

## **Friday January 5<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1296)**

### **Local News**

#### **Tea and Social**

A tea and social were held in the Baptist School on Saturday, a good number attending. Songs were given by Misses. B. Watson (Hugglescote) and G. Mann (Whitwick). Messrs. Winters and Massey (Coalville), and games were indulged in. The proceeds were for the renovation fund.

#### **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).

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.

#### **Coalville Urban District Council**

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

#### *Highway Committee's Report*

The Whitwick Colliery Co. wrote that it was their intention to plough up the Park at Broom Leys and plant some with cereals, and they proposed to alter the line of the footpath running through the Park and asked the Council to remove the gate to another position and the Committee recommend that no objection be raised subject to the clerk being satisfied that same night be legally carried out.

#### *Whitwick Lodgers*

The surveyor reported that 649 persons were accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses in December, and the houses were found in a satisfactory condition on inspection. The total for the year was 7,444 – 6,823 males, 617 females and 4 children – against 8,028 in the previous year.

#### **Round the Theatres**

##### ***The Picture House, Whitwick***

There have been some good houses here again this week, and the pictures are up to the usual standard. "The Bubbles in the Glass" was a good 3-act drama at the commencement of the week. After squandering a fortune the young man decided to end his life instead of facing poverty. In his last drink of champagne he sees visions of the folly of living as he has lived. – "Avenged by Lions" was a good Horsely Comedy; and others were good. – For the week-end "Youth's Conscience" must be seen. It is a 3-part Blue Diamond of exceptional merit. "Skirts and Cinders," too, is a Lubin drama, which is very funny. – Next week's see advertisement.

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

#### **Burials**

Moore – At Whitwick, on Saturday. John Moore, aged 35, of Silver Street.

Lakin – At Whitwick, on Monday, John Lakin, aged 54 years, who died in the Nottingham Hospital.

### **Friday January 12<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1297)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Whitwick to Produce More Food**

*Allotment Holders' Association Formed*

*Successful Public Meeting*

A public meeting was held in the Church Schools at Whitwick, on Saturday evening, in connection with the Government scheme for producing more food. Mr M. McCarthy, C.C. presided, and there was a good attendance.

The chairman said they were really there in answer to the call of the Government, and it was a very important call indeed. Agricultural War Committees were being formed in every county in England, and he was on the committee formed for Leicestershire. From a meeting of that committee in December, circulars were sent to every urban and parish council in the county, pointing out the importance of producing more food from the land, and urging that meetings be called to stimulate public interest in the matter, and also to ascertain what amount of seed potatoes would be required, the Government having arranged for a national distribution. The varieties should be somewhat limited as the potato crop had been a failure in Scotland. Another matter referred to in the Government circulars was the keeping of pigs, which, it was desired, should be revived on a larger scale. The Coalville Urban Council had somewhat relaxed their by-laws so that they need not anticipate any difficulty on that score, and they could keep pigs now nearer to their dwellings than hitherto. There was no objection to keeping pigs if only they kept them clean. He always considered that the keeping of a pig was a workingman's saving bank, and when he had killed his pig, and salted it, what two nice pictures it made hanging up in his home (hear, hear). While farmers were asked to grow more oats and wheat, cottages were urged to grow more potatoes and vegetables, and also to keep pigs and poultry. He

understood that a Smallholders' Association had been formed at Whitwick, and that some grass land had been taken. That would need to be ploughed up, and he promised them that his son should plough one acre for them. Perhaps he would do a little more if they got the right side of him (laughter). In the last 40 years, four million acres of land which used to be under plough in England had been put down to grass. In England at the present time 41 per cent of the farm land was arable, and 59 per cent grass, whereas in Germany 75 per cent of the farms were arable, and 25 grass. Also in Germany, 90 per cent of the farmers were owners of the soil they cultivated; in England only 10 per cent were owners, and 90 per cent paid rent. If a man owned the land he cultivated he was much more likely to make the best of it than if he paid rent. He pointed out that as a result of the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846, wheat became so cheap it was sold for 20s a quarter, that it did not pay farmers to grow wheat. Anybody could live in England but the farmer, but they were finding out now how much they depended on the farmer. In Leicestershire, they had 500,000 acres and only 96,000 under the plough. Between 1871 and 1911, 67 per cent of the agricultural population of England migrated to the towns, but they must now alter that. If they could increase the production of food to the value of a million sterling a year, that would all be new wealth. They must see that every foot of garden was cultivated and food grown, not flowers. The main object of that meeting was to form a committee of workers. They had to take the parish of Whitwick street by street, house by house, urging the people to cultivate their gardens and ascertain what seed potatoes were required.

Mr J. Clarke stated that they had started an Allotment holders' and Smallholders' Association for Whitwick, and already had 120 members. He hoped more would join. They were negotiating for three fields and they would do their best to get the land cultivated. The Coalville Council wanted particulars by the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. of the amount of seed potatoes required at Whitwick, and they would endeavour to complete the same.

Mr I. Thorpe said the war had done a good thing for the people of Whitwick, if it was only to remove the restrictions of the Coalville Council on keeping pigs. The chairman pointed out that the Coalville Council did not make the laws; they had to administer them. But the laws had now been relaxed.

Mr Berrington asked whether the laws would be enforced again in two or three years' time. If so, any expense incurred in building pig-styes would be thrown away. The chairman said they could not say who would be on the Council in three or four years' time, but no doubt if the pigs were kept clean, there would be some latitude. Mr Kelly said that in 9 cases out of 10 when the Council stopped pig-keeping, it was because neighbours complained of the nuisance. If the pigs were kept clean, it was alright. Mr Berrington moved a vote of thanks to the chairman which was seconded by Mr Thorpe and supported by Mr H. G. W. Howe, who said it never ought to have been left to a war to show the importance of agriculture. They were starting to do now what they ought to have done years ago.

The resolution having been carried, Mr McCarthy said he had lived in Whitwick for 47 years and it had always been a pleasure to do anything he could in the public interest. He was born on a farm and brought up on one in Ireland, and his brother was farming now where their family could be traced without a break for the last 700 years.

Mr Anthony Needham took the chair after Mr McCarthy had left and the parish was divided into districts and person appointed to make a house-to-house visitation to ascertain the amount of seed potatoes that would be required.

## Coalville Tribunal

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 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 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### ***The Picture House, Whitwick***

The Picture House has been well-patronised again this week, and the pictures are again of an excellent standard. A 3-reel Thanhouser at the beginning of the week, and a good one, was "His Majesty the Baby." Where the Crown Princess (Helen Badgley) galloped away on horseback with her baby brother in her arms when his enemies had come to slay him, was a very plucky act, and pleased the audiences. – "The Winning Punch" was a screamer, and caused much laughter. – Others were good. – For the week-end "Her Hidden Past" must not be missed. It is a powerful drama in 5 acts with a real gripping story. "Killing Time" is a fine Chaplin picture, and there is some fun in this. – Others are good. – Next week's, see advertisement.

### **Friday January 19<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1298)**

#### **Local News**

At the Whitwick Parish church during the year 1916, there were 68 baptisms, and 13 marriages, and 9 members of the congregation were confirmed. In connection with the church, the number of burials was 25.

A whist drive and dance were held in the Holy Cross Schools on Wednesday evening in connection with the Whitwick and Thringstone V.T.C., there being a good attendance. The M.C.'s for dancing were Messrs. J. H. McCarthy, and B. McCarthy, and for the whist drive, Messrs. M. P. Downes and W. T. Dickens. The following were the prize-winners.

Ladies: 1. Miss F. Needham 173; 2. Miss M. Turner 170; mystery, Mrs Dickens.  
Gents: 1. Mr W. Burton 177; 2. Mr J. Chambers; mystery, Mr B. Rady.

#### **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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 1915, Roberts was reported at the military hospital at Glen Parva. He was detained under observation until October 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 1915, till June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1916, and on June 17<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **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.

### **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. 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 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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *Drunk*

Raynor Bird (28), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. P.C. Jones proved the case in the absence of the defendant who was fined 12s or 14 days.

#### *Whitwick Girl's Theft*

Florence Quemby (17), single, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing a gold ring, and pair of gloves at Whitwick, on December 31<sup>st</sup>. She pleaded guilty.

P.C. Jelley said that in consequence of a report by Mrs Sarah Wardle, of Leicester Road, Whitwick, he saw the defendant, and cautioned her. Defendant replied, "I did take the gloves, and I gave them Mrs Wardle this morning." She denied having stolen the ring. Later defendant said she went to work at Mrs Wardle's and cleaned two floors. Mrs Wardle left the house, and she took the ring and gloves from a drawer. She threw the ring into the brook, and witness had been unable to recover it.

Defendant said that was correct. She threw the ring into the brook because she had told Mrs Wardle a story about it. The girl's mother said that was the first time her daughter had given her any trouble. She said she was very sorry, and also (the mother) hoped the Bench would be lenient, as she had nine children.

P.C. Jelley, re-called, said he had ascertained that articles were missed at another place where the girl worked, and she had admitted taking them. The chairman said the Bench did not wish to record a conviction against the girl, who was cautioned, and bound over in the sum of £5 for 12 months. The parents were ordered to pay £1 2s costs.

#### *A Whitwick Application*

Mr C. E. Crane, solicitor, Coalville, appeared on behalf of Thomas Ottey, collier, Silver Street, Whitwick, for the custody of a little boy named Holt. He explained that nearly eight years ago, the mother of the boy, Clara Holt, obtained an order in that court against the father for the boy's maintenance. The mother subsequently died, and in June, 1915, Mrs

Elizabeth Ottey, an elderly lady of Whitwick, was granted the custody of the child. Mrs Ottey was now dead, and the present application by Thomas Ottey was for a similar order granted to Mrs Elizabeth Ottey. He (Mr Crane) had seen the boy that morning, and there was no doubt that he was being well looked after. He had also received letters from the vicar of Whitwick, and Mr H. T. Bastard (schoolmaster), stating that the boy regularly attended Sunday and day schools, and was always kept neat and tidy. The applicant had really had charge of the child for some time.

The boy, a bright-looking little fellow of nearly eight years, was then called into the Court, for the magistrates to see him, and it was remarked that he looked well. Thomas Ottey, the applicant, formerly gave evidence on oath and said he was willing to look after the boy.

Answering the clerk as to the relationship, Mr Ottey said his father and the boy's mother's father were brothers. The application was granted.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### ***The Picture House, Whitwick***

At the beginning of the week there was an exceptionally powerful 3-act drama, entitled "Their Last Performance." It showed the sacrifices of a girl who was mis-understood, but eventually came into her own. "Never lie to your Wife" a fine Nestor comedy, was also appreciated. – For the week-end the "star" picture is "Money Talks." How the talk is governed by the amount of money and who has it, is just as cleverly pictured in this film, wherein she sees how Society fawns upon the prosperous man, but spurns him ungratefully when wealth has flown away. – Others are good. – See advertisement for next week's list.

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

#### **Aged Collier's Death**

The death occurred on Friday morning, of Mr Robert Wm. Davenport, of 68, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, who was 71 years of age, and had worked at the Whitwick Colliery for about 40 years. Returning from his work at the pit on the previous Saturday, he fell, injuring himself. He was able to resume work, however, up till Wednesday night, and on the following morning he became ill and was attended by Dr. Dunkin, of Coalville, who attributed his death to bronchitis. The facts were reported by the police to Mr T. J. Webb, deputy coroner, who did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest. The deceased leaves two daughters and two sons, one of the latter being a prisoner of war in Germany.

#### **Burials**

Davenport – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Robert Wm. Davenport, aged 70 years, of Hermitage Road.

Johnson – At Whitwick, on Monday, Joseph Johnson, aged 57 years, of Hermitage Road.

### **Friday January 26<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1299)**

## **Local News**

### **Situations Vacant**

Young general wanted – Age about 14. Apply Mrs H. Stinson, Market Place, Whitwick.

### **Do You Know That**

The annual whist drive and dance for Leicester Royal Infirmary takes place at Holy Cross Schools, Whitwick, on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>?

### **Lady's Experience in China**

At the Whitwick Wesleyan Church on Wednesday evening, Miss Rogers gave an interesting lecture dealing with her eleven years' experience in China. Mr T. Frith, of Coalville, presided, and solos were nicely rendered by Miss Mann. The proceeds were for the Red Cross funds.

### **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.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

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.

A Whitwick licensed victualler, aged 41, married, with one child, in his appeal, stated that he was formerly a chageman 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.

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.

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

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.

## **Round the Theatres**

### ***The Picture House, Whitwick***

The Picture House has another good programme this week, and the "star" at the commencement of the week was "Ambition" the story of a man who sacrificed everything and everybody to gratify his ambition, but the result was not very gratifying. – Others were a strong lot, and all were much enjoyed. – For the week-end and the chief picture should not be missed. This is "The Broken Law" featuring Wm. Farnum, and is a romantic story of gipsy life. – Charlie Chaplin in "The Fatal Lantern" is a champion comedy which will please, and others must be seen. – Next week's list see advertisement.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **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 13<sup>th</sup>, 1916. 44, Green Lane, Whitwick.

## **Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1300)**

### **Local News**

The annual dance and whist drive in aid of the funds of the Leicester Royal Infirmary was held at the Holy Cross Schools, Whitwick, on Wednesday evening, when there was a large attendance. Messrs. Swift and L. McCarthy acted as MC's for the dance, the music for which was provided by Messrs. G. Wright, J. Popple and W. Essex, of Coalville. The MC's for whist were, Messrs. W. Dickens, and M. Downes, and the winners were:

Ladies: 1, Miss Smith; 2, Mrs H. Briers.

Gents: 1, Mr Harper; 2, Mr Mell.

### **Bible Class Effort**

A successful tea and social was held on Saturday last under the auspices of the Bible Class at Whitwick Baptist School, when over 100 persons sat down to an excellent spread, part of which was given by the young people. The tables were tastefully decorated with flowers, etc, and the visitors expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the young people, this being their first attempt. After tea, the social commenced, the first part consisting of a musical programme in which the following items were given: Pianoforte duet, Misses Gladys and Vera Bourne; song, Miss G. Mann; humorous recitation, Mr A. Carter; song, Miss C. B. Leech; humorous song, Mr C. Massey; pianoforte duet, Misses G. Bourne and May Geary; recitation, Mr A. Carter; humorous song, Mr G. Massey. The second part consisted of games, in which both old and young took part. Mr O. Geary, the teacher of the Bible Class, presided. The effort has made towards the reduction of the church debt, and a sum of £3/9/- has been handed over for the purpose.

### **Whitwick Colliery Delegates**

Of nine candidates of Whitwick Colliery No. 3 Lodge for two seats on the council of the Leicestershire Miners' Association, Mr Arthur Hinds headed the voting with 125, and Mr Wm. Glover was second with 90 votes. Mr Glover replaces Mr George Jarvis, who has been a member of the council for a year.

### **Whitwick Liberal Club**

#### *Shareholders' Annual Meeting*

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the shareholders of the Whitwick Liberal Club was held at the club on Monday evening, Mr A. Needham presiding.

The Directors' annual report stated, "*The directors recommend that a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent, be paid for the year. The year's working having been more successful than the previous year, the members committee having discharged their rent liability, the directors are enabled to pay the dividend suggested. The directors recommend that the sum of £2/2/- be paid for their services during the past year, and that the secretary receive £1/10/- for his services. The retiring directors are Messrs. H. Allgood, F. Sheen, T. Twigg, and F. Harper, but they are eligible for re-election. The auditors, Messrs. A. G. Ottey and J. T. Briers, also retire, but are eligible for re-election.*"

*The report and balance sheet were adopted, and the retiring directors and auditors were re-elected. Mr T. Kelly was unanimously re-elected secretary. The directors and officials were heartily complimented on the way the club had been managed during the year, and on the motion of Father O'Reilly, seconded by Mr W. Adams, a vote of thanks was also accorded the secretary and chairman."*

## **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. Botrill, 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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."*

### **Local Chit Chat**

Mr Harry G. Perry, son of Mr S. Perry of Silver Street, Whitwick (a former district councillor) is a candidate for the office of Mayor of Prince George, Canada, to which place he emigrated about eight years ago, successfully establishing himself in business there as a tailor. Mr Perry, who is 28 years of age, was at Whitwick associated with the Liberal Club, and a zealous member of the Debating Society and the Institute, also of the Coalville Debating Society.

In his "platform" he advocates economy of administration, reduction of salaries, no costly patronage system in purchases of labour, none but efficient workers on public services, erection of city hall, better street lighting, extension of water and lighting services, a railway station worthy of the city, lower insurance rates, eight hours' day on construction work, and municipal ownership of sound ventures only. The candidate's brother, Sergeant Samuel Perry, is soldiering with the Leicestershire Regiment, and recently was home on leave from France.

### **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.

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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr H. J. Ford, and Mr W. Lindley.

*Adjourned*

George Prickett (31), carter, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting his wife and children at Whitwick. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) for the complainant, asked for the case to be adjourned for a month, defendant having promised to look after his wife and children. The case was adjourned accordingly.

## *Damage to a Wall*

James Cufflin (16), Wm. Bunce, jnr (15), Joseph Roulstone (15) and Samuel Clarke, jnr (15), all pit boys, of Whitwick, were summoned by Trevor Pratt, gamekeeper for wilful damage to a wall at Whitwick on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Only Cufflin appeared, and he pleaded not guilty.

Pratt said he saw the defendants get over a wall on a Sunday morning and they knocked stones off. The wall belonged to Mr De Lisle, and the damage was about 4/-. Each defendant was fined 7/6, and 1/- damage.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There have been good "houses" at Whitwick Theatre this week again, and "The Twins Captive" at the beginning of the week was an exciting three act drama of the first order. It was much appreciated. – "Gaby's Gasoline Glides" was a humorous piece, which caused much laughter. – For the week-end, "The Alster Case" is a baffling detective drama, in five acts, taken from the thrilling novel by Rufus Gilmore. It will no doubt be watched with keen interest during the week-end. – Next week, amongst others is "The Girl who Loved a Soldier" (week-end 'star') in which the famous Vesta Tilley is the "star". This should be borne in mind. The full story will appear in our next issue. – See advertisements.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Death of the Oldest Resident**

The death has occurred of Whitwick's oldest resident, Mr Wm. Webster, who was 94 years of age, and has resided for some years at what was known as Tower House. The funeral took place at the old Catholic Churchyard on Friday.

### **Burials**

Webster – At the old Catholic Churchyard, Whitwick, on Friday. William Webster, aged 94 years, of Tower House.

## **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1301)**

### **Local News**

It is interesting to learn that Mr Harry G. Perry, formerly of Whitwick, has been elected Mayor of Prince George, Canada. The election took place on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and he was elected by a majority. The new mayor, who is 28 years of age, emigrated to Canada about 8 years ago, and successfully established himself in business in the town of Prince George as a tailor. He is the son of Mr S. Perry, tailor, of Silver Street, Whitwick, a former member of the Coalville Urban Council.

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.

### **Colliery Accident**

An accident happened at the Whitwick No. 3 pit on Monday morning, a miner named Wm. Davis, being injured by a fall of stone whilst at work in a stall. The stone fell on his legs, and Davis had to be conveyed in the colliery ambulance carriage to his home at Highfields, Snibston, and medical aid procured.

### **Accident**

A well-known resident of Whitwick, Mr Wm. Stinson, of Sharpley House, had a mishap on Wednesday. He was thawing a pipe, when the ladder slipped from under him and he was hurt and scalded, the ladder going through the window. Mr Stinson was attended by Dr. Rolleston, and is going on alright.

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> to put his affairs in order.

### **Military Wedding at Whitwick**

#### *Miss Maud Wheeldon and Quartermaster-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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 tea cloth.  
Miss B. Allen (Whitwick) afternoon tea cloth, 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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House patrons are well catered for this week again, and much appreciation has been evinced. "The Love of Loti Sau" was a good one at the beginning of the week; others being good. – For the week-end Vesta Tilley in "The Girl who loves a Soldier" is extra. In the part of Vesta Beaumont there is a true womanliness that gives us a fresh insight into her delightful nature, and when in the later scenes she impersonates her lover, Chris Barker, the soldier hero, we know why she has had such a wonderful power over us these many years. Her walk, her features, her ready wit and heart of gold prove to us that Miss Vesta Tilley is incomparable. There is only one Vesta. "Here's jolly good luck to the idol of the British nation, and the boy' who never grew up." See advertisement for next week's list.

### **Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1302)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Chapel Anniversary**

In connection with the anniversary of the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel, the Rev. W. J. Bush, of Leicester, formerly of Measham, paid a visit on Saturday, and preached to a good congregation in the afternoon. A sandwich tea followed, which was well attended, and in the evening, the rev. gentleman gave an interesting lecture entitled, "The Christian Church – its Purpose, Peril and Power". Mr J. W. Eagles presided. On Sunday, Mr W. E. Mawby, of Leicester, was the preacher, and there were good congregations. The collections for the Trust Fund realised about £8/8/0.

## **Patriotic Whist Drive**

The members of the Mounted Section of the Coalville Company of Volunteers, organised a successful whist drive in the Holy Cross School, Whitwick, on Friday evening in aid of the funds of the Coalville V.A.D. War Hospital. A large company was present. The M.C.'s for dancing were Mr L. McCarthy and Mr A. Swift, and for the whist drive, Mr M. P. Downes. The Belvoir Orchestra (Coalville), provided an excellent programme of music, which the dancers much enjoyed. The winners of the whist prizes were:

Ladies: 1, Miss Newton (matron of the hospital) 175; 2, Miss Gray (Coalville); 3, Mrs Briers (Whitwick).

Gents: 1, Mr J. R. Tebbett (Coalville) 183; 2, Mr E. A. Saunders 181; 3, Mr J. Williams 173.

The company included a good number of the convalescent soldiers from Broom Leys Hospital, and they had a very hearty reception. Mr Chas. McKenna, of Nailstone, gave a pig for a prize drawing, and the winning number was 4594, held by Mr Brooks, of Agar Nook.

## **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), and Mr J. W. West.

### *Applications*

An application to proceed for the recovery of a tenement from the occupancy of John Bakewell, bricklayer, Whitwick, was made by George Hy. Hewes, house agent, of Ravenstone. Defendant said he could not get a house. The clerk said he could go into that when the case was decided a fortnight hence. Leave to proceed was granted.

### *School Cases*

The following were summoned for not sending their children regularly to school:-

Mary Wardle (38), married, of Whitwick, 4/- or seven days.

John W. Allen (39), collier, Whitwick, 4/- or seven days.

Phoebe Armstead (38), married, of Whitwick, 4/- or seven days.

Annie E. Wright (34), married, of Whitwick, 4/- or seven days.

### *Cyclists' Offences*

Thomas Chambers (15) pit boy, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a rear light at Coalville on January 27<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Bursnall gave the facts, and a fine of 5/6 or seven days was imposed.

### *Whitwick Colliers' Fined*

Wm. Winfield (48), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on January 27<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Jelley stated the facts and the defendant, who did not appear, was fined 15/- or 14 days.

Thomas Hurst, senr, (58), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for indecent conduct at Whitwick, on January 25<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty and expressed sorrow. P.C. Jelley said it was broad daylight and he had complaints. Fined 7/6 or seven days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There is another fine list of pictures at the Whitwick Picture House this week, and the theatre is well worth patronising, the pictures and screening being good, the theatre nice and warm and comfortable, and, in fact, nothing is left undone which will add to the comfort of visitors. – At the beginning of the week, “The Greater Courage” was a good drama by the Essanay Company, and was in 3 parts. This was much enjoyed by good audiences. – Episode 2 of “Liberty” (“Riding with Death”) was also a good part of this excellent serial. – Others were also watched with evident interest. During the week-end, amongst others showing is “In the Palace of a King” which is a thrilling story of Royal plots and Court intrigues, and is adapted from the famous novel by F. Marion Crawford, in five acts. One of the best. – It must be seen. – Another excellent list of films is announced for next week, and full particulars may be seen in our advertisement columns.

### **Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1303)**

#### **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 52<sup>nd</sup> Foot (Oxfords), and subsequently the 53<sup>rd</sup> Foot, the 1<sup>st</sup> Shropshires, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 85<sup>th</sup> (Bucks), the Berks' Militia, and finally the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

#### **Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School**

In connection with this Sunday School at Whitwick, the house-to-house collection in aid of the National Children's Home realised the sum of £1 4s 8d.

#### **P.M. Shrovetide Effort**

Whitwick Primitive Methodists made their usual Shrovetide effort which was a great success. A former minister of the circuit, the Rev. Tyler Tyers, of Haworth, paid a visit, and preached to good congregations on Sunday. In the afternoon, he addressed a young people's service, presided over by Mr A. J. Briers, at which there were solos and duets by Misses L. Evans and I. Anderson of Coalville. In the evening the Coalville P.M. Quartette Party – Messrs. F. Clay, W. Law, H. Toon, and W. J. Newbury – sang selections. On

Monday evening, when Mr J. R. Bennett, of Coalville, presided, the Rev. Tyler Tyers gave an interesting lecture on "Mark Tapley, always Jolly".

On Tuesday a public tea was held, the trays at which were given by various ladies, and a public meeting was held in the evening, at which Mr J. T. Ward, of Hugglescote, presided, and addresses were given by the Rev. T. Tyers, T. J. Martin, and J. A. Wales. All the gatherings were well attended, and the effort is expected to prove one of the most successful yet held.

### **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.

### **Accident**

A girl named Elsie Lovett, of Whitwick, while at work at a boot factory at Shepshed, on Saturday, had the misfortune to have three of her fingers taken off by a machine.

### **Parish Church Effort**

The annual Shrovetide tea and social in the National School in aid of the Parish Church Funds, on Tuesday, was a great success. A ham and tongue tea was well attended, and there was a large company for the whist drive and social. Mr George Wright of Coalville played for dancing, and Mr G. Underwood was the M.C. In a cake guessing competition, four guessed the exact weight. The cake was given back and was sold. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. W. Dickens and C. W. Pegg. Two gentlemen tied for the first prize, Messrs. J. Waite and R. Hatton, scoring 171 each. On a cut, Mr Waite was placed first. The lady prize winners were: 1. Miss J. N. Hull, 173; 2. Mrs Haywood, 167.

### **Alleged Theft of a Gold Ring at Whitwick**

*Woman charged as receiver*

Before Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court, on Monday, Emily Matilda Edwards (29), single woman, late of Whitwick, described as a hawker, was brought up on a warrant, charged with feloniously receiving on February 8<sup>th</sup>, from Kate Hall, a child, one gold wedding ring, value £1/5/-, the property of Sarah Ann Hall, of Whitwick, well knowing it to have been stolen.

Sergeant Kirkland stated that he received the prisoner into custody that morning from the county police at Leicester. He read the warrant to her, and she denied the offence. Inspector Dobney asked for a remand to the Coalville Petty Sessions on Friday. He said the reason the warrant was issued was that the woman absconded from Whitwick, going to Loughborough, and from there she went to Leicester. They suspected that she would have gone away from there if she could.

Sergeant Kirkland: *She admits having the ring, but denies knowing that it had been stolen.*

P.C. Grewcock produced another ring which, he said, was given to the little girl by the prisoner in exchange for the one in question.

Prisoner: *I should like to ask whether it seems feasible that I intended keeping that ring when I -*

The Magistrate (interposing): *We are not trying the case today. The only thing now is whether you have anything to say why you should not be remanded.*

Defendant said she had not. Inspector Dobney stated that the man whom the defendant had been travelling with was arrested on Saturday under the Military Service Act.

Defendant: *I left Whitwick to go to him at Loughborough. I did not abscond because of the ring.*

Inspector Dobney: *You have no fixed abode.*

Accused was remanded till today (Friday).

## **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

There is a good selection of film stories being screened at the Whitwick Picture House this week, and the usual audiences have attended and shown much appreciation. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "The Vortex", a very fine drama, featuring Warda Howard. Episode 3 of "Liberty" was also extra good, as were all the others shown. For the week-end "Dr. Foster's Dilemma", is a champion dramatic story of the type which generally appeals to Whitwick patrons. Kathlyn Williams, a well-known and clever cinema actress appears in the leading role. Charlie Chaplain in "As Busy as Can Be", must be seen. A scream. – Others are also good. – See advertisement for particulars of next week's list.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Birth**

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Old Vicarage, Whitwick (the residency of her parents), the wife of Captain John Briggs, R.F.C., of a daughter.

### **Death**

Mr F. Prickett, Crescent Road, Coalville, desires to thank all friends for sympathy expressed in the loss of his wife, Annie (daughter of Sergeant Betts, Whitwick), who died in Leicester Infirmary, February 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Burials**

Partridge – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Levi Partridge, aged 59 years, of Silver Street.

## Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1304)

### Local News

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.

### Coalville Tribunal

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).

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

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.

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.

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



## **Do You Know That**

A confirmation by the Bishop of Leicester is to be held in Whitwick Church on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>?

## **Coalville Police Court**

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

*Again Adjourned*

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) mentioned the adjourned case of Geo. Prickett, carter, Whitwick, summoned by his wife, who asked for a maintenance order. The case was adjourned a month ago to fulfil a promise to find his wife at home and be good to her. The man was doing his best, and was paying his wife a weekly sum. He had been unable yet to get a house, but that was not his fault. He (Mr Sharp) asked for the case to be further adjourned for a month. Agreed.

## **Wedding Ring Stolen at Whitwick**

*Woman sent to prison*

A noteworthy feature in a case before the Coalville magistrates on Friday was that two women concerned who live next door to each other at Whitwick, are of the same name, but no relation, and both have lost their husbands in the war. – The case was one in which Kate Hall (8), schoolgirl, daughter of Hannah Hall, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing a gold ring, value £1/5/- at Whitwick, on February 8<sup>th</sup>, and Emily M. Edwards (29), hawker, single, of Whitwick, was charged with receiving the same, well knowing it to have been stolen. The little girl said she stole the ring, and the elder defendant said she was not aware it had been stolen.

Sarah Ann Hall, Talbot Street, Whitwick, a soldier's widow, said she put the ring in a teapot on the dresser in the living room. Later, she missed it. The little girl Hall lived next door but was no relation. In consequence of what she said, witness went with the girl's mother to see defendant, Edwards, who was known as Tilly Smith. She admitted having had the ring, but said she had lost it, and became abusive. Complainant identified the ring produced by the police. P.C. Grewcock said the girl told him she took the ring and took it to school with her. On leaving school she went to Mrs Turner's house in Leicester Road for dinner, and there saw the defendant, Edwards, who gave her a ring in exchange for the one in question. The little girl's mother, also a soldier's widow, explained that she had to go out to work and had to arrange for the child to have dinner at another house. P.C. Grewcock, proceeding, said he saw Edwards, and she said she had lost the ring. Witness told her that she ought not to have taken the ring off a child and that she was receiving stolen property. She said she would go and had it, and after going out at the back, she returned with the ring.

Answering the clerk, the little girl's mother said she had three little girls, and was trying to bring them up well, but she had to go out to work. Her husband was killed in the war two

years ago. The chairman cautioned the little girl, who said she would never do anything of the sort again. The case against her was dismissed. The woman Edwards, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, with hard labour.

## **Footprints in the Snow**

### *How a Whitwick thief was traced*

How the snow aided Sergt. Betts in discovering a Whitwick thief was related at the Police Court on Friday, when Doris Sutherland (21), married, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing a lady's night dress, value 6/-, at Whitwick, on February 6<sup>th</sup>. She pleaded not guilty. Ann Walker, widow, of the Dumps, Whitwick, said she received two night dresses and other articles from Sergt. Betts to wash. They belonged to his daughter, Mrs Prickett, who had since died. She put the clothes out to dry and one of the night dresses was taken from the line.

Sergt. Betts said he traced footprints in the snow from the clothes-line to defendant's house in the same row. She said she knew nothing about it; she had not had the night dress and he could search her house. He did so, and in a tin box upstairs, he found a night dress which was wet, and which he recognised. She then said she would tell the truth, and made a statement admitting the offence, which she signed. Defendant said it was all lies. She admitted her signature, but said she did not know what she was signing. She said she found the night dress lying in the yard and went to Mrs Walker's with it, but could not make her hear. Before she had time to go again, the sergeant came. Fined 30/-, and 3/6 costs, or 14 days.

## **Bread not sold by weight**

### *A Whitwick baker fined*

Another prosecution in regard to the sale of bread came before the Coalville magistrates on Friday. John Biddle (44), baker, Whitwick, was summoned in two instances for selling bread otherwise than by weight at Thringstone, on February 15<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded not guilty. P.C. Percival said he saw six 2lb loaves of bread delivered by defendant to Gladys Allen, two for her and four for her married sister. All 6 loaves were short weight, as follows: 2 ¼ oz, 1 ¼ oz, 1oz, 2 ¾ oz, 1 ¼ oz and 3 ½ oz. Defendant would not stop to see the bread weighed; he said it was no use piling the agony on. The total deficiency in six loaves was 12 ¼ oz. Inspector Dobney corroborated. Defendant said it was a burning question in every town and something should be done. If every loaf had got to be weighed from a cart, it could mean more labour, and the people would have to pay more for their bread. He had put a notice in the paper, and this thing could not be avoided.

The clerk: *As the law stands, you must sell by weight, and give 2lbs for a 2lbs loaf.*

Supt. Lockton said it was not impossible. All the bakers in the division had been tested, and only on Monday last he tested 13 bakers and all were correct, with the exception of one ounce in one loaf. Defendant said some people asked for hard bread, and "You don't know where you are." Fined £1 1s and 3/6 for witnesses, or 14 days in each case.

## **Round the Theatres**

## *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The Picture House, Whitwick has been well patronised again this week, and some good pictures are showing. "The Mill on the Floss" was good, also "Liberty" No. 4, with others. The week-end films include "The Girl of Yesterday" and No. 1 of the great serial, "The oz many others. – See advertisement for next week's programme.

## **Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1305)**

### **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.

In reference to the explosion at the Whitwick Granite Quarry by which a workman was injured, it is noteworthy that this is the first blasting accident that has occurred at this quarry during the last 20 years, although during that time half a million pounds' weight of explosives have been used. The man, Tacey, who was injured, is a thoroughly experienced man, and has been engaged in this kind of work for 11 years.

### **Women's Own**

The members of the Whitwick Women's Own held a successful social on Wednesday evening in the Baptist School. A good number of members attended, and a pleasant evening was spent.

### **Quarry Accident**

An accident happened at the Whitwick Granite Quarry during blasting operations on Monday. Through a premature explosion an employee named Tacey, who lives at Shepshed, had one eye seriously injured, and his face badly cut. His hands were also injured. He was removed to the Loughborough Hospital, and on Tuesday morning was reported to be going on as well as could be expected.

### **Patriotic Football Match**

A football match in aid of the Whitwick Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund was played in the vicarage field on Saturday between Whitwick Swifts and Whitwick Imperial. There was not a large attendance, but a good number of tickets had been sold, and the event was a great success. The Rev. M. J. O'Reilly kicked off and the Imperial won by three goals to none, the scorers being B. Revill, T. Lees and J. Roach. Roadley missed a penalty. Mr E. Higgins refereed the match, which was pleasantly contested.

### **Baptist Chapel Anniversary**

On Sunday special services were held in the Baptist Chapel in connection with the anniversary. The preacher was the Rev. M. L. Hewett, of Dunnington, Alcester, and there were good congregations. Collections were made for the church funds. A variety tea on Monday was well attended, and a social was held in the evening at which there were readings and short addresses by the Rev. M. L. Hewett, and the Rev. A. Dalton, of South Wigston. Misses Gladys and Vera Bourne gave a piano duet, Miss Rosie Baker recited, and there were songs by Mrs Aris, Miss Mann, and Miss Gertie Baker.

### **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 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.



## **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).

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.

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.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

At Whitwick Picture House there have been enthusiastic audiences, as usual. At the beginning of the week a real good one was "Owen Kildare's Regeneration" a fine Fox film. Episode 5 of "Liberty" (Love and War) was another interesting part of this serial. Others were also good. "The Valley of Fear" is the "star" for the week-end. It is by Sir A. Conan Doyle, and is a British masterpiece in six reels. This must be seen; it will appeal very

strongly. Also Part 2 of "The Laughing Mask" (The House of Unhappiness), a splendid part of this serial running week-ends. For next week's list, see advertisement columns.

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

#### **Burials**

Rose – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Annie Elizabeth Rose, aged 6 months, of Green Lane.

Wilson – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Annie Wilson, aged 58 years, of Loughborough Road.

### **Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1306)**

#### **Local News**

Mr and Mrs Joseph Williamson of Highfields Street, Coalville, celebrated their golden wedding on Monday last. Both have lived in the district all their lives, Mrs Williamson (nee Fewkes) having been born at Whitwick, and Mr Williamson, at Coleorton. They were married on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1867, and have had eight children – five sons and three daughters – who are all living, and most of them were at the party which celebrated the happy occasion.

#### **Explosion**

On Sunday morning about 9.20, an explosion of gas took place in the yard of the Three Crowns Hotel, Whitwick, Mr Jno. Richards, grave-digger, at Whitwick Cemetery, was cleaning up the yard, when the heavy stone cover of the cistern was blown off. He was only a few feet from where the stone fell, and had a narrow escape.

#### **Local Casualties**

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

#### **Do You Know That**

The collections at Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday next will be for the Coalville V.A.D. Hospital?

At the Whitwick Parish Church tomorrow afternoon, the Bishop of Peterborough will institute the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A.), as rural dean?

#### **Coalville Tribunal**

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 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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *School Cases*

Fines were imposed upon parents for the irregular attendance of their children, as follows: Charles Colver (45), collier, Ravenstone, 4/-; Ernest Gregory (32), collier, Hugglescote, 2/6 in each of two cases; John W. Allen (39), collier, Whitwick, 7/6; and Jonah Ing (46), colliery banksman, Coalville, adjourned for a month.

In Allen's case, Mr Metcalfe, school attendance officer, stated that the mother had told him she should not send the girl to school again as she was 13 years of age.

#### *Coalville Youth's Language*

John T. Harris (19), collier, Coalville, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on February 17<sup>th</sup>. His mother appeared. P.C. Jones said he was in Talbot Street and heard the defendant using the language as he was coming from Thringstone. Defendant's mother said her son was at work and did not wish to lose time. He had been in the Army but was discharged. His father was serving in the Army now. Fined 10/- or seven days.

#### *Whitwick Labourer Sent to Prison*

Samuel Ward, labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for improper behaviour at Whitwick, on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville), for the defendant, pleaded not guilty. P.C. Grewcock said he saw the defendant and told him of the complaint made by a little girl, and he said it was not him. Later, he said, "I am sorry that I did it. I am sure I will not do it again."

Mr Crane: *You have known the defendant some years? – Yes. – Is he possessed of all his wits? – He is sharp enough in some things. – You know he is regarded in Whitwick as being rather simple? – No, I have had no complaints about this sort of thing, and when I knew it was the defendant, I was surprised.*

Mr Crane, addressing the Bench for the defence, said the man was over 50 years of age and was mentally defective. He was single, and belonged to a respectable family, his aged mother being over 80. No man in his right mind would commit an offence of this kind against a little girl only five years old. He withdrew his formal plea of not guilty, and suggested that the Bench might meet the case by getting the man put into an institution of some kind. The family would not object to this course, and would do their best to contribute to the maintenance.

The chairman, in sentencing defendant to one month's hard labour, said the man had been similarly punished before for a similar offence.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

The Imperial F.C. on the Duke of Newcastle ground on Saturday defeated the Thringstone House Club 4 – 2. A collection was made for a Thringstone player, Mr A. Sykes, who sustained a fractured leg a short time ago. Unfortunately, the bad weather interfered with the attendance.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

"Fortune's Wheel" was the chief film at the Picture House during the first half of the week, and it was a splendid drama in four reels by the excellent Kalem Co. Episode 6 of "Liberty" (The Desert of Lost Souls) was an extra good part of the serial, and, in fact, the whole of the films were of a high class order, and much enjoyed. For the week-end "Annie Laurie" is a magnificent Hepworth photoplay, featuring Miss Alma Taylor. Miss Burkitt, of Whitwick, sings his famous song as an accompaniment to the film. This should draw big "houses" during the week-end. No. 3 of the "Laughing Mask" should also be seen, along with other excellent film stories. Particulars of next week's list, see our advertisement columns.

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

#### **Burials**

Whitmore – At Whitwick, yesterday, Elizabeth Whitmore, aged 84 years, of the City of Three Waters.

## **Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1307)**

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



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.

### **St. Patrick Celebration**

The annual whist drive and dance to celebrate St. Patrick's Day was held in the Whitwick Holy Cross School on Monday evening. There was a capital attendance, over 200 being present. The M.C.'s for dancing were Messrs. A. Slattery and J. H. McCarthy, and Mr Geo. Wright, of Coalville, was the pianist. The whist M.C.'s were Messrs. T. Hull and P. Downes, and the following were the prize winners:

Gents: Messrs. D. Otter and H. Stretton, who scored 182 each and divided.

Ladies: 1. Mrs H. Allgood, 181; 2. Mrs F. O'Mara, 180.

The event was a great success.

### **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.

### **Coalville Drayman's Fatal Fall**

#### *Inquest*

The North Leicestershire Deputy-Coroner, Mr T. J. Webb, held an inquest at the Coalville Police Station, on Saturday afternoon, concerning the death of Alfred Leicester, aged 64 years, assistant drayman, of 26, Berrisford Street, Coalville, who died on Thursday, through falling from a dray at Whitwick, on the previous Saturday.

Among those present were Mr G. Fern, M.R., traffic inspector, and Mr H. Lewis, stationmaster for the M.R. Co., and Mr W. Halls of Nottingham, for the National Union of

Railwaymen, with Mr G. E. Clarke, the local secretary of the Union. Mr J. W. Fisher was the foreman of the jury.

Robert Bertie Doughty, M.R. drayman, residing in Hotel Street, Coalville, stated that about 1.45 pm on March 10<sup>th</sup>, the deceased and he were in the King's Arms yard at Whitwick, loading the dray with beer bottle cases. The dray was partly loaded, and the deceased was standing at the back, with his face towards the horse. While witness was fetching another case, the horse started forward and deceased fell backward on to the ground. Witness picked him up and found him bleeding at the back of the head. He asked him whether he was hurt, and deceased replied, "*I don't think so.*" Witness took him into the King's Arms and Mrs Smith and her son bound up his head. Witness brought the deceased to Coalville on the dray and advised him to go and see the stationmaster. He went in that direction, and witness did not see him again. He seemed to be alright then. The horse was a quiet one, and he had not known it start like that before. He had driven the animal for two years, and had had no trouble with it. They did not generally scotch the wheels, but had they done so they would have gone over it.

Dr. R. W. Jamie (Coalville) said he saw the deceased about 7 pm on March 10<sup>th</sup>. He was then in a dazed condition, and could give no account of the accident. Witness ordered him to bed. There was no fracture, but there was a contused wound at the back of the head. Deceased became unconscious on Sunday night, and on Monday had convulsive fits. Although there was no fracture, the haemorrhage from laceration of the brain substance caused compression, and that was the cause of death. Deceased was a strong, healthy man. Answering the foreman, the doctor said he did not think deceased would have had any chance had he been put to bed and medically attended immediately after the accident. The walking and movement were no doubt injurious, but the wound was not such as would lead anyone to suppose it was so serious as it really was.

The jury found that death was due to internal haemorrhage from laceration of the brain caused by an accidental fall from a dray, and they expressed sympathy with the widow.

### **Bishop of Peterborough at Whitwick**

#### *Institution of the new Rural Dean*

There was a large congregation at Whitwick Parish Church on Saturday afternoon last to witness the interesting ceremony by the Bishop of Peterborough of instituting the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A.) as Rural Dean for South Akeley, in succession to Canon Broughton, of Hugglescote, who resigned after holding the office for 22 years. The Bishop was accompanied by his chaplain, the Rev. H. Hargreaves, and the clergy present included the Revs. H. E. Broughton and H. V. Williams (Hugglescote), R. P. Farrow (Bardon Hill), H. Chambers (Markfield), C. Shrewsbury (Thringstone), G. Robinson (Swannington), M. Evans (Coalville), A. Holt (The Oaks), H. C. Deane (Belton), and F. Boothby (Ellistown), also two lay readers, Captain Deverill (Swannington), and Mr W. Boswell (Stanton-under-Bardon), and churchwardens from most of the parishes in the Deanery.

The lessons were read by the Rev. A. Holt and Canon Broughton, and after the third collect, the Bishop came to the chancel steps and read the Commission to the new Rural Dean, which was followed by prayers and a blessing, this part of the service being very

impressive. In the course of his address, the Bishop reviewed the history of the Rural Deaneries and said that was not only the first public service of the kind conducted by him, but as far as he could gather from the records, it was the first public institution to a Rural Deanery to have taken place in the Diocese. He went on to speak of the corporate life of the Church, and said he would like more attention to be paid to the corporate life of the Rural Deanery. They had, as parishes throughout the diocese, been too parochial. They wanted to take a wider outlook.

After the service, the new Rural Dean entertained the clergy and visitors to tea in the school, after which there were short addresses. The Rev. H. Chambers (Markfield) for the clergy, Mr W. T. Williams (Heather) for the rural-decanal conference, and Mr W. Lindley J.P. (Coalville), for the laymen, extended a cordial welcome to the new Rural Dean and wished him a successful term of office. The Rev. T. W. Walters, in reply, said what a pleasure it was to them all to have the Bishop among them for the first time. It had been some years since they had had a visit to Whitwick by the Bishop of Peterborough. He then said he deplored the fact that a change of Rural Dean had become necessary. They all felt very sorry that Canon Broughton had been compelled to resign, and they hoped that his health would soon very greatly improve. As to himself, he thanked them for their kind words and good wishes and assured them that he should try to do his best "in the name of the Lord." He thought a good many things could be done better from a rural-decanal point of view than from a parochial point of view. As one example he quoted the National Mission. Some of the parishes in the diocese had been profoundly moved during the Mission, but there were others, which had hardly been touched in any way. If, as a Rural Deanery they could come together and plan something in connection with the harvest of the seeds that had been sown then probably some of the enthusiasm of some of the parishes might affect the parishes which had not been moved very much.

The Bishop closed the proceedings with a very nice address in which he thanked the choir for their excellent singing, the ringers for their good work on the bells, which were rung before and after the service, and also the public for their presence.

### **Parish Meeting**

The annual parish meeting was held in the National School on Monday evening, Mr M. McCarthy presiding over a small attendance. The old parish officers were all again nominated as follows:

Overseers: Messrs T. Kelly, G. West, and A. Needham.

Parish Constables: Messrs. J. Henson, W. Briers, F. Ducker, C. Pegg, \_ Martin, F. Harper, and H. Beeson.

Assessors of Taxes: Messrs. G. West, A. J. Briers and F. Harper.

The meeting unanimously voted a sum of £15 to Mr W. D. McCarthy, the assistant overseer and rate collector, for his work in preparing the new valuation list. A parishioner caused some laughter, when the meeting reached the question stage, by asking whether the Coalville Urban Council could be induced to take steps to get the public houses open earlier.

The chairman: *They have no jurisdiction over it.*

The parish officers were thanked for their services, and a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, ended a brief meeting.

### **Do You Know That**

A confirmation by the Bishop of Leicester will be held at Whitwick Church next Thursday night?

### **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).

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 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.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

There were very large audiences at Whitwick Palace at the commencement of the week, to see the "Battle of the Ancre" film, and it called forth much applause. All performances were well patronised. No. 7 of "Liberty" was good, and also Charles Austin in "Parker's Week-End", a good comic. For the week-end, "The Waif", a splendid film in five parts must not be missed. No. 4 of "The Laughing Mask" also will please, along with numerous others. For particulars of next week's see advert.

## **Friday March 30<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1308)**

### **Situations Vacant**

Vacancy occurs for youth or young lady to learn operating. Situation guaranteed when proficient. Apply, Manager, Picture House, Whitwick.

### **To Let**

With immediate possession, seven allotments, near Cademan Plantation. For particulars, apply Mr T. Wilson, Maple Cottage, Loughborough Road, Whitwick.

### **Local News**

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.

### **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 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.

### **Do You Know That**

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?

### **Coalville Police Court**

#### **Scene in Whitwick Church School**

### *Collier Smartly Fined*

At Coalville Police Court on Friday, John W. Allen (39), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for violent and abusive language in the Church of England Schools at Whitwick, on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Defendant did not appear.

Mr George Rowlatt (Leicester) appeared to prosecute for the County Education Committee. Hy. Thomas Bastard, headmaster of the school, said the defendant was annoyed because his girl, aged 13, could not leave school, not having made the necessary attendances. He came to the school on the afternoon named, and when told that he must see the school attendance officer, defendant forced his way into the school, and marched up to witness's desk in a threatening manner. There were about 80 children in the room. Defendant was very abusive and threatened to lay witness out. He created a disturbance for about twenty minutes.

Mr Rowlatt said the penalty under the bye-laws was a fine, not exceeding £5, and he asked the Bench to make an example of defendant. This sort of this could not be allowed. Fined two guineas and 2/6 costs, or 21 days.

### **Husbands and Wives**

#### *Charges of Idleness and Cruelty at Coalville*

Sad domestic details were given in two cases at the Coalville Police Court on Friday.

George Prickett (34), carter, Whitwick, was summoned by his wife, Beatrice Prickett, of Swannington, for neglecting her and their children at Whitwick, since January 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville), was for the complainant. He pleaded not guilty.

Mr Sharp said the case had been adjourned two or three times to enable defendant to discharge his liabilities towards his wife and children, he having promised to do his best, but the man was inherently idle, and his wife and children had lacked food. He preferred to lie in bed and idle about rather than work, and his wife and children had depended on charity. Mr Lindley observed that the man was of military age. Mr Sharp said he had been rejected. Complainant said her husband was prosecuted by the N.S.P.C.C., and was sent to prison. After he came out, he promised to reform, but she had been obliged to leave him again. The furniture in the home consisted of a square table, a side table, two chairs and an overlay on the floor. There was no bed and she and the children had to lie on the floor. She left him because there was no food in the house. She had lived on bread and butter, and bread and lard, and the neighbours had helped her. He got work at Bardon Quarry but in three weeks only made 1 ¾ days, and he had lost the job. He preferred to be in bed and sit and smoke. All she had from him in three weeks was 10/-.

By defendant: *It was not because he was ruptured that he did not work. He could work if he liked.*

P.C. Culpin said the defendant had a good job at Bardon Quarry but lost it because he would not work. His wife and children were practically starving and had gone to neighbours and asked for food. Defendant said he was ruptured and could only do light work.

Answering Mr Lindley, he said he used to work as a carter for the Whitwick Colliery Co., and had 29/- a week. He left that because he was humbugged about over a horse. He had now obtained a job on the railway at 24s a week.

A maintenance order was granted, defendant to pay 10/- per week to his wife who would have custody of the two children. He was also ordered to pay 9/- costs and one guinea advocates' fee.

In another case, John J. Kearins (52), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for persistent cruelty to his wife, who applied for a separation order. Mr W. P. Musson (Ashby) appeared for the complainant, and defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr Musson said the parties were married at the Whitwick Holy Cross Church on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1896, and there had been 12 children, nine of whom were living. Three were at work, and six were dependant. Nine years ago, complainant left her husband through his cruelty, but returned after three months. The cruelty was continued and she left him again two years ago, returning after a few days, but his conduct was so bad that she was afraid to live with him any longer. He had threatened to knock her brains out. Though he was a collier earning 53s a week and war bonus, his wife and children often went short of food.

Complainant, aged 40, bore out this statement. The ages of the six children with her, she said, were 13, 11, 10, 7, 5 and 3. The baby had just died. Defendant had thrashed her with the stick he fetched the cows up with and on one occasion when she was bathing the baby, he threw a bucket of cold water over her. She had not received any money from him for house-keeping since two years last May.

The clerk: *Does he do all the house-keeping then?*

Complainant: *Yes. He brings food home and threatens me if I touch it.*

Proceeding, complainant stated that on one occasion defendant caught her by the throat and forced her onto the "squab" on which she bumped her head several times, cutting it. He had frequently threatened her and called her filthy names and she and the children were afraid of him. The three children at work were all girls, one aged 20, at a factory in Leicester, another aged 18 in a factory in Loughborough, and the other was in domestic service. They were all keeping themselves.

P.C. Grewcock deposed to receiving complaints from the woman as to her husband's cruelty. She was a very respectable woman. Witness had cautioned the defendant. Eileen Kearins, daughter, said she had heard her father threaten her mother, and had seen him punch her. Witness was afraid of her father.

Defendant, giving evidence on oath, said he had been robbed out of £6,000.

The clerk (surprised): *Six thousand pounds.*

Defendant: *Yes.*

Continuing, he said he was the aggrieved party. His wife had threatened and ill-used him, and he would like to take out a summons against her (laughter). He denied her allegations of cruelty. A wages statement put in by the defendant showed that for the last 1 ½ weeks he had drawn 55/- per week from the South Leicestershire Colliery Co.



A separation order was granted, complainant being given custody of the children, and defendant to pay her 25/- per week.

He replied: *I am very pleased.*

Defendant was also ordered to pay £2/13/- including advocate's fee, two guineas. The chairman told him he must not interfere with his wife in any way.

Defendant: *I never will. I don't wish to.*

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

### *Lighting Offences*

Hilda Dunbar (35), manageress, Whitwick, was summoned for a breach of the Lights in Buildings Regulations, at Whitwick, on March 6<sup>th</sup>. She said it was only 7.15 and she had no intention of breaking the law. P.C. Grewcock and Chas. Wm. Pegg, parish constable, gave evidence. A representative of defendant's firm asked for leniency, stating that the shop was being managed solely by women. Fined 5s and 5/6 witness's fee.

Elizabeth Glynn (52), draper, Whitwick, was similarly summoned, and her solicitor, Mr C. E. Crane, pleaded guilty. P.C. Grewcock said he had previously cautioned the defendant about the lights at her premises.

By Mr Crane: *She said it was the fault of an assistant.*

Mr Crane said that but for a late customer, the light would have been out. It was only 7.10. The defendant had three sons in the army. It was a trivial case. Supt. Lockton pointed out that previous warnings had been given. Fined 10/6.

### *Bad Language*

Ada M. Botterill (54), married, of Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on March 10<sup>th</sup>. She did not appear. P.C. Jones said the defendant was quarrelling with another woman in the Dumps. They had been to a wedding. Fined 10/- or seven days.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

At the commencement of the week at the Whitwick Theatre, a good Fox film was entitled, "A Family Stain", featuring Frederick Perry. It proved most interesting and was much enjoyed, as also was No. 8 of "Liberty" and "Very Much Married", featuring Charlie Chaplin. Others were good. For the week-end a further good Fox film is to be shown, entitled "Infidelity", it being in five parts, and featuring Theda Bara in the title role. This must not be missed. No. 5 of "The Laughing Mask" (The Intervention of Tito) should be

seen. It is a good part. Others also make up a fine programme. Next week's, see advertisement columns.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Rose – At Whitwick yesterday, Kathleen Mavis Rose, aged 7 months, of Green Lane.

Ghent – At Whitwick, yesterday, Sarah Ethel Ghent, aged 3 months, of the City of Three Waters.

## **Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1309)**

### **Local News**

#### **Confirmation**

The Bishop of Leicester at the Parish Church on Thursday night, has confirmed 50 Whitwick candidates, 14 from Thringstone, and 14 from Swannington. The clergy of the three parishes – Revs. T. W. Walters (Whitwick), C. Shrewsbury (Thringstone), and G. Robinson (Swannington), were present and there was a crowded congregation.

#### **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 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 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 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.

#### **Local Chit Chat**

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.

### **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.

### **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.

#### *Gas*

The manager reported a large escape of gas in Vicarage Street, Whitwick, which he attributed to the traction engines running to and from a quarry, and the quarry recommend it be left in the hands of the clerk, surveyor and manager to report upon.

#### *Finance*

With reference to the amount contributed annually for the maintenance of the Whitwick Church clock, the committee recommend the attention of the Vicar be called to the irregular time kept by the clock, and ask for the same to be remedied, if possible.

#### *Water*

The surveyor reported on a broken rider main in Leicester Road, Whitwick, and the same had now been repaired.

### *Surveyor's Department*

The surveyor reported that 662 persons were accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses during March, compared with 614 the previous month, and 695 in March last year. The premises on inspection were found satisfactory and instructions had been given for the usual lime-washing during April. Proceedings against a Whitwick nightsoil defaulter were authorised.

### *Appointment of Overseers*

Notices were received from parish meetings of nominations of overseers of the poor, and the Council supported the following: Coalville: Messrs. J. R. Bennett, J. Starkey and A. Wilkins. Hugglescote: F. Griffin, W. Fellows and T. R. Grundy. Whitwick: T. Kelly, George West and A. Needham. Six names were submitted from Coalville, five from Whitwick and three from Hugglescote.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

At Whitwick Picture House, the chief film at the commencement of the week was a thrilling Hepworth drama, "Face to Face" featuring Chrissie White and Stewart Rome. It was excellent and was much appreciated. No. 9 of "Liberty" too, was enjoyable, as were all the other excellent subjects screened. For the week-end "Trelawney of the Wells", a Hepworth-Pinero play, must not be missed. It is from the stage play by Sir Arthur W. Pinero, and contains some very fine acting. No. 6 of "The Laughing Mask" is also good, and Charlie Chaplin, in "Through the Keyhole" will make you laugh. Others are good. For particulars of Easter programme, etc, see advertisement.

### **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.

### **Friday April 13<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1310)**

#### **Situations Vacant**

Wanted – Strong and capable boy, about 14 years, to help in Chemist's business. Apply H. Stinson, Market Place, Whitwick.

Wanted – Strong, capable girl, aged 16 or 17. Apply Mrs G. H. Stinson, The Brackens, Sharpley, Whitwick.

## **Local News**

### **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.

### **Sunday School Anniversary**

Whitwick Primitive Methodists held their school anniversary on Sunday, when councillor T. W. Walker, of Leicester, preached to large congregations. The children and choir nicely sang hymns and anthems under the direction of Mr J. B. Newbury and Mrs Newbury officiated at the organ, an orchestra also assisting. The afternoon anthem was "They have taken away my Lord", in which there were solos by Miss K. Skellington and Mr L. Shilliam, and in the evening, "Sing, O Heavens", a solo being taken by Miss L. Evans, and a quartet by Mrs L. Evans and I. Anderson, and Messrs. J. H. Gilbert, and W. J. Newbury. In one of the children's hymns a verse each was taken as a solo by Misses Olive Sear and Gwennie Gilbert. The collections realised £30, which was a little increase on last year's amount.

### **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.

### **Christian Endeavour**

In connection with the Baptist Young People's Christian Endeavour Society, a social was held in the school on Tuesday night, and was well attended. Mr T. W. Bourne presided, and the contributors to a good programme of songs, recitations, etc., were Misses G. and V. Bourne, E. Smalley, G. Mann, and B. Watson, the Rev. A. Dalton, Messrs H. Stinson, A. Baker, J. Noon, A. Carter, C. Massey, and J. Waterfield. A sketch entitled, "Aunt Dorinda" was given by Misses G. Mann, M. Geary and M. Mann.

### **Whist Drive and Dance**

The annual whist drive and dance at the Whitwick Holy Cross School on Monday night in aid of the church and school repairs fund attracted a large audience, about 240 people being present. Mr George Wright (Coalville) played for dancing and the M.C.'s were Messrs. A. Slattery and J. Beeson (dancing), and M. P. Downes and T. Hull (whist). The prize winners were:

Ladies: 1 Miss Turner, 2 Miss Wilmer.

Gents: 1 Mr J. R. Tebbutt (Coalville), 2 Mr J. Berkenshaw.

There was a prize drawing for a pig, the lucky number being 774.

### **Factory Fire at Whitwick Narrowly Averted**

#### *A Young Lady's Timely Discovery*

What might have resulted in a serious conflagration at Messrs. Seal and Co's elastic web factory in Church Lane, Whitwick, was narrowly averted on Saturday night, thanks to a timely discovery by Miss McCarthy, of New Swannington, and her promptitude in raising the alarm.

When passing the factory about 8.30, Miss McCarthy noticed something wrong near the engine house from which smoke was issuing in an unusual manner, and she at once proceeded to the house of Sergeant Betts and gave information of the occurrence. The Sergeant was on duty in Whitwick, but received a message from his wife and proceeded to investigate the occurrence. With P.C. Jelley, Mr J. H. McCarthy and Mr Smith, an examination was made, and it was found that the boiler had become red hot, and the wooden roof of the engine house was all blackened, and in all probability would soon have burst into flame. The fire was speedily extinguished, and the police remained on duty till nearly one o'clock on Sunday morning, before it was considered safe to leave the place, an employee named Williams then being left in charge.

### **Easter Vestries**

*St. John's, Whitwick*

On Tuesday evening, the Rev. T. W. Walters (Vicar) presiding. Referring to the war, the vicar said they were glad that our troops were moving forward and glorious news was to hand that evening. The war had taken many men from their parish, and 25 had been killed. In spite of the large number of Churchmen who were serving in the Forces, and whose absence they noticed, it was satisfactory to know that the number of communicants kept up. It was a remarkable coincidence that the number of Easter communicants this year, 254, was exactly the same as last year, and the year before that. For three years, the number of Easter communicants was exactly the same. The whole of the church work had gone on well during the year, and the finances were in a satisfactory state. Reference was made to the National Mission, the results of which were yet to be seen, but they hoped the seed sown would bear rich fruit. It was also mentioned that Whitwick had been visited by two bishops during the year. They had 50 candidates for confirmation and the Bishop of Leicester told him that he had never confirmed a nicer lot of young ladies than those at Whitwick.

### **Whitwick Man Seriously Injured**

*Struck on the head with a piece of stone*

A serious accident occurred on Saturday to Mr Alfred Miles, an engine driver in the employ of the Whitwick Granite Co., and who resides in Leicester Road, Whitwick. He was on his way home from the quarry and when between Whitwick and the Forest Rock quarries, a piece of stone came over from a shot which had been fired during blasting operations and struck Miles on the head, causing a severe wound. He was attended by Dr. Rolston, of Whitwick, and afterwards taken to Loughborough Hospital in an unconscious state. On enquiry on Tuesday the man was stated to be still unconscious, and in a critical condition.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Thursday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr Levi Lovett

*Whitwick Pictures*

Mr C. E. Crane appeared on behalf of Mrs Kelly, manageress of the Whitwick Picture House, for permission to give suitable music on Good Friday evening. It was granted.

*Educational*

Four Whitwick parents were summoned by Charles Hart, school attendance officer, Measham, for not sending their children regularly to school and were dealt with as follows:

John Wardle (40), collier, fined 4s, or seven days; Harriet Johnson (39), 5s or seven days; George William Haywood (26), collier, adjourned for a month; John W. Allen (39), collier, 12/6 or seven days; and Jonah Ing, collier, Coalville, case withdrawn, on the application of Mr H. Freeman, school attendance officer.

*Cyclists Offences*

Arthur Straw (22), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a front light at Coalville on March 19<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty and P.C. Bursnall having stated the facts, the Bench ordered defendant to pay 5/6 costs.

## **Custody of a Whitwick Boy**

### *Application to Coalville Magistrates*

An unusual case was heard at the Coalville Police Court, before Major Hatchett (in the chair), and Mr L. Lovett, on Thursday, when application was made by George Limb, collier, Whitwick, for the custody of a boy named Stephen Wilfred Holt, at present in the custody of Mr and Mrs Thomas Ottey, of Silver Street, Whitwick, cousins of his mother.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville), appeared for the applicant and Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) was for the Otteys, who did not desire to give up the boy.

Mr Sharp stated that the mother of the boy, Clara Holt, who was now dead, obtained an order against Limb on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1909, to pay 3/- per week towards the maintenance of the child, of which he was adjudged to be the father. After the mother died, custody of the child was given to her aunt, Mrs Ottey, an old lady, on whose death the present custodians received the order of the Bench to look after the child. The father was now married, and had a home, and instead of paying 3s a week to someone else to keep the boy, he wanted the lad himself.

Limb bore out this statement, and said that except during a period he was in the Army, and when he was ill, he regularly kept up the payments. He was married last January. He worked at the Ibstock Colliery as a stallman, and his earnings were £3 10s to £4 per week.

*By Mr Crane: At the time the late Clara Holt applied for an order against him, he denied the paternity, but he was the father. The furniture in his home was on the hire purchase system. There was £26 worth. He had paid 30s down, and was paying 5s a week. He had not hitherto ignored the child; he gave him a penny every time he saw him.*

Mrs Limb, applicant's wife, said she was willing to look after the boy. Mr Crane said he opposed the application most strenuously on behalf of Mr and Mrs Ottey. They had a genuine affection for the child, who had been well looked after, and now he was nearly eight years of age it would be a lamentable thing to take him away. Until this case came on, Limb had never manifested the slightest interest in the child, and at this impressionable age, it would be running a great risk to take the lad away, and put him into the custody of people who were practically strangers.

Thomas Ottey said they had always regarded the child as their own. The boy was regularly attending the day and Sunday schools and recently was awarded prizes.

*By Mr Sharp: He would sooner lose 3s a week than part with the boy, but he contended that Limb was able to pay.*

The boy, a smart little fellow, was then called into court to be seen by the magistrates. Mrs Ottey said she was fond of the boy and did not wish to part with him. Henry Thomas Bastard, headmaster of the Whitwick Church School, said the boy regularly attended the



Sunday and Day schools. He was always well-behaved, clean and well-dressed, and appeared to be well cared for.

The Bench declined to grant the application, and ordered Limb to pay 5s costs.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House was well patronised during the holidays, and a good programme was showing. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "The Five Faults of Flo", a masterpiece in five acts. Episode 10 of "Liberty" was also a good part; and others were much enjoyed. For the week-end there is a rattling good 'star' picture, and along with No. 7 of "The Laughing Mask", and the numerous other excellent subjects, will be worth seeing. Next week's see advert.

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

Death of Mrs S. Perry

We regret to record the death of Mrs Perry, wife of Mr S. Perry, a former member of the Coalville Urban Council. The deceased lady, who was 60 years of age, was suddenly taken ill last Sunday week, and died on Thursday in Loughborough Hospital, where an operation was successfully performed the previous day. Much sympathy is felt for Mr Perry and the family – two sons and five daughters – in their bereavement. One son and two of the daughters are in Canada. The funeral took place at Whitwick Cemetery on Monday, the service in the Parish Church and at the graveside being conducted by the Vicar in the presence of a good number of relatives and parishioners. Members of the Women's Club and the local Buffalo members (Beaumanor Lodge) followed. There was a beautiful lot of wreaths.

### **Burials**

Perry – At Whitwick, on Monday, Annie Perry, aged 60 years, of Silver Street.

## **Friday April 20<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1311)**

### **Local News**

#### **Concert**

A most successful concert was given in the Holy Cross School on Wednesday evening in aid of the Coalville and District Soldiers' Comforts Guild. There was a large audience, and the efforts of the performers, which were very creditable, were much appreciated, most of the items being encored. The programme included songs by Misses Burkitt, Mann, E. Capel, M. Hall and M. Wheeldon, recitation by Miss E. Robinson, a children's dance arranged by Miss Barrett, a sketch entitled "A pair of lunatics" by Miss Burkitt and Mr Harold Stinson, and an operetta, "Cinderella", in which the characters were admirably taken as follows: Cinderella, B. Harris; Augusta, E. Capel; Jemina, M. Hall; fairy godmother, G. Baker; Prince Lionel, E. Robinson; the Baron, A. Webster; fairy rose, P.

Cooper; fairy lily, R. Baker; pages, S. Perry, J. McCarthy and N. Webster; fairies, M. Stanyard, A. Lardner, A. Stanyard, M. Downes, M. Kidger, G. Broadhurst, S. Springthorpe, O. Rolston, O. Springthorpe and Mauna Downes.

### **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.

### **Local Chit Chat**

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.

### **Military Wedding**

The following is a list of the presents received by Miss E. Benistone and Sergeant H. A. Mann, on the occasion of their marriage.

Bride to bridegroom, gent's dressing case; bridegroom to bride, pendant and chain and bouquet; bridegroom to bridesmaids, regimental crescent brooches; bride's mother, household linen; bridegroom's mother, framed bromide, bridegroom's father, cheque; Mr and Mrs J. Beniston (Green Lane, Whitwick), cheque; Mr and Mrs J. Silver (Whitwick), cheque; Miss Agnes Silver, pair of salts, Mr and Mrs H. Geary, (Silver Street, Whitwick), trinket set; Masters Willie and Oliver Geary, pickle jar; Masters Harry, Sam and Wilfred Geary, photo frames; Mr and Mrs H. Aris (Sutton Bonnington), pair of vases; Miss Phyllis Aris, Doulton china tray; Mr Ed. Beniston (Whitwick), cheque; Miss G. M. and Master H. Mann (Whitwick), coloured table cloth; Miss L. and Masters P. and A. Mann, pair of vases; Mrs S. and Mr A. Hull, Crown Devon china; Mr and Mrs H. Toyer (Whitwick), flower pot; Mr and Mrs A. Wheeldon (Whitwick), table cloth; Mr and Mrs H. Glover (Coalville), cheque; Mrs and Mrs J. Williamson, cheque; Mr and Mrs J. Illsley (Coalville), cheque; Mr and Mrs W. Beniston (Standard Hill), cheque; Mr and Mrs Moore and Beniston (Whitwick), bath towels; Mr and Mrs T. Johnson (Alfreton), cheque; Mr and Mrs J. Beniston (Whitwick), cheque; Mr and Mrs A. Hill (Leicester), cress dish and plate; Mr and Mrs R. Grigg (Leicester), fruit dishes; Mr T. Hyde and Mrs F. Perkins, fruit dishes and plates; Miss A. Beniston (Standard Hill), table cloth; Miss N. Beniston (Standard Hill), flower stands; Mr W.

Beniston (Standard Hill), flower stand; Mr and Mrs F. Beniston (Standard Hill), cheese dish; Miss D. Horne (Swannington), silver jam jar; Miss E. Adcock (Swannington), and Miss A. Baker (Coalville), teapot and stand; Mr and Mrs Stansall (Newark), copper kettle; office staff of No. 5 Depot Cpy, R.E. Newark, silver teapot and jam jar; Corporal and Mrs T. Morris (Newark), silver breakfast cruet; Mrs F. and Miss D. Spindlay (Newark), fancy table cloth; Miss N. and Master J. Selby (Newark), fruit dish; Sergeant H. Halford, R.E. Newark, silver salts; Mr and Mrs E. Wallam (Whitwick), set of jugs; Mr and Mrs Jelley (Whitwick), pair of jam dishes; Mr and Mrs W. Vesty (Whitwick), celery glass; Mr and Mrs W. Ward (Whitwick), flower pot; Mr and Mrs E. Aris (Whitwick), Crown Devon teapot and stand; Mr and Mrs T. E. Bourne (Whitwick), five o'clock tea cloth; Mr and Mrs O. Geary (New Swannington), cress dish and plate; Mr and Mrs J. Ward (Whitwick), pair of hair tides.

## **Coalville Tribunal**

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).

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.

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.

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.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

The Whitwick Theatre has been well patronised again this week, and a tip-top programme is being much enjoyed. During the early part of the week, "Should a Mother Tell?" was a good Fox film; No. 11 of "Liberty" was also good, along with others. For the week-end a splendid Edison drama is to be seen. "Shadows of the Past" being in four acts and full of incident. No. 8 of "The Laughing Mask" should also be seen. A good comedy is also being screened. Next week's see advert.

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

#### **Burials**

Brotherhood – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Agnes Brotherhood, aged 38 years of Leicester Road.

## **Friday April 27<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1312)**

### **Local News**

#### **Local Casualties**

Reported missing on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 1915, and in May

last was at Whitwick on leave. As far as is known, this is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

### **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, 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).

A farm labourer, employed by the Whitwick Colliery Co., aged 39, C2, married with seven children, appealing on domestic grounds was allowed two months.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House has seen some appreciative audiences again this week. The chief picture at the beginning of the week was "Kilmenny," a most excellent one. "Liberty" No. 12 was also enjoyable; as were others. The week-end 'star' is "The Way Back" an Edison masterpiece, and this must not be missed. No. 9 of "The Laughing Mask" will also please. See advert for next week's.

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

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.

## **Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1313)**

### **Local News**

#### **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.

### **Wesleyan School Sermons**

The school anniversary was observed at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday, when Mr A. G. Ottey conducted the children and choir in some excellent singing. The afternoon anthem was "Bless the Lord, O my Soul" (A. Clarke), in which there was a bass solo by Mr W. Fern, and a quartet by Miss Mann, Mrs Aris, Messrs. A. Clarke and J. B. Newbury. In the evening, the anthem was "The Lord is my Shepherd" (A. Clarke), Miss Mann taking the solo, and Mr A. Clarke, a recit. Miss E. Clarke was the organist. Two appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. J. W. Ferry, and the collections, which amounted to £22 6s 2d, were a record.

### **Whitwick Woman's Suicide**

#### *Body found in a brook near Loughborough*

The Deputy-Coroner (Mr T. J. Webb) held an inquest on Monday, at the Plough Inn, Thorpe Acre, near Loughborough, touching the death of Bridget McHugh, of Whitwick, whose body was found in the Dishley brook, on the previous day.

Michael McHugh, collier, of Rose Cottage, Whitwick, said his wife was 63 years of age. On Thursday morning she left home to go to her sister's funeral at Swinton, Yorkshire, and witness expected her back on Saturday evening. She did not arrive, and Mrs Slattery, who went to Swinton with her, said she missed her on the L. and N. W. station at Loughborough. Witness walked to Loughborough and back on Sunday, and made inquiries, and then reported the matter to the police. In the last 3 years the deceased had been rather queer and forgetful at times, but not particularly so of late, and witness had never thought she was likely to take her life.

Alice Slattery, Church Lane, Whitwick, said she went with deceased to Swinton, and returned to Loughborough with her on Saturday afternoon. They went to the London and North Western station and witness left deceased in the waiting room while she went to a shop. When she returned a few minutes later, deceased had gone. Witness searched for her till the next train, and then went on to Whitwick. Deceased had appeared very upset by her sister's death, and on the return journey had been very quiet, but nothing in her manner had suggested the idea of suicide.

Wilfred Price, mechanic, Regent Street, Loughborough, deposed to finding the body, and P.C. Wardle to recovering it from what was known as "the old bathing-place", in the brook near Dishley pond, where the water was about five feet deep. Deceased's cape was found rolled up on the bank.

The jury found that deceased committed suicide whilst of unsound mind.

### **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 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

### **Do You Know That**

Mr Harold Stinson, of Whitwick, gave two excellent recitals from Shakespeare at the Coalville Men's Adult School on Sunday morning?

### **Ashby Police Court**

Saturday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Mr J. G. Shields, Mr J. H. Sutton, Mr T. Varnham, Mr C. H. Parsons and Mr G. Brown

*Whitwick Bricklayer's Arrears*

John Bakewell (57), bricklayer, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Board of Guardians for being £2/19/- in arrears under an order to contribute 2s per week towards the maintenance of his wife. He did not appear. P.C. Betts said defendant told him he could not attend as he had the roof off his house (laughter). Jno. W. Bowley, relieving officer, said the man had earned 32s a week for the last six weeks. He never paid till forced. An order was made for payment of the amount due, and 6/6 costs, within seven days, or one month.

#### Coalville Urban Council

Mr T. Kelly presided at the monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban Council on Tuesday evening, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. J. Briers, T. Y. Hay, C. W. Brown, A. Lockwood, W. Fellows, and B. G. Hale, with the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson), surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), assistant surveyor (Mr G. F. Hurst) and gasworks manager (Mr J. W. Eagles).

#### *Plans*

It was resolved that Mr Brown be appointed chairman of the committee for the ensuing year. The following plan was recommended for approval – Extension to factory, Church Lane, Whitwick, for Messrs. Seal and Co.

#### *Highways*

The surveyor reported that the culvert on Leicester Road, Whitwick, had collapsed, and the repairs, which would necessitate the use of steel girders, was estimated to cost £100, and the committee recommend the surveyor proceed with the work, and also approach the Forest Rock Granite Co. as to their contributing towards the expense, the damage being partly brought about by the steam lorries used by the company, and Messrs. Hale and Griffin be appointed to confer with the surveyor if necessary.

#### *Surveyor's Department*

Mr Baldwin reported that during April 595 people were accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses compared with 662 the previous month, and 601 in April last year. The lime-washing of the houses had been done. He proposed to serve notice in respect of dangerous chimneys in Talbot Street, Whitwick.

#### **Round the Theatres**

##### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

“Two Roads” was a good one at the beginning of the week at Whitwick Picture House. It was a 4-reeler of exceptional merit, and was much enjoyed. No. 13 of “Liberty” too, was another good part of the excellent serial. Others were good. For the week-end there is an extra good film. “Blazing Love,” a magnificent Fox production, which will be enjoyed. No. 10 of “The Laughing Mask” must also be seen. It is a good part. Others are good. See advert for next week's.

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



## **Death of Mrs Roughton**

The death occurred on Wednesday in last week, of Mrs Eliza Roughton, wife of Mr James Roughton, of Colony House, Whitwick (on the Forest). The deceased lady was 77 years of age. The funeral took place at the Oaks Church, on Friday, the service being conducted by the Rev. A. Holt (vicar). The mourners were the husband, Mrs King, Mrs Stanton, Mrs J. King, Mrs Walker and Miss Roughton (daughters), Mr and Mrs L. Roughton, Mr and Mrs A. Roughton, Mr and Mrs J. Roughton, Mr and Mrs S. Roughton, Mr and Mrs J. H. Roughton (sons and daughters-in-law), Mrs Johnson and Mrs Gallon (grand-daughters). The body was enclosed in an oak coffin, and was interred in the churchyard.

Floral tributes were sent by the husband and daughters, Kitty, Nancy, George and Jim; Mary and Hannah; Sarah and John; Will and Harriett; Jim and Fanny; Mr and Mrs Allen (Charnwood Lodge Gate); friends at High Tor Farm; Mr and Mrs Taylor (Colony); and Mr and Mrs Hannigan (Colony).

## **Burials**

McHugh – At Whitwick on Wednesday, Bridget McHugh, aged 63 years, of Forest Cottage.

## **Friday May 11<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1314)**

### **Sales by Auction**

#### **German and German Whitwick**

Re: William Webster – Deceased – To close a trust

#### **Sale of Valuable Freehold Property**

German & German are favoured with instructions to offer for sale by public auction on Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917 at 4 o'clock prompt at the Railway Hotel, Whitwick, subject to conditions of sale as shall be then produced, embodying the common form Conditions of Sale of the Leicester Law Society.

All those seventeen valuable free hold cottages, with the gardens and workshop belonging thereto, situate in Whitwick, and having a frontage of 249 ft to the Loughborough Road, 5 of which are in the respective occupations of Messrs. Wesley, Parker, Lakin, Webster, and Robinson, and produce a gross annual rental of £40 6s. Total area, 5 Roods, 19 Perches.

### **Local News**

#### **Baptist School Anniversary**

Large congregations and the record collections of £20 marked the school anniversary services at the Baptist Chapel on Sunday, when the new pastor, the Rev. A. Dalton, late of South Wigston, was the preacher. Mr O. Geary, as usual, conducted the children in the singing of special hymns which were excellently rendered, that by the infants, "Around the

throne", being of Mr Geary's composition. The other hymns were, "Christ, we children come to Thee", (H. Buckley), "Onward, Christian Soldiers" (W. H. Jude), and "We are marching to a fight." (H. Buckley). The choir sang the anthem, "Not unto us, O Lord", (H. Buckley) in the afternoon, and "The Lord is my Shepherd" (Dennis) in the evening. Misses Bourne and Geary shared the duties of organist.

### **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.

### **Local Chit Chat**

Private W. Bottrill, of the R.A.M.C. formerly of Whitwick, writing to friends from Mesopotamia, on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 keep smiling. Hope you are all doing the same.*"

### **Local Casualties**

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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *Withdrawn*

George W. Haywood (26) collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not sending his child regularly to school. It was an adjourned case and as the child had since attended regularly, Mr C. Hart, school attendance officer, asked to withdraw the case, and the Bench agreed.

#### *No Licence*

William Fell (32), weaver, Whitwick, was summoned for keeping a dog without a licence. He pleaded guilty. P.C. Grewcock gave the facts and defendant was fined 15s or 14 days. Defendant said that when the policeman called he asked if they had a dog to sell (laughter).

#### *Bad News from the Front*

Hilda Dunbar (35), shop manageress, Whitwick, was summoned for a breach of the Lighting Regulations at Whitwick, on April 21<sup>st</sup>. 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.

#### *Lighting Offences*

James Freeman (17), labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a front light at Thringstone, on April 25<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Jones stated the case in the absence of the defendant, who was fined £1 1s, or 14 days. He failed to stop when called to by the policeman.

William Upton (18), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not having a red rear light on his bicycle at Whitwick on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley gave the facts, and defendant was fined 10/6 or 7 days.

### *Salmon-tin Football*

Alfred Underwood (22) of Shepshed, John Fewkes (18), Jos. Wilson (18) of Thringstone, Cyril Birkenshaw (17) and Ernest Moore (15), of Whitwick, all colliers, were summoned for playing football on the highway at Whitwick on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Underwood did not appear. P.C. Grewcock said the defendants were kicking a salmon tin about the street. Defendants were each fined 6s or seven days.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There was a good picture at the Whitwick Theatre at the beginning of the week entitled, "Sunshine and Shadows" a fine Pathe photoplay in five reels, and it was much appreciated. No. 14 of "Liberty" (A modern Joan of Arc) also was a good part. Others were excellent, and well-screened. For the week-end there is another fine Pathe film, viz., "The Light that Failed" a strong story from the famous novel by Rudyard Kipling. It is the class of picture which will appeal, and it must be seen. No. 11 of "The Laughing Mask" too, is a splendid part of this excellent serial, and will be enjoyed. See advert for next week's list, another good one.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Quemby – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Thomas Arthur Quemby, aged 10 months, of Church Lane.

## **Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1315)**

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House has had the usual good films and audiences this week, and the pictures have proved most enjoyable and interesting. In the first half of the week "The Tarantular" was a Vitagraph of great excellence, and was in five reels. No. 15 of "Liberty" was also much enjoyed, as were numerous other subjects. For the week-end "The Little Damozel" is the chief one. This is a film play adapted from the famous play by Monckton Hoffe, and produced by the Clarendon Film Co. in five reels. It is full of interest and should not be missed. No. 12 of "The Laughing Mask" will be appreciated. Others are good. See advert for next week's.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Colliery and Thornborough United met on Saturday and had a pleasant game in which Thornborough led at half-time by a goal, scored by D. Pollard. Cart put Thornborough another goal ahead in the second half, Thornborough thus winning by two goals to none. Mr W. Burford was referee.

## **Friday May 25<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1316)**

### **Local News**

The children of the Whitwick Holy Cross Infants' School presented a pretty picture as they marched into the spacious playground to celebrate the Festival of Empire. They had been dressed as soldiers, Red Cross nurses, etc. and all carried Union Jacks and wore red, white and blue favours. Having grouped themselves round a large Union Jack, the children were addressed by their headmistress, who told them in a few simple and happy words and the true meaning of phrase, "Empire Day". Then followed the singing of patriotic songs, and a song (by special request of the children) entitled "God Bless my Soldier Daddy". After three hearty cheers for the King and Queen, the salute of the flag, and the singing of the National Anthem, the happy children dispersed for the Whitsuntide holidays. The school reopens on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Local Casualties**

Official casualty lists published on Saturday showed that Pte. L. Haywood (Whitwick), of the Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) and Pte. E. Clarke (Whitwick) of the Northamptonshire Regiment, are reported wounded.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

### **School Cases**

David Boot (47) collier, Whitwick, similarly summoned (for neglecting to send his child regularly to school) was fined 4/-.

### **Whitwick Baptist Minister Called Up**

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 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup>, which he accepted and commenced his ministry on April 8<sup>th</sup>. 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 1916, was a regular minister of a religious denomination and the case was dismissed.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

There was a champion subject at the Whitwick Picture House during the early part of this week, entitled, "A Place in the Sun", a Turner drama in 5 reels, containing a splendid story. It was much appreciated and applauded by good audiences. No. 16 of "Liberty" was also much enjoyed as were all the other fine pictures screened. During the week-end patrons will be pleased with the "star". It is by E. Phillips Oppenheim, "A Game of Liberty", a film which is worth witnessing. The acting is splendid and the various incidents most interesting. No. 13 of "The Laughing Mask" is also a good part and patrons are no doubt beginning to "tumble" to who he really is. Others are good. See advert for next week's programme.

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

#### **Burials**

Hull – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Beatrice Jeffreys Hull, aged 47 years, of The Green, Thringstone.

Clarke – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Lily Clarke, aged 28 days, of Brook's Lane.

#### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of dear son, Eli Grant, who was killed in Whitwick Pit, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1916

*"We often pause to think of you, dear Eli,  
And wonder how it was done,  
With no one near you who loved you dear,  
Before you closed your eyes.*

*Friends may think we have forgotten you,  
When they often see us smile,*

*But little do they know the sorrow,  
That lies beneath the smile."*

*"Oh, if we could only hear those loving footsteps, and see that smiling face."*

From his ever sorrowing Father and Mother, Brothers and Sisters.

## **Friday June 1<sup>st</sup> 1917 (Issue 1317)**

### **Local Casualties**

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 3<sup>rd</sup>. The deceased soldier was 24 years of age, and single. He formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery. Joining the army on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1914, he went to France on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1915, and was twice wounded – on July 14<sup>th</sup>, and September 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House was well-attended during the holidays, and the programme was up to the usual standard of excellence, there being a fine selection of film stories. At the beginning of the week, "The Chattel" was a fine Vitagraph in 5 reels, and was full of interest. "The Feathered Nest" was a Triangle-Keystone comic which caused roars of laughter. Episode 17 of "Liberty" was also enjoyable; as were others shown. For the week-end patrons should see "Ambrosia" a Blue Bird 5-reel masterpiece, which will appeal strongly, also "Perils of the Park", another Triangle-Keystone, full of laughs. No. 14 of "The Laughing Mask" (The Unmasking of Davy) is also excellent; with others. See advert for next weeks.

## **Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1318)**

### **Situations Vacant**



Wanted – strong youth, from 14 to 16, for baking, and delivering. Apply H. Harrison, 69, North Street, Whitwick.

## **Local News**

### **Shocking Railway Fatality at Coalville**

#### *Former Whitwick Lady Killed*

A shocking fatality at the Coalville Midland Station crossing on Tuesday was the subject of an inquest by Mr T. J. Webb at the Coalville Police Station yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, the deceased being Mary Beckworth, aged 79, widow, of 263, Wigston Road, Leicester, and formerly of the Railway Hotel, Whitwick.

Mr George Fern, traffic inspector, Coalville, represented the Midland Railway Co., and Mr W. Halls of Nottingham was present in the interests of the National Union of Railwaymen. Under the new law, only seven jurymen were sworn.

The coroner said it was a sad case, and one which might have happened at any station in the kingdom. A bridge was provided, but people invariably chose to cross the line. The deceased was deaf, and as she wore spectacles, apparently her sight was not good.

Police Inspector Dobney said he went to the Station about 6.20 pm on hearing of the accident, and saw the body on a stretcher. The head, arms, and one leg were severed, and the other leg badly crushed. On the third finger of one hand was a wedding ring, and a gold keeper ring. Various other small articles and a purse containing a few coppers were found in the clothing. Deceased could not be recognised, but a bunch of ivy roots found near the body, was identified by Mrs Tunncliffe, of Whitwick, as the same she had tied up that day for the deceased, who was her aunt. She also identified the brooch.

Mabel Tunncliffe, wife of Archibald Tunncliffe, of 10, Cademan Street, Whitwick, said that by means of the ivy roots, umbrella, brooch, and a wooden spectacle case, she identified the deceased as her aunt, Mary Beckworth, of 263, Wigston Road, Leicester, widow of Thomas Beckworth, a former Whitwick inn-keeper. Witness accompanied her to the station, and as there was about ten minutes till the train was due, deceased told her she need not wait. Witness offered to go to the other side of the line with her, but she said she could manage. Deceased was accustomed to going by train. She was very deaf.

Horace Harrison, office boy, residing at 21, Park Road, Coalville, said he was passing the Midland Station about a quarter past six on Tuesday evening. The gates were closed and he had to go over the bridge. He was looking towards the station side and saw an engine, tender first, and van, coming from the direction of Mantle Lane. It was then close to the bridge and was not going very fast. He saw the deceased approach to cross the line, and she was right in front of the engine when it knocked her down and passed over her. He heard no one shout, nor the sound of a whistle.

Allan Walne, errand boy, of the Crescent, Bardon Hill, said he was going home by the 6.20 train and in the booking hall saw the deceased. She was dressed in black, and was carrying an umbrella and some green stuff. She was just about in front of him getting her ticket and booked for Leicester. He had crossed to the other platform when the engine

passed, and when it had gone by he saw the old lady's body, head and a hand lying on the line. He had often seen people cross the line and always did so himself, though there were boards up warning people to cross by the bridge.

Arthur Chamberlain, of Birchfield Street, Leicester, stated that he had been an engine-driver on the Midland Railway for over ten years, and on Tuesday last, was driving an engine and guard's van from Mantle Lane to Whitwick siding and was running tender first. there was a heap of coal on the tender, and as they went through the station he was leaning over the side and could see along the side of the tender, but he saw no one on the line. The first intimation he had of the accident was when the engine gave a slight jump, and he immediately applied the brakes. They were travelling about seven miles an hour. Witness had his back to the stoker, and could not say whether the latter was looking out at the time. It was impossible for witness to see the deceased from his side.

*By a juror: He might have seen her had the engine been running chimney first. It was customary to blow the whistle when approaching a station or level crossing, and he had done that at the other end of the platform.*

*By Mr Halls: He was driving what was known as a "Zeppelin" engine.*

It was explained that this meant an engine with a covering over the footplate, and attached to the tender. Witness said there were not windows in the covering on the tender side, but there was an opening. He could see better looking over the side. Mr Fern explained that several engines had to be hurriedly fitted with these caps to obscure the fire from Zeppelins.

Richard Maunder, of 20, Margaret Street, Coalville, said he had been a stoker for 19 years. He was on this engine, and was looking out at the time, but he saw no one on the line.

*By a juror: If the engine had been proceeding the ordinary way he could have seen anything on the line.*

The Coroner said he thought the evidence of identification was satisfactory. As to the accident, when the railway company had provided a bridge, people crossed the line at their own risk. With the engine running as it was, it was difficult for the driver or fireman to see anything on the line. Both had stated that they were looking out.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death" and attached no blame to the driver or fireman, but they considered it dangerous to run engines tender first on main lines. The foreman (Mr C. H. March) expressed the jury's sympathy with the relatives, in which Mr Halls joined. The Coroner said the jury's recommendation would be sent to the Secretary of State. He added that he thought the two boys gave their evidence very well (hear, hear).

## **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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

Ptes. G. Bailey, S. Hudson (Ashby), F. Hall (Whitwick) and T. Curtis (Coalville) all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

### **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 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 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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr B. G. Hale and Mr John Wootton.

#### *Without Lights*

Joseph Williamson, collier, Coalville, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a front light at Whitwick, on May 27<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Jelley said he met the defendant at 11 pm. Defendant, who said he could not make the lamp burn, was fined 7/6 or seven days.

For a similar offence, Thomas Hurst (25), collier, Whitwick, was fined 12/- or seven days. Sergeant Betts said the defendant had no light back or front. It was 11.10 pm when he saw Hurst at the Sharpley cross roads.

Thomas Dawkins (50), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for driving a carriage without a front light at Coalville on May 26<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. Inspector Dobney said it was 10.40 and defendant was leading the pony with no light back or front. He said he expected to get home sooner. Fined 7/6 or seven days.

### **Sunday Gambling**

#### *Batch of cases at the Coalville Police Court*

The proceedings at the Coalville Police Court on Friday revealed to what extent gaming with coins and cards is carried on by young colliery workers in the district on Sundays, there being no less than 32 defendants charged with this kind of offence, or with aiding and abetting. The ages mostly ranged from 15 to 21 years.

Samuel Clarke (16), Cyril Birkenshaw (16), Ernest Moore (16) and Joseph Roulstone (15), pit boys, Whitwick, were summoned for gaming with copper pence at Whitwick, on May 13<sup>th</sup>. None of them appeared. P.C. Grewcock said he saw the defendants playing "heading" on the Sharpley Road. He was in plain clothes. It was a regular thing on Sundays, and the police were frequently getting complaints. No matter which road one went there was a gang of them. A lot of money was won and lost every Sunday. Each defendant was fined 15/- or 14 days.

George Robinson (21), Henry Garrett (19), Thomas Middleton (17), Joseph Middleton (15) and Albert Moore (15), colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for playing with copper pence at Whitwick on May 20<sup>th</sup>, and Ernest Wheeldon (18), Herbert Moore (17) and John Costello (15), colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for aiding and abetting. None of them appeared. P.C. Jelley said he secreted himself under a hedge and saw the defendants playing "heading" on a footpath. Fined 15/- each or 14 days.

Melville Cufflin (18), John Newell (18), Edward Hurst (19) and Frederick Hawkins (18), were summoned for gaming with cards at Thringstone on May 20<sup>th</sup>, and Richard Cufflin (19), Frederick Upton (20), and Robert Smith (20), all colliers, Whitwick, for aiding and abetting. None of them appeared. P.C. Jones said he was on the Warren Road on Sunday afternoon, and saw the defendants playing "all fours".

The clerk: *What's that?*

James said it was so much a corner. Sometimes it was a shilling or two shillings a corner. If they had plenty of money they had what was called a "John Bradbury" corner, which meant a 10/- note. Richard Cufflin, Newell and Hawkins were each fined £1, and the others 15/- each, or 14 days.

The chairman said the Bench were determined to stop this Sunday gambling and future offenders would be more severely dealt with.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House has a very fine "show" again this week, and the large numbers of patrons attending have greatly enjoyed the "fare" provided. During the first half of the week, "The Secrets of Society" a fine Fox drama, featuring that great film actress, Theda Bara, was a strong melodrama, in five reels, and it was full of interest, receiving much applause. "Fido's Fate" was a merrymaking Triangle-Keystone, causing much laughter. Episode 18 of "Liberty" was a good part, and was watched with interest. Also others. For the week-end there is a strong racing drama entitled, "The Thoroughbred" featuring Frank Keenan. This is a most exciting film, and will strongly appeal to patrons. There is also included among other good ones, another Triangle-Keystone comedy, entitled "The Winning Punch" a most laughable piece. Next week's see advert.

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

#### **Burials**

Whittaker – At Whitwick on Thursday, Wm. Whittaker, aged 72 years, of Albert Street, Coalville.

Moore – At Whitwick on Monday, Wm. Raymond Moore, aged 3 months, of Cademan Street.

## **Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1319)**

### **Whitwick Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund**

Whitwick Swifts Committee combined with the flower show committee for the above fund, wish to thank the public generally and all subscribers for their kindness in supporting them in sending out another parcel to the Whitwick lads who are nobly serving their King and country. Subscriptions were as follows:- Mrs Haydock £1 1s, A. E. Hawley, Esq, £1, E. M. P. de Lisle Esq, £1, J. H. Robinson, Esq, 10s 6d, Sir Maurice Levy, M.P. 10s, J. J. Sharp, Esq, 5s, S. Broadway, Esq, 5s, Mrs Charles Booth, 5s, Messrs A. West 2/6, J. Massey 2/6, Patrick O'Mara 2/6, M. Shea 2/6, Joseph Burton 2/6, A. Briers 2s, and four other gentlemen 1s each.

From Prize Drawing, football match, whist drive etc. we have realised the total sum of £44/18/4. We have already sent out 197 parcels costing £44/6/6; leaving a small amount in the treasurer's hands of 11/10.

We, the undersigned, have examined the above accounts and all particulars relating to same, and found them correct.

M. J. O'Reilly, Anthony Needham – auditors  
Jerry Rose, John Waterfield – Hon. Secretaries

### **Do You Know That**

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?

### **Local Casualties**

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 5<sup>th</sup>, and is now in hospital in Scotland. His injuries are to his left wrist and right foot.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

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.

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 onto 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.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House has been well-patronised again this week, and a strong list of films is being screened. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "Her Life in London", a masterpiece in four reels, which was much enjoyed; "Liberty", No. 19, was also good, and "Vampire Ambrose", a Triangle-Keystone comic in two parts caused much laughter. Others were excellent. For the week-end there is a grand Triangle drama of the highest order, entitled "The Deserter", a most exciting picture of the old time struggles between the American Indians and the white settlers; the final episode of "The Laughing Mask" is also to be seen, and a Triangle-Keystone comedy, "A Social Club". Others are good. See advert for next week's list.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Beckworth – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Mary Beckworth, aged 79 years, of Wigston Road, Leicester.

Needham – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Frances Needham, aged 70 years, of Hermitage Road.

## **Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1320)**

### **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.

### **Memorial Service**

A memorial service for Ptes. J. A. Moulton, A. Worrall 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.

### **Arrears of Rent**

At the Ashby County Court yesterday, John Underwood, baker and grocer of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, sued Mary Ellen Cross, wife of a soldier, of the same address for 19/3 arrears of rent. The woman said the rent had been paid and produced a rent book in support of this. Plaintiff said the entries in the book were not his. After asking the parties to write certain words, His Honour gave judgement for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

### **Local Casualties**

Previously reported missing, Pte. F. Haywood (Whitwick) of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, is now reported wounded and a prisoner of war.

Lance-Corporal B. Morley (Whitwick) and Pte. J. Callier (Ellistown) both of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported killed in action.

News was received from the War Office on Wednesday night that Sapper Herbert Briers of the Royal Engineers, was killed in action on June 7<sup>th</sup>. 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.

Previously reported wounded, Pte. T. Brotherhood (Whitwick) of the Machine Gun Corps, is now reported wounded and missing.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

No. 1 of "The Shielding Shadow" pleased the Whitwick Picture House patrons during the beginning of the week. It is a grand serial, and should not be missed. Final episode of "Liberty" proved interesting, and a Triangle-Keystone comedy "Two o'clock Train" caused much merriment. Others were good. For the week-end "The Great White Way" is a magnificent photoplay in four reels, featuring J. Warren-Kerrigan. It is a good one, and patrons should make a point of seeing it. No. 2 of "The Purple Domino" another serial must be seen. Also another good comic "Maid Mad" and numerous others. Next week's see advert.

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

#### **Obituary**

The funeral took place at Whitwick on Monday, of Mr Arthur Edward Whitmore, of Leicester Road, whose death at the age of 17 years is much deplored. Deceased was a teacher in the P.M Sunday School and a member of the Christian Endeavour. He was also in the Oddfellow's club. A large number of people attended the funeral, the service at which was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Wales. Wreaths were sent by his father, mother, Sam and Evelyn; the teachers and scholars of the P.M. Sunday School; Kittie and Lizzie; Grandma, Jennie and Eliza; Uncle Edmund and Aunt Mary; Arnold Quemby; Lizzie, Albert, Nellie and Wilfred; Mr and Mrs W. Waterfield; the P.M. Christian Endeavour Society; Aunt Sally; Mr and Mrs Springthorpe and family; Uncle Walter and Aunt Alice; grandparents and Frank; Mrs Burkitt; Bill Smith; Aunts and Uncles; Frances and Adelaide Newton; Mrs Renell, senr. and an artificial wreath and globe from the P.M. Bible Class.

#### **Burials**

Whitmore – At Whitwick, on Monday, Arthur Edward Whitmore, aged 17 years, of Leicester Road.

Harris – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Elizabeth Harris, aged 84 years, of Olive Cottage, Hermitage Road.

Richards – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Edward Richards, aged 28 years of Cademan Street.

### **Friday June 29<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1321)**

#### **Do You Know That**

The officials and workmen of the Whitwick Colliery at the Fox and Goose Hotel tomorrow night will make a presentation of a gold watch to Mr George P. Hay, as a token of their



esteem and good wishes on his leaving the colliery to become manager of the Tankersley Colliery, near Barnsley, Yorkshire?

### **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.

### **Local Casualties**

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.

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 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Whitwick's Third Military Medallist**

#### *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**

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).

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.

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.

A loader at the Whitwick quarry, 41, passed B1, married with four children, was allowed two months.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There is a long list of excellent pictures showing at the Whitwick Picture House this week, and there have been the usual good 'houses' who have shown much appreciation. The 'star' at the beginning of the week was "The Woman who Won", a very good one, well produced. It was the story of a woman who lost and regained her husband. No. 2 of "The Shielding Shadow" was watched with breathless interest. a good Triangle-Keystone was "She Loved a Sailor", full of laughs. Others were good. For the week-end "The Alibi" is a fine Vitagraph 5-reeler, and is a drama with a gripping story, which will please patrons. No. 3 of "The Purple Domino" should be seen, also "Never Again", another Triangle-Keystone of a fine type. See advert elsewhere for next week's list.

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

#### **Burials**

Griffin – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, George Frederick Thomas Griffin, aged 20 years, of Pare's Hill.

### **Friday July 6<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1322)**

#### **Local Chit Chat**

Writing in the June issue of the "Whitwick Parish Magazine" the vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A.) makes some interesting comments on Whitwick wake. He states, "*The 24<sup>th</sup> of this month is St. John the Baptist's Day. It may interest many to learn that an annual fair has been held in Whitwick ever since the year 1293, when John Comyn, who owned Whitwick at that time, obtained from King Edward I the right to hold the fair on the eve and day of St. John the Baptist, and two days following. The four days are mentioned in the grant. At the same time John Comyn obtained from the King the grant of a market to be held in Whitwick on Tuesdays, and for about six centuries, Whitwick was the market town and centre of this district. In quite recent years, the inhabitants through their representatives, consented that this ancient market should be transferred to Coalville. The John Comyn who obtained these rights for Whitwick, was the son of Alexander Comyn, Earl of Buchan, who married Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of Roger de Quincey, Earl of Winchester. Elizabeth owned Charley, and when she became Countess of Buchan, Whitwick also passed through her to the Comyns. Whitwick Church, which was in existence before the market and fair, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.*"

## **Whitwick Woman's Lapse**

### *Money Stolen from a Neighbour's House*

At the Coalville Police Court, on Friday, Florence Brealey (38), married, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing one £1 Treasury note, and £1/11/2 in money at Whitwick on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Defendant, who appeared with a baby in her arms, and was allowed to be seated, pleaded guilty.

P.S. Betts stated that having received information of the offence, he made enquiries and saw the defendant. He told her he was enquiring about a Treasury note, and bag of money stolen from the house of Wm. Moore, on Friday night. She replied, "*I have not taken it, and I am sure I don't know anything about it.*" He told her that he strongly suspected her, and cautioned her. She repeated that she knew nothing about it. In the course of further conversation, she admitted that she did not take the note out of Mr Moore's pocket, but she did not know anything about the bag. He told her he suspected her of stealing the bag. He told her he suspected her of stealing the bag as well, and after some hesitation, she said, "*I might as well tell you the truth; I did take the bag as well. I hid it under a door in an outbuilding in the yard.*" She took him to the place, and he found the bag there, pushed through a hole in the door. It contained 6/9 in coppers, and she also handed him 5/3 which she said she had taken out of the bag. She said, "*I can't tell you what was in the bag when I took it.*" Mr and Mrs Moore identified the bag as one missing from off some drawers. He also recovered a £1 Treasury note from a place where the woman had made some purchases. Wm. Moore, collier, and manager of a lodging house in the City of Dan, said he left the bag on the drawers downstairs. It contained £1/11/2 in silver and coppers. The £1 note was in a wallet in his pocket. They were missing when he got up, and he reported it to the police. Defendant said she was sorry. It was her first offence, and she would not do anything of the sort again. She would pay the money back. She had six children. Moore, recalled, said the woman was not a friend of theirs and had not been in the habit of going into the house. She had come to the door sometimes and the drawers could be seen from there. Answering the clerk, the defendant said her husband was a stallman at a colliery.

Defendant was fined 30s and 8/6 witness's fee, or 21 days. She asked for time to pay, and was allowed a fortnight. She was cautioned by the chairman, and said she would not do it

again. The Bench ordered the money recovered to be handed back to Moore, and the clerk told the woman she ought to pay them the balance, 19/2. She said she would.

### **The Wake**

Before the war Whitwick Wake used to be regarded by local residents as an important event, but the strenuous times in which we are now living have caused it to be short of much of its old-time glory. There was a good number of visitors on Monday evening, and the shows were located in Church Lane. In the old days there used to be a friendly societies' church parade, and several club dinners, but these have now been dispensed with, the annual "feasts" especially, at this time being out of the question. The Wake dates from 1293.

### **Public Meeting**

A public meeting, moderately attended, was held in the Whitwick P.M. School on Saturday evening, under the auspices of the Coalville Co-Operative Education Committee. Mr J. H. Gilberd, presided, and addresses on the aims and principles of co-operation were given by Mr M. Armson (Ibstock), and Mr T. G. Marson (Coalville). Miss Ada Hallam and Mr J. E. Heath, Leicester, gave songs, Mr T. Mason also of Leicester, being the accompanist. On the motion of Mr Briers seconded by Mr Saunders, a vote of thanks was accorded the speakers and singers, and Mr Heath replied.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

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).

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.

Three months were allowed a C2 farm labourer, 39, employed by the Whitwick Colliery, the man having a wife and seven children.

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.

## **Local Casualties**

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.

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 7<sup>th</sup>. 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.

Signaller J. W. Brotherhood, of the Leicestershire Regiment, writing from France states that the report in the "Coalville Times" of June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

## **Presentation to Whitwick Colliery Official**

### *Mr George Hay Leaving for Yorkshire*

An interesting event took place at the Fox and Goose Hotel, Coalville, on Saturday evening when the officials and workmen of the Whitwick Colliery presented Mr George P. Hay, late surveyor and assistant manager of the colliery, with a gold watch, as a mark of their esteem and good wishes on his leaving to become manager of the Tankersley Colliery, near Barnsley.

Mr James Smith presided, and there was a good number present. In opening the proceedings, the chairman referred to the strenuous times in which they met and expressed the hope that the war would soon be brought to a victorious conclusion. Having proposed the health of the King, to which the company warmly responded, he said they had assembled that night to honour and show their esteem for a young man of whom they all felt very proud. They had seen him grow up and knew that he was a chip off the old block, a worthy son of his father, their esteemed manager (cheers). Mr George Hay was the straightest man he had ever met, and they all wished him God speed. If he displayed the same zeal and good qualities in the future as in the past they had no doubt whatever about his success (applause).

Mr Walter Lindley, J.P. (secretary to the company), in making the presentation, said it was a great thing for a young man to start off with the esteem of his fellow workmen, and it must be a source of pleasure to a father to know that of his son. He had watched the

career of Mr George Hay, and had noticed his zeal in educational matters, particularly his efforts to improve his knowledge in mining science, and every success was due to him. It was a pleasure to hear that he had secured a post under his uncle, who would no doubt be a great help to him. There were two danger points in a man's life - when he was at that age, and when he was over 50. He could either make or mar his life very soon then. In asking Mr Hay's acceptance of the watch, he assured him of the esteem in which he was held by them all, and of their good wishes for his future success (cheers).

The inscription on the watch was as follows, "*Presented to G. P. Hay Esq. by the officials and workmen of the Whitwick Collieries, June 1917.*"

Mr T. Y. Hay (manager of the colliery) said he was pleased to be there on that occasion and to know that among the workmen and officials there was such a good feeling towards his son. He went on to speak of the difficulty which a father sometimes experienced to knowing what to have his sons trained for. He had two sons and decided that one should follow his own profession, and he was proud of the successes which George had obtained during his educational career (applause). He thanked them from the bottom of his heart for their kindness to his son that evening (cheers).

Mr James Peace (a workman returned from the Front) said there was no man he was better pleased to see when he came back from France and have a chat with than Mr George Hay. (Applause).

Mr G. Thomas (another workman) said he had never heard a bad word of Mr George Hay among the workmen. Whenever he had encountered the men in working places in the mine or elsewhere he had always been courtesy itself and they liked his nice manner (cheers). Mr W. Price (under-manager) said they were sorry to lose Mr Hay, but were glad he was improving his position. The biggest job about a mine was in dealing with the men. Mr Hay, by his straightforward and honest manner, had always got on well with the men at Whitwick and he (Mr Price) had no doubt that he would do so in Yorkshire (cheers).

Mr A. G. Greensmith and Mr F. Smith (under-managers) added their testimony, and Mr Bert Morris (electrician) said he was losing a friend. Mr George Hay was not only a mining man, but in matters of electricity he had proved one of the best helps that he (Mr Morris) ever had (cheers). There were also short speeches by Messrs. W. Colver, L. Clarke, and S. Goacher (clerks) and J. Harrison (fitter).

Mr George P. Hay, responding, said he thanked them all very much. When he started in mining he soon thought that he knew a lot, but he realised as the time passed on that he had a lot to learn. He expressed his appreciation of the technical classes, remarking that he had been much helped by the County Council who were only too willing to do what they could for any young people anxious to get on. He was sorry to leave the Whitwick Colliery, but he was pleased to say that though he was leaving a good firm, he was going to another as good. It had been mentioned previously in the meeting that he had not been in the habit of telling tales. The reason for that was simple, it was not to his interest. When he went to a working man and asked him a question, it was to get something out of him, and if he had told tales, he could not have expected the men to tell him much. It was best to be straight (cheers). He concluded by again thanking them all.

A vote of thanks to Mr Lindley, proposed by Mr W. Price, and seconded by Mr G. Hay, was heartily accorded, as was a similar vote to the chairman, proposed by Mr Greensmith and seconded by Mr Morris. The proceedings closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House has been well patronised this week, and an extraordinarily good list of picture subjects has been greatly enjoyed. The chief feature at the commencement of the week was that fine drama adapted from Duma's famous novel, "The Three Musketeers". It was produced by the Triangle Co. in a masterly style, and was in five reels. No. 3 of "The Shielding Shadow" also, was very acceptable to the audiences; and others shown were good. For the week-end, there is another one which will suit Whitwick picturegoers, viz. "Molly Bawn" from the novel by Mrs Hungerford. Alma Taylor is very good in this, and should not be missed. No. 44 of "The Purple Domino" is among other numerous subjects. Next week's see advert.

### **Friday July 13<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1323)**

#### **Local Chit Chat**

##### **Local Casualties**

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.

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 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup>. Both are in the Leicestershire Regiment.

##### **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 26<sup>th</sup> 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.



## **Coalville Tribunal**

### *Butcher's Cases Again Considered*

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.

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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

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.

### **Do You Know That**

After 40 years in the Primitive Methodist ministry, the Rev. J. A. Wales has this week been superannuated and is being succeeded at Whitwick by the Rev. J. J. Hutchinson from Burslem?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The Whitwick Theatre has been well-patronised again this week, and a most excellent list of films is being screened in the usual fine style. At the commencement of the week there was a four-reel Triangle comedy-drama of a powerful character, entitled "Four Irish Girls". Featured were Bessie Barriscale and Charles Ray, and the acting, needless to say, was all that could be desired. It was much enjoyed. No. 4 of "The Shielding Shadow" was good, and "Ambrosio's Rapid Rise", Triangle-Keystone comic, caused much amusement. Others were good. For the week-end, there is another that should be seen by patrons, viz., "Her Marriage Lines", a really fine Hepworth's production. "The Purple Domino", No. 5, will, no doubt, prove interesting. And a good laugh will be assured by "Tugboat Romeo", Triangle-Keystone comedy. Next week's see advert.

### **Friday July 20<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1324)**

#### **Local Chit Chat**

##### **40 Years in the P.M. Ministry**

###### *Presentation to the Rev. J. A. and Mrs Wales, at Whitwick*

In connection with the termination of the ministry of the Rev. J. A. Wales, a farewell service was held at the Whitwick P.M. Church on Sunday. Mr W. G. Wheatley presided, and spoke in appreciation of the ministry of Mr Wales, and also of the great help Mrs Wales had rendered to the church. Several others added their testimony to the faithful service accomplished by both Mr and Mrs Wales. The Rev. J. A. Wales has just completed forty years' unbroken service in the ministry, upon which he was heartily congratulated and was assured that both himself and Mrs Wales were leaving with the best wishes of the church and congregation.

Councillor A. J. Briers then presented Mr and Mrs Wales with an envelope containing Treasury notes on behalf of the members and congregation of the Whitwick church, as a token of appreciation of their faithful service, and especially thanked Mrs Wales for her splendid and devoted work in the Sunday School. The Rev. J. A. and Mrs Wales very feelingly acknowledged the gift. The service closed with the singing of the hymn, "God be with you till we meet again." The Rev. J. A. and Mrs Wales left Whitwick on Tuesday for Old Leake, Lincolnshire, where they will reside.

##### **Egg and Flower Services**

On Sunday, egg and flower services were held at the Whitwick Baptist Church and were well-attended. The Rev. A. Dalton (pastor) was the preacher and there was special singing, the scholars repeating their anniversary hymns. There was a good contribution of

eggs and flowers. Collections were made in aid of the church funds. On Monday, there was a musical evening, arranged by Mr and Mrs W. Smith, some capital items being given by the Coalville Concert Party. Light refreshments were provided and there was a silver collection for the church funds. It was one of the most successful efforts made in connection with the church for some years.

### **Local Casualties**

Pte. J. H. Betts (Whitwick) of the York and Lancaster Regiment is reported wounded.

### **Do You Know That**

The Rev. J. J. Hutchinson, of Burslem, the newly-appointed minister, will commence his duties in the Coalville P.M. Circuit, on Sunday next, and will be welcomed at a meeting of the Whitwick Chapel tomorrow night?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr B. G. Hale

#### *School Cases*

John Wardle (40), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to send his two children, Lily and Catherine, regularly to school. His wife appeared. Charles Hart, school attendance officer, Measham, gave the facts and a fine of 5/- in each case was imposed.

#### *Lighting Offences*

Napthalie Smith (18), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a front light at Whitwick on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jones said he met the defendant at 11.50 pm. He had the lamp in his pocket, saying it would not burn. Fined 7/6 or seven days.

John Newell (18), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a red rear light at Whitwick, on July 1<sup>st</sup>. P.C. Jelley proved the case, stating that defendant told him he had lent his bicycle to someone and had to get another to go and find them. Fined 10/6 or seven days.

#### *Refused to be Sworn*

William Bishop (54) general dealer, Coalville, was summoned for selling goods after 9 pm at Whitwick, on Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded not guilty. P.C. Jelley said he was on duty at Whitwick Wake at 10.45 pm and saw defendant selling goods from a toy stall. He said he knew the law, and persisted in selling after they had spoken to him. P.C. Jones corroborated, stating that there was a crowd round the stall, and defendant was doing a good trade. Defendant strongly denied some of the police statements.

The clerk: *Do you wish to give evidence?*

Defendant said he did, and went into the witness box, but he refused to take the Testament and be sworn, adding, "*The Book bids me not to swear by anything.*"

The clerk: *Get out of the box then if you are not going to take the oath in an proper manner.*

Defendant: *That is not the proper manner according to the Word of God. Yours is an improper manner. It bids me swear by nothing. "Let your yea be yea and your nay, nay."*

He denied being defiant to the police, or selling goods after they had spoken to him. He said he was not proceeded against for selling from his stall in Warwickshire and Nottinghamshire.

Fined one guinea or fourteen days.

### *To Pay the Costs*

George Tompkins (30), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for day poaching at Whitwick, on June 14<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty. Trevor Pratt, gamekeeper, said he saw the defendant on the Monastery Road with a dog, which put up a pheasant. Mr de Lisle did not press the case. Defendant was ordered to pay 5/6 costs.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House Whitwick*

There was a very good film shown at the beginning of the week at Whitwick Picture House entitled, "East is East," a romance of Cockney life. It featured Miss Florence Turner and Henry Edwards, two noted film players who were extra in this. It was much appreciated. No. 5 of "The Shielding Shadow" was also enjoyed; and a Triangle-Keystone comedy viz., "Dollars and Sense" caused some amusement. Others were good. For the week-end "The Love Liar" is the chief one and is a Centaur masterpiece, in 4-reels. No. 6 of "The Purple Domino" should also be seen; and a good Triangle-Keystone comic, "Pills of Peril". For next week's list, see advert elsewhere.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Hall – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Clara Hall, aged 10 days, of Silver Street.

## **Friday July 27<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1325)**

### **Miscellaneous**

Lost – 22<sup>nd</sup> July, between Top of Dumps and 55 Talbot Street, Whitwick, gold-framed eye-glasses. Finder will be rewarded on returning same to 55, Talbot Street.

## **Local Chit Chat**

### **New P.M. Minister**

### *Hearty Welcome at Whitwick*

Representatives from all parts of the Coalville Primitive Methodist Circuit attended the Whitwick Chapel in good numbers on Saturday evening to welcome the new minister, the Rev. J. J. Hutchinson, of Burslem, who succeeds the Rev. J. A. Wales, retired.

Mr J. R. Bennett of Coalville, the circuit steward presided, and in opening the proceedings referred to the fact that the new minister had been recently married. In the name of the circuit he extended a cordial welcome to Mr and Mrs Hutchinson, and wishes them much happiness.

There were also a few words of welcome by the representatives of the different societies in the circuit, Mrs Clibbery speaking for Coalville, Mrs Wheatley and Mr J. H. Lakin for Whitwick, Mr G. Preston for Swannington, Mr G. Forman for Ibstock, Mrs Varnham for Ellistown, Messrs. J. and L. Anderson for Markfield and the circuit minister, the Rev. T. J. Martin, welcomed the newcomer and colleague. The Rev. J. J. Hutchinson expressed the hearty thanks of Mrs Hutchinson and himself for their kind reception. He said he recognised that owing to the war conditions their stay might not be a long one, but be that as it may he should endeavour to do his duty, and whether they stayed 12 months or more he hoped that his services would give satisfaction in all departments. His first impressions of the district were very favourable and, he hoped, would be continued and strengthened.

### **Local Casualties**

In a long list of wounded Leicesters, published on Friday, appeared the names of Ptes. A. Harley, J. W. Tugby and E. F. Griffin (Whitwick).

### **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 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

### **Do You Know That**

On and after the 31<sup>st</sup> inst. Whitwick Post Office will be closed for the weekly half holiday on Tuesdays from 2pm to 5pm instead of 1pm to 5pm?

A ball, on stand, will be given by Messrs. A. Wilkins and Son for the best bowling performance in the 'Coalville Times' Cricket Cup final to be played on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

"The Dollar and the Law" was the title of a splendid Blue Ribbon feature film shown at the Picture House at the commencement of this week. The story depicted the influence of money for good or evil. It was watched with evident interest. "Laundry Liz" was a Triangle-

Keystone which caused much laughter, and No. 6 "Shielding Shadow" with many other fine productions were much appreciated. For the weekend, "Through the Wall" is one of the finest detective stories ever filmed, and should not be missed. Also, No. 7 of "The Purple Domino" is good, and "A Movie Star" will ensure a good laugh. Others should not be missed. Next week's see advert.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Chambers – At Whitwick, on Saturday. Wm. Chambers, aged one day, of Green Lane.

## **Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1326)**

### **Local News**

#### **An Unreported Accident**

At the meeting of the Midland Miners' Fatal Accident Relief Society at Derby on Tuesday, Arthur Edward Whitmore, deceased, Whitwick Colliery, was alleged to have sustained an accident which was not reported to the company. No inquest was held, and the registrar's certificate gave erysipelas and syncope as the cause of death. Later, the deceased's father ascertained that the erysipelas was probably set up by an injury to the lad's nose while following his employment. Directions were given that in the event of a doctor certifying to this effect the usual benefit be paid.

#### **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.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

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 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).

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).

### **Local Casualties**

A list of wounded Leicesters published on Monday contained the names of Lance-Corporal A. E. Beale (Whitwick) and Private A. E. Potter (Coalville).

### **Do You Know That**

Mr A. G. Greensmith, of London Road, Coalville, late under-manager at Whitwick Colliery has been appointed manager of the Coleorton Colliery?

Mr W. Rowell, of Crescent Road, Hugglescote, late deputy at the South Leicestershire Colliery, has been appointed under-manager at No.5 Whitwick Colliery?

The last quarter's statistics of the membership of the Midland District Miners' Fatal Accident Relief Society show increases of 53 at Snibston Colliery, 60 at Whitwick, 34 at Worthington and decreases of 39 at Ibstock and 56 at South Leicestershire?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr J. W. West and Mr John Wootton.

#### *Application Granted*

Application to proceed for a warrant of ejectment against Mary E. Cross (26), married, of Whitwick, was made by Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, representing the owner of the house. The application was granted and defendant ordered to pay the costs.

The clerk: *You have half-a-crown to pay.*

Defendant: *You'll have a job. I haven't got it.*

Mr Sharp: *That is how it has been for weeks and weeks.*

#### *Soldier's Wife Fined*



Phoebe Armstead (38), married of Whitwick, was summoned for not sending her child Lilian regularly to school. She did not appear. Henry Freeman, school attendance officer, said the woman was summoned in February for the same girl. She had given a lot of trouble. She was the wife of a soldier, and received £3 per week besides what she earned working on munitions. Fined 10s or seven days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

There is an exceptionally good programme being screened at the Whitwick Picture House this week, which has come in for much praise from the numerous patrons attending. The chief one at the commencement of the week was "The Ware Case" a fine Broadwest production of the highest order. The story was excellent, the famous actor, Matheson Lang, being "great". The remark was heard that this film alone was worth the admission money, and we quite agree. Others were good. During the week-end there is another strong one, which will please, "The Blue Envelope Mystery", a greater Vitagraph subject; with numerous others. See advert for next week's.

### **Friday August 10<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1327)**

#### **Do You Know That**

Whitwick boy scouts have been camping on the Forest this week, and on Sunday morning marched to Shepshed Parish Church?

#### **Local Casualties**

News was received in Whitwick yesterday that Private Concannon, one of Whitwick's Military Medallists, was killed in action on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House has been the rendezvous of crowds of people this week, to witness another fine programme of pictures, which were of a very high-class order. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "Comin' Thro' the Rye" a fine Hepworth production, adapted from Helen Mathers' famous novel. There was vocal accompaniment

to this picture by Miss M. Foster, of Loughborough, and it was much enjoyed. No. 8 of "The Shielding Shadow" and "The Lady Traveller" (Keystone) were pleasing pictures, and others were good. A grand Vitagraph picture play is the chief one for the week-end, viz., "A Prince in a Pawn Shop" a piece that must not be missed. Also, No. 9 of "The Purple Domino" and a Keystone comedy, "His Last Scent", a scream. See advert for next week's list.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Obituary**

We regret to announce the death of Mrs Philip Aris, wife of Mr Philip Aris, tobacconist, of Silver Street, Whitwick, after a painful illness. The funeral takes place on Sunday.

### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of William Massey, of the Leicestershire Regiment, killed somewhere in France, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1915, aged 19 years and 7 months.

*"Gone but not forgotten"*

From Father, Mother, Brothers and Sister, Whitwick.

## **Friday August 17<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1328)**

### **Local News**

#### **Do You Know That**

The Marquis of Hastings (Whitwick) Lodge, I.O.U.B.L.U. intends making a presentation of a gold watch and chain to Bro. Michael McCarthy in appreciation of valuable services rendered to the Lodge for 34 years?

#### **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).

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 1<sup>st</sup> was allowed a Hugglescote builder for his foreman, a Whitwick resident, aged 41, married, and passed C1.

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.*

### **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 31<sup>st</sup>. 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>, 1915.



### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), the Rev. C. T. Moore, Mr B. G. Hale, Mr H. J. Ford, Mr W. Lindley and Mr John Wootton.

#### *School Cases*

John W. Allen (39), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to send his three children, Beatrice, Maud and John, regularly to school. Mr H. Freeman, school attendance officer, stated that the children were kept at home to work, though the boy was only eight years old. It was the fourth time defendant had been summoned this year in respect of Beatrice and the last fine was 12/6. The Bench imposed a fine of £1 in the case of Beatrice, and 4/- for each of the other two.

#### *Landlord and Soldier's Wife*

An application for an ejectment order against Mary E. Cross (26), married, of Whitwick, was made by Mr J. J. Sharp on behalf of the owner of the house. Mr Sharp said the woman declined to pay rent. Mr Underwood, the landlord, obtained judgement for 19/3 in the Ashby County Court, which was not paid, and when the bailiff was sent, it was found that the furniture had been removed. The woman said she should not pay and that they could not get her out.

John Underwood, of Whitwick, the owner, bore this out in evidence. He added that all he wanted now was the possession of the house. The woman's husband was a soldier, but

she took the house. Defendant said she was willing to pay 3/3 a week which she was told was the rent when she went into the house, but the landlord had now increased it to 4/-. Answering the Bench, she said she had three children and received 28s a week from the Government. Mr Sharp said the rent was 3/3. Defendant said the landlord did not come for the rent for weeks. Mr Sharp said no rent was collected after the notice was given, or the tenancy would have been revived. Mr Lindley said the woman was a soldier's wife, and if she would pay the rent she should not be turned out. The landlord, recalled, said the rent was 3/3 and that was what he sued her for in County Court. She got into the house by making him an offer of 4s, and then afterwards said she should only pay 3/3, the same as the others did. An order was made for possession to be given up within 30 days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

"The House of Fortescue" at the Whitwick Picture House at the commencement of the week was much enjoyed by the large audiences. It was a most interesting film. No. 9 of "The Shielding Shadow" was very excellent, and "Haystacks and Steeples" was a splendid Triangle-Keystone, full of laughs. For the week-end there is another good 'star' viz., "The Combat" with Anita Stewart and Winthrop Mandell in the leading roles. This is fine, and will be much appreciated by patrons. No. 10 of "The Purple Domino" should also be seen, along with many others. See advert for next week's.

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

Aris – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Agnes Aris, aged 52 years, of Silver Street.

## **Friday August 24<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1329)**

### **Local News**

#### **Councillor M. McCarthy Honoured**

##### *Presentation of a Gold Watch and Chain*

An interesting event took place at the Duke of Newcastle Inn, Whitwick, on Saturday evening, when the members of the Marquis of Hastings Lodge, I.O.U.B.L.U. presented a gold watch and chain to Bro. Michael McCarthy in appreciation of valuable services rendered to the Lodge during the last 34 years. A concert was held in connection with the event, presided over by Bro. Walter Waterfield, and there was a large attendance.

The presentation was made by Bro. Michael Larner, supported by Bro. Thomas Whitmore (co-trustees) and in calling upon them to do so the chairman remarked that they were giving honour where it was due. Mr Larner said he would like them to carry their minds back for 34 or 35 years. They made several changes in regard to management without any good results, but the Lodge then came under the care of their senior trustee (Mr M. McCarthy) and since then it had made progress (applause). On several occasions they made as many as six new young members at a time and their strength soon began to increase numerically and financially. The funds began to accumulate in the Post Office Savings Bank and the members thought they would like to invest some of it, and get a

better return for their capital. He remembered the first meeting they had on that matter and what transpired showed how their senior trustee saved them at that time. They were only novices at the job, and but for Mr McCarthy's timely assistance they might have made a mistake. Looking back now, he believed they would have done. Since then, Mr McCarthy had undertaken all the work, both in putting out their funds, and making arrangements for guarantors, often at great personal inconvenience and expense to himself, until at the present time the Lodge could lay claim to funds exceeding £2,000, not counting what they had in the funeral fund. Having made such progress they felt that after all these years of devotion to duty and watching over them, it was their duty to make some slight recognition of those services (applause). They were presenting Bro. McCarthy with his watch and chain. They hoped that Almighty God would grant him length of days and that his life which had been so useful might be long extended that he might be able to carry on his good work both for the religious social welfare of his fellow citizens (applause). Amidst further cheers, Bro. Larner then made the presentation.

Bro. Thos. Whitmore said he joined the Lodge when he was sixteen and his father held the position of trustee before him. He had great pleasure in testifying to the good work done for the Lodge by the brother whom they were honouring that night. The following was the inscription on the watch.

*“Presented by the members of the Marquis of Hastings Lodge to Brother Michael McCarthy as a mark of appreciation of long and valuable services as trustee, and, particularly, for putting the accounts of the Lodge and of the District on a sound footing. August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.”*

Mr M. Smith (Shepshed) said he was pleased to meet so many Whitwick friends and some from Loughborough. He had known Mr McCarthy for many years, and had always known him to be straight. Mr McCarthy was one of the keenest business men that he knew, and he was as active and energetic now as when he (Mr Smith) first knew him (cheers). Mr Larner had told them what Mr McCarthy had done for the Lodge. He need not repeat that but would give them a few other details. For a long time Mr McCarthy was in the habit of paying 1s out of his own pocket for every new member made, and when they remembered the considerable progress made, that must have amounted to a very considerable sum. Mr McCarthy joined the Lodge in 1882, when there were 17 members and total funds £21/7/9. Mainly as the result of his efforts, remarkable progress followed. In 1883, the membership increased to 49, in 1884, to 54, in 1885 to 78, in 1886 to 96 and so on, until at the present time they had 370 members with sick and funeral funds amounting to about £3,000 (applause). That was a strong position to be in, both as regards membership and funds, amounting as it did to over £8 per member. He knew many Lodges which would be glad of half that money. With funds of that magnitude, they needed good officers to manage them. Mr McCarthy and his co-trustees had realised that fact and had been determined to do what was necessary to achieve that object. They deserved the thanks of the members for looking after the affairs of the Lodge as well as they had done. It was not a light matter to be responsible for a lot of workingmen's money, and he was pleased to be able to say as auditor of their accounts, that the money was well invested (applause). It had not been all plain sailing, as they were aware. They had encountered difficulties, but by courage and determination these had been overcome. He then referred to Mr McCarthy's public work in the district as a county councillor, on the Urban Council at Coalville since its formation, as a member of the Ashby Board of Guardians, and for the extension of the trade of the district. Alluding to the war, Mr Smith said 46 members of that Lodge joined the forces and

five had been killed. Mr McCarthy had four sons serving (applause) and they all wished these a safe return (renewed cheers). Concluding, Mr Smith said the Lodge had some excellent officers, who had the welfare of the Lodge at heart (cheers).

Mr C. E. Crane said he was glad to add his tribute and to say that he had had the greatest respect for Mr McCarthy for many years. After what had been said by Mr Lerner and Mr Smith he need hardly say that whenever the funds of the Lodge had to be invested on mortgage it had always been done with the greatest care, and in the best interests of the Lodge. He could assure them that anybody who wanted to borrow money from that Lodge, and were not prepared to go quite straight, they would find in dealing with Mr McCarthy that they were up against a tough proposition (laughter and applause). They had had a number of transactions since he (Mr Crane) had had the pleasure of acting for the Lodge, and he hoped and believed that the result had been for the good of the Lodge. He also spoke in warm terms of Mr McCarthy's public work, and said he was not exaggerating when he said that Mr McCarthy had saved the ratepayers thousands of pounds in matters connected with the working of the Coalville urban area (applause).

Bro. Samuel Webster, one of the oldest members said he remembered 14 new members joining one night. Mr McCarthy had given them much excellent advice and had been a great help to the Lodge. The chairman also added a few words.

On rising to respond, Mr McCarthy was accorded musical honours, the company heartily singing, "*He's a jolly good fellow*". Mr McCarthy said it was difficult for him to find words to thank them. The fact that they could afford to make him a present like that was a sign of prosperity. It was really more than he deserved. What he had done for the Lodge was a labour of love. Proceeding, he said that he joined that sick club and also the Co-Operative Society in 1882 when it was first started. Mr George Nutt was the secretary then, and they saw how that Society had grown from a small beginning. He was still a member and a live member, because he traded with the Society. He believed in doing all he could to help others. He assured them that he would value the watch and chain very much, but he appreciated infinitely more than the watch, the sentiment which prompted them to give it (applause). Thirty or forty years ago it would have been impossible for working men to make anybody a present like that. They came home with 14s or 16s a week, but then they had no union. Since then the unions had grown and he approved of them, but in these matters he urged them to use their level heads and commonsense and not be led by wild "harem scarem" people who cared not for what happened so long as they carried the mob with them. He thanked all the gentlemen who had spoken so kindly of him and all assembled there that night and he wished them all long life and prosperity.

During the evening, there were selections by the Whitwick Quartette Party, songs by Bros. J. W. Harrington, A. E. Waterfield, A. Baker, Wm. Wardle, and Justin McCarthy, and recitations by Mr Arthur Carter of Coalville. "*Success to the Marquis of Hastings Lodge*" was proposed by Bro. Fred Smith and was cordially received.

### **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?

It was 73 years last Monday, St. Bernard's Day, since the Mount St. Bernard Monastery was opened, the first sermon preached there being by the late Cardinal Wiseman?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

Another pleasing and excellent programme of films is being screened at the Whitwick Picture House this week, and the usual audiences have shown much appreciation. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "A Little Ray of Sunshine", a fine one, featuring Baby Mary Osborne. Also No. 10 of "The Shielding Shadow" was of interest, along with numerous others. During the week-end patrons will have the opportunity of seeing an extra good Gold Rooster film, viz., "Annabel's Romance", a Pathe coloured picture. It is sure to please and should be seen. No. 11 of "The Purple Domino" is also an excellent part, and others are a fine lot. See advert for next week's programme.

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

Moore – At Whitwick, on Friday, Rose Kate Moore, aged 38 years, of Cademan Street.

## **Friday August 31<sup>st</sup> 1917 (Issue 1330)**

### **Local News**

#### **I.L.P. Meeting**

On Saturday evening, a meeting was held at Whitwick for the purpose of formerly opening a branch of the Independent Labour Party. Mr R. Hallam was elected president, Mr C. Wilkes, treasurer, and Mr W. Stanyard, secretary, with Messrs. T. Moore, P. Jackson, W. Simpson, H. Wood, and R. Redburn as a committee.

#### **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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## **Garden Party**

Whitwick Wesleyans organised a garden party by kind permission of Mr J. Stinson, on Saturday, in aid of the Wesleyan Foreign Missions. Address was given by Mr E. Williams, of London. The effort was continued on Sunday, Mr W. A. Hall preaching in the chapel in the morning, and Mr Williams in the evening. The amount realised was £9 4s 9d.

## **I.L.P. Meeting**

The local branch of the I.L.P. are holding a meeting in Whitwick Market Place on Saturday evening (September 1<sup>st</sup>) at 6.20 pm, when an address will be given by Private C. J. Simmons of Birmingham?

## **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).

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.

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.

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.

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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

#### **No Light**

At Loughborough on Wednesday, Joseph Bircumshaw, collier, Whitwick, was fined 10s or seven days for riding a bicycle without lights at Shepshed, on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

#### *Soldier's Wife in Trouble*

Annie Partner (45), married of Whitwick, was summoned for using abusive language at Coalville, on August 13<sup>th</sup>. She pleaded not guilty. P.C. Haywood said he saw the defendant in Mammoth Street shaking her fists at a crowd of people. She had been turned out of a house there one time before, and she was frequently returning and threatening the neighbours, saying it was through them that she had to go. Defendant said her husband was a soldier in India. The chairman said she must not annoy people like this. Fined 5/6 or seven days. Allowed time to pay.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The chief picture at the beginning of the week at the Whitwick Picture House was a grand Vitagraph production, entitled "The Last Man" a dashing military drama, much enjoyed. No. 11 of "The Shielding Shadow" was also interesting, and the others shown caused much pleasure. For the week-end "Twin Rays of Sunshine" is an exceptionally fine Paine play, featuring Baby Mary Osborne, and must not be missed. No. 12 of "The Purple Domino" and numerous other subjects will be found to be most pleasing. See advert for next week's programme.

## **Friday September 7<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1331)**

### **Local News**

On Saturday evening an open-air meeting was held in the Market Place, Whitwick, by the newly-formed I.L.P. branch. The chairman was Mr Walter Borrett (secretary and organiser for the Leicestershire Federation) and Pte. Simmons gave an address on "No patched-up Peace". A Whitwick discharged soldier, who shared the same tent with Pte. Simmons, with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, confirmed Pte. Simmons' statements.

### **Local Casualties**

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 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **Do You Know That**

The newly-formed branch of the I.L.P. at Whitwick has enrolled 80 members?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The Whitwick Theatre also has a champion programme again this week and the usual good audiences have shown much appreciation of the 'fare' provided – A grand Pathe film "The Chance of a Lifetime" was showing at the beginning of the week and was very good. No. 12 of "The Shielding Shadow" was much enjoyed; and numerous others were loudly applauded. For the week-end patrons will like "The Moral Fabric", a splendid Triangle drama, and episode 13 of "The Purple Domino". Others are good. For next week's list, see advertisement.

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

#### **Burials**

Orton – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Emma Orton, aged 59 years, of Leicester Road.

#### **Thanks**

Mr James Orton and Family, of 16, Leicester Road, Whitwick desire to thank all friends for their kind expressions of sympathy extended to them in their recent sad bereavement, occasioned through the death of their beloved wife and mother.

## **Friday September 14<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1332)**

## Local News

### **Strike at Whitwick Colliery**

#### *Pits Idle Yesterday*

By a strike of enginemen, mechanics, etc., the Whitwick Colliery was thrown idle at eleven o'clock yesterday. The dispute, it appears, is not between the masters and men, but between two rival trade unions. The men who came out are members of the National Amalgamated Union, who in January 1916, had the award of a Government Commission in their favour, whereby the Notts. and Derbyshire Enginemen's Union were to cease "poaching" on Leicestershire and not to form branches of their Union outside the two counties of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The Amalgamated Union contend that the award has not been kept, hence the strike.

At present, it is confined to the Whitwick Colliery, though we are informed that it may spread to all Leicestershire if not soon settled.

### **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. 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).

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.

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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 30<sup>th</sup>.

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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr J. W. West and Mr H. J. Ford.

#### *School Cases*

David Boot (48), collier, Phoebe Armstead (38) and Annie E. Wright (34) both married, all of Whitwick, were summoned for not sending their children regularly to school. Henry Freeman, school attendance officer, Coalville, gave the facts. Boot and Wright, who had each been previously fined 4s this year, were each fined 6s, and in the case of Armstead, who had been summoned three times this year, a fine of 15s was imposed. It was stated that the woman was receiving £4 5s per week. She kept the girl at home while she went to work.

#### *No Rear Light*

William H. Otter (23), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a rear red light at Whitwick on August 25<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley said it was 12.50 when he stopped the defendant. He refused at first to give his name, and witness got it from his registration card. Fined 10s or seven days.

## *On the Wrong Side*

Henry Moore (25), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for driving a carriage without two front lights at Whitwick on August 25<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley said the defendant had one light on the wrong side. Supt. Lockton said that was very dangerous. Fined 10s or seven days.

## *Whitwick Policeman's "Cop"*

Jas Rose (24), Wilfred Waterfield (20), Henry Garrett (19), Lawrence Stock (19), Wm. Smith (19), Herbert Moore (19), Roland Musson (19), Ernest Moulton (19), Walter Moore (19), John O'Mara (17) and John Garritty (17), all colliers of Whitwick, were summoned for gaming on the highway with cards and coins at Whitwick on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Only Rose and Smith appeared and pleaded guilty. P.C. Jelley said he was on the footroad leading from Green Lane to Hall Lane about 3.30 on Sunday afternoon. He got to within five of them and secreted himself. For a quarter of an hour he watched them playing "banker" during which time he heard one of the men say, "If old Jelley came now wouldn't he have a cop?"

The clerk: *And you did have a cop?*

Jelley: *Yes sir, a very good cop (laughter).*

The constable added that there were many complaints of this sort of thing on Sundays and damage done to property. Rose and Smith were each fined 15s or seven days, the two Moores, Musson and Stock £1 each or 14 days, and Garrett, Waterfield, O'Mara, Moulton and Garritty, 30s each or 14 days, the latter having been summoned before. The chairman said the Bench were determined to stop this Sunday gaming.

Samuel Chambers (31), shoe hand, Joseph Garrett (23), Leslie Isaac (23), and Albert Meeson (18), colliers, all of Whitwick, were summoned for gaming on the highway with cards and coins at Whitwick on August 19<sup>th</sup>. None of them appeared. P.C. Jelley said the men were playing "nap." Garrett was fined 30s or 14 days, and the others £1 each or 14 days.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House has been again extensively visited this week, and "The Ninety and Nine," a Blue Ribbon, at the commencement of the week was good. Also No. 13 of "The Shielding Shadow". Others were excellent. For the weekend, "Caprice of the Mountains" must be seen. It is a magnificent Fox production. Others are good. See advert for next week's.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Wedding**

At the Whitwick Parish Church, on Wednesday, Mr Frank James, of Snibstone was married to Miss Rhoda Turner, of Whitwick, late of Sowham, Bucks. The Rev. C. Shrewsbury officiated. The bride, who wore a navy blue travelling costume, was given

away by her sister, Miss A. Turner, and Mr E. James acted as best man. There were two bridesmaids, Misses May Turner and Connie James. The happy couple left after the ceremony for Cambridge. They received many presents.

## **Friday September 21<sup>st</sup> 1917 (Issue 1333)**

### **Local News**

#### **Baptist Harvest Festival**

The harvest festival was held at the Whitwick Baptist Chapel on Sunday, when the Rev. T. J. Martin, of Coalville was the preacher. The services were well-attended, and there was a good display of produce. At a musical service in the afternoon over which Mr James Smith, of Coalville presided, the Coalville Orpheus Glee Singers gave a good programme. A public tea and sale of produce were held on Monday, the proceeds being for the chapel funds.

#### **The Whitwick Colliery Strike**

*An Appeal to the Miners' Association*

*Men Decide to Resume Work on Conditions*

Though the enginemen, firemen, mechanics, etc., at the Whitwick Colliery were still out on strike on Friday, Saturday and the early part of the week, the management were able to keep the pits working by bringing in other men.

At a special meeting of the Council of the Leicestershire Miners' Association at the Leicester Hotel on Friday evening, a deputation of the Amalgamated Union men was received, and they requested the Miners' Association to write to the manager of the Whitwick Colliery protesting about bringing men out of the pit to do the work of those on strike. The Council instructed the agent to write accordingly, but it was also further resolved that in view of the possibility of all the men at the Whitwick Colliery being affected – there are 1,385 in the Miners' Association working at these pits – that the Council suggest to the men on strike that they should accept their general secretary's advice and resume work on a day-to-day contract pending efforts to effect an amicable settlement of the question.

A further meeting of the strikers was held at the Leicester Hotel, Coalville, on Monday when there was a large attendance. Mr W. Waterfield (driver) of Whitwick, presiding. Ald. H. Parker, of Hanley, the agent of the National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, etc. attended the meeting, and after hearing his remarks and the reading of messages from Sir George Askwith, the following resolution was unanimously carried.

*"That we workmen of the Whitwick Colliery Co. resume work on Thursday next, the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. on a day-to-day contract, providing Sir George Askwith gives the assurance that the award will be carried out by the first week in October". (The award referred to prohibits the Notts & Derbyshire Union from forming branches in Leicestershire).*



Following the adoption of this resolution a telegram was dispatched to Sir George Askwith, stating that unless he gives such assurance the men will not resume work, and the whole of the Amalgamated Union's members at other collieries in Leicestershire will hand in notices to take effect on October 11<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to hold another meeting on Wednesday evening to receive Sir George Askwith's reply.

The officials of the Union desire it to be stated that there is no bad feeling or animosity between the men and the management of the Whitwick Colliery. The whole trouble is between the two unions. It is stated that the total membership of the Notts & Derby Union in the district is now about 50, whereas in the Amalgamated Union there are 432. There are 15 members of the Notts & Derby Union working at the Whitwick Colliery.

At a meeting of the men at the Leicester Hotel on Wednesday evening, the following telegram from the agent, Ald. H. Parker, was read, "*Wire received from Askwith saying he would proceed at once. I advise resume on Thursday as agreed.*" The men, therefore, resumed work yesterday morning, but unless the award is carried out by the first week in October, the whole of the men in the Amalgamated Union in Leicestershire, will, it is stated, cease work on the 11<sup>th</sup> ult.

### **Whitwick Man's Suicide at Shepshed**

The Deputy Coroner, Mr T. J. Webb, held an inquest on Thursday at the Richmond Arms, Shepshed, on the body of John Hull, a tailor of Whitwick, who was found in a pool known as The Waterings, near the old Coach Road, at Shepshed.

William Moore, deputy of a lodging-house at Whitwick, identified the body as that of John Hull, who had lodged there about 10 months. He was in regular work as a tailor but never said anything about himself, and would sit for hours without speaking, though not particularly melancholy. He went out about 8.30 on Wednesday morning.

Harry Wood, a schoolboy, aged 9, who was complimented by the Coroner on the way he gave his evidence, said he went down the old Coach Road after school on Wednesday and saw a body in the pond near the road. He ran to the police.

James Shaw, a framework knitter, of Kirkhill Street, Shepshed stated that he saw the deceased (whom he did not know at the time) on Wednesday morning going along Forest Street and down Coach Road which led to the field where the pond was. P.C. Heighton said on the opposite of the pool from the road, there was a hat, coat and stick. He found 9s 3d in cash on the deceased, and his watch had stopped at 10.30. Witness produced a paper showing that deceased was baptised in Ireland in 1847.

Abraham Smith, landlord of the King's Arms, Whitwick, said deceased used to call at that house. He came in last Tuesday evening and had a bottle of beer and seemed as usual. The jury found that deceased committed suicide, but that there was not sufficient evidence to show the state of his mind at the time.

### **Local Casualties**

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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

At Whitwick Picture House during the week there have again been enthusiastic audiences to see the grand display of films provided. In the first half of the week "Rose of the South" was a fine Blue Ribbon feature in five parts, with a good story. Much applauded. No. 14 of "The Shielding Shadow" was also an excellent part. Others were a good lot and all were much appreciated. During the weekend, "The Mischief Maker" is a tip-top Fox production featuring June Caprice, and this should not be missed. Also, No. 15 of "The Purple Domino" and many others. See advert for next week's programme.

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

#### **Burials**

Stanyard – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Ann Stanyard, aged 68 years, of Hockley, Castle Street.

## **Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1334)**

### **Local News**

#### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

Whitwick Primitive Methodist held their harvest thanksgiving services on Sunday, when Mr Moses Bourne, of Moira preached to good congregations. The flowers, fruit and vegetables, with which the chapel was tastefully decorated, were sold for the chapel funds on Monday night.

#### **Do You Know That**

Mrs F. Berrington, 78, Leicester Road, Whitwick is selling her father's poetry in aid of the wounded soldiers?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House has been well patronised this week, and the films are, as usual of a very high standard of excellence. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "The Enemy" a great domestic drama, in five parts, and was much appreciated. The final episode of "The Shielding Shadow" too, was good, as were numerous others. During the weekend patrons should see "The Majesty of the Law" a grand drama, featuring

George Fawcett. There are several other most interesting films, including the final episode of "The Purple Domino" which are well worth a visit. See advert for next week's.

## **Friday October 5<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1335)**

### **Local News**

#### **Wesleyan Harvest Festival**

Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Sunday at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel conducted by the Rev. T. Cottam, of Coalville. The chapel was prettily decorated and there were good congregations. The collections were for the trust funds. There was a capital contribution of fruits and vegetables and the sale of those on Monday night realised £5 10s for the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

#### **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.

A Whitwick gardener and electric light attendant, 38, B2, who applied on domestic grounds, his wife being ill, was allowed one month.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

The Whitwick Picture House has been largely attended again this week, and much interest has been evinced in the splendid array of films screened. The chief one at the beginning of the week was "The Daring of Diana", a Blue Ribbon feature of exceptional merit, and featuring Anita Stewart. The opening chapter of the thrilling new serial "Pearl of the Army" augers well for its future. Others were good. During the weekend there is a 5-part Vitagraph drama, viz., "Then Conflict", a grand one, featuring Lucille Lee Stewart. It should not be missed. The first part of another grand serial, "The Voice on the Wire" must be seen and followed. There are several other fine pieces. Next week's list, see advert.

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

#### **Burials**

Smith – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, John Andrew Smith, aged 55 years, of North Street.

## Friday October 12<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1336)

### Local News

#### **Tea**

A tea given by Mrs J. Toone in aid of the reduction of the debt on the P.M. Chapel was held in the school on Tuesday afternoon, a good number being present. The company took their own sugar.

#### **Recital**

The Rev. G. Stewart Hooson, a popular elocutionist visited Whitwick on Saturday and gave a capital recital at the P.M. Chapel. The Rev. J. J. Hutchinson presided, and there was a good attendance. Madam Maud Wheeldon contributed solos, Mrs J. B. Newbury being the accompanist. The Rev. G. S. Hooson preached morning and evening on Sunday and gave a recital in the afternoon. At the afternoon and evening services solos were rendered by Miss Button, of Shepshed. The proceeds were for the trust funds.

#### **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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr B. G. Hale

#### *A Warning to Thringstone Boys*

Percy Hibbert (9), Reginald Hibbert (10), William Kirby (8) of Thringstone and William Buckley (7) of Whitwick, schoolboys, were summoned by Edward Atkins, farmer, Thringstone for stealing turnips, value 6d at Thringstone, on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr J. J. Sharp appeared to prosecute for the Whitwick Association for the Protection of Persons and Property. He said Mr Atkins was reluctant to bring the case forward, but it was to put a stop to the practice. He was willing to withdraw the case on payment of the costs. The Bench agreed, and the boys were cautioned. The costs were 10s, divided between the parties.

#### *Women's Language*

Hannah Hall (31), widow, Whitwick and Louisa Squires (28), married, of Thringstone were summoned for using bad language at Whitwick on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. They did not appear. P.C. Jelley said the defendants caused a crowd to collect.

The clerk: *What were they quarrelling about?*

P.C. Jelley: *There's a bit of jealousy between them.*

Fined 10s each, or seven days.

#### *An Old Man's Offence*

Adam Finch (77), collier, Whitwick was charged with stealing one pancheon, one dish and one saucepan, value 2/8 at Whitwick on September 17<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty, and said it was the first time in his life. P.S. Betts stated that about 4.30 am he was on duty in Brook's Lane, Whitwick and saw defendant with something bulky under his coat. He found defendant in possession of the articles named and Finch said he got them from Coalville. The goods were identified by Mr Hibbert as having been missed from his storeroom in Brook's Lane. Defendant subsequently admitted taking the goods and asked witness to do his best for him as he did not want to lose his old age pension. Defendant had a bunch of keys, one of which fitted the storeroom lock. Defendant said he was very sorry. Fined one guinea, inclusive, or seven days.

### **Whitwick Shop Manageress Charged**

#### *Alleged Falsification of Accounts and Embezzlement*

The Coalville magistrates were occupied for some hours on Friday, hearing a case in which Hilda Dunbar (35), shop manageress, Whitwick was charged with falsifying the accounts of the Star Tea Co. Ltd, Whitwick, between May 21<sup>st</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>, and further, with embezzling and stealing the sums of 6/4 ½, 4/9 ½, and £2 8s at Whitwick, on various dates.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) was for the prosecution and Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) appeared for the defendant.

John Jowett, of Leicester, inspector for the Star Tea Co said he had been in the employ of the company for thirty years, and for ten years as an inspector. His duties were to supervise the branches, including stocktaking. Defendant became manageress of the Whitwick branch on January 6<sup>th</sup> last, coming from Cheltenham, where she had previously worked for the company. She succeeded at Whitwick a manager named Pegler, and the last stocktaking before Pegler left was, he believed, in November 1916. He first took stock under defendant's management on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and this showed a shortage since the November stock-taking of £114 5s 10d. The next stock-taking was on May 15<sup>th</sup> and that showed a further deficiency of £43 13 4d. He next took stock on July 7<sup>th</sup> and there was a further shortage of £79 13s 7d. On August 14<sup>th</sup> when a new manageress was put in charge, another stock-taking revealed a further shortage of £30 0s 2d. He added that no charge was placed against the defendant in regard to the first stock-taking when the shortage was £114 5s 10d. On June 9<sup>th</sup>, defendant received two packages of lard of 56lbs each, as shown in the goods receiving book, a total of 112lbs, but only 56lbs was entered in the provision sales account. The same day 112lbs of butter was delivered, and 56lbs was entered in the sales book. On July 13<sup>th</sup>, 33 ½ lbs of cheese sent from the Ibstock branch to Whitwick was not entered at all, and 56lbs of lard received on July 14<sup>th</sup> was not entered anywhere. He had been through all the books and found no credit given the company for any of the missing goods. All the company's branches were provided with, at least, two check tills on which each purchase was recorded. The shop managers had charge of the tills and the record rolls had to be despatched to the head office each day to be checked. He produced the till roll for May 26<sup>th</sup>, on which there were four erasures in the shilling column. On other rolls (produced) recording the purchases on various dates, witness said erasures had been made mostly in the shilling column.

Mr Hale, (one of the magistrates) asked why the defendant should have been at the trouble of putting the proper amounts down to rub them out afterwards. She had charge of the till and could have omitted the entries. Witness said anyone doing that would soon be found out, as the inspectors were frequently making test purchases. Proceeding, witness said he taxed the defendant with making the erasures, and she admitted having made them to balance the stock sales account.

Cross-examined by Mr Crane: He had known the defendant since November last year. He believed that when she went to the company's shop at Cheltenham she had had no previous experience. After being at Cheltenham for only two months she was promoted to manageress of the Whitwick branch, that being not long before Christmas trade commenced. He could not say whether the Whitwick shop made a profit or loss. It was short stocks they were dealing with. When defendant took over the management of the Whitwick shop she had as assistants' two girls, aged about 18 and 23, and a boy, 13. In April defendant wrote to him that she would rather be an assistant than manage a shop. He told her it was her duty to try and manage the shop, and show better results. She was a good saleswoman, and in his opinion had clerical abilities which justified her appointment as manageress. Witness, and also the Istock manager rendered to her all the assistance they could. Up to the April stock-taking, which revealed a shortage of £114, he had no reason to suspect the defendant of dishonesty. It was after this stocktaking that defendant wrote asking to be relieved of the management, but he had no one else to take her place. He could not give the figures of the first stocktaking, but the shortage was proved by the auditors, and the books could be produced. When the defendant first went to Whitwick, the takings at the shop were £60 to £75 per week, and in April £80 to £90 per week. Odd weeks it reached £100, but that was accounted for by the fact that she sold more sugar than she should have done, to show a temporary improvement, though it was to the detriment of trade later on. The stock was all entered correctly in the receiving book, but that never went to London. It was there for inspection at any time. The staff had denied making any of the erasures on the till rolls.

Thomas Stockton, gunner of the R.G.A. a former manager of the Istock branch shop, who appeared in khaki said he assisted the defendant in clerical work. He drew the attention of the last witness to the fact that the 33 ½ lbs of cheese from Istock was not accounted for.

Charles E. Broadhurst, L & N.W. carman, Whitwick, deposed to delivering consignments of lard and butter on June 9<sup>th</sup>, and defendant signed for them.

William Findall, another L & N.W. carman, Whitwick, gave similar evidence as to a box of lard delivered on July 14<sup>th</sup>. This was the case for the prosecution on the first charge.

Mr Crane submitted that there was no prima facie case on which the Bench could commit the defendant for trial. He asked the Bench to dismiss from their minds any question of stock shortage. The defendant was not charged with that. She was charged with falsifying the accounts with intent to defraud. He contended that there was no evidence of intent to defraud. The goods receiving book showed that everything was properly entered up. With regard to the rest, the company had set up an elaborate system of book-keeping and it was easy for anyone to make a mistake.

The magistrates retired to consider Mr Crane's point, and decided that there was a prima facie case. On being formally charged, defendant said, "*I am not guilty, and I reserve my defence. I call no witnesses today.*"

She was committed for trial at the Leicestershire Assizes. Mr Sharp then addressed the Bench in opening the charge of embezzlement.

John Jowett, the Inspector, produced two bills for 6/4 ½ and 4/9 ½ initialled by Mrs Dunbar as having been paid by Mrs S. Kent, of Parsonwood Hill. This money had not been entered in the books, and the firm had not received it. He also ascertained that three hams and some tea were delivered from the defendant's shop to a Mr Hull in July. The value of the three hams alone at that time would be approximately £2 8s and there was no corresponding item on the till rolls or entered in the cash book. Mrs Hull paid an account of £3 11s 6d on August 4<sup>th</sup>, and showed him defendant's receipt. This was not on the till roll for that day. It had been found out accidentally.

Mr Crane said he would reserve his cross-examination.

Sarah Kent, wife of George T. Kent, of Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick, stated that on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, she purchased goods of the value of 6/4 ½ at the Star Tea Shop, and paid the defendant. On May 31<sup>st</sup> she made purchases to the amount of 4/9 ½ and paid the defendant that amount.

Ethel Mary Thorpe, assistant at the Whitwick shop stated that on August 4<sup>th</sup> she received from Mrs Hull £3/11/6, which she gave to the defendant who went to the till and put the money in, at the same time writing on the roll. Witness had never rubbed anything off the till roll.

Samuel Burton (14), pit boy, Whitwick, said he was formerly errand boy for the Start Tea Co., and used to take goods out on a handcart. He had taken hams to Mr Hull's.

Jane Hull, wife of Edward Hull, baker, Whitwick, said she had traded with the Star Tea Co. occasionally. Except on the occasion when she paid the amount to Miss Thorpe, she always paid Mrs Dunbar for what she had.

Defendant pleaded not guilty and reserved her defence. She was committed for trial on this charge also. Mr Crane applied for bail. He said the woman, unfortunately, had no sureties, having come from Chesterfield. She was friendless, and he asked the Bench to grant bail without success. The clerk said they could not do that. Mr Crane said the defendant's husband was formerly a bank clerk at Edinburgh. He joined the Army, and was reported missing five months ago.

The Bench intimated that it was not the custom to grant bail without sureties, and Mr Crane then offered to become surety himself. Bail was allowed, defendant in £30 and one surety of a similar account.

## **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House Whitwick*



At the Picture House, Whitwick there is the usual good display of film subjects and one at the commencement of the week, "The Haunted Woman" was much enjoyed, as were also No. 2 of "Pearl of the Army" and others. For the weekend there is another good one billed, viz., "Grim Justice" this being taken from Rita's greatest novel, and features Florence Turner and Henry Edwards, two well-known cinema "stars". It should certainly be seen by all lovers of picture drama. The acting, as may be imagined, is 'extra' and it should not be missed. Others are also good. See advertisement for next week's programme.

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

#### **Burials**

Burton – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Edwin Roy Burton, aged 20 months, of Castle Street.

### **Friday October 19<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1337)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Parish Church**

The harvest festival was held at the Parish Church on Sunday, when there were large congregations at both services. The preacher in the morning was the Vicar, and in the evening, the Rev. H. V. Williams of Hugglescote. The church was prettily decorated. The collections realised £10 16s which was 31s more than last year. It was divided between the Leicester Royal Infirmary and Loughborough Hospital. A splendid lot of produce was sent to the Coalville and Leicester military hospitals.

##### **Local Casualties**

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.

##### **Leicestershire Coal Trade Dispute**

###### *Enginemen on Strike*

###### *Collier's Unable to Work*

A long-standing dispute between the National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers, and the Notts & Derbyshire Enginemen's and Firemen's Union, reached a crisis on Monday, when the Leicestershire members of the Amalgamated Union, numbering 440, came out on strike, consequently stopping several of the pits and throwing some four to five thousand miners idle.

The dispute is not between masters and men, and has nothing to do directly with wages or working conditions, but is solely a quarrel between the two unions. As far back as November, 1915, one has to trace its origin. At that time, a branch was formed in Coalville of the Notts & Derby Union, which at present has 37 members, the reason given by these for joining the new branch being that as the Notts & Derby Union caters for enginemen and

firemen solely, they can get their interests served better than in a Union which embraces various other grades of workers. But for 25 years, Leicestershire has been regarded as "amalgamated" ground and this Union resented the setting up of a rival force on their stronghold. Thus an agitation commenced, and in January 1916, Sir George Askwith having been approached, a Commission sat to enquire into the matter. The award of the Commission was in favour of the Amalgamated Union, it being stipulated that the Notts & Derbyshire Union were not to go outside those counties to form branches, and the Amalgamated Union were not to interfere with the organisation in Notts and Derbyshire. The Amalgamated Union complain that this award has not been kept, whereas the other side say they have kept the award, and have not formed any more branches in Leicestershire. The one at Coalville, they point out, was formed before the award was made. Their opponents, however, demand the closing of the Coalville branch of the Notts and Derby Union.

Several of the members of the latter are employed at the Whitwick Colliery, and a few weeks ago, the Amalgamated men employed at this pit ceased work, and were out for a week. They resumed on a day-to-day contract on the understanding that Sir George Askwith would enforce the award by the first week in October, and gave him till October 11<sup>th</sup> to do so. In the meantime, a sub-committee of the Parliamentary Trade Union Congress met in Leicester to consider the matter, and then reported to Sir George Askwith that the Coalville branch of the Notts & Derby Union should be closed, and a conference of the two unions be held afterwards to fix boundaries.

At a meeting of the Amalgamated men at the Gate Inn, Hugglescote, on Saturday, it was reported that the matter had not been settled, but that it had been referred to the Coal Controller, who wished them to resume work while he considered it. As matters had dragged on so long, however, the men refused to do this, and agreed to adhere to their decision to down tools after October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thus, on Monday morning, when Ellistown colliers and the men at some of the other pits went to work, they found there were no enginemen to work the machinery, and had to return home. Operations were suspended at the Ellistown, Ibstock and Coleorton collieries, and on Tuesday this had extended also to South Leicestershire Collier and Nailstone partly. At other pits they managed to keep going, though at great inconvenience, and with a reduced output and in a few instances, we hear of clerks working as stokers, and of a manager at a colliery acting as engine-driver. A continuation of the strike would eventually mean the stoppage of all the pits, and of other works depending on them for coal. At the time of writing (Wednesday) matters had reached a serious stage.

Daily meetings of the men on strike have been held at the Baptist School, Hugglescote, and on Tuesday, Ald. H. Parker, of Hanley, organising secretary for the Amalgamated Union, attended. He said he was with the Coal Controller on Monday, and the Controller wished them to suspend action till he had had time to go into the matter. Mr Parker also stated that a meeting of the Coalowner's Association was being held at Ashby-de-la-Zouch that day and the Controller was writing to them and would send him a copy of the wire. Ald. Parker said it had arrived that morning and he would read it. The following was the Coal Controller's wire to the owners:

*"Re dispute between National Amalgamated Union and Notts & Derbyshire Enginemen's Union, and the two awards of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress*

*in favour of the former Union. The Controller is of the opinion that your members must cooperate with him by taking steps to enforce these awards. Therefore, he must request your members to place before such of their workers as refuse to comply with these awards, the unconstitutional position adopted by them and make it plain to them that they must leave the Notts & Derby Union immediately. Coal Control."*

The meeting unanimously decided to stand to the position and refuse to resume work until the award has been carried out.

Ald. Parker stated that there were prospects of a meeting of the Coalowners' Association, and representatives of the Union in the course of the next day or so. During the week, the streets of Coalville and district have been thronged with hundreds of miners, some of them standing about in groups discussing the cause of their enforced idleness. The Leicestershire Miners' Association has no connection with the dispute beyond the fact that their men are thrown out of work as a result of it. There are nearly 8,000 members in the Leicestershire Miners' Association and taking other workers into account it will be seen that about 10,000 men may become involved in the dispute in the absence of a speedy settlement.

A large meeting of the miners and men on strike was held in Coalville Market Place on Tuesday, when the position as above set forth was explained for the benefit of the miners by Mr T. G. Marson, secretary of the Coalville branch of the Amalgamated Union, and Mr George Enston, of Nailstone.

### *Enginemen and the Miners*

Another meeting was held yesterday at the Hugglescote Baptist School, when Ald. H. Parker, the organising secretary, who, by-the-way, is the Parliamentary Labour candidate for Hanley, stated that since he had arrived in Hugglescote that day he had received a message stating that the coal owners desired to meet representatives of the men at three o'clock that afternoon at the Hugglescote Constitutional Club (applause) they, (the men) were as determined as ever in regard to the stand they had taken, but he hoped he would be able to leave this meeting knowing that they would be returning to work in the morning (cheers). That, however, could only be on the understanding that the owners were prepared to act, according to the Coal Controller's telegram by enforcing the award. One other thing he wished to mention. He understood that there had been expressions of opinion, official and otherwise that there ought to be a working understanding between the Miners' Association and the Amalgamated Union. All he could say was that serious efforts were made some years ago to bring that about, but it came to nothing. It had always been their desire and intention, if possible, to have a working understanding with the miners such as would protect the interests of both unions, and it was from no lack of effort on the part of their (the enginemen's) union that this had not been brought about. He wanted to remove any wrong impression that may have been created in the minds of their members that they had neglected or refused opportunities at any time to bring such an understanding about. He would make it clear, however, that any such arrangement would have to leave to them freedom to act as they thought fit for the welfare of their members at any time. They were no better than the Miners' Association, but they were no good; one could not work without the other, and in a trade like the coal trade it was essential that there should be unity of all the workers for the good of all. They would welcome any intimation of willingness on the part of the miners to meet them in coming to any such a

conclusion. He thought the need for labour forces to combine would be greater than ever after the war. He deplored the increase of 2/6 per ton on the price of the coal to the consumer, though the miners having an advance to help them meet the increased cost of living, and said that in his district, carters had also put on 2/6 a load for carting, so that the customer was having to pay 5s a ton more for his coal. ("Shame") It was a great shame and he felt that a public protest ought to be made to the Coal Controller as soon as possible against this extortionate demand on the public. Instead of making the consumer pay, why did not the Government stop the payment of royalties on coal? People living in luxury had no right to this money. The meeting was then temporarily adjourned pending the result of the meeting with the coalowners.

### *Terms of Settlement*

The conference between the coalowners and the representatives of the Enginemen's Union lasted nearly 2 ½ hours, and a report by the deputation to the members of the Union assembled at the Baptist Schoolroom, having been given. It was agreed to commence work on Monday next providing that the Notts & Derby men gave a guarantee to the Amalgamated Union through the coalowners that they would leave the Notts & Derby Union by Monday, and that the members of the Amalgamated Union, resume on a day-to-day contract for six weeks; and, in the event of the Notts & Derby men not becoming members of the Amalgamated Union in that time, the members of the Amalgamated Union cease work, with a view to forcing them to do so.

The guarantee will, according to the arrangement made at the joint meeting, be sent from the coalowners, to Mr T. G. Marson, local secretary, of Bakewell Street, Coalville. The members of the Amalgamated Union meet again on Saturday afternoon.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

At the Whitwick Picture House this week, patrons have another fine list of films for their enjoyment. There have been good attendances, and at the beginning of the week "The Vendetta" was agreed by all to be an exceptionally fine production. The story was adapted from the famous novel by Marie Corelli. No. 3 of "Pearl of the Army" (The Silent Menace) was also interesting; as were several others. During the weekend "Life" is a film we recommend all to see. It is a 4-reel Italian masterpiece, and will be enjoyed. No. 3 of "The Voice on the Wire" is also a pleasing part of this serial. Others are good. See advert, for next week's list.

### **Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1338)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Leicestershire Miners' Association**

##### *The Enginemen's Dispute*

A meeting of the council in Leicestershire Miners' Association was held at the Leicester Hotel, Coalville on Friday night, Mr Henry Toon presiding, specially convened to consider

the position of the miners who had been thrown out of work in consequence of the enginemen's strike. Applications were also received from the rival enginemen's unions – Amalgamated and the Notts & Derby – for interviews, which were granted.

The agent (Mr Levi Lovett) made a statement reviewing the situation in which he pointed out that some years ago, an application was received from the National Amalgamated Union to become affiliated with the Miners' Association, but the rules of the Amalgamated Union prevented the Miners' Council from agreeing to that. A letter was sent, however, stating that when any trouble arose, and before a strike took place, the Miners' Association would be glad to meet the representatives of the Amalgamated Union to see if ways and means could be devised to settle the grievance. Such action had never been taken.

The Notts & Derby Union men at their interview, having informed the Council most emphatically that they would not join the National Amalgamated Union, Mr Lovett pointed out that according to the terms of the settlement, that might mean another strike in six weeks' time, and the miners would again be idle.

After lengthy consideration, it was decided to inform the Notts & Derby men that the rules of the Leicestershire Miners' Association ever since it was formed in 1887 were such that any person working in or about a mine was eligible for membership, and upon individual application to the secretaries of the branches would be allowed to enter the Miners' Association.

#### *Work Resumed on Monday*

A meeting of the Amalgamated Union men was held at Hugglescote on Saturday, when it was stated that letters had been received from the owners of the Desford, Bagworth, South Leicestershire, Snibston and Whitwick collieries giving the required guarantees that the "Notts and Derby" men at those pits would leave the Notts & Derby Union immediately. It was decided to resume work on Monday, and leave other matters in the hands of the Union officials. It was also stated that the Amalgamated Union men at the Desford pit would send, through their agent, Ald. H. Parker, notices to work on a day-to-day contract in order to fall into line with the rest of the Amalgamated men.

The pits have been working as usual since Monday. Some of them have been standing for a week, and the miners were pleased that their enforced idleness, with consequent loss of wages, had come to an end.

#### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr H. J. Ford, Mr J. W. West and Mr W. Lindley.

Jabez Poxon (62), banksman, William Upton (52), James Egan (52), banksman, Rabbi Robinson (69), labourer, and Mary Birkenshaw (31) married, all of Whitwick, were all summoned for a breach of the lights in dwellings regulations. Egan and Robinson were each fined 5/6 or seven days; Poxon and Birkenshaw, 10/6 each and Upton £1/1/-. In the latter's case P.C. Grewcock said defendant told him that if the Government wanted blinds they must provide them. Mrs Birkenshaw asked P.C. Jelley who the people were that

complained about her lights. She would like to know who are enemies were. The constable said he had several complaints.

### **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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

At the beginning of the week the chief picture at the Whitwick Picture House was a grand one, viz., "Her Right to Live" a strong Blue Ribbon feature film in five parts. Peggy Hyland was good and the acting all through was of a first-rate character. It was much appreciated. No. 4 of "Pearl of the Army" was also interesting; as were numerous others shown. For the weekend "The Kid" is a grand Vitagraph detective story in 5 parts, and patrons should not miss it. Also No. 4 of "The Voice on the Wire" and others. Next week's programme, see advertisements.

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

#### **Burials**

Armstead – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Gladys Gertrude May Armstead, aged 17 months, of Castle Street.

#### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of Annie, the beloved daughter of James and Ellen Newell, of Whitwick, who passed away, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1916. Aged 22 years.

*"One year has passed, but still we miss her,  
Some may think the wound has healed  
But they little know the sorrow  
Deep within our hearts concealed.  
No eyes may see us weep,  
But ever deep within our hearts  
Her memory we will always keep."*

From Father, Brothers, Sisters and Intended.

### **Friday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1339)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Young People's Effort**

The young people connected with the Whitwick Baptist Church organised a tea and social on Saturday, a pleasant time being spent by a good company. The proceeds were for the chapel funds.

### **Whist Drive**

A whist drive and dance were held in the Holy Cross School, on Wednesday evening. Messrs. J. Beeson and J. H. McCarthy were M.C.'s for dancing, and Messrs. M. Downes and W. T. Hull for whist. The proceeds were in aid of the school funds.

### **I.L.P. Meeting**

Whitwick branch of the party opened its new clubroom with a public meeting on Saturday evening last. There was a good attendance, presided over by Mr Hammond (of Coalville) and an address was given by Mr J. H. Baum (secretary Leicester Trades Council). The Branch is now well over 100 strong.

### **P.M. Missions**

Special services in aid of Foreign Missions were held at the Whitwick P.M. Chapel on Sunday, conducted by the Rev. T. J. Martin, of Coalville, who at a meeting on Tuesday evening, also lectured on "Mission Work in Nigeria" illustrated with lantern slides. The collections were for the Mission Funds.

### **Juvenile Missionary Anniversary**

The services at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel, on Sunday were in connection with the Juvenile Anniversary effort for Foreign Missions. The Rev. J. W. Ferry was the preacher, and he also gave an address at a meeting in the afternoon, at which Mrs J. H. Hall, of Coalville, presided. There were good congregations.

### **Whitwick Shop Manageress Charged**

#### *Verdict of Not Guilty*

At the Leicestershire Assizes on Thursday and Friday, Hilda Dunbar, married woman, described as a shop manageress, surrendered to her bail to answer charges of being a servant of the Star Tea Co. Ltd, at Whitwick, altering till rolls, and making false entries in a provision sales account book, with intent to defraud, and also with embezzling, during the months of May, July and August last, three separate sums, the monies of her employers.

Mr C. B. Marriott, (instructed by Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, Coalville) was for the prosecution, and Mr Norman Burkitt (instructed by Messrs. Crane and Moore, Coalville) for the defence.

Mrs Kent said she brought groceries from the shop each week in May, and paid Mrs Dunbar. One week she paid about 6/4 ½, and the next it was 4/9 ½.

Mr N. Burkitt cross-examined witness, who said Miss Dunbar used to live at her house, and witness knew she was awfully worried over the books. She used to be making them

up till late at night, and on Sundays. Witness paid certain amounts separately, part on the provision counter and part on the grocery side. Mrs Hull said she brought some hams from the shop in July, paying £2 8s to Mrs Dunbar.

Miss Thorpe, shop assistant, said she went once to Mrs Hull's shop and received £3 11s 6d which she handed to Mrs Dunbar, who put it in the till. When mistakes were made on the till roll, Mrs Dunbar used to alter it. In reply to Mr Burkitt, Miss Thorpe said that there were at the Whitwick shop, in addition to witness, who was 18, other assistants aged 18, 17 and 15. There was great difficulty in keeping the provision side up, and it was the practice, when money was paid, for some to be placed in the provision till, and the other in the till on the grocery side. The provision sales book was terrible and difficult to keep. Mistakes would sometimes be made. Re-examined by Mr Marriott, witness said that when mistakes were made by the assistants they would not alter the till-roll, but would tell Mrs Dunbar, who would make the corrections later on.

John Jowett, an inspector of the prosecuting company, said accused entered their employ as assistant at their Cheltenham branch in November, 1916, and was appointed manageress at Whitwick in January last. Prior to entering their employ she had been a book-keeper to a large butchery firm at Cheltenham, and her references were entirely satisfactory. Witness then repeated the evidence given by him at the Coalville Police Court, and explained the system in use at the various branches. At the stock-taking on July 17<sup>th</sup> there was a deficiency from the previous stock-taking on May 15<sup>th</sup> of £79 odd. At the stock-taking on August 14<sup>th</sup>, there was a further deficiency on £30 0s 2d. He dismissed her on the latter date, saying it was owing to the shortage in the stock.

In cross-examination by Mr Burkitt, witness said that in April last, accused wrote saying she did not feel capable of continuing the management, and that she would prefer to revert to the position of assistant. Witness, when he next saw her, told her it was her duty to carry on as manageress. Test purchases had been made at the shop, but the transactions were all accounted for. He had also concealed himself on the premises for hours, but found nothing wrong. There was a certain percentage allowed for shrinkage in stock, but the allowance was made by the auditors at the London office.

After lunch, the prisoner entered the witness-box. She stated that her home was at Cheltenham. Her husband was a bank clerk in Glasgow. He joined the Army, and obtained a commission, but had now been missing for several months. Witness went out to work, and eventually accepted the position of manageress of the shop at Whitwick. She repeatedly told the firm's manager that she felt she was not competent for the position. She had had very little experience and knew nothing of stocktaking. When she wanted to give up, Mr Jowett told her not to be a coward. She did the books on Sundays, and sometimes she put things down from memory. The provision sales account book she always left till the last, because she dreaded it. She had never been dishonest in any way at all; she had always been most anxious over the money of the firm, although she admitted "blundering" with the books. Mr Jowett having pointed out a shortage of stock, she told him she wished to be an assistant, and not to go on managing. Later, there was another shortage and the managing director was brought down. She denied that she put the sums mentioned in the charge, or any other money of the firm's, in her pocket.

In cross-examination, prisoner said she had received numerous complaints in regard to shortage on the provision account and in order to make the returns of this account, which



had to be sent in every week, look better, she had sometimes put money into the provision till that ought to have gone into that on the grocery side. She believed she had put one of the sums mentioned in the charge, half in one till and half in the other. With regard to another of the sums, there was a contra account for the flour, which would account for the sum not having being fully entered. She did not check the statements which were got out in stock-taking; that was beyond her.

At the conclusion of the prisoner's evidence, his Lordship asked Mr Marriott whether he was going to ask the jury for a verdict. Mr Marriott replied that he should be prepared to take a certain course if he could get an assurance from his learned friend that the adoption of that course would not lead to any subsequent proceedings being instituted by his client.

Mr Burkitt said he should be guided entirely by what his Lordship thought, but he felt he could not at once give the undertaking. His Lordship said he thought in any event the Star Tea Company were fully justified on the facts in asking for investigation, and in coming to a criminal court to present the facts to a jury. Mr Burkitt, upon this, gave the undertaking asked for, and Mr Marriott then intimated that he would be content with a verdict of not guilty.

The Judge again said he thought the company was fully justified in initiating the prosecution. The case against Mrs Dunbar had been presented with fairness, propriety, and precision by the witnesses for the prosecution. On the other hand, he had been impressed by the testimony that the prisoner had given in the witness-box, and any adverse impressions he might have formed had been quite dissipated by the frank manner in which she had explained her position in the matter. Undoubtedly, she had been irregular, but the irregularity was not that of dishonesty, and arose from the fact that she was not strong enough and experienced enough to carry on the somewhat intricate accounts of the business.

The jury returned a formal verdict of not guilty on both indictments, and prisoner was discharged.

## **Local Casualties**

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.

## **Do You Know That**

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?

## **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House Whitwick*

At the Whitwick Picture House again this week there have been good audiences, and a grand programme has been much appreciated. At the beginning of the week, the chief one was a fine Blue Ribbon drama, entitled "The Price of Fame" with Mary McDermott in a dual role. No. 5 of "Pearl of the Army" was also another good part of this serial, and others were excellent. During the weekend patrons should not miss a very strong all-British film entitled, "The House Opposite" which features Mr Matheson Lang, Violet Hopson, Ivy Close, and Gregory Scott. This will be "great" and should not be missed. Also No. 5 of "The Voice on the Wire" will be appreciated, along with other good ones. See advert for next week's list.

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

#### **Burials**

Smith – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, John Andrew Smith, aged 55 years, of North Street.

### **Friday November 9<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1340)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Whitwick P.M. Church**

The Rev. J. Blayney, of Ashby, preached at the morning and evening services on Sunday at this church on the occasion of the anniversary. After a tea on Saturday, he lectured on "Marriage and Hope." Miss West, of Leicester, sang solos on Sunday afternoon, when the Rev. J. Blayney gave an address.

##### **Liberal Club Billiard Tournament**

Thirty-two members entered a billiard tournament, which concluded on Saturday night, when Mr Arthur Beer, of Silver Street, was successful in the final with Mr Harry Stretton. In a domino competition there are three in the running for premiership. Mr W. Burton was first in a series of cribbage games, and Mr E. Allen, of Thringstone, second.

#### **Local Casualties**

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).

Private A. Jarvis, of the Leicesters, whose home is at Leicester Road, Whitwick, and who was recently wounded in action, writes that he 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.*"

### **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).

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.

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.

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 (Two months).

### **Whitwick Groom's Suicide**

#### *Shot Himself on the House Roof*

An inquest was held yesterday (Thursday) afternoon at the Forest Rock Hotel, Whitwick, by Mr T. J. Webb, Deputy-Coroner concerning the death of Nimrod Statham, 64, groom, of Castle Rock, who died at 1.40, Wednesday morning from gunshot wounds inflicted at 9.30 the previous night. Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) appeared for Miss Bell, the deceased's employer, and the deceased's relatives.

Mrs Mary Ward, in the employ of Miss Bell, Castle Rock, Whitwick said deceased was the groom and she had known him for some years. There had been some trouble respecting the deceased and a maid, in consequence of which Miss Bell told Statham he would have to leave. He told witness he could not bear the disgrace, and he had a good mind to make away with himself. He also said he was afraid of the father of the girl, who had threatened him. She told him he could not stay in Miss Bell's house, and it was soon after he left that they heard the report of a gun. He was a man of morose character, and a little trouble soon upset him.

By Mr Crane: *Deceased had served Miss Bell faithfully for many years, and his employer, who was a lady of advanced years, had put great trust in him. Witness thought his*

*discharge affected his mind. He said to witness, "I have fallen; I am a done man and I am sorry for it". Miss Bell had no option but to take the course she did.*

Answering Inspector Dobney, Coalville witness said she had often seen deceased with a gun. He used to go rabbiting. When they heard the report of the gun they went to the roof of the house, and saw deceased lying there, also a gun.

Dr. Rolston, of Whitwick, said the deceased was conscious when he arrived, and his vest was soaked with blood, but he said they need not trouble to take it off. Witness had the clothes removed and found two gunshot wounds in the breast. The shot passed right through the deceased's body in a slanting direction. Witness at first thought that if the deceased got over the shock the wounds might not prove fatal.

Answering Inspector Dobney, witness said he thought the gun must have slipped when it was fired. If the deceased had pulled the trigger with his foot, witness thought the shot would have gone straight through the body. Deceased had his boots off.

Moses Smallwood, collier, Lower Midway, Derbyshire stated that on November 6<sup>th</sup> he accompanied the deceased's daughter to Castle Rock and saw the deceased. His daughter asked him what was to become of the home, and he replied that he did not know what he was going to do. He was excited and seemed afraid, saying he had been threatened by the girl's father. They tried to persuade him to go home, and thought he was going, but soon afterwards they heard the report of the gun from the roof.

By Inspector Dobney: *Deceased told witness he wanted to marry the girl, but her parents objected.*

P.C. Grewcock stated that he went to Castle Rock about 10 o'clock on Tuesday night, and saw deceased lying in a pool of blood on the lead roof of the house. A double-barrelled gun lay near. There was a spent cartridge in the right barrel and a live one in the left. Deceased told witness he had shot himself, and he would find his purse on the roof containing about £4 10s, which, he said would do to bury him. Then he asked for a little brandy, and witness obtained some. Witness sent for a doctor and made the man as comfortable as he could with blankets, thinking it would be dangerous to move him. Witness remained with the man till he died about 1.40 on Wednesday morning.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *Whitwick Baker Summoned*

Jane Hull, baker, Whitwick was summoned for a breach of the Bread Order, 1917, at Whitwick on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Her husband appeared. P.C. Percival said he saw defendant's son-in-law delivering bread from a cart in Whitwick. Witness weighed twelve two-pound loaves, and nine were short weight, varying up to 1 ¼ oz in a loaf, a total deficiency of nine ounces in nine loaves.

The Chief Constable (Mr E. Holmes) said it was an offence to expose bread for sale which did not weigh a pound or multiples of a pound. In this case it was the large number of loaves – nine out of twelve – which were deficient in weight which induced him to prosecute. He was told the bakers allowed 2lbs 3ozs of dough, but if that was not sufficient they should allow a little more. Mr Hull said it was very difficult to get a two-pound loaf. They tried their best. The loaf which went into the oven first would come out the lightest. Fined £1 1s or seven days.

### *School Cases*

Thomas Roberts, collier, Whitwick was summoned for not sending his child regularly to school. Mr H. Freeman, school attendance officer gave the facts and defendant was fined 4s.

Elizabeth Hall, widow, Whitwick, was similarly summoned in respect of two children. Complainant said she was left with seven children and two were in France. She had only one boy at work, and it was a great struggle for her to keep and clothe them. Fined 2s for each child.

### *Lighting Offences*

Mary Baugh, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for a breach of the Lights in Dwellings Order, at Whitwick, on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. She did not appear. P.C. Sibson said it was an isolated house, and the light could have been seen a mile away. Fined 10/6 or seven days.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House Whitwick*

Good audiences have attended the Whitwick Picture House again this week, and the usual grand collection of films has been much appreciated. At the beginning of the week a good one was "Mothers of France" featuring Madame Sarah Bernhardt. It was a magnificent 5-part production. No. 6 of "Pearl of the Army" was also appreciated, as were also many other good ones shown. During the week-end there is another good extra one, "Disraeli" a play adapted from the novel by Louis N. Parker. This should not be missed. Also Episode 6 of "The Voice on the Wire" an excellent part, along with others. See advert for next week's programme.

## **Friday November 16<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1341)**

### **Local News**

#### **For Sale**

Smart Pony – 12 hands, to be sold. Hermitage Hotel, Whitwick.

#### **Fatal Accident at Coleorton Colliery**

*One Man Killed and another Injured*

By a fall of roof at the Coleorton Colliery yesterday morning, James Bailey, miner, of St. John Street, Thringstone, was killed and Joseph Walker, miner, of Leicester Road, Whitwick was severely injured, having one of his legs broken.

### **Chapel Anniversary**

Special services were held at the Whitwick Baptist Chapel on Sunday in connection with the chapel anniversary. The Rev. A. Dalton preached to good congregations and solos were nicely rendered by Miss E. Smalley, of Hugglescote, in the afternoon, and by Miss Cooke, of Whitwick, in the evening. On Monday afternoon, a public tea was held and was well attended, it being followed in the evening by an interesting lecture on "Nice folk and others" by the Rev. H. Cowling, of Ibstock. Mr J. Toone, of Whitwick, presided. The proceeds were for the chapel funds.

### **Local Casualties**

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.

Corporal W. Sykes (Whitwick) and Private G. Wood (Hugglescote) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported missing.

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.

### **Sport**

#### **Football**

Whitwick Imperial 'A' team were visited on Saturday by Whitwick Albion, on the Duke of Newcastle ground. The latter won the toss and played well for the first ten minutes, when A. Roome secured the first goal for the home team. The Albion equalised soon afterwards through P. Rady. Play was even for a while, till the Imperial forwards pressed again and secured another goal through T. Benniston. Interval, Imperial 2; Albion 1. Play was in the home team's favour all through the next half, and goals were obtained by B. Rady, F. Roome and B. Revill. Result, Imperial 5; Albion 1 goal.

Whitwick Imperial 'B' team visited Whitwick P.M. and won by six goals to two.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

At the beginning of the week at the Whitwick Picture House, an excellent Blue Bird film was "The Boy Girl," a film possessing great interest, and which, in fact, was much appreciated. No. 7 of "Pearl of the Army" was another part of this enthralling serial; and others were very good, and received much applause. During the week-end patrons must

see the Pathe film being screened, viz. "Told at Twilight" featuring Baby Mary Osborne, the clever child actress, who has been seen here many times previously. It is a good story, and will be appreciated. A good comedy drama is "Sister Susie Sewing Shirts for Soldiers" and this should most certainly be seen. No. 7 of "The Voice on the Wire" too, is a pleasing part. Others are good. For next week's programme, see advert.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of our dear son, A. B. John Heighton, R.N.D. killed in action in France, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917 (Issue 1342)**

### **Local News**

#### **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**

Lance-Corporal P. Bevans (Bagworth) and Private W. Wilkes (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

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.

Lance-Corporal J. E. Ducker (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, previously reported wounded, is now reported as wounded and missing.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr B. G. Hale.

#### *Lighting Offences*

George Hincks, junr. farmer, Whitwick, was summoned for not having two front lights on his carriage at Hugglescote, on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. P.C. Langham gave the facts, and defendant was fined 10/6 or 7 days.

John Biddle, baker, Whitwick, was summoned for driving a motor van without a red rear light, at Whitwick, on November 10<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Grewcock said the defendant refused to stop when called to. Defendant said he did not hear the policeman call. He lit the lamp when he started, and thought it was alright. Fined 10/6 or 7 days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House Whitwick*

At the Whitwick Picture House there have been the usual enthusiastic audiences to witness the good 'fare' provided. "The Redemption of Robert Stone" at the beginning of the week was a fine Britannic photoplay in 4 reels, and was the story of a man's redemption. No. 8 of "Pearl of the Army" was also interesting, as were several others shown. During the week-end "Sophy of Kravonia" is a piece that should not be missed. It is adapted from Anthony Hope's well-known novel, and will be enjoyed. "A Maiden's Trust" is a laughable Triangle-Keystone comedy, and No. 8 of "The Voice on the Wire" will be appreciated. Next week, see adverts.

## **Friday November 30<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1343)**

### **Local News**



## **Wanted**

Good Cheveners; plenty of work for experienced hands. War bonus paid. Mrs A. Whitmore, 34, Leicester Road, Whitwick.

## **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. 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.

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.*

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.

## **Local Casualties**

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 10<sup>th</sup>. The chaplain has also written stating *“I deeply regret to say that your husband died here at 6.15 pm on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 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.



Privates W. Partridge (Whitwick), and S. Preston (Ibstock) both of the South Staffordshire Regiment are reported missing.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

All the scoring in the match on the Duke of Newcastle ground, Whitwick, on Saturday between the Imperial and Coalville Baptist Juniors was done in the first half, this being two goals for the Baptists by J. Grew and Pratt. The strong wind greatly hampered good football, but it was nevertheless an enjoyable game.

Whitwick Imperial "A" team should have visited Ibstock Church Lads' Brigade, on Saturday, but owing to a mistake, the Imperial did not go. They however, played Whitwick P.M. on the latter's ground, and were the victors by 4 – 1.

## **Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1344)**

### **Local News**

#### **Wanted**

Griswold Hands; also Menders, inside and out. Apply 34, Cademan Street, Whitwick and High Street, Ibstock.

#### **Local Casualties**

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.

The death is presumed to have taken place on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **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.

The case of a waggoner on the Whitwick Colliery Farm, 30, and married, was adjourned for 14 days for medical examination.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr B. G. Hale, Mr J. W. West, Mr H. J. Ford and Mr J. Lindley.

#### *No Rear Light*

Horace Horrobin, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a rear light, at Whitwick on November 13<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley gave the facts, and defendant was fined 10/6 or 7 days.

### **Whitwick Grazier Fined**

#### *An Expensive Deal*

At the Loughborough Police Court on Wednesday last week, Robert Sharpe, grazier, of Whitwick, was summoned under the Meat Sales Order with being a dealer in fat cattle, to wit, a pig, and re-selling the same to a person who did not give a written undertaking that it was bought for slaughter. Mr H. Perkins, Town Clerk, prosecuted, and Mr Lancaster defended.

Mr Perkins said that under the Order a person who bought fat cattle shall not re-sell except to a person who gives a written undertaking that he has bought it for slaughter, and the buyer could not sell again, but must slaughter within 15 days of purchase. Defendant bought a sow and entered it in the Loughborough market without disclosing the fact that he had bought it from someone else, so the buyer did not give the undertaking. The offence was that defendant did not require the buyer to give the undertaking. Mr Perkins added that defendant bought the pig for £21 5s, and it was sold for £33 10s.

Jas. Thomas, of Whitwick, proved selling the sow to defendant on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Philip Hy. Tarratt, clerk to Messrs. Shakespear, said defendant entered it in the Loughborough market sale without declaring he was a dealer and not the original producer. Defendant said he was not a grazier, but a small grocer, and he was not a dealer in fat cattle. He had never before bought a pig to sell. He bought this intending to kill and sell in his shop, but his wife objected, so he decided to sell it, and brought it to Loughborough. He knew nothing of this regulation about any declaration. The Bench convicted, and inflicted a fine of £25 and 12/6 costs, or three months, the chairman adding that they need not wonder at prices going up if these things happened.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Imperial "A" team were at home to Thringstone House second team on Saturday, and in the first half there was no score. After eight minutes play in the second half, A. Roome secured the first goal and soon afterwards F. Roome scored another. The home team's defence proved too strong for the House team.

Result: Imperial 2; Thringstone 0.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has been well patronised again this week, especially at the commencement of the week, when "Robespierre" was produced. This was a tale of the French Revolution, and was watched with interest. Also No. 10 of "Pearl of the Army" was enjoyable; as were numerous others. For the week-end "The Course of True Love" is an excellent Gaumont production, which must be seen. "The Voice on the Wire", No. 10 is a pleasing part, and should be seen; along with several others. See advert for next week's programme.

## **Friday December 14<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1345)**

### **Local News**

## **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.

## **Local Casualties**

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.

## **Do You Know That**

The inquest at the Colony House, Whitwick on Tuesday, was the first held by Mr H. J. Deane (Coroner) since returning to civil life from the Army?

## **Fatal Trap Accident at Whitwick**

### *Death of an Aged Monastery Servant*

Mr H. J. Deane, North Leicestershire Coroner, held an inquest at the Colony House, near the Monastery, Whitwick, on Tuesday afternoon, concerning the death of Jas. Roughton, an aged servant at the Monastery, who died on Saturday night from the injuries through being thrown out of a trap at Whitwick on the previous Wednesday.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the Abbey Superior. Hannah Roughton, single woman, of Colony House, Whitwick, said the deceased was her father and was 80 years of age. He was formerly a blacksmith by trade, but of late had been looking after the horses and fowls at the Monastery and doing odd jobs. His sight and hearing were good, and he was very active. For a man of 80 years of age, he was really a marvel. He used to go marketing with the horse and trap and he seemed quite as usual when he left with the trap about 9.30 on Wednesday morning. Later, she heard of the accident, and he was brought home. Deceased said the horse shied and he could not remember anything more. He became unconscious on Friday morning, and died about five o'clock on Saturday night. He was well used to horses, and could manage them well.

John Winters, farmer, Swannington, said he was with his milk float in Brooks' Lane, Whitwick about ten o'clock last Wednesday morning when he saw a horse and trap approaching from the direction of Mr Briers' house and going towards New Swannington. It appeared to be going quietly, but took fright at a white-painted hydrant. The horse galloped and deceased, by a sharp pull of the rein, managed to avoid witness's float, but the trap collided with a lamp post, which was knocked down, and then running on to the side of the road was overturned and deceased thrown out. The horse broke loose and galloped

towards New Swannington. Witness got assistance and deceased was taken into Mr Briers' house, and a doctor sent for. Up to the time the horse shied, it was going quietly and deceased appeared to have control of it.

Dr. T. R. Rolston, of Whitwick, said he was sent for to Mr Brers' home on Wednesday and there saw the deceased. He was in a dazed condition, apparently having been stunned. There were no fractures that witness could detect. He was removed to his home, and witness saw him daily till he died. The cause of death in witness's opinion was collapse following cerebral haemorrhage due to the fall, and old age. A younger man would probably have recovered. Witness had not attended deceased previously, beyond an odd bottle of medicine for a cough occasionally.

Brother Francis, of the St. Bernard's Monastery, said he looked after the Monastery farms, and was the immediate superior of the deceased. On Wednesday morning, witness helped the deceased to harness the horse, and he started away about 9.30. It was a very quiet horse, having no vice whatever. Witness had often driven it, and it had not shied with him, though it would avoid a little pool of water on the road. Deceased seemed to be quite capable of controlling the horse and seemed in his usual health that morning. He had driven the horse for about 15 months, and once it went into Coalville while the deceased was in a shop, but that was the only time it had got out of his control.

By Mr T. Kelly (foreman): *Deceased had never complained of being afraid of the horse or having any difficulty with it.*

The Coroner said the facts were quite plain, and it seemed to have been a pure accident. The only point in the case was whether an old man, 80 years of age should have been sent out with a horse, but they knew that some men of 80 were more active than others, and this old man seemed to have retained possession of his faculties to a good degree. Under the circumstances he thought the Monastery Authorities were quite justified in thus employing the deceased.

The jury found that death was due to collapse from cerebral haemorrhage caused by shock and old age, such shock being the result of being, by accident, and misfortune, thrown from a trap in Whitwick, on December 5<sup>th</sup>, on one being to blame.

Mr Sharp, on behalf of the Superior and community at the Monastery, expressed regret at the sad occurrence.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Imperial "A" team played Whitwick Albion on Saturday, on the Duke of Newcastle ground, and won by 5 goals to 2. The "B" team visited the Coalville P.S.A. second team, and won by 3 goals to 2.

The Coalville Baptist Juniors were visited by Whitwick Choir. From the start the Baptists were pressing, and after playing ten minutes F. Price opened the score for the Baptists. Just before half-time, Whitwick made the score even. The next half, Whitwick made the

score even. The next half, Whitwick pressed, but could not beat the Baptist backs. Then Rowell cleared, and from a corner Moore headed in. Result: Baptist 2: Whitwick 1.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has been well patronised this week again, and the splendid pictures shown have been loudly applauded. "The Empress" at the beginning of the week was a grand Pathe Gold Rooster play, and was of interest. No. 11 of "Pearl of the Army" also was appreciated, as were numerous others screened. During the week-end there is another fine one, viz, "Kitty McKay" a magnificent Scotch drama, which will be enjoyed. No. 11 of "The Voice on the Wire" should not be missed; along with numerous others. See advert for next week's list.

## **Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> 1917 (Issue 1346)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Public House Scene**

##### *Landlady's Tussle with a Collier*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, Andrew Smith, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit licensed premises at Whitwick, on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and, further, for assaulting Mary J. Potter, married, of Whitwick, on the same date. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared to prosecute and Mr R. Clifford (Loughborough) for the defendant, pleaded not guilty to both charges.

Hilda Potter (18) said her father was the licensee of the New Inn, Whitwick, and worked at the Ibstock Colliery, her mother and herself managing the house in his absence. On Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, defendant came to the house and asked for a pint of beer, giving her 1s. When she took him the change, he said it was 2s he gave her, which she denied. She told her father, who gave the defendant a shilling and told the defendant not to come into the house again. On Monday, however, defendant came in with his brother, and she refused to supply him. Her mother asked him to leave, but he struck her (Mrs Potter) and knocked her on the counter. Witness ran for the poker, and the defendant took it from her before she could use it.

By Mr Clifford: *Her mother did not first slap the defendant's face, but she upset his beer, which his brother had paid for, and which, the complainant was trying to prevent him from drinking.*

Mary Jane Potter, mother of the last witness, corroborated, and said she felt the effect of defendant's blows for some time afterwards and had been under the care of a doctor. In a subsequent interview at the office of Mr Sharp, she heard the defendant admit the offence, and say he should plead guilty. Thomas Potter, the landlord, also gave evidence and Sergeant Betts said the landlady complained to him and showed him a bruise on her arm. Mr Clifford submitted that he had no case to answer in regard for refusing to quit, and the Bench agreed, and dismissed the case.

In regard to the assault, the defendant, on oath, alleged that the landlady first slapped him on the face four or five times, and he “shoved” her on one side. She also took his beer and emptied it on the floor. He denied saying in Mr Sharp’s office that he should plead guilty.

Thomas Hurst, collier, Whitwick, said he saw Mrs Potter slap Smith’s face several times.

John Smith and Frank Smith, defendant’s brothers, and Sarah Ann Allen, wife of a soldier, of Loughborough, corroborated. The latter said she was a visitor to Whitwick and caused some laughter in remarking that she never wanted to go there again.

Mr Sharp: *There are some people who like Whitwick.*

Witness (emphatically): *I don’t.*

The Bench decided to convict, and defendant was fined £1 1s, 5/6 witness’ fees, and advocate’s fee, £2 2s, or one month.

### **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.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr B. G. Hale and Mr L. Lovett.

#### *Theatre Licences*

On the application of Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) the usual licences were renewed for the Olympia and Electric Theatres, Coalville, and the Picture House, Whitwick. Also permission was given for performances on Christmas Day, Supt. Lockton remarking that all the places were well-conducted.

#### *School Cases*



For neglecting to send their children regularly to school, John Wardle, collier, was fined Whitwick, 7/6.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Imperial "A" team played Coalville Baptist on Saturday, on the Fox and Goose ground. The Imperial played with nine men for the first ten minutes. B. Rady obtained the first goal for Whitwick. Soon afterwards F. Roome secured another. Interval, Imperial 2: Baptists 0. Eight minutes after the restart, the Baptists scored through Grew. Whitwick pressed, and further goals were obtained by B. Rady, F. Roome and A. Pears. Result. Imperial 5: Baptists 1.

Whitwick Imperial "B" team entertained Coalville Rangers on the Duke of Newcastle ground on Saturday, and were the losers by one goal to nil.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

There is a grand selection of films to be seen at the Whitwick Picture House this week again, and much enthusiasm has been evinced by the large audiences attending. At the beginning of the week "Little Miss Somebody" was much enjoyed. It was a Blue Bird piece of exceptional merit. No. 12 of "Pearl of the Army", too, was watched with interest by followers of the serial; as were other good ones shown. For the week-end, "Dare Devil Kate" is the chief one, and is a Western drama in five reels, by Fox. This is the sort of picture which will appeal to patrons, and it should not be missed. No. 12 of "The Voice on the Wire" should also be seen. Christmas programme, etc. see advert.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Bull – At Whitwick, on Monday, John Wm. Bull, aged 2 months, of Castle Street.

Smith – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Rupert Smith, aged 8 years, of Brook's Lane, New Swannington.

## **Friday December 28<sup>th</sup> 1917 (Issue 1347)**

### **Local News**

#### **Accident to Father Carew**

A rather serious accident happened to Father Carew, Superior at the Monastery on Saturday, when driving between Whitwick and Loughborough, the horse bolted and he was thrown out of the trap, being subsequently conveyed to Loughborough Hospital with a

fractured arm. It is understood to be the same horse which ran away at Whitwick, and caused a Monastery servant's death a few weeks ago.

## **Apology**

*I do hereby apologise for my action towards Miss Gilbert, at the Whitwick Co-Operative Branch.*

*(Signed) Mrs Cooke. Gas Works Cottages, Whitwick, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.*

## **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.

## **Do You Know That**

Whitwick Primitive Methodist Football Club (secretary, Herbert Wallam, 53, Silver Street, Whitwick) have open dates?

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Primitive Methodists defeated Ravenstone Imperial at Whitwick by two goals to one. The Prims, pressed in the first half and Kirk scored after twenty minutes, and the second goal came from a scrimmage, the custodian being forced into the net with the ball in his arms. In the second half, Ravenstone missed a penalty, but afterwards scored their only goal.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Death of Mr Stinson**

The death occurred on Christmas Eve, of Mr Wm. Stinson, of Brook's Lane. The deceased gentleman was for some time a clerk at the Whitwick Colliery. The funeral takes place today.

### **Burials**

Coulton – At Whitwick, yesterday, George Henry Coulton, aged 11 months, of Hermitage Road.