but left the town some years ago for Canada. He joined up soon after the war broke out and came over with the first Canadian contingent, going to France two years last February. He is a son of Mr George Hing, of Barnsley, formerly a fitter at Messrs. Wootton Bros' engineering works, where his brother, Mr T. Hing, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, is employed. In his younger days, Corporal Horace Hing acted as organist at the London Road Baptist School.

ELLISTOWN MILITARY MEDALLIST

Private T. Andrews, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who before the war resided at Ellistown, and whose wife and child are now living at Hugglescote, has been awarded the Military Medal. The official account states:

"At Fosse 3 De Lievin (S.W. of Lens) on the night 8/9th June, 1917, when the left of the battalion was held up by heavy machine gun and trench mortar barrage, this man went forward and carried out some extremely good patrol work, reporting on the positions of the enemy posts. During this week he brought in, under fire, a sergeant who had been badly wounded. Later, when this man's own company was held up, he, on his own initiative, made a sniper's post in the top of a house, and himself killed several of the enemy. On previous occasions this man has shown great coolness under fire and great initiative."

Writing in reference to the above to Mrs L. L. Baldwin, secretary to the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild, the gallant soldier thanks the ladies of Coalville for cigarettes and socks received. He continues, *"We are having a nice time and the weather is 'bon'. We are still keeping the old flag flying."*

Private Andrews also mentions the "Coalville Times" which he likes to receive and gives the names of several comrades who are wanting socks.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear son, William Ducksbury, who was killed in action, on the 14th July, 1916.

"He went as a volunteer on the 2nd of September, 1914, to fight for his King and Country, but not his fortune to return to his loving parents. His earthly father and mother could not answer his last call, so his Heavenly Father and Mother called him Home."

God bless him and all our fallen Heroes. From his ever loving Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers.

Page 4

THREE PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM DONINGTON HALL

During Saturday night, three officer prisoners, (two Germans and one Austrian) escaped from Donington Hall. Search parties were sent out. The descriptions of the escaped men issued by the Commandant of the camp, are as follows.

Karl Spindler (German naval officer), age 30, 5ft 11in, fresh complexion, dark hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, rather stout build. Dressed in civilian clothes. Speaks English.

Max Ernest Winkelmann (German naval officer) age 23, 5ft 10in, very fair complexion, dark brown hair, brown eyes, slim build. Jaw broken, scar each side, same owing to bullet wound, mouth slightly twisted. Dressed in civilian clothes. Speaks English.

Arped Horn (Austrian military officer), age 28, 5ft 6½in, fair complexion, very tanned, dark hair, dark brown eyes, short stubby moustache, stoutish build, has mole back of one ear. Is of very excitable nature; dapper sort of man. Dressed in civilian clothes. Speaks good English.

THE GERMANS RECAPTURED AT NOTTINGHAM

The two Germans were captured before 7 o'clock on Monday morning. The abrupt termination of their escapade was due to the sagacity and careful observation of P.C. Hubbard, who was on duty near the Wilford Bridge, when he saw two men whose military carriage attracted his attention. The constable had read the description of the missing prisoners of war, and remembering that this suggested the possibility that they might be wearing civilian clothes, he kept observation on them. Eventually they sat down on a seat in Queen's Walk, opposite the Great Central Railway, and the officer then went to them and asked for their registration cards. One of them replied in excellent English that they had no papers.

"You are Karl Spindler and Max Winkelman, from Donington Hall," hazarded the constable, and both at once admitted their identity. Subsequently they told the police that they would not have come so near the town, but wanted water to drink. Since they escaped, they had had to make the best of water from the Trent.

The police officer immediately took them to the Queen's Walk Police Station, close to, and there they were given a drink of water, which they appeared badly in need of. They were tired, and worn out, and did not seem to regret that their adventure had come to an end. They, however, stolidly declined to give any information as to where they had been or as to how they made their escape. Both were wearing civilian clothes, one having a leather waistcoat, and this it is surmised, had in some mysterious manner been conveyed to them in their quarters at Donington Hall, where their uniforms, which they were compelled to wear there, were found after their escape.

They had in their possession between £3 and £4, and in addition were each carrying a compass and a map of the English coast. Winkelman had been over in a Zeppelin and appeared to be remarkably well-informed as to the geography of this country. Spindler was taken prisoner on the Western Front.

When before Mr A. H. Franks and Mr A. Eberlin at the Guildhall later on Monday, the proceedings were merely formal, and they were handed over to the military authorities. A military escort, consisting of an officer and four armed soldiers took the prisoners back to Donington Hall on Monday afternoon, motor conveying them to the Midland Station.

The Austrian was recaptured in London, on Wednesday.

Friday July 27th 1917 (Issue 1325)

Page 1

MILITARY MEDAL FOR PACKINGTON SOLDIER

Lance-Corporal H. W. Stone, aged 22, whose parents reside at Packington, has been awarded the Military Medal. He was in charge of a Lewis gun during an attack on the night of 8th – 9th June, when the flank of the attacking company became exposed, and the right had to withdraw. He, together with Private Whitmore, held on and covered the withdrawal of the company with their two guns. Later, the two men both withdrew, one gun covering the other as they did so. Both guns were brought back safely, and caused the enemy very many casualties. Lance-Corporal Stone showed great courage and initiative, and was recommended for immediate reward. He enlisted in the Leicesters at the commencement of the war, and had been in France over two years. He has been once wounded.

Private Whitmore, referred to above, is a Whitwick man, and the award of the medal to him was announced in a recent issue of this paper.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

With the object of forming a local branch of the Discharged Soldiers' and Sailors' Association, all discharged soldiers and sailors in this district are invited by the Coalville and District Trades Council to their meeting at the Royal Oak Inn, on Monday, August 13th, at 7.30?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

An announcement appears in "Irish Society and Social Review" that a marriage has been arranged and will take place this month between Lieut. John Shields, R.F.A., eldest son of Mr John Giles Shields, J.P., C.C., and Mrs Shields of the Manor House, Isley Walton, Derby, and Miss Eva Geraldine, eldest daughter of Mr Alexander Fitzgerald Cornelius and Mrs Cornelius, of Ballytarsna House, Borris-in-Ossory, Ireland. Lieut. Shields who volunteered for service at the beginning of the war, captained the Leicestershire County Cricket Club. He is a very popular personality, especially on the Ashby side of the county, where his father, as a leading agriculturist and large employer of labour in a local industry, as well as estate agent for Lord Donington's exors, has occupied a prominent position in public life for many years.

Under the stress of war-time, it has been found necessary to further curtail postal facilities at Hugglescote. Commencing on Monday last, the morning despatch, and the afternoon delivery of letters and parcels was suspended. The evening collection from the Donington-le-Heath wall box will be 6.45 instead of 4.55.

COALVILLE OFFICER'S BRAVERY

DEED WHICH WON HIM THE MILITARY CROSS

As announced a short time ago, Captain F. Scott, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was the first Coalville officer to win the Military Cross. The official account of the deed which gained for him this honour has just been published, and runs as follows.

"For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. Although badly shaken by a bursting shell, he collected 30 men and dug himself in, in a forward position, holding it under heavy fire for a day and night. He was wounded, but refused attention until he had withdrawn his party."

At this time, the gallant officer was acting in the capacity of temporary lieutenant. He has since been promoted to a captaincy. He is one of the three soldier sons (one killed in action) of Mr W. V. Scott, L and N.W. Stationmaster at Coalville, the popular Superintendent of the Coalville Ambulance Brigade, and one of the commandants of the Coalville V.A.D.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



The death is confirmed of Lance-Corporal R. J. Brown, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who was killed in action on the Western Front on June 15th. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Isaac Brown, of Stanton-under-Bardon, and before the war worked at the Ellistown Colliery. Writing to the deceased's mother, Lieutenant R. F. Smyth says, *"I am deeply sorry to have to inform you of the death of your son, 16743 Lance-Corporal R. J. Brown. He and several others were sleeping in a dug-out on the morning of the 15th when a German shell fell among them with fatal results. We, everyone in the company, and all others who knew him, feel his loss very greatly, and we wish to offer you our deep sympathy. He was an exceptionally good soldier and in the important post of being in charge of a Lewis gun team, he proved of great value, and rendered fine service on many occasions. I hope it will be of some consolation to you to know that he could not have suffered any pain. With renewed condolences."* etc

Private S. T. Ottey (Ibstock) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported wounded.

Privates E. Bailey (Shepshed), R. P. Foster (Ibstock), and G. H. Robey (Ashby) all of the Leicesters, have been wounded.

Corporal A. E. Booth (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported missing.

Pte. C. E. Timson (Coalville) of the Cheshire Regiment is reported killed in action.

Two Heather soldiers, Lance-Corporal A. Brooks and Pte. H. W. Grewcock, also Pte. G. Dakin (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment are all reported to have died of wounds.

A list of wounded published on Monday contained the names of Sapper J. Smith (Ibstock) of the Royal Engineers and Private J. Parker (Shepshed) of the Machine Gun Corps.

Pte. F. M. Hall (Ashby) of the Hon. Artillery Company, previously reported wounded and missing, and Lance-Sergeant W. E. Corbett (Shepshed) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported missing, are now both stated to be prisoner of war.

After having been missing since September 15th, 1916, Lance-Corporal Alfred Dale, of the Leicestershire Regiment, is now concluded to have been killed on that date or since. Notice to this effect from the War Office has been received by the soldier's parents, Mr and Mrs Thomas Dale, of 27, Victoria Road, Coalville. Deceased was only 20 years of age, and had two birthdays in the trenches. He joined up when war broke out, prior to which he was working at the South Leicestershire Colliery. He used to play outside right for Coalville Swifts F.C. and was a very promising forward.

In a long list of wounded Leicesters, published on Friday, appeared the names of Private Armston (Ibstock) Sergeant T. Needham, Corporal L. Briers, Corporal A. Stocks, Lance-Corporal J. L. Whitworth, Privates J. W. Bailey, A. E. West, J. E. Davie, and G. H. Scarcliffe (all of Shepshed), Private W. Bradbury, W. A. Hickin and Corporal F. Hart (all of Breedon-on-the-Hill), Pte. S. Brown (Ellistown), Pte. T. Causon (Barlestone), Ptes. G. H. Hazelgrave and J. W. Locke (Coalville), Ptes. A. Harley, J. W. Tugby and E. F. Griffin (Whitwick), Corporal J. W. Hickling (Belton) and Pte. S. Summers (Hugglescote).

The death of Private George Dakin, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been notified by the Army Authorities to his widow, who resides at 51, Oxford Street, Coalville, the notice stating that he died on June 21st from wounds caused by gas. The deceased was 36 years of age, and immediately before joining the Army in the early stages of the war, was working at the Snibston Colliery, though for many years he was employed in the Ellistown pit. He was a popular local cricketer, having acted as wicket-keeper for the Coalville Town Cricket Club. His widow is left with two children, aged seven and five years. June 24th, three days after he died, would have been his birthday, and his wife sent him a birthday parcel which, alas, he never received.

In writing to inform Mrs Dakin that the parcel was divided among deceased's friends, Pte. J. W. Wright, of the same platoon, says, *"I am very sorry for you in your great loss. Your husband was a very good friend to me, and I am sure all in the platoon sympathises with you. I gave the parcel to the boys, and hope you will not mind. I am sorry he was not here to receive it."* The day after his death the widow received a letter from her husband, written about three days before, stating that he was then alright. He was in the trenches, and was hoping soon to come out for a rest.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT GIBBS WOUNDED

2nd-Lieutenant W. H. H. Gibbs, of the Army Service Corps, wounded in the arm on July 16th, is the fifth son of Mr and Mrs H. H. Gibbs of Shepshed, whose six sons are all in the Army. Two have been wounded and one "gassed."

AUSTRIAN FUGITIVE

STORY OF A BREAKFAST AT A NOTTINGHAM HOTEL

Lieut. Arped Horn, the Austrian army officer recaptured at the Golden Cross Hotel, Strand, on Wednesday evening last week, was sent back to Donington Hall on Thursday after spending in London what he described as three very good days and nights.

It is now known that Horn called at a commercial hotel in the Meadows, Nottingham at six o'clock on Saturday morning. He was well-dressed and spoke and behaved like a gentleman. He said he had met with a motor accident and would be glad of the privilege of a bath. He had his bath and then sat down to breakfast. He did not display much keenness for food, but he drank his tea off rapidly, which goes to prove the truth of the story told by the other fugitives that since they broke away from Donington Hall they had suffered greatly from thirst which they had to quench at intervals by the waters of the Trent.

The runaway gave the name of Hardcastle, he was an American born, and was an American consul. And to this effect he filled up his registration form. He asked after the train service to London, and would be much obliged if the landlady would look up the trains for him. The good lady mentioned the 8.25 Midland. Yes, that would do nicely. He paid his bill and walked off, the landlady, of course, not knowing who he was, wishing him *"better luck."*

According to the "Daily Mail" Horn had at the time of his recapture a complete change of underlinen, and what is usual with Austrian and German officers, a collection of face creams, powders and the like. On his own admission, he had come to London to visit old friends. Horn is well-acquainted with the West End, and boasted that he could have lived there for years undetected if he had had money enough. When arrested he was nearly at the end of his money, and probably there is truth in his statement that was not at all sorry to be caught.

At Bow Street Police Station, however, he protested long and bitterly against the "indignity" of being thrust into a cell. He has the idea of the German and Austrian officer that he is altogether superior to the common herd. England, he said, does not understand what the word "officer" means.

THANKS

Mrs Herbert Briers, widow, Ivy Cottage, Church Lane, Whitwick, desires to tender her sincere thanks to the many friends who have so kindly expressed sympathy with her through the loss of her husband, Sapper Herbert Briers, killed in action, June 7th, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Lance-Sergeant Ambrose Harold Attwood (King's Royal Rifle Corps) the beloved son of William and Martha Attwood, of South Elmsall, Yorkshire, who fell in action while serving his country in France, on June 27th, 1916. Age 21 years.

*"He sleeps not in his native land,
But 'neath some foreign skies;
And far from those who loved him best,
In a hero's grave he lies.
For many years our family chain
Was closely linked together,
But, Oh! That chain is broken now,
One link is gone for ever."*

From Mother, Father, Brothers and Sisters.

In loving memory of Ernest Cyril Briers, 1st Coldstream Guards, killed in action July 29th, 1915.

"Duty, Nobly Done"

From Aunt, Uncle and Cousins

Page 4

ASHBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL CADETS

INSPECTION BY COLONEL HARVEY

Colonel Harvey, V.O., D.L., commanding the 1st Leicestershire Cadet Battalion, visited Ashby on Wednesday and made an inspection of the cadets of the Ashby Grammar School. Unfortunately, the wet weather caused the proceedings to be somewhat curtailed.

The boys assembled on the lawn at the Grammar School House, and then marched to the parade ground where they went through a series of evolutions in a very smart manner. After the march past two presentations were made. The section cup, given by Mr Clarke, of Nottingham, for shooting, had been won

by Section 4 and on their behalf, Corporal Harledge received the trophy at the hands of Mrs Elliott. The individual cup, given by Mr Dickinson, of Linton, had been won by Cadet Pratt, and was presented to him by Miss Elliott.

Col. Harvey congratulated the boys, not only on their performance that day, but on the progress made during the last two years. At the same time, they were not to get the idea that they were absolutely perfect, as there was no such thing in military training. Referring to the review at Leicester, a few weeks ago, he said they would be pleased to hear that the Duke of Rutland expressed himself very much satisfied with the progress made. He (the Colonel) emphasised the importance of the Cadet movement, and said that school's record in the war was one to be proud of. Many of the old boys had gained commissions, ten had lost their lives, and others were either missing or prisoners of war.

Captain Elliott acknowledged the work of Lieutenant Underwood in training the boys during the last two years, latterly with the co-operation of Lieut. Elliott, and thanked Colonel Harvey, Captain Forsell and the company, who by their presence, showed their interest in the Cadet movement. Before being dismissed, the boys gave three cheers for Colonel Harvey.

LEICESTER POLICEMAN KILLED

Company Sergeant-Major Alfred Osborn, of the Leicesters, who before the war was a member of the Leicester Borough Police Force, has been killed in action at the age of 25 years. Deceased, a son of Mr and Mrs W. Osborn of Fenny Drayton, was one of the first of Leicester's policemen to offer his services, and went to France in October 1915. After being in France 19 months he came home in May last, and had not long been back in the firing line when he was shot through the head by a sniper. Letters which have been received by the family state that Sergeant-Major Osborn was highly popular with the men of the battalion, and was always ready to consider the safety and comfort of the men rather than his own. Deceased was for many years a bellringer at Fenny Drayton church. He is the second son Mr and Mrs Osborn have lost in the war, the first being killed in the attempt to relieve Kut in April, 1916. Two other sons are serving, one of whom has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in France in June last. The Chief Constable of Leicester has sent Mr and Mrs Osborn a letter expressing his sympathy with them in their bereavement.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

MILITARY ABSENTEE

Harry Victor Surman, clerk, Donisthorpe, was charged with being a military absentee since July 16th. P.C. Drury said he asked the defendant for his exemption papers, and he admitted that he hadn't any. He said he was a conscientious objector. Witness added that defendant's appeal to the Tribunal had been dismissed, and he should have reported on the 16th. Defendant said he was a theological student. He had been studying at the Hartley College, Manchester, for the Primitive Methodist ministry. He went on, "*I have been called by God to devote my life to Him.*" The clerk (interposing) "*The magistrates can't deal with that question at all. It is whether you are an absentee. The other is a question for the Tribunal, and they turned it down.*" Defendant was remanded to await an escort.

Friday August 3rd 1917 (Issue 1326)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

A great patriotic demonstration is to be held in Coalville tomorrow?

Mr John Kirby has been appointed a member of the Coalville Tribunal?

Private W. Lawrence, of Thringstone, has written home to his friends, who had been waiting anxiously for news of his many weeks, stating that he is a prisoner of war?

The Rev. E. W. J. Crane, formerly of Thringstone, and brother of Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, Coalville, has sailed for Egypt to take part in the work of the Church Army among the forces?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Saturday was observed as a "flag day" in Coalville in connection with the fund for disabled soldiers and sailors. It was understood that all the money raised would be ear-marked for local men. Mrs B. G. Hale again ably carried out the arrangements, with numerous lady helpers and the amount realised was over £50.

Writing from France, Drummer Hammonds, of the Leicestershire Regiment says he gets the "Coalville Times" every week, and was pleased to notice in the "Chit Chat" of a recent issue that Mr R. Blower and Mr W. Baldwin had received Commissions in the Army. He goes on, *"I congratulate them and hope their promotion will be rapid, as I know that both gentlemen have done their utmost in Government work and for recruiting. A lot of Coalville lads are here, and they all join in congratulations to the two gentlemen named. I am very pleased to tell you that the Coalville boys are in the best of health at present and are all very happy. We should like to thank the Coalville and district people connected with the Comforts Guild and to all send our best wishes."*

The Rev. W. H. Wills, pastor of the Coalville Ebenezer Baptist Church, now on Y.M.C.A. work with the forces in France, writes asking us to intimate through our columns that friends who have been in the habit of sending him weekly papers for the soldiers should now post them to him addressed *"Y.M.C.A., A.P.O., S.A., B.E.F., instead of A.P.O., S.11"*, as he moved from there last Saturday morning to go nearer the trenches to take charge of the work there. He adds *"I should be intensely grateful for a continuance of this service, for the boys come to me regularly here, and ask for the papers, and I hope to be able to hand them to the boys in the actual firing lines within a few days now. You will be pleased and interested to know that I have had a most wonderful time out here with the boys, as I am hoping to spend the next ten weeks somewhere near the Leicesters, where I hope to meet many I know. I look for the "Times" every week. It's good to get the news of home. I hope to be home somewhere about the 20th of October."*

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

EXEMPTED MEN MUST DRILL

OR MAY BE FETCHED FROM THEIR HOMES

The Coalville Tribunal met on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, Captain G. J. German (military representative), Lieutenant R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr Taylor (clerk).

A Coalville building firm appealed for a joiner, 36, married, passed B1 after previous rejection. It was stated that the man was working 66 hours per week, all on war work and he was the only joiner left under military age. The work at present in hand would last till November. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

The Coalville Urban Council surveyor applied for a stores clerk, formerly C3 and now B1. It was stated that one appeal had been dismissed by the Tribunal and the man would have been in the Army now had they wanted C3 men. The appeal was, therefore, out of order. Mr Lockwood asked whether there was not right of appeal on the new classification. The military secretary said that only applied to a rejected man. The Tribunal decided that they had no jurisdiction, the claim being out of order.

Two months were allowed an Ellistown dairyman, farmer and carter, for his son, aged 26, married, who manages a milk round.

A Hugglescote building firm asked for conditional exemption for a wood machinist, B1, who was said to be most essential to the business. More men had gone since the last appeal and it was getting serious for the firm. It was stated that a builder could not get timber unless on urgent national work. The Advisory Committee did not assent. Two months allowed.

A Whitwick lady appealed for her coachman and gardener, who is also electrician and manages the water supply. The man was stated to be married, 40 years of age, and passed B1. One month allowed (final).

Two months were granted in the case of the caretaker of the Coalville Grammar School, 39, passed B2 and formerly C3, while he continues working at the local waggon works, and to a Hugglescote painter's man, 34, married, C1, who was stated to be the only man left out of seven.

A Coalville loom-making firm applied for a shuttle-maker, 23, single, passed C2, formerly rejected. They were on work of national importance. Applicant was told that he should take steps to get the man protected. One month allowed.

The case of a clerk at a Whitwick factory, raised by the military representative, was adjourned to the next meeting, fresh notices to be served.

The operator at Whitwick Picture House, aged 30, passed B1, formerly rejected, asked for exemption while he trained a young lady, and was allowed one month (final).

Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for a bakery warehouseman, 40, married, and passed B2. Two months.

Three months were allowed the Coalville branch manager of an insurance company, who is 36 years of age, and passed C3.

Another appeal by the Coalville Co-Operative Society was for a bread deliverer, aged 40, and passed for general service. Mr Lockwood said the man was formerly placed C3, so he had had considerable promotion. Two local doctors' certificates, which he read, did not suggest that he was fit for general service. The man was married, with one child, and had three brothers serving in the Army. Two months allowed.

Similar exemption was granted to a Coalville master butcher, 33, married, passed C3.

A Coalville architect asked to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. owing to being engaged at night in connection with the collection of income tax. It was remarked that to excuse him would not be fair to the other men, who were working quite as hard. The matter was adjourned for a fortnight, the applicant to appear in person to support his application.

A similar letter was received from a Coalville boot and shoe repairer, who said he had no time to drill. He had seven children under 15 and his wife and ill in bed. Besides his business, he had a large garden. He was excused for one month.

Captain German said the Commandant of the Coalville and Hugglescote V.T.C. wished the Tribunal to intimate that exempted men who did not fulfil the condition of drilling would have their cases reviewed, and that the Press be asked to make a note of it. Mr Lockwood said that Captain German had power to ask for the review of any case. That would be sufficient. The Tribunal concurred.

Captain German: *We have the power to fetch them. We could send a squad to fetch them from their houses and deal with them just the same as if they were in the Army. We don't want to do that, but we have the power.*

Mr F. Griffin, chairman of the Coalville Urban Council, wrote inviting the members of the Tribunal to take part in a patriotic demonstration to be held at Coalville on Saturday, and it was agreed to do so.

WHITWICK MAN IN CANADA

HIS SON'S EXPERIENCES AT VIMY RIDGE

Writing to a Coalville friend, Mr Owen Watson, a former well-known resident of Whitwick, and now of Reist, Alta, Canada, says, *"After seven years I am still toiling on and am fairly well, but for the old screws (rheumatics). I am farming 640 acres of land and now the boy is at the war it is no picnic, but the thought of doing my bit to help win the war in some comfort. At the same time, I wish it was done with and that there was peace in every land and true brotherhood. I had 90 acres of crops swept clean out by the hailstorms last year, but I have 185 acres in again this year, and all is looking good. About 150 acres of that is wheat, so if it comes through alright it will find bread for a few. I hope to have another 160 acres of land, which I am getting from the Government, broken up this summer. The Food Controller does not worry us much yet out here, as*

we raise most of our own food except sugar, and the like. But what we can't get, we do without and still keep smiling. I would like to join you all for a change and spend at least one Sunday in Old England, as I don't get a chance to go to chapel out here. We have a Sunday School, with meetings in the homes, and I have the honour to teach, often going eight miles to do so. We get the 'Coalville Times' every week, and though its small, its welcome all the same, and often has some little cheer for us, although it contains some sad news also sometimes."

Mr Watson enclosed a cutting from the 'Calgary News Telegram' containing a photo and letter from his son, Private Ernest Watson, who has been fighting with the Canadians in France. He begins, *"You will by this time know that I got hit May 3 at Fresney. Glad to say it was not serious. I was in hospital at Boulogne about two weeks, then after I got the shrapnel taken out they moved me up here to Newcastle. The street cars run by here so we are well fixed. All the folks are good to us, giving us lots of cigarettes, cakes and so on. There is a Canadian lady who comes to see us and she always brings me something good to eat. Last Saturday, we had a party given by the local C.W.S. Women's Guild. I went to the party which was held in the next ward, on a wheeled chair. I have ridden in some rigs in my life, but this beats anything I have tried before. I am getting better all the time and stronger right along. I expect another week or so will see me around again. I do not need to tell you how glad I am to feel clean once more. The shells and bullets in France are not to be sneezed at, believe me, and you don't like to see your pal get hit and be unable to help him. When you go over, nothing stops only a bullet or shell. You have to belong to the 'go-get-em' bunch. This last scrap seemed a lot worse than the one at Vimy Ridge. The advance was not so great. Our artillery fire was falling on the Huns, just like you see rain when looking through the door. Everything was just lovely. The Huns were coming across in hundreds, holding up their hands, and crying "Kamerad" to every section of our boys. All the Germans sent back were just coal scuttles and when these don't hit you, you are jake. They will do a lot of damage when they come close, but none of these came close to me until we had gone where we wanted to go. Then we had to dig in, and you have to be some digger when the shells are flying. We had just started to dig when by this time Fritz had got all his guns working and a shell burst pretty close. We had our trench about a foot deep, and before you could say, "Jack Robinson" there were Canadians out of sight in that trench. I got a sliver of it which hit my finger. I suppose that was the only portion showing. You get lots of those close ones but you never can get used to them. I find that the more you hear the shells the less you like them. They get your 'goat' pretty quick. Honestly, a man in one of those artillery duels doesn't seem as big as a fly. I often used to try to fancy what it would be like out here. I used to try to imagine especially when we got bayonet practice at Sarcee, what it would be like when I had the same to do on a Fritz, and then when I got out there, I never had a chance to try it out, so I cannot tell you what it is like to have a Hun at the end of your rifle. I have seen some things in this war that seemed impossible – aeroplanes in hundreds in air fights that have become to be everyday things. You see them coming together with their machine guns and soon one or more are seen coming down, usually in flames. All you want to know is 'Was it one of ours or one of the Germans?' The shells make as much noise as a fast freight train. If you think they are coming close and if you are not under cover you dive into the nearest shellhole. If it happens to be full of water or mud, you dive just the same. 'Keep your head down Canadian!' is a popular saying out there. In spite of this there is not one of us that would have missed it all. If anyone mentions that Vimy Ridge was some scrap, you can say, "Yes, siree, she sure was." After we were relieved they took us back to our cave – that used to be our front line. As we were settled, along comes a platoon sergeant with the mail and handed me my share. I had a lot of letters and a parcel too. Now, you can just bet your bootlaces I was tickled to death, and later, when I went out for a rest, and saw the pens full of Hun prisoners, it did me good. A clean up and a sleep, and you feel fine again and think, that after all, this isn't such a bad world. I must tell you, I received a letter from a friend enclosing a letter he had received, describing my death, with the usual bunk of 'he suffered nought'. This is another new experience to me."*

Private Watson is a member of a Calgary battalion now, having been transferred from a Medicine Hat unit on reaching England. He is an old Whitwick footballer.

Page 3

IBSTOCK

BAPTIST CHURCH

A memorial service was held at the Ibstock Baptist Church on Sunday evening, in connection with the death of Mr George Cooper, boot and shoe maker, Ibstock, who was killed in action some weeks ago, as reported

in our columns. The Rev. H. Cowling (pastor) preached the sermon, and referred in appropriate terms to the sacrifice made by deceased. The choir sang "The Homeland".

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr and Mrs J. Mawer, of Charnwood Street, Coalville, have been notified by the War Office that their son, Pte. J. H. Mawer, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, reported missing on October 16th or 17th, 1916, is now concluded to have been killed in action. On the date mentioned Private Mawer was within three days of attaining his 21st birthday. When he joined up he was working as a platelayer on the Midland Railway, and previously was employed at Stableford's. His father is also a railwayman. The deceased soldier used to regularly attend the Coalville Men's Adult School, where his father is also a member, and at the school on Sunday morning, sympathy with the bereaved parents was expressed.

(A photograph of Pte. John Henry Mawer appears to the left)

Sergeant T. Holt (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported killed in action, and Private J. W. Hibberd (Shepshed) of the Sherwood Foresters, had died of wounds.

A list of wounded Leicesters published on Monday contained the names of Lance-Corporal A. E. Beale (Whitwick) and Private A. E. Potter (Coalville).

Private J. Rowbottom (Ashby) of the York and Lancaster Regiment has been wounded.

Corporal W. Pettit (Ellistown) and Private S. Smith (Ibstock), both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Private R. Griffin (Shepshed) of the Lincolnshire Regiment and Sergeant A. C. Brown (Ibstock) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported missing, are now stated to be prisoners of war.

Gunner A. W. Frearson (Coalville) of the Royal Field Artillery, is reported wounded.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private Harry Badcock, 1/5th Leicesters, who was killed at Ypres, July 31st, 1915.

From his loving Father and Mother, and Brothers.

In loving memory of our dear son, William Henry Ing, who was killed in action on July 30th, 1915

He went as a volunteer on the 2nd September, 1914, to fight for his King and country, but not his fortune to return to his loving parents. His earthly father and mother could not answer his last call, so his Heavenly Father and Mother called him Home. God bless him and all our fallen heroes.

From his ever-loving Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers.

In loving memory of Harold Fletcher, 2nd Oxford-Bucks, Light Infantry, killed in action somewhere in France, July 30th, 1916.

*The loss is great, the pain severe
We little thought the end so near
'Tis only those who have lost, can tell
The pain and grief, without a last farewell.*

This Tribunal met at the Clerk's Office, on Saturday, Mr T. Varnham presided, and there were present, Messrs. A. Riley, F. C. Stevenson, J. Rice, J. T. Bradshaw and Lieutenant W. Baldwin (military secretary). In the absence of Captain Phillimore (military representative) who was unwell, six appeals respecting Worthington Pipe Works hands were adjourned.

A Ravenstone farmer and inn-keeper, whose case had been adjourned, and who on re-examination had passed B1, was exempted till November 1st subject to him putting in full time on agricultural work.

The appeal of a Donisthorpe farmer and carter was not allowed, and the Tribunal also refused assent to the application of an Appleby farmer and carrier but decided that he should not be called up before September 20th.

A Thringstone smallholder and milk-seller applied for leave to make a further application but this was refused.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

APPLICANT WHO PREFERRED THE ARMY TO FARM WORK

The Market Bosworth Military Tribunal met on Tuesday, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding. There were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, W. Towers, G. M. Arnold, and J. E. Homer, Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Lieutenant R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

A further application was made by Mrs Inge, master of the Atherstone Hunt, for the exemption of the second whip. The clerk said the military representatives agreed to another three months, provided the man put in 24 hours per week at agricultural work. He is a B2 man, and a certificate was received from a local farmer stating that he has been assisting him and he (the farmer) was depending on his help for the harvest. The clerk said there were only two men at the kennels now, compared with six a year ago. Three months were allowed on the man giving at least 24 hours a week to agricultural work.

A Shackerstone coal miner was appealed for by his father, who said his son helped him on 18 acres of land. The clerk said this was a general service man working as a shovelman shifter at the Ibstock Colliery. He was "combed out" by the Colliery Court, and received calling-up papers on June 14th. The appeal was dated July 2nd, and was out of date. The appeal was dismissed.

A Barlestone butcher and smallholder appealed for his slaughterman. The man was formerly passed C3, and a previous appeal had been dismissed. On re-examination he was passed C2. The clerk said the Tribunal had no jurisdiction. They dismissed the appeal when the man was in a lower category, and no appeal was made to the Leicester Tribunal against the Bosworth decision. The Tribunal agreed that they had no jurisdiction.

Three months were allowed a Newbold Verdon baker and grocer for his son, who helps in the business.

A further appeal was made by the Market Bosworth postmaster, aged 38, passed C3. The applicant had previously had six months and three months, and it was stated that the Advisory Committee had recommended each time that it not be assented to. They thought his wife could manage the post office and a boy or girl could deliver telegrams. The chairman said telegrams had to be taken miles in all weathers and this, and the delivery of letters, could not be done by a boy or girl. It was suggested that the man could help on the land. The clerk said the applicant formerly worked at the Ibstock Colliery. Answering the Tribunal, applicant said he was blind in one eye and the sight of the other was affected. He was formerly rejected. He often had to get up in the night to attend to the telephone. A member suggested that he should have the telephone by the side of his bed. Applicant answered further questions, Mr Homer remarked "*I have every sympathy with the man, and I don't care twopence for the Advisory Committee*". Three months were allowed. Mr Homer said there were plenty of C3 men in the army now. The chairman said he saw it reported recently that a qualified wireless operator was put into a labour battalion to make tennis courts.

A Markfield man, 41, passed C1, appealed for further exemption. He said he had been driving Captain Stevenson about on military duty and doing clerical work at the Coalville Recruiting Office. The chairman said the Recruiting Office would be closed soon or taken out of the hands of the Military Authorities. Lieut. Blower, answering a question on that point said he had no information about it at present. It was suggested

that that the man be allowed three months on doing 34 hours clerical work weekly at the Recruiting Office. A member said he worked 32 hours in three days. Three months were agreed to by him giving 36 hours weekly to the work suggested.

A Markfield collier, aged 29, passed for general service, applied for exemption on account of his wife's illness. The clerk said this was a "combed out" case. The man said he worked as a collier from 1907 to 1912, and from then to 1914 was at the Cliff Hill Quarry. Then he went back to the mine. The appeal was dismissed.

The headmaster of Market Bosworth Grammar School appeal for the second master, who, he said, was the only one left on the staff. He said that probably the two of them would have to carry on the work of the school next year, and if the second master was taken the school would suffer. The man appealed for was passed for general service, and was stated to be doing good work in training the cadets in the school, six of whom passed into the Army each year. Mr Eggington said he agreed that this man was doing good work, and the school would suffer if he was taken.

Mr Homer: *We should do all we can for education. The way education is neglected by the authorities is a disgrace to the country.*

Six months allowed.

A further one month was allowed a Ratby hosiery hand through the illness of his wife. He is passed for general service, and has two children.

An Ibstock greengrocer and general dealer, 41, C2, produced a time sheet, showing that he had put in two days a week at agricultural work, and subject to him continuing this he was allowed a further three months.

A garage proprietor of Market Bosworth, engaged in the production of motor vehicles, was allowed a further three months.

An Ibstock baker, 28, married, passed C2, who said his was a one-man business, and he had four brothers serving in the Forces, was allowed three months.

Formerly rejected and now passed B2, a Market Bosworth insurance agent applied for exemption, and was allowed three months subject to giving 18 hours a week to agricultural work.

The Tribunal offered to grant exemption to a grocer's carter and warehouseman from Pinwall, passed C3, subject to him returning to farm work at which he was formerly employed. In reply to Mr Towers, he said he could milk and plough, but rather than go back to farm work he would go into the Army.

The clerk: *Then you ask for the appeal to be dismissed?*

Applicant said he did, he would be better off in the Army.

The clerk: *The appeal is dismissed at the request of the applicant.* He added, *"That is the best we have had out of 2,400 dealt with"*. It was stated that the man had five children and the separation allowance would be more than he would earn on a farm.

A member: *No doubt he has worked that out.*

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, applied for leave to appeal again for an Ibstock outfitter. He said every effort had been made to obtain a substitute, without success, and he suggested that the man should be retained until the Army found a substitute. Lieut. Blower said this was regarded as a non-essential trade, and the Army would not be allowed to provide a substitute. Major Wollaston said two final exemptions had already been given. Leave to appeal was dismissed.

Mr Sharp also represented the manager of a grocery firm's branch shop at Ibstock, the firm's appeal having been dismissed, and this was a personal appeal. He stated that the man was 36 years of age and had three children. He also partly supported his widowed mother. He asked the Tribunal to allow the man one month before being called up, and then he would make no further appeal. He wanted to assist his firm till the middle

of August and have a fortnight to get up his potatoes, and make domestic arrangements. The chances were that if he went to the Army, he would be engaged in clerical work. The clerk said there was a good certificate from the Hugglescote Training Corps, the man having attempted all the drills. It was agreed that the man be not called up till August 31st.

An Ibstock draper, clothier, and licensed hawker, 40, passed B1, was allowed three months.

A number of other cases were dealt with.

Friday August 10th 1917 (Issue 1327)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The arrangements for the patriotic demonstration at Coalville on Saturday, were admirably carried out by Mr L. L. Baldwin?

Members of the Coalville Parade and Gala Committee, at their own expense, entertained a number of wounded soldiers to tea on Monday?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

A field card received yesterday from Private Jack Wright, of Ravenstone, dated August 5th, states that he is quite well.

After an inspection at Coalville on Monday, the members of the Hugglescote Company, Leicestershire Volunteer Battalion, marched to headquarters, and before dispersing, Mr W. E. Canner, on behalf of the men, presented Commandant P. R. Woods with a framed photograph of the company and a wallet of treasury notes on his leaving to join the Army. Mr Woods has been a popular commandant since the formation of the company, and the gift was an expression of their esteem and good wishes. The recipient suitably replied.

The name of Captain W. E. Stevenson, of Ashby, appears in a list published on Tuesday, of officers whose names have been placed before the Secretary of State for War, for distinguished services rendered during the present war. Captain Stevenson is the recruiting officer for the Coalville district, having been appointed to that office on August 5th, 1914 the day following Great Britain's declaration of war. His area is a fairly large one, embracing the Coalville, Ashby and Market Bosworth districts, and during the three years which have elapsed the work has grown enormously, a staff of fourteen persons, mostly ladies, now being fully engaged at the Recruiting Office in coping with it.

Official figures relating to the recruiting scheme among the miners show that while the War Cabinet ordered 40,000 men to be found for the Army all the existing methods of recruitment yielded in actual and estimated numbers a total of 19,256, so that 20,744 must be raised under a new method.

Two outstanding local events of the week are the patriotic demonstration on Saturday, and the Charity Parade on Monday. Marlborough Square on Saturday presented an animated scene and the proceedings were very impressive. Taking place simultaneously with other similar events in all parts of the country, this demonstration on the part of British people of their determination to wage the war to a victorious finish meant the addition of another nail in the coffin of Prussian militarism, and all the horrible things that it involves. The Parade Committee are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their effort. Monday's result has proved what a pity it would have been not to have held the parade, not only because of the financial benefit which will accrue to deserving local charitable institutions, but also because the parade afforded a little diversion from the gloomy thoughts which naturally possess people at a time when we are entering into the fourth year of the greatest war that the world has ever seen.

Mr E. H. Davenport, youngest son of the late Mr T. W. Davenport, of Ashby, has been appointed secretary of the War Office Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Select Committee on National Expenditure, of which Mr Herbert Samuel is chairman. Mr Davenport was appointed private secretary to Sir Charles Harris, the Assistant Financial Secretary of the War Office, in January 1916.

After having been recruiting sergeant at Coalville for nearly three years, he was appointed on October 4th, 1914, Colour-Sergeant Alfred Dye, owing to advancing years and ill-health, has tendered his registration. He was formerly in the Royal Scots Fusiliers, and his length of service before the war was 32 years. He has done excellent work at the Coalville Recruiting Office, through which the names of thousands of men have passed. Colour-Sergt. Dye is a native of Leicester.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mrs E. Lawrence, of Stone Row, Coalville, has received a communication from the War Office intimating that no further news having been received of her brother, Private Samuel Line, of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, missing since October, 1916, the Army Council have been regretfully constrained to conclude that he is dead, and that his death took place on October 12th, or since. The sympathy of the King and Queen and of the Army Council with the relatives is expressed. Private S. Line, was a son of the late Mr Samuel Line, tailor, of Hotel Street, one of the founders of the Coalville Liberal Club, and for many years the secretary. The deceased soldier was also a tailor, working in Warwickshire before the war broke out.

The members of the Coalville Men's Adult School on Sunday morning passed a resolution of sympathy with one of their number, Mr A. Pauley, on the death of his brother, Rifleman J. T. Pauley, in France, news that he had been fatally "gassed" having been received during the week. Rifleman Pauley was a native of Shepshed, but was well-known in the Coalville district, having acted as manager of the Coalville branch of the Wolsey Factory (Messrs. R. Walker and Sons) in Mantle Lane, when it was first opened. He also played cricket for Coalville Baptists, but was better known as a sportsman in the Shepshed district, being a popular member of the Town Cricket Club and of the Albion Football Club. The deceased's relatives reside at Shepshed. His wife is the daughter of Mr M. Smith, clerk to the Shepshed Urban Council. He was employed before the war at the Shepshed factory of Messrs. R. Walker and Sons.

Mrs Pell, of Markfield, is informed that her husband, Gunner W. Pell (35) R.G.A. was killed in action on July 5th. He was formerly employed in The Gardens, Ulverscroft, and was of great assistance to the local Horticultural Society. On Sunday evening a memorial service was held at the Parish Church, where he had been a valued member of the choir. He leaves two young children.

Another Markfield man, Private Joshua Watson (28) Leicester Regiment, was killed in action last month. He previously worked at Messrs. Pegg's hosiery factory. He leaves a widow and one child. The Rev. J. W. Armstrong conducted a memorial service at the Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday evening.

News has been received at Shepshed of the death in action on July 28th, from gas poisoning of Private Austin Martin, King's Royal Rifles, whose wife and child live at Brook Street, Shepshed. He was 30 years of age.

Gunner W. J. K. Haynes, of the Machine Gun Corps, who, before enlisting in the Sherwood Foresters soon after the outbreak of war, lived at 134, North Street, Hugglescote, is in hospital at Bristol, having been wounded under fire when he was a stretcher bearer in 1916. He was at Hugglescote in December last, and received the congratulations of his many friends. Writing from France on August 3rd to his brother, and mentioning that he was wounded and in hospital, he asked that no letters should be forwarded to France as he expected to be in "Blighty" before the letter reached Hugglescote. He is 34 years old, and unmarried. Before the war he worked at Desford Colliery.

Pte. Wm. Hind, of the Leicestershire Regiment who is officially reported as a prisoner of war, formerly lodged with Mrs Evans of 68, Ibstock Road, Ellistown. He is a single man about 27 years of age, and before the war worked at the Ellistown Colliery. The War Office has notified Mrs Evans that Hind is a prisoner of war at Limburg, and she has also received a postcard from the soldier himself simply stating that the fact, and intimating that he is not wounded.

News was received in Whitwick yesterday that Private Concannon, one of Whitwick's Military Medallists, was killed in action on July 31st, the sad information being contained in a letter from the captain of the deceased soldier's regiment. Private Concannon was married a year or so ago to Miss Perry, who still resides with her parents in Whitwick Market Place. He was the second soldier from Whitwick to win the medal, and not so

long ago was publically presented with a clock by the citizens of Whitwick in the Picture House in recognition of his brave deed. The first winner of the medal was Sergeant Berrington, who was also the first to be killed in action. The death of Private Concannon makes 32 Whitwick men who have made the supreme sacrifice.

Private J. H. Betts (Whitwick) of the York and Lancaster Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now reported not wounded.

Ptes. W. Hind (Ellistown) and A. R. Hewer (Barlestone) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported missing, are now reported to be prisoners of war.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of William Massey, of the Leicestershire Regiment, killed somewhere in France, August 9th, 1915, aged 19 years and 7 months.

"Gone but not forgotten"

From Father, Mother, Brothers and Sister, Whitwick.

Page 4

LEICESTERSHIRE MINERS & RECRUITING

At the monthly meeting of the Council of the Leicestershire Miners' Association, held at the Leicester Hotel, Coalville, on Friday night, Mr H. Toon presiding, the auditors' reports were presented and found to be satisfactory. The following resolution was adopted.

"That letters be sent to the Coal Controller and the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain strongly objecting to the system of recruiting agreed to by the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation and a Conference in exempting any grade of workers between the ages of 18 and 25, subject to the conditions as set out in the circular on recruiting issued by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, dated July 14th, 1917."

VOLUNTEER INSPECTION AT COALVILLE

On Monday morning, August 6th, the local detachments from Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick were officially inspected and examined for competency by Major Ellis, assisted by three instructors from the Training Reserve at Cannock Chase.

Special attention was paid to bayonet fighting, bombing, musketry and extended order, whilst the usual squad and platoon drills, also march discipline and general smartness were carefully observed.

Ninety-five men were passed as efficient, and as soon as they have completed firing the recruits' course Part 1 and Part 2 on the open range they will have earned the Government grant of £2 each, which will be paid to the Territorial Association, and the men will be at once equipped with khaki uniform, rifle, bayonet and equipment. Major Ellis expressed himself as particularly satisfied with his men at Coalville, and it is quite certain that the local Volunteers acquitted themselves very well indeed in comparison with previous inspections in the county.

In addition to Major Ellis, Major Brockington, the Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, and the Adjutant, Captain Findley, were present, and Captain Turner, Lieutenant Lester, Messrs. Crane and Canner, were in charge of the men.

COALVILLE AND THE WAR ANNIVERSARY

GREAT PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATION

A great patriotic demonstration successfully organised by the Urban Council took place at Coalville on Saturday when the citizens of the urban district by unanimous resolution expressed their determination to continue the war to a victorious end, whereby the ideals of liberty and justice which are the common and

sacred cause of the allies may be maintained. Practically all classes of the community were represented. The rendezvous was Marlborough Square, where the flags of the Allies and streamers of bunting looked pretty among the green foliage of the trees. Processions were formed at Hugglescote, Whitwick and London Road, Coalville, and marched to the Square led by the Hugglescote Town, Coalville Coronation and Salvation Army bands. Among those present were the Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick detachments of the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, Boy Scouts, Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade, the Coalville, Ellistown, Hugglescote and Whitwick Lodges of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, King's Royal Rifles Cadets, Coalville Fire Brigade, Coalville Ambulance Brigade, Belgian refugees wearing their national colours, Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, local munition workers, Operative Bricklayers' Society, Coalville Nursing Association, Foresters, Local Excelsior Lodge, Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild, Coalville Liberal Club members, Margaret Street Working Men's Club members, special constables, Inspector Dobney, Sergt. Kirkland and others.

Mr F. Griffin, J.P., chairman of the Urban Council was greeted with hearty cheers on taking his seat on the large platform erected at the Liberal Club end of the Square. Supporting him on the platform were, Mrs L. L. Baldwin, Miss Moore, Mrs Geo. Coleman and Mrs G. F. Burton (representing the Coalville District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild), Mrs Bagley, Mrs Fitches, Mrs Allen, and Mrs Roulston (Coalville Co-Operative Women's Guild), Miss Cresswell (Coalville Voluntary Munition Workshop), Adjutant Mann (Salvation Army), Canon Broughton and the Rev. H. V. Williams (in the uniform of the Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade), Captain Deverell, R.N. (in uniform), the Rev. T. W. Walters (vicar of Whitwick and Rural Dean), Captain J. Stenson Turner, Lieutenants J. Lester and P. R. Woods (V.T.C.), Captain T. Elsworth (Fire Brigade), Superintendent W. V. Scott (Ambulance Brigade), Lieutenant R. Hay (at home, after being wounded), Sergeant-Major Roland Hill, M.M., Dr and Mrs R. W. Jamie, Messrs. S. Boot and G. Mason (Coalville Liberal Club), Andrew Wilkins, T. Frith and W. Andrews (local Guardians), T. Kelly, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown (members of the Urban Council), W. Saddington, S. Margetts, C. Allen (Buffalo Lodges), A. W. Tyler, E. Parramore (President and secretary Coalville Licensed Victuallers' Association), C. E. Crane, C. Speddings, W. Lindley, W. Hurst, A. G. Wedgwood, J. R. Bennett, S. Perry, L. L. Baldwin, J. Smith and a number of wounded soldiers from Broom Leys Hospital.

After the bugle call by the K.R.R. Cadets, the hymn "Lead, kindly light" to the accompaniments of the massed bands was sung, after which prayer was offered by Adjutant Mann of the Salvation Army. Numerous apologies for absence was announced. The chairman said the demonstration had been organised to show to the world in general, and our Allies in particular, also that arch-fiend, the German Emperor, that we were just as firm today in our determination to prosecute the war to a successful conclusion, as we were on that memorable 4th of August, 1914 (applause). The war was not of our seeking. It was forced upon us by the Prussian militarists, and there would be no chance of a permanent peace until these demons had been put to the dust (cheers).

Captain Deverell, R.N., in moving the resolution, said he was proud to say that he had served his Queen, King and country for a period of nearly 56 years (applause). Sometimes the question was asked, "*What is the Navy doing?*" The Navy had to police and guard over two million miles of sea, and the people should remember that nearly every mortal thing that they got to eat for breakfast, dinner and supper was got by the work of the Navy (cheers). Theirs was a silent Navy. They were always on duty. No eight hours a day for them, but often 24 hours a day. They were never certain of their sleep, but it was all done very cheerfully and every man and every officer working hard. The Navy was alright. It was alright in his time, and it was doubly so now (cheers). The German Emperor "*I wish he was dead.*" (hear, hear) "*knew and feared the British Navy, and he was beginning to fear the British Army also*" (cheers). *This country owed much to the Navy and it was the duty of all at home to do their part* (cheers). *This country owed much to the Navy and it was the duty of all at home to do their part* (cheers)."

Miss Cresswell, seconding, said she was there to support the resolution on behalf of the women of Coalville. She hoped they would give practical expression to the resolution by supporting the war organisations in their midst. Those who could knit could help Mrs Baldwin in the Comforts Guild work, for those who could assist in nursing there was the work at Broom Leys Hospital, while those who would like to help in making munitions could go to the Voluntary Munition Workshop which was badly in need of support. So there was a chance for them all. She hoped they would put their shoulders to the wheel, and help these local things, or a demonstration like that would be of no avail (cheers).

Lieutenant R. Hay, supporting the motion, said it was a great delight and privilege to be there in his native town and witness such an enthusiastic assembly about to pass a patriotic resolution. He could assure them

that a resolution of that sort meant a good deal not only to "*we chaps in France*" but also to the Government. Germany and her confederates had made most persistent efforts to bring about a peace entirely satisfactory to herself, and he was pleased to say the Allies rejected these overtures most sternly, but he was sorry to say that they had in this country a small section of people who were either of the Boche turn of mind or mentally deficient (laughter and cheers) who would like to see the country in a premature and useless peace. "*I can assure you ladies and gentlemen, with all the emphasis and sincerity which I can command,*" continued the gallant officer, "*that nothing is more discouraging and repulsive to those who are true to you at the Front than to show that their gallant efforts and heroic deeds, and the sacrifices of those who – God bless them – have laid down their lives, are all in vain*" (loud applause). As a soldier he felt confident that the townspeople of Coalville, his own townspeople, of whom he was proud, would stand by the Army and Navy with a dogged determination to go through to the end which they were determined to achieve (applause).

The resolution was also supported by the Rev. T. W. Walters, who as a representative of the spiritual life of the district said he did so with all his heart. As christian people they entered into the war because it was a righteous war. To them it was undoubtedly a righteous war as it meant the upholding of all that they considered right and just and true. As a result of the war there was coming over the country a great moral and spiritual revolution. He did not think there was a man or woman in that gathering but who would say that three years ago this nation was drifting backwards, that we were degenerating, and the war was bringing the people back to God. Not only were they there to stand up and kill the Germans, but they also had to fight and kill their own sins, their own differences, their own backslidings and everything that in the past was spoiling them as a national power. It was because this war was taking them along in that direction, sending them not only against the enemy within themselves and making them mightier that in the name of the churches he heartily supported the resolution (cheers).

Mr John Smith, of Coalville, an old soldier, wearing medals for Hazara and Samana, 1901, and the Relief of Chitral, 1895, said he was proud to have had the honour of serving the late Queen Victoria and his country and would have gladly taken up arms again had his age been such that he could have stood the strain (applause). He then read the resolution, which was as follows.

"That on this, the third anniversary of the declaration of a righteous war, this meeting of the citizens of Coalville urban district again records its inflexible determination to continue to a victorious end the struggle in maintenance of those ideals of liberty and justice which are the common and sacred cause of the Allies."

The resolution was carried unanimously with three hearty cheers and, as the Union Jack was hoisted, the bands played the National Anthem. This was followed by the hoisting of the French flag, and the playing of the "Marseillaise" and then the Belgian flag was run up the pole as the bands played "La Brabanconne" the scene being an impressive one. The hymn, "O God, our help in ages past" and the pronouncing of the Benediction by Canon Broughton, concluded a successful demonstration.

Friday August 17th 1917 (Issue 1328)

Page 1

IBSTOCK

PARCELS FOR PRISONERS OF WAR

The Ibstock county area War Relief Committee held a public meeting in the National Schools on Tuesday evening last to consider suggestions for continuing the maintenance of prisoners of war from that county area. There was a fair attendance, including members of the Parish Council over which the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., presided. Mr W. Dunstan explained the fund out of which they had been making grants for parcels had got very low, and needed building up by fresh subscriptions. There were six of their lads prisoners of war in Germany. In answer to a question, Mr Dunstan said they could be sure parcels sent arrived safely, as he had received postcards thanking the committee for them. These he handed round. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to have a demonstration on September 8th in which one of the bands is to be asked to co-operate. Collections will then be made, if permission is granted by the Chief Constable. A flag will be obtained for the occasion and it is hoped the patriotic appeal will meet with a hearty response.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Mr W. Eames has resigned his position as Commandant of the Coalville Men's V.A.D.?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Shortly after nine o'clock on Saturday night a L. and N.W. ambulance train arrived at the Leicester Midland Station with 176 wounded. Ten officers, all cot cases, were conveyed to the Base Hospital, and 166 (126 being cot cases), were taken to the North Evington Hospital. The train was in charge of Captain Bretsell, R.A.M.C., and the wounded were received by Colonel L. K. Harrison. The arrangements for the conveying of the wounded to the hospitals were carried out under the supervision of Mr A. W. Faire, J.P., (County Director V.A.D.) and Mr J. R. Corah.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Coalville Urban Tribunal was held in Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, J. Kirby, C. W. Brown, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, A. Lockwood, Captain German (military representative), Lieutenant Blower (military secretary), and Mr A. L. Bertenshaw (for the clerk).

A grocery and provision firm applied for the further exemption of the manager of their Coalville branch shop, passed B1, the father of five children (eldest 14), and who will be 41 in November next. He was the only man left in the shop. He had worked seven years for the firm, five years at Coalville. Two months allowed.

The managing partner of a Hugglescote building firm, 39, married, passed B1, was allowed till October 1st. Lieut. Blower remarking that several other builders' cases came up again on that date and the Advisory Committee thought they should all be considered together.

Mr McCarthy: *I hope we shall be a good way on the road to settling peace terms by then.*

Two painters applied for by a Coalville painter and plumber, were also allowed till October 1st. Both men were stated to be married, one 38 and the other 28, both passed B2. The appellant stated that he had only four men and one apprentice left out of 23 men before the war.

The Coalville Urban Council surveyor appealed for a store-keeper and assistant foreman employed by the Council, stating that the man was 35 years of age, passed B1, married with no family. The Advisory Committee did not assent. The question was asked whether this case had not been dismissed. Lieut. Blower said there was a mistake. It was thought a previous appeal was dismissed, but the man was allowed a month, and had the right of a further appeal. Mr L. L. Baldwin said the man could not be spared if the sanitary work of the district was to be efficiently maintained. The only appeals he had made were for one man on each of the sewage farms, and the pumping engine-men, which showed that he had not appealed lightly. The man had a chance to be used as a substitute on munition work, but elected to stay at his present job. He was neither a shorthand writer nor a typist, and so would be no use to the Army as a clerk. It was pointed out that a B2 man would not be a clerk. Mr Baldwin suggested that Army work, marching, drilling, etc. would soon knock the man up. Besides routine work, his special duties included, checking time-sheets and wages account, invoicing goods delivered, and allocating them into the 35 departments as required by the Local Government Board, keeping records of scavenging of houses, and sewer flushing, instructing the men as to the districts in which they work, ordering stores when required, issuing materials for work and requisitions for further requirements, and he had charge of the stores and stock and had to see that they were kept in order. Allowed one month.

Two months were allowed a Coalville ironmongery firm for an assistant, aged 36 and married. It was stated that after being twice rejected and then placed B1, the man had now been passed C2.

A Donington-le-Heath baker and grocer, aged 65, appealed for his son, 38, married, passed C1, the man assisting in the business, and two months were allowed.

Three months were granted to a Coalville saddler, chiefly on colliery work, the man being 37 years of age, passed C1, married with two children.

The first hand in a grocery warehouse appealed for by the Co-Operative Society, a married man, 35, passed C2, who has had a brother killed in the war, was allowed two months. The Co-Operative Society also appealed for a bread deliverer, 32, married, passed B2, previously rejected. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed one month.

The Military Representative appealed against the exemption of a clerk employed at the Whitwick factory of a Loughborough hosiery firm, contending that it was not essential that the man should remain in civil life, the Hosiery Board having decided that he was superfluous to the requirements of the firm. The man was stated to be married, 30 years of age, and passed for general service. Mr Clifford (Loughborough) appealed for the firm and stated that the man was manager and overlocker at the Whitwick factory, where there were only two other men, who were over age, employed, and there were over 70 women. The firm had four factories, and 75 per cent of the whole work done was war work. It was the minimum amount of male labour that the factory could possibly be run on. Answering the military representative, a partner in the firm said the man did clerical work as well, as they could not employ two or three men to do one man's job. The man was formerly an overlocker in the Loughborough factory and was sent to Whitwick when a manager was wanted there as he was a most efficient man. Mr Clifford as he and the partner of the firm left the room, suggested that the military representative should leave also while the case was considered.

The chairman: *He has not usually done so.*

Captain German: *Shall I retire?*

The chairman said he did not think it necessary. Mr Clifford said he did not wish to interfere with the procedure of the Tribunal, but the regulation was that the military representative should retire if desired.

The chairman: *Do you ask for it?*

Mr Clifford: *I do. I think it is advisable that the regulation should be carried out.*

Captain German retired while the case was considered. One month (final) was allowed.

Till October 1st was allowed a Hugglescote builder for his foreman, a Whitwick resident, aged 41, married, and passed C1.

A Coalville "combed out" collier, employed as a shifter at the South Leicestershire Colliery, aged 31, married, with three children, was allowed one month (final).

A youth, aged 19, of small stature, was appealed for by his employer, a Coalville cycle repairer, who said the lad was better employed now than he would be in the Army. They had 150 bicycles awaiting repairs. Allowed one month.

A Coalville master builder, aged 34, married, passed for general service was allowed till October 1st.

A Donington-le-Heath collier and carter appealed for the man who has charge of his carting business, a single man, 35, passed B1. Applicant said the man had been rejected three times. If he was taken applicant would have to give up his work in the mine, which would be a loss to him. Appeal dismissed.

A Whitwick tailor's manager, 36, passed C2, appealing said he was formerly rejected. Mr Lockwood said they knew the man better as a butcher. Applicant said he had been tailor's manager since last October.

Mr Briers: *A handy man?*

Applicant: *Yes, I manage two shops.*

Mr Lockwood: *Do you _____? (laughter)*

Applicant: *No. It was decided that he be used as a substitute.*

A Coalville grocer and off-licence holder, who is working on the Coalville Council's Kelham Bridge Farm, applied for exemption from drilling with the V.T.C. Mr Briers said it was only required during the harvest. After some discussion, it was agreed to exempt the man from drill till September 30th.

A Coalville architect, who made a similar application at the last sitting, and which was adjourned for his attendance for a personal explanation, appeared before the Tribunal and stated that on the two nights the drills were held he had to be in attendance at his office to receive income tax, the work in connection with

which also occupied him on other nights. It was suggested that he might drill on Sundays. Applicant said he had charge of a Sunday School of 130 boys and girls, morning and afternoon. No teachers were left and if he had to drill he was afraid the school would have to be closed. He also did income tax work on Sundays. Mr Lockwood said he supposed the income tax collection was a regrettable necessity (laughter). Answering Captain German applicant said the Inland Revenue authorities had not appealed for his exemption, leaving it to the Tribunal. Applicant said the income tax work was much more complicated now than it used to be. He asked whether they would like to see some of the forms.

The chairman: *I don't wish to. I know well enough about them* (laughter).

Applicant said the quarterly returns for workmen's income tax took a lot of time. After some discussion, the application was refused. Captain German then asked whether he had the permission of the Tribunal to appeal for the review of the case of any exempted men who refused to drill, after receiving notice, and the chairman replied in the affirmative.

Page 3

COURT MARTIAL OF P.M. STUDENT

(Passed by the Press Bureau)

On Thursday, August 9th, Mr H. V. Surman, of Moira, a student of the Primitive Methodist College, Manchester, was tried by Court Martial for refusing to put on the King's uniform when ordered to do so. Major Brooke presided over the Court and Captain Worsley appeared for the prosecution. Evidence of the refusal to obey was given by Sergeant Read and Corporal Bingham. The accused handed in a written statement to the effect that he had appealed to both Local and Appeal Tribunals in Manchester on the grounds of conscientious objection, but neither Tribunals would try his case since he had attested. The only work he was prepared to do of national importance was the work of the ministry for which he was being specially trained. Letters as to character were handed in from the Revs. David Bradbury (Edinburgh), Principal H. J. Pickett (Manchester), and Mr Moses Bourne (Moira Baths). The Rev. J. Blaney (Ashby) gave evidence as to the accused being called to the ministry and his training therefore and certified as to the genuineness of his convictions. The Rev. T. J. Martin (Coalville) also supported, adding that the accused had taken the minor vows for the ministry, and that he was a minister in training. On these grounds students in the Roman Catholic College in Manchester, which is near to the Primitive Methodist College, had been granted exemption. Accused was questioned as to the reason for his having attested, and he stated that he attested because it was circulated that no man would have any right of appeal if he failed to attest, and Captain Worsley said that such was the case, and he believed that thousands of men in Leicestershire attested for that reason alone. Sentence will be promulgated in due course.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Corporal Roland Smith, Royal Artillery, son of Mr Jeremiah Smith, of Swannington, is home on leave after being in hospital at Bournemouth. He was injured by being struck in the knee with a substance from a shell. He is a wheeler in his battery.

Mr and Mrs Timothy Lyons, Factory Street, Shepshed, have received official information of the death of their fourth son, Private Leo Lyons, West Yorkshire Regiment (Grenade Section), which occurred on a hospital steamer on Sunday last, August 5th, as a result of gas poisoning received in action in France on the 25th of July. The gallant soldier, who was about 36 years of age, joined up on March 22nd, 1916, and went to France early in the present year. Two of his brothers are with the Colours in France and another has come over with the Canadians, and is at present in England.

Private H. Brown (Ashby) of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, and Privates H. H. Cooke and D. Johnson (both of Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported missing. Gunner E. R. Bull (Ashby), and Gunner C. Woods (Coalville) of the Royal Garrison Artillery, are reported wounded.

WHITWICK MILITARY MEDALLIST KILLED



Further details are to hand respecting the death of Lance-Corporal A. W. Concannon, of the Sherwood Foresters, a Whitwick Military Medallist, killed in action on July 31st. Writing to the deceased's wife, who resides with her parents, Mr and Mrs Perry, in the Whitwick Market Place, an officer of his company states, *"I am extremely sorry to tell you that your husband, Lance-Corporal Concannon, of my company, was killed in action on July 31st, 1917. I knew him for several months, and can assure you that his death is deeply felt by all who knew him. He was a very promising soldier, and if he had lived, probably would have had early promotion. He was killed instantaneously, suffering no pain. Please accept the deepest sympathy both of officers and men."*

A friend of the deceased, G. H. Phipps, also writes, sending some personal belongings of the dead soldier, and says that Arthur was killed on July 31st when the regiment were attacking at Westhock, in front of Ypres. He was shot by a sniper and died instantaneously. The writer proceeds, *"Arthur earned a V.C. as big as a battleship. This is what everyone says who saw him. . . . We both went to*

Confession and Holy Communion two days before the battle. You are quite aware of what we were to each other. I have been hard hit by his death, for I could look the world over and not find a better chum. I have been fairly knocked up over it, and it makes me wild that after being out here two years and nine months, he should get knocked over at the eleventh hour. I feel it pretty hard, but then, what is my loss compared with yours? Please accept my heartfelt sympathy."

Lance-Corporal A. W. Concannon was the second Whitwick soldier to win the Military Medal and is the second man from Whitwick holding that honour to fall on the battlefield. His brave deed was recognised by Whitwick citizens by the public presentation of a clock some months ago. The deceased had been married nearly two years, having special leave from France for the event, which took place at the Holy Cross Church, Whitwick, on September 4th, 1915.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service was held in the Coalville Wesleyan Church on Sunday evening for Sergeant J. Hall, Gunner G. Beale and Pte. G. Firban, who have all made the supreme sacrifice for their country. The Rev. J. R. Sharpley, of Ashby, was the preacher. Special hymns were sung and the organist (Miss March) played, "O Rest in the Lord" and Chopin's "Funeral March". There was a good congregation.

BELGIAN GIRL'S FUNERAL

The funeral took place at Coalville Cemetery on Saturday afternoon of Marie Eve Detrixhe, aged 22, of 136, Margaret Street, Coalville, whose death on Thursday was the subject of an inquest on Friday. Deceased was the first Belgian adult subject to be buried there, and those present included several residents of Belgian nationality, who, coming over as refugees, have settled in the district. The body was borne to the grave by Belgians, who each wore a passion flower. The Rev. D. M. Evans (curate) conducted the service at the Parish Church, and at the graveside, and after the English service, one of the Belgians read a prayer.

MILITARY MEDAL FOR COALVILLE SOLDIER

Mr Wilfred Lilley, a miner at the Whitwick Colliery, and Mrs Lilley, of 98, Margaret Street, Coalville, on Thursday received news that their son, Lance-Corporal W. Lilley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, had been awarded the Military Medal. The following is the official account of the soldier's brave deed.

"At Hill 65, near Lens, on the 28/29th June, 1917, this N.C.O. set a splendid example of courage and devotion to duty under very heavy fire. When several of the men of his company had been killed and buried by a heavy shell, this N.C.O. and one of the company stretcher-bearers set to work, and although the trench was being heavily shelled at the time, dug the survivors out. This N.C.O. showed the utmost coolness throughout and a total disregard for his personal safety. On several occasions previously this N.C.O.'s name has been noted for courage and devotion to duty under most trying circumstances."

The gallant soldier is a single man, 23 years of age, and was formerly employed at Stableford's Works, Coalville. He was in the Territorials before the war started, and has been over 2 ½ years in France. He was

at Coalville on leave in June last, and the deed which has won for him this honour was performed soon after he returned to duty. Mr and Mrs Lilley have another soldier son in France.

Page 4

LIEUT. J VEITCH WINS BELGIAN HONOUR

Lieut. John Veitch, of the Leicestershire R.H.A., son of the Rev. R. Veitch, received the Belgian decoration "Chevalier de L'Ardre de la Couronne" for distinguished services. The decoration was presented at a large church parade, held behind the line on August 5th, to commemorate the three years of the war. The service was one of re-dedication.

COALVILLE POLICE COURT

Annie Hodson, (45), married, of Coalville, was summoned for failing to shade the light in her dwelling house on July 31st. Complainant said the room was occupied by her son, a soldier on leave, and she was not aware of the light. P.C. Burnsnall said the light could be seen from a long distance. He had cautioned the defendant only a fortnight before. Fined 10s or seven days.

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Corporal E. W. Canell, Leicesters
Corporal Alec J. Wardle
Private F. Beasley
Corporal H. W. Harris
Corporal G. Widdowson
Lance-Corporal G. Black
Corporal W. Sykes
Private Chas. Hy. Thompson
Private A. Stinchcombe
Sergeant C. Bradshaw
Corporal H. Clamp
Private G. Knight
Company Quartermaster-Sergeant C. Hubbard
Lance-Corporal W. Stopp
Private A. Tansey
Private T. W. Jarvis
Private G. L. Bacon
Private G. E. Mason

All under date August 8th/9th

Friday August 24th 1917 (Issue 1329)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Six of the monks at Mount St. Bernard's Monastery are being called up for military service, three having passed for duty abroad, and three for service at home?

Corporal F. W. Rennocks of the West Yorkshire Regiment, is the first Thringstone soldier to be awarded the Military Medal and a parish meeting is to be held on Monday evening next to consider in what way the village is to express its appreciation of the soldier's brave deed?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Sergeant A. C. Bradshaw, of the Leicestershire Regiment, the youngest of the four soldier sons of Mr W. Bradshaw of Gutteridge Street, Coalville, a workman at Stableford's, is over on leave from France this week. He was one of the first 50 Territorials to leave Coalville and has been much in the fighting.

Ten more wounded soldiers for the Broom Leys Hospital arrived at Coalville Midland Station by the 3.25 train from Leicester on Wednesday. They were met by members of the men's V.A.D. and conveyed to the hospital by Mr A. I. White in his motor car. There are now 68 soldiers at Broom Leys.

Written into Mrs Moss's Autograph Book

*Dear reader, do not criticise
The effort I would make
Within this book my thanks to write
Just for the owner's sake
A poet I have not been born
But to it I aspire
And "court the muse" and hope and pray
'Twill some day give the fire.*

*I'm seated by my window
In the Coalville V.A.D.
My heart is here in England
My mind's across the sea
Fond fancy brings before my view
The contrast of the scene
From Death to Life – from storm to calm
From pain to joy serene*

*I think of war's vicissitudes
What follows in its train
The loss of limbs – the breaking hearts
The sorrow and the pain
But can you think, dear reader
How great would be the loss
Had we not the heavenly helpmates
Like our Sister, Mrs Moss!*

*With a smile she's ever willing
Just to sew a button on
Then at stitching, darning, mending
Or lapelling, she's tres bon
And if in thanks you are profuse
She answers, "That's a trifle"
But who will say she's doing less
Than Tommy with his rifle.*

G.J.S., Coalville V.A.D. Hospital, 21st August, 1917

LEICESTERSHIRE MINERS & RECRUITING

LODGE MEETINGS CONSIDER THE NEW SCHEME

Notices to all the Lodges of the Leicestershire Miners' Association have been sent out by the agent, Mr Levi Lovett, J.P., requesting them to hold lodge meetings as soon as possible to consider a letter from Mrs Thomas Ashton, secretary of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, on the new recruiting scheme, and forward any resolutions on amendments not later than Wednesday, August 22nd. The following is a copy of Mr Ashton's letter.

"The Executive Committee of the above Federation at their meeting on Tuesday August 7th further considered the above matter, and the difficulties which have arisen in various districts in connection with the same, and the following resolutions were passed.

1 That this Executive committee regret that on account of the opposition and resentment aroused amongst the rank and file of the miners to the present scheme of recruiting, it is necessary to ask for a delay of one month in order to give time for further consideration of the matter by the miners in the various districts.

2 That we convene a special conference of this Federation to consider replies from the various Districts to the following questions, which are to be submitted to the Districts previous to the special conference being held:-

Are you in favour of the miners' organisations taking any part in recruiting for the Army?

Are you in favour of the present scheme as amended?

What modifications (if any) to the present scheme do you propose?

Amendments to the present scheme to be sent in to me not later than Saturday, August 25th. An agenda will then be sent out to Districts with the new scheme, and any amendments from Districts received up to the 25th inst, in order that delegates may come fully instructed on this matter to the special Conference. Application has already been made to the Coal Controller for delay in accordance with resolution 1 and he has agreed that (a) certified managers and under managers, under officials and deputies, and (b) underground hauliers, putters, trammers and drawers, shall be deleted from the list of exempted grades, and the names of all these men within stipulated ages will go forward on Form 22 in the ordinary way.

The present new scheme is as follows:-

All unmarried Class A workers at present employed in mines who were of and above the age of 18, but not over the age of 25 on the 1st January, 1917, except

- (a) Weighmen
- (b) Winding Engineers
- (c) Pumpmen
- (d) Electricians
- (e) Fitters and Mechanics (including blacksmiths, joiners, waggon and tub makers and repairers)

IBSTOCK MINERS SUPPORT THE SCHEME

The Ibstock miners met at the Donington Arms Inn, on Saturday night to consider the circular, and there was a large attendance. In the absence of Mr Wallace (chairman), who had gone on business to the Leicester Infirmary Mr J. Baker (Hugglescote) presided, and gave a cordial welcome to the miners' agent, Mr Levi Lovett, J.P.

Mr Lovett gave an exhaustive report on the Conference recently held on the subject of recruiting, and afterwards invited questions. Several questions were asked, to which the agent replied, and on the motion of Mr D. Smith, seconded by Mr J. Smith, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr Lovett.

After very little discussion it was agreed to support the new scheme of recruiting. It was also agreed to take a ballot of all the men and boys employed at Ibstock Colliery as to whether they were in favour of continuing the old club, or starting a new one. The matter is to be further considered at a meeting in September, at the Waggon and Horses Inn, Ibstock.

The results of meetings of other Lodges were as follows:

WORTHINGTON

Entirely approve of the new scheme

ELLISTOWN No. 1

In favour of the scheme, except that all barred grades should be struck out.

ELLISTOWN No. 2

Opposed to miners' organisations taking any part in recruiting, but are of the opinion that there should be no exempted grades.

BAGWORTH No's 1 AND 2

Support the scheme but say no grades should be exempt. A resolution was also adopted that delegates attending the conference be asked to urge that soldiers' pay should be 4s per day, instead of 1s per day.

NAILSTONE No's 1 AND 2

In favour of recruiting, and no grades to be exempted.

SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE

Agree to miners' organisations assisting in recruiting, and contend that no grades should be exempted.

SNIBSTONE

It was urged that all men who had entered the mines since the war began should go first. The meeting favoured recruiting being assisted by the miners' organisations and no grades to be exempted.

WHITWICK No's 1 AND 2

In favour of assisting in recruiting and no grades exempted.

DESFORD No's 1 AND 2

A ballot should be taken as to whether any men go or not, but the meeting was in favour of the scheme, as amended, except that no grades should be exempt.

WHITWICK No 3

Entirely approved of the new scheme.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Pte. J. W. Barber (Bilston) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported missing, is now reported killed.

Pte. J. C. Simmonds (Coalville) of the Middlesex Regiment, is reported wounded.

Information has been received by Mr Thomas Commons, Loughborough Road, Shepshed, from the nurse in charge of a hospital in France of the death on August 9th of his second son, Sergeant Frank Commons, Royal West Kent Regiment. Deceased, who was 21 years of age, joined up on August 17th, 1914 at Mansfield, where he was employed at the Mansfield Colliery. He went to France about 17 months ago, and was wounded in action on Wednesday August 1st, and was removed to hospital and died as above stated.

A well-known Hinckley footballer, Sapper A. Norton, R.E. has been killed in France. He was one of a party laying telephone lines when a shell burst amongst them, killing two men and severely wounding two others. Norton was so badly wounded that he never regained consciousness. In a letter to the widow, deceased's officer says that Norton played his part like a man and died a death of which any soldier might be proud. The late Private Norton leaves a widow and two children. He was formerly well-known in local football circles, being a playing member of Hinckley Granville Club, and occasionally assisting Hinckley in the Midland League and Leicestershire Senior League, and he had played for Hinckley Castle End Cricket Club.

News has been received that 2nd Lieutenant Norman F. Spence, of the Devons, has been severely wounded with shrapnel, and is lying in hospital at Boulogne. Lieutenant Spence is the Borough surveyor of Marlborough, and was formerly sanitary surveyor to the Hartshorne and Seals Rural District Council, being well-known in the Ashby district. He is a son-in-law of Mr W. H. Wootton, of Loughborough, and brother-in-law of Mr Jas. Wootton, of Coalville.

Private Curtis (Coalville) and Pte. S. R. Warrington (Coleorton) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

News was received at the Manor House, Isley Walton, on Monday morning, that Capt. Chas. Shields has sustained a fracture of the thigh. He is a brother of Capt. J. Shields, and the son of Mr and Mrs J. G. Shields. He enjoys an exceptional measure of popularity in the Castle Donington district, where he has many friends who earnestly wish for him a speedy and complete recovery.

The Rev. F. Lansdown, of Leicester, has received official intimation that his second son, Lieut. F. A. Stanley Lansdown, died at Alexandria, on August 14th. Lieut. Lansdown joined the Manchester Regiment as a private in August 1914, going on to Egypt in the same year. He received a Commission in the British West Indian Regiment, Egyptian Expeditionary Force, in 1916, and has been on continuous service since joining up. No further particulars are yet to hand. Needless to say, the greatest sympathy will be felt with the family of the deceased officer in their bereavement.

Private W. Scaysbrook, a Coalville man in the Leicesters, who is now at Broom Leys for a few days, has had some exciting experiences at the Front and, unfortunately, has lost his right arm. On May 3rd, at _____ he and others were cut off and captured, but he managed to escape. He was, however, shot with an explosive bullet, this causing the amputation of his arm. He has since been in hospital at Epsom. While at the Front, Scaysbrook went "over the top" five times, without being touched. He was present when Colonel _____ came up, and after the officer had been killed, they held the trench for two days until relieved by the Welsh. Private Scaysbrook was formerly known in Coalville as a weight lifter. He was born in the cottage next to the Leicester Hotel on London Road. He formerly worked for Mr Windebank, of Hugglescote. His father, now deceased, served 21 years in the army.

ABSENTEE JUMPS FROM BEDROOM WINDOW

An Ibstock labourer, John Harvey, aged 18, was charged before Mr J. W. West, at the Coalville Police Court on Tuesday, with being an absentee under the Military Service Act, since June 4th. Captain Stevenson, recruiting officer, said he had sent four sets of calling-up papers, and a personal letter to the defendant, but he failed to respond. P.C. Shaw, of Barlestone, said that when he went to defendant's house at Ibstock early that morning, Harvey was upstairs. He jumped from the bedroom window, injuring his leg, and was eventually found concealed in the coalhouse. Accused was ordered to be handed over to the Military Authorities.

Page 4

WOUNDED LEICESTER SOLDIER'S BRAVE ACT

A Newcastle paper reports a plucky action by Private Alfred Powley, attached Leicestershire Regiment, a wounded soldier now in hospital at Armstrong College, Newcastle. He was walking in Leazes Park when a three year old child fell into the deep end of the lake. Powley at once dived in and rescued the child. The rescue was the more remarkable because Powley was in a very weak condition, and was wearing a heavy overcoat, which he did not stop to throw off. Prior to the war, Private Powley worked for Messrs. Samuel Beal, boot and shoe manufacturers, Sanvey Gate. His father lives at 5, Victor Street, Leicester.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

TRANSFER

The license of the Rawdon Arms Inn, Moira, was transferred to Bertha Adkins, from her husband, who has joined the Forces, and the Bench remitted the costs.

DISPATCH RIDER'S EXPERIENCES

DRAMATIC MEETING OF TWO COALVILLE SOLDIERS

Writing from France to a Coalville friend, Corporal W. H. Parker, at whose former business premises in Belvoir Road, Coalville, is displayed the significant announcement, "*Closed for the duration of the war,*" gives an interesting account of his experiences as a dispatch rider at the Front. He says, "*I am sleeping out in the open ready dressed for immediate duty. At my side stands my trusty 'Triumph' ready to take me anywhere I may be called upon to go. Dawn is breaking and at last I get a call to report to Major X. I duly report, being allowed three minutes to be ready to proceed to anywhere. He hands me my dispatch, pointing out certain roads as dangerous, being under shell fire, and under observation by Fritz. Having got my dispatch and instructions I start up the engine and off I go. Gradually I near the danger zone, watching the shells bursting on the road, and I stop to put on my steel helmet and judge the best time to dash by the stretch of road Fritz is shelling, counting the seconds of the intervals between each shell dropping. Then I wait for one to burst and immediately 'blind' along, hoping to get through before the next one drops. I am halfway along the road when bang goes a shell, lucky for me, 50 yards to my right, dirt flying around me. I reach the cover of some broken walls and bricks and thank God. I pull out my map to get my bearings for the next part of my journey and while I am studying it, I look up, and who should appear out of a hole in a wall, but one of the Brownlow's of Coalville. Of course, you can imagine my surprise. We looked at each other for a second or so, and then it was Brownlow said, "Fancy seeing you here, of all places." He told me he was going on leave in about a fortnight and I congratulated him, and then I had to get on, but I had not far to go then, just a few more bumps over rough roads, and dropping into shellholes, being bumped nearly to bits, and I am there, deliver my dispatch to Captain X, get receipt and return, trusting the motor bike will not fail at some crucial moment when I am under observation by old Fritz, and his machine-gun bullets are whizzing past me. I hope they always will pass me and not through me. Sometimes I look up to see an aeroplane duel between our boys and Fritz, and find myself at the bottom of a shell hole for not looking where I was going. Then as I near General Headquarters, I have to dodge horses, waggons, motor lorries, cars, troops, and everything that goes to the carrying on of this great war."*

SHEPSHED N.C.O. AWARDED D.C.M.

206104 Sergeant T. Needham, Leicestershire Regiment, (second son of the late Mr Arthur Needham, Leicester Road, Shepshead) who is at present home for a brief period of rest, has been awarded the D.C.M. for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. The official record states "*During the attack on _____ on the 8th/9th June, 1917, this gallant N.C.O. was in command of a platoon, and set a fine example of courage to his men, and on one occasion, when his party was held up by a party of the enemy, he charged them single-handed, bayoneted five, on which the remainder fled, and the platoon were able to obtain their objective.*"

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Varnham presided at a meeting of this authority held on Saturday.

An application by a footman for medical examination was granted.

Out of 15 applications for exemption by pipe hands of Worthington, three were ordered to join the Forces.

The Military Representative applied for review of exemptions in the cases of a Measham boot company's manager (renewed); Measham engine driver (two months final); Packington waggoner (renewed); Oakthorpe baker (renewed); Staunton waggoner (temporary until substituted); Normanton waggoner (the same); Whitwick waggoner (the same); Newton threshing machine driver (exemption withdrawn); Oakthorpe farm hand (temporary exemption until substituted); Appleby waggoner (the same); Measham baker, Chilcote waggoner, Ravenstone market gardener, Measham baker (renewed).

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received from the undermentioned local soldiers on service:

Corporal A. Colkin (Under date, August 13th)

Lance-Corporal Stopp (August 16th)

Lance-Corporal C. E. Brown

Private C. H. Thompson (Both date August 18th)

Private G. Knight

Lance-Corporal C. E. Brown

Private A. Stinchcombe

Lance-Corporal G. Black (All under date August 19th)

A LIFT BY THE WAY

*You ask what was it set the blood
A-tingling in my vein?
When from the battlefields of France,
I crossed the foaming main.
Was it the outline of my land;
The sight of my Blighty shore?
Yes! That was very sweet to me,
But there was something more.*

*Was it the orchards' ripened fruits,
The pear and apple trees?
The poppies waving in the fields,
The busy buzzing bees?
Was it the sight of kindly folks
Who cheered us o'er and o'er?
Yes! All of these were sweet to me,
But there was something more.*

*Was it the sight of London town,
Its domes and steeples grand?
The ever-winding Thames around,
Its wavelets and its sand?
The Parliamentary house and tower,
Our good Flag waving o'er?
Yes! These were wondrous sights indeed,
But there was something more.*

*Was it the fields of ripened grain,
The blossom of the rose?
The garden plots so well arrayed
In vegetation rows?
Was it the churling of the birds,
When flight and search were o'er?
Yes! All of these were sweet to me,
But there was something more.*

*Was it the cattle richly fed,
The forest fresh and green?
The little brooklets rippling on
'Mid many a gorgeous scene?
No! None of these, the sweetest thing
My weary heart beguiled,
Along the railway line – to me
A little girlie smiled.*

*I saw that little face for long;
I see it now again,*

*And often will remember, that
A smile can soothe our pain.
A warm tear now begins my eye,
I cannot rest awhile
Till from my inmost soul I pray,
"God give us all a Smile."*

By Pte. George Stewart, 15th H.C.I. at V.A.D. Hospital, Broom Leys, Coalville, August 21st, 1917.

Friday August 31st 1917 (Issue 1330)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

British manufacturers in two years and a half have provided 35 million pairs of Army boots?

Coalville Town F.C. have decided to play no more matches till after the war?

Mr B. Morris has been appointed Commandant of the Coalville V.A.D. in place of Mr W. Eames, resigned?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Lieutenant W. N. Riley, Leicestershire Regiment, the Cambridge University and Leicestershire cricketer, is to be married on September 1st to Miss Elsie Mildred Thame, at the Parish Church, Eltham. Lieutenant Riley, who was severely wounded in October, 1915, is now Assistant Inspector of Propellants at Woolwich Arsenal.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, with Captain German (military representative), Lieutenant R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. appealed for a setter employed in their brickyard. The man was stated to be 38 years of age, married, and passed C1. He was the only setter left and was indispensable to keep the brickyard going. Mr McCarthy said this case had been before them several times, and if the man was entitled to exemption it was a waste of time, besides and expense, to keep reviewing the case. He suggested conditional exemption. It was agreed to allow three months as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

Conditional exemption was allowed a Coalville plumber for two of his men, aged 40 and 38, both passed B1 and married. They were stated to be in a reserved trade.

A Hugglescote building firm were allowed till October 1st for a foreman joiner, 38, married, passed B1 and a bricklayer, 40, married, C1, it being stated that the cases of all in the building trade were to be considered together after October 1st.

For the same reason, a Hugglescote master builder, 34, married, C2, was also given till October 1st.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, represented a Whitwick painter, aged 64, in an appeal for his son, aged 34, married, C2, the only man he has to assist him in a business established over 100 years ago. Mr Sharp said the business could not go on without this man. Applicant has one son at the Front. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed two months.

A Hugglescote farmer was allowed 6 months for his cowman and general farm hand, a B1 man, 34 years of age, with 5 children.

Appealing for a loom overlocker and tuner, the representative of a Whitwick elastic web firm said the man, 36, passed for general service, had five children dependent. The man was solely responsible for the looms, which were partly or Government work, and employed about 130 girls. A man doing similar work joined up

last month, which left more work for the man appealed for. They had six men doing this work before the war. The Advisory Committee recommended one month to obtain the Hosiery Board. It was suggested that efforts be made to get the man badged.

Mr McCarthy: *See a solicitor and get him to do it for you.*

Applicant: *I shall have to do that.*

A member observed that lawyers were sometimes expensive. Mr McCarthy said a solicitor appeared for the firm in a previous case that was why he mentioned it. A layman could not fill up all those forms.

The clerk: *I am not sure that even lawyers are competent to fill up some of these forms.*

Two months were allowed.

The Whitwick Colliery Co. appealed for a clerk, 20, single, passed C3. Mr Lindley said the youth had developed into a useful clerk, and being in a low category was of more use where he is than in the Army. If he could retain this man, he would not appeal for a Class A man whose exemption expired shortly. They could no longer do without men.

Mr McCarthy: *And we can't do without coal.*

Mr Lindley said the man appealed for had had a brother killed in the war. Captain German suggested that Mr Lindley meet him and Mr Saint, President of the Colliery Court, to discuss the matter of the clerks, as was being done in regard to other collieries. Mr Lindley preferred to be left alone if he agreed not to appeal for a general service man. It was agreed to allow conditional exemption subject to the man being used as a substitute for a general service man at the Whitwick Colliery.

A tea company appealed for the manager of their Coalville branch shop who is 41 years of age, and on re-examination was passed for general service after being rejected. A representative of the firm said that out of 1,050 male employees before the war, 825 had joined the Forces. The chairman said that was a good proportion. The representative suggested that it was a strong case for re-examination, failing exemption. The chairman said the health of the people of the country had improved.

Capt. German: *Mr Blower suggests that it is the war bread (laughter).*

Continuing, the representative said one man was required where female assistants were employed. This man had charge of the Coalville, Whitwick and Shepshed shops, being the only man for those three shops. He produced certificates from two local independent doctors, which did not agree that he was a general service man. The man had trained with the V.T.C., and it was because he looked a little better after a week in camp that he was passed for general service, without being properly examined. Captain German said that was rather weak, as if the man looked so much better after a week's training in camp, what would six months in the Army do for him? The Company's representative urged that proper supervision of the shops was more necessary than ever now owing to the frequent changes of prices. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the Tribunal allowed three months.

A Coalville ironmongery firm appealed for a horse and motor driver, 30, C2, and married. The Advisory Committee did not assent. A partner in the firm said the man was twice rejected before passing C2. Answering Captain German, he said there were two employees and one partner of military age. The man appealed for was the only one doing outside work. Mr McCarthy said the number of tractors on the land was to be trebled soon, and farmers would want the oil to drive them. Two months allowed.

The manager of the Coalville branch shop of a provision company made a domestic appeal, the exemption granted on the firm's appeal expiring on September 1st. He said he was 38 years of age and had two children. He had only once been medically examined and was passed for general service. Some years ago he enlisted in the Dragoon Guards and was discharged as being unlikely to make a soldier. He had four brothers in the Army, three of whom had been wounded, and one was a prisoner of war. He drilled with the V.T.C. and saw younger men than himself in the same trade who had exemption. Allowed two months.

A filler and shifter at the South Leicestershire Colliery, aged 39, and passed for general service, being the father of 7 children, was allowed three months. He works in the pit at night, and helps on land in the day time.

A Coalville house agent and tax collector, having five sons in the Army, was allowed three months for another son, 19, B3, who assists him.

Three months were allowed a loader and mill feeder at the Whitwick Granite quarry, aged 41, with four children. He had been passed B1 after being formerly rejected.

Formerly passed for general service, and now B2, a Coalville Co-Operative baker, 40, in a domestic appeal, he having four children, contended that he was in a reserved trade. Two months allowed.

A Whitwick factory employee granted a month final, a fortnight ago, having received his call-up papers, wrote asking for a further week or ten days to enable him to obtain a military post in Russia, which was being advertised. Mr Briers said the man was in correspondence with the authorities. He did not wish to get out of it, but wanted to get something suitable. The Tribunal left the matter on the understanding that the Recruiting Officer would give him a few more days.

Captain German said there were still some exempted men who had not drilled with the Volunteers, and he proposed asking for some of the cases to be reviewed, but he also asked the Tribunal in every case in future to state on the exemption certificate that men must register with the V.T.C. within seven days. The Tribunal agreed.

Lieutenant Blower said the cases of a number of Stableford's men were to come forward next week. Some who had conditional exemption had since been badged, and they wanted to clear these off the books, the Government instructions being that no men were to have dual protection.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presided at a meeting of this Tribunal on Tuesday afternoon when there were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques and G. M. Arnold with Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

Mr Mansfield, solicitor, Leicester, represented a Leicester gentleman in an appeal for his chauffeur, C1, 33 years of age, married with one child. It was stated that the employer was rendering important war service. Major Wollaston said a woman could do the work of the chauffeur. The appeal was dismissed.

An Ibstock butcher, C3, who had been exempted on putting in three days a week at a farm, appealed for further exemption, stating that he had worked four days on the farm, and the employer had told him he might want him five days a week if the weather improved. The clerk said the farmer had told him applicant had worked well, and put in more than the stipulated time. Allowed four months, on not less than three days at farm work being continued.

The appeal of a Ratby hosiery hand, 24, married, on the ground that he was not satisfied with the last medical examination, which took him from C3 to B1 was dismissed.

The Tribunal also dismissed the appeal of an Ibstock youth, 18, passed for general service, who said he was studying for a chartered accountant and wished to pass an examination. He was working for a Leicester firm of chartered accountants.

Four months were allowed an Ibstock butcher on continuing three days a week on a farm. Mr Jacques said no more butchers could be spared from Ibstock.

Somewhat unusual were the circumstances in the appeal of a Barlestone collier, aged 39. He said he had worked in the pit for 26 years, being 17 years a chargeman. He also had a small holding of 18 ½ acres on which his son worked. He had previously agreed with the Tribunal to his son (19), going if his application was granted. The son had been to Wigston and had been sent back again, being a C1 man. The Tribunal allowed four months, leaving it to the military authorities to deal with the son.

A wheelwright in business at Hugglescote, and residing at Ibstock, 34, married, passed for general service, stated in his appeal that he was working almost wholly on agricultural repairs.

The clerk: *You have enough repairs to last you till Christmas?*

Applicant: *Yes, after then.*

Six months allowed.

Four months were allowed an attendant of machinery in the employ of the Groby Granite Co. who said he had a weak heart and produced a medical certificate to this effect. He was 36 years of age, single and passed C2. A member remarked that to send this man would only be sending him to the hospital.

A Ratby shoe hand, 19, single, formerly C3, and now general service, applied on the ground that he was not satisfied with his medical examination. A member remarked that some grave mistakes were being made in medical examinations, and it was running the country to a lot of expense. Applicant, wearing glasses, said his eyesight was very weak, and he had bad feet. He could not march. He bought a pair of heavy boots six weeks ago and had to give them away. He had been at home weeks at a time and the doctor told him that if he did not wear glasses he would go blind. It was thought the man might do some work in the Army and the appeal was dismissed.

A colliery carpenter, residing at Thornton, appealed for his son, aged 18, single, who had not yet been medically examined. He said the lad was working underground at the Desford Colliery and put in a letter from Mr Homer, the colliery manager, who wrote that the youth had worked in the mine since leaving the Bosworth School, and was assisting him in the mine surveying. He was very useful to him. Applicant said he had three other sons who joined up voluntarily nearly two years ago. This was the only child he had left at home, his family consisting of four sons. Lieutenant Blower asked whether Mr Homer had made application to the President of the Colliery Court. Applicant said he believed he had.

Lieut. Blower: *The colliery manager should appeal within 30 days of a mine worker becoming 18 years of age.*

Mr Eggington said that a man with three sons in the army was entitled to some consideration. The chairman said he agreed, and thought they should be as lenient as they could be in a case of that sort. Lieut. Blower said there were several matters under consideration just now in regard to the recruitment of miners. It was decided to allow two months, by the end of which the matters referred to would probably have been settled, the youth to be medically examined in the meantime. A member remarked that some families had given almost their all and others none. The Government, in the first place, ought to have taken one man from every home.

An Ibstock general dealer, 41, B2, was allowed a further four months on giving 3 days a week to agriculture. He said he had gone several times lately and could not work owing to the wet weather. A member said they hoped to have fine weather sometime and then perhaps he would be willing to make it up. Applicant said he would.

Six months were allowed a Groby carrier and carter, 38, married, and a Market Bosworth coal carter and mail contractor, aged 40.

In the case of an Ibstock wine and spirit merchant, it was stated that the man was now working as a bricklayer six days a week on important work. He was 41 years of age and passed C1, and subject to him continuing full time at work of national importance he was allowed four months.

Leave to make another appeal was applied for by an Ibstock lady in respect of her son, who managed the business of a gents' outfitter. It was stated that arrangements had been made for a substitute, but he could not come till September 10th, and they asked for the calling-up notice to be deferred for 28 days to enable him to teach the new man. Applicant, who is 24 years of age, single, and passed for general service, said that if the Tribunal granted the application his mother would be able to continue the business, which was her means of livelihood. It was stated that on two previous occasions the man had been given two months final, and he had just been on a fortnight's holiday to Blackpool. Lieut. Blower said the man was due to report himself on Friday last, but Captain Stevenson was waiting for the result of this application. Leave to appeal again was refused.

The Tribunal also dismissed the appeal of a Ratby grocer, aged 31, C1.

A C3 hosiery hand of Ratby was allowed three months, and four months were allowed an Osbaston licensed victualler who has 30 acres of land, and has taken on additional agricultural work.

A number of assented cases were also confirmed.

Page 3

THORNTON

FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

A flower show was held in the Council Schools at Thornton, on Saturday afternoon, the proceeds being devoted to the local soldiers' and sailors' fund. Sixty men have joined up. Mr and Mrs Everard (Bradgate House) who opened the proceedings, congratulated the promoters on the excellence of the exhibits, and hoped they would give "the boys" a good home-coming, while not forgetting those who had made the supreme sacrifice.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr and Mrs Dodds, of 9, Berisford Street, Coalville, have been informed that the Army Council are regretfully constrained to conclude that their son, Private Sidney Dodds, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, posted as missing on October 21st, 1916, died on that date or since. Deceased was formerly employed in the pattern shop at Messrs. Wootton Bros' engineering works, Coalville. He was 21 years of age and joined the Leicesters at the end of August 1915. After being in various camps in England he was drafted to France in July, 1916, being shortly afterwards transferred to the Royal Sussex Regiment. He was one of Mr T. Frith's old boys of the Belvoir Road Council School, and was formerly in the P.M. Bible Class and choir. He was also a regular attendant at the Coalville Men's Adult School, and a member of the Y.M.C.A., being very popular with all his associates. His father is Dr. Jamie's chauffeur.

Mr and Mrs John Knight, of the Altons, near Coalville, have been informed that their son, Rifleman Wm. Knight, was killed in action on August 19th. Prior to joining up in Queen Victoria's Royal Rifles, the deceased was in the offices of Messrs. Fisher, Jesson and Co., solicitors, Ashby and Burton, and at the time of enlistment was in charge of the Burton office. He was highly respected by all who knew him, and much sympathy with the family is expressed.

Mrs Wesson, of No. 8, Club Row, Coalville, has received news that her son, Private Archie Martin, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, was killed in action on August 17th. The sad information is conveyed in a letter from Pte. A. Sullivan, a comrade of the deceased, who states that while they were on duty as stretcher-bearers, Martin was killed by a shell. He suffered no pain, says the writer, who expressed his sympathy with the bereaved mother. Mrs Wesson had four soldier sons, and Archie is the second to make the supreme sacrifice. He was 26 and formerly worked at the Whitwick Colliery. His father was the late Mr Frank Martin, for many years engine-driver at the South Leicestershire Colliery. The deceased's brother, Frank, died in June 1915, in hospital at Sheffield, from wounds received in action, and was buried with military honours at Coalville. One of the two other brothers serving is now at home on leave, having been in hospital through being gassed.

Mr and Mrs H. G. W. Howe, of Thringstone, have received news that their son, Pte. G. W. W. Howe, of the Rifle Brigade, has been wounded in action, and is now in hospital. During an early morning attack he was shot in the head, having a marvellous escape from being killed. Pte. Howe was formerly in business at Coalville, where he was well-known as a dairyman, carrying on the business of the Snibstone Dairy, in High Street.

Private J. Bradford, of the North Staffs. Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Chas. Bradford, of No. 1 Park Road, Coalville, missing since May 25th, has written home this week stating that he is a prisoner in Germany. He writes from Kriegsgesfangenen, Stammlager, Limburg, and says he hopes they are all in good health, as it leaves him in the pink. He has a Canadian as a pal, and asks them to send him cigarettes and food, also socks, but they are not to put in the latter to crowd out food, he says, "as we can do with all we get in that way". Private Bradford is 20 years of age. He formerly was in the employ of Mr Pickworth, draper, for five years, but immediately before joining up was working at the Snibstone Colliery. His father is a collier.

We regret to announce the death at the Front of Mr Arthur Newman, draper and outfitter, High Street, Ibstock. He was serving as a despatch rider and whilst engaged in carrying despatches during the night collided with another motor cyclist, and sustained injuries to which he subsequently succumbed. Much sympathy is felt for his widowed mother, Mrs W. B. Newman and family and fiancée, Miss M. Knight, in their sad bereavement. Arthur was the third son and his genial disposition made him much liked by a wide circle of friends. Mrs Newman has three other sons serving their country in the army.

Private J. H. Bullen, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been seriously wounded in action necessitating the amputation of both legs. He is the son of Mr and Mrs Matthew Bullen, of Highfields Street, Coalville. Writing to his wife, the daughter of Mr Curtis, a former manager of the Workingmen's Club, Margaret Street, Coalville, and now residing at 82 Bath Row, Birmingham a chaplain first stated that the soldier was seriously wounded and was dangerously ill. Later, he wrote that Bullen was doing well, and making good progress, though he was afraid that he would lose a leg. The wife has since received a telegram that her husband has lost both his legs. At the time, Pte. Bullen was acting as stretcher-bearer, carrying a wounded soldier, when a shell fell and exploded just behind him. He is now in hospital in Calais. He is 24 years of age, and has one child. Before the war he worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

THRINGSTONE'S FIRST MILITARY MEDALLIST

PARISHIONERS' APPRECIATION

A public meeting was held in the Village Hall at Thringstone on Monday night, to consider by what means the parish should show its appreciation of Corporal F. W. L. Rennocks, being the first Thringstone soldier to win the Military Medal.

The Whitwick Boy Scouts with their bugle band, paraded the village, and there was a good attendance at the meeting, notwithstanding a wet night. Mr Ben Baxter presided, and explained the object of the meeting. He said he did not think there was a village in England which had done more in proportion, to help in this great crisis than Thringstone (applause). He was proud of their brave young men who had gone forth so nobly to fight for the cause of freedom and for the welfare of them all. They had come could hardly appreciate the work these lads were doing for them, and at a meeting like that, called to honour a soldier from their own village he was sure all would be prepared to do their best (cheers).

Mr H. G. W. Howe said a few of them met together and thought the Corporal's brave deed should be recognised. They had had one or two meetings, but decided to call the parishioners together in order that all might have a chance of participating. It might be that there would also be other Thringstone soldiers whom they would wish to honour as time went on, and so the formation of a committee was suggested. It was not for everybody to shoulder the rifle, but it was up to everybody to do his bit, whether on the battlefield or at home (cheers). He then gave an account of how Corporal Rennocks won the medal. On July 14th, 1916, the Corporal was in charge of a bombing party and had the misfortune to lose all his comrades but one, who has since been killed. He held on for 14 hours before being relieved (cheers). They would no doubt make a good effort to recognise his bravery. Mr Howe then handed round the medal which had been presented to Rennocks.

The Rev. C. Shrewsbury (Vicar), having read a short poem composed by the Corporal, said they were proud of all the lads who had gone from their parish, and it would give them the greatest pleasure to honour more military medallists (cheers). There were many of our soldiers who deserved the V.C. but did not get it. It was not like the iron cross, hanging round the neck of almost every German soldier, but when an honour was bestowed upon a British soldier it was thoroughly well-earned. They were all longing for peace, they were utterly sick of this war, but it must not be a patched-up peace. The sacrifices they had made and the lives laid down must not be all in vain. They wanted a peace which would be permanent and lasting, and he was

sure that the British soldiers and sailors and their Allies would secure such a peace if only they were well supported by the people at home (cheers). They must have such a peace as would prevent a horrible war like this breaking out again just when it might suit the Kaiser's whim and fancy.

Driver J. Sharp, of the Australian Artillery, on leave from France, son of Mr R. Sharp, of Whitwick, was then called upon to say a few words, and remarked how pleased he was that they were honouring Corporal Rennocks. They could not all get medals, though they were all doing their best (cheers). But for the war he would not have been there. He had come from Australia and was proud to once more be with the people among whom he was bred and born, but he thought there was no country like Australia, and it was his intention to return after the war.

Gunner E. Laundon, another Whitwick soldier in the Royal Marine Artillery, followed with a few remarks, observing that many deeds which were not observed by an officer deserved the Victoria Cross. Having been out in France for two years, and knowing that their Army was doing, it made him proud that he was a Britisher (applause). They could not honour their infantrymen too much. They could not picture what it meant when the order came, "*Over the top, lads, and the best of luck,*" and all this for a bob a day. They were jolly good fellows, and it inspired one to hear them whistling and singing as they went into action (cheers). Nothing they could do would be too much for these brave lads at the Front (applause). He added that he got the "Coalville Times" in France every week and was always interested in the accounts concerning local soldiers.

The following were the committee who promoted the meeting: Messrs. H. Bradley, T. and E. Watts, B. Baxter, H. Weston, J. Smith, J. T. Briers, and H. G. W. Howe. The following were added by the meeting, Messrs. J. Waldram, P. Neal, E. Gee, and W. Abell. It was left to the committee to elect two for the outlying district of Pegg's Green.

A vote of thanks to the promoters of the meeting, speakers, chairman, and trustees for lending the hall, and the singing of the National Anthem, closed a successful meeting, and the committee afterwards met to further consider ways and means of realising their object.

HON. F. W. S. MCLAREN KILLED

AVIATION TRAGEDY

Second-Lieutenant the Hon. Francis W. W. McLaren, M.P. for Spalding Division, met his death while flying at Montrose yesterday morning, when fully a mile out at sea, his machine was seen to suddenly nose-dive and fall into the water. The rescue party at Montrose bathing station put off in a boat to his assistance, and brought him ashore, but he died from internal injuries. Deceased, who was the second son of Lord Aberconway and brother of the Hon. H. D. McLaren M.P. for the Bosworth Division of Leicestershire, was 31 years of age. He received a commission in September, 1914 in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve for service with the armoured motor-car section, and was transferred to the Royal Flying Corps in January of last year. Mr McLaren was elected for the Spalding Division in January, 1910, as a Liberal. Much sympathy for the family will be felt in Coalville and district.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Dodds, desire to tender their sincere thanks to the many friends who have kindly expressed sympathy with them in the loss of their son, Private Sidney Dodds, posted as missing, October 21st, 1916, and now concluded to have died on that date (or since).

9, Berrisford Street, Coalville.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of my dear pal, Horace, from his sorrowing chum ("Tom") W. Widdowson, with H.M. Forces in Palestine.

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service:

Private H. B. Hardington
Private E. Smith
Private A. Topliss

All under date August 20th.

Corporal H. Clamp
Private W. Cross
Private J. T. Ball
Company Quartermaster-Sergeant C. Hubbard
Private S. Wood
Lance-Corporal Stopp
Private A. Tansey
Private A. Topliss
Corporal W. Sykes

All under date August 21st

Corporal E. W. Capell

Under date August 22nd

Charles Henry Thompson

Under date August 24th

Signaller E. Wall
Signaller A. Nelson
Signaller E. Dowson
Private S. Brown

All under date August 25th

Private S. Burford
George H. Foster
Private H. Collier
Sergeant F. Smith
Corporal H. Clamp
Private W. Cross
Sergeant W. E. Cave
Sergeant R. Hull
Private S. Shaw
Private G. Knight
C.Q.M.S. Hubbard
Lance-Corporal C. E. Brown
Private G. Edward
Lance-Corporal Carr, M.M.
Private G. Foster
Private L. Cross (Letter follows first opportunity)
Corporal A. Woolerton (Letter follows first opportunity)

All under date August 26th

Private H. W. Swain

Under date August 27th

Friday September 7th 1917 (Issue 1331)

Page 1

WANTED

Woman for housework, mornings only – cooking – suit soldier's wife. Apply, Miss Hosking, Coalville Vicarage.

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

C. Whittaker
Alf Richardson
Charles Henry Thompson
Private. C. C. Woodcock
Private J. Coles
Private A. Tansey
Private J. Bird
R. Stanyard
E. Sheppard
T. Read
Private A. Stinchcombe (Leicester)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. A. HARRISON

News has reached his family in Leicester of the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. Augustus Harrison, T.D., which has taken place in South Africa, at the age of 44 years. Lieut-Colonel Harrison was the eldest surviving son of Mr John Harrison, well-known in connection with Leicestershire agricultural matters. When the South African War broke out he was an officer of the Leicester Volunteers, and volunteered to take out a service company. He served through a considerable part of the war, and subsequently rose to the command of the Leicester Volunteer Battalion.

On the outbreak of the present war he invited the battalion to join him in volunteering for active service at the front, and both officers and men responded almost unanimously. Colonel Harrison went to France in command of the battalion in the early part of 1915, but after a few months service was invalided home. Ultimately he relinquished his commission on account of continued ill-health, and went out to South Africa.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Lieut J. C. Stimson (Sherwood Foresters) of Ashby, has been awarded an instructor's certificate and appointed anti-gas officer to the battalion?

Having taken the position of Commandant of the Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade in place of Commandant P. R. Woods, who has joined the Forces, Mr W. E. Canner is shortly to be commissioned a lieutenant in the Brigade?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

A party of soldiers from the Broom Leys Hospital, Coalville, were taken on Saturday by motor car to Hinckley where they were entertained to a capital tea and entertainment by the committee of the Constitutional Club. Mr J. Goddard, of Leicester was the principal performer and the company had a good time. Cars were kindly

lent by Messrs. John Wootton, J. H. Land, T. Stinson, J. Towers, Dr. Jamie, Coleman and Sons, the Charnwood Forest Laundry Co. (Coalville) and W. Blythe (Ellistown).

A roll of honour in connection with the Leicestershire County Cricket Club which has just been issued by the secretary, Mr S. C. Packer, shows that four playing members (two of them on the ground staff) have made the supreme sacrifice, and thirty-four are serving in various branches of the Forces, some of them having been wounded in addition to three members of the staff. As far as is known there are also 105 ordinary members of the club (irrespective of volunteers) serving in the Forces.

The Post Office announces that parcels for the Egyptian Expeditionary Force posted in this country which reached the Army Parcel Office between 6pm on July 24th and 6pm on July 31st have been lost through enemy action. Mails for Newfoundland containing correspondence and parcels posted between August 10th and 14th have also been lost through enemy action.

The National Health Insurance Commissioners have made new regulations establishing special arrangements for the medical treatment by general practitioners of all sailors and soldiers (including those who are uninsured) invalided from service with the Forces. These arrangements provide special facilities whereby such men can obtain the services of a doctor without delay immediately upon discharge, and they also include special provision for the treatment in sanatoria of discharged men suffering from tuberculosis.

MILITARY CROSS FOR LOCAL OFFICER

Second-Lieutenant W. Dowell, R.G.A. has been awarded the Military Cross and the Belgian decoration "Chevalier de Porte de la Couronne" for bravery at Messines on June 7th. He was a regular soldier and gained the D.C.M. last October, and was afterwards granted a commission. He is the son of the late Thomas Dowell of Bagworth, and his wife resides in Leicester.

Page 3

IBSTOCK

I.L.P. MEETING

A successful meeting of the above was held on Friday night last in the Ram field. Mr Wm. Borritt presided. Pte. Simmons of Birmingham (who has lost his left foot) spoke of his experiences in Egypt and in France, and of the attitude of the soldiers towards the I.L.P. Councillor J. Murby, of Leicester, addressed himself to the workers and their relationship to the movement. A good sale of literature was effected.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Pte. S. Powdrill (Ashby) of the Royal Sussex Regiment, is reported killed.

Private S. Moore (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported wounded.

Mr and Mrs Arthur Statham, of Mill Lane, Newbold Verdon, have received official intimation that their son, Private Alfred Statham, is presumed dead after 11 months. Pte. Statham was reported missing from September 25th, 1916. Private Statham had only been back at the Front a week or so after recovering from wounds received in action on July 14th, 1916 in the Battle of Trones Wood. Prior to enlisting he was employed by the Desford Coal Company as a miner.

Mr and Mrs Harry Hill, of Ravenstone, have been officially notified that their son, Pte. Walter Hill, of the Machine Gun Corps, has been killed in action. Before the war deceased was working in Coalville as a butcher. His father is a miner and smallholder at Ravenstone. A memorial service was held at the Parish Church on Sunday evening, conducted by the Rev. S. Dowling (rector). Suitable reference was made to the deceased in the course of the sermon, and after the singing of the National Anthem at the close, the "Last Post" was sounded.

Mr Isaac Limb, of Green Lane, Whitwick has been informed that the War Office are regretfully constrained to conclude that his adopted son, Private William Henry Cooke, of the Leicestershire Regiment reported wounded and missing on September 25th, 1916, died on that date or since. Deceased was 23 years of age

and was a former scholar at the Whitwick Church School. He joined up soon after the war started and had been on active service in France for some considerable time. This makes 33 Whitwick soldiers officially reported killed.

Lance-Corporal H. Deakin (Coalville) and Private E. W. Ball (Stanton-under-Bardon), both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded, also Private J. Parker (Whitwick) of the Cheshire Regiment.

Mr and Mrs S. W. Brown, of London Road, Coalville on Saturday morning received the sad news that their only son, Private W. J. Cecil Brown, of the King's Royal Rifles had been killed in action. The letter was from a chaplain who stated the deceased was wounded in the head and died in hospital without recovering consciousness. The deceased was engaged with a Lewis gun. He was 20 years of age and had been in France a little over a year. For some time before joining up he was assisting in one of the Y.M.C.A. tents. He was an old boy of the Christ Church School and of the Coalville Grammar School and gave promise of a useful business career in the firm of Brown and Sons, boot and shoe manufacturers of Coalville and Whitwick etc. in which his father is a partner. As well as being an only son, he was also the only grandson of Mr Walter Brown, the senior partner of the firm. He was a very gentlemanly youth, of lovable disposition, and the greatest sympathy is felt for his parents and other members of the family in their great loss.

Bombardier J. C. Higgins, Royal Garrison Artillery, youngest son of Mr Walter Higgins, tobacconist, High Street, Coalville, has been admitted to hospital in France. Higgins, who has been at the Front thirteen months without a break, was an assistant master at Markfield Church of England School before voluntarily enlisting. He has been "gassed".

Official notice has been received by Mrs H. Clarke, Forest Gate, Anstey that her husband, Sapper Harold Clarke, was killed in action on July 6th. Before enlisting he served four years in the Leicestershire Territorials and also spent some time in Egypt. He was formerly employed at the Desford Colliery.

Pte. J. F. Irons, North Staffs, has been missing since July 1st. Any information will be gladly received by his parents, Mr and Mrs Irons, Shaw Lane, Markfield.

Pte. F. Tyler, Manchester Regiment, only son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Tyler, of 14, Waterworks Road, Coalville was killed in action on 31st July, according to an official intimation. He was 26 years of age, and worked at Whitwick Colliery for ten years. He had been in France for two years, during which period he had had no leave. A Canadian soldier, signing himself, "An unknown friend" forwarding some photographs and letters belonging to the deceased, said he buried him with the greatest respect, and had marked his grave.

Lance-Corporal H. Deakin, of the Leicesters, reported wounded, is a son of Mr W. Deakin, a foreman at Messrs. Stableford's works, and residing at Highfields Street, Coalville. Unfortunately, he has practically lost the sight of his right eye, through being struck by shrapnel. He is 19 years of age, and before the war was employed at Messrs. Stableford's Works.

LOCAL NEWS

ABSENTEE

Before Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court yesterday, Pte. James Armstead was charged with being an absentee from the R.F.C. at Waddington, since September 3rd. He was arrested by P.C. Jelley, of Whitwick, and was remanded to await an escort.

HON F.W.S. MCLAREN'S DEATH

The Hon. F.W.S. McLaren, whose death while flying occurred on Thursday last week, was the younger son of Lord Aberconway and brother of the Hon. H. D. McLaren, M.P. for the Bosworth Division and was born in 1886. He was educated at Eton and Balliol, where he took honours in modern history and afterwards became a member of the Inner Temple. When the war broke out he joined the R.N.V.R. and went with the armoured cars first to Belgium and later to Gallipoli, where his car took part in an advance and his driver was shot by his side. He accompanied the armoured cars when they were sent to Egypt. He spent some months there, but resigned from the R.N.A.S. when there seemed little chance of active service with the armoured cars, and came home and joined the R.F.C. Before his training was completed at Brooklands he became seriously ill, and remained so for several months. At the time when he had been pronounced well by his

doctor, Mr McLaren learned to his amazement, from a letter from a constituent, that without his knowledge, he had been invalided out of the Army. For several months he besieged the War Office until at last he secured reinstatement, and although he was beyond the age when men are usually admitted to the Royal Flying Corps, he was, after some delay, re-admitted, and was posted to a flying squadron for training at Montrose. He was nearing the end of the advanced course when his death occurred.

When he was returned as Liberal member for the Spalding Division in 1910, he enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest member of the House, and while in the House was Parliamentary Secretary to Mr (now Lord) Harcourt when Commissioner of Works and Colonial Secretary. He was a J.P. for Denbighshire.

Mr McLaren married in 1911, Barbara, daughter of Sir Hubert Jekyll, K.C.M.G. with whom he came into a fortune of about a quarter of a million, and he leaves two sons, aged three and two. The news of his death was received with profound regret at Spalding, and flags at the clubs and elsewhere were placed at half-mast.

An expression of this feeling was voiced on behalf of the Unionists in the following terms: *"Friend and foe alike will sink all political differences, and there will be complete unity of sorrow and sympathy in the knowledge that the gallant young officer has given his life for his country."*

Mr W. S. Royce, of Pinchbeck, who has twice previously contested the division, is the prospective Unionist candidate but it is not considered likely, in view of the party truce owing to the war, that there will be any contest at the present juncture. The funeral took place with military honours at Godalming on Wednesday afternoon.

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

At a meeting of this authority on Monday applications for review were considered.

A greengrocer (38), married, was granted renewal of his conditional exemption. An agricultural fitter (28), married, general service, had his conditional exemption withdrawn, and temporary exemption withdrawn, and temporary exemption granted until substituted. A relieving officer (39), passed for general service, married, was ordered to be substituted.

A general dealer and farmer (37), married, C2, had his conditional exemption renewed; and a grocer (39), B1, was allowed two months. A waggoner, formerly employed at a flour mill, (41), single, general service, had his conditional exemption withdrawn. A screen man at a flour mill, (41), married, was granted two months.

Two applications for conditional exemption by a miller resulted in an engine driver (37), married, and a roller man (36), married, each obtaining two months. The manager of a Co-Operative Society, married, general service (previously C3), was granted four months. The case of a dairyman, previously C3, now B1, was referred to Leicester, he having appealed to them against the Ashby Tribunal's decision.

Page 4

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of this Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, A. Lockwood and C. W. Brown, Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer), Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk said there were a number of men employed at Stableford's Works, Coalville who had been granted conditional exemption because of a difficulty at the time in getting badges, but the men had now been badged and the military representatives were appealing for the conditional exemptions to be withdrawn, as no men should have dual protection. The military secretary said there were 32 who were appealed for by the firm, and 15 who got exemption on personal applications. The latter had all been given notice, and could attend if they wished.

Mr Lockwood: *Are we to take it that it is the law that they can't have dual protection?*
The clerk: *I don't think it is the law; it is an instruction to the military representatives.*

Mr Brown: *What does it matter if they have six exemptions?*

Lieut. Blower said it showed more exemptions on their books than really existed because these men were counted twice. If these exemptions were not withdrawn, the military authorities would apply for the withdrawal of the badges. If they remained badged they were out of the scope of the military authorities, but if they lost their badges, the military authorities could appeal for a review of the conditional exemption at any time.

Mr Brown: *If the conditional exemptions are withdrawn and they subsequently lose their badges, would they have the right to appeal again?*

Lieut. Blower: *Yes. It is not done with the view of taking any advantage of anyone. It is simply to clear the books of having men on twice.*

Six of the men holding exemptions on personal appeals appeared before the Tribunal and asked various questions, and they were assured by the chairman that it was not done with the object of tricking them at all. It was simply with the object of clearing up the military books. If the badges were withdrawn at any time they would still have the right of a personal appeal. One of the men said his exemption certificate from the Tribunal stipulated that he should do work of national importance locally, which he was doing, and looking after his business at the same time. If that was withdrawn, though he held a trade card, he might be moved. Lieut. Blower said the Tribunal could not interfere in a case like that if the country required a man's services elsewhere. It was agreed that all the exemption certificates be withdrawn.

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. appealed for a ledger clerk, aged 35, passed for general service. The Advisory Committee recommended till September 30th (final). Mr William Hurst, secretary to the company said they had two collieries and were almost at their wits' end to keep going. Five out of 13 clerks of military age had joined the Forces, and two young men, nearly 18, who were very useful would, he supposed, have to go. He detailed the many and important duties the man had to do in connection with the accounts, and in completing returns for the Coal Controller which, he said, were very complicated. The position in which they were placed was such that he would have to ask the clerks to work on Sundays. He could not conduct the colliery with any less assistance. If they must have someone he suggested that they find a substitute and take him (Mr Hurst). He would be pleased to go and do his bit. He said that in all seriousness. Before being passed for general service, the man appealed for was C3. Allowed till September 30th, not final.

A Coalville carter and dealer, 36, B1, married with five children, was represented by Mr C. E. Crane, who asked for a re-examination, stating that the man was formerly C3. He used to be a chargeman in the mine but had to leave through ill-health to get open air employment. Applicant said he was 5ft 9in and only weighed 8 stone 12lbs. When he left the pit he weighed 11 stone 5lbs. He had had a lot of illness. One month was allowed for re-examination.

The Forest Rock Granite Co. were allowed one month to get a badge for a sledger, 34, married, B2.

Till October 1st was allowed a Coalville builder for a B2 man, married, aged 39, and to a Hugglescote builder for a B2 man, married, 38.

A Coalville dairyman and milkseller appealed for his son, single, aged 23, saying he was the only son left at home out of four. One had been killed, and two were at the Front, one after being wounded. The three enlisted voluntarily. His son appealed for was re-examined on the previous day and put up from C3 to C2. Last Wednesday he started working at nights at Coleorton Colliery, and was assisting in the milk business in the day time, being anxious to do what he could. One month.

A Coalville loom-maker appealed for a loom and shuttle maker, single, aged 23, C2. He said he was trying to get a badge for the man. Another month was allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society applied for a cleaner and "handyman" who, it was said, was lame. He was married, aged 32, and was passed C3 after being rejected. He used to be a tailor but had to give that up owing to a defective knee. The Advisory Committee did not assent but the Tribunal allowed one month.

The Military Representative appealed against the exemption granted to the manager of the Charnwood Forest Laundry Co. Coalville, aged 40, single, passed C1.

Mr Briers: *Is it because he refused to drill with the V.T.C.?*
The Military Secretary: *That is one of the reasons.*

A representative of the company said the man was engine-driver, stoker, and managed the works entirely. Twenty-six females were employed and that was the only man. They were doing the washing for 70 soldiers and the staff at Broom Leys, besides all their other work. A substitute was to be found, but one was not found. If he was to be taken, the works would have to be closed. The same company had to close the laundry at Market Harborough because the man was taken, resulting in the loss of £600 to £800 and it would be the same at Coalville. Lieut. Blower said they were not allowed to substitute a man of this class. Allowed one month for re-examination.

As he had not drilled with the V.T.C. the military authorities appealed against the exemption of a Whitwick Colliery clerk, 31, married, and Mr W. Lindley said the man had now given an undertaking to drill, for which he would give up clerical work in the evenings at a munition works. This undertaking was accepted, and as the man's case was to come up in the ordinary course next week, a further three months' exemption was allowed.

Another appeal by the military was against the exemption of a dental mechanic, 38, residing at Shepshed and employed by his brother, a Coalville dentist who is a captain in the army. One month allowed for medical examination.

Several applications to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. were received. Two of them were Stableford's men, and as the exemptions had been withdrawn, it was stated that the Tribunal now had no jurisdiction over these men.

The application of a Coalville boot and shoe repairer was refused and the application of another boot and shoe repairer, of Hotel Street, Coalville, was adjourned for a week for a medical certificate which he said he had sent to be looked up.

MILITARY WEDDING AT ISLEY WALTON

CAPT. AUBREY MOORE AND MISS MAY SHIELDS

The marriage took place at Isley Walton Parish Church on Saturday of Captain Aubrey Gordon de Appleby Moore, Leicesters, son of the Rev. C. T. Moore, J.P. (rector) and Mrs Moore, of Appleby Magna and Miss Louise May Shields, daughter of Mr J. G. Shields, J.P. and C.C. and Mrs Shields, of the Manor House, Isley Walton. The bridegroom has been on active service for three years, and is now home on leave. Two of the bride's brothers are in the Army, viz., Lieut. J. Shields, R.A., and who was married in Ireland a month ago, and Captain Shields, Leicester, who is now in a base hospital in France, having been wounded a few days ago and had his left leg amputated.

The bride was given away by her father. Her gown was of white satin, with Georgette bodice trimmed with pearls and with shell pink foundation. Her white satin train was lined with shell pink Georgette draped with old lace lent by Mrs Wilfred Byron, and she had a wreath of orange blossom and veil lent by Miss Flora Emerton. The bridesmaids were Misses Margaret Burton and Miss Daphne Byron (niece of the bridegroom) who carried the bride's train, and Miss Doris Turner. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. S. Hosgood, vicar of Lockington, the little church being crowded. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr Frederick Wilson, of H.M. Navy.

The bride's ornaments were a diamond pendant, lent by her mother, and a diamond and pearl bracelet given by the Hon. Gilbert and Mrs Hastings. Among the guests were Colonel Picot, commandant at Donington Park, Major and Mrs Wilfred Byron, Lieutenant F. M. and Mrs Joyce, Mr and Mrs George Bullen, Mrs John German, Miss Hassad, Rev. C. T. and Mrs Moore, Mr Ford, Mr and Mrs J. H. Timms, Mr and Mrs J. Turner and others.

Friday September 14th 1917 (Issue 1332)

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Corporal E. W. Capell
C.S.M. E. Hart
Sergeant W. Lycett
L.Corpl. Carr, M.M.
Sergeant W. E. Cave
Sam Burford
W. Lilley, M.M. and bar
Jack Ryder, S.B.
George Foster
Private H. Collier
W. Woollerton
Private L. Cross
Corporal W. Toon
Sergeant Walton
Bernard Nixon
J. W. Deakin
L.-Corpl. A. Beale
Sergeant A. Smith
Private Wm. H. Eames
Private A. E. Baker
Private C. H. Thompson (I have been admitted into hospital (sick) and am going on well)
Runner J. Collier
Private G. Knight
L.-Corpl. Shilton
Sergeant H. Clamp
C.Q.M.S. C. Hubbard
Sergeant L. A. Ellis
J. W. Griffin
Sergeant G. Meakin
C.S.M. Stabler
Corporal F. Tansey

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Mrs Field, of Baldock (Herts) has had her baby girl christened Vimy in memory of her husband's death in action at Vimy Ridge?

Today and tomorrow will be flag days in Coalville and district in connection with the Leicestershire "Navy Week" the proceeds being for disabled British sailors?

Mr C. E. Crane, of Messrs. Crane and Moore, solicitors, Coalville, has been gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment?

AMONG THE GOLD DIGGERS

WHITWICK SOLDIER'S EXPERIENCES

Corporal H. T. Newbury, who is with the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force and has been spending leave in India, writing from Bangalore, to his mother, Mrs J. Newbury, of the Market Place, Whitwick states *"I am staying for a few days in the Kolas goldfields and have had a look round the mills. I never thought the gold had to go through so many processes. There is no Primitive Methodist Church in Bangalore, so I went to the Wesleyan last Sunday week and after evening service we went into the Soldier's Home close by, and for a few hours enjoyed ourselves singing various hymns. I knew the majority of them and sang them from*

memory. The minister noticed me singing and came and asked me whether I had been connected with any church whilst in civil life. I told him and he soon got me fixed up to take an appointment in the Goldfields Circuit. I had a very good time indeed last Sunday. The majority of the Englishmen working in the gold mines are from Cornwall, and they are a very hearty and good-natured lot of people." He concludes by saying he is A1.

Before the war, Corporal Newbury was a clerk at Messrs. Burgess and Son's elastic web factory, Coalville. He is well-known to Primitive Methodists of the district, being on the P.M. preaching plan.

COALVILLE SOLDIER IN EGYPT

AN INTERESTING LETTER

Writing to friends at Coalville from Egypt, Driver H. Savage, of the A.S.C. a Coalville soldier, says that during the two years he has been in Egypt, he has seen some queer sights. He states that for a time they were in camp right under the Pyramids and Sphinx, and proceeds, *"They are a wonderful sight, and it is difficult to understand how those who built them managed to get the stones heaped up as they are. I had the chance to get into Cairo one night, and a fine place it is. There are some wonderful buildings. The mosques and tombs of olden times are quite numerous. Leaving Cairo, we proceeded by train to _____ on the Nile and as there had not been troops there before you can imagine what the people did. They hid themselves in their mud houses. Their houses are built of mud, with roofs made from maize straw, and their cattle live in the same houses. Their work is done by camels, oxen, mules and women. The men do nothing but sleep, while their wives do all the work. Their cry every time they see an English Tommy is "Baksheesh" (give us money). That is all they can say. The land in this part is the most fertile that I have ever seen. They got two crops of cotton a year, also two crops of maize, and they don't do any digging as we have to do, but all they do is to plough the land by means of a tree trunk sharpened at the end and drawn by two oxen. They scatter the seed and flood the land with water and in a day or two's time the crop is shooting up. We next went to another place some 200 miles off, where we had to do our bit for our country in helping to drive the Turks out, and now I have got to Palestine. What a vast difference in the land. Instead of the desert we have been in we are now amid fields of barley and orchards laden with fruit such as apricots, oranges, figs and grapes. I wish all the people of Coalville the best of luck as I am sure that the opening of a V.A.D. Hospital there is one of the best things that Coalville could have been done. It is helping the country to win the war, and if it is carried on, it will be a great thing after the war. I am writing this in hospital as I have had malarial fever, but am pleased to say that I am on the road to recovery again. I am in the same hospital as Nurse Moore (Hugglescote) and I am sure it is quite nice to meet anyone from the old town."*

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

WORK FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T DRILL

A meeting of the Coalville 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. Kirby, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, J. W. Fisher, Captain W. E. Stevenson (Recruiting Officer), Captain G. J. German (Military Representative), Lieut. R. Blower (Military Secretary) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for a Coalville licensed victualler, aged 37, C1, married, with four children. The man had previously been exempted on putting in full time at a mine, being a practical collier. He said he was doing that and put in seven shifts last week. A further three months allowed. Mr Sharp said the man had received a notice to drill with the V.T.C. and had seen Captain Turner and agreed to sign the form. Captain Turner had promised to take into consideration the time the man was employed. Mr McCarthy said the Tribunal did not relegate their right to say whether a man should drill or not, to anyone. Mr Sharp said he thought he would mention it.

A Whitwick mineral water firm appealed for their farm manager and horse-keeper, aged 31 stated that after being rejected the man was passed C1. It was asked what the Advisory Committee recommended. The clerk said there was no recommendation.

Mr Briers: *Are there no recommendations from the Advisory Committee tonight?*

The clerk: No.

Mr McCarthy: *We have just heard that the Advisory Committee are on strike.*

Mr Sharp said the farm was 100 acres, and there were 40 acres of corn yet to be got in. He added that this was a case in which it was physically impossible for the man to drill with the V.T.C. The chairman said that was a separate matter. Two months were allowed.

Application was made by a Whitwick elastic web firm for a loom turner and overlooker, 27, married, and passed C2. He said they employed 130 girls and this man was responsible for the looms. Two months.

A Whitwick mineral water firm appealed for their manager and bottler, aged 41, C2, married, with five children. It was stated that it was dangerous work which could not be done by a woman. The man had lost one eye through the bursting of a bottle. Conditional exemption was allowed.

The military appealed for the review of the case of an insurance agent of Standard Hill, Coalville. A letter was read from the man stating that he had to undergo an operation on his eyes that afternoon, having made the appointment with Dr. Ridley before receiving the Tribunal papers. He was still supporting his invalid father and mother. He asked for the case to be adjourned. Lieut. Blower said the man was passed C3 some months ago, and they wished him to be re-examined, but he refused. That was the reason for asking for a review. The case was adjourned for a fortnight, the man to be medically examined in the meantime.

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. appealed for their principal bookkeeper and accountant, aged 37, married, and passed for general service. Mr Hurst said they had 18 clerks before the war, 13 of military age, and of these five had gone, and two more nearly 18, would, he supposed, have to go. The clerk appealed for held a very important position at the colliery, said he had represented to Mr Saint, H.M. Inspector, how hard pressed they were, but did not know his decision. The clerks started last week to work on Sunday for the first time and he was afraid that would have to be continued. Captain German said he understood from Mr Saint that if the clerk appealed for at the last Tribunal was taken, the others could remain. The Inspector knew the position at the various collieries and remarked that Mr Hurst was fortunate. Mr Hurst said that if he had to give up the other man, he must, though he could not spare him. But he strongly appealed for the bookkeeper. Conditional exemption was allowed.

The cases of ten butchers were again considered – one Hugglescote, four Whitwick, and five Coalville – and the chairman said he was pleased to hear that the men who were exempted conditionally on assisting in the businesses of men who had gone, were loyally carrying that out. A letter was read from a Whitwick lady butcher testifying to this, and the chairman said it was very satisfactory. In all the cases, a further three months were allowed.

Captain German said 70 letters had been sent out to men in reference to drilling with the V.T.C. Several replies were received. A Hugglescote man who said he was assisting with the harvest was exempted from drill till September 30th.

A Whitwick publican said he was working six days a week at Ibstock Colliery and had his business to attend to in the evenings, so that he could not possibly go to drill. The Tribunal decided that he must.

A Hugglescote branch manager for the Coalville Co-Operative Society sent a certificate from Dr. Meredith that he was physically unfit for drill, but the Tribunal declined his application for exemption, Capt. German remarking that the men could assist in cleaning rifles and in other ways if they could not drill.

A Coalville boot and shoe repairer sent a certificate from Dr. Dunkin that he was suffering from varicose veins and could not drill.

A member: *Serve him the same. Let him clean guns and polish buttons.*

Another member jocosely remarked that the guns ought to have a bright appearance. The application to be excused was refused.

At the Market Bosworth Police Court on Wednesday, Louisa Harvey, married, of Ibstock, was summoned for concealing an absentee from the Army at Ibstock, on August 21st. She pleaded not guilty. P.C. Shaw said he went to the house about 9.30 am in search of the defendant's son, who was a military absentee. As he was going up the yard, he saw the defendant standing outside washing, and on seeing him she shouted to one of her daughters. He told her he was looking for her son, and she replied, *"He is not here master, I am sure."*

Defendant interrupted, saying the policeman was telling wicked untruths. Proceeding, witness said the woman remarked, *"He has not been here since that morning the sergeant ran him and frightened him."* Witness said he would look through the house and make sure and he left a special constable outside. As he was going upstairs he saw the defendant's son run towards the bedroom window. He jumped through the window and witness was just in time to see him drop on the ground. The special constable tried to arrest him, and the man got away, running down Hinckley Road, and across some fields. They lost him, but later heard he had returned to the house. They paid a second visit, and the woman said the man was not there. Witness again searched and found the man in a hole under the stairs. The door was fastened from the outside and a sofa was pushed up against it. Defendant was sitting on the sofa, and she said she objected to him searching her house like that.

Defendant: *You ought to have knocked, and not have walked straight in.*

The policeman, continuing, said that when he opened the stair-hole door, defendant said, *"That's where I put my bit of coal."* He put his foot inside and touched something, and she said, *"That's only a bag of rags."* He replied, *"And bones, too."* It was very dark, and on striking a match he saw the defendant's son, whom he arrested as a military absentee.

Defendant denied that she attempted to conceal her son. The chairman (Ald. Cope) said it was a serious offence and the Act laid down that imprisonment was the only punishment. The magistrates could not help having a certain amount of sympathy with the defendant as a mother, but it was an offence which he ought not to have committed. She would be bound over in the sum of £10 to be of good behaviour for six months. The chairman added, *"I hope it will be a warning to you, or next time you will have to go to prison."*

SOLDIER AND TREASURY NOTE

At Hinckley on Monday, Harry Wright (18), of Leicester, a private in the Royal Marine Light Infantry was charged with stealing a £1 Treasury note, the property of Mary Ann Greasley, grocer, of Main Street, Desford, on September 8th. Evidence was given by Mrs Greasley that prisoner came to the shop and asked for a quarter of a pound of biscuits. He rendered a shilling, and she gave him 8d change. When she went to the drawer for the takings at night, a Treasury note she had placed inside during the morning had disappeared.

Minnie Archer, hosiery hand, said she saw Wright lean over the counter, open the till, and take the note out. It upset her so much that she walked away terrified. When she went home she told her mother. Her sister was with her at the time, and saw prisoner pull open the drawer.

George Wright, a friend of the prisoner and also a private in the R.M.L.I. said prisoner and himself came to Leicester last Friday on three days' leave. On Saturday they went to Desford Industrial School to see Mr Oxley, the superintendent, and after having dinner with him, went into Desford village. He remained outside Mrs Greasley's shop talking to a friend while prisoner went inside. When prisoner came out he said, *"I have nearly got the till,"* and added that he was going back, but witness told him he should wait no longer, as people would think they were thieves. However, prisoner went back, and witness walked back in the direction of the Industrial School. On the way prisoner caught him up, and remarked, *"I got the till out a little further,"* but he did not say he had taken any money. Before leaving the school, Mr Oxley gave them 6s each.

P.C. Smith said when he questioned prisoner with regard to the missing note he denied taking it, but did not contradict the statement of the other lad when it was read over to him. Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and denied that he touched the till while he was in the shop.

The magistrates decided that prisoner was guilty, but instead of sending him to prison, ordered him to be of good behaviour for 12 months, Mr Bott saying this would enable him to report to his regiment at the proper time.

IBSTOCK

MILITARY FUNERAL

Private Joseph Allen, of Ibstock, who has been in the fighting on the Western Front the last two years, succumbed to trench fever in Birmingham hospital and was buried at Ibstock Cemetery on Sunday last with full military honours. The cortege was met at the top of Gladstone Street on Sunday afternoon by the Ibstock United Silver Prize Band, and was subsequently joined by the Ibstock Church Lads' Brigade and a firing party from Glen Parva. Suitable military music was played en route to the cemetery where the funeral service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. S. Flood, M.A. and Mr H. Holmes, sen., of the Wesleyan Reform Church. After the service the "Last Post" was sounded by the bugles and a volley fired over the grave. There was a large number of people present, and many evidences of sympathy for the deceased soldier and his family. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack.

PRISONERS OF WAR FUND

The Ibstock Committee for Prisoners of War Fund organised a parade and collection on Saturday last to augment the funds for providing local prisoners of war with parcels of provisions and comforts. The Ibstock Town Band paraded the principal streets and collections were taken en route. The amount realised was £11 1s, which included subscriptions from the Day School scholars at each school, viz., £3/5/8.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr and Mrs Wm. Hibbitt, of No. 1 Castle Yard, Hugglescote, have received a letter from the War Office intimating that the Army Council are regretfully constrained to conclude that their son, Pte. John Edwin Hibbitt, of the Leicesters, died on September 15th, 1916 (or since) when he was posted as missing. Enquiries have been made by Mrs Wykes of Hugglescote, who has received a letter written on behalf of the Earl of Lucan, enclosing copy of a report by Corporal J. W. Carroll, of the same company, now in hospital in Ireland, who states, *"I knew Hibbitt. He was in my company but not in my platoon. He was killed on September 13th, 1916, just in front of Guillemont. I didn't see him fall, but I saw his dead body. He was no doubt buried where he fell, as a burial party went out two days after the action to bury our dead."* Corporal Carroll, described Pte. Hibbitt as a tall man, 5ft 9in or 10in. He was clean shaven and came from or near Leicester. The writer adds, *"I fear this confirms our previous report, but we are continuing our enquiries and any information we receive, we will immediately forward."*

Pte. Hibbitt was 21 years of age, and before the war worked at Ellistown Colliery, where his father is employed as watchman. He enlisted three days after war broke out and had been in France about 18 months, when he was posted as missing.

Gunner George Duffield, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, is reported wounded. His home is at Hugglescote, and before enlisting he was on the office staff of the Coalville Co-Operative Society. He was a popular member and a former secretary of the Hugglescote and Ellistown Silver Prize Band.

The parents of Private Sidney Dodds, who reside in Berrisford Street, Coalville, have had further news concerning their son, who, as reported in a recent issue was concluded by the Army Council as dead, after being posted as missing for several months. A letter has now been received stating that the soldier's body was found and buried at a certain place. Pte. Dodds enlisted voluntarily in August, 1914, and not in 1916, as stated in our previous paragraph.

Private S. Latham (Coalville) of the Coldstream Guards is reported wounded.

THREE TIMES WOUNDED

Before Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court on Tuesday, Joseph Eaton, private, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was charged with being an absentee from Somercotes since September 3rd. Inspector Dobney deposed to apprehending the defendant at his brother's house in Margaret Street, Coalville and said Eaton told him he stayed behind because he did not wish to be included in a draft being sent to France. The Inspector added that the man had three times been wounded. The soldier had three gold stripes and the cross-guns on his sleeve. The magistrate said he was sorry to see in that position, a man who had fought so well for his country. He was remanded to await an escort.

COALVILLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It has been rumoured in the town during the last few days that the Coalville Advisory Committee are "on strike". There appeared to be some confirmation of this by what transpired at the Tribunal meeting on Wednesday night, when it was stated that there were no recommendations from the Advisory Committee.

From enquiries made, we understand that the committee's action is due to the exemption by the War Office of six monks at the Monastery, three of whom were passed for general service and three for service at home, and whose cases have not been before the local Tribunal.

IN MEMORIAM

Wardle – In loving memory of our dear son, Private Joseph Wardle, No. 6227, Coldstream Guards, killed in action, September 15th, 1916. Aged 29 years.

*"We little thought when we said goodbye,
He was going to a far-off land to die.
We loved him at home, but God loved him best,
And took him Home with Him to rest.*

*But the hardest part is yet to come,
When the warriors do return:
When we miss among the cheering crowd
The face of our beloved one."*

From his sorrowing Mother, Brothers and Sisters, 52 Margaret Street, Coalville.

In loving memory of my dear husband, Private Jesse Jones, 1st Leicesters, killed in action somewhere in France, September 15th, 1916.

*"The loss is great, the pain severe,
We little thought the end so near.
'Tis only those who have lost can tell,
The pain and grief without a last farewell."*

From his loving Wife, Child and Mother-in-law

In loving memory of Corporal David Archibald Jones, son of George and Sarah Ann Jones, Melbourne Street, Coalville, who met his death on Salisbury Plain, September 6th, 1913.

*"I loved him in life; he is dear to me still,
But in grief I must bend to God's holy will.
Only those who have lost are able to tell,
Of the pain at our hearts in saying farewell.*

*'Tis sweet to know we'll meet him again,
When partings are no more;
And that the ones we loved so dear,
Have only gone before."*

In loving memory of Lance-Corporal Wilfred Jones, son of George and Sarah Ann Jones, Melbourne Street, Coalville, who was killed in action, September 15th, 1916.

*"Somewhere in France, the moon is shining,
On a grave that is lonely and bare,
Except for a plain little wooden cross,
That denotes a British soldier lies there.*

*Though he has gone from us for ever,
We are always speaking his name,
For he died the death of a hero,
For King, Home and Britain's good fame."*

From his loving Father and Mother, Brothers and Sister, and his Fiancée.

Page 4

COALVILLE POLICE COURT

TO JOIN THE ARMY

Wilfred Marriott (31), collier, Bardon, was summoned for neglecting his three children on divers dates prior to May 2nd. The case had been adjourned. Inspector Dobney said the man now appeared to be doing his best. The wife was now receiving money, and it was for her to look after the children. Defendant said he had again been medically examined, and passed B1, and he was to report himself on Monday.

The chairman: *It will be a good thing for you.*

Defendant was discharged.

LOCAL MILITARY MEDALLIST

Sapper F. Bott, R.E. has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the son of Mrs W. Bott, Packington, and was formerly employed as foreman by Messrs. Rogers and Son, builders, Coalville.

Friday September 21st 1917 (Issue 1333)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Bakewell, C. L. Driver.	(September 16 th)
Brown, S. S. L-Corporal	(September 15 th)
Brown, C. E. L-Corporal	(September 13 th)
Capell, E. W. Corporal	(September 17 th)
Coles, James	(September 17 th)
Harrison, W. Runner	(September 13 th)
Higgins, D.	(September 15 th)
Hill, F. Private	(September 12 th)
Mason, G. E.	(September 11 th)
Mason, Wilf. Private	(September 13 th)
Perkins, J. A. Driver	(September 11 th)
Redfern, Pat. Runner	(September 15 th)
Siddall, T.	(September 14 th)
Smith, E. Private	(September 14 th)

Timson, A.	(September 17 th)
Underwood, F. S. L-Corporal	(September 15 th)
Woolley, T. Corporal	(September 15 th)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The Flag Day at Coalville on Saturday in connection with "Navy Week" realised £40 12s 8d?

In a special appeal on behalf of the Red Cross, Lady Sheffield of Alderley, states that the care of the wounded is now costing the country the sum of £5 a minute?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Congratulations will be offered to Lieut. J. P. Jamie of the Leicestershire Regiment, on being gazetted acting-Captain. He is the second son of Dr. R. W. Jamie, of Coalville, medical officer of health for the urban district and was formerly the Coalville Scoutmaster.

COALVILLE PRINTER IN FRANCE

THE WORK OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MINERS' AMBULANCE CARS

In a letter to Mr D. Marston, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, Pte. Alf Richardson, a member of the 'Coalville Times' staff who is on the Western Front, says that when he was at the machine-gun base he met Sergeant James, a Coalville Town cricketer, and also Benskin, cricketer and Leicester Fosse footballer. He saw Benskin make a score of 70 in a cricket match out there in July. He has not yet come across W. Page or F. Northcott, two of his former workmates, who are also in France, but he is keeping a sharp look-out. He continues, *"I am writing this in hospital as I am landed here for a while a bit run down, and it is a little change too from the trenches, though I am not far away. I have been lucky up to now, only pieces of earth have hit me or the trench knocked in quite close, which, of course, is nothing, but it is apt to set you thinking about what has just missed you. But amid it all, there are some happy times spent in the trenches. We get decent rations, especially bread which comes up every day and beats even 'Nice' biscuits. I suppose we are all getting prepared for another winter which will soon be with us now. We make plenty of fires and get good warm tea to our meals and look after ourselves best we can under the trying conditions. When I saw the reports of the cricket cup rounds in the old paper it made me long for a game. I thought of the many pleasant games I've had in the competition. Things seem to be going off much as usual in Coalville, and it would be very nice to come on leave, but I can look for the winter through before my turn. One thing I saw down at our base which interested me very much was one of the beautiful ambulance cars which the Leicestershire Miners' Association supplied for the bringing in of our brave wounded Tommies. It passed me a few times going in and out from the station to the hospital there. It is paper day today, and many a Friday I think of the "Coalville Times" being printed and what a different job I am on now. The Vickers machine-gun is a fine weapon and a most interesting one too, and it is very nice to fire, though sometimes it's rather warm for us, especially when you are sitting in an uncomfortable shell hole, and they start dropping near you. But it's all in the game, and we have to stick it and hope for the best. I have just received two letters from home and a very nice parcel, and you can guess how I appreciated those – news like this is tres bon. Also the old "Times" though I am sorry to say that one or two of these have gone astray, worse luck. I will tell you a bit about "Minnies", rifle grenades, 5.9's, "whizz-bangs" etc, when I reach home, which I hope may be soon."*

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Corporal Walter Pettitt, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who was one of the first men to volunteer at Ellistown soon after the war broke out, has been killed in action. He was 21 years of age and the son of Mr Harry Pettitt, of 64, Ibstock Road, Ellistown formerly working at the Nailstone Colliery where his father is also employed.

Lance-Corporal C. Frearson, a Coalville soldier, writing to his parents says Walter was one of the best of pals. *"In fact", he adds, "he was more than a brother to me, and now it seems as if a great cloud has come over, and every joy and pleasure gone. He died doing his duty like a man, and I hope this will console you. On the battlefield and at sports he was always a giant in himself. 'Always merry and bright', was Walter's motto and many a time he has cheered the whole platoon."*

A letter has also been received from Lieut. Chapman who says the company has sustained a great loss by the death of such a magnificent soldier. The deceased was at home on leave in the latter part of July and was killed nine days after returning to the Front. He had previously been wounded and had three or four narrow escapes. On one occasion he was saved by a tin flask he was carrying strapped round his body. The flask, with an indentation where it was struck by a bullet, is now in the possession of his parents.

Private H. Ward of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, and Private F. Shaw, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, both of Ashby, have been wounded.

Intimation of the death of Private J. T. Sharp has been received by his grandparents, Mr and Mrs T. Shepherd, of Copson Street, Ibstock. He was accidentally drowned at Bagrah. The notification arrived at Ibstock by the same postal delivery which brought a letter from him, written in mid-July in which he reported that he was then in good health.

Private G. Coulton (Whitwick), W. Griffin and J. T. Hibbert (both Thringstone), W. Hill and F. Smart (both Hugglescote), A. Ottey (Whitwick), and Lance-Corporal S. Newton (Coalville) all of the Leicestershire Regiment are reported wounded.

Sapper J. S. Dodd (Whitwick) of the Royal Engineers, has been wounded.

We regret to announce that Private W. Tyers is reported by his lieutenant as having been killed in action on the 10th inst. in the recent fighting on the Western Front. Private Tyers was well-known at Ibstock, where he leaves a widow and two children. Previous to joining the Colours on the 20th February last, he was employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society and at the time of enlistment was acting manager at the Ellistown branch shop. He was very much esteemed by all who knew him, and associated himself with all the social movements locally, taking an enthusiastic part in all debates of the local Debating Society. He was a staunch Churchman, and much sympathy is felt for the widow and family.

Private H. Newman (Ibstock) of the Royal Fusiliers, is reported wounded.

Intimation has been received from the Infantry Record Office, Lichfield, by Mr and Mrs Charles Beasley, of the Hermitage Hotel, Coalville, that their only son, Private W. Beasley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died on September 11th in a casualty clearing station in France from wounds received in action. A letter giving the same sad news has also been received from a nurse in hospital. Prior to this, Mr and Mrs Beasley had had a notice from Lichfield that the deceased was dangerously ill, having a compound fracture of the right arm and thigh, and that permission to visit him could not be granted. The nurse stated in her letter that the soldier passed away at 1.30 pm on the 11th from gunshot wounds. He was conscious up to a short time before he died. Everything possible was done to save his life and ease his pain. A Roman Catholic chaplain was with him when he died and the deceased was buried in a military cemetery in the town. She expressed sympathy with the parents in their great loss. Private Beasley was 21 years of age, and formerly worked at the Whitwick Colliery. He joined Kitchener's Army immediately on the outbreak of war and had been three years in France, during which he once came home on leave.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private E. Seaton, of Kitchener's Army, who died of wounds, September 23rd, 1916 in hospital at Birmingham, aged 23 years.

*"We shall not forget him, we love him too dearly,
For his memory to fade from us just like a dream.
Our lips need not speak when our hearts mourn sincerely,
For grief often dwells where it seldom is seen."*

From his loving Father and Mother (Wigston Magna); Sisters and Brothers (Stanton-under-Bardon and Coalville).

Page 4

HEATHER WOMAN'S OFFENCE

AIDING AND ABETTING A MILITARY ABSENTEE

At the Ashby Police Court, on Saturday, Clara Bradford ((48) married, of Heather, was summoned for aiding and abetting an absentee from the Army at Heather between August 10th and 20th. She pleaded not guilty.

P.C. Higgs said he went to the house on August 20th at the request of Captain Stevenson to apprehend her son, Alfred Bradford, aged 29, who had been called up, and was an absentee from August 10th. Defendant said he was not there. Witness went to the house three times in all, before he got the man. On one occasion, the woman let her son out at the back door while he was at the front door. The last time he took P.C. Holmes with him to avoid that and he found the man in bed. The defendant tried all she could to prevent her son from going.

Defendant: *I have lost a son in Mesopotamia, and had a brother killed in France, so I think I have done my share.*

She was fined £1 or seven days.

MILITARY CROSS WINNER



Lieutenant T. F. McCarthy, of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, is the second officer from the Coalville district to be awarded the Military Cross, the first having been Capt. F. Scott, son of Mr W. V. Scott, Coalville L & N.W. stationmaster.

Lieutenant McCarthy is the youngest of the eleven sons of Mr Michael McCarthy, C.C. of New Swannington, four of whom are serving in the Forces. He was formerly articled to Mr R. A. Loseby, solicitor, of Leicester, and joined the Artists Rifles immediately after passing his intermediate law examination, being gazetted to his present regiment on receiving his commission. He spent his 21st birthday last March in the trenches. He was slightly wounded in the arm during the attack in which he so distinguished himself and was recently at home on leave. The gallant officer and also his father, well-known in the public life of the urban district and county, have received the hearty congratulations of many friends.

SHACKERSTONE'S SOLDIER'S PROMOTION

Lieutenant J. Fox, an old Wyggestonian, has been promoted to Captain. Before enlisting as a private he held a position at the hosiery factory of Messrs. Atkins Bros, Hinckley. He has been in France since June, 1916, and gained the Military Cross for gallantry. He is the eldest son of the late Mr John Fox, of Coton, Market Bosworth and of Mrs Atkinson, of The Oaklands, Shackerstone.

A COALVILLE MILITARY MEDALLIST



Private S. Pendleton, of the Coldstream Guards, has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the son of Mr Samuel Pendleton, of St. Saviour's Road, Coalville, and brother of Mr T. Pendleton, of 15, Highfields Street, Coalville with whom he formerly resided.

Writing to his brother on August 30th, the gallant soldier stated that he had been in hospital for a fortnight and was expecting to receive the medal. A further letter dated September 10th confirms this, and states that the medal was awarded for his work while in charge of a gun when firing on a machine-gun emplacement. He adds that he is pleased to hear that so many Coalville men have joined the Colours and are doing their best for King and country. He is pleased to be among those who have won the medal, and hopes to have the luck to be able to come home and wear it.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Tribunal was held at Market Bosworth on Tuesday afternoon, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding, and there were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, G. M. Arnold, J. T. Jacques, Major Wollaston, and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

Application was made by the Ellistown Collieries Ltd, for the further exemption of an assistant accountant, 33, married, now B1, formerly C3. A representative of the company said this man was the last on his staff in the department. The requirements of the Coal Controller required the work of a skilled man, such as the one applied for. He had worked at the colliery from boyhood. Allowed till December 31st.

The appeal of a Congerstone carpenter for his son, said to be wholly employed in agriculture and passed C1, was dismissed.

A Ratby hosiery hand, 36, passed for general service appealed on the ground of his wife's illness, she having recently undergone an operation. Allowed one month.

Another Ratby hosiery hand, 40, married, passed B2, who said he was engaged on Government work was allowed till December 31st.

A Ratcliffe Culey farmer appealed in respect of his son, 19, single, who assists on the farm of 200 acres, of which 65 acres are arable. The clerk said the man was previously exempted till substituted. Applicant wrote that he did not think his son could be adequately substituted and he wished to know the position. He had a London milk contract, which expired this month, and if his son had to go he should not renew it. Major Wollaston said there were several youths of 19 working wholly on agriculture who were in a similar position. It was decided that the certificate stand as it is.

The Ibstock postmaster, 36, C2, married with three children, appealed for further exemption. He said his work was increasing on account of the sugar tickets, etc. In reply to the clerk he said he had charge of the public telephone, which was kept open all night. Mr Jacques said the Post Office telegraph service was bad enough now without taking anyone else away. The other day it took a telegram four hours to reach him from London. Six months were allowed.

The appeal of a Ratby hosiery hand, 24, married, passed B1 who appealed on the ground of his wife's ill-health was dismissed. It was remarked that in almost every appeal from Ratby, the man had a wife or mother ill.

A smallholder and scavenger, 29, married, with three children of Newbold Verdon was allowed till December 31st.

An Ibstock lady baker appealed for the further exemption of her son, 19, B2, single, who carries on the business. The clerk said an arrangement was made with the applicant that if her man went she should retain her son. Mr Jacques said the man had gone, and the boy was doing all the work. Allowed till December 31st.

Asked what his category, R.R. meant, a Sutton Cheney grocer and general dealer replied, "I don't know sir; it is bad enough" (laughter). Answering questions, applicant said he was 32 years of age and married. He was driving a motor van and his brother, who used to assist him had joined up. The clerk explained that R.R. meant Relegated to the Reserve. It really meant rejected.

Mr Eggington: *He will be called up for re-examination every six months.*

Allowed till December 31st.

A Market Bosworth labourer, 37, and married who has appealed, was stated to have since joined up and the appeal was dismissed.

The commercial manager of the Nailstone Colliery, who resides at Coalville, and was stated to be making good progress now after a serious operation, was allowed a further six months.

Several other "assented" cases were confirmed, and in the course of this a case of bad farming was mentioned which caused Major Wollaston to remark, *"If the Agricultural Committee would insist on farmers farming well the land they have, instead of cutting up more land, they would get much better crops."*

Friday September 28th 1917 (Issue 1334)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Cleveland, Private	(September 18 th)
Coltart, Private (R.G.)	(September 18 th)
Hancock, W. Signaller	(September 18 th)
Hardington, H. S. Private	(September 18 th)
Iliffe, G	(September 18 th)
King, Private	(September 18 th)
Lycett, W. Sergeant	(September 18 th)
Martin, G. Corporal	(September 18 th)
Neale, Private	(September 18 th)
Smith, Tom, S.B.	(September 18 th)
Stopp, (O'Grady), Lance-Corporal	(September 18 th)
Sykes, W. Corporal (R.G.)	(September 18 th)
Vesty, J. W. Private	(September 18 th)
Warner, S. B. Lemon	(September 18 th)
Bird, A, A.I.F.	(September 23 rd)
Bott, Horace, Private	(September 24 th)
Capell, E. W. Corporal	(September 24 th)
Commons, T. A.	(September 18 th)
James, C.	(September 23 rd)
Latham, A. Private	(September 21 st)
Marston, T. Dr.	(September 22 nd)
Meakin, G. Sergeant	(September 20 th)
Smith, F. Sergeant	(September 22 nd)

BELTON

MILITARY MEDALLIST

Corporal L. B. Woulidge, M.G.C. second son of Mr and Mrs B. M. Woulidge, of the Lowood Farm, Belton, has been awarded the Military Medal. This is the first military honour awarded to a Belton man, Corporal Woulidge was formerly a teacher at the Shepshed Council Schools.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Mrs F. Berrington, 78, Leicester Road, Whitwick is selling her father's poetry in aid of the wounded soldiers?

The newly formed Coalville branch of the Discharged Soldiers' and Sailors' Association now has about 30 members and more are expected to join?

IBSTOCK OFFICER'S MILITARY CROSS

Lieutenant Alfred Thomas Eggington, R.E. son of Councillor Eggington, J.P. of Ibstock, who has been at home on sick leave, recently gained the Military Cross. The following is the official account of the services for which that distinction was conferred upon him.

"When in charge of mortar, though wounded and badly gassed, he remained at his post successfully directing a smoke barrage, which was to protect part of our assault. Shortly afterwards he was completely overcome by the gas, and had to be evacuated, having set an example of tenacity and devotion which inspired all ranks and very largely contributed towards the success of the operation. He has on numerous occasions displayed the utmost courage and resource."

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

THE V.T.C. CONDITION

Mr M. McCarthy presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. B. G. Hale, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, with Captain G. J. German (military representative), Lieutenant R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A store-keeper and assistant foreman in the employ of the Coalville Urban Council, aged 35, married, was appealed for by the surveyor who said more work was being put on the Council in connection with Food Control, and this man would have to do most of it. The man was stated to have formerly been passed C3, and now B1.

The chairman: *What do the Advisory Committee suggest?*

The clerk: *There are no recommendations from the Advisory Committee.*

Mr Hale: *Are they still on strike?* (Laughter)

The clerk said he could not say. One month final was proposed, and this period was allowed, without the "final."

An Ellistown ironmonger, 40, married, C2, was stated that his brother, a partner, was serving in France was allowed three months.

Two months were allowed a Coalville cycle repairer for his assistant, 19, who was stated to be of very small stature for his age, and would want a special suit making if he joined the Army.

An insurance agent, of Standard Hill, Coalville, appealed on domestic grounds. He is 24 years of age and single, and said his father, who was ill, and mother, depended entirely on him. He suffered with his eyes for which he was being medically treated. He was formerly C3 and last week was placed B2, with which he was not at all satisfied. Two months allowed.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for two employees but one was stated to have joined up. The other was a bread deliverer, 32, married passed B2, after being rejected. Mr Lockwood said 83 of the Society's employees had joined the Forces. They now had 228 employees largely females. There were only 18 men of military age. This man was not really medically fit for the Army. Two months were allowed.

The rest of the cases were fifteen raised by the Military Representative for review, through the men not having drilled with the V.T.C. Mr Briers expressed the desire to move the rescinding of the resolution passed in September 1916, that men getting two months' exemption and over should drill, but Mr Hale said notice of that should be given. Mr Briers said he would give notice to move at the next meeting that the minute be rescinded. The question then arose as to whether the cases should be adjourned. Lieut. Blower said they were reduced to ten, five having since complied with the condition. Mr Fisher asked what were the Army Council instructions referred to in Captain German's letter to those men. Captain German said it referred to the Volunteer instructions. If a man signed the form, it was not really necessary for the Military Representative to come to the Tribunal. They could send a squad to fetch the man, and if he declined they could lock him up for seven days. They did not want to do that.

The first case dealt with was that of a loom tuner at a Coalville Elastic Web Factory. The manager said the man was exempted till substituted. He went to his home at Loughborough every weekend. He had not asked the man whether he could drill, not being aware that was the reason the case had been called. He was likely to have a trade card shortly. He had received no letter requesting him to drill. Captain German said a letter had been sent. Mr Brown asked whether the Tribunal could compel a man to drill if he held a trade card. Lieut. Blower said they were not obliged to give a man exemption, though in a certified trade, if he could be spared. The case was adjourned for a fortnight.

A Hugglescote butcher said he had no time to drill. He was helping two other butchers and working 14 hours a day. He was passed C3. If he had to drill he would have to give up some of his work. Mr Fisher said that when they exempted a man on the ground that he helped in the businesses of some who had gone, and he worked 13 or 14 hours a day, it was not fair to ask him to drill when there were men with trade cards who left off work at five o'clock every day, and were not drilling. Mr Hale said they were at war. He would drill willingly if he had the time, but he was putting in as many hours as most men. Mr Fisher asked whether they could not compel men who held trade cards to drill. The chairman said that did not arise in this case. By four votes to three the butcher was excused from drill.

A Coalville shuttle-maker was ordered to drill 14 hours a month.

A Coalville Council employee said he was in a certified trade. All his spare time was spent in his large garden, one-third of an acre. There were physical reasons why he did not drill. Adjourned for 14 days for the production of a medical certificate.

A Hugglescote builder's man, who said he had four brothers serving in the Army, and himself was in the V.A.D. was ordered to drill 14 hours a month. Mr Lockwood observed that many who had to drill were complaining of those who did not.

An employee of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, residing at Hugglescote, who pleaded physical unfitness, was ordered to join the V.T.C. to be found duties he was physically able to perform.

An Ellistown baker said this man had gone, and he was doing all the work, including delivery himself. He worked seven days and was putting in 100 hours a week. Excused.

A South Leicestershire Colliery banksman, residing in Melbourne Street, Coalville, said the manager had told him he was getting an exemption card for him. He used to drill, but had to give up through ill-health. He was better now.

Captain German: *As an example to others, won't you volunteer to drill?*

The man said he would (hear, hear)

Mr Fisher: *He understands he is doing it voluntarily?*

The chairman: Yes.

The last case was that of the yardman at the Co-Operative Society but it transpired that this was out of order as the man had an appeal pending. Lieut. Blower remarked that this was a C3 man, and they were calling up C3 men for munition work. The chairman said they would deal with the case when it came up. Captain German asked for permission to bring up for review the case of the clerk to the Tribunal. He said the clerk was not drilling and he (Captain German) did not wish to make fish of one and fowl of another. He desired to be fair with all. The application was granted.

Page 3

COALVILLE MAN WINS MILITARY MEDAL FOR LOCATING AND BLOWING UP DUG-OUTS

Private H. Cato ((241183) serving with a trench mortar battery, formerly living in Park Road, Coalville, with a widowed mother, who is now at Shepshed, has won the Military Medal. Before the war he worked as a shovel man on the bank at Whitwick Colliery. An official document states that Private Cato has been awarded the Military Medal for great courage and devotion to duty, as a member of the destruction party. With one other member of the party he pushed forward to the enemy third line. Here he did splendid work, locating and blowing up dug-outs which contained many of the enemy.

Private Cato, who is 20 years of age, originally joined a battalion of the Leicestershire Territorials.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private A. Shakespeare (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported to have died of wounds.

Mr W. Brownlow, of 65, Margaret Street, Coalville, who has had three brothers killed in the war has received news that another, Sapper H. Brownlow, of the Royal Engineers, has been wounded in action and is now in hospital. In a letter, the wounded soldier says he had his leg broken by a German bomb, and was with the Germans for 16 hours till *"our boys came back. You can tell how pleased I was when I heard them coming, as I thought I was done for. I think I shall get to Blighty as soon as I am fit to travel, but it will be a few weeks yet. I hope soon to see you all once more."*

Rifleman Walter Dean, of the K.R.R. is in hospital in France, having been shot in the leg by a German sniper while carrying in wounded. He is one of three soldier sons of Mr S. Dean, North Street, Hugglescote, assistant sanitary inspector to the Coalville Urban Council.

Privates T. Houghton (Heather) of the Leicestershire Regiment, and G. J. Glynn (Coalville) of the North Staffordshire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Mr A. Ottey, of 219 Leicester Road, Ibstock, who is the executive officer to the Coalville District Food Control Committee, has received news that his eldest son, First Air Mechanic-Observer Sefton Ottey, has been wounded in action and has arrived at a Newbury Hospital, near St. Albans. Major Leamont, in a letter to Mr Ottey, says *"It is with regret that I have to inform you that your son was wounded two days ago; fortunately, not seriously. He got a bullet in his foot during an aerial engagement, after putting up a very good fight. I have been unable to see him since he was admitted to hospital, but I am informed he is in no danger, and is progressing well. He is a cheerful and gallant fellow, and will be greatly missed by my squadron. Please accept my condolence, and express my sympathy with your son when writing him."*

Official notification has been received that Private Ernest A. Phipps, King's Royal Rifles, was killed by a bursting shell, whilst in the trenches on September 11th. Prior to enlisting in 1916, the deceased, who was 30 years of age, was engaged as a clerk at the Leicester offices of the New Bagworth Coal Co. He was also a member of St. George's Church. His home is at 26, College Avenue.

MORE WOUNDED SOLDIERS ARRIVE

About 40 soldiers left Broom Leys last week, and on Thursday, 30 more arrived from the Base Hospital at Leicester. They were met at the station and conveyed to the hospital in cars kindly lent by Mr A. I. White,

Messrs. Coleman and Sons, the Charnwood Forest Laundry Co. and Mr Wright (Ashby Road). There are now about 60 soldiers at Broom Leys.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear brother, Alfred Sleath, Leicesters, killed in action, September 25th, 1916.

*"The loss is great, the pain severe,
We little thought the end so near;
'Tis only those who have lost can tell,
The pain and grief without a last farewell."*

From his loving Brother and Sisters.

In loving memory of Corporal W. H. Timmins, who died from wounds received in action in France, on September 17th 1916.

*"One year has gone, and still we miss him,
Some may think the wound has healed,
But little do they know the sorrow,
Deep within our hearts concealed.*

*Quick and sudden came the call,
Your sudden death surprised us all,
A loving husband, a faithful friend,
One of the best God could lend."*

From his loving Wife and Children.

In loving memory of Sapper Bernard Whittaker, of the Leicestershire Regiment, fourth son of the late Mr W. Whittaker and Mrs Whittaker of 68, Albert Street, Coalville, who was killed in France, September 25th, 1915, aged 31 years.

*"God called him Home, it was His will,
But in our hearts he dwelleth still;
His memory is as dear today
As in the hour he passed away.*

*Days of sadness still come o'er us;
Tears in silence often flow;
Thinking of the day he left us,
Just two years ago."*

R.I.P. from his loving Mother, Brothers and Sisters.

In loving memory of our dear son, Pte. Joseph Sheffield, killed in action, September 26th, 1916. Aged 21 years.

*"In a far and lonely battlefield, where the trees their branches bend,
Lies our ever-loving son, gone to his untimely end.
Sleep on, dear son, in a hero's grave,
A grave we may never see;*

*But as long as life and memory last,
We will remember thee.
It's the unknown grave that's the bitterest blow,
None but aching hearts can know."*

From Mother, Father, Sisters and Brothers

In loving memory of our dear Leo (Pte. L. D. Brown, 16132), Signaller, 8th Leicesters, aged 23; killed in action in France on September 25th, 1916 of 30, James Street, Coalville.

*"Could we have raised his dying head
Or heard his last farewell,
The grief would not have been so hard
To those who loved him well.
He bravely answered duty's call,
He gave his life for one and all,
But the unknown grave is the bitterest blow,
None but an aching heart can know.
Christ will clasp the broken chain
Closer, when we meet again."*

From Father, Mother, Brother, Sister and family and Fiancée.

Page 4

YOUNG SOLDIER'S ESCAPE

ALLEGED THEFTS AT DESFORD SCHOOL

JUMPED FROM A MOVING TRAIN

At the Market Bosworth Police Court on Wednesday, Thomas Henry Gamble (19) an absentee from the Leicestershire Regiment, was charged with breaking and entering into the Desford Industrial School, during the night of the 22nd inst. and stealing boots and clothing, value £5/2/6, the property of the officers of the school.

Detective-Superintendent Taylor, of Leicester, stated that on Thursday the 13th inst. a report was received that Desford Military Hospital had been entered during the night and a barometer and a cashbox containing 30s in money had been stolen. Prisoner was suspected. Witness, with P.C. Smith, made enquiries and ascertained that Gamble was spending 7 days' leave in Leicester. He heard they were making enquiries and book by rail to Plymouth. He there obtained plain clothes and on September 20th was found in a train at Plymouth Station in possession of a forged travelling warrant. He was detained by the Military Police, but broke away and was re-arrested the following day by the Military Police, having then in his possession a loaded revolver. On the morning of the 22nd inst. he was handed over to a Leicester military escort who entrained for Leicester. When the train had just left Hinckley Station for some reason prisoner's handcuffs were removed, and he jumped out of the moving train and escaped.

The following morning a report was received that the Desford Industrial School had been broken into, and two overcoats, a hat and two pairs of shoes stolen. Prisoner was suspected and P.C. Smith and witness traced him to Church Gresley and arrested him at a house there on Tuesday afternoon. He was in possession of a hat and coat stolen from Desford and admitted breaking into the school. Witness added that he had traced three or four wrist watches and other stolen articles to the prisoner, and as he wanted to make further enquiries, he asked for a remand to the Hinckley Petty Sessions next Wednesday.

Supt. Smith said that since the prisoner had been at Bosworth that morning he had tried to commit suicide and he would like the magistrates to give instructions for the prisoner to be examined by the prison doctor. The chairman asked how long the youth had been in Leicester. Detective-Superintendent Taylor and Gamble enlisted when 16 years of age, and was in France when he was 17. He was severely wounded about twelve months ago, part of his hip being blown away. He had been in one or two military hospitals, and his conduct was rather bad there. Witness did not think he was responsible for his actions. The chairman said it was as well they should know those facts. They thought the man should be medically examined. Prisoner was remanded in custody to Hinckley Sessions on Wednesday.

VISIT TO A CASUALTY CLEARING STATION

(Passed by the Press Bureau)

Anyone who has not been in hospital can hardly realise the amount of work there is to do. If he were able to be on the spot at 5.30 in the morning, he would see a man walk round tapping on tents, which is the kind of reveille we get. Shortly after, the tents begin to open up, and men emerge with towels and away for a wash they go, perhaps to some stream close by, or perhaps they have been fortunate and got a kind of shelter to wash under. Having washed, they hurry back to their tents and fold up their kits which are then placed outside if the weather is fine. Away they go again, this time with a plate and mug to visit the bob-a-gee (cook) and after having a good breakfast (bacon or burgue) they scuttle about and tidy up their tents, and roll up the curtains, for they are fond of the fresh air. By this time it is 6.30 and if you listen you will hear "*Fall in*" shouted in a deep voice. At once all men begin to make for the parade ground, and after a roll-call are dismissed to their respective duties. This may be in a ward and if such be the case, you will see the orderly threading his way among a large number of marques. Follow him and see what goes on. You hear him give a cheery "*good morning*" to all of them in general, and if one of the poor fellows is very ill, he goes straight for the bed and asks how he is. He then studies the temperature chart, or perhaps you will be startled to hear a voice from behind calling, "*What cheer, kid*" which is the most common greeting among the men. This is the night orderly who has just finished, come to hand over and then away to his tent for a well-earned rest. The day orderly then goes off to visit the cook house with a bucket and tray, to receive what rations there are for patients unable to rise and make their way to the dining hall. After seeing the patients all with their food, he enters the names of all his patients in the prescription books, and after doing this, with the help of such men as are able, he proceeds to clean up, which means tidy the blankets and sweep out. Soon after this you may hear him call for a pal to give him a hand and away they go bearing a stretcher which is occupied by some unfortunate person. Away you go after them, and you feel rather surprised at the pace you have to go to keep up with them, but they are used to it and do not let grass grow under their feet. At last they put down their burden and you notice that there are perhaps some 20 or 30 more such like burdens.

All at once you hear the hum and whirl of an engine and presently you see perhaps six motor cars glide in, all coming to a halt in a row. This is a light day, so the six cars are sufficient, but you may chance on a heavy day, and then you may see anything up to 40 or even 50 cars in. It is at once a place of activity. Stretchers are placed in the cars, and the men on them made comfortable with a tenderness which is wonderful to behold. After seeing these all away the men disperse to the respective wards, and after having a pull at a cig or a "*fag*" as they are called, they begin taking temperatures, after which the M.O. arrives. He is handed the ward book and accompanied by the orderly, or maybe a Sister, he goes round the ward to each patient and prescribes such medicines, foods and treatment as may consider the man requires. Having seen the M.O. out, he distributes his medicines and takes all bottles that require filling to the dispensary, which is a marque fitted up. Walk inside and have a peep at it and you will be surprised at the amount of stuff kept there. A word to the sergeant in charge, and he proudly shows you round his domain. After seeing what there is to see, you pass along and find yourself outside a large marque, and through the open door see a number of men bandaged up in various ways. When you get inside you find some who have their bandages off, and you will, if you care, be allowed to see the wound and the orderly will no doubt tell you what he can as to its nature, as he is generally proud, and justly so, of his position.

On coming from the dressing tent, you see some cars approaching the hospital. You therefore go to the place where they pull up and out of a large marque close by appear a number of men; then comes a busy scene. The cars, you learn, contain sick or wounded, some lying and others sitting. These are quickly got out and taken to the marque where a M.O. sees them and sends them to their different wards according to their diagnosis. The stretchers are carried away by the men on convoy duty. The others take their kits over to the pack store, where it is put away till such time as the owner is better and ready to return to duty, or till he is otherwise disposed of. Follow some of them to the ward. Here they are received by the orderly. After taking their temperature he fixes them up and proceeds to find them something to eat and drink, just a bit to help them till dinner time, which is not far ahead. The M.O. is sent for, and as before he orders such things as he thinks are required for the benefit of the patient. You are next invited to see the operating theatre, which is being prepared for action. You step inside and cannot help but express your admiration for the way in which it is kept. You have a good look at the instruments, and the orderly will explain to you what they are, for he is a good man at his work, and knows what he is doing. At last, the patient is brought in and carefully placed on the table, so you clear out, as you know you would not be able to stick it. A short walk, and you are in the dining hall, where the mid-day meal is being served. You note with great satisfaction the spirits of the men are not depressed and you hear jokes being passed at one table, while at another you may hear men talking

about their different officers, and again you find that most of the officers are mentioned as being jolly fine chaps. After seeing them at dinner, you next visit the lines of the staff, and here you hear different cases which have arrived during the morning discussed. In some tents the men are enjoying a quiet half-hour with their best pal – the pipe. Again, in other tents there is much merriment going on or again a game of draughts.

All at once you hear a voice calling "*Mail up*" and then you wonder what is the matter, for though the words may mean nothing to you, it is a call which brings activity to all, and you marvel at the quickness with which the tents are emptied. The crowd is soon dispersed after letters are distributed, and the next quarter of an hour is spent in reading letters and papers and opening parcels from home. After this comes a parade, and some of the men get half a day off, so away they go to the tents, some to lie down and sleep, others to get a bundle and away they go and do a bit of washing. Those who are for duty go to the wards and tidy things up, and after giving out his medicines he may probably find time to write a letter unless other convoys arrive, which is often the case. Tea time comes round with all its worries and after that is over the orderly must again re-dress such wounds as require it, and he is kept busy till supper, after which he sees the patients settled for the night, and is waiting for the night orderly, the M.O. having paid his evening visit. At 7.30 you will see the night orderly, and invariably you hear him ask, "*Much doing?*" which means a host of things. Another convoy has just arrived with something like 80 men, so you go to see what can be seen, but you find that is very little, so quickly do the men move, and soon all the patients are away and after a bit of good hearty chaffing between the drivers of the cars and the R.A.M.C. men, away go the cars after a cheery "*good night*" from the drivers. The men soon clear off to the tents and after a smoke and chat, they begin to turn in. Soon you hear "*lights out*" called, and not a sound may be heard, for soon the men will be asleep and dreaming perhaps of a home far away.

You turn from the staff lines and look up the hospital again, and here you see the lights dodging all over the place, but not a sound, for these men know that the least sound will awaken some poor sufferer, and they know that sleep is one of nature's finest restoratives. You now go to the orderly room, where the clerks are still busy. In comes the night corporal and you hear him ask the number of admissions for the day, and you start when you hear the number, for you realise that perhaps 700 men have that day passed through, and you wonder how it is done. You realise that although you have been on the place all day you have only seen about a quarter of the work done, and you also marvel at the cheerful disposition of all about the place. There is a slight rustling of the tent door, and a voice calls the corporal to come as he is wanted in a ward where a man has passed away, so you follow him, and you note with satisfaction the tenderness with which the last offices are performed.

At last you go away satisfied to think that if you have anyone in the Forces that should have the occasion to go in dock he will be looked after. This is a description of a light day, but if you want to see one at its best, visit it when it is busy, then you will find what is really done. You will think you are back in London almost, for the stream of cars seems endless, some bringing in and some taking away, and you are astonished at the smoothness of everything; no bother, but just a scene of activity where everyone knows what he has to do and when. So things go on bringing this weary war to a close, which all are hoping will be soon, so they can get home again.

From G. D. Newbury, son of Mrs G. Newbury, of 171, North Street, Hugglescote.

Friday October 5th 1917 (Issue 1335)

Page 1

PATRIOTIC SHOW AT HUGGLESCOTE

CHRISTMAS PARCELS FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

The committee which was formed at Hugglescote for the distribution of seed potatoes is continuing in office with the laudable object of raising funds to send a Christmas parcel to every man serving in the Forces from Hugglescote and Donington-le-Heath, whether at home or abroad. A series of events have been arranged and the efforts had a splendid send-off on Saturday by a vegetable show held in the Hawley Institute. A finer collection of vegetables no one could wish to see, and as they were all given to be sold for the funds, the event was a great financial success. The show was opened by Mr Walter Lindley, J.P. supported by Mrs Lindley and Canon Broughton.

Many vegetables were also sent not for competition, but for the benefit of the fund. Among the contributors and also those who gave substantial financial assistance were: Mrs F. Abel-Smith (Coleorton Hall), Mr T. Cope (Osbaston Hall), Canon Broughton, the Hon. H. D. McLaren, M.P., Mr A. E. Hawley, Mr W. Lindley, J.P., the Ellistown, Whitwick and South Leicestershire Colliery Co's, Messrs. Harris, Grundy, Simpkins, J. Holt, T. Annable, J. Cooper, W. Lander, E. Darby, R. Norton, J. Simons, Hill, C. Hatter, E. Bradford, Pruden, J. Dean, S. Dean, J. W. Fletcher, A. Newbold, Mrs George Smith and others.

There were guessing and skittle competitions which all added a good quota to the exchequer. Messrs. Alan V. Carmel and E. Moore acted as auctioneers, and the produce had a ready sale at satisfactory prices. Mr H. Holt (chairman) with the rest of the committee and Mr F. J. Wainwright (hon. secretary) are to be heartily congratulated on the splendid success of their initial effort in so laudable an enterprise.

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Bird, R.	(September 29 th)
Brown, C. E. Lance-Corporal)	(September 28 th)
Burkitt, J.	(September 29 th)
Castledine, T.	(September 29 th)
Drinkwater, D.	(September 29 th)
Edwards, J. W. (Lance-Corporal)	(September 24 th)
Harris T. W.	(September 24 th)
Ottey, S.	(September 29 th)
Sawbridge, G. C.	(September 29 th)
Skellington, J. (Private)	(September 27 th)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The total contributions received to date towards the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial window to be placed in Thringstone Parish Church is £40/2/1?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The treasurer of the Coalville District Soldiers' Comforts Guild (Mrs J. W. Farmer) has received with thanks, the sum of ten guineas towards the funds from the South Leicestershire Colliery Workmen's Accident Society, per Mr George Glover.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, J. Kirby, J. W. Fisher, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, B. G. Hale, A. Lockwood, Captain G. J. German (military representative), Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary), Captain J. S. Turner, Lieut. C. E. Crane, Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

For three-quarters of an hour the Tribunal discussed, in committee, a resolution by Mr Briers, of which notice had been given, that a resolution passed by the Tribunal in September, 1916, be rescinded. This was that all men exempted for two months and over should drill with the V.T.C. Eventually, Mr Briers withdrew his motion.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, represented a Hugglescote fruiterer, in an appeal for conditional exemption. The man was stated to have been in the Army and was discharged in June, 1916. Since then, his brother, who was in partnership with him, had voluntarily joined up. Applicant was recently passed B2. He was 25 and single.

The chairman: *What does the Advisory Committee say?*

Capt. German: *There are no recommendations from the Advisory Committee.*

Mr Lockwood: *Haven't they gone in yet?*

The reply was in the negative. One months' exemption was allowed.

A Hugglescote building firm applied for four men – a foreman joiner, 38, married, B1; a woodwork machinist, 37, married, and two bricklayers, married and aged 40 and passed C1 and B2. A representative of the firm said he now had six men left out of 28 employed before the war, and they were practically pulled out of the place for work. If any of these men were taken it would shut down the business, which had been established 26 years. Answering a question, he said two of the men were drilling with the V.T.C. and the other two would do so. Mr McCarthy said they must not shut up old-established businesses. It was important that property should be kept in repair, or it would be serious for the country as things were. Before coming to a decision, it was decided to hear the other builder's cases.

A Coalville firm appealed for a joiner, married, aged 37, passed B1, and the foreman bricklayer, 40, married, B2. The employer said he was on Government work. He had nine bricklayers and joiners now, compared with 30 before the war. Altogether he now employed 19 men compared with 67 before the war. He let all his apprentices go, and four of his men had been killed, and three wounded. His brother had been in France 18 months, and his brother-in-law was also in France. His clerk, too, had gone. The business had been established for 12 years. In all six cases, two months each were allowed.

The Military Representative brought forward for review the case of the clerk to the Tribunal on the ground that he had not drilled with the V.T.C. The clerk said Captain German was perfectly justified in bringing the case forward, though no suggestion had ever been made either by the Military Representative or the Tribunal that he should drill. Being fully occupied, he considered that he had strong reasons for not joining the V.T.C. but the responsibility would now rest with the Tribunal. It was difficult for one to hold a brief for himself, and he would not go into his grounds at great length because he was satisfied that he could leave the issue in the hands of the Tribunal, knowing as he did, that they were fully acquainted with the facts. He would remind them in passing, in addition to his own duties he was also carrying out those of his brother who was serving in the Army, and they could take it that it was not a question of his day's work being finished when his offices closed. In addition, he was, on the average, two to three nights a week kept late at Coalville in connection with the Council and Tribunal work. It was for the Tribunal to consider the merits and demerits of the case, and if they were of opinion that his views were wrong and their decision favoured the Military Representative, he would undertake to carry out their instructions as far as lay in his power, notwithstanding, he repeated, that to his mind, it would be a hardship.

Mr McCarthy: *How many years is it since your brother joined up?*

The clerk: *On the outbreak of war.*

Capt. German said it was true that the clerk had not refused to drill. He had brought forward the case because the condition was not attached to his exemption.

Mr McCarthy: *You did not want anybody to say that some of the cases had not been reviewed.*

Capt. German: *I want to be fair to everybody.*

He added that he quite agreed that Mr Jesson was working very hard, but that applied to others also. Mr McCarthy said that as the clerk was doing his brother's work as well as his own, it was reasonable to excuse him from drilling. The Tribunal unanimously agreed.

A Coalville farmer and grocer, 40, married, appealing, said he had 43 acres of land, of which seven were arable, but he had orders to break up 11 more acres. He had 15 beasts. Answering a question he said he was passed A2.

Mr McCarthy: *That's a fresh one.*

Mr Champion said this was a very productive little smallholding, and was producing more than many much larger farms. Conditional exemption was allowed.

A Coalville plumber, who said he had four men left out of 23 before the war, was allowed two months each for two married painters, aged 38 and 28 and both passed B2.

Mr J. J. Sharp, represented the managing partner of a Hugglescote building firm, who is also a joinery work machinist. The man was stated to be 40 years of age, married, and passed B1. They now had 12 men left out of 35, and applicant was the only man left of military age. Two months allowed.

A Coalville master builder, 34, married, and passed for general service, appealed for further exemption, stating that he had plenty of work. During the time the business had been going, they had built 136 houses in the district. Two months.

A Hugglescote master builder, 34, married, C2, appealed for himself and his foreman bricklayer, 41, C1. He said ten men had left him and his brother had also joined up. Two months allowed in each case.

Appealing for the only man in his employ, a Hugglescote builder and undertaker said the man had a delicate wife and six children. He was passed B2, and was 38 years of age. Two months.

A Whitwick gardener and electric light attendant, 38, B2, who applied on domestic grounds, his wife being ill, was allowed one month.

Two months were allowed a Hugglescote painter for his man, 34, passed C1. He said three sons and three men had been taken from the business. It was stated that one of the sons had been killed.

A Coalville joiner appealed for his apprentice, 18, single, and passed for general service.

Capt. German: *Who would you like to go if a youth of this age, passed for general service does not go?*

Applicant replied that he would like a little time while he got another youth into the work. A member remarked that he did not see who they could ask to go if this youth was let off. It was not assented to.

A Coalville hay merchant wrote that his son having been taken, could another son assist him? The latter had been exempted on doing work of national importance. The application was granted.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private R. Stanyard (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported wounded.

News has been received that Private Albert Shakespeare of the Leicestershire Regiment has died in hospital at Hull. He was a former resident of Pegg's Green.

Private John Lyons, Durham Light Infantry, is officially reported missing since August 23rd last, the information being conveyed to his wife, who lives at the Hall Croft, Shepshed, by a lieutenant of the company in France and also from York.

Mr and Mrs W. Corbett, Springfield Road, Shepshed, have received information that their son, Lance-Sergeant W. E. Corbett, Leicestershire Regiment, has died in the camp at Soltan Z, Germany where he was a prisoner of war, having been taken after being severely wounded on May 3rd last.

Mr and Mrs A Wardle, Main Street, Markfield have received official information that their son, Sapper Abraham Wardle, R.E. has died in hospital from the result of an accident sustained while working with the Labour contingent in France. His officer writes that he was an excellent fellow, and was much loved by his comrades. Previously he was employed by Messrs Everard at the granite quarries at Bardon Hill. He was 26 years of age.

Private J. J. L. Buck (Ashby), of the West Yorkshire Regiment is reported killed.

Mr and Mrs J. W. Baker, of Highfields Street, Coalville have received news that their son, Albert, has been wounded in the back and left arm in a bayonet charge and is now in hospital. The chaplain writes that he

hopes and believes that with God's blessing the patient will do well. He looks fairly well and is keeping up his strength. The date of this letter is September 27th.

Writing from "Somewhere in Belgium" three days previously, the soldier stated that they were about to enter a big battle, but they must cheer up. He hoped to pull through. He enlisted three years ago, and has been on active service for eight months. He formerly worked at the Ibstock Collieries.

Many Ibstock friends will regret to learn that Private Albert Mattley has been killed in action on the Western Front. Prior to joining the Colours, he was a counterman at Worthington's Stores, High Street, Ibstock. Much sympathy is felt for the widowed mother.

LOCAL NEWS

ABSENTEE

Before Mr John Wotton at the Coalville Police Court on Friday, Private G. H. Evans, of the Leicestershire Regiment was charged with being an absentee. He was arrested at his home in St. Saviour's Road, Coalville the previous night by Sergeant Kirkland. Evans was remanded to await an escort.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ASSOCIATION

The first open-air meeting in connection with the newly formed Coalville branch of this Association was held in the Market Place on Sunday morning, and was largely attended, the usual I.L.P. meeting being shortened for the convenience of the same. Mr B. G. Hale, J.P. presided, and addresses were given by Mr A. Green, the organising secretary for Leicester and Leicestershire, and ex-Sergeant Dye, of Leicester, formerly of the Coalville Recruiting Office. The aims and objects of the Association were ably set forth and Mr Hale appealed to the meeting to spread the movement all they could in order that men who had fought for their country and had been discharged from the services might be helped in securing the best possible treatment in regard to pensions, etc. Mr Green also asked that if any case was known of an employer paying less wages to a discharged soldier because he was receiving a pension, though able to do a fair day's work, he hoped it would be reported to the Association which would take up such cases, and do their utmost to restore justice for the men.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private Herbert Gladstone Wharmby of the Queen's London Regiment, who was killed in France, October 8th, 1916. Aged 27 years.

*"We desired for him long life,
God gives him life eternal."*

From his sorrowing Mother, Father, Brother and Sisters.

In loving memory of Private Joe Tebbatt of the Leicestershire Regiment, who was killed in the Battle of Loos, on September 25th, 1915. Aged 21 years.

*"Worthy of lasting love was he,
From those he left behind
A better son could never be,
Nor one more true and kind."*

From Father, Mother, Sisters and Brothers

In loving memory of our dear son, Pte. Thomas Black, Leicesters, killed in action in France, October 5th, 1916. Aged 19 years.

*"I often pause to think, dear son,
And wonder how you died,
With no one near, who loved you dear,
Before you closed your eyes."*

*You nobly did your duty; like a hero fell;
Could I have held your drooping head,
And heard your last farewell."*

From his loving Mother, Father, Sisters and Brothers.

Friday October 12th 1917 (Issue 1336)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Bakewell, L. Driver	(October 3 ^d)
Barnes, L. E. Private	(October 4 th)
Brown, Syd. Lance-Corporal	(October 5 th)
Brown, C. E. Lance-Corporal	(October 5 th)
Clamp, H. Sergeant	(October 5 th)
King, A. W. Private	(October 9 th)
Mann, C. T. Sapper	(October 2 nd)
Martin, George, Corporal	(October 4 th)
Perkins, J. A. Driver	(October 7 th)
Savage, H. Private	(October 4 th)
Stopp, W. Lance-Corporal	(October 5 th)
Tansey, F. Corporal	(September 27 th)
Timson, A. Bdr.	(October 5 th)
Underwood, F. S. Lance-Corporal	(October 5 th)
Upton, G. R. Sapper	(October 4 th)
Veasey, Sergeant	(September 25 th)
Watret, W. J. Private	(October 6 th)

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

It is pleasing to note that in most of the parishes in this district good progress is being made with the efforts to raise funds to ensure a Christmas parcel being sent to every man from these parishes serving in the Forces. The parishes where this work is being heartily taken up include Hugglescote, Whitwick, Bardon, Bagworth, Ibstock, Swannington and Ellistown. What about Coalville?

Mr J. W. Eagles, the gasworks manager, a day or two ago received from his son, the Rev. J. E. Eagles, who is a chaplain to the Forces in Egypt, a copy of the "Egyptian Gazette" an interesting newspaper published in Alexandria and Cairo. It contained a Whitwick item of news, this relating to the calling-up of monks at the Monastery by the military authorities for medical examination.

Mr Thomas Earp, secretary of the Coalville Town F.C. has received from his son, Private Frederick Thomas Earp, of the Leicestershire Regiment, a medal won by the runners-up (he was one of the team) in the Brigade Football Tournament in France. Private Earp formerly played with Coalville Town. He writes that he is "*in the pink*".

Second-Lieutenant Eric Young of the 7th Gloucesters, has been out in Mesopotamia for a year, and led his men as acting Captain into Bagdad, when that city fell into our hands. He was afterwards sent to India on three months' sick leave. Mrs Young, of Holly Dene, has received a cablegram telling her that he has been appointed aide-de-camp to the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ASKED FOR

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, J. Kirby, J. W. Fisher, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox and A. Lockwood, with Captain G. J. German (military representative) Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor of Crane and Moore, Coalville, appeared in the first four cases, which were dealt with as follows: A Coalville chemist's dispenser, 31, married, B1, two months; manager of a Nottingham house furnisher's branch shop at Coalville, 30, married, C3, three months; a dental mechanic, 38, married, B3, who resides at Shepshed and is employed by his brother, a Coalville dentist serving in the Army, three months and a Hugglescote boot repairer, 41, married, B1, the father of six children, three months.

Three months were also allowed a Coalville architect, 38, B1, married, who stated that he had given up his work as superintendent of a Sunday School in order to drill with the V.T.C.; to a sledger at the Forest Rock Granite Quarry, 34, married, and passed B2; to a Coalville printer for his foreman compositor, 35, married, C1, it being stated that three other employees had gone, one having been killed, one wounded and the other was in training; to Sir Matthew Joyce's gardener, 41, married; and to a Coalville loom and shuttle maker, 23, single, passed C2.

A Coalville dairyman, appealing for his son, 23, single, C2, said that of four sons this was the last left at home. The other three joined up in August, 1914, one had been killed, one wounded and the other was in Salonica. The son appealed for had a business in Coalville, and was also working at the Coleorton Colliery. Three months were allowed in this case also.

A similar term was allowed a farm labourer working for the Whitwick Colliery Co., 40, C2, who said he had seven children. He used to work in the pit, but had to give that up on account of his health.

Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, Coalville, represented a Hugglescote milkseller, 70 years of age, who appealed for his son who carries on the business. He said the man was 26 years of age and married. They had 8 beasts and 3 horses, and 18 acres of land. They supplied 125 customers on a milk round. The man was formerly rejected, and had now been passed B2. Conditional exemption was allowed.

The Military Representative brought forward for review the case of a loom tuner employed at a Coalville elastic web factory, single, aged 28, and passed C1. The manager of the factory said they were on Government work and he was expecting a badge for the man. The case was adjourned for one month for the man to be badged.

A Coalville saddler, 32, married, B1, pointed out in his appeal that he was doing the harness work for 130 pit ponies, besides farm tackle, etc. He had a wife and two children, and his mother was partly dependent. Conditional exemption was allowed.

Three months were allowed the caretaker at the Coalville Grammar School, 40, married, B1, who stated that he was also working at Stableford's and drilling with the V.T.C.

The case of an Ellistown Colliery banksman, 19, single, was adjourned for another medical examination. He said he was dissatisfied with the last one. He had lost two brothers in the war and was the chief support of the home, his father being an invalid.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society, applied for a bakery warehouseman, 40, married, B2. Mr Lockwood said 85 of the Society's employees had joined up.

Captain German: *But their pledges have been filled, haven't they?*

Mr Lockwood: *Yes, mostly by females.*

Three months allowed.

The same society appealed for a bread deliverer, 40, married, and passed for general service. Mr Lockwood said the man was formerly passed C3, and was put up to general service on re-examination. The chairman said that the man's health had evidently improved. Mr Lockwood said the man had been examined by a local doctor, who stated that among other things, he was suffering from osteoarthritis of metatarso-phalangeal joints of both big toes (laughter) with complete ossification of the same. "He works among horses and perhaps that accounts for that" added Mr Lockwood jocosely, amidst more laughter. Though suffering from this, he said, the man had been passed for general service. The case was adjourned for 14 days for further medical examination.

Mr Brown said he noticed that there were still no recommendations from the Advisory Committee.

The chairman: *Have they commenced work again yet?*

Captain German: *No.*

The chairman: *Is there any likelihood of them doing so?*

Captain German: *I don't think so. They definitely decided not to sit again until some action is taken by the War Office.*

Mr McCarthy said the Advisory Committee were not appointed to advise the Tribunal. It was to help the Military Authorities to get men into the Army. He thought it unwise to let this go into the Press again as it only led to a lot of tittle-tattle.

Mr Brown: *It is not tittle-tattle if it is true. I should like a statement made on it.*

Mr Hale said that if the Advisory Committee was not sitting the machinery in connection with the work was not complete.

Captain German: *We are told to carry on.*

Mr Hale said he knew nothing about the men referred to, but if they had taken vows in a convent, according to the law they were as dead men, and they had no hold on them in any shape or form.

Captain German: *Yes, but some are not fully qualified.*

The chairman: *I suppose it is in the hands of the War Office.*

Mr McCarthy said there were hundreds and thousands of cases settled by the War Office which did not go before any Tribunal. Mr Brown said there was as much to be said for the conscientious objectors. He would like a statement on the case as to why the Advisory Committee were not sitting. Was there any chance of them getting a reply to their request? Captain German said the committees were in communication with the War Office. Mr Lockwood moved that the Advisory Committee be asked to report why they were not sending their recommendations to the Tribunal. Mr Brown seconded. The chairman said they had had nothing official. All they had was what they had read in the papers or heard. The resolution was carried.

Page 3

IBSTOCK SOLDIER HONOURED

Private Benjamin Thirlby, of the R.A.M.C. an Ibstock man, has received the following communication from his commanding officer. "*The A.D.M.S. has reported that on September 9th, 1917 near Hargicourt, you showed great gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack on the enemy trenches in bringing to safety a large number of seriously wounded over shell-swept areas, and I hereby award you a card of honour.*"

MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday evening last, the Rev. S. Flood C.A. (Rector) conducted a memorial service in memory of Ibstock boys who have fallen recently in the war, viz., Privates W. Tyers, A. Newman, Joe Allen, W. Sharp, (drowned Mesopotamia). The Parish Church was crowded with sympathisers and relatives of the deceased soldiers. The Rector, speaking from the chancel step, assured the congregation of the great helpfulness of human sympathy at a time like the present and said they could be quite certain that Divine sympathy was ever present to help bear the awful burden of sorrow that mankind generally was having to bear now through the calamity of the world war. The Church Lads' Brigade was in attendance, and the "Last Post" was sounded by

the buglers at the close of the service. Mr W. Dunstan presided at the organ and played the "Dead March", the congregation meanwhile standing.

BAGWORTH

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SOLDIERS

At a public meeting in the Council School on Monday night, Mr J. Dorsett presiding, it was decided to send a Christmas parcel value 10s, to every man from Bagworth serving in the Forces. Those present, together with the Co-Operative Women's Guild, were elected to a committee to make a house-to-house collection and arrange whist drives and other events to raise the funds. Mr T. Ward was appointed secretary and Mr J. Witts, treasurer.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr Harry Shilton, employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery and residing near the Corner Pin at Donington-le-Heath, has been notified of the death of his only son, Private Charles Henry Shilton, of the Northumberland Fusiliers. Writing on October 1st, an officer states, *"I very much regret having to write to inform you that your son was killed in action on September 23rd. I saw that he was properly buried, together with two of his pals, on the battlefield near _____.* A small wooden cross marks his grave which is just behind the firing line. At the same time I should like to acknowledge a parcel which arrived for him on the 25th, which according to custom, was divided equally among his platoon. I must apologise for delay in writing, but we have only just come out the line, and this is the first opportunity I have had." The deceased was 22 years of age, and had been 15 months in France. He had previously been wounded. He formerly worked as a baker in the employ of Mr Deacon, of Ellistown.

Private J. Finch (Ashby) of the Coldstream Guards, is reported killed in action.

Sergeant George Saddington, of the Leicesters, was wounded in action on September 26th and died on the 27th, the sad news being conveyed in a letter from a chaplain, who states that the deceased soldier is buried in a cemetery behind the lines. Sergeant Saddington was 25 years of age and married, his wife residing at Luton. He is a son of Mr Thomas Saddington, of 58, Albert Street, Coalville, and before the war worked at Coleorton Colliery. He had been in France about 18 months. His brother, Private W. Saddington has had a foot amputated through wounds received in action. Sergeant Saddington is the 7th member of the congregation at St. Saviour's Catholic Church, Highfields, Coalville to be killed in action.

We regret to state that news has come to Mr Samuel Fowkes, 22, Leicester Road, Ibstock that his son, Private Walter Fowkes, North Staffordshire Regiment, was killed in action on the Western Front. Prior to enlistment he worked at a Measham boot and shoe factory and had only recently been home on leave.

Also that Private Massey, of Heather Road, Ibstock has been wounded, and Private Thomas Eggington, son of Mr Thos. Eggington newsagent, Ibstock has been wounded in action somewhere in France.

Private J. Allen (Ibstock) of the Northumberland Fusiliers is reported to have died.

News has been received that Private Arthur Jarvis, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose home is at Leicester Road, Whitwick, has been wounded in action, and is in hospital in France. He has injuries to his face, and both eyes, and it is feared that the sight of the left eye is endangered. He used to work at the Whitwick Colliery and joined up on the outbreak of war.

Mr F. H. Deacon, baker and confectioner, of Hotel Street, Coalville has received news that his youngest brother, Private W. A. Deacon, of the R.A.M.C. was killed in action on September 26th, a shell falling near him while attending to the wounded. He was 22 years of age and was a dentist, residing at Nuneaton before

the war. Only a fortnight before being killed he was on a visit to his brother at Coalville. Mr Deacon has four other brothers serving in the Forces.



Private Wm. Baker, of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported to have been killed in action on September 5th, his name and number having appeared in the official list of casualties, though the official notification has not yet reached his parents. Letters sent to him, however, have been returned by the Authorities, stating that he was killed on the date given. He is the younger son of Mr George Baker, of Page's Hill, Hugglescote who is employed at the Ellistown Colliery. Before the war, the young soldier, who was barely twenty years of age, worked at the Bagworth Colliery. He enlisted at the first large recruiting meeting held in the Coalville Olympia. Mr Baker's only other son is serving in India.

(A photograph of Private William Baker appears to the left)

Mr F. Ducker of Leicester Road, Whitwick, a labourer in the employ of Messrs. Griffin Bros., builders, Hugglescote received news on Friday that his son, Private Ducker of the Leicesters has been wounded in action, and is now in hospital at Bristol.

A letter from an officer states that Private Harold Douglas Finch, of the Leicesters, was killed in action on September 20th. He was 19 years of age, and before the war worked at Ellistown Colliery, lodging with Mr H. Laywood, postman of Bridge Road, Coalville.

Private B. Clibbery (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Private A. Burton (Ellistown) and J. B. Haynes (Coalville) both of the Leicestershire Regiment have been posted as missing.

WHITWICK SOLDIER IN A BATTLE



Mrs J. Watret, of 18, Talbot Street, Whitwick has received a letter from her son, Private W. J. Watret, who states, *"We went over the top on September 26th, and captured a lot of prisoners and ground, and I can tell you it was awful. Am glad to say I got through without a scratch, but W. Sykes was wounded. The Germans tried hard to stop us, but they might as well have tried to stop a motor car going at full speed. Our lads did well, and took everything before them."* He adds that they also lost some men, one who was hit next to him being a Measham man.

WOUNDED SOLDIER MARRIED AT WHITWICK

The wedding at the Whitwick Parish Church on Saturday of one of the soldiers at Broom Leys V.A.D. Hospital, Coalville occasioned a good deal of interest. The bridegroom was Private Vaughan, who hails from Ashton-under-Lyne, and the bride, Miss Middleton, of Leicester. The large congregation at the church included a good number of soldiers from the hospital, motor cars for their conveyance being lent by Messrs. J. H. Land, G. Henson and Wright. The Rev. T. W. Walters, (vicar) performed the ceremony, after which the wounded soldiers lined up on either side of the church entrance and formed an archway with their sticks, under which the happy couple passed. An excellent spread was provided at the hospital. Mr Walter Lindley, J.P. chairman of the committee, proposed the health of the newly-married couple, this being supported by the matron, and the bridegroom made a suitable reply to the good wishes expressed. The happy couple left by the 6.20 pm train for Leicester.

GIFTS TO THE HOSPITAL

Grateful thanks are expressed by the matron for the following gifts to Broom Leys Hospital, month ending September 30th. Vegetables and fruit, per the Rev. Greenwood-Robinson, Swannington; vegetables, Whitwick Granite Co.; cake, Co-Operative Guild; cakes, Mrs Smith, Coleorton; apples and pears, Mr Holt, Hugglescote; vegetables and fruit, Lady Joyce; fruit and eggs, Mrs Hook's collection; vegetables, fruit, flowers and eggs, per the Rev. Holt, The Oaks; vegetables and fruit, Mrs Booth; and apples, Mrs Hale.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private Samuel Line, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who was killed in action October 12th, 1916. Aged 36 years.

"Gone, but not forgotten."

From his loving Brother and Sisters

Friday October 19th 1917 (Issue 1337)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Beard, V. Ewart	(October 10 th)
Hall, Thomas. G. Private	(October 8 th)
Smith, E. Private	(October 7 th)
Veasey, Sergeant	(October 15 th)
Woodcock, A. S.	(October 15 th)

We are in receipt of a letter from Sergeant Clade Bradshaw who was wounded in the recent fighting in Flanders, and who is now in hospital in London, in which he states that he is progressing favourably, and is looking forward to meeting all old friends in the near future. He is the youngest son of Mr W. Bradshaw, of Cambridge Street, Coalville.

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Two hospital trains reached Leicester on Tuesday morning, the V.A.D. workers, led by Mr A. W. Faire, County Director, had been waiting at the Station through the night in anticipation of their arrival with large convoys of wounded soldiers. Train No. 17 made its appearance at four o'clock, carrying 95 cot cases. These were despatched, with the usual celerity, to North Evington Hospital. At 4.30 train No. 10 steamed up to the platform with 80 sitting, and 80 cot cases, all of which were conveyed to the Base Hospital. The manner in which the task of removal was carried out in a glowing tribute to the efficiency of the V.A.D.

WEDDING

An interesting wedding was solemnised last Sunday morning at the London Road Baptist Church, Coalville the contracting parties being Sapper Arthur Roberts, of the Royal Engineers, and Nurse Carrie Cresswell, Royal Infirmary, Leicester. The bridegroom is the son of Mr William Roberts, Llanferis, North Wales, and was formerly employed at Coalville Post Office, and has served six years with the Colours in France, whereon he returns in a few days. The bride is the third daughter of Mr and Mrs George Cresswell, Highfields, Coalville. The bridesmaid was Miss Guinevere Cresswell, sister of the bride, while the bridegroom was attended by Mr J. Cresswell, London, uncle of the bride. The Rev. F. Pickbourne performed the ceremony, and Mr Herbert Marriott presided at the organ, and played several selections, and the Wedding March. The bride wore a wine-coloured silk dress, veil and orange blossoms, and her going-away dress was a grey costume and

black hat. The wedding breakfast was held at Highfields at the residence of the bride's parents. The happy couple were the recipients of a number of valuable and useful presents.

IBSTOCK

We are pleased to be able to announce that Private Massey, of Heather Road, Ibstock who was reported wounded last week, has since written to his parents, stating that he is quite alright, and has been in the company of several other Ibstock and Coalville boys.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH

At the memorial and requiem service at St. Saviour's, Coalville for the late George Saddington, Father Degan spoke as follows.

"This present Mass is being offered up for the repose of the soul of Sergeant George Herbert Saddington, who at the age of 26 was killed in action in France on September 27th, last. He is the seventh member of this congregation to lay down his life for his country – his six predecessors being, Hunt, Ducksbury, Sheffield, Lovell, Thorpe and Ketcher. He was my first convert in the Coalville Mission, and became the controlling influence of the local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which dispenses food, clothing and money among the poor without any reference to their religious beliefs, much to the astonishment and admiration of the late Mr S. P. Matterson, who at the time was both a Guardian and a member of the Urban District Council. Later on, Saddington added to his activities by taking charge with Peter Hart, of a small contingent of Boy Scouts that had been raised in connection with the Church.

So far as St. Saviour's Mission is concerned death has gone forth with his sickle, and has had a royal reaping of the choicest and the richest grain. We have lost in large measure the cream and flower of our young manhood. The very ones who constituted the main hope for the future spread of Catholicity in this district, have been sacrificed on the battlefields of France and Mesopotamia.

Not in vain have they surrendered their lives. The manner and circumstances of their deaths will bear perpetual and eloquent witness both to their allegiance to the faith of their baptism, and to their heroic generosity in the cause of patriotism. They have fallen in as noble a cause as did those Christian soldiers, who fell in the battle of Lepanto in 1571, in order to frustrate the designs of Turkish ambition, which at that time, like Prussianism today, aimed at the subjugation of the whole of Europe."

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mr William Fowkes, builder, Ravenstone, has been unofficially informed that his younger son, Private Albert Fowkes, of the Leicesters has been killed in action, a comrade writing that he was struck on the head by a shell. He was 23 years old, and before enlisting helped his father in his business. He was in Ireland before going to France, and had been in the Army two years, and at the Front since January last. An elder son of Mr Fowkes is in France, serving in the Canadian Forces.

Private William Martin, Yorkshire Light Infantry, son of Mrs Sarah Martin, of Margaret Street, Coalville is in hospital at Edinburgh with gun-shot wounds in the legs and arms. He is the elder brother of Private F. Martin, Connaught Rangers, discharged from the army, medically unfit, having been shot in the right hip. Another brother, the youngest, is serving in the Royal Marines.

A few days ago intimation was received by his father, from the chaplain of the regiment, that Private Wilfred Cave, R.A.M.C. has been wounded, somewhere in France, and since invalided home to a hospital in the north-west of England. Private Cave has been in the army three years and curiously enough enlisted on his birthday, and had exactly completed the three years' service on the day he was wounded. He was highly respected in the village of Stanton, where his parents reside, and received his education at the National Schools, under the present headmaster (Mr W. Boswell) during which time he won a county scholarship.

News has been received this week by the parents of Will Lindley, Orchard Street, Ibstock of his having been wounded in the right shoulder, rather severely and is in hospital in France.

Captain H. F. Smith-Carrington, Manchester Regiment, a brother of Mr N. W. Smith-Carrington, a former Loughborough Division Unionist candidate, has been wounded in action.

Mr and Mrs S. Wood, of Highfields Street, Coalville have received news that their son, Private Alf Wood, of the Leicesters, has been killed in action. A chaplain writes, *"I am very sorry to tell you that your son, Private A. Wood, was killed in action on October 1st. He died a glorious death, doing his duty up to the very last. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your great sorrow, and may God comfort you and help you to bear the heavy cross He has laid upon you."* The deceased soldier was 27 years of age and single. Before the war he carried on the business of a fishmonger at Belvoir Road, Coalville and also acted as auxiliary postman. He was a prominent Good Templar, and had held various offices in the J. S. Vorley Lodge. His father is a miner employed at the Ibstock Colliery. Mr and Mrs Wood have another soldier son, who was one of the first in Coalville to win the D.C.M.

Sapper A. H. Bruce (Bardon Hill) of the Royal Engineers has been wounded.

News has been received that Sergeant J. Hancock, of the Coldstream Guards, whose home is at Swannington Road, Ravenstone, died of wounds received in action on September 24th. Writing to his wife an officer says, *"It is with the deepest sorrow that I have to write and tell you that your husband died of wounds yesterday (24th ult.) He was wounded in the morning by a shell and taken to hospital where he died in the evening, after an operation. We had not been very long together in the battalion but quite long enough for me to find out what a splendid man and soldier he was. I am a very young soldier myself and Sergeant Hancock was with me the first time I went into the trenches. You can imagine what a great help it is to a young officer to have a man like that with him, and I cannot feel too grateful to him. The men who came out here at the beginning of the war and have returned again and again after being wounded cannot be admired too much; and for them all the time to keep so keen and calm is wonderful. I cannot say how sorry I am to lose him and how much I sympathise with you. May God give you comfort. Sergeant Hancock was buried in the cemetery of the hospital. May I say again how deeply I sympathise with you, and I am proud to have had your husband with me."* The deceased soldier was one of the first to leave his native village on the outbreak of war, and was in the Battle of Mons, being wounded. After his recovery, he again went to France, and during the next year and eight months, took part in many hard battles. He was made King's Corporal on the field for gallant conduct, and for the second time was wounded, being shot through both thighs and having four wounds on his body. Soon after returning once more to the Front he was made Sergeant. Two days after he made the supreme sacrifice (September 26th), his brother Joseph, was wounded, and is now in hospital in France.

Information has come to hand that Captain J. Emmerson, son of Mr A. B. Emmerson, manager of the Ellistown Colliery, has been wounded. He is reported to be lying in a hospital in France with severe gunshot wounds in the leg. He enlisted as a private and obtained the D.C.M. when a corporal. He obtained a commission last October and on the field was made a captain some six months ago. He has been in France since February, 1915 except when home for his commission.

Mrs Seekins, of Congerstone, has received a letter from an officer in a Labour Company, informing her that her son, Private C. E. Seekins, was killed by shell fire whilst carrying out dangerous work in a forward area on September 26th. The platoon, the lieutenant states, will miss him very much; he was very popular, always cheerful and a conscientious worker. He was buried by his comrades in an English cemetery, an army chaplain officiating. Before enlisting, in September 1915, he worked on the Midland Railway. His brother is serving in France with the A.S.C.

Private Thomas Marriott, of the Northumberland Fusiliers has been injured in a mine explosion on the Western Front, having his face and hands burnt badly, and he is now in hospital at Netley, making satisfactory progress. He is 22 years of age, and formerly worked at Snibston Colliery. His father, Mr Thomas Marriott, a collier, resides in the New Breach Road, Hugglescote.

The former manager of the Whitwick Picture House, Private R. M. Kelly, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, has been gassed, and is now in hospital at Leicester. The injury is to his eyes, but we are pleased to hear that he is going on well.

A chaplain has sent news to Mr and Mrs Thomas Smith, of 17, Melbourne Street, Coalville that their son, Private S. C. Smith, of the Leicestershire Regiment was killed in action on October 1st. He says, *"The Germans made a heavy counter-attack and our fellows were called upon to beat them back. Your son proved himself to be a good soldier, and unflinchingly made the great sacrifice. Please accept my deepest*

sympathy in your great sorrow, and may God comfort you and help you to bear the heavy cross He has laid upon you." The deceased soldier was 23 years of age, a single man, and before the war worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery. He was a member of the Coalville Wesleyan Church and one of Mr T. Frith's old boys of the Belvoir Road Council School. He had previously been wounded. Mr T. Smith, who is a moulder at Messrs. Wootton Bros.' Works, has another son, Leslie, who has been twice wounded and is now again at the Front.

Private William Harrison, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Harrison, of 21, Park Road, Coalville was wounded during an attack on September 26th, being shot in the shoulders. He has been removed to hospital at Lincoln where he was visited by his parents last Saturday and he is progressing favourably. In a letter sent previously, the soldier says it was "a bit hot" when they went over the top, but they did some good work.

Private Harold Edwin Ketcher, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who has been reported missing since July 16th, is now reported, unofficially, to have been killed. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Alfred Ketcher, of 31, Oxford Street, Coalville was 20 years of age, and formerly employed at Messrs. Stableford's Works. His father is employed by Messrs. Brown and Sons, boot manufacturers, Coalville. Private T. Prestwick writes, "He went over with the first wave, and I went over with the second one, so I did not see him, for the first wave got into Fritz's trench and the second was beaten back. So I did not see him, but the lads who were with him told me that he put up the best fight that day; he was bombing till the last. If he had come out of it alive he would have been recommended and got a medal for what he did. If I had thought there would have been any danger for him, I would have been beside him, no matter what it had cost, for after being together for so long, I think I could have comforted him in his last minute or so, but after having faced death so many times together, I never entertained the slightest doubt but that he would come through safe and sound. . . . If I get to know where he is buried I will let you know. He suffered no pain, for he was shot through the head, and died almost at once. . . . All the lads who knew your son – and he was very popular – wish me to convey their deepest sympathy to you and your family in your great loss." Father Degan, who since the report that Ketcher was missing, has been making enquiries, has also received a letter from a Roman Catholic chaplain, who writes, "I am only sorry that I cannot give Mrs Ketcher the news that she wants to hear. It is as certain as can be that her boy is dead. The evidence at the time was reasonably conclusive, but not technically so, to allow of his being officially entered as killed in action. Please offer Mrs Ketcher my most real and sincere sympathy. . . . Harold Ketcher was a good boy and a good soldier. His company officer is writing and will tell you how bravely he died." Mr and Mrs Ketcher have two other soldier sons, one of whom is in Egypt.

MARRIAGE

Woods – Betts – By special licence on October 17th at the London Road Baptist Church, Coalville by the Rev. F. Pickbourne, Lieutenant Harold V. Woods, M.G.C. Fullarton Lodge, Mansfield to Bessie L. Betts, The Altons, Ravenstone.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private E. Orton, Leicestershire Regiment, who died of wounds received on active service, October 24th, 1916.

*"He is gone like a flower, cut down in his bloom,
From the sunshine of life to the shades of the tomb;
But death cannot sever the chains of our love,
Or still the fond promise, we'll meet him above."*

From his sorrowing Brother and Sister-in-Law, Jack and Alice, South Elmsal.

In loving memory of my dearly beloved husband, Corporal W. Boobyer, Worcester Regiment. Killed in action in France, October 16th, 1916.

*"The midnight star shines o'er the grave,
Of a dear husband, and soldier brave,
How brave, how dear, we shall understand,
When we meet again in that better land."*

From his loving Wife, Son and Daughter.

Page 4

ASHBY SOLDIER HONOURED

An interesting event at Ashby on Friday evening was a largely attended public meeting at the Town Hall to do honour to Sergeant William England, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, the first native of Ashby to win the Military Medal. Mr A. H. Tugby, chairman of the Urban Council, presided, and was supported by Capt. W. E. Stevenson, Lieutenants' S. Freckleton and C. Hussey, Messrs. J. German, J. P. Adcock, J. H. Sutton, T. Orton and J. Canner. The chairman said they had met to offer congratulations to one of their townsmen who had won a coveted distinction.

Mr J. P. Adcock also spoke, and Mr J. German gave a resume of the sergeant's military career, stating that five months after enlisting in 1916, he received his first stripe. In April of this year, he was awarded the Military Medal for volunteering to carry despatches under heavy fire and he gained another stripe, being promoted to sergeant in May. He called on Mrs German, wife of Colonel German to pin the medal on Sergeant England's breast, which she did amidst applause, and on behalf of the townspeople. Mrs German then presented the sergeant with a gold watch and chain, and purse of money.

Sergeant Crane, on behalf of the officers and men of the Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment, congratulated Sergeant England, and said they were proud of him. The sergeant suitably replied.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

TRANSFERS

Transfers were made of the licences of the Turk's Head, Donisthorpe, and Rawdon Arms, Moira, to Mrs Walker and Mrs Atkins respectively, their husbands being with the Colours.

Superintendent Lockton said it was the wish of the Bench that in all cases throughout the Division, where licensees were away in the Forces, the licences should be transferred to the wives.

ASHBY RURAL TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Varnham presided at a meeting of this Tribunal on Saturday.

Exemption was refused a Willesley footman, but he is not to be called up before November 13th.

Conditional exemption was granted to the foreman of a Measham shoe factory, a Donisthorpe gardener, Thringstone marine store dealer, Oakthorpe carter, Normanton wheelwright, Measham boot dealer, and a Bardon quarryman.

Applications from two Thringstone colliers and a Standard Hill colliery wagon examiner were not assented to. A Measham insurance agent received two months final, a Swannington colliery clerk one month final and an Oakthorpe bricklayer, six weeks final.

A Swannington cowman was exempted till substituted, and a Ravenstone colliery clerk was allowed one month final, to be medically examined. The Military Representative appealed for the review of conditional exemption granted to a Thringstone farmer and collier, but the man was allowed to retain his certificate.

"CRIMSON STAINS"

HUGGLESCOTE OFFICER'S BOOK OF POEMS

We have received a copy of "Crimson Stains", a charming little book of poems dealing with war and love, which, it is interesting to note, is the work of a local author, 2nd Lieutenant Arthur Newbury Choyce, of the Leicestershire Regiment, a native of Hugglescote, who before the war was an assistant master in the Bridge Road Council School at Coalville.

Lieutenant Choyce took part in the Spring offensive, being wounded in May during the attack in the Arras line, and some of his poems relating to the war are descriptive of actual experiences, but all reveal an exalted idealism thoroughly in keeping with the cause for which the Allies are fighting, and the author is to be congratulated on having succeeded in expressing this in such pleasing poetic form. Thus, in "Stains", the volume opens:-

*"And this man with clean hands went forth to fight.
Until the great triumphant day
Which saw the re-establishing of Right
Then went his way
Came home from those blood lands
Where he had proved his worth –
Glorious crimson stains upon his hands."*

How the call to service was responded to by the gallant young officer is beautifully portrayed in "Leadership" in which he says:-

*"England! Who did so much for me
Hear my glad vow!
This heart all thrilled with loss of thee
Goes forward now
Striving with soldier zeal and help of Heaven
To merit this great trust which thou hast giv'n."*

*England! If any crimson stain
Sets forth my share:
Or hours of patiently borne pain
Show how I care:
Conscious, I'll prize the glorious chance to prove
How all my soul is stirred by living love."*

*England! When victory is won,
If I should stay
With those whose every work is done
For many a day:
Somewhere I'll sleep and maybe dream again
The joy it was to die with England's men."*

And this is what the writer says in the opening lines of "A May Morning"

*"When morning came
I stood half dazed in that strange aftermath
Of men who cast a dice with Death
And win -
Yet see their fellow players lose
Near me – a khaki heap,
And others everywhere.
A burning in my arm
Another wound
That in fierce moments brought me agony."*

The part which Leicestershire have played in the war has won the admiration of all, and the pride which the people of this county naturally feel in the heroic deeds of its gallant sons is evidently shared by the author, who, in a tribute to the Leicestershire who fell on May 3rd, 1917, writes:-

*"If in the next life or the next there be
A starting of our quarrels all again,
May Fate give task of leadership to me
And let me find the souls of these dead men."*

In his concluding lines, "The Cup's Dregs" the writer says:-

*"A world all stained with crimson drops and tears.
The shadowed hours have come. I see
The suffering of men
In moments of mute agony.
And now I know that here again
As He hath done through nigh two thousand years.
Christ bleeds once more in His Gethsemane."*

Apart from the verses on the war, the book contains several delightful stanzas of which "Heart and Soul" is an example worth quoting:-

*"She took her heart from heaven's own blue,
She wrapped herself in nature's joy.
Out on the hills she strolled the hours;
Kissed life from nature's sweetest flowers,
Bathed her desires in heaven's own showers,
And in the bliss of morning new
Stole all my heart - Heart of a boy.*

*For she was worth an age of love
And lo! Fate formed a gladsome plan.
As in the valley's mists I stood,
Her wondrous beauty fired my blood
And told my dreams how life was good
Till kneeling to her there above
I pledged my soul - Soul of a man."*

In a forward, the author says, "Some are idle musings, others set forth memories that are very real; all are fragments in an earnest attempt to portray truly, emotions that colour life." And readers will heartily agree that he has admirably succeeded. One can hardly read the book without catching some of the inspiration of the writer.

"Crimson Stains", 2/6 net, published by Erskine Macdonald Ltd, London, 1917.

Friday October 26th 1917 (Issue 1338)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Allard, S. Sergeant	(October 21 st)
Cureton, E. Sergeant Signaller	(October 20 th)
Darby, E.	(October 21 st)
Drinkwater, D.	(October 16 th)
Grewcock, F. J.	(October 21 st)
Hull, R. Sergeant	(October 16 th)
Newman, F. J. Corporal	(October 19 th)
Upton, Frank, Driver	(October 12 th)
Watson, H. Drummer	(October 21 st)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Coalville Men's Adult School have decided to send Christmas parcels to all their members (about 30) serving with the Forces?

The recent vegetable show at the Hawley Institute, at Hugglescote, realised £35/3/4 for the local soldiers' and sailors' Christmas gift fund?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

One of the biggest convoys of wounded received for some time in Leicester, arrived at the Midland Station on Monday night. The train was expected before 11, but it did not arrive till ten minutes before midnight. The transportation was efficiently carried out by the V.A.D. workers. There were 160 cot cases of which four were officers. There were also 76 walking cases. Twelve were taken to the Royal Infirmary and the remainder to the Base Hospital.

We are always pleased to hear of the progress of our boys on active service, and we are informed that Bombardier F. W. Louch, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, (proprietor of the Ashby Commercial School) and late teacher in charge of war service for women's day commercial classes, Hugglescote) has been placed in sole charge, under the messing officer of the messing accounts of the unit to which he is attached, which position he secured in consequence of his expert knowledge of accountancy. If our readers can give us authentic information of other local men in service we shall be glad to publish same, as the 'Times' is widely read by our boys both at home and in the trenches.

Page 3

BARDON HILL

SOLDERS' AND SAILORS' CHRISTMAS GIFTS

An entertainment was given in the schoolroom at Bardon Park Chapel on Saturday evening in aid of the above fund. The Rev. J. A. Hopwood presided. The programme was arranged by Mr J. Bailey, and the amount realised by the effort was £3 7s.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

There was a large congregation at St. Peter's Church on Sunday evening last, when a memorial service was held for Private Thomas Moyens, of the Leicester Howitzer Brigade, who died as the assault of a shell wound received on October 1st. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. Pillifant (curate-in-charge). The officials of the Granite Sick Benefit Society, of which the deceased was a member, were present, together with members of the family. Suitable hymns were sung, and Mr T. Pruden, the organist, played Mendelssohn's "O rest in the Lord" at the conclusion of the service. The deceased's mother has a certificate from the officer commanding his company, expressing his admiration and appreciation of the late soldier's conduct in the Messines Battle, June 1917. He enlisted on October 12th, 1915, and went to France in June 1916. He has a brother in Egypt, and another in France.

HUGGLESCOTE

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

A successful whist drive and dance were held in the National School on Wednesday evening in aid of the fund for Christmas gifts for local men serving with the forces. There was a large attendance. Messrs. E. Darby and F. J. Wainwright acted as M.C.'s for whist, and Messrs. T. Hatter, J. Jackson and D. S. Moore for dancing. Miss Forgham and Messrs. J. and F. Dean shared the duties of pianist.

ELLISTOWN

PATRIOTIC WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

There was a crowded attendance at the Ellistown Council Schools on Saturday night, on the occasion of a whist drive and dance in aid of the fund for providing a Christmas parcel for every Ellistown man serving in the Forces. Messrs. T. R. Grundy and G. B. Lagoe acted as M.C.'s for whist and Mr E. Taylor for dancing.

Mrs Wain and Miss Gough were the pianists. The event was a great success. Mr A. Bellamy acted as secretary.

MARKFIELD

EFFORT FOR SOLDIERS

Though somewhat marred by inclement weather, Markfield's effort for the "boys" proved very successful on Saturday, nearly £40 being realised in all. The Thornton Town Band paraded the village and afterwards played selections on the Village Green, where various attractions were in evidence. A successful whist drive and dance were held in the schoolroom. Several ladies were indefatigable during the day in their efforts to dispose of various emblems. A strong committee managed the affair, and thanks were accorded them as also to the following donors: The Rev. H. Chambers, Messrs. E. Widdowson, W. Cave, W. Jordan, S. Ball, L. Hall, A. Chaplin, T. Joyner, T. Wakefield, W. Brown, the school teachers, Mrs Geary and Mrs Prevett. Nearly £20 was added to the fund by a prize drawing for two water colour sketches of local interest, the gift of the artist. Mr A. R. Hind, F.R.I.B.A. Leicester.

COALVILLE SOLDIER WINS D.C.M.

The 'London Gazette' published on Monday contained the names of nearly 700 warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men to whom the King has been pleased to award the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and among them is Company Sergeant-Major Percy Stabler, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose wife and child reside at Highfields Street, Coalville. Before the war, Sergeant-Major Stabler was the manager of Messrs. Worthington's branch grocery stores at Coalville. He joined the Leicester Pioneers soon after hostilities commenced. The gallant officer will receive the congratulations of many friends.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Official news has been received, that Private James Bird, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action by a piece of shrapnel on September 26th. His parents reside at 55, Ashby Road, Coalville his father, Mr James Bird, being employed at the Snibston Colliery, where the deceased also worked before the war. He was a single man, 27 years of age, and enlisted three years last September.

(A photograph of Private James Bird appears to the right)

Private J. Cobb (Ashby) of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, is reported wounded.

Private J. Brown (Ashby) of the King's Royal Rifles, previously reported missing, is now reported to be a prisoner of war.

Mr Thomas Warner, 44, Ratby Road, Groby, has received information that his eldest son, Private Stephen Llewellyn Warner, Leicester Regiment, was killed during the night September 30th – October 1st. Private Warner enlisted in November, 1914, served through the Irish crisis, and was drafted to France in February last. He received his death from a bomb from a German aeroplane whilst bringing in the wounded. He was 19 years of age and previously worked at the quarries.



Private Albert Essex of the Leicestershire Regiment, elder son of Mr and Mrs Albert Essex, of 28, James Street, Coalville, has been killed in action. The official notice states that he fell on October 7th. He was 20 years of age and had been in the Army nearly three years before which he worked at Ellistown Colliery. He was over on leave a few weeks ago. His father is employed at the Snibston pit.

(A photograph of Private Albert Essex appears to the left)

Mr John Smith, 69, Ratby Road, Groby has received official information that his fourth son, Private George Harry Smith, Leicester Regiment was killed in France on September 6th, whilst bringing in the wounded. Private Smith was formerly a member

of the Leicesters Military Band, and was well-known in local musical circles. He enlisted in March, 1916, and was drafted to France last June. Previous to enlistment he was clerk to Mr B. Samuel, late of Union Street, Leicester. Pte. Smith was 22 years of age.

Mrs K. Ward, of 3, Leicester Road, Groby, has received official information that her youngest son, Private Sidney Storer, of the Leicesters, was wounded and died on the 3rd inst. He enlisted in February, 1916 and was drafted to France in August of that year. He was 27 years of age, and previous to joining up worked at the quarries.

It has been officially intimated that Sergt. J. O. Mills, Leicestershire Regiment, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. Mills, Leicester Road, Shepshed, was killed in action in France, on October 1st.

Lance-Sergeant C. Smith (Ibstock) of the South Staffordshire Regiment, is reported wounded.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Shilton desire to thank all friends for their sympathy with them in the loss of their only son, Private C. Shilton, who was killed in action on September 23rd, 1917.

Mrs John Moyens, and Family, 6, Bardon Row, desire, through this medium to tender their sincere thanks to all friends who expressed sympathy with them in their sad bereavement, through the death of their son, killed in action.

Mr S. Fowkes and Mrs Smith, of 22, Leicester Road, Ibstock desire to thank all kind friends for expressions of sympathy shown to them in their sad bereavement in the loss of Private W. Fowkes, who was killed in action on 30th September, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving remembrance of my dear son, Private W. Young, killed in France, October 23rd, 1916. Aged 23.

*"I often think of the days gone by,
When we were all together.
A shadow o'er our lives is cast;
A loved one gone for ever."*

From his loving Mother.

Page 4

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

In aid of the fund for sending Christmas parcels to Whitwick soldiers' and sailors', a whist drive and dance were held in the National School, on Wednesday night. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. Fern and W. Dickens, and Mr G. Underwood acted in a similar capacity for the dance.

HUGGLESCOTE

GIFTS FOR SOLDIERS

Canon Broughton presided at a public meeting in the National School on Friday night in connection with the proposal to send a Christmas gift to every man serving in the forces from Hugglescote and Donington-le-Heath. Mr F. J. Wainwright reported the progress made so far, stating that the recent vegetable show realised £35 3s 4d for the fund. The committee had been promised assistance by the Gate Inn club, a ladies' committee who organised a similar effort last year, the local Buffalo Lodge, and the Band Contest committee. It was decided to make a house-to-house canvas for the funds, and that a gift of 7/6 be sent to every soldier and sailor who enlisted from Hugglescote. It was suggested that if any man was accidentally missed, he should communicate with Mr Wainwright.

LEICESTER VICTIM OF AIR RAID

Information has reached the Borough Police that Mr Christopher George Wildman, of 17, Chestnut Street, Leicester was killed on Friday night in one of the areas visited by hostile aircraft. The deceased gentleman is a traveller, and was on a journey.

STANTON-UNDER-BARDON

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

This took place in the Council Schools at Stanton-under-Bardon on Saturday evening last, in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas gifts. A large company was present and the M.C. at the whist drive was Mr W. Boswell (headmaster of the Council School). The following were the prize-winners:

Ladies: 1 Miss Elsie Pearson; 2 Mrs Harold Ball; 3 Mrs T. Dilks
Gents: 1 Mr Thos. Ball; 2 Mr Sidney Manning; 3 Mr Loe.

The M.C. at the dance was Mr Bertie Brown and the musicians were Messrs. Black and Evans (Ellistown). Great credit was due to those who assisted with the refreshments and the committee deserve the highest praise for the admirable arrangements made. A very large sum was realised for the worthy object, the event forming the first of a winter series for charitable purposes.

Friday November 2nd 1917 (Issue 1339)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Beard, V. Ewart.	(October 20 th)
Black, G. Corporal	(October 25 th)
Bott, Horace, Private	(October 25 th)
Brown, C. E. Corporal	(October 25 th)
Chamberlain, W. Driver	(October 21 st)
Chesterton, P. Lance-Corporal	(October 25 th)
Hall, Thomas G. Private	(October 28 th)
Hardington, H. B. Private	(October 25 th)
Iliffe, G. Rifleman	(October 26 th)
Linch, J. O. Corporal	(October 25 th)
Marlow, F. Lance-Corporal	(October 25 th)
Martin, George. Corporal	(October 25 th)
Shaler, T. Private	(October 25 th)
Shilton, W. Corporal	(October 25 th)
Stinchcombe, G. Trooper	(October 25 th)
Strutt, S. Private	(October 25 th)
Swain, H. W. Private	(October 21 st)
Toyer, R. Lance-Corporal	(October 25 th)
Veasey, Sergeant	(October 23 rd)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Ten million letters are sent every week from this country to France, says Mr Pike Pease, Assistant Postmaster-General?

A recent whist drive and dance at the Whitwick National School realised the splendid sum of £10 for the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild?

SUCCESSFUL WHIST DRIVE AND SOCIAL

Over 600 people attended a whist drive and social at the Bridge Road Council Schools on Saturday night organised by the Recreation Club at Messrs. Stableford and Co's. Works, in aid of the fund for sending Christmas parcels to former employees at the works, now serving in the Army, of whom there are about 160. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. P. D. Hale, J. Taylor, G. F. Sheffield, P. Brown, T. Bourne, T. Jones, J. Jackson, and C. King and the following were the prize winners:

Ladies: 1 Mrs Blockley 174; 2 Mrs E. B. Shaw 173; 3 Miss F. Orton 171.

Gents: 1 Mr F. Jones 180; 2 Mr H. Harper 179; 3 Mr W. Ward 178, who won on a cut with Mr Draycott.

Mr B. G. Hale, J.P., manager of the works, presented the prizes. For dancing the M.C.'s were Messrs. J. Allen, O. Allen, W. Deakin and E. Catlow and a good programme of music was supplied by Miss Lockwood (piano) and Mr J. Locker (violin). Refreshments, mostly given, were admirably served by a committee of ladies. A box of chocolates, given by Mrs Hale, which was drawn for, realised over £3. Altogether, it is anticipated that the event will yield between £60 and £70 for the object named.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Further news has been received respecting the death of Private William Baker of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose parents reside at No. 2 Ashby Road, Hugglescote. A week or so ago, the soldier's name and number appeared in an official list of men killed in action and his parents having received no news of the same, a sister of the deceased has been making enquiries. The following letter has now been received from an officer: *"Yours of the 10th inst. to hand. I regret very much that you have received no official intimation on regarding the death of your brother, as this fact was reported to headquarters in the usual manner. However, I am making enquiries as to the cause of the delay. Private Baker at the time of his death, was company orderly and was accompanying the Company Commander to the trenches when he was struck by a shell. It will be some consolation to you to know that death was instantaneous, and that he died at his post. I am not permitted to state the place of burial, but he was buried in a cemetery just behind the line. It is the usual custom for a soldier's immediate commander to write and inform his next of kin of his death, but on this occasion the company commander went to hospital on the following day. I am requested to tender you the deepest sympathy of the men of his platoon, and to mention that his company commander placed great confidence in Private Baker – hence his appointment to the important and responsible post of company orderly. May I also tender you my sympathy as one who knew your brother and appreciated to the fullest extent his fine qualities as a British soldier."* Private Baker, who was 19 years of age, was reported to have been killed in action on September 5th. He enlisted before he was 17 at the first great recruiting meeting held at the Coalville Olympia Theatre, and formerly worked at Bagworth Colliery. His father, Mr George Baker, works at Ellistown Colliery, and has an elder son serving in the forces in India.



In reference to the death of Pte. A. Essex, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose death we briefly recorded last week, his parents, Mr and Mrs A. Essex, of 28, James Street, Coalville have since received the following letter from an officer: *"I deeply regret to have to announce to you the death in action of your son, Pte. A. Essex, which occurred on Sunday evening, October 7th. A shell burst only a few yards away from him, and he died immediately. I had not known your son very long, but he seemed to be proving himself an excellent soldier and I know he will be greatly missed by all. I can only add that I am very sorry indeed to lose him and ask you to accept my sincerest sympathy in your bereavement."*



The parents of Private W. Fowkes, residing at 22, Leicester Road, Ibstock have received a letter from an officer of the North Staffs Regiment, who writes: *"It is with great regret that I have to inform you of the death of your son, who was killed in action at 5 am on September 30th. He died most gallantly while defending his post, and he was largely instrumental in our gaining a striking little success. I have only been with the platoon a short time, but in that time have learnt to admire the excellent qualities of your son. He was a good soldier and a good man, and died at his post. No one could have a greater honour than that. All of his platoon and company loved him, and join with me in offering our sincerest sympathy in your bereavement. God be with you in your time of trouble. I enclose two letters addressed to your son. He is buried in a beautiful place with a cross over him. His things are collected, and you will get them later on."*

Mr and Mrs James Hall, of 86, Belvoir Road, Coalville on Monday morning received official intimation that their only son, Lance-Corporal James Horace Hall, of the Leicesters was killed in action on October 15th. The news came as a great surprise as they had received a field card from the deceased soldier dated October 14th, stating that he was quite well. He received his first stripe only a few days before his death. It was his third time at the Front, having been wounded once, and was on another occasion, sent home suffering from trench feet. He returned to France shortly after last Whitsuntide. Lance-Corporal Hall, who was 22 years of age, was one of Mr H. T. Bastard's old boys of the Whitwick Church School and was a member of the Coalville Wesleyan Church and of Mr T. Frith's Bible Class. He was one of the first fifty Territorials to leave Coalville, and before the war was engaged as a striker at Messrs. Stableford's Works, where his father is also employed.

Private A. Bradley (Ashby) of the Royal Fusiliers, is reported wounded.

News has been received that Sergeant Louis E. Brotherhood, a Whitwick man, has been killed in action. Writing to his wife, who with her three children, resides in the City of Dan, Whitwick. An officer says the sergeant was a splendid man, loved by all the men in his section, and it will be hard to replace him. He died instantly and was buried near to where he fell. He had been in the thick of the fighting in France since 1914, having been called up when war broke out and he received his first stripe almost immediately. He was in the Northumberland Fusiliers.

Private J. B. Usherwood, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, is reported wounded. He is a son of Mr T. Usherwood, railway engine-driver of Highfields Street, Coalville and before the war was working in Leicester, being previously on the office staff of the Coalville Co-Operative Society. We are glad to hear that he is making good progress.

Gunner W. H. Ball (Ashby) of the R.G.A. is reported wounded.

Private H. Finney (Coalville) of the South Staffordshire Regiment is reported wounded.

SHEPSHED OFFICER GAINS THE MILITARY CROSS

Second-Lieutenant W. H. H. Gibbs of the A.S.C., eldest son of Mr H. H. Gibbs, of Shepshead, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. This young officer has only been in the Army about twelve months. He was educated at the Loughborough Grammar School.

IBSTOCK

Ibstock Ladies Patriotic Committee are to be congratulated on the success which attended their two efforts recently to raise money for the local Sailors' and Soldiers' Comforts Fund. The jumble sale and the whist drive have realised a net total of £20, after all expenses have been paid.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs A. Essex and family, desire to tender their sincere thanks to all friends for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to them on the occasion of their bereavement by the death of their son and brother, Pte. A. Essex, killed in action on October 7th.

28, James Street, Coalville.

Mr and Mrs T. Clarke and family, of Thornton, desire through this medium to tender their sincere thanks to all friends who expressed sympathy with them in their sad bereavement through the death of their son, Private Joe Clarke, who died of wounds, October 13th, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Rifleman Benjamin Thirlby Wright, K.R.R. Coy, killed in action in France, November 7th, 1916.

Page 4

MARKFIELD

PATRIOTIC EFFORT

An effort on Saturday by young ladies (assisted by friends) on behalf of the local Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund realised £13 14s 1d. Those who assisted were Misses M. Bott, E. Clay (Leicester), H. Boulds, E. Boulds, E. Whittall, M. Bowler, F. Cook, T. Bott, R. Cave, T. Thorpe, E. Heward, G. Hall, Messrs. R. G. Heward, J. Billson, J. Smith, G. Hayes, S. Heward, R. Heward, G. Hall, J. Allen, A. Hawksworth, and R. Adcock. The schoolroom was crowded.

MARKET BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

THE CASE OF ATHERSTONE HUNT SERVANTS

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Rural Tribunal was held on Tuesday, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding. There were also present Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques and G. M. Arnold, with Major Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

A Desford grocer appealed for his carter, who was stated to be 41 years of age, married with seven children, two of whom were serving in the Forces. His wife was delicate. Six months were allowed.

A quarry labourer, of Groby, made a personal appeal for further exemption, stating that he had four brothers serving in the Forces. He was 18, single, passed C1. The Groby Quarry Co. supported the application, saying they were short of labour. The lad's father said he had not heard from one son in East Africa for four or five months. The other three were in France and were alright up to now. Six months were allowed, the clerk saying that was in view of the fact that the youth had four brothers serving.

A manufacturer of motor-car patent bodies, of Market Bosworth, passed B1, aged 35, and married, appealing for further exemption stated that he was now sole distributor in that district for tractors and in the last six weeks had ploughed 200 acres of land. The chairman said applicant recently ploughed ten acres for him, and it was very satisfactory. One of the military representatives said the difficulty was that farmers would not clean the land. If the Government would make farmers clean the land, instead of ploughing more up, it would be better. Six months were allowed.

Six months were allowed a Sutton Cheney insurance agent, on him working at agriculture 18 hours per week. He was a B2 man, 28, and married and presented a medical certificate that he had weak eyes.

Similar exemption (six months) were granted to a Newbold Verdon baker and grocer, 36, and married; to a Barlestone cycle dealer who also acts as emergency tractor driver, aged 38 and passed C3; to a Sheepy Magna insurance agent, 40, B1, on putting in 36 hours a week at farm work; and to a Twycross smallholder

on 20 acres, aged 38, and married, who said he was working 42 hours a week for another farmer, and the exemption was conditional on this being continued.

A Markfield tailor, C1, 36, married appealed for further exemption, though it was stated that the man got one month final in August, 1916. The applicant said he went to Wigston, was declared C3, and sent home again. He was now classed C1. He should have joined up five weeks ago, but appealed on his fresh category. The appeal was dismissed.

Six months were granted to an assistant of a Stapleton shoeing smith, aged 31, married, and passed B3 who lives at Market Bosworth; a Stanton-under-Bardon butcher, farmer and milk-seller, 30, married and passed for general service; to a Ratby farm hand, 26, general service; to a Ratby hosiery hand, 40, whose wife is a helpless invalid; and to an Ibstock joiner, builder and undertaker, 33, married, with two children, and passed for general service. Mr Jacques said how difficult it was to get any joinery or building repairs done in the Ibstock district. The chairman said it had taken him six months to get some broken windows mended.

The appeal of a Ratby hosiery hand, formerly rejected, and now passed C2, was dismissed and a similar case from Ratby was allowed two months, at the end of which the applicant is to produce a medical certificate on his wife's illness.

The Market Bosworth postmaster again appealed, saying that he was busier than ever. He is 38, married, and passed C3. Mr Eggington asked how it was it took two days for a letter to go from Bosworth to Ibstock. Applicant said he could not say. Six months allowed.

A Markfield resident, 41, married, and passed C1, in reply to the clerk said that if further exempted he would be willing to assist the Market Bosworth Food Control Committee at clerical work and with his motor car, provided the committee paid for the petrol and could obtain it. He had previously been assisting at the Coalville Recruiting Office. Six months allowed on him assisting at Bosworth Food Control Committee as stated.

Mrs Inge, M.F.H. of Thorpe Hall, Tamworth appealed again for the exemption of three Atherstone Hunt servants, the first whip aged 32, B2, married with two children; the huntsman, 39, C1, married with four children; and the stableman, 41, B1, single. The clerk said that since the last appeal the War Office had made rather different arrangements. They had a call upon these horses now, and could take them at any minute. The chairman said that all hunt establishments were really army remount establishments, except that instead of the country paying for the keep of the horses, the owners paid. Every horse used for hunting had to be registered and the Government had powers to claim it at once. It was stated that the first whip and the stableman were assisting on a farm. Subject to this being continued a further six months were granted in each case.

Six months were allowed an Ibstock baker, formerly of Ellistown. There were about 40 assented cases.

Friday November 9th 1917 (Issue 1340)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Brown, C. E. Corporal	(November 3 rd)
Bakewell, C. L. Driver	(November 3 rd)
Bradford, W. E. Sergeant	(October 30 th)
Darby, Private	(November 1 st)
Drinkwater, D.	(October 31 st)
Fairbrother, J.	(November 1 st)
Fairbrother B.	(November 1 st)
Groocock, Private	(November 1 st)
Hill, F. Sapper (Margaret St)	(November 1 st)

Hull, Private	(November 1 st)
James, J. Private	(November 3 rd)
Ketcher, A. J.	(October 7 th)
Latimer, Private	(November 1 st)
Lowe, E.	(November 3 rd)
Marsden, T.	(November 3 rd)
Martin, George. Corporal	(October 30 th)
Smith, G. H.	(October 16 th)
Stevens J. W.	(October 7 th)
Watson, H. Batt. Runner	(November 1 st)
Watson, Private	(November 1 st)
Wright, G.	(November 1 st)

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

All Saints feast in Belgium is the time for people to remember specially their dead, and it is customary to cover the graves of the deceased with white chrysanthemums. For this purpose, last Sunday, a group of Coalville Belgians went to Leicester to join their countrymen in the procession to the cemetery to honour the graves of the six Belgian soldiers who are resting there.

The Swannington Committee, of which Lieut. W. Baldwin is chairman, and Mr W. T. Durant, hon. secretary, which arranged the recent effort to provide Christmas presents for Swannington men serving with the Forces, are to be heartily congratulated on having cleared over £60. Every soldier and sailor from Swannington will receive a Christmas gift, which will include a 10s treasury note, the committee having again decided to send money because the letters received from the men last year, when a similar course was adopted, showed how much it was appreciated.

MARKET BOSWORTH POLICE COURT

A PROTEST

Alec Summers, farmer, Kirkby Mallory, was summoned as a military absentee. Defendant alleged that he held a certificate of exemption, till substituted, which had never been revoked. Capt. Stevenson said the man had been released by the War Agricultural Committee. Mr R. A. Oswald Brown said that was overriding the Tribunal, and as chairman, he protested. The case was referred to the Bosworth Tribunal.

Page 3

IBSTOCK

PATRIOTIC WHIST DRIVE

A whist drive was held on Saturday evening last, which was organised by the committee of the Liberal Club. The proceeds of the drive, together with those of the refreshments, are to be handed over to the Ladies' Patriotic Committee, for the local Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund. The ladies of the committee served the refreshments. The success which attended the effort was in large measure due to Mr William Richardson (a discharged Ibstock soldier) and Mr E. Harding, who have worked untiringly on its behalf. It is expected a good sum will be realised. The prizes were given by 1st Ladies: Liberal Club Committee; 2nd Mrs Wm. Tyers. 1st Gents: Mr Dawes; 2nd Mr William Richardson. There were 22 tables, and the M.C.'s were Messrs. Pike and H. Holmes. The winners were Ladies: 1 Mrs Deacon; 2 Mrs Gilliver. Gents: 1 Mr Henson; 2 Mr Grey.

CONCERT AT BROOM LEYS

Corporal Quaille presided at a concert at the Broom Leys Hospital on Sunday evening, which was much enjoyed and thanks were expressed to the organiser, Mr B. Morris, and the contributors, who were as follows: Mrs Jefferies, Miss Smalley, Mr W. Price, Miss Vendy, Mr Popple, Mr Williamson, Mr Whitmore, Mr Baker, Mr Baldwin and Miss Evans.

KILLED IN ACTION

Much sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs B. B. Drewett, of Hugglescote, at the receipt of the sad news that their elder son, 2nd Lieutenant H. B. Drewett, of the East Yorks Regiment, was killed in action on October 31st. A telegram to this effect was received from the Infantry Record Office, York, on Monday afternoon. The deceased officer, who was 36 years of age and single, had been in the army for two years. He joined the Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps in November, 1915, and completed his training at Berkhamstead, receiving his commission in November, 1916. Soon after this, he left for France, and with the exception of a short leave about two months ago, he had been at the Front ever since, having been in a good deal of severe fighting. The deceased officer received his early education under Mr W. Fellows at the Hugglescote Baptist School, and later attended the Wyggeston Grammar School at Leicester. For some years he assisted his father, and subsequently became the junior partner in the firm of Drewett and Son, drapers etc, Coalville and Hugglescote, taking his place in the commercial life of the district in which he was everywhere held in the highest esteem. The feelings of sorrow occasioned by Lieutenant Drewett's death among the family's many friends are intensified by the fact that Mr and Mrs Drewett have now lost both their sons in the war, 2nd Lieutenant C. Drewett, their younger son, also of the East Yorks Regiment, having been killed in action in June last year.

News has been received that Private Jesse Frank Billett, of the Leicesters, died of wounds in a military hospital in France, on October 8th. Deceased, who was 23 years of age, had been in France for 16 months. For four years before joining the army he was a shunter on the Midland Railway at Coalville. His parents, Mr and Mrs Jesse Billett, reside at 46, Hungerford Road, Lowest Weston, near Bath. Writing to them an officer says, *"It is with very sincere regret that I have to inform you of the death from gas poisoning of your son. He was with several others in a roughly-dug trench when a gas shell fell close by, causing fatal poisoning before his gasmask could be adjusted. I was not with my platoon at the time, but having known him for nearly twelve months, I feel I must offer you my deepest sympathy in your loss. Billet was one of the best Lewis' gunners I had, and has done some fine work for us, especially on May 3rd last at Fontaine. I am afraid I cannot give you any information as to the place of his burial, being at the base somewhere. If information is received I will gladly let you know. With repeated condolences, I remain, etc."*

In a long list of casualties of Leicesters published on Tuesday appeared the names of Pte. G. Ladds (Ashby) and Pte. A. E. Pratt (Coalville) as killed in action, and the following are wounded: Pte. A. E. Baker (Coalville), Pte. W. Bakewell (Whitwick), Sergeant C. Bradshaw (Coalville), Acting-Corporal J. Bancroft (Thringstone), Corpl. E. W. Capell (Whitwick), Pte. T. A. Chapman (Barlestone), Pte. F. H. Colman (Ashby), Pte. W. Harrison (Coalville), L-Corporal W. Henson (Coalville), Pte. A. E. Kendrick (Hugglescote), Pte. C. Knight (Coalville), Pte. G. H. Lilley (Coalville), Pte. G. C. Mason (Coalville), Pte. W. Mason (Ellistown), Pte. T. Smith (Ellistown), Pte. G. H. Stone (Ashby), Pte. A. Tansey (Coalville), L-Corporal A. Topliss (Coalville), Pte. W. A. Vernon (Shackerstone), and Pte. N. Woolerton (Hugglescote).

Sergeant H. Bramwell (Coalville) of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, is reported wounded.

Private A. Jarvis, of the Leicesters, whose home is at Leicester Road, Whitwick, and who was recently wounded in action, writes that he is progressing satisfactorily. Pieces of shrapnel have been extracted from his left eye and right cheek. He is still smiling, and hopes to be home soon. He adds, *"I get the 'Coalville Times' every week, and it cheers us up."*

Second-Lieut. Norman Gattery, is at present a patient at one of the Leicester War Hospitals, having been severely wounded. He was formerly private secretary to Mr Masterman. Another officer son of the Rev. A. T. Guttery who has on two or three occasions addressed large audiences in Coalville, has also been wounded.

Pte. W. Bradley (Whitwick) of the Sherwood Foresters, is reported wounded.

Mrs Richardson, of Crescent Road, Hugglescote, has received news from France that her husband, Pte. Alfred T. Richardson, of the Rifle Brigade, has been dangerously wounded. A subsequent message states that he is a little better, and has been removed to the Base Hospital in France. Pte. Richardson was formerly a member of the staff at the "Coalville Times" Printing Works. Since he joined up, his wife, with her two children, has been residing with friends at Ellistown.

FIRST BARDON MILITARY MEDALLIST



Private Harold Starbuck, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the first Bardon Hill man to win the Military Medal, was before the war, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society at the Central grocery stores. He enlisted on November 10th, 1915, and went to France on July 6th, 1916. In a letter to his parents he says, *"I was in the famous Hindenburg line at the same time, down a tunnel which had been part of their line. You should have seen the scramble when the Germans made a counter-attack about five o'clock. Some of them actually got through and it was rather exciting, but we got them back, and as so everybody was smiling. The Corps General complemented us on good work done. I helped lay a ladder line while the attack was on. It was in the open too, and rather dangerous, but we got through all right."* Other parts of the letter refer to the rations, etc. and how time is occupied in a rest billet, all being written in a cheerful strain. The official intimation of the honour conferred on Private Starbuck is from the Major-General commanding the Division, and reads as follows: *"Your commanding officer and Brigade Commander have informed me that you distinguished yourself in the field on 23/27th September, 1917. I have read their report with much pleasure."*

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Smith, Family and Sweetheart, wish to thank all kind friends and neighbours for their sympathy with them in their recent sad bereavement.

Mr and Mrs S. Wood and Family desire to thank all friends for their kind messages of sympathy in their great sorrow by the death of their dear son, Alfred, who was killed in action on October 1st.

Mr and Mrs Hall and Family desire to thank all friends and neighbours for their sympathy with them in their recent bereavement through the loss of their son and brother, Lance-Corporal James Horace Hall, killed in action on October 15th. 86, Belvoir Road, Coalville.

*"In health and strength he left his home,
Not thinking death so near;
Death came without a warning given,
And bade him meet his God in Heaven.
His King and country called him,
The call was not in vain,
On Britain's Roll of Honour,
You will find our loved one's name."*

IN MEMORIAM

In ever loving memory of our dear son, Private Joseph Richard Ward, killed in action, November 13th, 1916, aged 19 years.

*"Sleep on, dear son, in a hero's grave-
A grave we may never see.
But as long as life and memory lasts,
We will remember thee.
It's the unknown grave that the bitterest blow,
None but aching hearts can know."*

From Father and Mother, Brothers and Sisters, Ellistown.

In loving memory of Pte. Alf Wood, Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, October 1st, 1917.

*"He is gone like a flower, cut down in his bloom,
From the sunshine of life to the shades of the tomb.
But death cannot sever the chains of our love,
Of still the fond promise, we'll meet him above."*

From his sorrowing Fiancée, E. Henman, Loughborough.

In loving memory of Gunner George P. Sharpe (Canadian Field Artillery) killed in France, November 14th, 1916.

*"Rest, beloved, rest!
Is it a year? It seems but yesterday,
We heard that you had passed away
Into the Great Beyond.*

*Rest, beloved, rest!
Safe in His keeping, free from care and pain,
The day will dawn, and we shall meet again
Never to part."*

From Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers.

In loving memory of Rifleman Ernest Willett, King's Royal Rifles, who died of wounds in France, November 9th, 1916.

*"In a far and foreign graveyard,
Where the trees their branches wave,
Lies a loving son and brother,
In a cold and silent grave.
He served his King and country,
God knows he did his best,
Now he's asleep in Jesus,
A British soldier laid to rest."*

From Mother and Father, Sister and Brother.

Page 4

HEATHER

PATRIOTIC CONCERT

A sum of over £10 was realised at a concert held in the Heather National School on Saturday evening last in aid of the men who work on the minesweepers. There was a crowded audience and an excellent programme was presented. The chair was taken by H. J. Ford, Esq, J.P. and the contributors to the programme were: Miss A. Underwood, Misses. Foster, Salisbury, Smith and Taylor (quartet party), the Rev. H. Standidge, Mr and Mrs B. L. Sharp, Mr R. Kirton, Mr C. Wiggett, Mr W. T. Humble and the choir boys. Mr Humble acted as the accompanist.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

This Tribunal met in the Coalville Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presided, and there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, B. G. Hale, J. W. Fisher, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox and A. J. Briers, with Capt. German (military representative), Lieut. R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The chairman referred to the loss sustained by Mr B. B. Drewett, a former member of the Tribunal, by the death in action of his son, Lieut. H. B. Drewett. Mr Drewett had now lost both sons in the war, and they deeply sympathised with him. He moved a vote of condolence with the family, and the members passed this by rising from their seats.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Hugglescote fruiterer, 25, single, B2 who was stated to have been formerly rejected. His brother, a former partner in the business, was now serving in France. Two months.

A Whitwick painter, also represented by Mr Sharp, was allowed two months for his son, who assists him in the business. The man was 32, married, and passed C2.

Similar exemption was granted to the manager of a Coalville laundry, 40, single, passed C1; and three months were allowed in the case of the manager of a Nottingham grocery firm's branch shop at Coalville, who is 40 years of age, is passed B1, and has five children.

The electric light attendant at the Charnwood Tower, Whitwick, aged 40, B1, married, with two children, made a personal appeal stating that his wife was having to attend Leicester Infirmary every week for treatment of her eyes. One month allowed.

The Whitwick Granite Co. asked for exemption to the end of the year of a youth, just 18, passed for general service, who works the tar macadam plant. The manager said they had no other single man on the works. Before the war they employed 200 men, of whom 80 had joined the army, and 70 had gone to other places. They had made up with old men and boys as best they could. More men had joined the army from their quarry than from any other quarry in the Midlands. One month (final) allowed.

The manager of a Dairy Co's shop at Coalville, 36, general service, married with two children, appealed for further exemption stating that he had four brothers in the army, three of whom had been wounded, and the other was a prisoner in Germany. Three months.

A Donington-le-Heath baker and grocer appealed for his son who assists him in the business, the man being 38 years of age, C2, married, with one child. If he was taken applicant said he would have to close the business. Answering a question he said a female assistant would be no use. Two months.

A similar period was allowed to a Whitwick factory's overlooker and loom tuner, aged 36, passed for general service and the father of five children.

A Coalville ironmongery firm appealed for their chief assistant, 36, married and passed C2. Two months. The same firm appealed for a deliverer of oil and petrol, 31, married with two children. A partner said this was the only deliverer they had now, and they had four before the war. Two months.

Mr B. G. Hale: *How many more cases are there?*

The Clerk: *Six.*

Mr Hale: *I propose they all have two months. We are only wasting time* (laughter).

In the next case, "*the proverbial two months*" – in the words of the proposer – were allowed the Coalville branch manager of a friendly society, who is 36, and passed C3.

Two months were also allowed a B2 baker, employed by the Coalville Co-Operative Society, aged 40, married, with four children.

A Coalville foreman joiner, 26, married, passed for general service, employed at a munition store, appealed on domestic grounds. He said he was working 104 hours a week. Answering a question, he said he put in 107 ½ hours last week. His wife also worked at the store.

A member: *And are they paid 1/3 an hour. It is scandalous.*

One month (final) was moved, but there was an amendment that it be not assented to, and this was carried.

The Coalville Co-Operative Society appealed for the first hand in the grocery warehouse, aged 35, married, C2. A brother had been killed in action. Mr Lockwood said 82 of their employees were serving in the Forces. They now had 104 females working for them, and were running the business with females and boys, with a manager here and there. Three months.

Mr W. V. Scott, Commandant of the V.A.D. wrote asking that one of their members be excused from drilling with the V.T.C. as he could not put in the time with both. It was submitted that one was as important as the other. It was not entertained.

The clerk reported that in accordance with instructions, he wrote to the Advisory Committee asking them to give an explanation why they were not sitting, and he had received correspondence from Mr W. Eames, the chairman of the committee. Mr McCarthy said they did not want any explanation. They were there to help the military authorities, and were quite apart from the Tribunal. Mr Lockwood said the Tribunal passed a resolution at the last meeting asking for the explanation.

Mr McCarthy: *We don't want to go into a volume of correspondence.*

Mr Brown: *We have accepted their recommendations.*

Mr McCarthy: *Yes, but that is their office as far as the law is concerned.*

It was decided to read the correspondence in committee.

Friday November 16th 1917 (Issue 1341)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Bailey, A. Private	(November 10 th)
Beard, Venice Ewart	(November 10 th)
Brown, C. E. Corporal	(November 12 th)
Fairbrother, C.	(November 9 th)
Lowe, E.	(November 6 th)
Cluley, W. G. Corporal	(November 12 th)
Hayes, Seaman	(November 12 th)
Hill, F. Private	(November 12 th)
Hipwell, S. Private	(November 12 th)
Hubbard, A. Private	(November 12 th)
Knight, George. Private	(November 12 th)
Martin, George. Corporal	(November 12 th)
Timson, A. Bombardier	(November 12 th)
Whitmore, A. Sapper	(November 10 th)

ANOTHER BARDON M.M.

The many friends of Corporal Stanley Moyens, Coldstream Guards, will be pleased to hear he has been given the Military Medal for services rendered on July 30th on the Western Front. Corporal Moyens is well-known in local football circles.

BAGWORTH SOLDIER'S BRAVERY

Private William Alfred Sperry, a Bagworth soldier, in the South Staffordshire Regiment, has been commended for his bravery on the field of action. During the night when the company had moved forward to support the front line in answer to an S.O.S. message, and no further means of communication other than by runner was available, Private Sperry with a comrade, made his way through an enemy barrage to report to battalion headquarters. He was buried in a shell-hole but got out, and delivered his message, showing great courage in doing so.

The certificate of commendation from the Major-General commanding reads, "*Your Commanding Officer and Brigade Commander have informed me that you have distinguished yourself by conspicuous bravery in the field. I have read their report with much pleasure.*" Dated September 23/24th, 1917. Before the war, Private W. A. Sperry was employed as a clerk at the Bagworth Colliery.

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Thringstone's first Military Medallist, Corpl. F. W. L. Rennocks, is to be honoured by a public presentation next Monday night?

THRINGSTONE

PATRIOTIC EFFORT

A whist drive was held in Thringstone Hall last week, arranged by the members of the House Club, for the fund of sending Christmas gifts to all men from the village of Thringstone serving in the Forces. There was a capital attendance, and Messrs. J. H. Stinson, W. Dickens and H. Aris acted as M.C.'s. A dance for the same object was held in the hall on Saturday night and was another great success. Messrs. T. Sibson and G. H. Richards were the M.C.'s and Mr G. Wright was the pianist, a violinist and a cornet player also assisting.

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

It is announced that the Duke of Rutland, Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, has consented to unveil the war memorial now being erected in Shepshed Market Place, in January. The names of the fallen soldiers and sailors will be inscribed, and at the conclusion of the war those of all who have joined up from Shepshed, Charley and Oaks-in-Charnwood will also be inscribed on the monument.

Mrs B. G. Hale has handed over to Mrs J. W. Farmer, for the funds of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild the sum of £2 10s 5d raised from the sale of things which were left over from the Old English Fair at Coalville some time ago. The Guild funds, have therefore, benefitted to the extent of £283/9/2 from this most successful evening.

FOR THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

A successful concert was given in the Coalville London Road Baptist School on Wednesday evening in aid of the funds of the Sunday School knitting class. There was a capital attendance, and Mr Harrington, (manager of the Wolsey Works) who presided, congratulated the members of the class on their splendid work for the soldiers and sailors. He said they had knitted 270 pairs of socks, and 150 muffler, helmets, mittens etc. An interesting programme included a screaming sketch, entitled, "The Black Judge" in which the characters were ably taken by Messrs. B. Peacey, F. Parker, F. Odell, George Odell and R. Slater; a sketch entitled, "Wanted a Servant" by Messrs. W. Price and W. Smith and another amusing piece, "Capt. Markham Statutes" in which the parts were ably sustained by Wilfred Smith, George Odell, Harold Conibear, W. Cockles, Eva Smith, Alice Odell and Florrie McDuff. Miss May Odell played a piano solo, and there were songs by Miss Hetty Smith, Messrs. A. G. Ball, F. Odell, George Odell and F. Parker. One of the best items of the evening was a fine recitation, "Lads in Hospital Blue" by Florrie McDuff. It is hoped to realise about £10 by the effort.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES

A successful whist drive and dance, organised by the employees of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, was held in the Adult School Hall on Wednesday evening, with the object of raising funds to send a Christmas parcel to each of their fellow employees serving in the Forces. There was a large attendance. Messrs. H. Taylor and T. G. Marson acted as M.C.'s and Mr Rowell played for dancing. A doll was drawn for and won by Mrs Whitlock. The arrangements were well carried out by a committee of which Mr T. Grosert was chairman, Mr T. Brooks, treasurer, and Mr Sharp, secretary. With subscriptions, it is anticipated that £40 will be realised. There are 85 of the Society's employees in the Forces, and four have been killed in action, and several wounded.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT H. B. DREWETT

THE COLONEL'S TRIBUTE

A high tribute to the late 2nd Lieutenant H. B. Drewett, of the East Yorks Regiment, killed in action on October 31st, is paid by Lieut-Colonel Wilkinson, who, writing to the deceased officer's parents, Mr and Mrs B. B. Drewett, of Hugglescote, states, *"I feel I must write to offer you my deepest sympathies in the loss of your son. I can fully realise how deep your grief must be. A great personal friend of my own, your son was*

extraordinarily popular with all the officers and worshipped by the N.C.O.'s and men of his company, which he was commanding so gallantly when he was killed. I have not had a more efficient officer in the battalion since we have been in France, and he has my entire confidence. His men would simply do anything for him. We know we have lost a most gallant officer, and a very great friend. I am so awfully sorry. He is buried near the place where he fell, and we are having a little cross put up to his memory."

A somewhat remarkable and sad fact is that Lieutenant Drewett was killed quite near to the spot where his only brother, Lieutenant C. Drewett fell in action in June last year. Reference to Lieutenant Drewett's death was made at the Coalville Men's Adult School on Sunday morning by Mr C. J. Dean, who presided in the absence of Mr B. B. Drewett, the president. Mr Dean said words failed him to express all they felt. Their hearts went out in sympathy to Mr and Mrs Drewett in their great loss.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr Wm. Fowkes, builder, of Ravenstone, and Mrs Fowkes, have received official information of the death in action in France, of their youngest son, Albert, who was a private in the Leicestershire Regiment, and only 23 years of age. Some comrades in the same battalion as the young soldier, had previously conveyed the sad news of his death, and were witnesses of his falling during an advance. As a boy, Albert attended the Ashby English School under the headmastership of Mr W. F. Jennings, eventually joining his schoolmaster in the same battalion and meeting him at the scene of war. On leaving school, and up to the time of his enlistment, he assisted his father in the business, becoming popular in the village and district. Another son, William, is gallantly serving his country with the Canadian Forces in France.

A memorial service was held at the Parish Church, Ravenstone on Sunday week for the young soldier and also Sergeant J. Hancock, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Hancock, of Ravenstone, who was killed in action a few weeks ago. The Vicar, the Rev. S. Dowling, in a sympathetic address to a large congregation, made references to the great sacrifices in the cause of freedom, and in kindly terms spoke of the loss sustained by the families of the gallant men, and their connection with the Church and village.

Mr and Mrs Fowkes have received letters from soldier friends of their son Albert, one of which states that he was a true and staunch-hearted pal. He was hit on the head by a piece of shrapnel on the 26th September, and died instantaneously. All who knew him here offer their sincerest sympathy, and feel a loss which cannot be replaced. Another letter from a sergeant who was with the deceased at the time states that they were taking water to the lads in the line when they were heavily shelled. *"We took shelter underneath a bank for a considerable time until the shelling dropped a bit and then we made off towards the line, but we had not gone far when they started again and shells dropped all around us. We were trying to get into a trench when a shell dropped by the side of us, and a piece hit your son, who was killed on the spot. I don't think the poor chap felt any pain because it was so sudden. All his mates miss him, and we are always talking about him. We feel it very much."*



Private J. F. Billett died in a Military Hospital in France from wounds received in action on October 8th. Formerly a M.R. shunter at Coalville. Parents reside at Lower Weston, near Bath.

(A photograph of Private J. F. Billett appears to the left)

Private Joseph Maides, of Barton Fabis, Grenadier Guards, son of Mr Jos. Sparrow, of Heather, was killed in action on October 14th. The official news was received from the War Office on November 5th. He was only 26 years of age, and was much respected in the village of Barton Fabis, where he was a prominent member and worker at the local Baptist Church, and especially in connection with the Young People's Society there.

Mrs W. Hill, of Whitwick, has received official news that Private Charles Cavendish, of Whitwick, has been dangerously wounded in action, and is in hospital in France. The officer in charge in transmitting the message, "*regrets that permission to visit the patient cannot be granted.*" The injury is to his chest. He is in the Leicestershire Regiment.

News has been received by Mrs Belcher of 31, Ellistown, that her son, Pte. A. Belcher, a stretcher-bearer in the Leicesters, was gassed on the Western Front, on October 28th. He has previously been wounded, this being on the Somme on July 15th last year. He went to France in 1915. A later message states that he is now in hospital at Colchester, and is feeling a little more comfortable, after a rough Channel passage in Blighty.

Mrs Hemsley, of Ellistown Post Office, has received news that her nephew, Sergt-Major Vallance, of the Canadian Pioneers, was wounded in action on November 5th, and died the following day. He was a single man 32 years of age, and came over with the Canadians two years ago. Before going to Canada, he was residing at Tamworth. A brother of the deceased, Private Sidney Raymond Vallance, also of the Canadian Forces, has been gassed, and is now in hospital in London. He was the first man to volunteer for service in Calgary. Before going to Canada, he was employed at Hastings. Both men are well-known at Ellistown.

Pte. A. H. Homer (Ashby), Sergeant J. O. Mills (Shepshed), and Pte. C. Smith (Coalville) are reported killed.

Mr H. Ridgway, of Shackerstone, has been officially informed that his son, Pte. A. Ridgway, Royal Warwicks, was taken to hospital, suffering from severe shell wounds on October 27th, and died shortly afterwards. Pte. Ridgway, who was 19 years of age, enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war in the A.S.E. and was later transferred to the 12th Lancers, then to the Inniskilling Dragoons, and finally to the Royal Warwicks. Mr Ridgway has received a letter from the officer in command, in which he says that Pte. Ridgway was a good and brave soldier.

Mr and Mrs J. Harper, of 179, Belvoir Road, Coalville were officially notified on Tuesday morning that their youngest son, Pte. Ernest Harper, of the Leicesters, was posted as missing after an engagement in the field on October 10th last. He was 20 years of age, having joined up two years ago, and had been in France about 16 months. Before the war, he worked at Messrs. Burgess and Sons' Elastic Web Factory in Belvoir Road, Coalville, where his father is employed. Another son of Mr and Mrs Harper, the eldest Sergeant John Harper, of the Leicesters, was killed in action on June 7th last. The middle son, Harold, who was formerly assistant schoolmaster at Stanton-under-Bardon, is also in the army, serving in England.

The following are officially reported wounded: Pte. A. Bailey (Markfield), Acting-Sergeant S. Fouracres (Coalville), Private W. Hall (Coalville), Pte. W. Hares (Thornton), Pte. L. Hickling (Ibstock), and Pte. A. Jarvis (Whitwick).

Corporal A. Bull (Ashby) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported killed in action.

Sergeant E. Cureton (Bagworth), Pte. F. Hill (Coalville), Sergeant W. Mugglestone (Hugglescote), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, and Pte. W. J. Hill (Ravenstone) and Acting-Sergeant W. Lycett (Coalville), of the South Staffordshire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Corporal W. Sykes (Whitwick) and Private G. Wood (Hugglescote) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported missing.

Private W. Hill (Hugglescote) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now reported as not wounded.

Sapper E. J. Jarvis (Ashby) of the Royal Engineers, Lance-Corporal J. E. Ducker, Ptes. T. W. Ducker, and P. Whittaker (all of Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Private J. Wright, Leicesters, has been reported missing after being ten weeks in France. He was 23 years of age. Before the war he worked at the Ibstock Colliery, and resided at Hinckley Road, Ibstock.

News has been received by Mr and Mrs Argent, of 11, Hotel Street, Coalville that their son, Pte. J. W. Argent, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, was killed in action on October 2nd. He was 23 years of age, and joined the Colours on May 24th last prior to which he was working at the Ibstock Colliery.

Official intimation has been received of the death of Pte. James Alfred Wortley, of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, who was killed in action in France, on Friday, October 26th. Deceased was married, and leaves a widow and one child. He was the second son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Wortley, of Chapel Street, Shepshed, and was 25 years of age. He joined up about a year ago, after having been previously rejected, went to Ireland, and subsequently finished his training in Scotland. He came home on his final leave five weeks ago, and went out to France a week later, with the sad result stated above. Mr and Mrs Wortley, who have 13 children, have four other sons in the army. The eldest, Private John Henry Wortley, Leicestershire Regiment, has been in France since February 1915, and was last home on leave about a year ago. Sergeant Charles Wilfred Wortley, Leicestershire Regiment, is the third son. He belonged to the Shepshed Territorials prior to the war, and answered the call immediately on the outbreak of war in 1914. Pte. Bernard Wortley, West Yorks, is the fourth son, and has been in France about 10 months, but is at present home on leave. Pte. Frank Wortley, Leicestershire Regiment, is the fifth son, and he is now in training at Patrington. The grandparents of these four soldiers are Mr and Mrs Thomas Stevenson, who also live in Chapel Street, and are old-age pensioners, have the proud distinction of sending three sons (one of whom has been killed) and eight grandchildren (one of whom has been killed) as stated above, to the army.

Private J. B. Walker (Coalville), of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

BARDON HILL

A whist drive and dance were held on Monday evening in the Old and New Schools at Bardon Hill in aid of the Christmas Presents Fund for the local soldiers and sailors. The M.C.'s for the whist drive were Misses T. Pruden, W. Bailey and T. Knight. The prizes were won by Mrs Cooper, Mrs John Dean (Hugglescote), Messrs. Jos. Allen and E. Lines (Bardon). The dance music was supplied by Mr J. Cooper, Messrs. F. T. Bellward and R. B. Grant were stewards, and Mr Maunders M.C. There was a cake-guessing competition and other attractions. It is expected that upwards of £20 will be handed over to the fund.

COALVILLE SOLDIER A PRISONER



Sergeant George Meakin, of the Leicesters, previously reported missing, has now written to his parents, Mr and Mrs Wm. Meakin, of 66, Melbourne Street, Coalville stating that he is a prisoner of war at Limburg, Germany. He is 23 years of age and married, his wife and their two children residing at Shepshed. Before the war, Sergeant Meakin worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery, where his father is also employed.

In a letter to his mother and father, received on Tuesday morning, Sergeant Meakin states, *"I hope this will find you all quite well at home, as it leaves me as well as can be expected. You will be surprised to hear that I am a prisoner, but on the other hand, you must be pleased. I am lucky to be alive. How we managed to escape without a scratch is a miracle. We were forced to give in as the odds were so great. We stuck to our post until there were nearly 100 Germans on us – only four of us. There is a Loughborough chap with me, so I am not lonely. I shall not be able to write very often. You might tell Jack Poole, of Hugglescote I received his letter and photo alright, but I shall not be able to write to him. We have been treated well up to now, but we don't expect beef steak for dinner. I hope the chaps will club together and send a parcel as soon as possible. You should enquire the best way to send them, and let me have plenty of cigarettes. Write as often as you can. I think I have done my bit for the country. I have had 26 months in the fighting line and am still alive. I don't think the war will last long. That is what I am waiting for now, to get back to England. Remember me to friends."*

He also asks that his letter, together with his photograph, may be published in the "Coalville Times" that his pals at the Front may know.

THANKS

To all friends for the many kind enquires respecting Sergeant George Meakin, of the Leicesters, previously reported missing, and who has now written to say that he is a prisoner of war in Limburg, Germany. Mrs Meakin, his wife, of Shepshed and Mr and Mrs Wm. Meakin, his mother and father, of 66, Melbourne Street, Coalville desire, through this medium, to tender their most sincere thanks.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Pte. T. Sleath, who died at Torbay Hospital, of wounds received in France, November 14th, 1915. Aged 42 years. Interred in Hugglescote Cemetery.

*"Farewell, dear husband, father dear,
From this sad life of toil and care;
Let's hope to meet in Heaven above,
And re-unite in God's own love."*

From his sorrowing Wife and Children.

In loving memory of our dear son, A. B. John Heighton, R.N.D. killed in action in France, November 13th, 1916. Of Green Lane, Whitwick, Leicestershire.

*"Deep in our memory, true in heart,
With deepest of grief we had to part,
With a loving son and brother dear,
That fatal blow came so severe."*

From Mother, Father, Sisters and Brothers

Friday November 23rd 1917 (Issue 1342)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Beard, Venice Ewart	(November 16 th)
Brown, S. L. Corporal. Hinckley	(November 15 th)
Green, G. E. (Batt. Runner)	(November 15 th)
Grocock, Pte. (Batt. Runner)	(November 15 th)
Hall, W. Corporal	(November 16 th)
Linstead, J. Private	(November 16 th)
Myers, C. Private	(November 17 th)
Underwood, F. S. L-Corpl.	(November 15 th)
Veasey, Sergeant.	(November 11 th)
Watson, Pte. (Batt. Runner)	(November 15 th)
Wright, G. (Batt. Runner)	(November 15 th)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

Up to the present, there are the names of 225, soldiers and sailors from Hugglescote and Donington-le-Heath on the list for receiving Christmas presents?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Coalville Workingmen's Club were no match for the soldiers in a skittle contest at Broom Leys on Saturday. An enjoyable game ended in a win for the soldiers by 259 pins to 135.

Nine more wounded soldiers arrived at Coalville, on Monday afternoon and were conveyed to Broom Leys Hospital, in motor cars lent by Mr J. Wiedebank and Mr G. Henson.

CONCERT AT BROOM LEYS

Mr W. Hurst presided at a concert at Broom Leys on Sunday evening, where a capital programme by the Orpheus Glee Singers was much appreciated by the soldiers. The following were the contributors: Madame Wheeldon, Madame Clay, Miss Johnson, Miss Newman, Mr and Mrs W. Smith, Messrs. A. G. Ball, E. Marriott, W. Reece, and Mr Burton's party. Hearty thanks were accorded at the close.

Page 3

WHITWICK FAMILY'S GOOD RECORD

FOUR SOLDIER BROTHERS

Gunner T. E. Bottrill, of the R.G.A. one of the four soldier sons of a Whitwick signalman, has been wounded, and is now in hospital at Portsmouth. He was blown up by a shell and buried for five hours till his mates could get him out. He writes that he is now "getting on fine, thanks to the good treatment we get in our hospitals". His home is at No. 7, St. John's Terrace, the Dumps, Whitwick and immediately before the war he was working at Birmingham and prior to that was in the employ of Mr McCarthy, builder, of New Swannington. He was in several big pushes and saw several Whitwick and Coalville lads while out there.

The next brother is C. H. Bottrill, until recently a private in the Leicestershire Regiment, and is now discharged, having had his jaw blown away. He was two years with the Colours and saw service in France and Mesopotamia, receiving his wounds in the latter country. He is now at home.

Pte. W. H. Bottrill, another brother, is in the Leicestershire Regiment, now serving in Mesopotamia. His home is 33, Talbot Street, Whitwick, and before the war he was a collier at the Whitwick Colliery. For five years before going to the pit, he was employed by Mr J. Peace, fruiterer, of High Street, Coalville. He first served in France. Since going to Mesopotamia, he has twice had the fever, and has now been transferred to the R.A.M.C. In a recent letter home, Bottrill stated that it was very hot where he was – 119 degrees in the shade. They could wash their clothes, dry them, and put them on again in 15 minutes.

The youngest of the four is only 18, but has been six weeks in France. He is Private G. Bottrill and is serving in the South Staffordshire Regiment. He was a carter at the Whitwick Colliery before joining up. Whether in Mesopotamia, or in France, all four soldiers say they have received the "Coalville Times" regularly every week, and always look forward to it. *"Have you had the 'Coalville Times' yet?"* is a saying frequently heard among the local lads at the Front, and the soldiers in Mesopotamia say, *"It helps to pass many a weary hour away, in this hot country."*

LOCAL CASUALTIES



A former member of our staff, we regret to state, has to be added this week to the ever increasing list of men from this district who have only fallen while doing their part to uphold their country's cause. Mrs Richardson, of 121, Crescent Road, Hugglescote, a fortnight ago was notified that her husband, Pte. Alfred Richardson, of the Machine Gun Corps, had been seriously wounded in the right arm and chest, and a subsequent letter from a hospital nurse gave the hope that he might recover sufficiently in the near future to be able to travel to England, but on Saturday last, there was a telegram and letter stating that he passed away on November 11th. The letter was from a chaplain, who wrote, *"I expect you have heard by now that your husband passed away on Sunday afternoon in this clearing station. I saw a good deal of him while he was here and very patient he was. The day before he died he dictated a letter to you, and I am now copying it out as I took it down in pencil at his bedside."*

Continuing his letter, the chaplain says, *"I gave him Holy Communion on Sunday morning and he seemed very happy and content in his mind, and spoke to the Sister, saying how glad he was to have had the service. Later on, he was in pain again, and was given morphia, and soon after the dose had worn off, he passed away. I buried him yesterday in _____ Cemetery, close by. It must be very hard for you to lose him without ever being able to say good-bye, but you will always be able to remember that he was thinking of you and the children, and that he died in peace, and perfect trust in God. He seemed to us like a man who had done his best, and was content to await whatever God had for him. Please accept my sincere sympathy. God help you to be brave and calm in your sorrow. For him you need have nothing but joy that he is at rest."*

Private Richardson, who was 25 years of age, joined up nearly two years ago. Prior to that time he was a compositor at the "Coalville Times" Printing Works, where he had served his apprenticeship. Of a genial disposition, and a capable and conscientious workman, he was held in the highest regard alike by his employers and fellow-workmen, who deeply regret his death.

Lance-Corporal P. Bevans (Bagworth) and Private W. Wilkes (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Private J. M. Benn (Ibstock) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported killed in action.

Lance-Corporal S. H. Bull, of the Coldstream Guards, and Private G. Woolrich, of the Leicesters, both of Ashby, are reported wounded.

Private T. Bailey (Coalville) of the Royal Scots, previously reported wounded, is now reported wounded and missing.

Private H. Hines (Ashby), Private J. Jones (Whitwick), Private A. E. Knifton (Coalville), and Private H. W. Swain (Coalville) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Private F. J. Moore (Ashby), of the Leicestershire Regiment, is missing.

Lance-Corporal J. E. Ducker (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now reported as wounded and missing.

Pte. F. Black (Ibstock) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Pte. J. H. Wright, of Hinckley Road, Ibstock, was recently reported missing. His parents have now been officially notified of his death from wounds.

HUGGLESCOTE

WHIST DRIVE

A whist drive was held at the National School on Saturday organised by the R.A.O.B. in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' fund. Messrs. T. Wilkins and F. J. Wainwright acted as M.C.'s.

THANKS

Mrs A. Richardson, wishes, through this medium, to thank all friends for kind expressions of sympathy towards her in her great bereavement, through the loss of her husband, Private A. Richardson (died of wounds). 121, Crescent Road, Hugglescote.

Page 4

COMMISSION FOR A COALVILLE SOLDIER

Mr Arthur Dobney, eldest son of Police-Inspector T. Dobney, of Coalville, has been given a Commission, and is posted to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Lieut. Dobney joined the Leicestershire Territorials early in the war, and soon rose to the rank of sergeant. Before coming to England for his training, he was some

months on active service on the Western Front, and also served in Ireland. He will receive the congratulations of many friends on his promotion.

THRINGSTONE SOLDIER HONOURED

An event which created a great deal of interest among the people of Thringstone was a public presentation in the village hall on Monday evening to Corporal F. W. L. Rennocks, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, who has the proud distinction of being the first soldier from Thringstone to win the Military Medal. The gift consisted of a handsome clock and an illuminated address, the cost of which had been defrayed by public subscription. The organisation of the event, and work leading up to it was carried out by an enthusiastic committee under the able chairmanship of Mr H. G. W. Howe.

The hall was crowded, those present including Lt-Colonel E. M. P. de Lisle, of the Leicestershire Yeomanry, who made the presentation, Mrs Booth and Mrs Ritchie, the Rev. C. Shrewsbury, Captain Turner and several men of the local Volunteers in uniform and the Boy Scouts. The hall was nicely decorated with flags of the National colours. Mr Howe presided and was supported on the platform by the members of the committee. The proceedings opened with a general salute by two of the Boy Scout buglers and the singing of the National Anthem.

The chairman said they had assembled that night to honour a brave soldier. They were privileged in having such a splendid building for the occasion, and though the generous donor of it had passed away, his work still went on, and his family was represented in more than one of the branches of His Majesty's Forces (cheers). They were proud of the men of the British Army who were fighting for justice and right, and with men of the stamina of Corporal Rennocks they would go on to victory. He regretted that the gallant Corporal could not be with them that night, having written to his parents that he was called overseas on foreign service. Corporal J. T. Briers then read the address, as follows:

"Not for ourselves, but for our country. Corporal Frederick William Lawrence Rennocks, West Yorkshire Regiment. The inhabitants of the parish of Thringstone by the presentation of this address and an alabaster case clock, desire to testify their appreciation of the honour to yourself and parish by your being awarded the Military Medal on July 14th, 1916 for distinguished gallantry in action with the British Expeditionary Force in France four days after the taking of Contalmaison, in which you had charge of a bombing party, losing all comrades except one, and for fourteen hours maintained your post before being relieved. The recommendation was made by Divisional General Babington, and the presentation of the medal by Brigadier-General Davis. These expressions of gratitude to an heroic soldier of His Majesty's Army were presented on November 19th, 1917 by Lieut. Colonel E. M. P. de Lisle (Leicestershire Yeomanry) at a meeting of the subscribers in Thringstone Hall. Signed on behalf of the subscribers, E. M. P. de Lisle, William Abell, Benjamin Baxter, Hubert Bradley, Joseph T. Briers, Ernest Gee, Philip Neal, Herbert Reid, Joseph Thurman, James W. Wilford, Thomas Watts, John Waldrum, J. H. Weston, James Smith, treasurer, Ernest Watts, secretary, Cheverton Shrewsbury, vicar of Thringstone, and Henry G. W. Lowe, chairman."

Amidst applause, Mr John Rennocks, an employee of the Whitwick Colliery Co. and Mrs Rennocks, of Lily Bank, Thringstone, the soldier's father and mother, then ascended the platform and received the gifts from the hands of Lieut.-Colonel de Lisle. Colonel de Lisle congratulated them on their son's bravery, and said they only wished he could have been there to personally receive the gift. They all wished him the best of luck and hoped to see him home again soon, that he might have many years of happiness and prosperity after this terrible war was over. Corporal Rennocks was the first soldier from that parish to win the medal, and it was a great pleasure to them all to honour him as they were doing. There were many others from that district serving in the forces, and he was sure that Thringstone men had done their duty (applause). Mr and Mrs Rennocks both expressed their sincere thanks to the committee and subscribers.

The clock was inscribed as follows: *"Nov. 1917. This clock, with the address, is presented to Corporal F. W. L. Rennocks, West Yorkshire Regiment, by the inhabitants of the parish of Thringstone, in appreciation of his being awarded on July 14th, 1916, the Military Medal for distinguished gallantry in the great European War."*

Mr R. Baxter proposed a vote of thanks Lieut.-Colonel de Lisle, which was received with musical honours. Colonel de Lisle, responding, said they could not do too much to the brave men who were fighting for them. They looked forward to better times after the war. May the day soon come when the military power of Germany would be crushed, and they could have peace and prosperity in the world (cheers).

On the motion of Mr T. Watts, hearty thanks were accorded the subscribers, the military representatives and Boy Scouts for attending, and the trustee for the use of the hall. Captain Turner, responding, made an appeal to men over military age to join the Volunteers. He had crossed Germany 20 times in the days of peace, and knew something of that country's strength. We had not won the war yet. We should win in the end but it would take time, and required the best service that every man could render.

A vote of thanks to the committee was heartily carried on the motion of Mr J. Winters and responded to by Mr Gee. During the evening, the company were entertained by Mr H. Gledhill, of Coalville, with some excellent ventriloquist and musical sketches, Master and Miss Wilkins nicely played a piano and mandolin duet, and there write songs by Mr George Clay, of Swannington, and Mr J. Lawrence.

The Vicar (the Rev. C. Shrewsbury) moved a vote of thanks to the entertainers who had all given their services gratuitously and to the chairman for his untiring efforts. This was heartily accorded and Mr Gledhill and Mr Howe having replied, the proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

Corporal F. W. L. Rennocks is a single man, 39 years of age, and was working in Yorkshire when he joined up.

Friday November 30th 1917 (Issue 1343)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Allgood, R. Signaller	(November 25 th)
Boshier, S. Signaller	(November 25 th)
Bott, Horace. Private	(November 25 th)
Chamberlain, W. Driver, E.E.F.	(November 16 th)
Clamp, H. Sergeant	(November 21 st)
Cotton, F.	(November 21 st)
Harris, T. W. Private	(November 19 th)
Hart, A. Private	(November 18 th)
Jarram, Mick (Sal)	(November 21 st)
Lashwood.	(November 20 th)
Locke, E. Sapper	(November 25 th)
Martin, Geo. Corporal	(November 25 th)
Myers, Charles	(November 20 th)
Newbon, N.	(November 21 st)
Sperry, W. A. Private	(November 25 th)
Swain, H. W. Private	(November 25 th)
Upton, F. Driver, E.E.F.	(November 16 th)
Veasey, Sergeant	(November 19 th)
Wardle, Alec. J. Corporal	(November 24 th)
White, E. S. Private	(November 20 th)
Whittaker, Clarence	(November 22 nd)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The Copt Oak Comforts Fund for local soldiers now exceeds £40?

The amount realised to date towards the Soldiers' and Sailors' memorial window proposed to be erected in Thringstone Church at the end of the war, is £40 2s 1d?

The girls of the Ibstock Council School, under Miss Tredinnick's superintendence, have knitted thirty pairs of socks for Ibstock soldiers, from wool provided by the local committee?

BAGWORTH

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

A successful whist drive and dance was held in the Council Schools at Bagworth on Saturday evening last, under the auspices of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Parcel Fund (young men's endeavour). The following ladies and gentleman presented prizes for competition, Miss R. Miles, Mrs Famer (Barrel Inn), Mrs Simpson (Plough Inn), Messrs. John Roberts, F. Percival, Herbert Bancroft, H. Astle, Jos. Toon, John Lee, Thos. Screation, and the committee. The winners were declared as follows:

Goose competition: Mr Wm. Blockley, with ticket No. 00634

Whist: Ladies: 1 Mrs S. Ward; 2 Miss Gamble. Gents: 1. Mr Jos. Kirk; 2 Mr Herbert Gowdrige.

Skittle Competition: 1 Mr Walter Bateman; 2 Mr F. Chiswell; 3 Mr Jos. Toon.

Miss E. Peake won the ladies' skittle competition, Miss E. Seal won the khaki doll guessing competition. The following gentlemen kindly officiated: Messrs. J. Dean (Hugglescote), pianist; Mr S. Ward, M.C. whist drive; Messrs. R. Reed and F. Bland, M.C.'s dancing. Mr J. Witts presented the successful winners with the prizes.

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Messrs. Stableford's Workmen's Athletic Club have succeeded in raising about £80 by a social and football matches, for the purpose of sending Christmas parcels to the men from the works who are serving in the Forces. In all, about 160 have joined up, of whom 20 have been killed, and it has been decided to send 10s each to 125, and 7/6 each to the remainder who were not employed at the works very long, the latter including two Belgians. The committee have sent a suitable memorial to the relatives of the men who have fallen.

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

IMPORTANT NEW ORDER ON V.T.C. CONDITION

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber, on Wednesday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, M. McCarthy, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, T. F. Fox, Lieut. Blower, and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Under a new Order, the clerk said that military representatives as such, no longer existed, and were now known as National Service representatives. The clerk read a new Order of the Army Council in regard to exempted men drilling with the V.T.C. as follows: *"Military representatives will not press Tribunals to impose or to continue the condition that an applicant for exemption must join the Volunteer Force in cases where the obligation would be unduly onerous. They will take into consideration the nature and locality of the man's employment and whether it would be reasonably possible for him to fulfil the condition while continuing properly to pursue his ordinary civil employment and without detriment to the adequate performance of any important work upon which he is engaged, and in virtue of which he is applying for exemption."*

Mr McCarthy: *That ought to go into the "Coalville Times".*

Mr Lockwood: *We take each case on its merits.*

The Clerk: *You are bound to.*

It was stated that there was a minute on the book that men granted two months' exemption and over must drill with the V.T.C. That had not been revoked.

Mr McCarthy: *Can we revoke it now, or will notice be required?*

The clerk said he thought notice to move at the next meeting that the resolution be rescinded.

In the case of a Whitwick butcher, single, for whom Mr J. J. Sharp appeared, it transpired that the man had appealed to Leicester after being one month final at Coalville, and the Leicester Tribunal dismissed the

appeal. This was in May last, and the chairman asked how it was that it had gone on so long. The clerk said the War Agricultural Committee gave the man time to get some hay. The chairman said he did not believe in sitting on the Tribunal and having their discussions overruled. He asked whether any communication was made to the clerk.

Mr Jesson: *No, It was decided that the appeal was out of order.*

A Coalville plumber who was represented by Mr Crane, was allowed three months for his son, aged 23, passed C3. It was stated that a few years ago the man had an accident, breaking his arm, which was now deformed, and he was only able to do light work.

Three months were granted to a Coalville grocer and off-licence holder, 39, B2, married with wife, three children and mother-in-law dependent.

A Whitwick building and undertaking firm were allowed three months for their horse-keeper, 31 and married, and similar exemption was granted to a Greenhill publican, 41, the father of five children. He assists his father on a farm.

The South Leicestershire Colliery Co. appealed for their only brick-setter, 38, C1, who was allowed three months, as was a C2 waggoner appealed for by a Coalville firm of builders.

Two months were allowed a B1 loader at the Whitwick Granite Co's stone mills, the man being 41 years of age, and has four children, and a similar period was granted to the overlooker and loom-tuner at a Whitwick factory, who is 27, married and passed C2.

A Coalville cycle dealer, was allowed three months for his assistant, aged 19, and a Coalville tax collector, who has five sons serving, and was similarly dealt with in an appeal for the only son left to assist him, a B3 man.

A Coalville saddler, 37, C1, who said he was doing the work for over 200 horses at two collieries, besides those of farmers and private tradesmen, was allowed conditional exemption.

Three months were granted to a Hugglescote painter for his man, 34, C1, and married, and the Coalville Co-Operative Society secured similar exemption for their yard man, 32, C3, and married, and for a bread deliverer, 32, B2. Both had previously been rejected.

A Hugglescote builder, 34, C2, got three months for himself and also for his foreman, 41, C1.

A representative of a Tea Company, appeared in support of the appeal for the manager of their Coalville shop, a general service man, aged 41, and married. He pointed out the importance of food distribution just now as emphasised by the queues at the provision shops. Answering the chairman as to whether this was due to a shortage, applicant said he believed it was mainly due to a large amount of exploitation by the public. Three months.

A Coalville blacksmith wrote asking to be excused from drilling with the V.T.C., saying he was working long hours and would be very busy all winter. Mr Briers said this was a case which coincided with the Army Council Order and he moved that the man be excused until May 1st. This was carried.

A letter was received from Mr W. V. Scott, Commandant of the Coalville V.A.D. in reference to the Tribunal having declined a previous request for one of their members to be excused from drill with the V.T.C. so long as he drilled with the V.A.D. it being contended that one was as important as the other. He enclosed a letter received from Mr A. W. Faire, County V.A.D. Director, of Leicester, who stated that he was surprised to learn of this difficulty. In Leicester exemption was often granted to men on the condition that they joined the V.T.C. or V.A.D. the latter being officially recognised as meeting with the requirements, and he had specially organised V.A.D. drills which were being attended in Leicester by about 80 exempted men. It was stated that the man in question had received a call-up letter from the military authorities because he had failed to drill with the V.T.C. though he was still drilling with the V.A.D. An appeal had been lodged. The chairman said the man ought to have carried out the Tribunal's ruling, but they would consider the case when the appeal came before them.

BARDON HILL

Bardon Park Congregational Chapel on Sunday evening, a concert was given by the choir for the soldiers' and sailors' Christmas fund. Mr T. Kellham, D.C. presided. The programme consisted of choruses, quartets, duets and solos, which were followed by a dialogue, entitled "Muggins, M.P." Mr J. Bailiss was the conductor, and Miss H. M. Kellham very ably played the accompaniment.

LOCAL CASUALTIES



Mr and Mrs Newbold, of 50, North Street, Hugglescote, received official news on Saturday morning that their son, Private William Newbold, of the Leicesters was killed in action on October 31st. Prior to enlisting in September, 1914, he was employed by the Midland Meat Co., at Coalville. He had been in France since February, 1915 and was wounded in August of the same year. He was a prominent member of the Hugglescote Church Lads' Brigade and used to sing at the parochial concerts. The Commanding Officer, writing to the deceased's relatives says, *"I should like to take this opportunity of saying how highly we all thought of him, and what a really good soldier he was. He was certainly one of the staunchest and most valuable men of my company, and I offer my deepest sympathy, and that of his comrades."*

Private J. Bradley (Coalville) of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, is reported wounded.

Sapper R. H. Thompson (Ashby) of the Royal Engineers, and Pte. H. Hall (Thringstone) of the Machine Gun Corps, are reported wounded.

Pte. W. Mason (Ellistown) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now reported wounded and missing.

Mr M. E. Spence, Alma Villas, Markfield, is informed that his son, Pte. Wm. Spence, Leicester Regiment, is dead. He has been missing for 14 months. A friend wrote that he was killed by a shell on the communication lines. Mr Spence lost his youngest son in the Yeomanry, in May, 1915.

Pte. Cecil Wilson (21), Essex Regiment, a Markfield man, has been killed by a sniper. He was a most promising soldier and highly spoken of by his officers.

Mr and Mrs Edward Brown, Council Houses, Markfield learn that their son, Sapper Hy. Brown (20), was accidentally killed last week. He had just returned from a fortnight's leave.



Mrs Myatt, of 47, North Street, Whitwick has received official intimation that her husband, Private Firman Frederick Myatt, of the Machine Gun Corps, died of wounds received in action on November 10th. The chaplain has also written stating *"I deeply regret to say that your husband died here at 6.15 pm on November 10th, from wounds in the abdomen. He was only with us for four hours, and was too weak to suffer much or send any message. He passed peacefully away after I had commended his soul to God. He is buried in _____ Cemetery. God bless and sustain you in your great sorrow."*

Private Myatt was 23 years of age and formerly worked for Stableford and Co. at Coalville. He enlisted in May this year, and had only been three weeks in France. His young widow is left with one child.

Sergeant-Major Roland Hill, of Coalville who has seen a good deal of active service, is now in hospital ill, having recently been moved to Market Harborough. We are pleased to hear that he is making good progress.

Private J. Carr (Swannington) of the Machine Gun Corps, is reported wounded.

Privates W. Partridge (Whitwick), and S. Preston (Ibstock) both of the South Staffordshire Regiment are reported missing.



A service to the memory of Private Arthur Webster, Waterworks Road, who died as a result of gas poisoning on the Western Front, was held on Sunday evening at St. Peter's Church, Bardon Hill. There was a large congregation. Special hymns and lessons were used, and the Rev. E. Pillifant conducted.

(A photograph of Private Arthur Webster appears to the left)

The death of Private J. E. Briggs, of the Canadians, son of Mr and Mrs T. Briggs, of Bagworth Row, Hugglescote, is reported. He left England for Canada five years ago, and joined the Colours on the declaration of war. The father is also an old soldier, having been discharged through ill-health. He has two other sons serving, one in the Royal Garrison Artillery, and the other in the Royal Engineers. Writing to Mrs Briggs, a chaplain says, *"Your son, Private J. E. Briggs, came in yesterday dangerously wounded in the back, penetrating the chest. He is doing well now, and I hope he will make good progress, but his condition is critical and one dare not prophesy. He sends his love and is quite happy and comfortable."* This was followed by another letter stating that he had died at 3.45 am on November 11th. The chaplain added, *"He sank quietly and calmly to rest after I had committed his soul to God. He knew little during the last 24 hours, and did not suffer at all then. He sent his love to you. His strength proved unable to hold out. He lies in _____ Military Cemetery. God bless and sustain you in this great sorrow."*

It had been officially reported that Private J. W. Baugh, Northumberland Fusiliers, is suffering from trench feet (severe). He has been admitted to a hospital in Scotland, and is progressing favourably. He has been wounded once previously.



Private John H. Wright, of the Leicesters, previously reported missing and now reported killed, or died of wounds on or about October 6th. He was the son of Mr and Mrs E. Wright of Hinckley Road, Ibstock. He was 23 years of age, and previous to enlisting last May, worked on the surface at the Ibstock Collieries. Deceased was very much respected, and was a member of the choir of the Ibstock Wesleyan Reform Church, where his parents are also members.

CADET CORPS

At the Grammar School on Wednesday, a lecture was given to the Cadets by Sergeant Surman on the use and mechanism of a bomb and the methods used in trench training, which proved most interesting to the boys. Sergeant Surman, an old boy of the school volunteered three years ago, when he was only 16, and has seen much active service. He is shortly to receive a commission.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs Newbold, 50, North Street, Hugglescote, wish to thank all friends for kind expressions of sympathy towards them in their great bereavement through the loss of their beloved son, Private W. Newbold, 9th Leicesters, killed in action October 31st, 1917.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Private A. Webster of Waterworks Road, Bardon Hill, who died from gas poisoning on the Western Front.

In loving memory of Private Arthur Lovell, killed in action in France, on November 28th, 1916.

*"We think we see him still in life,
Though one sad year has passed,
But in our memory still he lives,
And will do till the last."*

From his loving Mother and Father and Brothers and Sisters.

Page 4

STANTON-UNDER-BARDON

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

A series of charitable efforts on behalf of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund, took place on Saturday under the auspices of the Patriotic Committee. There was a crowded attendance, and the proceedings were of a most enthusiastic character, a good sum being realised for a worthy object. The M.C. at the whist drive was Mr W. Boswell, and of the dance, Mr Bertie Brown, the music for the dance being supplied by the Evans Band, Ibstock. The prize-winners were as follows:

Ladies: 1 Mrs E. Gregory; 2 Mrs Dowell; 3 Mrs Robinson.

Gents: 1 Mr H. Smith; 2 Mr A. Massey; 3 Mr John Windram.

The prizes were presented by Mrs Boswell. Several competitions took place, and the articles, and also the refreshments were given. Much credit is due to the chairman, Mr F. Gibson, the secretary Mr T. Dilks, and the treasurer, Mr Isaac Brown as well as the committee. The amount raised at the event the previous events totalled £33/17/8.

SNIBSTONE

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

A successful whist drive and dance was held in the Council School on Saturday night, in aid of the local soldiers' and sailors' fund. There was a large attendance. Mr J. Allen was M.C. for dancing, the music being supplied by Mrs W. H. Hewes (piano) and Mr W. Hewes, junr. (violin). Messrs. W. H. Hewes and W. Deakin were M.C.'s for whist. Various guessing competitions took place and a good sum will be realised.

LOCAL SOLDIER WINS BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr Harper, Hugglescote, has received an interesting letter from one of his soldier brothers, Sergeant Harper, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, who was recently at Hugglescote on leave from the Front. He writes, *"I am pleased to tell you about I have won the welter-weight championship boxing contest of the 1st Army School by knocking out Sergeant-Major Martindale, of the London Regiment. I knocked him out in the first round. My Captain (Captain Bond, of Chesterfield) also won the contest or the officers in the third round on points."*

Sergeant Harper is a native of Mesborough, Derbyshire. Captain Bond is a son of the Rev. Kenneth Bond, formerly Free Church minister at Desford and Leicester.

MARRIAGE OF MISS M. GERMAN

The marriage is announced as having taken place in Cairo of Miss Muriel German, youngest daughter of the late Mr Wm. German and Mrs German, of Ashby, to Mr Edward Brymer Belcher, Indian Police, lieutenant, attached to the Mysore Lancers, son of the Rev. Gilbert E. Belcher, rector of Chaldon, Surrey, and Mrs Belcher. Miss German is sister of Mrs W. E. Carnley, of Burton. She recently won the First Class Red Cross decoration for distinguished service with the Forces.

Friday December 7th 1917 (Issue 1344)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Hill, F.	(November 29 th)
Iliffe, G. Rfn. (Ibstock)	(November 25 th)
Johnson, Dan. C.F.M.	(November 7 th)
Johnson, A. E. Corporal	(November 28 th)
Myers, Charles, Private	(December 2 nd)
Veasey, Sergeant	(December 1 st)
Whitmore, A. Sapper	(December 1 st)

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Private G. H. Smith, Leicestershire Regiment, now at his home in James Street, Coalville, on leave, received on Friday a letter sent to him over 12 months ago, containing a postal order for 5s intended as a Christmas box for last Christmas. Smith was formerly a clerk in the office of the Coalville Co-Operative Society, and the committee sent the gift to him when he was in Africa. When the letter arrived, he had gone to Egypt. It was sent after him and followed him home.

The recent whist drive and dance at the Snibston Council School in aid of the Ravenstone and Snibston Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Parcels Fund was very successful. Mr J. Edwards (the hon. secretary) having informed us that £43 was obtained, and it has been decided to send 8s each to the one hundred soldiers and sailors from the parish who are serving.

LOCAL NEWS

CONCERT

Mr C. Massey's concert party gave a concert at Broom Leys, on Saturday night, Mr J. Kendrick presiding. The contributors included, Misses Geary, Watson, Hubbard, Messrs. A. Carter, J. Noon, C. Massey and Gunner Kellow. The programme included a sketch, "The Black Doctor" by Messrs. J. Toon, A. Carter and C. Massey. The concert was much enjoyed.

CAPTAIN TURNER'S FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place, leave permitting, between Captain W. Jepson Turner, Army Remount Service, older son of the late William Turner of Greenhill House, Coalville, and Gladys Olive (Queenie), youngest daughter of the late Dr. B. Lyne-Stevens and Mrs Lyne-Stevens of 107 Park Street, Grosvenor Square, and Garlogs, Nether Walop, Hants.

UNLOADED AMMUNITION WAGGON UNDER FIRE

A COALVILLE D.C.M.

At the Glen Parva Barracks on Monday afternoon, Company-Sergeant-Major Percy Stabler, of the Midland Pioneers, received the Distinguished Conduct Medal, which was awarded to him a few weeks ago for gallantry in France.

Sergt-Major Stabler volunteered for service early in the war and joined the Leicester Pioneers. He has been many months on active service on the Western Front, in the neighbourhood of Ypres, and won the medal by organising a small party of about a dozen men to unload an ammunition waggon which had become derailed and was being heavily shelled by the enemy. Though under fire all the time, they succeeded in unloading the waggons and thus saving many thousands of rounds of ammunition. It was not until notice of the award had appeared in the "Coalville Times" that the gallant officer was aware that the honour had been conferred upon him.

Before the war, Sergeant-Major Stabler was manager of Worthington's branch shop in High Street, Coalville. His wife and child reside at Highfields Street, Coalville, and he was spending a few days' leave with them when he was summoned to Wigston Barracks on Monday afternoon to receive the medal. He returned to France the following day, taking with him the good wishes of many friends.

WESLEYAN CHURCH

The Ibstock Wesleyan Church on Wednesday last week received a visit from the Rev. J. Fisher Robson, of Leicester, who preached in the afternoon, and lectured in the evening. There was a fair congregation at the afternoon service, and the lecture in the evening was well-attended. At the conclusion of the service reference was made to the beautiful reading desk which has been presented to the church as a memorial, by the parents of the late Private Frederick Callier, who was killed in Mesopotamia last summer. Private Callier was well-known and respected locally and was a scholar and Sunday School teacher at this place of worship up to the time of his enlistment.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Private J. C. Reynolds (Newbold Verdon) of the Essex Regiment, has died of wounds.

Acting-Sergeant S. Fouracres (Coalville), Pte. J. W. Kinton (Whitwick), Pte. E. W. Pegg (Newbold Verdon) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, Pte. J. Moore (Coalville) of the Manchester Regiment and Pte. A. Cooper (Ellistown) of the R.A.M.C. are all reported wounded.

Private T. Eggington (Ibstock) South Staffs. Regiment, is reported wounded.

The death is presumed to have taken place on October 26th, 1916 of Stoker Arthur Griffiths, a Whitwick man, who went down in H.M.S. _____ in a Channel raid. The official letter states, "*I deeply regret to have to inform you that no further information of him has been received, and that no doubt is now entertained that he lost his life when his ship was sunk.*" Stoker Griffiths lived for about seven years with Mr Berrington, at The Farm, in Hall Lane, Whitwick. His mother, Mrs Fairbanks, for some time resided at Castle Street, Whitwick, but now lives at Coalville. The deceased was 25 years of age, and joined the Navy in August, 1913 as a stoker.

Privates E. Brotherhood (Whitwick), J. Cox (Coalville), F. Goddard (Market Bosworth), and E. Hogg (Coalville) are reported wounded. Private E. F. Griffin (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been wounded.

Private J. H. Jarvis (Ashby) of the South Staffs. Regiment is reported missing.

ASHBY TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Tribunal for the Ashby Rural District, was held at the clerk's office, on Saturday, Mr T. Varnham presided, and there were also present, Messrs. F. C. Stevenson, J. Rice, J. T. Bradshaw, Captain Phillimore (National Service representative) and Mr G. Farmer (clerk).

A Ravenstone smallholder and innkeeper was supported in his appeal by a Ravenstone farmer whom he is assisting. He said he had instructions from the War Agricultural Committee to plough up 12 acres of his holding of 30 acres. Answering a question as to his category, he said he was formerly rejected, than passed C3 and now B2. The chairman said applicant would soon be a general service man if he kept improving. Applicant said he was not well, and had a week off since he was last before them. On the man promising to do his best on the land, he was given conditional exemption.

An appeal was made by Mr German for an Appleby man employed as a timber-feller. Mr Musson said the man used to work for the late Sir Arthur Markham, of Newstead Abbey, and was taken over by the Leicestershire Collieries' Wood Committee, to which Mr R. German was secretary. The man was now engaged exclusively in felling timber for collieries, being at present engaged in Holly Hayes Wood, Whitwick, and Mr German had told him that it was more than he could do to keep up the supply of timber for pit work. Six months allowed.

Mr H. J. Ford, J.P. of Heather Brickworks, applied for the exemption of a brick-setter and layer-down, aged 18, and single. He named several important contracts for Government work that he was engaged on, and said the work would be delayed if this youth was taken. His best setter had been killed in action and all his other workmen, but 16 had gone. One very good man, he said, was taken from the works by the Army authorities, and when found unsuitable for the Army was sent to work on a farm near Nottingham. The chairman said that was hardly fair. Captain Phillimore said he would make enquires and try to get this man back again to be used as a substitute for the youth appealed for. The Tribunal adjourned the case, the youth to be medically examined in the meantime. Capt. Phillimore said he would wait for the result of the examination before trying to get the other man back, as if the youth was in a low category, applicant might retain him.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs E. Wright and Family, and the fiancée of the late Pte. J. H. Wright desire to tender their heartfelt thanks to all those friends who have expressed sympathy toward them in their recent bereavement.

17, Hinckley Road, Ibstock.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Alfred Wm. Preston, who was killed in action on September 16th, 1917. Aged 26 years.

*"Could we have raised his dying head,
Or heard his last farewell.
The grief would not have been so hard,
To those who loved him well.
He bravely answered duty's call;
He gave his life for one and all,
Christ will clasp the broken chain
Closer when we meet again."*

Page 4

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of this Tribunal on Wednesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, B. G. Hale, J. W. Fisher, Captain G. J. German, Lieut. R. Blower, Captain Stevenson and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The Whitwick Colliery Co. appealed for a sales and accounts clerk, 33, married, C1 stating that he was drilling with the V.T.C. Mr Lindley said another clerk who had conditional exemption had been away ill for five weeks. All the other clerks he had were new to the work, and it was very difficult to carry on. Eight of his clerks had joined the army. Three months allowed.

A Coalville miner and licensed victualler, 38, C1, married with four children dependent, applied for further exemption, being represented by Mr J. J. Sharp. He said he was working full-time at the Snibston pit. He also kept pigs for breeding purposes, and owned a motor car which he let out for hire. Answering a question, Mr Sharp said the applicant joined the V.T.C. but had not drilled, his time being fully occupied. He was often at work at the pit on Sunday mornings. Lieut. Blower said that not having fulfilled the condition, the man had rendered himself liable to be called up. Would he go on the Sundays that he was not working? Applicant said he would. Mr Briers moved conditional exemption, and that the man be excused V.T.C. drill.

Mr Hale: *But he has signed with the V.T.C.*

Mr Briers said he would like to ask whether a man was bound to the V.T.C. if the Tribunal exempted him after he had signed the paper. Lieut. Blower read the condition showing that having signed, the question of a man being released, rested with the Army Council. Mr Hale said the condition of things was more serious now than at any time since the commencement of the war. Eventually, two months were allowed, the V.T.C. condition to stand.

The managing partner of a building firm, married, 40, B1 residing at Hugglescote, through Mr Sharp, appealed for further exemption. He was regular in his drills with the V.T.C. and had been promoted. Three months.

A Coalville plumber and painter appealed for two of his men, both married and passed B2, aged 38 and 29, stating that he only had four men and one apprentice out of 23 before the war. Captain German asked if painting was necessary. Mr Lockwood said some of the property looked as if it would do with touching up a bit. Applicant said he was on very important work. Both were drilling with the V.T.C. Two months.

A Coalville building firm appealed for a joiner, 37, married, B1 and for a foreman bricklayer, 39, B2, married with three children. Two months each were suggested, and as applicant had not been called into the room, Captain German asked how it would be if he appealed. The clerk said that when a man got to Leicester, he might say that the Tribunal did not give him a chance to speak. The chairman said the cases had been previously considered, and they knew the facts. When he had given a decision he did not care who appealed. Two months each were agreed to.

Two bricklayers, aged 40 and 38, passed C1 and B2, a foreman joiner, 38, B1 and a wood machinist, 37, B1 were appealed for by a Hugglescote building firm, a representative of which said he had five men left now compared with 28 before the war. Answering a question, he said three of the men were fulfilling the V.T.C. condition and one thought drilling with the V.A.D. would meet the requirements. The chairman said the Tribunal's condition was that the man should drill with the V.T.C. Captain German said he told the employer that quite plainly. A member said the very point was raised on an appeal, and the man was told to drill with the V.T.C.

Captain German: *And he has ignored you.*

The employer said the man had told him that he had joined the V.T.C. this week. Two months each were allowed the two bricklayers and joiner, and the case of the wood machinist, was left to the end of the meeting.

A gardener from Charnwood Towers, 40, B1 appealed on domestic grounds, saying his wife was having to regularly attend Leicester Infirmary for treatment of the eyes, and he had to accompany her. He had two brothers serving in France. One month.

A Bardon Hill quarry labourer, 35, single, C3 said he had lost sight of one eye. He was supporting a widowed mother and crippled sister. Three months.

A Coalville man, 40, general service, married with seven children, in his appeal stated that he worked as a fitter on the night shift at the South Leicestershire Colliery Co. and worked on the land in the daytime. Three months.

A Coalville builder, 35, general service, was allowed two months. He said he had only two men now and employed from 12 to 20 before the war.

The case of a waggoner on the Whitwick Colliery Farm, 30, and married, was adjourned for 14 days for medical examination.

Two months were allowed the only man employed by a Hugglescote builder, who was stated to be 38, passed B2 with a delicate wife and six children.

The clerk then read a letter from Mr W. V. Scott, commandant of the Coalville V.A.D. as to a Hugglescote wood machinist (above referred to) drilling with the V.A.D. instead of the V.T.C. He also enclosed a letter from Mr A. W. Faire, county V.A.D. director, that the V.A.D. was recognised as meeting the requirements in Leicester. Captain Turner also wrote on the matter, stating that volunteers at Hugglescote were complaining because the man was not drilling. The chairman said the man may have made the mistake of thinking the V.A.D. would meet the case. Other members thought the man had defied the Tribunal. One month's exemption was allowed, and it was stated that if he did not drill with the V.T.C. he would be taken for the Army without further appeal.

Captain Turner wrote in reference to the Tribunal at the last meeting having exempted a Coalville blacksmith from drilling during the winter months. The man had been allowed every consideration. It was suggested that the man could drill on Sundays.

Mr Lockwood: *We have excused him.*

Captain German said that did not liberate him, as he had signed the paper. Mr Lockwood said the man should be informed that their decision was subject to higher authority.

Captain German: *He will be informed.*

Application was made by a Coalville off-licence holder to be excused from drill, but as he had signed, it was pointed out that he was bound by it. Mr Briers said he wished to move that the resolution passed some time ago making it a condition that all men granted two months' exemption and over must drill with the V.T.C. be rescinded. The Tribunal should deal with each case on its merits, as suggested by the Army Council. Mr Lockwood said he thought they were doing that. Mr Briers said men having conditional exemption from any other source than this Tribunal did not have to drill.

Captain German said the Volunteers had become efficient, and might be useful, though they hoped they would not be called upon. The Tribunal should assist the V.T.C. all they could. Mr Brown said it seemed from what had been read out that if the Tribunal excused anyone it still rested with the Army Council. Mr Briers said they could recommend any case to be excused if they were satisfied, and then they would have done their part. Captain German said he believed that if a really good case was made out, and the Tribunal recommended a man be excused, there would be no difficulty about it. Mr Briers said that was all he wanted. After further discussion, it was agreed to let the matter stand, all men having the right of appeal.

Mr B. B. Drewett wrote thanking the Tribunal for their vote of sympathy on the death of his son, Lieutenant H. B. Drewett.

Friday December 14th 1917 (Issue 1345)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Beard, V. E.	(December 8 th)
Bott, H. Private (A Merry Christmas to all)	(December 10 th)
Bradley, T.	(December 3 rd)
Cluley, W. G. Corporal	(December 9 th)
Edwards, J. W. Lance-Corporal	(December 8 th)
Hart, A. Private	(December 6 th)

Iliffe, G. Bdn. (Ibstock)	(December 8 th)
Johnson, A. E. Corporal R.F.A.	(December 5 th)
Williamson, F. J. Lance-Corporal	(December 7 th)
Woolley, V. Corporal	(December 8 th)

Page 2

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The Bagworth Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Parcel Fund now stands at about £108?

Mrs H. H. Gibbs has given 63 framed memorial cards to the nearest relatives of Shepshed soldiers who have given their lives for their country?

Up to December 11th, the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild had sent out to local soldiers 14,692 articles, including 7,514 pairs of socks?

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The committee at Thringstone have succeeded in raising £14/10/7 for Christmas gifts for men from the village serving in the Forces, and postal orders are being sent out this week to about sixty men.

Page 3

THRINGSTONE

SUPPER

A company of about 20, representing the committee and friends, in connection with the recent presentation to Corporal Rennocks, M.M. met at the Rose and Crown on Wednesday night for supper, and afterwards Mr H. G. W. Howe presented the balance sheet of the presentation fund, which was considered very satisfactory.

BAGWORTH

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CHRISTMAS PARCELS

A whist drive and dance was held in connection with the above on Saturday last. The prize-winners were;

Ladies: 1 Mrs Holyoak; 2 Mrs Houghton.
Gents: 1 Mr W. Blockley; 2 Mr Jas. Gowdrige
Mystery: Mrs J. Chiswell.

Skittle competition: 1 and 2 Mr Clarridge; 3 Mr Arthur Tredwell; Ladies prize, Mrs R. Reed, junr. Mr J. C. Williams acted as M.C. for whist, and Mr W. Evans and Mr F. Percival took charge of the skittle competition.

IBSTOCK

The schools have been a considerable help to the Ladies' Patriotic Committee at Ibstock in the matter of knitting comforts for the Christmas parcels for the "boys" of Ibstock. Under Mrs George Thirlby, the girls of the Ibstock Church of England Schools have knitted 42 pairs of socks, eight pairs of mittens, and eight long scarves. Miss Bradbury, of Nailstone School, has supervised the knitting of 14 pairs of khaki socks. The Council (Ibstock) Schools, under Miss Tredinnick's have knitted 32 pairs of socks.

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Lieut. Alexander C. N. March Phillips de Lisle, R.F.C. was killed while flying on November 20th in his 21st year. He volunteered for service at the beginning of the war, and obtained a commission in the Leicester Regiment when he was 17 years old. He went to France in June, 1915 and returned home, having been wounded in a bombing raid at Blenvillers. He was recommended for gallant and distinguished conduct in the

field by his divisional commander. He returned to the Front in June, 1916 and was severely wounded in the neck on July 14th, while leading a bayonet charge in command of his company. In December, he joined the Royal Flying Corps, and gained his wings last July. He went to the Front again in August. His squadron commander writes: *"He is really a most awful loss to the squadron, because he was most awfully popular with everyone, and he was also so very keen and good at his work. He was altogether a most promising pilot."*

Lieutenant de Lisle was the fifth and youngest son of Mr Edwin de Lisle, M.P. for Mid-Leicestershire, 1886-92, and grandson of Mr Adrian E. Hope, and was educated by the Jesuit Fathers and Beaumont College, Old Windsor. Two of his brothers have been invalided during the war – Rudolph, lieutenant R.N. of H.M.S. Invincible, and Lancelot, 60th Royal Rifles. Two other brothers are serving in the Army, one in England and the other in India.

Private John Edgar Kirk, of the Tank Corps, who has been officially reported missing, has written to his friends at Coalville, stating that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. He is quite well, he says, and they are not to worry on his account. He is 21 years of age, and son of Mr Hy. Kirk, of 44, Margaret Street, Coalville, a collier, at the Whitwick pit. Before the war, Pte. Kirk was a blacksmith's striker at Ellistown Colliery, and he went to France in August last.



News has been received that Pte. Clarkson Clark Woodcock, of the Leicesters, was killed in action in France, on November 20th. He was a son of Mrs Woodcock, of 57, Charnwood Street, Coalville and the late Mr Geo. Hy. Woodcock, who was for 22 years, screen driver at the Whitwick Colliery, and whose death occurred on September 20th last. The deceased soldier was 21 years of age, and had been in the Army over three years, joining up in September 1914 as soon as he was 18. He had been in France about 18 months. Prior to enlisting he was learning to be a fitter at Messrs. Wootton Bros. Works. The young soldier had a very genial disposition and was very popular with all his associates. He was an old scholar of the London Road Baptist Sunday School, and one of the most enthusiastic members of the Baptist Cricket Club. He was also a member of the Coalville Men's Adult School and suitable reference was made to the sad event at the school on Sunday, a vote of sympathy with the family being passed. The news was received from the War Office on Friday morning. Only about three weeks ago, deceased wrote home, enclosing the regimental card wishing them all a happy Christmas, and stating that he would probably bring his next letter with him, as he was about to leave. Mrs Woodcock, who is an invalid, having been ill for some time, has another son, Arthur, serving in France. He returned to the Front last July, after being in England 28 weeks through illness..

Corporal Ernest Wm. Capell, son of Mr Wm. John Capell, a clerk at the Whitwick Granite Quarry, residing at 49, Leicester Road, Whitwick has been wounded, and is now in a Lancashire hospital, where he is making satisfactory progress. He was wounded in the right arm by shrapnel, a bullet also going through his wrist. He joined the Leicesters in August, 1914 prior to which he was an assistant to Mr Frank Kemp, grocer, Hotel Street, Coalville. Mr and Mrs Capell have two other sons in the Army, one having recently returned to England from Salonica, after suffering an attack of enteric fever. He is now at York. The other, who has recently joined, is in training at Hull.

Sergeant W. England, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who was recently presented at a public demonstration in the Town Hall, Ashby, with the Military Medal, a gold watch and chain, and a purse, has been seriously wounded in action in France, and is now in hospital. His mother died recently at her home in The Callis, after her son's return to France.

Mr and Mrs J. G. Foston, Shepshed, received information on Saturday that their eldest son, Pte. John Foston, Gloucestershire Regiment, was wounded in action on Sunday, December 2nd, the injuries being to the left ankle, right knee, and right forearm, and that he was now in hospital in France. He had been in France about five months.

Private F. J. W. Spriggs of the Leicestershire Regiment, is in hospital in France suffering from trench fever. He is a son of Mr W. Spriggs, of Vaughan Street, Coalville and before joining up was employed at Messrs. Burgess and Son's elastic web factory. He is making satisfactory progress.

Private H. Chadwick (Ashby) of the Devonshire Regiment, is reported missing.

News has been received that Sapper Fred Hill, of the R.E. has been severely wounded in action, having been struck in the neck by shrapnel, and is now in hospital at Manchester. His wife and child reside at 66, Margaret Street, Coalville and before the war he was a bricklayer in the employ of Mr R. Blower, of Ellistown.

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

On Saturday evening, a whist drive and dance were held in the Holy Cross School in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Parcel Fund. Messrs. T. Sibson and T. Lees were M.C.'s for the dancing, and Messrs. J. Clarke and D. Otter for whist.

Friday December 21st 1917 (Issue 1346)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Bakewell, C. L. Driver	(December 5 th)
Brown, C. E. Corporal	(December 13 th)
Chadwick, Sergeant	(December 13 th)
Cross, W.	(December 13 th)
Hart, Company-Sergeant-Major	(December 13 th)
Johnson, A. E. Corporal	(December 12 th)
Johnson, A. H. Gunner, R.G.A.	(December 12 th)
Lowe, E.	(December 13 th)
Middleton, Tom	(December 13 th)
Upton, F. Driver E.E.F. (A.S.C.)	(November 27 th)
Varnon, Lance-Sergeant	(December 13 th)
Veasey, Sergeant	(December 11 th)
Walker, Lance-Corporal	(December 13 th)
Woolley, T. Corporal	(December 13 th)

ELLISTOWN

PROPOSED WAR MEMORIAL

A public meeting was held in the Church Schools on Monday evening to consider the question of providing a permanent memorial in the parish of Ellistown men who have fallen in the war. The Rev. J. Hayhoe presided. After some discussion as to ways and means, Mr A. Bellamy was elected secretary, and a committee was also appointed to go into the matter, the meeting eventually being adjourned.

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The Belgians at Coalville are glad to express to the inhabitants of Coalville and district, their best wishes for the coming year, and their gratitude to the "Coalville Times" for kindly publishing their greetings and other matters for the last three years.

Second-Lieutenant the Hon W. F. S. McLaren, R.F.C., M.P. for the Spalding Division since 1910, who died on August 13th, while flying at Montrose, younger son of Lord Aberconway, left unsettled estate of the value of £8,381 12s 5d, all of which he leaves to his wife, the Hon. Barbara McLaren, absolutely, and appoints to her all settled funds over which he had power of appointment.

LOCAL NEWS

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

A collection made amongst the Belgians working in Coalville and neighbourhood amounted to £1 7s, which has been sent to the most necessitous of their countrymen who, after living a short time at Broom Leys and Coalville, are going presently to the Front again.

Page 3

MILITARY MEDAL

AWARDED TO MISSING COALVILLE SOLDIER

Pte. E. Harper, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who has been awarded the Military Medal, is a son of John Harper, an employee at Messrs. Burgess and Son's elastic web factory, Belvoir Road, Coalville, where the soldier also worked before joining up. He is 20 years of age, and has been reported missing since October 10th last. Mr Harper's three sons all joined up, one has been killed in action, one reported missing, and the other is serving in England.

HEATHER D.C.M. KILLED



Lance-Corporal Arthur Brooks fell in action during the summer offensive. He was 21 years of age. His mother (a widow) resides at Swepstone Road, Heather. Before enlisting, he was apprentice to the butchering business, with Mr T. Bird, of Heather and Ibstock, and he was a well-known member of the Heather Cricket Club. He was also associated with the Heather Wesleyan Church, and was a promising young man, well-respected by all who knew him. His death is a distinct and personal loss to his many friends. He joined the Colours about two years ago. An extract from the "London Gazette" containing the account of his action in winning the D.C.M. is as follows. *"Lance Corporal A. Brooks, of the Leicester Regiment. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in attacking a hostile bombing party single-handed, killing two and dispersing the remainder. His bombing party were at the time engaged in dealing with a hostile machine gun and team, and he subsequently cleared 150 yds of enemy trench, and gained touch with the troops on his right. He set a very fine example of courage to his*

section."

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mr John Brown, manager of the Coalville Conservative Club has received news that his son, Private John Brown, of the Artist's Rifles, has been wounded, and has reached a London hospital. He is wounded in the left shoulder and right hand, having lost the middle finger. He is a single man, 21 years of age, and before the war was working as a piano polisher in London. He formerly attended the Coalville All Saints' Day School at the time Mr J. H. Massey was the headmaster there. Mr Brown has another son, Private James Brown, of the Yorkshire Light Infantry, who is in hospital at Nottingham, suffering from trench fever. He is 38 years of age, and married, his wife and child residing in Yorkshire, where the soldier formerly was employed on the Leeds and Wakefield Light Railway. He took part in the Cambrai fighting.



News has been received that Pte. H. Webster of the Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action on November 22nd. Writing to his wife who resides at Waterworks Road, Bardon Hill, a chaplain states, *"I am extremely sorry to be the bearer of such sad news. Your husband, Private H. Webster, was killed in action on November 22nd in his billet by a long-range shell. We were some way back behind the line and thought we were well out of danger, yet six of our men were killed. It is very sad after they had come safely through the fighting of the last month or two, that they should have been killed at such a time. Your husband had been writing three letters during the afternoon, and had left them in his pocket*

wallet, which I am sending to you. He was killed about six o'clock in the evening. I only wish I could express how greatly we all feel for you. The whole of "A" Company and quite a number from the other companies were present at the most impressive funeral, with full military honours, on November 23rd. He was buried in a British cemetery close to the graves of other brave men who have given their lives for their country, and home. We, out here, all fully understand how great a share the wives and mothers of England have in the great sacrifice which the country is having to make in ridding the world of evils even worse than death, and winning peace and freedom for the world." The deceased was a brother of Pte. A. Webster, also of Waterworks Road, Bardon Hill, whose death in action was recently reported.



Mr and Mrs George Potter, of Sinope, Ravenstone, have received news that their son, Able-seaman Wm. Potter, of the Royal Naval Division, has been killed in action in France. He was a single man, 23 years of age, and worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery before joining up two years last June. He was on active service at Gallipoli and in the Dardanelles before going to France, where he fell on October 28th. He took part in the Somme battles. His father is a collier employed at the Marquis Pit, Moira. A memorial service for the deceased was held in Ravenstone Parish Church, conducted by a Rector, the Rev. S. Dowling. This brings the total of men from the little village of Ravenstone, who have made the great sacrifice in the war, to 18.

Private W. Findley (Ibstock) of the Leicestershire Regiment is reported wounded.

Private J. Martin (Ellistown) of the Hampshire Regiment, is reported missing, and believed to have been killed.

Sapper W. Tetley (Ashby) of the Royal Engineers, and Private J. S. Batho (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.



Private Samuel Preston, of Ibstock, reported missing 4th October last, now reported to have died of wounds on or about 4th October, 1917. He joined the 1st South Staffords about four months ago, and was aged 23 years. Previous to joining up he worked at Ibstock Colliery, and resided with his brother. He has another brother, John Preston, serving with the Colours.

(A photograph of Private Samuel Preston appears to the left)

Private T. Fox, of the Leicesters, son of Mr T. F. Fox, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, is in hospital in Birmingham, suffering from trench fever. He went to France last February, after having served in Ireland. Before joining up under the Derby scheme, he was a carpenter's apprentice in the employ of Messrs. W. Moss and Sons, builders, Coalville.

Writing to Mr and Mrs W. Saunders, of 26, Bardon Hill, a nurse in a Military Hospital in France states, "I am exceedingly grieved to have to inform you that your son, No. 28784, Pte. Ernest A. Saunders, of the Royal Warwicks, was admitted to hospital on December 12th, suffering from a severe shell wound in the abdomen. He was most collapsed when admitted, and although everything was done for him that could possibly be done, alas of no avail, he passed peacefully away a few hours later at 9.45 pm. He did not leave any message, but I have saved you a lock of his hair, which I now enclose. Later, if you wish to have a photograph of his grave, you should write to the Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries, War Office, Winchester House, St. James' Square, London. With deep sympathy in this, your terrible loss."

Pte. Harold Edwin Ketcher, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, reported missing on June 16th, is now reported to have been killed in action on that date. He was formerly employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co. Coalville, and resided at 31, Oxford Street, Coalville. Two brothers are serving, one in France, and one in Egypt.

Private F. Northcott, of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been wounded in the arm and has reached hospital in England. Before joining up he was employed at the "Coalville Times" office.

ASHBY BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SPEECH DAY

The Headmaster in his report, said there had been changes in the staff. Mr Mertens had left to join the gallant Belgian Army, and Mr Healey and Mr Bull had joined the Garrison Artillery. . . . The Roll of Honour had increased by 50 names, a large number of them boys who had recently left the school. Two old boys of the school recently commanded battalions of the Leicestershire Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel German and Lieutenant-Colonel Bent. The former had been in command of the 2/5th Leicesters practically since its formation, and was now with it in the firing line. Lieutenant-Colonel Bent had a remarkable career, joining the Army as a private, and in little more than two years commanding a battalion at the age of 26, and had received the D.S.O. and a French decoration. He was killed at Polygon Wood in October, when his gallantry and prompt action had saved the day. He has been succeeded in his command of the battalion by Hartshorne, another old Ashbeian. In addition to those whose names are recorded last year, they mourned the loss of Lieutenant Emmerson, Lieutenant Davenport, Lieutenant Mansfield, Lieutenant Musson, who, a short time before his death, had received the Military Cross, and Alec Turner, who was lost at sea in fighting against submarines, whilst Norman Hall was a prisoner of war.

THANKS

Mr and Mrs R. A. Ketcher, and Family, 31, Oxford Street, Coalville wish to thank all those who have expressed sympathy with them in the loss of their son, and brother, Harold Edwin, killed in action.

Mr and Mrs Saunders, of 26, Bardon Hill, desire to tender their sincere thanks to all friends for kind expressions of sympathy with them in their bereavement by the death of their son, Private Ernest A. Saunders, of the Royal Warwicks, who died in hospital in France from wounds received in action on December 12th.

Mr and Mrs G. Potter, of Sinope, Ravenstone, thank most sincerely the many friends who have so kindly expressed sympathy with them in the bereavement sustained by the death of their son, Able-Seaman W. Potter, killed in action in France, on October 28th.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Harry George Webster, the beloved husband of Maud Annie Webster, who was killed by a shell in France, on November 22nd, 1917. Aged 37.

*"Could we have raised his dying head,
Or heard his last farewell.
The grief would not have been so hard,
To those who loved him well.
He bravely answered duty's call;
He gave his life for one and all,
Christ will clasp the broken chain
Closer when we meet again."*

COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay, presiding. There were also present Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, J. Kirby, J. W. Fisher, A. J. Briers, Captain Stevenson, Lieutenant Blower (National Service Representatives), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The cases of the butchers of the district – five in Coalville, and four in Whitwick – again came up for consideration. The chairman said these cases had been before the Tribunal two or three times and he thought they had been sufficiently combed out. There were no more butchers left now than were essential to the needs of the district. The previous exemption was three months and it was decided to allow a further three months. Mr Briers said another Whitwick butcher had lately been called up, and if those who remained

were allowed further exemption, he took it that it would be on condition that they assisted to carry on this man's business. The chairman said they were granted exemption on this understanding. Mr McCarthy said one of the butchers had told him that he would lose £10 this week owing to the high price of cattle.

Three months were allowed a waggoner on the Whitwick Colliery Co.'s farm, who is 30 years of age, married and in Grade 3.

Mr C. E. Crane, represented a Coalville chemist in an appeal for a dispenser and assistant, married, and passed B1, formerly C3. It was stated to be a reserved occupation, and conditional exemption was allowed.

Page 4

ASHBY

MILITARY FUNERAL

Private E. J. Jarvis, of the Royal Engineers, aged 19, the son of Mr and Mrs J. Jarvis, Avenue Road, died at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, on Thursday last week, following operations after being wounded in action. The body was brought to Ashby for internment, and was met by a party of wounded soldiers and escorted to the Parish Church, where the funeral service was conducted by the vicar, the Rev. R. E. Sawyer. A firing party and bearer party were provided by the No. 5 Platoon of the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Volunteer Regiment. The wounded soldiers and the Boy Scouts also attended. Volleys were fired over the grave, and the 'Last Post' sounded.

Friday December 28th 1917 (Issue 1347)

Page 1

"I AM QUITE WELL"

FIELD CARDS FROM LOCAL SOLDIERS

During the week field cards have been received by us from the undermentioned local soldiers on service.

Beard, Victor Ewart, (A prosperous New Year)	(December 20 th)
Bradford, W. E. Sergeant	(December 21 st)
Edwards, J. W. L-Corpl. (A Happy New Year to All)	(December 23 rd)
Glithero, E. Signaller	(December 18 th)
Harris, E. H. Private	(December 18 th)
Hart, Private	(December 17 th)
Johnson, A. E. Corporal	(December 18 th)
Jones, S. G. Sergeant	(December 21 st)
Meyers, C. S.	(December 22 nd)
Nixon, B. E. Signaller	(December 18 th)
Tansey, F. Corporal	(December 15 th)
Thompson, Chas. Hy.	(December 16 th)
Wardle, Alec J. (A Happy New Year to All)	(December 21 st)
Widdowson, G. Sergeant	(December 21 st)
Wilkes, Wm.	(December 23 rd)

Page 2

LOCAL CHIT CHAT

Arrangements are being made for a public presentation of the 1914 Star of Mons Medal to men of the Leicestershire Regiment, who served in France or Belgium with the first Expeditionary Force and who are now invalided from the Army. The Duke of Rutland has promised to make the presentation.

Mr W. A. Brockington, Director of Education for Leicestershire, on Saturday unveiled a war shrine, at Quorn, to the memory of 48 local men who have fallen in the war. The shrine is fixed on the roadside, and bears the words, *"For Truth and Honour, for Justice and Freedom."*

The soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital had a splendid Christmas. The committee made excellent arrangements and, thanks to the efforts of Mr L. L. Baldwin, there was a capital response to his public appeal for contributions for the Christmas dinner. The soldiers had a fine spread and afterwards indulged in games, being also entertained by Mr Fred Emerton and others. Several of the soldiers whom we have met were most enthusiastic in their praises of the hospital management and all who had in any way contributed to the success of the day. They say they have never had a better Christmas and will not forget it for many a long day.

Private G. H. Taylor, writes from Dover sending his heartiest greetings for the New Year to all Coalville residents. He hopes that the fight for freedom, home and the motherland will soon be won, and that there will in the coming year be a joyful homecoming. This is the wish of us all.

V.A.D. HOSPITAL

A first-class concert was given at Broom Leys on Wednesday evening of last week by Miss Nora Burkitt (Whitwick) and friends, and the number of encores testified to the appreciation of the audience. The chairman was Gunner J. F. Kellow, who also contributed two songs. An amusing comedy, "Tubby and Gawks" was given by the Misses Wilson, Wynne, Robinson and Burkitt; capital songs were given by Mrs J. C. Briggs, and Miss E. Robinson, who also gave a pretty dance with her sister. Miss Wynne contributed a song, and a humorous song and musical sketch were given by Mr F. T. Bellward. Miss Burkitt was the accompanist. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the artistes at the close.

Page 3

LOCAL CASUALTIES

Mrs Smith, of Spring Lane, Swannington, has received a card from her husband, Company-Sergeant Major Wm. Smith, of the Yorkshire Regiment, stating that he is a prisoner of war at Limburg, Germany. He has been reported missing since November 23rd. In notifying the latter fact, an officer wrote to Mrs Smith, stating, *"There is every reason to believe that he was taken prisoner during a very brilliant and successful attack, and that he is quite uninjured. If I can get any definite news, I will let you know immediately."* The card which Mrs Smith has just received from her husband is dated November 26th, and conveys no information except that he is a prisoner. Company-Sergeant-Major Smith is 26 years of age and before the war worked at the Ellistown Colliery. His parents reside at St. John's Terrace, Hugglescote.

Private J. Glover (Ravenstone) and Private C. Shaw (Coalville) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

Mr and Mrs J. Preston, of Kirkby Mallory, have been notified that their son, Private E. Preston, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, was posted as missing on October 26th last. He is 29 years of age.

Private A. E. Knifton (Coalville) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded.

Mrs Webster, of The Callis, Ashby, has been officially informed that her husband, Pte. L. Webster, has been killed in action in France. As far back as September, 1916 he was reported missing.

Mr and Mrs James Hall, of 86, Belvoir Road, Coalville, on Monday received a letter from a captain in the Leicesters relating to the death of their only son, Lance-Corporal James Horace Hall, killed in action on October 15th. After apologising for delay in writing, the captain says that Hall was killed about 6.30 on the morning of October 15th, when they were just issuing the rum ration to their men. The letter continues, *"I, with two other officers, my sergeant-major, two or three sergeants and your son were standing in a bunch round a dug-out doorway when suddenly, without any warning, a light shell, commonly known as a "Whizz-bang" hit the top of our trench. When the smoke had cleared, I saw that one man had been hit, and to my profound regret, saw that it was your son. A large piece of shell case hit him in the back of the head and killed him instantly. There was nothing we could do. The stretcher-bearers were a few yards away, but the poor fellow was gone. That is one thing we can be thankful for. He knew nothing about it, and let us hope that now his*

soul is enjoying the rest it deserves. I know what your grief must be to lose such a fine son. You cannot imagine, perhaps, so easily, the pain it causes me to lose men, especially those of your son's stamp. He was one of the best type of soldier we ever get – clean, smart, devoted to his duties, brave, and very popular with his officers and comrades. Quite recently, I had persuaded him to accept a lance-stripe, and I hoped in time to have a very useful N.C.O. in him. But, alas! It was not to be. He is at rest, at peace with all; it is only us who are left behind, who suffer for him. He was given a decent Christian burial in a recognised cemetery, and one day you will be able to look at his grave.” Lance-Corporal Hall was 22 years of age, and before the war worked for Messrs. Stableford and Co. Coalville, by whom his father is also employed. He was connected with the Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, and was one of Mr T. Frith's old boys.

News has been received that Private Alfred Wm. Preston, an Ibstock soldier, was killed in action on September 16th, 1917. He was 26 years of age.

Official information has been received that Private G. Bradbury, 7th Leicesters, has been killed in action (or died of wounds) in France. He leaves a widow and one child, who reside at Ashby.

ASHBY

A SOLDIER'S THANKS

Private J. J. Kerby, of the Machine Gun Corps, B.E.F. acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a Christmas parcel from the people of Ashby.

Page 4

HUGGLESCOTE MAN IN AN ALPINE VILLAGE

ITALIAN GIRLS THROW FLOWERS TO BRITISH SOLDIERS

Rifleman, Walter Dean, of the King's Royal Rifles, writing to his parents, Mr and Mrs S. Dean, of North Street, Hugglescote, states, *“We are now in camp in an alpine village which lies in a natural basin surrounded by mountains. It is a place of great natural beauty and miles away from the front line. The nights are very cold, but the weather is glorious during the day. We are in camp but are quite warm while sleeping, as there are enough of us in a tent to keep each other warm and, of course, we have a good supply of blankets. We have special winter clothing for day time, and I really think there will be no cause for complaint on that account. . . . The journey down was absolutely the most interesting I have ever made. We travelled in covered trucks, and the journey lasted five days. The scenery all the way was interesting, but as we approached Marseilles, and afterwards, it was magnificent. We ran right through the Riviera, both French and Italian, including Monte Carlo, and one can quite understand the attraction and fame of these places, which is fully deserved. For miles the line runs along the seashore, and the waters are really blue. On the other side are mountains, valleys, beautiful palace-like buildings, cream in colour, with quaint red roofs and towers perched in almost inaccessible places, orange, lemon and other fruit trees in full crop, an abundance of flowers of every shade and colour, and other things too numerous to mention. I think the people who can enjoy this sort of thing at their leisure are indeed to be envied. At the first Italian town we got to we paraded through the place. The inhabitants showed great jubilation at our presence, and the female portion strewed flowers on us from the upper windows.”*

Before the war, Rifleman Dean was working in Canada, and after coming to England, tried to join the Canadian Forces, but was drafted to his present regiment.

NAILSTONE

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

A whist drive and dance held at the Nailstone Council School recently proved highly successful, the room being crowded on both occasions. The prize-winners were:

Ladies: Mrs Pickworth and Miss Pickworth.

Gentlemen: Messrs Heath, Holmes, H. Tyers, and A. Boulstridge.

The amount realised was £30/7/11 ½ of which £7 is to be devoted to the Prisoner of War Fund, and the rest for the Christmas presents for the local soldiers and sailors, and the provision of wool for knitting comforts.

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S CAPTURE

WHAT THE GERMANS AT THE FRONT ARE TOLD

Private William Whitehurst, of the Leicesters, son of Mr Wm. Whitehurst, railwayman, residing in Gutteridge Street, Coalville, has sent home to his parents a few war relics given to him by a German soldier who has been taken prisoner. These included a copy of a small German paper, which, an accompanying note stated, was entitled, "The Messenger from Home" and was printed especially for circulation among the German soldiers at the Front. A translation shows that one of the articles deals with German shipbuilding, stating that Germany is building sufficient ships to enable them to rule the world. Another article states that all ships are prevented from reaching this country, and that England is starving. The U-boats are going to finish England off altogether. Other articles are on religious subjects, and the story is also given of a former war, when German prisoners were alleged to have been kept in Russia for two years.

SWANNINGTON

SOLDIER'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Swannington Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Presents Committee have sent gifts, including a 10s note in each, to 104 men from the village serving in the Forces. At a recent meeting, the balance sheet was submitted, showing that with a balance of £9/2/5 ½ from the previous year, the total income was £63 16s 11 ½ d. which included £32 18s 8 ½ d in donations, £11 17s from a concert, and £7 13s 1 ¼ d from a flower and vegetable show. After dispatching the gifts, and paying expenses, a balance of £2 14s 9 ½ d remained in hand. Several letters were received from the grateful recipients. Hearty thanks were accorded Mr W. F. Durant and Lieut. W. Baldwin for their splendid work in connection with the fund as secretaries.