

## Friday January 4<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1348)

### Local News

#### **Local Casualties**

News has been received that Corporal E. Knight, of Silver Street, Whitwick, met with his death on the night of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917. Corporal Knight joined the Leicesters on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1914, and after training in various camps, chiefly Aldershot, went to France in July, 1915. He became quite a favourite, and an accomplished marksman. His indomitable courage was recognised by his superiors after a dashing charge. It seems a villa was infested with the Hun, and Corporal Knight, followed by others, entered the building and brought out the foe, this act gaining him his first stripe. In March, 1916, he became attracted to the Royal Engineers, and was at once given his second stripe. His parents, Mr and Mrs G. Knight, of 92, Silver Street, Whitwick, have received the following letter from one of his fellow officers. *"Dear Mr and Mrs Knight, I am taking this opportunity of writing to you on behalf of Ted's mates and myself, who shared the same dug-out together. We express our deepest sympathy with you and your family in your bereavement. Ted's death was caused by a bomb which was dropped on the dug-out, there being eight of us in at the time. We had gone to bed rather early that night, and we must all have been sound asleep. It was at 11.30 when we were startled by the explosion of a bomb which dropped in the end near where poor Ted was sleeping. The result was this, the four at that end were buried. We got them out very quickly, but unfortunately, Ted was quite dead. He must have succumbed to concussion. There were two doctors on the scene, so you may depend everything was done that was possible. I was present at the burial which took place on December 4<sup>th</sup>, in the British Military Cemetery. The company have had a nice cross placed on the grave, and it will be well looked after. Ted was thought a lot of by the lads in the company, and his loss is mourned by all who knew him."* Deceased was 22 years of age, and before he joined up at Messrs. Stableford and Co's works, where his father is also employed.



### Sport

#### **Football**

On Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917, Whitwick Imperial "A" team were away to Bardon Hill F.C. and won by 3 goals to 1. On Christmas Day the "A" team played Coalville Rangers and were the losers by the odd goal to three. On Saturday last, the Imperial were at home to Coalville Baptists. It was the first round in the competition for the new ball. Play was very even all through the first half. J. Grew narrowly missed just before half-time for the Baptists. Interval: Imperial 0: Baptist 0. Soon after the restart, F. Roome secured the first goal. Play was then in the home team favour. Other goals were obtained by F. Roome and B. Rady. Result: Imperial 3: Baptists 0.

Whitwick Primitive Methodists defeated Ravenstone Imperial at Whitwick by two goals to one. The Primitives pressed in the first half and Dark 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.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

There have been large attendances at the Whitwick Picture House this week again, and the film subjects screened have been much enjoyed and appreciated. During the earlier part of the week there was a good Blue Ribbon drama entitled "Money Magic" featuring Edith Storey. No. 14 of "Pearl of the Army" was also a good and interesting part of this serial, and much enjoyed by followers. For the week-end, "The Mother of Dartmoor" is a splendid drama, which will appeal, and it must not be missed. The story is adapted from Eden Philpot's famous novel "The Mother". "The Voice on the Wire", part 14 is also a good episode, and should be seen; along with numerous other excellent ones. See advert for next week's list.

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

#### **Burials**

Stinson – At Whitwick, on December 28<sup>th</sup>, William Stinson, aged 6\_ years, of Brook's Lane.

### **Friday January 11<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1349)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Wesleyan Soldiers' and Sailors' Welfare and Memorial Fund**

In connection with the above fund on Saturday last, a grand concert was held in the Whitwick National Schools (kindly lent for the occasion), at which a large audience was present, the seating accommodation being all taken up sometime before the commencement. Mr Wm. Price, of Coalville, presided, and a very enjoyable programme was given. The chief entertainers were Mr and Mrs W. Smith (Coalville) in their winsome duets, which were twice encored: Misses Cameron, G. Mann, G. Baker, D. Mills, Messrs. C. Massey, W. A. Burton and A. Carter. Part songs were given by the children, also a dialogue and a merry sketch. The programme lasted about three and a half hours, being

then somewhat curtailed, owing to the many items. The thanks of the committee were expressed to all the helpers including the managers of the schools for kindly lending the schools. The treasurer anticipates showing a balance after all expenses are paid, of about £13.

### **Absentee**

Before Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court on Wednesday, Private James Freeman, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, was charged with being an absentee since January 5<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Jelley deposed to arresting the man at his home at Whitwick the same afternoon. Freeman was remanded to await an escort.

### **Concert**

Another successful concert was arranged by Miss May Astley at Broom Leys on Tuesday evening last. Sergeant Clark presided. The following artistes contributed to the programme: Miss H. Vendy, Miss L. Anderson, Miss D. Holt, Miss M. Astley, Mr E. Onions and Mr W. Reece. The sweet singing of Miss H. Vendy and the humorous songs of Mr W. Reece were much appreciated. Sergeant Limb proposed a vote of thanks, which was heartily applauded by the "boys" and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

### **Collieries Recruiting Court**

*Many Appeals Dismissed*

*Men who have Entered the Mines During the War*

Mr Wm. Saint, H.M. Inspector of Mines, held a Colliery Recruiting Court in the Council Chamber at Coalville, on Friday, being assisted by Mr Bull, another of H.M. Inspectors of Mines. Mr E. D. Spencer (Leicester) for the owners, Mr H. Buckley (South Derbyshire Miners' Agent) for the men, were assessors, Mr Levi Lovett appeared for the Leicestershire Miners' Association, and the National Service representatives were Capt. J. S. Turner, Captain W. E. Stevenson and Lieutenant R. Blower, who all appeared in their civilian attire. The managers of the various collieries in Leicestershire were also present in support of the cases of men whom they wished to retain. The Court was for the purpose of considering the cases of men who have entered the mines since the war began and there was a large number of appeals.

### **Whitwick Military Medallist**

Private Frank West, son of Mr George West, of Whitwick, has been awarded the Military Medal.

### **Local Casualties**

Pte. J. Reed (Bagworth) of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported killed in action.

Corporal G. Black (Ellistown), Pte. A. Davies (Ashby), Pte. W. J. Watret (Whitwick), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are reported wounded.

## Coalville Tribunal

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Monday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. G. Hale, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and C. W. Brown, with Captain German, Lieutenant R. Blower (National Service representatives), and J. F. Jesson (clerk).

In all there were 28 cases on the list, several of them being men who had been combed out of the mines.

Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for a Whitwick licensed victualler, 42, married, Grade 1, stating that he had been a miner practically the whole of his life, except for a short time when he left the pit to take a Whitwick public house. He had a wife and two children. Though having been passed for general service, he was at his first examination rejected. Appeal dismissed.

A former fishmonger at Whitwick, now working at Ibstock Colliery, was also represented by Mr Sharp, who said the man was 42 years of age last June. He was married with two children, and passed in Grade 2. He only asked for temporary exemption, pending a domestic event. A question was raised as to the man being over the age limit, it being stated that if the applicant was 42 before June 24<sup>th</sup> last, he was not liable for service. The man said he was 42 before that date, and the case was adjourned for 14 days for the production of a birth certificate.

A Whitwick licensed victualler and collier, formerly a professional footballer, in his appeal, stated that he was 32 last December. He had a wife and six children, five being of school age, and his wife was ill. He produced a medical certificate to that effect. He had worked as a collier all his life, except when footballing. It was stated that he was in Grade 1. One month was allowed, the man to find work of national importance, other than in the mine.

A shoeing smith, aged 30, Grade 1, married, with two children, said he had worked at the Whitwick Colliery since September, 1914. One of his children was ill, and his own health was not good. Dismissed.

A Whitwick collier, married, Grade 3, said he suffered from rheumatics and had had rheumatic fever twice. He worked in the mine from boyhood, but left through his health. Answering a question, he said he was married last September. Dismissed.

A Whitwick Collier loader, 32, married, Grade 3, said he had worked in the pit two years and four months. Before he went into the pit he suffered from rheumatics. He had had rheumatic fever twice and would soon be ill again if he had to work in the open. He had one child. One month, to find other work of national importance.

Temporary exemption was asked for by a Whitwick collier, 28, Grade 3, who said his wife was ill. One month or two he hoped, would suffice. Dismissed.

A Whitwick Colliery worker, 35, Grade 3, married, said he had a wife and two children, and his sister and invalid mother were partially dependent. He said he had been lame for two years, getting his leg broken and ankle dislocated in a football match at Coalville. Adjourned for 14 days for further medical examination.

A locomotive cleaner at the Whitwick Colliery, aged 29, single, Grade 3, said he had been under a doctor for seven years, and produced a local doctor's certificate. His father was unable to work through paralysis and applicant was the main support of both his parents. Twelve months last September, he volunteered for the army and was rejected. One month allowed to find other work of national importance.

A Whitwick Colliery tub repairer, 38, Grade 3, in his appeal said he was an out-patient at Leicester Infirmary for eye trouble. One month to find other work of national importance.

### **Coalville Urban Council**

The monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban Council was held on Tuesday night, Mr F. Griffin, J.P. presiding, and there were also present, Messrs. T. Kelly (vice-chairman) T. Y. Hay, A. J. Briers, C. W. Brown, M. McCarthy, J. W. Farmer, A. Lockwood, W. Fellows and B. G. Hale, J.P. with the surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), clerk's deputy (Mr A. L. Bertenshaw) and gasworks manager (Mr J. W. Eagles).

#### *Whitwick Lodgers*

The Whitwick lodging-house returns for the month were 663 and for the year a total of 7,048, comprising 6,320 males and 728 females. There were no children. In 1915, the total was 7,444 and in 1915 there were 8,029. The whole of the decrease was in the males.

### **Sport**

#### **Football**

The Workingmen's Club were at home to Whitwick Imperial on Saturday, and a good game ended with the home team winners by 3 goals to 2. The scorers were Bradshaw (2), W. Lees for the Workingmen's and Roome for the visitors.

The Whitwick Church Choir team just managed to claim another victory over Hugglescote Baptists by one goal to none. The only scorer was S. Beers, from a free kick.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

At the Whitwick Picture House during the first part of the week when there were the usual enthusiastic audiences, "The Two-Edged Sword" was a five-part Blue Ribbon drama of exceptional merit, and featured Edith Storey. No. 15 of "Pearl of the Army" also was much enjoyed by followers of this serial, as were numerous other fine subjects, all screened in the usual excellent manner, and calling forth much applause. During the week-end another Blue Ribbon five-reeler is to be seen, viz. "The Ploughshare" a very good one. Final episode of "The Voice on the Wire" also should not be missed. Others are good. See advert for particulars of next week's list.

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

## **Burials**

Gilbert – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, William Gilbert, aged 65 years, of Hermitage Road.

Collins – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Winifred Collins, aged one month, of Leicester Road.

Woodhouse – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Doris Ivy Woodhouse, aged 15 years, of James Street, Coalville.

## **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs G. Knight, 92, Silver Street, Whitwick wish to thank all those who have expressed sympathy with them in the loss of their son, Corporal E. Knight, of the Royal Engineers, killed in action on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Friday January 18<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1350)**

### **Local News**

#### **Tea and Lecture**

On Saturday, the Rev. E. McLellan, of Derby visited Whitwick, and preached in the P.M. Chapel in the afternoon to a good congregation. A public tea followed, and in the evening the reverend gentleman lectured on "The making of New England." The Rev. J. J. Hutchinson presided. On Sunday the services were conducted by Mr J. S. Hemsley, of Ashby, and there were good congregations. The event was in connection with the effort being made to reduce the chapel debt by £100.

#### **Sudden Death in the Whitwick Colliery**

##### *Inquest*

The North Leicestershire Coroner (Mr H. J. Deane) held an inquest at the Leicester Hotel, Coalville on Tuesday afternoon, concerning the death of John College, 63, colliery chageman, of 92, Park Road, Coalville who suddenly expired in the Whitwick Colliery on Saturday morning after finishing work on the night shift.

Mr Elliot Smith (Mansfield) appeared for the Whitwick Colliery Co. Mr Binns (Derby) for the Indemnity Co, Mr F. Tatham (Coalville) for the National Association of Colliery Deputies, and Mr Levi Lovett for the Leicestershire Miners' Association. Mr T. Y. Hay, manager of the colliery, was also present.

The Coroner said it was for the jury to say whether death was due to natural causes or whether it was accelerated by any external circumstances. He had no information of any accident or injury.

Lucy College, the widow, said her husband left home for work on Friday night about 9.45. He complained of but a cold. He had been away from work two nights during the week – Tuesday and Wednesday nights. He said he had a cold and would have a rest. Afterwards

he said he felt better. He had not been attended by a doctor for about twelve months; and then only for a cold on the chest. She had never heard him complain of his heart.

By Mr Smith: *She could not say whether her husband had influenza.*

Joseph Hemmingway, collier, 81, Albert Street, Coalville said he was working with the deceased on Friday night. He did his work alright and made no complaint to witness. The shift ceased about 6 o'clock. Deceased went to put his tools up, and witness went on towards the shaft. Colledge seemed alright at that time. During the night, deceased had been filling dirt in the tubs and witness emptying.

By Mr Lovett: *Deceased had not pulled any timber out or set any during the night. The stuff was down for them. There was no extraordinary or violent work of any kind during the night – it was just the ordinary work, and the deceased made no complaint.*

Joseph Cliff, collier, 6, Melbourne Street, Coalville said he worked at Whitwick new pit and was on the night shift last Friday. He was leaving the pit shortly after 6 am on Saturday, when he heard a gurgling noise like someone choking, and he saw the deceased lying on his back in a tub. Witness lifted him up, and deceased again made a gurgling noise. Witness saw a light coming, and shouted for assistance. Another man came up and they raised the deceased, but found that he was dead. The tub was stationary and there was nothing to indicate that there had been an accident.

By Mr Smith: *The tub had one end out, and the deceased had sat on it with his feet on the ground, and had fallen backwards.*

Dr. S. E. Dunkin, of Coalville, said he had attended the deceased at long intervals and the last time two days before his death. The time previous was in 1917, when witness saw the deceased for bronchitis and heart trouble. Witness was called on Saturday morning, and descended the mine. He found the deceased then dead. There was no mark of violence on the body, and nothing of an unusual character externally. Witness thought death was due to heart failure. Deceased might have died at home. The bronchitis would affect the heart. Witness advised him to stay at home for a few days, but he said his work was light, and he would rather go. Witness understood deceased was a very good workman. Moderate exercise would not be prejudicial, but heavy work and straining would have affected him badly.

By Mr Smith: *Witness thought the heart trouble was of long-standing – two or three years at least. The death might have occurred at the deceased's home after a fit of coughing or any little exertion.*

By the foreman (Mr C. H. March): *If anyone had been with the deceased at the time witness doubted whether they could have done anything for him.*

At the request of Mr Levi Lovett, the deputy, Mr Elijah Toon, of Coleorton, was called and said he was in the pit at the time, and heard someone shout. He went in that direction, at once, but deceased was dead when he got there. Witness had seen deceased three times during the night shovelling dirt into a tub. He made no complaint to witness, and he did a good nights' work. There was no sign of an accident.

By Mr Lovett: *Witness allowed the man to leave a few minutes before the others as he could not travel so fast, and told him if there was anything in the way, such as a piece of coal, he might remove it. As far as witness knew, deceased had to do nothing on the way after leaving work, which would cause him any exertion.*

Summing up, the Coroner said there was nothing to indicate that deceased died from anything other than natural causes. The jury returned a verdict accordingly, and expressed sympathy with the widow and family.

Mr Hay expressed the regret of the Colliery Co. and condolence with the widow and family. He said the deceased had worked for them in the teens of years without a complaint, and they were sorry to lose him.

Mr Lovett, for the Miners' Association also expressed sympathy, and said the deceased was one of their old Council members, and a former treasurer. He had known the deceased for a good number of years, and knew him to be a good worker.

### **Local Chit Chat**

The landing, a short time ago, of a pike weighing 33 lbs, by a Whitwick gentleman when fishing near Swithland, has been beaten in the same locality by an officer on leave from the Western Front, who recently secured a pike which turned the scale at 37 ½ lbs. This is believed to be a record for the Midland. Both fish accepted a live bait – a live roach.

### **Local Casualties**

Mr Ambrose Bowns, of Whitwick, employed by the Coalville Urban Council in the Water Department, has received news that his son, Pte. Bowns, has been wounded in the arm and is a prisoner of war in Germany. The information states that his friends are not to worry, as he is going on well.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Monday night, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, and J. W. Fisher, Captain G. J. German and Lieutenant R. Blower (National Service representatives) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr J. J. Sharp represented an aged painter of Whitwick in an appeal for his son, who carries on an old-established business. The man was 32 years of age, married, and passed C2. A brother who used to be in the business, was at the Front, and the man appealed for returned from Australia to take his place. Two months.

The father of seven children, working as a farm labourer for the Whitwick Colliery Co. was allowed three months, and it was suggested that he get a certificate from the War Agricultural Committee. He is 40 years of age, and passed C2.

A boot manufacturing firm appealed for a single man, 23, a shoe benchman at a Whitwick factory. The man was stated to be in Grade 3, and physically unfit for the army, having previously been rejected. The firm's representative said they had lost ten men out of fifteen



before the war in this department. They would shortly be losing another boy who was nearly 18. It was the first man they had appealed for. One month (final).

A Whitwick building and undertaking firm were represented by Mr Sharp in a review of the cases of a partner, 38, C1, who is a joiner and a woodwork machinist, 38, C1. The partner said he had to rely absolutely on this man as a machinist. Mr Sharp said 14 of the firm's men had gone to the army. It was also stated that a partner had been killed. Three months allowed in each case.

## **Presentation to Whitwick Quarry Manager**

### *Completion of 21 Years' Service*

On Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, a pleasant afternoon was spent at the works of the Whitwick Granite Co. Ltd, the occasion being the presentation to Mr J. H. Robinson of a silver tea tray, subscribed for by the employees of the company, as a mark of appreciation and respect for his 21 years' service with the company as manager, every employee on the works contributing.

Mr Walter Brown, chairman of the company, occupied the chair, and in the course of his remarks, said how pleased he was to be with them on such an occasion. The quarries had been in existence 24 years, and when Mr Robinson first came the output was only small, but by his ability and perseverance he had quadrupled the turnover. He was pleased to say that during all the time Mr Robinson had been with them they had not had a single strike, which was an evidence of the tact with which he dealt with the men. He knew strikes were not good either for men or masters, and he trusted that in the future capital and labour would be more in sympathy, as capital could not carry on without labour, nor labour without capital. Mr Brown then called on the oldest employee, Mr William Rossell, of Shepshed, who had been in the service of the company since the quarry started, to make the presentation, and this he did with a few appropriate remarks testifying to the fair and impartial manner in which Mr Robinson had acted in his dealings with the workpeople.

Mr Whitmore supported, and said on behalf of the workmen it gave him pleasure to associate himself with the presentation just made by Mr Rossell to their respected manager. If ever a manager deserved, and had gained, the respect and esteem of his workmen, Mr Robinson was that man. It was not the intrinsic value of the gift he would appreciate so much as the motive that prompted it. When it was decided by the workmen to recognise and show their appreciation of 21 years' good management, it was taken up whole-heartedly. The two principal essentials to his mind required to make a successful manager, were ability and consideration for his men. The rapid strides and progress made by the Whitwick Granite Co. during the time Mr Robinson had been manager, was a standing testimonial to his ability to manage a quarry successfully. The next essential, and from the workmen's standpoint, the best, was the kindness, consideration and sympathy the manager showed for his men. Mr Robinson had always a cheery word, and if at any time any of the workmen had occasion to meet him in his office in connection with their work, reason and commonsense prevailed, and if there was a doubt in nine cases out of ten, the benefit was given to the workmen. His kindness of heart was further revealed in the interest he had shown to the 70 or 80 lads who had gone from the Whitwick Granite Co., to join the Forces. His interest in them had not been confined to writing, it had also taken a practical turn, for at Christmas and other times since the war

started he has sent to each of the "boys" a substantial parcel, etc. to help brighten their lives in their trying ordeal. In concluding his speech with a poem, expressing the good fellowship existing at the quarry. Mr Whitmore said on behalf of his workmates, he wished Mr Robinson health, happiness and prosperity, and trusted that he would for many years be the honoured and respected manager of the Whitwick Quarry Co.

Mr E. Howe (chairman of the local branch of the National Quarrymen's Union) testified to the good feeling existing between the workpeople and the manager. Mr J. Heggs said he started at the quarry 19 years since, and he thought Mr Robinson could take as his motto the words, "Semper Eadem".

Messrs. J. Rossell, H. Hull, and G. Shilliam also spoke. The latter, who is advanced in years, said he was very glad to be there as it gave him pleasure to testify to the honourable relations existing between the employers and the employees. Continuing, he said it was the first occasion for a long time that he had been with his workmates all together, and he should like to take the opportunity of expressing his gratitude for the help he received from them in following his duties as a hammer-man, now that increasing years made him less able to deal with the larger stones himself. He found them always ready to give him a helping hand.

Mr Robinson expressed his thanks and great appreciation of the valuable presentation made to him, and stated that he valued still more the spirit which prompted the same, and particularly at a time when the increased cost of living and shorter working time left so little margin for any further demands. If a man did not gain the confidence of his fellow-men, he was of the opinion he had lived in vain. He spoke of the hard struggle he experienced upon undertaking at the age of 26, the management of the quarry, the company paying no dividend for a period of four years. Mr Robinson referred to the good relations existing between the chairman, directors and the management, every essential for the safe working of the quarry being readily granted, so that employees might work under favourable circumstances. In speaking of the dangers inseparable from quarrying, the manager mentioned that statistics showed granite quarrying to be on nearly the same dangerous basis as coal mining. Mr Robinson said he attributed the fact that there had been no strike in the history of the company to the mutual forbearance, tact, and goodwill, on both sides; and asked for a continuance of this spirit as they must bear in mind that managers and foremen stood between the shareholders and the employees; and like buffers on railway waggons, sometimes received the shocks from both quarters. As a comparative instance of the adverse effects the war had had on the quarry the manager stated that where the company made a profit of £100 prior to the war, the results were now only £30; and that if other callings had traded on the same basis much of the discontent and unrest in the country, caused by profiteering, would not exist. Notwithstanding this, the company had contributed to a large sum of money to the dependents of their employees with the Forces. Ten of the latter he was grieved to say had fallen in the fight for freedom, and many others wounded. Mr Robinson then spoke on the subject of the National Quarrymen's Union, and stated that for many years no union existed at the quarry, but that it was only in accordance with the "march of the times" that it was deemed advisable by the employees to form a branch, and, this being the case, he strongly recommended them not to make it a "*half-and-half measure*", but to all join. His negotiations with the men's leaders, both local and executive, had always been conducted on both sides in a reasonable and conciliatory spirit, and he could assure the men that in their officials at Leicester they possessed practical leaders who would be much more likely, in case of

trouble, to say "*Come and let us reason together,*" rather than "*Come and let us strike.*" In conclusion, Mr Robinson again thanked the men for their kindness, and the support they had given him in the past, and urged them to hold together to keep the old quarry going until their mates returned from the Front, and ended by expressing the wish that the New Year would bring them all much happiness and an enduring peace.

Mr W. Rossell asked Mrs Robinson to accept a handsome tray cloth, which had been made by his daughter, and Mrs Robinson suitably replied. Mr Brown had to leave at this stage, but before doing so, Mr G. Shilliam proposed a vote of thanks to him for presiding, which was heartily received. After the presentation a light lunch, cigars, etc. were kindly provided by Mrs Robinson, and a social afternoon was spent, and besides selections on a gramophone, the following songs were given: "The Labouring Man", Mr G. Shilliam; "The Soldier's Grave", Mr T. C. Bishop; "The Fisherman", Mr W. Whitmore; "Broken down Gentleman", Mr G. Shilliam; "The Volunteer Organist", Mr T. Danvers; "Sentenced to Death", Mr G. Foster; "Baby's Name", Mr I. Heggs; and "Genevieve", by the same singer.

At the conclusion Mr Robinson proposed the toast of "Absent Friends" with the Forces and expressed the wish that before a long period all would return. Mr Shilliam, as an old Service man, responded, and spoke of the part his family and others were playing in the fight for freedom.

The singing of the Doxology and National Anthem brought to a close a most enjoyable gathering.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Mr Walter Lindley (in the chair) and Mr B. G. Hale.

#### *Christmas "Drunks"*

Thomas Hurst, jun. collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on Boxing Day. He did not appear. P.C. Grewcock said he saw the defendant home, but he came out again and used a lot of bad language to a woman. Fined 15s or 14 days.

### **Boxing Day Scene at Whitwick**

#### *Collier Fined for Assaulting a Woman*

A disturbance at Whitwick on Boxing Day led to two summonses for assault being heard by the Coalville magistrates on Friday. In the first case was Andrew Smith, collier, Whitwick, was summoned by Annie Clarke, widow.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the complainant, and defendant pleaded not guilty. Complainant said she was working on munitions in Yorkshire and paid a visit to her friends at Whitwick at Christmas. On Boxing Day, she met the defendant, who was a stranger to her, as she was going to a friend's house for tea, and he said, "You are one of the \_\_\_\_\_ from Yorkshire, are you?" and immediately struck her in the mouth. Then he caught her by the coat and swung her round, and she fell. While she was on the ground, defendant

kicked her. She got up in a dazed condition and made a complaint to Sergeant Betts. She was not able to return to work in consequence of her injuries.

By defendant: *She had nothing to do with an assault alleged to have been committed on him by her relatives.*

Defendant: *They smashed the windows, and I had six front teeth knocked out.*

Annie Bottrill, single woman, said she was with the complainant when the defendant struck her, caught hold of her by the throat, knocked her down and kicked her.

Rose Burford, wife of Charles Burford, a soldier in France, corroborated. Sergeant Betts said the complainant looked as if she had been soundly knocked about when she complained to him. Her face was swollen and bleeding.

Defendant said the row started on Christmas Day. They were playing pitch and toss, and because he won, complainant's friends, Newell and Kearns and two chaps from Yorkshire set on him. They knocked six of his teeth out, and the complainant assisted them.

The clerk: *Spoilt your Christmas dinner?*

Defendant: *It did.*

Proceeding, defendant said complainant's evidence of what took place the next day was untrue. Answering the clerk, defendant said he was a stallman at the Whitwick Colliery and earned £2 7s 6d a week. He was fined £3 3s, 15s costs, and £1 1s solicitor's fee, or one month.

In the second case, James Newell, collier and Mary E. Newell, his wife, of Whitwick, the latter a sister of Mrs Clarke, were summoned for assaulting Hannah Hall, widow. Mr J. J. Sharp for the defendants, pleaded not guilty.

Complainant said her husband had been killed in the war. Newell broke two panes in the window at her home and when she went out he struck her when she remonstrated. The only reason she could suggest for it was that Smith, the defendant in the last case, was in her house. Smith was shortly going to marry her. She was left with three little children, and her wages as a munition worker were insufficient to keep them.

By Mr Sharp: *When Smith assaulted Mrs Clarke, she (complainant) did not say it served her right. She brought a poker out, but it was after her windows had been smashed.*

Answering the clerk, complainant said her husband had been dead over three years. She received 26s a week from the Government. She received nothing from the Whitwick Colliery. Katie Hall, complainant's daughter, aged 10, said the Newells struck her mother.

Without hearing the evidence for the defence, the Bench dismissed the case, complainant having to pay 7/6 costs.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

## *Football Competition (2<sup>nd</sup> Round)*

*Snibston St. James' V Whitwick Imperial "A". at Snibston.*

The visitors succeeded in getting the only goal of the first half through F. Roomes. In the second half the home team pressed a little, but found a firm defence. Whitwick were the superior all the way through and added three more goals, F. Roome doing the "hat trick", and the final score was Whitwick Imperial 4 goals; Snibston 1.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has been again well patronised this week, and the usual fine array of film subjects is being screened. At the commencement of the week, "The Grand Duke's Abduction" was a good one, and featured Peggy Hyland who was, as usual, good. The fine serial, "Patria", also opened well, and augers well for its future. Others were good. For the week-end "The Man of Mystery" is a Vitagraph play of exceptional merit, and must not be missed. The name, Vitagraph, stands for something good. Last night, a lantern lecture was given in place of the usual programme, entitled, "War in the Air", and this was well-attended. See advert, for next week's programme.

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

### **Burials**

Robinson – At Whitwick, yesterday, Sarah Robinson, aged 42 years, of Oaks Road, Whitwick.

## **Friday January 25<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1351)**

### **Do You Know That**

An aeroplane descended in a field off Hermitage Road, on Sunday afternoon, the airman flying away again after a short stay?

The promoters of the Coalville Football Competition have decided to give the proceeds of the final round to the cigarette fund for the soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital?

### **Local Casualties**

Mr Carter of 4, Silver Street, Whitwick, has been informed that his son, Pte. J. A. Carter, of the Leicesters, who was reported missing on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1916, is now presumed to have been killed in action in France on that date. He enlisted in June, 1915, and would have been 20 years of age last November.

Another Whitwick soldier, Private George Wright, of the Leicesters, reported missing on the same date (July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1916) is now presumed to have been killed on that date. Mrs Wardle, his mother, who has received the news, lives at Alma Villas, Hermitage Road. Before he joined up at the beginning of the war, Pte. Wright was working in Leicester.

News has been received by Mrs Parsons, of North Street, Whitwick, that her husband Pte. Wm. Parsons, of the Leicesters, died on December 20<sup>th</sup> from wounds received in action in France. He enlisted in September, 1914, prior to which he and his family were living in Mansfield. Mrs Parsons in the meantime has returned to Whitwick, her native place, and where her parents live. She is left with four little children.

Previously reported missing, Pte. Oliver Bishop, of the Northamptonshire Regiment, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Bishop, of 57, North Street, Whitwick, is now reported to have been killed in action on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917, when he was with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. It is stated that his body has been found and buried. He was 21 years of age. Mr and Mrs Bishop have two other sons in the army, one in Egypt and the other in hospital in England, suffering from wounds and shell shock received in France. These casualties bring Whitwick's war death toll to 43.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has been largely visited again this week, and the excellent programme of subjects has been well-received. The 'top' film at the beginning of the week was "Indiscretion", a Vitagraph Blue Ribbon drama which was very pleasing. It featured Lilian Walker, the acting being good. No. 2 of "Patria" also was much appreciated; as also were others shown. During the week-end, the grand Gaumont play, "The Spirit of France" is one which must be seen by all. It features Madame Jane Hading, and has a story which is bound to "pull". Episode 2 of "The Grey Ghost" is also showing – a grand part. Next week's see advert.

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

#### **Burials**

Cooper – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Samuel Cooper, aged 71 years, of the Ashby Union.

### **Friday February 1<sup>st</sup> 1918 (Issue 1352)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Officer's Bravery**

##### *Deeds Which Won the Military Cross*

Particulars are to hand of the deeds for which 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Thaddeus Francis McCarthy, of the North Lancashire Regiment was awarded the Military Cross. The official record states: "*When in charge of the battalion carrying and ration parties, he carried out his work with the greatest coolness and ability, and although by reason of the heavy shell-fire, it was of a most arduous and dangerous nature. It was due to his exertions and personal supervision that rations arrived regularly. On another occasion during an attack, he led his men forward with great coolness, setting a fine example to those around him. He*

*afterwards took over and re-organised another company whose officers had all become casualties.”*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant T. F. McCarthy is the youngest son of Mr Michael McCarthy, of New Swannington, a member of the Coalville Urban Council, and representative of the Whitwick Division on the Leicestershire County Council. The gallant young officer, before joining the army, was articled to Mr R. A. Looseby, a Leicester solicitor. He is 22 years of age.

### **Situations Vacant**

Good Seamers wanted, war bonus given. Apply 134, Church Lane, Whitwick.

### **Sequel to a Whitwick Accident**

#### *Workman Awarded £850 Damages*

The claim of Alfred Miles, of 57, Leicester Road, Whitwick, against the Forest Rock Granite Co. (Leicester) Ltd, for damages for injuries received during blasting operations, heard before a special jury, was decided at Leicester Assizes, on Saturday, before Mr Justice Horridge. The hearing began on Friday evening.

Mr J. J. Parfitt, K.C. and Mr C. A. McCurdy, M.P. (instructed by Mr Wilfred Moss) was for the plaintiff, and Mr B. B. Stenham (instructed by Messrs. Keenes, Marland, Bryden and Besant, London) for the defendants.

From counsel's opening statement it appeared that the Forest Rock Granite Co. own the Forest Rock quarry near Whitwick, and about 8.30 am on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917, Miles was going along the Leicester Road, when he was struck by a piece of stone and badly injured, his skull being fractured and a portion of the brain destroyed, the left side of his body being paralysed. It was alleged that the stone came from the Forest Rock Quarry during blasting operations, and that the defendants neglected to give warning to the public using the highway or to the plaintiff of their intention to blast stone. It was also alleged that they omitted to place a flagman to warn the public.

Plaintiff, who is 45 years old, said the quarry where he worked closed down on Good Friday till Easter Tuesday. On Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, he went to the quarry just before 6 am, cleaned up and left everything square for the holiday. At 8.30 am he was returning home past the Forest Rock Quarry. He did not see a flagman nor hear a buzzer, nor had he the slightest idea that blasting was going on at the quarry. He had just passed the entrance to defendant's works, when he was hit by something, and he knew nothing more till he recovered consciousness in the hospital.

Mrs Gunn, 134, Leicester Road, Whitwick, said the flagman on the road stopped people going by when blasting was on.

Dr. C. G. Richardson, who saw Miles on his admission to Loughborough Hospital, said the wound in his head was bleeding freely, and brain matter was oozing out, while the skull was fractured and pieces of bone were pressing into the brain, and a considerable amount of its substance was destroyed. The injury was on the right side of the head, and the result was that the left side of the body was paralysed. The man was unconscious for about a

fortnight. Last December, witness examined him, and found that his arm was useless and the leg could only bear a very little weight. There was no possibility of his ever recovering the power of his left side.

Dr. N. I. Spriggs, Leicester Borough Police surgeon, also gave evidence.

When the court reassembled on Saturday morning, Mr Marriott addressed the jury for the defence. Negligence on the part of the Forest Rock Granite Co. or their employees was denied. It was asserted that red flags were hoisted on each of the two permanent flagstuffs, and two flagmen were stationed on the road east and west of the quarry. The plaintiff, it was alleged, passed the flagmen at the east end of the road, and also the flagstaff on which the flag was hoisted. After that he was struck by a piece of stone. It was admitted that the buzzer was not sounded, but it was because the steam engine was not working because it was a holiday. Defendants contended that by going along the road the plaintiff voluntarily exposed himself to the risk of injury.

A witness named Berrington spoke as to the flag system, and a boy named Riley said he went out with the warning flag, and said "*Good Morning*" to Miles as he passed them.

Mr Eldridge, manager of the Forest Rock Quarry, said the notice board was not altered on that day, because it was known all over the district that they always fired at holidays without the buzzer.

Mr Blakesley, senior surgeon at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, Leicester, expressed his opinion that Miles might recover some use of his left side in six months by the application of electrical massage treatment. He might then be able to get some form of light work.

Counsel, having addressed the Court, the jury retired, and on the resumption after lunch the foreman intimated that they found a verdict for the plaintiff, awarding £850 damages. Mr Marriott asked for a stay of execution if an appeal was entered within 21 days.

The Judge said he would grant it on condition that the firm paid Miles £3 a week till the appeal was decided, not to be returned in any event, but to be deducted from the amount of the damages if the judgement stands, £300 to be paid into the Court within 21 days.

After some demur and legal arguments, counsel accepted these terms, judgement being entered accordingly for Miles.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *School Cases*

Mary Wardle, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for not sending her daughter, Alice, regularly to school. Henry Freeman, school attendance officer, said defendant neglected the children to go gossiping. Her husband was a soldier serving in France, and she had £2 a week coming in. Fined 10s.



Harry Garratt, collier, Whitwick, was similarly summoned in respect of his boy, and was fined 4s.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

At the Whitwick Picture House this week the usual audiences have attended, and have shown much enthusiasm at the film stories "put on." "Hunting the Hawk" was a grand film at the commencement of the week, having a splendid and interesting story. No. 3 of "Patria" was a fine part, and was appreciated by all followers of this splendid serial. Others were of interest. for the week-end there is a Triangle drama of a fine type, viz., "The Honourable Algy", featuring Charles Ray, and this must be seen. Also, No. 3 of "The Grey Ghost" and several others. Next week's programme, see advertisement.

## **Death of Father Quilter**

### *A Former Whitwick Priest*

The death occurred suddenly on Sunday morning of the Rev. P. J. Quilter, at Hassop, Derbyshire, where he worked as a Roman Catholic priest. He was 43 years of age. Father Quilter was formerly an assistant to the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, at Whitwick, where he was very popular, and many friends in the Whitwick and Coalville district will regret to hear of his death.

## **Friday February 8<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1353)**

### **Local News**

#### **Chapel Anniversary**

On the occasion of the anniversary, the Rev. J. R. Sharpley, of Ashby, preached at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday. There were good congregations.

#### **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, M. McCarthy, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, Captain G. J. German, and Lieutenant R. Blower (National Service representatives) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The Forest Rock Granite Co. appealed for a sledger, 36, B2, the firm's representative stating that they had lost 50 per cent of their employees. They were producing stone for the Government. Three months.

A Coalville architect and tax-collector, 39, B1, married, was allowed three months, and similar exemption was granted the overlooker at a Whitwick elastic web factory, who is 36, passed for general service, the father of four children and has four brothers serving in the Forces.

An employer of the Whitwick Colliery, 40, married, Grade 3, stated in his appeal that he formerly worked at Stableford's and was willing to go back. He had three children. One month allowed, the man to get work of national importance other than mining.

### **Whist Drive and Dance**

By a successful whist drive and dance in the Holy Cross School on Wednesday night, it is hoped to be able to wipe out the debt of £17 remaining on the St. Saviour's Catholic Church, Coalville. About 300 people were present. The M.C.'s were: Messrs. B. McHugh, W. Harrison and W. Revill (dancing). M.P. Downes and T. I. McCarthy (whist). Good whist prizes were offered and the winners were:

Ladies: 1 Miss L. Griffin; 2 Mrs Gray; 3 Miss L. Henson.  
Gents: 1 Mr A. Smith; 2 Mr G. Musson; 3 Mr J. Beeson.

The prize offered to the play who sat longest at one table, was won by Mr M. Wardle, who lost in 13 successive hands. The ladies of the congregation assisted by Whitwick friends, ably served refreshments.

### **Benefit Whist Drive and Dance**

A most successful whist drive and dance were held in the Holy Cross Schools on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, for the benefit of Mr T. Waterfield. About 650 people were present. In connection with the dancing a waltzing competition was held, 20 couples competing for two prizes given by Messrs. B. Massey, E. Moore and H. Cooper. The judges were Messrs. J. Bradley and A. Slattery, who awarded the prizes to Miss Adams and Mr Thurman. A competition for a plum pudding and bottle of wine, given by Mr G. F. Burton, realised £4 3s 4d. First prizes for whist were won by Mr B. Rady and Miss Doris Gray, and second prizes by Mr T. Needham and Mrs T. Hull, and they were presented to the winners by Mrs G. F. Burton and Mr T. Saddington. Mr G. Wright's band played for dancing and the M.C.'s were Messrs. A. Slattery and H. Cooper (dancing) and P. Downes and E. Moore (whist).

### **Do You Know That**

A confirmation is to be held at Whitwick Parish Church in March?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Picture House, Whitwick, has been well patronised again this week, and the "star" picture at the beginning of the week was "The Heart of Paula" a splendid Pallas photoplay full of interest. No. 4 of "Patria" was an excellent part, and was much enjoyed; along with numerous others. For the week-end there is a great Triangle drama, entitled "American Aristocracy" featuring Douglas Fairbanks, a story of the class which will appeal to patrons. No. 4 of the "Grey Ghost", also should not be missed; with several others. See advert, for next week's.

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

## **Military Wedding**

The wedding took place at Whitwick Parish Church, on Wednesday of Miss P. M. Pegg, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Pegg, of Whitwick, and Sergeant J. A. Walton, of Coalville. The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) officiated, assisted by the Vicar of Coalville (the Rev. S. Hosking). Both parties are well-known in the district, and the event aroused a good deal of interest. The bride has for some years been an assistant at the Coalville Post Office, and the bridegroom before joining up soon after the war commenced was a clerk at Messrs. Wootton Bros'. Works, and one of the shorthand teachers in the Coalville Evening School. He has been in France for three years, being one of the first fifty Leicestershire Territorials to leave Coalville. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a white Georgette dress with wreath and veil and carried a pretty bouquet of lilies, the gift of the bridegroom. Miss M. Pegg (sister) was bridesmaid, and was attired in a buff chanton dress and hat to match, and carried a sheaf of pink carnations. Mr Burdett (also one of the first fifty Territorials) and now discharged from the army, acted as best man. The hymn, "The voice that breathed over Eden," was sung, and Miss Crane, at the organ, played suitable selections, including Mendelssohn's Wedding March. After the ceremony, a number of friends were entertained by the bride's parents. The happy couple were the recipients of many useful and valuable presents. The bridegroom is returning to France next week.

## **Friday February 15<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1354)**

### **Local News**

#### **Shrovetide Effort**

On Saturday, the Rev. J. Whittle, of Leicester, lectured at the Whitwick P.M. Church, on "Hymns and their wonders". Mr L. Shilliam presiding. The reverend gentleman also conducted the Sunday service. On Sunday afternoon, a young people's service was held. Mr J. H. Lakin presiding and the Rev. J. Whittle, T. J. Martin and A. Patton, the Rev. J. J. Hutchinson presiding on the food position, the annual Shrove Tuesday tea was dispensed with this year. The proceeds were for the chapel funds.

#### **Scalding Fatality**

Mr J. H. Deane held an inquiry at Loughborough on Friday night last, touching the death of George Alfred Benistone, the 2 ½ year old child of a soldier, who lived with his mother, in South Street, Whitwick. The evidence was that on Tuesday morning while the mother was making bread, the child fell backwards into a bucket of hot water, which was standing on the floor in the kitchen. The little fellow, who was badly scalded, was attended by Dr. Roulston, and then taken in a motor-car to Loughborough Hospital, where he died on the following afternoon. Lucy Brotherton, domestic servant, said she was filling the bucket with a ladle from the copper and the boy fell in just as her back was turned for a moment. He was an active child, and moved about quickly, and witness thought he caught his foot and fell. Dr Stamford said death was due to shock from the scalds, and the jury were satisfied that the occurrence was accidental.

#### **War Memorial Unveiled at Whitwick**

### *Tablet in Holy Cross Church*

The Bishop of Nottingham, the Rev. Father Dunn, unveiled a memorial tablet in the Whitwick Holy Cross Church, on Sunday containing the names of 12 men, formerly connected with the church, who have made the supreme sacrifice in the war. The names and dates each recorded on small square bronze plates, and fixed on the tablet in three columns, are as follows:

Private James Cairns, Connaught Rangers, killed in action, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 1915.  
Private A. C. Johnstone, 8<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1915.  
Sapper B. Whittaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 1915.  
Private Edward Jarvis, Grenadier Guards, killed in action, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1915.  
Private Ed Hunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1916.  
Private C. Stanford, 8<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1916.  
Private Jos. Sheffield, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1916.  
Lance-Corporal B. Morley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.  
Private Harold Edwin Ketcher, 12<sup>th</sup> Northumberland Fusiliers, killed in action, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917  
Corporal A. Concannon, M.M. Sherwood Foresters, killed in action, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1917.  
Private William Beasley, 1<sup>st</sup> Leicesters, killed in action, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.  
Rifleman L. Haywood, Scottish Rifles, torpedoed at sea, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

The tablet, which is surmounted by a crucifix, reads, "*In memory of our devoted heroes who fell in the great war. Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of (names)*".

At the foot appear the words, "*May they rest in peace.*" Space is left for the addition of any further names if this becomes necessary. There was a large congregation, including the relatives of the deceased soldiers, and after the unveiling, a memorial service was held. This was conducted by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, assisted by Father Degan of Coalville, and the Bishop preached the sermon.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *School Cases*

For failing to send their children regularly to school, John William Allen, collier, Whitwick, was fined 5s; Fred Cook, collier, Whitwick, 4s; and Thomas Hall, collier, Whitwick, 4s. Henry Freeman, school attendance officer said the children were kept at home to go errands.

The clerk: *To stand in queues.*

*Adjourned*

Mary Wardle, married of Whitwick, was summoned by William H. Fitzsimmons, Inspector, N.S.P.C.C. of Loughborough, for neglecting her three children at Whitwick, on January 8<sup>th</sup>, and dates prior thereto. Mr J. J. Sharp applied for an adjournment for a month and if the woman looked after the children in the meantime she might hear no more about it. The woman promised to do this and the case was adjourned.

## **Juvenile Thefts at Coalville and Whitwick**

### *Boy Sent to a Reformatory School*

In a Juvenile Court at the Coalville Petty Sessions on Friday, Samuel Robert (12), schoolboy, son of Thomas Roberts, collier, Whitwick, was charged with breaking and entering a dwelling house, with intent to commit a felony, at Whitwick, on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The boy, who was accompanied by his mother, admitted going into the house, but pleaded not guilty to the charge of felonious intent.

Carrie Parsons, widow, North Street, Whitwick, stated that on January 19<sup>th</sup>, she locked up her house and went to Hucknall. She returned ten days' later. She used one room as a drapery shop and on her return she found the place all upset, and some of the linen goods were damaged to the extent of 5s.

Martha Moore, wife of John Moore, carter, North Street, Whitwick, stated that about three o'clock on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, she saw the boy get through Mrs Parson's back window. She told her husband, who got through the window, and found the boy hiding in a box. Witness informed Sergeant Betts, and the boy was detained till the police officer arrived.

Sergeant Betts said the linen in the box was dirtied by defendant's boots. He asked the boy what he got in for, and defendant replied that he thought he should find some money. The mother pleaded for another chance for the boy, and said she would look after him. The Bench decided to convict, but deferred sentence till hearing the next case.

Samuel Roberts, the same defendant, and George Upton (7), schoolboy, son of William Upton, collier, all of Whitwick, were charged with breaking and entering a mineral water factory, and stealing 13 bottles of mineral water at Whitwick, on January 27<sup>th</sup>. They both pleaded guilty.

P.C. Jelley said that having heard that Beckworth's factory had been broken into, he saw the defendants at the Holy Cross School. They admitted it, but Roberts said they were sent in by some older boys. The little boy said nothing about bigger boys, and witness thought that was a made-up tale.

Sergeant Betts said Roberts was a thoroughly bad boy. The police had received numerous complaints about him. He had committed previous thefts, which the parents made good. The boy's father told witness that recently the lad was sent with 2/6 to fetch some milk. He spent the money, and brought no milk. The father said he had thrashed the boy severely, but it seemed to do no good. The lad, added witness, encouraged smaller boys to do wrong. Nothing was known against the boy, Upton. The chairman cautioned him, and he was let off.

Roberts was sent to a Reformatory School for five years, and the Bench ordered the father to pay 2s per week towards his maintenance.

### **Do You Know That**

The number of Whitwick men officially reported killed in the war up to December 31<sup>st</sup>, was 43?

It has been decided to place in the Whitwick Parish Church, a permanent and fitting memorial to the men of Whitwick who have fallen in the war?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Picture House in Whitwick has been extensively patronised this week again, and no wonder, for the pictures are, as usual, a very good class, and call for the best patronage. "A Gamble in Souls" at the commencement of the week was a grand Triangle drama in five reels, featuring William Desmond and Dorothy Dalton, the story being very good. No. 5 of "Patria" was also pleasing, as were several others. For the week-end "The Phantom's Secret" must not be missed; and No. 5 of "The Grey Ghost" will be found to be most interesting. "She needed a Doctor" is a two-part Triangle-Keystone Comedy of the first order, and is guaranteed to raise a good laugh, which is a fine thing these days. Others are good. See advert for next week's.

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

#### **Burials**

Moore – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Constance Gwendoline Moore, aged 8 years, of Silver Street.

Benistone – At Whitwick, on Sunday, George Alfred Benistone, aged 2 ½ years, of North Street.

Winfield – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, James Kitchener Winfield, aged 20 months, of Silver Street.

Burbank – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Gertrude Edith Andrew Burbank, aged 7 years, of Hermitage Road.

### **Friday February 22<sup>nd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1355)**

#### **Local News**

A recent social at Whitwick Holy Cross School to wipe out a debt of £17 remaining on the priest's house at St. Saviour's Catholic Mission, Coalville, was very successful. The sum on £24 was realised, and the balance will go towards the fund for the proposed new church.

## Whist Drive and Dance

A successful whist drive and dance were held in the Church Schools on Shrove Tuesday in aid of the fund for placing a permanent war memorial in the Parish Church. There was a large attendance. Mr Massey acted as M.C. and Mr R. G. West played for dancing. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. W. T. Dickens and C. Pegg, and the prize winners were:

Ladies: 1 Mrs Allgood, 177; 2 Miss F. Needham, 176; 3 Mrs George Harding, 171.  
Gents: 1 Mr J. Birkumhaw, 185; 2 Mr E. Smith, 183; 3 Mr A. Smith, 181.

Owing to the food position, the annual tea, usually held in connection with the event, was dispensed with this year.

## Memorial Service at Whitwick

### *Sermon by Father Degan*

An impressive memorial service in honour of Private Harold Edwin Ketcher (Coalville) of the Northumberland Fusiliers, missing since last June, and now officially reported killed in action in France, took place in the Whitwick Holy Cross Church on Sunday afternoon.

The coffin was represented by a catafalque, draped with the Union Jack, and a Guard of Honour was supplied by the local Volunteer Corps.

The Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly (rector) conducted the service, and Father Degan, of St. Saviour's Church, Coalville, preached the sermon, in the course of which he said, *"To pay homage to the memory of a young English soldier, fallen in battle, and solemnly to intercede for the repose of his soul is the twofold object of the concourse assembled here this afternoon. On June 16<sup>th</sup> of last year, the day after the Feast of the Sacred Heart, and a few hours after making a solemn act of consecration to our Blessed Lord, Harold Edwin Ketcher lost his life in a German trench, whilst putting up – in the unanimous opinion of those who witnessed it – such a conspicuously brave and brilliant fight as would have earned for him, had he survived, a rare and much-coveted military distinction. It is not necessary for the comfort and consolation of his proud but sorrowing relatives to remind you that this gargantuan conflict was not of our own making or of our own seeking. At the time when war broke out we found ourselves enmeshed in a network of alliances, ententes and commitments which had for their specific purpose, the maintenance of such a European balance of power as would effectively prevent any serious disturbance of the international equilibrium. Unfortunately, this policy, whilst perhaps it deferred the date of actual hostilities between the two rival combinations of Powers, did not render their outbreak impossible. There are those who think that Lord Salisbury's policy of splendid isolation would have been more successful in preserving the world's peace. Personally, I am inclined to believe that no statesmanship, however astute or dextrous, could have permanently staved off this unspeakable catastrophe. After all, the root causes of war do not lie in political miscalculations, but in the passions of men. Ambition, jealousy, hatred, selfishness, ignorance, prejudice, the sense of possession, the lust of power, and the natural animal impulse to fight – these are the real causes whence wars of aggression arise. No nation ever went to war with higher or juster motives than did we, in August, 1914. Those motives were limited to two. The first was legitimate self-defence against an enemy who imperilled our national existence by his rapid advance towards the Belgian and*

*French coasts. The second was honourable fulfilment of those continental engagements to which we had attached our signature. It is sometimes said that many people have felt their faith in God, and their trust in his mercy and goodness shaken by the consideration that the Kaiser, so far from having been crushed, is in a position today to hold a review of his troops in France, Belgium, in Italy, and in Russia. If justice be an attribute of the Divinity, why does God allow injustice to flourish and triumph in this way? In my opinion, people who talk in this strain never had any faith to lose. They were devoid of faith before the war began, and like most unbelievers, they sedulously cultivate this temper of mind in the hope of deriving there from sedatives, palliatives and soporifics to sooth their sin-laden and sorrow-stricken consciences. It is audacity run wild to blame the Creator for the effects of human mismanagement and human sin. The sufferings and horrors of this war are appalling beyond anything that the wildest stretch of imagination can conceive. But the sin and the evil in the hearts of men are far worse. You may set up, if you wish, a League of Nations for the settlement of all international disputes by arbitration, or you may convert civilised humanity into a sort of United States of the World, but as long as they refuse to pray with the Psalmist, "Create a clean heart in me O God, and renew a right spirit within me"; as long as the dominant notes in their lives are greed, cruelty and hypocrisy – so long will there be injustice, and so long will there be war with all its cursed, murderous and maddening accompaniments. And now in the fourth year of this terrible war, it is true to say that there are those who would be bitterly disappointed were we to conclude an honourable peace this week or this month. Some members of the profiteering and other classes will characterise peace as premature no matter how late it comes, because the cessation of hostilities spells for them a reduction of income. Deserters and conscientious objectors are highly respectable patriots compared with those who wish for a continuance of the slaughter and carnage in order that their private interests may be advanced. Whenever the Pope takes any diplomatic step towards the conclusion of peace, his action meets with yells of exception in the press and elsewhere. The Socialists in Coalville the other day scornfully asked, "What business or right has the Pope to intervene on behalf of peace? And in the face of this kind of spirit people have the hardihood to complain that God does not stop the war! Let me here incidentally remark that on account of many possible points of sympathetic contact between Catholics and moderate Socialists. It is a great pity that Socialists do not rigorously taboo vilification of the Pope and of religion. However huge the obstacles yet to be overcome, peace is on the way. The night is still dark and black, but already we feel the tremors of the dawning of a new and better age. The movement towards peace is world-wide, and it has already gathered too much strength to be stopped. Let us go forward bravely to meet the dawn."*

Father Degan went on to say that when the soldiers returned home they would be entitled to all those things which are reasonably desirable for the health and happiness of both soul and body. They had earned better conditions of living, and they would get them.

The service concluded with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The congregation included Mr and Mrs Ketcher, the parents of the deceased soldier, who reside in Oxford Street, Coalville, and a large number of non-Catholics.

## **Sport**

### *Football*



Donington Athletic played Whitwick Imperial on Saturday last in the semi-final of the new ball competition on the Owen Street ground. Whitwick won the toss and elected to play with the wind, and opened the score in the first ten minutes. Bird equalised for Donington, and Bradford scored a second. Half-time: Donington 2 goals; Whitwick 1. The second half was in favour of Donington, Clark and Bradford putting them well ahead, and Donington won a good victory by 4 goals to 1.

In the second round for the Hugglescote Cup, Stableford's (Coalville) met Whitwick Hastings on the Waggon and Horses ground on Saturday, and won 5 – 0. Playing with the wind, Wilkins scored for the home team after five minutes, the same player getting another a little later. Catlow got a third, and Wilkins missed a penalty just before the interval. Whitwick pressed after crossing over, but Heighton kicked with good judgement and the home defence was always safe. Further goals were obtained for Coalville by Fantom and Adcock. A. Moore (late Whitwick Imperial) played a good game for the visitors, and Heighton was the pick of the home side.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

There have been some enthusiastic audiences at the Whitwick Picture House again this week, and a grand collection of film subjects are to be seen. The chief one at the commencement of the week was a real Scotch play entitled, "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond" which was much appreciated. No. 6 of the serial "Patria" was also interesting, as were many other excellent ones shown. Patrons should make a point of seeing "The Lady with the Camellias" during the week-end. I can recommend this as one of the best. No. 6 of "The Grey Ghost" is also good; and numerous others will be appreciated. See advert for next week's programme.

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

In loving memory of our dearly beloved brother, Levi Partridge, who died February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

From his Brother and Sisters, Nephews and Nieces, also from his comrades, the Whitwick Church Bellringers.

*"So teach us to number our days that we may supply our hearts unto wisdom."* 90<sup>th</sup> Psalm, 12<sup>th</sup> Verse.

### **Burials**

Briers – At Whitwick, yesterday, Herbert Briers, aged 9 months, of Brooks Lane.

## **Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> 1918 (Issue 1356)**

### **Local News**

#### **Explosion**

Shortly before five on Wednesday afternoon, a workman named Arthur Wheeldon of Whitwick, was injured by an accident at Stableford's Works. A railway petrol tank had been taken into one of the shops for repairs, when by some means the vapour in the tank became ignited, and there was a loud explosion which was heard all over the town, and for some distance away. A portion of the shop roof was blown off, and Wheeldon was injured about the face and hands. Fortunately, no other men were close to at the time, and no one else was injured. Wheeldon was conveyed to the surgery of Dr. Dunkin, and after his injuries had been attended to, was taken home.

### **Memorial Service**

A memorial service for two Whitwick soldiers, Private O. Bishop and Parsons, who have been killed in action, was held in the Parish Church on Sunday morning, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, and there was a large congregation. Mr R. G. West (organist) played the Dead March at the close, and Boy Scout buglers sounded the "Last Post". Peals were rung with the bells muffled.

### **Whitwick and Thringstone Compensation Cases**

Application was made to His Honour Judge Moore Cann, at the Ashby County Court, on Thursday, for the apportionment of amounts paid as compensation in two fatal accidents.

Mr Crane (Coalville) made the application in one case on behalf of Hannah Roughton, of The Colony House, Whitwick, whose father, James Roughton, formerly employed at the Monastery, was killed some months ago by being thrown out of a trap when a horse ran away at Whitwick. It was stated that £150 had been paid into Court, and that Miss Roughton was the only dependant. His Honour granted the application.

In the other case, Mr H. J. Deane (Coalville), representing the Leicestershire Miners' Association, applied for the apportionment of £300, paid into Court, to the widow and four children of James Bailey, of Thringstone, who was killed by a fall of roof while working at the Coleorton Colliery. His Honour apportioned the amount among the five dependants.

### **Whitwick Military Medallist Honoured**

#### *Public Presentation*

Whitwick is proud of its soldiers and is honouring those who distinguish themselves in a manner which is highly commendable. Whether or not this is a stimulus to Whitwick men to perform brave deeds may be left to imagination of our readers, but it is certain that the number of Whitwick men, for the size of the place, who have won the Military Medal is remarkable. A local committee formed for the purpose have made several presentations to these men, and there was another on Monday night, when Lance-Corporal R. C. Whitmore, of the Leicestershire Regiment, was presented at the Picture House with a handsome electro-plated tea service, and also with a wristlet watch by the Boy Scouts to whose troop he formerly belonged. There was a crowded "house".

The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) presided, and with him on the platform were, Lance-Corporal Whitmore, the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, Messrs. G. F. Burton, F. Blow, J. H. Gilbert, J. H. Robinson, C. Pegg, S. W. West, A. J. Briers (members of the committee), H. T. Bastard

(hon. secretary) and the Whitwick Scouts. The Vicar said it gave them the greatest pleasure to honour another of Whitwick's brave sons.

Mr J. H. Robinson, in making the presentation, said they were proud to honour one of their own townsmen. The man who would not stick up for his own town and for his own country was not British. They hoped there would be more of these presentations yet, as he was sure the people always gave their money towards them most cheerfully. The official record of the deed for which Lance-Corporal Whitmore was awarded the medal, was, as follows:

*"This man was in charge of a Lewis gun on the night of the attack on Fosse 3, De Lievin, s.w. of Lens, on the 8/9<sup>th</sup> June, 1917. When the flank of the attacking company was exposed and the right had to withdraw, this man, together with Lance-Corporal Stone with his Lewis gun, held on and covered the withdrawal of the company with their two guns. Later, they both withdrew, one gun covering the retirement of the other. Both guns were brought safely back, and caused the enemy heavy casualties. Pte (as he then was) Whitmore showed great courage and initiative. Recommended for immediate reward."*

Continuing, Mr Robinson said they were glad he came safely through (cheers) and that it was a Whitwick man who played such a great part in saving the situation on that occasion. In regard to the choice of the present, Mr Robinson said he must compliment Lance-Corporal Whitmore on his foresight. *"Coming events cast their shadows before"* and it looked as if someone else was to share the benefits of this gift (laughter). When the happy day did arrive he (Mr Robinson) would be pleased to give a crockery tea service as his personal contribution (cheers). It was no light matter to win distinction in the Leicesters because the regiment was famous for its brave deeds in the past and had gained fresh laurels in the present war. They hoped that Pte. Whitmore would be spared to return to Whitwick after the war and have many happy years among them (cheers).

Scoutmaster Armstrong, introduced by Mr F. Blow, then handed over the wristlet watch, remarking that Lance-Corporal Whitmore was the first Scout in the district to win any military honour, apart from promotion, and it was a great honour to the Whitwick troop to which he formerly belonged (cheers).

Lance-Corporal Whitmore replied, *"I wish to thank the people of Whitwick, and the Boy Scouts for their present tonight (cheers). That is all I can say."*

The Scout buglers and drums then sounded a general salute, and the National Anthem was followed by three cheers, led by Mr Robinson, for the gallant soldier.

### **Another Whitwick Military Medallist**

Mr J. Bishop, greengrocer, of North Street, Whitwick, has received a letter from his son, Pte. Bishop, serving with the Forces in Palestine, in which he states that he has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery in action. Another son of Mr Bishop, Private Oliver Bishop, was recently killed in action.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

## *School Cases*

Harriett Johnson, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for not sending her child regularly to school and, in her absence, was fined 4s.

### *"Heading" at Whitwick*

Frederick Mason, miner, Herbert Skellington, Albert Skellington, Arthur Robinson and Andrew Moore, colliers, all of Whitwick, were summoned for playing a game of chance on the highway, with copper pence, at Whitwick, on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Sergeant Betts said he saw the defendants playing "heading" on the Sharpley Road.

Herbert Skellington, who pleaded not guilty, denied taking part in the game. All he did was to pick up a penny which rolled across the road. Fined 6s each, or seven days.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House had a grand picture showing at the beginning of the week, "The American Heiress" featuring Alma Taylor. This was much applauded. No. 7 of "Patria" was a good part and enjoyable, as were several others. For the week-end "The Man Behind the Times" is a stirring Hepworth film, featuring Stewart Rome. This must not be missed. It is a grand picture story, which will please all. No. 7 of "The Grey Ghost" (Caught in the Web) is another excellent part of this serial, which will please followers. Others are interesting. See advert, for next week's programme.

## **Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1357)**

### **Local News**

#### **Fall From a Tramcar**

##### *Whitwick Man Seriously Injured*

A serious accident happened on Monday to Mr Anthony Needham, of Church Lane, Whitwick. Mr Needham, who is chairman of the Whitwick Liberal Club, had been to Burton on business with the club manager, Mr F. Seal and the club secretary, Mr T. Kelly, and they were returning on the light railway to Ashby, sitting on the top of the tramcar. Mr Needham's hat blew off, and the conductress gave the signal to stop, but in trying to alight from the car while it was in motion, Mr Needham fell heavily, and received severe injuries to his head, which rendered him unconscious. They were about two miles from Ashby, and he was conveyed there in the car, thence by train to Coalville, and by cab to his home at Whitwick, where Dr. Rolston was called in. Although somewhat improved, Mr Needham's condition is still regarded as serious.

#### **Vicar Addresses I.L.P. Meeting**

A meeting of the I.L.P. in the Wagon and Horses club room on Saturday night, was addressed by the Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, who said he was very pleased to make the acquaintance of the Whitwick branch. The flowing tide was with the Labour movement which, he said, would have a great future if it was conducted on the right lines and not led by extremists. An interesting discussion followed the address, the Vicar answering several questions put to him. Mr H. Waterfield presided, and there was a good attendance.

### **Local Casualties**

Private T. Benson (Whitwick) of the South Wales Borderers, is officially reported to have died.

### **Coalville Urban Council**

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

#### *Whitwick Lodgers*

The Whitwick lodging-house returns showed that during the month, 551 persons were accommodated, compared with 635 the previous month and 589 in February last year.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

#### *A Protest From the Butchers*

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. M McCarthy, A. Lockwood, B. G. Hale, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, Lieutenant R. Blower (National Service representative), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Three months were allowed a Whitwick Colliery clerk, 33, married, Grade 2.

A Whitwick licensed victualler, 31, married, now working at the Snibston Colliery, stated to have been combed out of the mine, was allowed two months to find work of national importance other than mining, and also to be medically examined.

A Grade 2 man, 32, married, appealed for by his employers, a Whitwick building and undertaking firm, was allowed four months, and similar exemption was granted to a Greenhill licensed victualler, 41, married, who assists in farm work.

A Whitwick resident, 26, married, with one child, in his appeal claimed to be treated as a genuine collier, stating that he had worked in the mine for 12 years. He started at the Nailstone Colliery in 1904, working there up till 1913. He went into the mine again in May 1915. It was remarked that the man had been a professional footballer. Answering questions he said he was helping to keep his widowed mother, aged 63. He had six brothers. On being informed that he would have to leave the mine, applicant said he

considered it a shame, when he had worked there over 12 years, and there were others who had been there only a few years, who were allowed to stay.

The chairman: *Whatever law is made in the country, it always cuts someone.*

Applicant said other footballers went and got jobs in munitions, and were exempt, and he could have done the same if he liked, but he preferred to come back to his old job. One month final was allowed.

The chairman then read the following letter.

*“Ashby, Coalville and District Butchers’ Association, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1918. To the chairman and gentlemen of the Tribunal. Dear Sirs, The attention of the butchers has been called to the remark made by a member of the Tribunal at the meeting held on February 20<sup>th</sup>, a report of which appeared in the ‘Coalville Times’ in reference to butchers not having so much to do as before. The remark was made in considering an appeal of a Whitwick butcher asking to be excused from signing B form in the V.T.C. The butchers wish to inform that member that such a statement is not the truth, for perhaps it would be an education to him to know that we have to spend more time now in the difficult conditions under which we work, than ever we have done before. We have to spend practically three to four days a week in committee meetings and attendance at market, and we assure the Tribunal that we are fully employed and are loyally and patriotically doing our duty to keep the public supplied with meat and we strongly protest against such statements being made which do not convey the truth. Yours faithfully, D. R. Moore, chairman, C. E. Fryer, secretary.”*

It was stated that the three or four days a week in committee means in meeting the Food Control Committee, and one member remarked that the butchers must have had a lot of time on their hands before if they could afford to spend four days a week at committee meetings now. One of the reasons put forward to the Whitwick butcher referred to for being excused from drilling with the V.T.C. was that he played the organ at a chapel. It was stated that the butchers’ cases were coming to the review a fortnight hence, and it was decided that the letter be brought up then. Lieutenant Blower remarked that one of the butchers in Coalville who had been called up had had to suffer the closing of his business.

The chairman: *Who was that?*

Lieut. Blower: *Mr Lager*

Mr Briers: *A nice little business too.*

The chairman: *Then I hope the people will be loyal to him when he comes back.*

### **Do You Know That**

A recent whist drive and dance at Whitwick for the benefit of Mr Thomas Waterfield realised a profit of £49 10s 9d?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has had a good attendances this week, and a powerful drama at the commencement of the week, viz., “The Black Sheep of the Family” was much

appreciated. The story and acting were exceptionally good. No. 8 of "Patria" was also shown; along with numerous others. For the week-end "The Unwelcome Mother" is rather a remarkable drama, by Mary Murillo. It is a Fox production of exceptional merit, and will please patrons. No. 8 "Grey Ghost" and various others, must not be missed. Next week's see advertisement.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Poynton – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Lilian Annie Poynton, aged 16 years, of Vicarage Street.

Rush – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Alice Conway Rush, aged 23 months of Brook's Lane.

## **Friday March 15<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1358)**

### **Local News**

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

A Whitwick man, whose death recently occurred in the County Asylum, at the age of 83, had been in that institution for 41 years?

### **Whitwick Nursing Association**

#### *Annual Meeting*

The annual meeting of the Whitwick and Thringstone Nursing Association was held at the Whitwick National School on Monday night, the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) presiding over a fairly good attendance.

The chairman referred to the change of nurse during the year, and said the new nurse was very enthusiastic in her work, which was greatly appreciated. Last year, there was a loss on the year's working of £28, but during the year just closed, they only went back £15, and the signs at present were that they would be wiped out by the end of the present year. Subscriptions were increasing and the public were supporting the Association better than they had done for a long time, which was due, to a large extent, to the good work of the nurse (cheers). At the last meeting of the committee, a change was made in the rules in regard to subscriptions. In the past, if a householder paid 2s a year that was considered to cover his wife and family, but under the new rules if there was a person in any house earning \_\_\_ a week, or over, they were each expected to become separate subscribers. The committee hoped that that would be well understood.

The annual report, presented by the hon. secretary, Miss Harding, stated that during 1917, the nurse paid 4,107 visits. There was a deficit of £15 2s 11d which it was hoped to wipe out by more people becoming subscribers. After being with the Association for five years, Nurse Lilly left in November 1917, to take up a post in the south of England, and they wished her every success. Nurse Sherratt had been appointed, and was proving herself a

very efficient nurse. Special thanks were accorded to the Coalville and District Parade Committee, the "Coalville Times" Cricket Cup Competition for their donations, and to the subscribers and collectors.

The total expenditure was £110/4/2, and the Association had overdrawn at the bank to the extent of £15 9s 11d. The subscriptions paid to the secretary totalled £64 3s 3d, and the Thringstone collection, £2 13s 6d.

In reply to Mr A. West, the secretary said no collection had been received from the Holy Cross Church this year. All the other places of worship had contributed as usual. The report and balance sheet were adopted. Mrs Booth was re-elected president, and the following were elected on the committee: Revs. T. W. Walters, M. J. O'Reilly, A. Dalton, Messrs. A. West, H. T. Bastard, T. W. Bourne, J. Ward and W. Waldrum, with Dr. Burkitt and Miss Harding as the joint hon. secretaries. Mr A. Sykes was appointed collector for Thringstone, and also added to the committee.

Mr Bourne moved a vote of thanks to Miss Harding, to whom, for her splendid work as secretary, he said the Association was much indebted. Mr West seconded, and it was heartily accorded. Mr J. Ward moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar, as chairman of the committee, and for presiding that night, and this was seconded by the Rev. A. Dalton, and carried with acclamation, the Vicar responding.

### **Local Chit Chat**

The Coalville Urban Council's steam roller is still "doing its bit" in France, and is naturally an object of interest to Coalville and district lads whenever it comes under their observation. A few months ago, it will be remembered, we recorded that Mr J. Ward, of High Street, Coalville, had received a letter from his son in which he mentioned having seen the roller engaged in road-making in France, and a similar letter has been received this week by Mr T. W. Bourne, of Whitwick, from his son, Eric.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has another very strong list of films this week, and the attendances have been as usual, good. Much interest was shown in the chief film at the beginning of the week, "Like Wildfire", a grand story, much enjoyed; also No. 9 of "Patria" along with others. For the week-end, "Love Aflame" is a Red Feather film in five reels, of exceptional merit, and should not be missed; and No. 9 "Grey Ghost" is interesting; as are numerous others.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *School Cases*

Summoned for not sending their children regularly to school, Joseph Wesley, collier, Whitwick, was ordered to pay 5s costs, there being no conviction.



## *Helpless*

Fanny Turner, married, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk on the highway at Coalville, on March 1<sup>st</sup>. She did not appear. Sergeant Kirkland said he found the woman lying helplessly drunk. Fined 10s or seven days.

## *Adjourned*

Mary Wardle, married, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting her three children prior to January 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr J. J. Sharp for the N.S.P.C.C. said the case was adjourned to see if the woman improved. There was some improvement and he asked for another adjournment for a month in the hope that this would be maintained. The Bench agreed.

## **Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1359)**

### **Local News**

#### **C.E.M.S. Federation**

Meetings in connection with the Coalville and District Federation of Church of England Men's Societies were held at Whitwick on Saturday. Service was held in the Parish Church in the afternoon, conducted by the Rev. S. Hosking, of Coalville, and at which the Rev. T. W. Walters, of Whitwick, gave an address. Later, a meeting was held in the school, at which the Rev. S. Hosking (chairman of the Federation) presided, and gave an address on the coming Church Franchise. An interesting discussion followed. There was a good attendance, all the societies in the Federation being represented.

#### **Parish Meeting**

The annual parish meeting for the nomination of overseers, parish constables and assessor of taxes were held on Wednesday night at the National School, a large number being present. The meeting decided on a division being taken as to whether Mr Michael McCarthy, C.C. or Mr Ben Redburn should be chairman, and Mr McCarthy was elected, the figures being, Redburn 19, McCarthy 21.

Mr McCarthy, taking the chair, said a little opposition was healthy, and a parishioner remarked that a decision had been reached without any black eyes (laughter). It was moved and seconded that the overseers be elected separately and not en bloc as suggested. An amendment was moved by Mr S. West that the old overseers, Messrs. T. Kelly, G. West and Anthony Needham, be elected en bloc. Mr Whitmore seconded, urging the importance of experienced men being chosen in view of the general election. For the amendment there were 22 votes, and 35 for the resolution. Overseers were thus voted for, Messrs. Jerry Rose and T. Kelly being nominated for office of first overseer. Kelly obtained 36 votes and Rose 32. Messrs. George West and Jerry Rose were next nominated for the office of second overseer, Messrs. George West and William Simpson were nominated, West obtaining 38 votes and William Simpson 27. Messrs. Kelly, Rose and West were thereupon nominated as overseers for the ensuing year.

Messrs. Thomas Young, R. Hallam, Joseph Henson, Charles Pegg, John Moore, Walter Briers and Herbert Beeson were nominated parish constables, and Messrs. George West, A. Briers, William Simpson and Ben Redburn, assessors of taxes.

A few minor matters were discussed, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

### **Liberal Club**

The annual meeting of the members of the Liberal Club was held on Saturday night, Mr F. Harper presiding. The balance sheet was passed, being considered very satisfactory, and Mr T. Kelly was re-elected secretary, receiving 37 votes to 21 for Mr J. Rose, who was also proposed for the office. The following were elected onto the committee:

Messrs. A. Beers, H. Lovell, H. Stretton, R. Hind and D. Otter, the two latter being new members. A vote of sympathy with Mr Anthony Needham, chairman of the club, in connection with his recent serious accident, was passed, and the hope expressed that he would soon make a complete recovery.

### **Another Whitwick Military Medallist**

The official announcement was made on Saturday that Private Frank West, of the London Regiment, had been awarded the Military Medal. The gallant soldier is the eldest son of Mr George West, one of the Whitwick overseers and manager of the Whitwick Conservative Club. He is about 23 years of age, and before the war was a clerk at the Whitwick Colliery. He enlisted in the Leicesters and was transferred to the London Regiment. Another son of Mr West – Fred – is serving in the Royal Engineers. The Wests are an old Whitwick family, Mr West being able to trace his ancestors back over 200 years.

### **Theft at Whitwick Gas Works**

#### *Labourer Sent to Prison*

At the Ashby Police Court, on Saturday, Robert Brooks, carter's labourer, Whitwick, was charged with stealing coal, value 9s, the property of the Coalville Urban Council at the Whitwick Gasworks, on February 25<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded not guilty.

Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) prosecuting for the Urban Council, said there had of late been a good deal of pilfering going on, and the Council wished the matter to be dealt with in such a way as would be a warning to the defendant and others.

Thomas Hull, gasworks foreman, said the defendant was employed by Mr Moore who was the contractor for carting coal to the gasworks. After delivering a load of coal on the works, witness saw defendant take something away in a bag which he put in the cart. He asked defendant what he had there, and he said it was coal he had picked up on the Whitwick Colliery bank. Witness pulled the sack out of the cart and found it contained 50 lbs of gas coal. Defendant told him he should "*get his own back.*"

Sergeant Betts said the defendant lived alone at Whitwick. After the case was reported, defendant absconded, and was arrested at Leicester. Witness had had complaints of

pilfering at the works. Defendant said he had no friends in the wide world, and alleged that certain people had "*got their knife into him.*"

Sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

### **Do You Know That**

There will be a confirmation at Whitwick Parish Church by the Bishop of Leicester tomorrow afternoon?

### **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. G. Hale, J. Kirby, A. J. Briers, J. W. Fisher, C. W. Brown, A. Lockwood, Lieut. R. Blower (National Service representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr J. J. Sharp represented an aged Whitwick painter, in an appeal for his son who carries on the business. The man was stated to be 32, married, and in Grade 3, and his brother was serving in the Forces. Three months.

Similar exemption was granted to a Whitwick building and undertaking firm for one of their men, and to a Coalville cycle repairer, single, 20, applied for by his employer.

A Coalville builder appealed for his foreman, 41, Grade 2, the only man he had left and who resides at Whitwick. Three months.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Whitwick Picture House has again been well attended this week, and the 'star' picture at the commencement of the week, "The Captain of the Grey Horse Troop", was much enjoyed. It was an enthralling story, depicting a man's battle for an oppressed people. No. 10 of "Patria" was enjoyable and numerous others shown were much appreciated. During the week-end "Millionaire Hullet's Adventure" is a fine Vitagraph drama, featuring Earle Williams and Dorothy Kelly, and should not be missed. A "Grey Ghost" episode will be found interesting, as will several others. For next week's list, see advert.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *Good Friday Pictures*

Mr C. E. Crane applied on behalf of the lessees of the Coalville Olympia and Electric, and Whitwick Picture Houses to be allowed to give performances on Good Friday. Suitable pictures, he said, had been selected. Supt. Lockton said all the palaces were well-conducted, and it was a good thing to take the people out of the streets. The application was granted.

### *Unlicensed Dogs*

Edward Squires, collier, Whitwick, who said he had been discharged from the Army, 15s; Elizabeth Price, married, of Whitwick, 25s, the minimum fine, owing to there having been a similar offence; and Horace Horrobin, collier, Whitwick, who was stated by Sergt. Betts to have since destroyed the dog, 15s. In Mrs Price's case, P.C. Jelley said that when he called on the woman, and asked her if she had a license, she replied, "No, we *can't* get *snap*."

The clerk: *But she can keep a dog?*

Witness: Yes.

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

#### **Burials**

Chambers – At Whitwick, on Thursday, George Chambers, aged 14 years of Silver Street.

### **Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1360)**

#### **Situations Vacant**

J. Innwood, formerly headmaster Whitwick Schools, desires Cashier's place, or any clerical work. Shorthand and typewriting. Box "T" 'Times' Office, Coalville.

#### **Local News**

##### **Local Casualties**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant S. Perry, son of Mr S. Perry, of Silver Street, Whitwick, and a former master of the Whitwick Boy Scouts, has been gassed, and is now in hospital.

News has been received in Whitwick that Pte. Robert Underwood has died of wounds. He was the son of Mr John Underwood, of Pares Hill, Whitwick, and son-in-law of Mrs Broadhurst. This is the second son that Mr Underwood has lost in the war, the other, Frank, being one of the first Whitwick men to fall in action.

##### **Confirmation Service**

The Bishop of Leicester on Saturday afternoon at the Parish Church held a confirmation service, when every seat in the grand old edifice was occupied. The several candidates hailed from eleven surrounding parishes, and with 28 of Whitwick, totalled 142. Coalville contributed 24, Hugglescote with Bardon 24, Shepshed 14, Copt Oak 14, Thringstone 10, The Oaks 9, Markfield 8, Belton 5, Swannington 4 and Snibstone 2.

The clergy attending were: Canon H. E. Broughton, vicar of Hugglescote, the Revs. E. Pillifant (Bardon), A. Holt (Oaks) H. Bros (Copt Oak) S. Hosking (Coalville) H. Chambers (Markfield) G. Clarke (Shepshed) G. Robinson (Swannington) C. Shrewsbury

(Thringstone) Deane (Belton) F. W. Atkins (Snibstone), with the Vicar of Whitwick, the Rev. T. W. Walters (Rural Dean).

The choir and congregation having sang the opening hymn, "*Jesus calls us O'er the tumult,*" the Bishop gave his address, which was followed by the hymn, "*Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire.*" The candidates were confirmed in couples, the laying on of hands occupying about an hour, after which the hymn, "*O, Jesus I have promised,*" by the candidates was heartily taken up by the congregation, and the Bishop then made his exhortation. The hymn, "*Thro' all the changing scenes of life,*" having been sung, the interesting service ended.

### **Do You Know That**

Mr Tom Richardson, M.P. will speak for the I.L.P. at Whitwick Market Place, on Saturday next, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

Whitwick Picture House patrons much appreciated the picture "Her Punishment," given during the first half of this week. It featured Elsie Jane Wilson and Rupert Julian, and the piece was excellent. No. 11 of "Patria" was good, and numerous others most interesting. During the week-end the chief film is "Gladiola" a fine Edison photoplay, featuring Gertrude McCoy. This is 'extra' and should not be missed. No. 11 of "Grey Ghost" and others should be seen. See advert, for next week's programme and holiday arrangements.

## **Friday April 5<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1361)**

### **Local News**

#### **P. M. School Anniversary**

The Sunday School anniversary was observed at the Whitwick P.M. Church on Sunday, when Councillor T. W. Walker, of Leicester preached to large congregations. The children and choir sang nicely under the direction of Mr J. B. Newbury, the anthem being, "The blessing of the children." Mrs J. B. Newbury was the organist, assisted by an efficient orchestra. The collections realised £29, which is slightly more than last year.

#### **Concert**

A very successful concert was given in the National School on Monday evening in aid of the funds of the Whitwick and Thringstone Nursing Association. The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) presided, and there was a crowded room. The following excellent programme was well-rendered: Opening chorus, "Entertainers Gay"; pianoforte solo, "Rustle of Spring," Miss Gladys Bourne; recitation, selected, Miss Gladys P. Kilgower; song and chorus, "As I went a-roaming," Miss Annie Moulton and girls; solo and chorus, "They were singing 'Home Sweet Home'," Nurse Sherratt, and the Misses Jordan, Moulton, Williamson, Moore and Bakewell; monologue, selected, Miss Gladys P. Kilgower; sketch, "Our at Home day," the Misses Williamson, Capell and Harris; monologue, selected, Miss Gladys

P. Kilgower, tableaux, selected, Members of the Girl's Guild; gramophone selection by Mrs F. Burton; chorus, "For England," Members of the Girl's Guild; pianoforte duet, "The Elves' Caprice," Misses Gladys and Vera Bourne; song, "The Fisher Maid of Old St. Malo," Miss Eileen Robinson, monologue, selected, Miss Gladys P. Kilgower; song and chorus, "Agatha Green," Miss Edna Capell and girls; concerted number, "On a cold and frosty morning," Misses Harris and Robinson and Masters Waterfield and Tugby; song, "Swank," party of girls; character song, "To Slumberland," Nurse Sherratt and children; tableaux, selected, Members of the Girl's Guild; National Anthem.

The concert was repeated on Wednesday evening under the presidency of the Rev. A. Dalton, and tomorrow (Saturday) night it is to be given in Thringstone Hall, Mr A. Caurah presiding.

### **Whitwick Baptist Pastor's Anniversary**

#### *Visit of the Rev. S. W. Hughes*

In the words of the deacon (Mr T. W. Bourne), Monday was a red-letter day in the history of the Whitwick Baptist Church. It was the anniversary of the settlement of the pastor, the Rev. A. Dalton, and was made the occasion of a visit by the Rev. S. W. Hughes (successor to Dr. Clifford), of London, who preached in the afternoon and addressed a public meeting in the evening. Freechurchmen in large numbers attended from all parts of the district, and the chapel and adjoining school were packed on both occasions. There was also a large attendance at the public tea.

Mr A. Pickard, C.C. of Desford, presided at the evening meeting, and in introducing the speaker, said he remembered Mr Hughes when he was at Market Harborough 15 years ago. He went from Market Harborough to the capital of the Midlands (Birmingham) and was now doing a good work in the capital of the empire (applause).

Having paid a tribute to Dr. Clifford, who, he said, wonderfully preserved his "youth" though 82 years of age, the Rev. S. W. Hughes proceeded with a fine address on "Our duty to ourselves." A duty which they all owed to themselves, he said, was to keep themselves in the love of God. There were nobodies in the world, and he urged them all to form a proper estimate of their own worth. None of them were as nice as they might be. The joy of life sprang from profound personal relationships, and the tragedies of life would be reduced to a minimum if people were more concerned about character. "Keep in love with yourself" he urged. The problems of London would not be what they were but for women making themselves so cheap. Young women had gone mad after khaki, and the men in khaki despised them for it. If a young women wanted to win the companionship of a man worth having, she should never make herself cheap. The same applied to the men. There was more misery in the world than there need be. Let them see that their character was right and all could be winsome. It was personality that wins; goodness that tells.

A solo, "The mighty deep," was nicely rendered by Mr E. Briers, of Coalville. Mr T. W. Bourne moved a vote of thanks to the speaker, chairman, and all who had in any way assisted in the splendid success of the day, and also thanked the ministers of other churches in the district who were present in good numbers. Mr O. Geary seconded, and it was heartily accorded.

The Rev. A. Dalton announced that they started out to get £25 from that anniversary, but he was pleased to say that after meeting all expenses they had a balance of £47 1s (applause) for which they were deeply grateful. Included in the sum named were contributions of £5 each by Lord Aberconway and Mr A. E. Hawley, £2 2s by the Hon. H. D. McLaren, M.P. £1 1s by Mrs Harriman, of Shepshed, and £1 each by Sir Maurice Levy, M.P. and Mr O. Burton, of Whitwick.

## **I.L.P. Activity**

### *Meetings at Coalville and Whitwick*

In the Whitwick Market Place on Saturday evening, Mr Tom Richardson, M.P. addressed a meeting under the auspices of the local branch of the I.L.P. which was fairly well attended, despite the weather. Mr O. Geary presided. There was a large audience at a similar meeting in the Coalville Market Place on Sunday evening to hear Mr James Winstone, M.P. president of the South Wales Miner's Federation.

Mr H. Taylor presided, and said it was the intention of the I.L.P. to have a Labour candidate in the Bosworth Division in the next election, and he hoped their efforts would bear fruit. Mr McCarthy, a member of the Leicester I.L.P. also addressed the meeting.

### Whitwick Church Vestry Meeting

The Whitwick Church Vestry meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the Rev. T. W. Walters (vicar) presiding. Dr. J. C. Burkitt and Mr H. T. Bastard were re-elected lay representatives for the next three years, at the Ruridecanal conferences, and Mr J. H. Robinson was appointed in addition, owing to Dr. Burkitt being on national service and not able, for the time being, to attend the Conference.

The Vicar said the war was prominent in all their thoughts, especially at this time, now the great push by the Germans was on. Of the result, they all felt confident. So far as the war affected Whitwick, he said no fewer than 47 men from the parish had been officially reported killed. Considering the size of the parish, that was a large number. They had had a prosperous year in regard to church work. The number of Easter communicants was 265, which, by a peculiar coincidence, was exactly the same number as last year. They had again had a confirmation at their church when there were 28 candidates from Whitwick as well as candidates from 12 other parishes. The income of the church was very satisfactory, showing an average of nearly £1 per week more than last year. It was an evidence that not only were the people earning more money, but they were not keeping it to themselves; they were giving some of it to carry on the work of the church.

Mr S. W. West, presenting the accounts, said he had pleasure in reporting records in several respects. He had gone through the books and had never been able to find where the churchwardens had a balance in hand of £20 0s 4d, as they had this year. Then, no Shrove Tuesday effort, so far as he was aware, had yielded a profit of £20 1s as was the case this year. This money was to go towards the cost of a permanent memorial to Whitwick men who had fallen in the war. The collections for special objects totalled £93 4s 11d, compared with £75 17s 2d last year, and there was an increase of £36 in the church collections, a total of £193 14s 5d, compared with £157 14s 5d last year. The total income for the year was £254. The churchwardens started the year with a balance in hand of £5

6s 5d and, as he had stated, had a balance now of £20 0s 4d, after paying the various expenses, which he gave in detail. He said the success of the church finance was no doubt due to the conscientious work of the Vicar, and was an indication that the people appreciated the services of the church. Mr H. T. Bastard said the balance sheet was very satisfactory and he moved that it be adopted. He suggested that a Sunday collection should be devoted to the Leicestershire and Rutland Prisoners of War Fund. Perhaps the churchwardens would consider it. Mr J. H. Robinson, seconded, and paid a tribute to the churchwardens for the excellent statement. The resolution was carried.

Mr Bastard moved the re-election of Mr S. W. West as the parish warden. Mr Adams seconded, and Mr Robinson supported, and it was unanimously carried. Mr West said he would like to have been relieved of the duty, as the many Orders of the Food Controller made it a very trying time just now for a man a retail business, but he thanked the Vestry for its renewal of confidence, and said he would do his best. He hoped that before they met again, the war would have ended by the Allies winning a glorious peace (applause).

The Vicar again nominated Mr J. Roulstone as his warden and paid a tribute to the services of both the wardens. It was a pleasure to work with them, and he was glad they were to be the same next year. Mr Roulstone said the work had been a pleasure to him, and he would be glad to continue. The sidesmen were re-elected and thanked for their services, and Messrs. W. Hart and B. Neath were added to the number. The Church Council were re-elected, also the verger, Mr Williamson, and the auditor, Mr T. Webster. The Vicar expressed thanks to the various church workers, and this was endorsed by Mr West, who said no church had a more loyal body of workers. A vote of thanks was also accorded the Vicar.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Picture House at Whitwick has been well-patronised this week again, and the fine films being shown are most interesting. The chief one at the commencement of the week was "The Intrigue" a Pallas film, featuring Lenore Ulrich, and was much enjoyed. No. 12 of "Patria" was also enjoyable; as were numerous other good ones. For the week-end patrons must not miss "Love's old sweet song," a story founded on Motley's world celebrated ballad. There is a special vocal accompaniment by Miss F. Foster. "Grey Ghost" No. 12 is good, along with several others. For particulars of next week's, see advert.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Wedding**

At the Parish Church on Tuesday, Miss Gertrude H. Toon was married to Private E. E. Blount, of Mansfield Woodhouse, the Rev. T. W. Walters (vicar) officiating. The bride, who was given away by her father, Mr George Toon, wore a frock coat of navy blue gabardine. The bridesmaids were Misses Honor Blount (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Lily Slater, and Mr Herbert Toon acted as best man. Mr Oliver Ratcliffe, of Coalville, played suitable selections on the organ including Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The happy couple had a nice lot of presents.



## **Marriage of the Vicar of Thringstone**

An interesting wedding which took place quietly at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Whitwick, on Tuesday, was that of the Rev. Cheverton Shrewsbury (Vicar of St. Andrew's, Thringstone), and Miss M. B. Crane, eldest daughter of Mrs Crane, of Charnwood Dale, Whitwick, and the late Rev. E. S. Crane, the first vicar of Thringstone. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr A. R. Crane of the London Hospital, and another brother, the Rev. A. N. Crane, vicar of Stirchley, Birmingham, solemnised the marriage, assisted by the Rev. T. W. Walters, vicar of Whitwick. The bridegroom has been vicar of Thringstone for the last ten years, and for some time, his wife has acted as organist at the church. An interesting fact is that she was born and lived for several years at Thringstone Vicarage, to which she now returns as the wife of the Vicar.

## **Burials**

Richards – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Mary Ann Richards, aged 69 years, of Leicester Road.

Petty – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Doris Annie Petty, aged 7 months, of Loughborough Road.

Newton – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Lucy Sarah Newton, aged 14 months, of New Swannington.

Watson – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Vivian Watson, aged 2 days, of Meadow Lane.

Needham – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Frances Hastings Needham, aged 76 years, of Brookside Cottage.

## **Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1362)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Military Medallists**

A Military Medal awarded to Lance-Corporal P. Hicken, a Whitwick soldier, has been forwarded by the War Office to the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) with a request that it be presented to the gallant soldier publicly when he returns from France. Pte. Hicken was expected home at the end of March, but events in France have delayed his leave.

Mrs Concannon, wife of the late Lance-Corporal Concannon, of Whitwick, recently went to Nottingham Castle, and was presented with the Military Medal awarded to her late husband. Sir John Maxwell presented the medal, with others, and expressed sympathy with the relatives of the men who had fallen.

#### **Local Casualties**

Official news has been received by Mrs Underwood, of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, that her husband, Able-Seaman Robert Underwood, of the Royal Naval Division, has died in

hospital in France from the effects of gas poisoning. His brother, Frank, was killed in October, 1915, and his brother-in-law, Pte. A. C. Hobson, was killed in September, 1916, both in France. Able-Seaman R. Underwood, who joined up in June, 1917, was last at home in October. He leaves a widow and one child.



Mrs Roome, of Leicester Road, Whitwick, is officially notified that her brother-in-law, Pte. Ernest Roome, of the 8<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, missing since May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917, is now presumed to be dead, and that his death took place on that date. Pte. E. Roome was a Whitwick man, and used to lodge with his brother, Mr Albert Roome, (now in the R.N.D.) in Leicester Road. He volunteered a month after war broke out when he was 21 years of age.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

The chief film at the Picture House in the early part of the week was "Little Miss Fortune" and was much appreciated; also No. 13 "Patria" and "The Genius" a two-part comedy. During the week-end "Sweetheart of the Doomed," is a stirring Triangle drama of a very good type, feature Louise Glaum. This must not be missed, along with others, including "Grey Ghost" No. 13. For next week's programme, see advertisement.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

#### *Another Chance*

Mary Wardle, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting her three children at Whitwick on January 9<sup>th</sup>, and prior thereto. Mr J. J. Sharp appeared for the N.S.P.C.C. and said the case had several times been adjourned to see if the woman improved. The improvement had not been all that could be desired, but he was prepared to give the woman another chance. The case was adjourned for another month.

### **Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1363)**

#### **Local News**

Mr R. Sharp, of Whitwick, has been very successful in his egg collection for the soldiers at the Broom Leys Hospital. Eggs were contributed by the following: Mr R. Sharp 20 eggs, Mr M. Downes 10, Mrs J. Henson and Mrs Botham 9 each, Miss Bell, Mr B. Neath and Mr E. Bentley 8 each, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Warrington, Mrs J. Wilkes, Mr D. Sitdown and Mr J. Peace 6 each, Mrs J. Mosley and Mr G. Harding 4 each, and Mr P. Aris 3.

The following contributed money for the purchase of eggs: Mr G. Bramwell's company and Mr J. Thorp 7/6, Forest Rock Hotel 6/6, Coalville Conservative Club 5s, Mrs Robinson 5s, Marquis of Granby company 4/5, Mr R. Kelly's company 3/10, Mr T. Tivey's company 3/6, Mr H. Benistone, Mr T. R. Jackson and Mr J. Moore 2/6 each, Whitwick Conservative Club 2/4 ½, Mr G. A. Hawthorn 2s, and various smaller amounts.

### **Baptist School Sermons**

The collections at the Whitwick Baptist school sermons on Sunday were a record, amounting to nearly £25. The preacher was a former pastor, the Rev. H. C. J. Wix, of Loughborough, and there were large congregations. The children sang their hymns nicely under the direction of Mr O. Geary, and anthems were well-rendered by the choir, that in the afternoon being "And the Glory of the Lord" from the "Messiah" and in the evening, Dennis's "One thing have I desired." Misses Bourne and Geary shared the duties of organist, and an efficient orchestra also assisted.

### **Infirmary Effort**

A Whitwick committee, of which Mr W. Whitmore is chairman, and Mr B. Massey, secretary, has set about the laudable task of raising £100 for the Leicester and Loughborough Infirmaries, and a successful effort – one of a series which have been arranged – towards this end was a fancy dress dance and whist drive in the Holy Cross School on Saturday night. There was a large company, and an excellent programme was much enjoyed. Mr George Wright's (Coalville) band played for dancing for which Messrs B. Massey and J. Bradley acted as M.C.'s. The prizes for the best fancy dress were awarded to Mrs Cresswell, who represented an Italian girl, and Miss Sheffield, of Coalville, in the role of a huntsman. A waltzing competition was won by Miss L. Bonsor and partner. A bottle of whiskey, given by Mr G. F. Burton, brought £3 1s to the funds, the purchaser of the winning ticket being Mr Partridge. Messrs. P. Downes and E. Commons acted as M.C.'s for whist.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday evening when there were also present, Messrs. B. G. Hale, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, J. W. Fisher, M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, A. J. Briers, Captain German, Captain Stevenson (National Service representatives), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A Whitwick Colliery loader, 19, single, general service, said in his appeal that there were 12 children in the family, one was serving in the Navy, and he helped his father, who was not strong, in the support of his (applicant's) eight younger sisters. Dismissed.

A young Coalville man, Grade 1, 19, single, employed at the Whitwick Colliery, said his mother and father were dead, and he was the main support of his two brothers and four sisters, only one of the latter being at work. His elder sister looked after the house, and he gave her practically all his money every week. Four of the children were under 12. Mr Briers said this family was assisted by the Guardians, to whom the report was that the applicant was a good lad. Mr Hay said he knew the family, and he certainly was a good lad. Though agreeing that it was a hard case, the Tribunal dismissed the appeal. Captain German said the Advisory Committee felt that everything possible should be done to get the full Government allowance for the family. Captain Stevenson said that if the youth would see him before he went, he would tell him all he could.

A Grade 1 single man, 23, working at the Whitwick Colliery, said he was the sole support of the home, his father having been an invalid for ten years. He had had one brother killed in the war. Answering a question, he said he had three other brothers, two working at the colliery and one at Stableford's. They helped a little. Dismissed.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

At the Whitwick Picture House during this week the 'houses' have been good, and the pictures shown have been much enjoyed. During the first half of the week, "Periwinkle" was a delightful photoplay, featuring Mary Miles Minter; and No. 14 "Patria" and others were interesting. For the week-end the 'star' is "The Frame Up", an American comedy-drama in four parts. This film will appeal strongly, and should be seen. Also, No. 14 "Grey Ghost" and others. See advert for particulars of next week's programme – another pleasing one.

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

#### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of Eliza Ottey, of Whitwick, who died April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1916.

*"We miss thee when the morning dawns,  
We miss thee when the night returns;  
We miss thee here, we miss thee there,  
Mother, we miss thee everywhere."*

From her loving Sons and Daughters.

In loving memory of my dear Mother, and our Grandmother, Eliza Ottey, who departed this life, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1916, aged 74 years.

*"Two years have gone, but still we miss her,  
None but aching hearts can tell.  
Earth has lost her; heaven hath found her;  
Jesus doeth all things well."*

From her loving Daughter, Francis, and children.

## **Thanks**

Mrs R. Underwood, of Whitwick, wishes to thank her many friends for their kind expressions of sympathy to her in her recent bereavement through the death of her husband in France.

Mrs Chambers, Whitwick, and Family, tender their sincere thanks to the many friends who have shown kindness and sympathy with them in the loss of a dear husband and father.

## **Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1364)**

### **Local News**

#### **Coalville and Whitwick Sailors in Zeebrugge Raid**

One of the Marines who took part in the recent daring naval raid on Zeebrugge was Horace Underwood, son of Mr Harry Underwood, of Silver Street, Whitwick. He was on board the "Vindictive" and returned safely to port.

Another sailor on board the "Vindictive" was Arthur Pinder, whose father, Mr Thomas Pinder is a plumber employed by Mr C. H. March, Coalville, and resides in Albert Road. He has wired his parents in that he returned safely and is well.

#### **Local Casualties**

Pte. J. Massey, K.O.R. Lancs., son of Mr R. Massey, Whitwick, has been wounded for the third time, and is in hospital at Exeter.

Mr T. Y. Hay, of Coalville, manager of the Whitwick Colliery and chairman of the Coalville Tribunal, has received news that his nephew, Captain Percy Hay, of the Australian Forces, has been wounded for a second time, and is now in hospital in London, having been shot in the head and chest. After recovering from his first wound, he spent his leave at Coalville. When he came over with the forces from Australia, it was his first visit to England.

#### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. A. J. Briers, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, B. G. Hale, C. W. Brown, A. Lockwood, Captain Stevenson and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The chairman said that before they commenced the business he would like to move a vote of sympathy and condolence with one of the members of the Tribunal, Mr M. McCarthy, who had received word that his son, Lieut. T. F. McCarthy, had been killed in action. A few months ago he was awarded the Military Cross, being a fine young man who he (the chairman) knew personally and it was a very severe blow to the family. He asked the members to accord a vote of sympathy with Mr and Mrs McCarthy and the family in their great bereavement. This, the members did in silence by rising from their seats.

A Whitwick man, 23, single, Grade 1, employed at the Whitwick Colliery, was appealed for by his father, for whom Mr J. J. Sharp appeared. He said the father had some grazing land, and stock, and was helped by his son, the only one left out of three. One had been killed in the war, and the other missing for some time. The Tribunal dismissed the appeal, though recognising it was a very hard case.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Whitwick grazier and carter in an appeal for his son, 21, single, and in Grade 1, employed at the Whitwick Colliery. Exemption was asked for while the youth, the only son, assisted his father in ploughing five acres. Applicant was unable to do it himself, through a previous accident. Dismissed.

The cases of seven quarrymen, all residing at Whitwick were adjourned for medical examination, the clerk stating that this would decide whether the Road Board certificate would hold good or not.

A loader and feeder at the Whitwick Quarry mill, 42, married, B1, appealed for exemption stating that he had four children dependent, one of his hands was maimed. One month.

A Whitwick resident, 24, Grade 1, married, working at Snibston Colliery, appealed on domestic grounds. Dismissed.

Another Whitwick collier, 24, Grade 1, married, employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery, also appealed on domestic grounds, stating that his wife's mother was an invalid, lived with them. The appeal was dismissed.

### **Do You Know That**

The collections at the Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday next will be for the Leicestershire and Rutland Prisoners of War Fund?

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Thomas Dawkins, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not having two front lights on a carriage at Coalville, on March 30<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Bursnall said defendant had one light on the wrong side, which the clerk said was worse than none at all. Fined 15s or seven days.

### **Whitwick Factory Broken Into**

#### *A Boy's Offence*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, John Eames (14), pit boy, son of Jos. Eames, collier, Whitwick, was charged with breaking and entering a warehouse and stealing twelve penny stamps and 16 half-penny stamps, at Whitwick, on March 31<sup>st</sup>. He pleaded guilty.

P.S. Betts stated that he received a complaint that Mr Handford's factory in North Street, Whitwick, had been broken into. He found the window of the engine-room broken, and the catch undone. The safe had been wrenched open and the place ransacked. The stamps

were missing from the office. Only one penny had been left in the safe and that was missing. Witness produced some iron tools found near the safe. He made enquiries, then saw the boy, who denied it at first, but later began to cry and admitted breaking into the factory at 5.45 pm on Sunday.

The boy said he was sorry. The clerk asked whether the boy had been thrashed by his father. The father said he had not. He had previously thrashed him, but it seemed no use. The lad had got into bad company. The defendant was cautioned and a fine of £2 and 5s for witness's allowance was imposed, which the father had to pay.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

Patrons of the Picture House are enjoying the pictures provided this week, as evidenced by the good attendances. In the first half of the week "The Snarl" was an enthralling Triangle drama, and the final episode of "Patria" was watched with interest. "The Genius" was a fine comedy, in two parts; and numerous others were all appreciated. For the end of the week "Annie for Spite" is a four-reel Bolton Mutual, featuring Mary Miles Minter, and should be seen. Also the final episode of "The Grey Ghost" and "Hula Hula Land" a most amusing 2-part Triangle comic, with others. See advert for next week's list.

## **Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1365)**

### **Local News**

#### **Wesleyan School Anniversary**

The school anniversary was observed at the Whitwick Wesleyan Church on Sunday, Mr J. Hogg, of Moira, being the preacher, and there were large congregations. The children sang their hymns nicely under the direction of Mr A. Clarke, and the organist was Mrs Toon, assisted by an orchestra. The collections realised £25 15s, which was £3 15s more than last year.

#### **Fire**

The Whitwick members of the Coalville Fire Brigade were called to a fire in Whitwick Market Place on Sunday afternoon, at the premises of Mr A. Utting. The property, and that adjoining, has a thatched roof, and this got on fire through a spark from the chimney. Luckily, it was noticed at once, and prompt measures were successful in averting what might have been a serious conflagration. The Brigade promptly responded to the call, but found the fire had been practically overcome when they arrived.

#### **Mr R. Sharp's Egg Collection**

Previously acknowledged, 370 eggs. Whitwick National School children 36 eggs; Mr Husbands 20; Mrs A. Briers 10; Mr Orton 6; Miss Bell 4; Mrs Harrison 4.

Coalville: Mr John Wootton 10s, Liberal Club Company 8/6; Mrs Jas. Smith and company 4s; Mr G. A. Hawthorn 2s 6d; Mr A. White 2s 6d; Mr Coleman 2s 6d; Mr Russell 2s; Mrs S.

Hunt 2s; Mrs Moss, Mr A. Hudson, a Friend, Mr Fryer, Mr Lashmore, and Mr Hurst, 1s each; G.A.L., W.F.T., M. S. Turner, a Friend, W. S.; Mrs Stafford; D. G. and L.W.C. 6d each. Total £2 5s.

Whitwick: Mr Massey's company 6/6; Mr Noon's company, 5s; Mr Webb's company, 4/8 ½, Mr Burton's company 4/6; Mr H. Ward's company 2/6; Liberal Club company, 1/7; Mr A. Utting, 8s; Mr B. West, Miss S. Roulston, Mrs S. Ison, Mr Atkins, and Mr F. Burton, 2s each; Mrs Burkitt, Mrs H. Stinson, Mrs J. Briers, Mr R. Gee, Mr W. Adams, and Mr Eagles 1s each; Mr G. Bonsor, 6d; three friends 1/6. Total £2 11s 1d.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

A meeting of this Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding, when there were also present, Messrs. B. G. Hale, A. Lockwood, J. Kirby, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers, with Mr R. Blower (National Service representative), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk read the new instructions issued to Tribunals, and particular attention was called to the following:

*“On and after May 2<sup>nd</sup>, an application for the renewal of an exemption granted by a Tribunal, unless it has been granted on the ground of certified occupation, may be made only if leave is first obtained from the Tribunal which previously decided the case, or, if there is an appeal, the Tribunal which first gave the decision which became effective. There is no appeal from the refusal of leave.”*

Mr M. McCarthy wrote thanking the Tribunal for their vote of sympathy on the death of his son.

A sledger at the Whitwick Quarry, 40, married, with no family, Grade 1, said he had worked at the quarry for 22 years. He was the sole support of his widowed mother, in her 67<sup>th</sup> year. A brother, serving in the Forces, had not been heard of for two years. One month (final).

A Grade 1 man, employed at the Whitwick Quarries, 33, married, 2 children, said he was the last son left, and his mother was a widow. Two brothers were serving in France, and one went down with the 'Hampshire'. The chairman said one killed, and two others serving – three out of four – was a good record. One month allowed.

Five Whitwick quarrymen whose appeals had been lodged, were stated to have since been medically examined, and placed in Grade 2, so that the Road Board certificates now held good, and they had written asking for the appeals to be withdrawn. The chairman said they were bound to agree to that.

### **Whitwick Solider in France**

Mr and Mrs Robert Sharp, of Whitwick, have received a letter from their son now serving in France, in which he says he feels very sorry for the French people – old men, women and children driven from their homes by the German advance. Some of them have very few belongings, only what they can carry. The letter continues, *“One day we were going through a town which the Germans were shelling, and saw two girls running for their lives,*



*but one of them was hit by a shell and killed. If the young men round about Whitwick could only see the sights here, they would want to join up, or would never be able to call themselves Englishmen again. We do not get much rest, but we are getting plenty of good food. In fact, we are living like lords. Eggs are very dear here. Don't worry about me if I am a long time in writing, as we do not get much time."*

## **Fatal Accident at Whitwick Colliery**

### *Belton Miners' Neck Broken*

An inquest was held by Mr H. J. Deane (Coroner) in the Wesleyan School, Belton, on Wednesday afternoon, concerning the death of John Hickling (44), stallman, who was killed by a fall of stone while working in the Whitwick Colliery, No. 5 pit, on Monday.

There were present, Mr Lea, H.M. Inspector of Mines, Mr C. E. Crane, of Coalville, for the Midland Mining Official's Association, Mr J. J. Sharp, of Coalville, for the Whitwick Colliery Co., Mr Levi Lovett (miner's agent), Mr T. Y. Hay (manager of the colliery), and Mr W. Rowell (under-manager).

Charles Wainwright, licensed victualler, of Belton, said the deceased was his stepson and resided with him at the George Inn. Witness last saw him alive about 10.30 pm Sunday night and he was then in his usual good health.

Dr. S. E. Dunkin (Coalville) said he was sent for to the Whitwick Colliery, about 3.30pm on Monday. At that time they were just bringing deceased out of the pit. He examined the body, and found the neck broken. He saw no other injuries.

George Holmes, 52, Green Lane, Whitwick, loader at the colliery, said he was working with the deceased on Monday in No. 66 stall. Deceased examined the place before they started work, and said it was alright. Witness saw nothing wrong. About 12.30, Hickling was "bannicking" – cutting coal along the top – witness being about 18 feet away, when all of a sudden, a fall came from the roof and knocked the deceased backward into the "gob," the debris completely burying him. Witness obtained help but as other falls took place, it was an hour and a half before they could liberate the deceased. He then showed no sign of life. Two bars and two props were knocked out by the fall, which gave no warning whatever. One shot was fired in the stall in the early part of the morning, and that brought a good quantity of coal down. Witness had worked in the pit for seven years and thought the place sufficiently timbered and safe. There was plenty of timber at hand had they thought more had been required.

*By the Inspector: After "snap" time, about 11.30, Hickling, who was the responsible man, examined the stall before they resumed work. They noticed no cracks then. During the morning, there were also two examinations by the day deputy, Mr Fern, about 7.30 and 11 o'clock.*

*By Mr Crane: And the under-manager had also been in the stall.*

John Henry Fern, of Swannington, deputy, said George Toon, another deputy, made the first examination and witness went there about 11.10 and the place was then properly timbered and looked alright. The fall was due to slips. Witness did not think the shot which

was fired had anything to do with it, as it was at the other end. Witness examined the place after the body had been got out, and found two slips running into each other. These slips could not be detected before the fall occurred.

By Mr Sharp: *He was a practical miner, having worked in the Whitwick pit since he was 13, and he had been deputy for four years.*

Answering Mr Lovett, witness said the deceased had been a stallman for many years.

Mr Wainwright: *He worked as a stallman with me, up to two years ago, for 22 years.*

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death". Mr Sharp, Mr Crane and Mr Lovett expressed regret at the accident, and sympathy with the family, the deceased, a widower, having left six children.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *Whitwick Picture House*

The Picture House has another grand programme this week, and patrons were pleased with "The Man the Army Made," a Pathe production of exceptional merit. Also, "The Fatal Ring," and many others. During the week-end "The Square Deal Man" is a Triangle Western drama, of great interest, featuring William S. Hart. "Late Lamented" is a two-part Triangle drama; and others are good. For next week's, see advertisement.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Boot – At Whitwick, on Monday, Doris Edith Boot, aged one month, of Loughborough Road, Whitwick.

### **Military Wedding at Whitwick**

The marriage took place quietly at Whitwick Parish Church on Tuesday afternoon, of Miss Nora Burkitt, youngest surviving daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. S. Burkitt, R.A.M.C. and Mrs Burkitt, of the Old Vicarage, Whitwick, and Lieutenant E. V. C. Hamilton, of the Worcestershire Regiment, and R.A.F. eldest son of B. M. Hamilton, Esq. District Superintendent of Indian Police, and Mrs Hamilton, of Lucknow, India. The Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, R.D. officiated in the presence of a large congregation. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of pervesche blue crepe de chine over the same colours, satin, and a black hat with silver and blue brocade. She carried a pretty bouquet of yellow roses and carnations. The chief bridesmaid was Miss Hamilton (sister of the bridegroom), of the W.A.C.C., who appeared in uniform, and also in attendance was the little niece of the bride, Miss Elizabeth Handcock, who was attired in flowered embroidered voile. Both carried bouquets of pink roses and forget-me-nots. Lieut. Levin, R.A.F. acted as best man. The service was choral and suitable wedding music was played by Mr R. G. West (organist). After the ceremony the happy couple motored to Shackerstone en route to Wales, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride travelled in a fawn coverlet, and

skirt, and fawn tagel hat, also a long black corduroy velvet travelling coat. The presents were numerous and costly.

## **Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1366)**

### **Local News**

#### *School Reports*

The Rev. F. C. Stocks, Diocesan Inspector, has issued the following reports on a recent inspection of the Church Day Schools.

Mixed Department: *"The results as a whole are very good indeed, no weak spot being visible from Standard 3 upwards. The top class was admirable, and compared favourably with the best thing that I have seen. Their written work is quite up to the standard of their oral results. J. T. Bonser, Emily Charles May Botterill, Vivian Botterill, Evelyn Williams and George Bonser wrote particularly good papers."*

Infant's Department: *"This department is certainly excellent as a whole – indeed, all the work was marked excellent, except in the middle group where there has been a recent change of teacher. Both inspectors were genuinely delighted with the disciplined eagerness of the children. The top class, also, has an unusually good syllabus for an infant class."*

#### **The Late Lieut. T. F. McCarthy, M.C.**

At the Holy Cross Church on Tuesday morning, a requiem mass was held for the late Lieut. T. F. McCarthy, M.C., recently killed in action. The service, of a simple character, was conducted by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, assisted by the Rev. J. Degan, of Coalville, and was attended by a large congregation. The Holy Cross School children, assisted by the boarders from the Ursuline Convent, Coalville, sang hymns.

### **Do You Know That**

Fifty Whitwick men have now been officially reported to have been killed in the war?

The collections at Whitwick Parish Church last Sunday realised £10 for the British Red Cross Society, and on the previous Sunday £7 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Prisoners of War Fund?

#### **Coalville Tribunal**

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding, and there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, A. J. Briers, J. Kirby and J. W. Fisher, with Captain Stevenson (National Service representative), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk announced a new instruction to Tribunals whereby applicants were to be allowed to be legally represented as before, and also to have the right of appeal against the Tribunal's decision.

A Whitwick elastic web firm appealed for an overlooker and loom-tuner, 37, Grade 1, married, with four children, and one month was allowed. It was stated that the man had four brothers and three brothers-in-law serving.

### **Local Casualties**

Mr and Mrs Jos. Bailey, of the City of Dan, Whitwick, formerly of Ashby, have received official intimation that their son, Pte. Job Bailey (24), Notts and Derby Regiment, has been killed in action in France where he has been three years. He leaves a widow and two children.

News has been received by Mrs Mee, of 110, Church Lane, Whitwick, that her husband, Able-Seaman George Henry Mee, (39), was killed in action on March 21<sup>st</sup>. His widow is left with one child. He joined up last July and had only been in France three weeks. His wife received a letter from him written the day before he was killed. The deceased was a native of Quorn, but for seven or eight years before enlisting he had worked at Whitwick Colliery.

Mrs Bradley, of 5, South Street, Whitwick, has been notified that her husband, Private Walter Bradley, of the Sherwood Foresters, was killed in action on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Deceased's officer writes that he was killed instantaneously by shellfire and suffered no pain. "At the time of his death," the letter continues, "he was doing special duty for which he had been selected on account of his reliability. He will be greatly missed both by his officers and his comrades with whom he was very popular. I can only assure you of my heartfelt sympathy." Pte. Bradley enlisted in August 1915, and had previously been three times wounded, coming to England on each occasion. He returned to France the last time in January last. Before the war he was in business as a hairdresser at Mansfield. He leaves a widow and two children dependent.

### **Coalville Urban Council**

The medical officer, (Dr. R. J. Jamie) reported that during April, 18 cases of measles were notified, almost exclusively in the Hermitage Road, Green Lane and Silver Street district of Whitwick. In the more general epidemic of four months ago that district was, comparatively speaking, free from the disease.

Three cases of scarlatina were notified – one in Mantle Lane, Coalville, one at Parson Wood Hill, and one at Broom Leys, Whitwick.

The surveyor reported that the number of persons accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses during the month was 413, compared with 562 the previous month, and 595 in the corresponding month of last year. The lime washing and cleaning of the lodging houses had been satisfactorily done.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

John H. Eales, labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for not shading the light in his house, on April 15<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Jones said he had previously cautioned the defendant. Defendant said he had been out of work for nine weeks. Fined 10/6 or seven days.

Walter Roe, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to send his child regularly to school. Henry Freeman, school attendance officer, gave the facts and defendant was fined 5s.

Mary Wardle, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting her three children on various dates at Whitwick. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) said the case had been adjourned to give the woman another chance, and there had been some improvement. The children were now being better cared for, and on behalf of the N.S.P.C.C. he asked for the case to be struck out, and that the Bench would remit the Society's costs. The magistrates agreed.

### **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House, too, is catering well for its patrons this week, and the pictures have been well-received. Next week "Moll of my Heart" is the 'star' picture. This is an Irish comedy-drama in four reels, and should be seen. No. 3 of "The Fatal Ring," and "Caught in a Harem" are among others of a most interesting character. During next weekend, "Nearer my God to Thee" will be a good one. It features Alma Taylor and Henry Edwards. There is also a host of other grand subjects, which will doubtless be appreciated.

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

#### **Burials**

Roome – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Sarah Jane Roome, aged 21 years, of Pare's Hill.

Middleton – At Whitwick, on Monday, John Colin Middleton, aged one month, of the Market Place.

### **Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1367)**

#### **For Sale**

Pea Sticks, Bean Sticks, and Firewood. Large quantity for sale. Apply, Mr Chas. Peach, Holly Hayes Wood, Whitwick.

#### **Local News**

Mr R. Sharp, of Whitwick, has collected eggs for the wounded soldiers as follows:- Previously acknowledged 840. Mrs T. Carter 12; Mr R. Sharp 10; Mrs G. Sheffield 7; Mrs Mosley 6; Mrs Haydock 6; Mr R. J. Black 6; Mrs Smith 4; Nancy and baby 4; also the following sums:

Coalville: Mr S. Clamp's company 10s; Blue Bell company 4s; Railway Hotel company 3/5; Mr H. Ward 2s; Mr W. Harris 2s.

Whitwick: Lady Joyce 3/6; Miss L. B. Jack 2s; Miss D. Hart 1s; Mr J. Toon 2s; Mrs W. Hart 1s; a Friend 1 /4; A.J. B. 1s; Mr H. Birkumshaw 1s; Mr J. Burton 1s; Miss Hollingsworth 6d; Mr D. Potter 4/6.

### **Memorial Tablet Unveiled**

On Saturday evening at a service in the Whitwick Wesleyan Church, the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) unveiled a tablet to the memory of Sergeant R. W. Berrington, one of Whitwick's Military Medallists, who was formerly connected with the Wesleyan Church and Sunday School. Had he lived, he would have been presented with a suitable gift by the Whitwick Soldiers' Presentation Committee to commemorate his brave deed, but soon after receiving the Medal he fell in action, and the committee decided to erect this tablet to his memory. The Rev. J. R. Sharpley, of Ashby, presided at the service, in which the Revs. T. Cottam (Coalville), J. J. Hutchinson and A. Dalton (Whitwick) also took part. In the course of a short address, the Vicar paid a tribute to the gallant soldier and also to Whitwick men for the splendid manner in which they had responded to their country's call. Unfortunately, fifty Whitwick men had now been officially reported killed in action. All the ministers spoke, and it was stated that ancestors of the deceased soldier for four generations had been connected with the Whitwick Wesleyan Church. The hymn, "For all the saints who from their labours rest," was sung, also the National Anthem at the close. There was a good congregation.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr B. G. Hale, J.P., presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, A. J. Briers, J. W. Fisher, T. F. Fox, J. Kirby, and C. W. Brown, with Captain Stevenson (National Service representative) and the clerk, Mr J. F. Jesson.

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Whitwick licensed victualler, 31, Grade 3, married, with one child, stating that the man was also working as a farm waggoner, at Onebarrow Lodge. He formerly worked at a colliery, and had an accident, from the effects of which he had not yet wholly recovered. One month was allowed, applicant to get an agricultural certificate in the meantime.

### **Local Casualties**

Ptes. W. Bennett (Whitwick), W. Carter (Coalville), and Lance-Corporal W. Hammersley (Ellistown), all of the Leicesters, are reported wounded.

Gunner T. G. Deacon (Coalville), acting L.-Bombardier W. Summerfield (Bardon Hill) of the R.G.A., and Pte. A. Wilkins (Whitwick) of the King's Own Royal Lancs. Regiment, are reported wounded.

### **Thanks**

Mr J. W. Berrington and Family wish to convey their sincere thanks to the Whitwick Committee, and all friends who have in any way subscribed to the fund for a tablet to be placed in the Whitwick Wesleyan Church, which was unveiled by the Rev. T. W. Walters, on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1918, in loving memory of Sergeant R. W. Berrington, who was

killed in action on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 1916, after winning the Military Medal for bravery on the battlefield in France. The ministers present at the ceremony were the Revs. J. R. Sharpley and T. Cottam, with the Baptist and Primitive Methodist ministers. We also wish to thank Mr G. F. Burton for the great interest he took in seeing that it was successfully carried through.

### **Theatre Items**

The films showing next week at the Whitwick Picture House are a good lot, and during the first half of the week the chief one is "Environment" a four-part drama. "The Fatal Ring" No. 4, is also interesting, as well as many others. The weekend 'star' is "Hater of Men," a fine Triangle drama, featuring Bessie Barriscale. "Puppets" is a grand Triangle-Keystone comic. Others will please. See advert for Whit arrangements.

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

#### **Death of Mrs Broadhurst**

The death occurred on Sunday night of Mrs Ann Broadhurst, widow of the late Mr Charles Broadhurst, of North Street, who for many years carried on the business of butcher, which had been continued since his death by the deceased. She was 72 years of age. Much sympathy is felt for the family, one of the deceased's daughters having also recently lost her husband in the war.

#### **Burials**

Broadhurst – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Ann Broadhurst, aged 72 years, of North Street.

Haywood – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Catherine Marie Haywood, aged 9 years of Silver Street.

### **Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1368)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Collier Steals a Spade**

##### *Case at the Coalville Police Court*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, Jno. Wm. Allen, collier, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing a spade, value 4s at Whitwick, between May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded not guilty.

Charles Kirk, quarryman, Leicester Road, Whitwick, stated that on May 3<sup>rd</sup> he was doing some draining in Mr S. Berrington's field and when he left he put a spade, fork, and shovel in the dyke under the hedge. It rained on Saturday, and did not go, but when he went on Monday the spade had gone. The spade (produced) was his. He reported the matter to Sergeant Betts and later accompanied the Sergeant to defendant's house and identified the spade there.

Prosecutor said his initials were on the spade but had been erased. There was a little bit off one corner of the handle, and he had recently filed the spade, the shaft of which also had a peculiar grain.

Sergeant Betts said defendant denied any knowledge of the offence, and said he bought the spade from Coleman's for 3/6 about twelve months ago. Witness had never seen a spade which had such a peculiar grain, and the prosecutor at once identified it.

Richard Jeffcoat, in the employ of Messrs. Coleman and Son's, ironmongers, for the last five years, said they had not had a spade of this particular brand during that time. No spade was sold last year at 3/6.

Defendant alleged that that was the price he paid for it at Coleman's. He had never been a thief and had never stolen a halfpenny worth of any man's.

Fined £1 1s and witnesses costs 8s or 14 days. He asked for time to pay, saying he had six children. Answering the clerk, he said he was a stallman at the Whitwick Colliery, and his earnings averaged £3 a week. He was ordered to pay half and the balance in a week.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

A Grade 1 collier, working at the Whitwick mine, 25, married, with one child, said he had two brothers serving, and a sister in the W.A.A.C. His parents were dead, and he was keeping the home together. One month was suggested, but the National Service representative intimated that the instructions were to appeal against exemption granted to young men in Grade 1 or 2.

Mr Brown: *Does that apply to all cases?*

The National Service representative said it did. Dismissed.

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Mr Brown: *Does that apply to all cases?*

The National Service representative said it did. Dismissed.

### **Theatre Items**

The chief picture at the beginning of the week at the Whitwick Picture House is "The Woman who was Nothing," presenting Lillian Braithwaite and Madge Titheradge. No. 5 "The Fatal Ring" and others will also appeal. For the weekend, "Dick Carson wins Through," is a Hepworth photoplay of exceptional merit, and "His Disguised Passion," is a Triangle-Keystone comedy in two reels.

**Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> 1918 (Issue 1369)**



## Local News

### **“Amos” Repeated**

The sacred drama, “Amos” was given at the Whitwick Picture House on Wednesday night in aid of the Leicester and Loughborough Infirmaries, this being the third performance, and Mr J. Locker (conductor) and all concerned are to be congratulated on another success.

### **Local Casualties**

News has been received of the death of Lance-Corporal Ernest Alfred Hart, aged 26, of the North Staffs Regiment, whose parents reside at Church Lane, Whitwick. He went to France in 1915, and was invalided home with trench fever. Recovering, he returned to France and had been there nine months. Writing on May 4<sup>th</sup>, a hospital nurse stated that Hart was admitted to the hospital that morning badly gassed, and everything possible was being done for him. a second letter on May 12<sup>th</sup> stated that he was too ill to write, but the doctor was hopeful, and they had read his parents’ letter to him. He sent his love to all. Writing again on May 16<sup>th</sup>, the nurse conveys the sad news that the soldier had passed away. The letter continued, *“We are all very sad at losing him for he was a very gallant boy, and put up a strong fight right to the end with never a word of complaint. His thoughts were always with his mother and father at home. During the night of 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> he was very restless and tried to tell me many things. His passing was quite peaceful, and up to the last moment he had someone with him. He died at 11.30 this morning. May God grant you His comfort in the loss of this, your great, fine, gallant boy. It must be hard for you to lose such a son.”*

## Theatre Items

The Picture House (Whitwick) list includes first half, Charles Ray in “The Clodhopper” a splendid Triangle play; Billy West in two reels of great comedy; No. 6 “Fatal Ring,” and others. Weekend, a great domestic drama “The Grit of a Jew,” featuring Augustus Yorke of Potash and Perlmutter fame; also many other good ones.

## Births, Marriages and Deaths

### **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs W. Hart, of Roy House, Church Lane, Whitwick, desire to thank all friends for expressions of sympathy towards them in their recent sad bereavement.

## **Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1370)**

## Local News

The June number of the “Whitwick Parish Magazine” contains the following, *“Pte. Horace Underwood, of the Royal Marines, one of our choristers, had the very great honour of being on board the “Vindictive” in the dash made on Zeebrugge on the night of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> April. He came out of the affair without a scratch, something to be*

*thankful for when it is remembered that the casualties numbered nearly 700. Horace had served on the "Vindictive" for 16 months up to December last, when she returned from Russia."*

### **P.M. Chapel**

A special effort on behalf of the Debt Reduction Fund was made at the P.M. Chapel on Sunday, when Mr S. Newbold, of Donisthorpe, was the preacher. In the afternoon, the cantata, "What the little flowers say," was given by the children and choir, in which there were solos by children dressed to represent different flowers and by members of the choir. Mr J. B. Newbury conducted, and Mrs J. G. Wharmby gave the connective readings. At the evening service, when there was a large congregation, quartets were nicely rendered by Misses L. Evans and L. Anderson, and Messrs. F. Clay and W. J. Newbury.

### **Do You Know That**

The Mixed Department of the Whitwick Day School has just sent its twelve contribution to the Red Cross Society, making a total of £34/13/5?

### **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, A. Lockwood, B. G. Hale, J. Kirby, J. W. Fisher, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox and A. J. Briers, with Major Wellsman and Captain Stevenson (National Service representatives) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Major Wellsman, at the outset, referred to a letter he had received from Sir A. G. Geddes, urging the great need for men of the higher grades for the Army. At the request of Mr McCarthy, the clerk read one of the orders relating to one-man businesses, in which it was suggested that the cases of the men engaged in one trade in a district should be considered at the same time, and the exemptions granted should be limited to the man power required for meeting the needs of the district, special regard being had for the distribution of essential foods.

The cases of the butchers were next considered, there being four at Coalville, and four at Whitwick, and in regard to the latter the chairman observed that if they agreed with the Advisory Committee, after one month Whitwick would be left with one butcher. It was agreed in each of the Whitwick cases to allow one month. Major Wellsman said he did not want to be there under false pretences. He was there to get men for the Army if he could, and he would have to appeal in a number of these cases. He did not want to take a case to Leicester if it could be decided there, nor to waste the men's time which was needed in their business. The chairman said people must have meat. They had carefully gone into all these cases, and came to the conclusion that there were none too many butchers left now to supply the needs of the district. If Major Wellsman said he would appeal, the Tribunal could not help that. One of the Coalville butchers was stated to have had his case deferred by the Medical Board for six months, and the Tribunal allowed exemption for that period. The other three were allowed one month each.

### **Sixpenny Milk at Whitwick**

### *Case at Coalville Police Court*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, Jane Hull, married, Whitwick, was summoned for selling milk in excess of the maximum prices at Whitwick, on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr Sharp produced a medical certificate showing defendant was unable to attend owing to ill-health.

Mr Jesson said the offence was selling milk at 6d per quart, when the price fixed by the local committee for May, was 4d per quart. Arthur Ottey, Executive Officer, gave evidence as to the price of 4d having been fixed.

By Mr Sharp: *The only publication of the fixed prices was a notice in the "Coalville Times."*

Inspector Dobney said defendant admitted selling milk to Mrs Wilks at 6d per quart. She said they came to the house for it, and she let them have it, though she did not want to sell it.

Francis Wilks, wife of Chas. Wilks, deposed to having milk from defendant at 6d per quart, and later defendant let her have it for 4d, but told her not to tell anybody.

By the clerk: *She knew others were selling at 4d, but never pointed that out to the defendant. She was prepared to pay 6d, as it was good milk.*

Mr Jesson: *You don't suggest others people's milk was not good? – No.*

Mr Sharp said the defendant was unaware of the alteration of price, which was 6d in April. She was 70 years of age. Defendant was fined £2/2/0, an advocate's fee of £2/2/0, and a witness allowance of 3/6, or one month.

### **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House, first half, "Holy Orders," from Marie Coelli's great work; No. 7 "The Fatal Ring," and others. Weekend, a fine Butcher film, "Flames" from the novel by Robert Hichens, and others.

## **Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1371)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Family's Heavy Bereavement**

##### *Three Deaths in a Month*

Much sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs Frank Middleton, of the White Horse Inn, Whitwick, in a double bereavement which has just come upon them by the deaths of two of their children, Stephen Thomas, aged six years, and Mary Ellen, aged four years, both having died from the effects of diphtheria. The boy passed away on Tuesday last week, and the girl on Thursday, which was her birthday, and also the birthday of her father.

The funerals of the two children took place at the same time in Whitwick Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, the service being conducted by the Rev. T. W. Walters (Vicar) in the

presence of some hundreds of sympathising parishioners and friends. Between 30 and 40 beautiful floral tributes were sent.

Mr Frank Middleton is well-known as a former left wing forward in Leicester Fosse and Derby County football teams. Since giving up football he has kept the White Horse Inn, in Whitwick Market Place, and is now also working on munitions.

The sadness of Saturday's event is intensified by the fact that Mr and Mrs Middleton have lost three of their children within the space of one month, a baby, five weeks old, having died a short time ago.

### **Whitwick Woman's Death**

#### *Dun to Sunstroke*

An inquest was held by Mr H. J. Deane, at the Crown Inn, Whitwick, on Wednesday evening last week, concerning the death of Annie Rose, aged 30 years, wife of Mr Jeremiah Rose, miner, of Green Lane, one of the Whitwick overseers.

Evidence was given by deceased's husband, who said his wife seemed alright on the previous Wednesday morning before he went to the allotment. She was engaged with the washing, and when he returned about 2.30 pm, she was lying on the couch and complained of feeling faint. He went to bed and got up at 9 pm to go to work, and she was then sitting on the couch, and said she felt a bit better. The next morning she was worse and he sent for a doctor. She died about 10 o'clock on Monday night.

Mary Ann Wilson, her mother-in-law said deceased complained to her of feeling faint and of pains in the head, and she advised her to have a rest.

Dr. T. R. Rolston, attributed death to a stroke, and the jury, of which Mr S. W. West was foreman, returned a verdict accordingly.

### **Local Casualties**

Pte. C. Clarke (Whitwick), of the Durham Light Infantry is reported missing.

Pte. R. M. Kelly, of the West Yorks Regiment has been wounded, a telegram received by his wife, who resides at Whitwick, stating that he has a shell wound in the right leg. Pte. Kelly, before the war, was the manager of the Whitwick Picture House, a position which is being filled by his wife, during his absence.

Pte. T. Elliott (Ibstock) of the Durham Light Infantry, and Pte. R. F. Cufflin (Whitwick) of the Machine Gun Corps, have been wounded.

### **Coalville Tribunals**

One month was allowed a joiner and machinist, 36, Grade 1, employed by a Whitwick firm. Mr Sharp remarking that the man was an absolute necessity if the business was to be continued.

In the case of a bottler for a Whitwick mineral water firm, 39, Grade 2, Mr Sharp said the man only had one eye, and the sight of the other was affected. He had five children. A member asked what was the use of sending a man with one eye into the army. Captain Stevenson said a lot of Grade 2 men were in the trenches and Grade 3 men were wanted for the army. One month.

Three months were allowed a Whitwick baker, 37, married, Grade 3, and it was stated that a Coalville chimney sweep, 35, had been rejected, and the appeal was withdrawn.

Two months were allowed the Whitwick grocery manager for the Coalville Co-Operative Society, Mr Lockwood stating that the man was 40 years of age, married, and in Grade 2. The branch catered for 480 families and the takings were £420 a week. Four men had joined up from this branch, and the present staff was six females and a boy. In the case of the Society's Ellistown branch manager, the man was told to get graded within 14 days, and a similar instruction was given to a Coalville fruit salesman, aged 33.

A Whitwick licensed victualler, 31, married, Grade 3, stated in his appeal that he was also a waggoner at Onebarrow Lodge. Mr Champion said he thought the man was doing good work for the farmer. One month allowed to get a certificate from the War Agricultural Committee.

### **Ashby Police Court**

Saturday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Mr J. Turner, Mr J. G. Shields, Mr J. Hassall, and Mr W. M. Slater.

John Bakewell, bricklayer, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Board of Guardians for being £4 in arrears under a maintenance order in respect of his wife. John William Bowley, relieving officer, said the defendant could pay if he liked, but this was the fifth time they had had to take proceedings against him. Defendant said he had not the means to pay. He had been in a very low way, and had to sell his home and go into lodgings. His son was at the war. An order was made for payment of the amount due, and 9/6 costs.

### **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House programme contains the following: First half of the week, "Little Women" founded on the book by Louisa M. Alcott, and a good story. No. 8 "The Fatal Ring", and many others. The weekend chief picture is "In Another Girl's Shoes," adapted from the famous novel, and featuring the popular actress, Mabel Love; "Haunted by Himself," is a laughable two-part Triangle comic. Others will interest.

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

#### **Burials**

Rose – At Whitwick on Saturday, Annie Rose, aged 30 years, of Green Lane.

Middleton – At Whitwick on Saturday, Stephen Thomas Middleton, aged 6 years, of the Market Place.

Middleton – At Whitwick on Saturday, Mary Ellen Middleton, aged 4 years, of the Market Place.

## **Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> 1918 (Issue 1372)**

### **Local News**

#### **Local Chit Chat**

A letter has been received from Lance-Corporal Fred Perry, of the Leicestershire Regiment, whose home is at 2, Vicarage Street, Whitwick, Writing from Palestine, he says he receives the “Coalville Times” and is glad to notice the interest the paper takes in the Coalville and district boys serving in the various theatres of war. He has served 3 years and 9 months and was in France until September, 1916, when he was wounded, and came to England till April, 1917. Then he left for the battalion he is now serving with, and after being torpedoed on the way, landed quite safely. Previous to the war he was a “corporal” in the Snibston coal mine.

#### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr J. J. Sharp represented a Whitwick painter, appealing for his son, 33, Grade 3, and he was allowed three months, subject to registering at the Labour Exchange to do work of national importance for three days a week.

#### **Whitwick and Ashby Soldiers Honoured**

Corporal J. H. Robinson (Whitwick) of the Leicesters, and Gunner S. Smithard (Ashby) of the R.G.A. have been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of valuable services rendered with the Forces in France during the present war.

## **Friday June 28<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1373)**

### **Local News**

#### **Better News for Whitwick Woman**

*Husband not killed but a prisoner*

A postcard to Mrs Mee, of 110, Church Lane, Whitwick, received on Sunday morning, conveyed the news that her husband, Able-Seaman George Henry Mee, of the R.N.D., had not been killed in action, as officially reported, but is a prisoner in Germany.

Mrs Mee, who has one little boy, 4 years old, had been informed by the War Office that her husband was killed in action in France on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1918, the first day of the great push by the Germans. Sunday's postcard from her husband stated that he is in the hands of the Germans, but is well. Able-Seaman Mee is a native of Quorn, and was formerly a member of the Parish Church choir there, but he had lived at Whitwick eight years before joining up, and worked at the Whitwick Colliery.

The circumstances are all the more remarkable, as in addition to the official notice of her husband's death, Mrs Mee received a letter from a comrade of Mee's in France describing how he was killed, and that it would be some consolation to his wife to know that he suffered no pain, being instantly killed by a shell, and was given "a decent burial." She has also received messages of sympathy and condolence from the King and Queen, Lord Aberconway, and many others, and a copy of her husband's will, but in spite of all this, said Mrs Mee to our reporter, "*I seemed as if I could not believe that he was dead. We had been married 18 years, he has always been a good husband, and now I know that he is alive I feel as if I can work and do anything.*" So convinced was she that her husband was alive, that when it was proposed to hold a memorial service at the Whitwick and Quorn Parish Churches, Mrs Mee said she could not give her consent, and such services have not been held. She added that at the request of the authorities, she had been at a lot of trouble giving all particulars and making arrangements to receive her pension, but she would gladly undo all that. The postcard is dated May 12<sup>th</sup>, and Mrs Mee clearly recognises it as being in her husband's handwriting.

### **Death at the Monastery**

The death occurred at the Mount St. Bernard's Monastery on Tuesday of Father Jerome, who had not been well for some time, and had been medically attended for heart trouble. He was the sub-Prior and one of the oldest of the monks, being about 70 years of age, and he had been at the Monastery for about 35 years. He formerly occupied the position of guest-master, and when visiting was allowed – it has been discontinued – he was well-known to the public, often conducting parties over the grounds and Monastery. He had a genial disposition, and was very popular. The funeral took place in the private cemetery at the Monastery on Wednesday, deceased being buried in his habit without a coffin, according to the rites of the Cistercian Order.

### **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House also has an excellent programme, the chief one for the first part of the week being "The Stolen Treaty"; No. 10 "Fatal Ring" will also be enjoyed, along with numerous others. For the week-end, Miss Gladys Cooper and Mr Malcolm Cherry in a magnificent Samuelson film "My Lady's Dress." Also part 1 of a grand new serial, "The Fighting Trail," and several others of interest.

## **Friday July 5<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1374)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Soldier Honoured**

##### *Presentation of a Tea Service*

An interesting event at the Whitwick Picture House on Thursday night was the presentation of a silver tea service to Corporal J. H. Robinson of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters, in recognition of his having been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. He is the seventh Whitwick man to distinguish himself in the war, and in each case, Whitwick people have

shown their appreciation in this commendable manner, a committee having been appointed to take cognisance of each event as it comes along and get together the necessary funds, to which the public have always handsomely subscribed.

The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) presided on Thursday night, and was supported on the stage by Messrs. A. West (who made the presentation), H. T. Bastard (treasurer), G. F. Burton (secretary), J. H. Gilberd (member of the committee), the Boy Scouts, to which the soldier formerly belonged, and two local soldiers, Lance-Corporal Stopp, of Thringstone, who lost his right arm at Festubert, and Pte. Watret. Corporal Robinson was also accompanied by his fiancée.

In opening the proceedings, the Vicar said they all knew Corporal Robinson very well and were pleased that he had so distinguished himself, bringing honour not only to himself, but to Whitwick also.

Mr A. West said he was delighted to be asked to make the presentation because he was Corporal Robinson's old Sunday School teacher. He was always a good lad at school, and he joined the army voluntarily in September 1914 (cheers). On a previous occasion, he was commended by his commanding officer for conspicuous bravery in the field, and now he had received the medal for meritorious service while in France (applause). It gave Whitwick people much pleasure to make this present to a brave soldier (cheers).

Corporal Robinson, in expressing his thanks, said that was about the hardest job he had had (laughter). He very much appreciated the kindness shown him. While out in France he did not expect any medal, but he was pleased to know that what he had done had been a bit of use (cheers).

The Scout's Band then played a salute, the Vicar remarking that Robinson was the second Scout to distinguish himself, and they intended to make him a present themselves. A vote of thanks was accorded the proprietors of the theatre and the manageress for allowing the use of the building for the purpose, and three cheers for Robinson, and the singing of the National Anthem concluded the proceedings.

Corporal J. H. Robinson is a single man, 23 years of age, and his home is in Talbot Street. Before the war he worked at the Snibston Colliery. He was wounded at the Messines Ridge in May, 1915, and a second time at Loos on April 5<sup>th</sup> this year, having only just come out of hospital. He is one of Mr Bastard's old boys of the Church Day School.

### **Apology**

*I, J. E. Leawood, of West End Works, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Mineral Water Manufacturer, hereby express regret that I have utilises Mineral Water Bottles belonging to Mr Richard Massey of Whitwick, Mineral Water Manufacturer, and hereby undertake that this shall not occur in the future.*

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1918.

**Coalville Urban Council**



The medical officer (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported that June three cases of measles were notified, as compared with 28 for the previous month. Five cases of diphtheria were reported – 2 Market Place, Whitwick (in one family), 2 in North Street, Hugglescote, and 1 in Gutteridge Street, Coalville. There were also 5 cases of scarlatina – three in Silver Street, Whitwick, one in Belvoir Road, Coalville, and one in Donington-le-Heath. In each case, the usual precautions were taken.

Mr McCarthy mentioned the case of two children in a Whitwick family dying of diphtheria, besides another death, all in the space of four weeks, and asked if there was any exceptional cause. Mr Hurst said there was nothing exceptional as regards the property.

It was reported that two men engaged in the scavenging of the district were likely to be taken for the Army unless the Council could retain them and the staff was already greatly depleted. It was left to the clerk and surveyor to report to the next highways committee.

### **Do You Know That**

There are many cases of influenza in the district, and one has proved fatal at Whitwick?

Whitwick Wake was observed on Monday when there was a good number of visitors in the evening?

The Vicar of Whitwick, the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A. on Sunday, completed 5 years' ministry at Whitwick?

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Samuel Higgins, grocer, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without lights at Whitwick, on June 18<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear, and on the evidence of P.C. Grewcock, was fined 7/6 or seven days.

William Johnson, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for driving a trap without lights at Coalville, on June 16<sup>th</sup>. His wife appeared. P.C. Bursnall said the defendant told him the trap was hired, and he expected to be home before lighting-up time. Fined 10/6 or seven days.

John Newell, James Cufflin, James Costelow, Ernest Bradley, colliers, Arthur Rennocks, fitter, Frederick Hawkins, carpenter, all of Whitwick, were summoned for playing a game of chance with cards and coins at Whitwick, on June 16<sup>th</sup>. P.S. Betts said he saw the defendants playing "banker" near a bush on the footpath between Whitwick and Thringstone. He watched them through glasses and saw money pass. When they saw witness they ran away. Newell, Cufflin and Rennocks pleaded not guilty. Newell said that when the sergeant saw him the same night he had 16 names and only six had been summoned. Cufflin said it was impossible for the sergeant to have seen them, as they were under a bush and a high bank and they had a boy "staggering" (laughter). Hawkins, said to have been convicted twice previously for a similar thing, was fined £1 and the other defendants 15s each, or seven days.

## **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House, first half week, "A Top Floor Romance" a fine comedy drama. "The Fatal Ring," episode 11; and others. Week-end, "Hearts in Exile," adapted from the novel by John Oxenham, featuring Clara Kimball Young. "The Fighting Trail," part 2, with many others.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Underwood – At Whitwick, today, Alfred Eric Underwood, aged 11 years, of Church Lane.

## **Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1375)**

### **Notice**

*To Mineral Water Manufacturers, Bottlers, Licensed Victuallers, Shopkeepers and whomsoever it may concern.*

*Notice is hereby given that the Business lately carried on under the name and style of H. North and Son, Mineral Water Manufacturers, Coalville, Leicestershire, together with all the Bottles, Syphons, Boxes, Cases and other appliances necessary to such business, HAS BEEN PURCHASED by Messrs. Beckworth and Co. Ltd, Whitwick, Leicestershire.*

*The Trade and the Public generally are hereby warned against using any bottles, syphons or cases bearing the names of:*

*Beckworth and Co. Ltd  
H. North and Son, Coalville  
Dakin Brothers, Coalville, or  
Brooks Chemist, Ibstock*

*for any purpose whatsoever.*

*Signed for and on behalf of Messrs. Beckworth and Co. Ltd, Whitwick.*

Edward Hanson (secretary), Registered Offices, Whitwick, Leicester.

## **Local News**

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

Under the auspices of the I.L.P. and Women's Peace Crusade, Mrs Neale of Leicester addressed a well-attended meeting in Whitwick Market Place on Saturday evening, Mr Wedburn presiding.

### **Flower Services**

On Sunday, the Rev. J. J. Hutchinson conducted flower services at the Whitwick P.M. Chapel, preaching there for the last time before his removal to Portsmouth. There were good congregations and collections were made for the Trust Fund.

### **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, T. F. Fox, A. Lockwood, Mr J. R. Champion (agricultural representative), Captain Stevenson (National Service representative), and Mr J. A. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk stated that two appeals by the National Service representative against decisions of the Tribunal exempting the Coalville Co-Operative Society's Whitwick branch manager and a Coalville motor and cycle engineer, had been withdrawn. An appeal had been lodged against two month's exemption granted at the last meeting to a Coalville fruit salesman.

The cases of six butchers which had been several times before the Tribunal, were again considered. Previous exemption granted in two cases was appealed against at Leicester, and the appeals dismissed. In three of the cases the Advisory Committee did not assent, but in all cases further exemption was allowed. Two employed by the Co-Operative Society got three months, two Whitwick men three months and two months each was allowed a Coalville man and a Whitwick man.

Two months each was allowed a Whitwick joiner, 39, Grade 1, married, and a bread deliverer, 44, Grade 2, employed by the Co-Operative Society. It was stated that both these cases had been to Leicester, and the appeal of the National Service representative against previous exemption was dismissed. The Advisory Committee did not assent in either case.

Three months each was allowed a Coalville grocer and provision dealer, 35, Grade 3, and a Whitwick building and undertaking firm's horse-keeper, Grade 3.

Similar exemption was granted a bottler and manager of a Whitwick mineral water factory, 42, Grade 2, and a Hugglescote undertaker's assistant, 38, Grade 3.

### **Theatre Items**

#### *Whitwick Picture House*

First Half: "The Buffalo and the Circus Girl" a Pasquali super-production in four reels, and a most thrilling drama, which will appeal. No. 12 "Fatal Ring", and many others. Weekend: "The Question" a Vitagraph Blue Ribbon feature film in 5 parts, featuring Alice Joyce, "Fighting Trail" No.3 and others.

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

#### **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs T. Underwood, Church Lane, Whitwick, desire to thank all friends for kind expressions of sympathy towards them in their recent bereavement.

### **Burials**

Millership – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Rachael Millership, aged 38 years, of Leicester Road.

Waterfield – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Emma Waterfield, aged 9 years, of Hall Lane Farm.

Bailey – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Mary Ann Bailey, aged 68 years, of Ashby.

Roome – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Leonard Ernest Roome, aged 7 months, of Pare's Hill.

## **Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1376)**

### **Do You Know That**

Whitwick Post Office now closes daily from 1.45pm for the dinner time, and for the half-day every Tuesday at one o'clock instead of two o'clock as hitherto?

### **Coalville Tribunal**

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held on Wednesday night, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, C. Coleman, A. Lockwood and T. F. Fox, with Captain Stevenson (National Service representative), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk reported that the National Service representative had given notice of appeal against two months' exemption granted at the last meeting to a Whitwick licensed victualler and coal miner and one month to an Ellistown off-licence holder and employee at Stableford's.

The National Service representative appealed for the withdrawal of an exemption certificate granted to a Whitwick farmer's waggoner, 25, single, general service. Mr Sharp urged that the man was entitled to a War Agricultural Certificate. It was stated to come within the "clean cut" and the appeal was allowed.

A Whitwick carter appealed for his man, who is also a Thringstone licensed victualler, 42, Grade 2. He said the man was wholly engaged on carting timber to the collieries. The Advisory Committee did not assent and the Tribunal agreed, the man not to be called up for one month.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Fanny Turner, married, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without front or rear lights at Whitwick, on July 6<sup>th</sup>. She did not appear. P.S. Betts said that when he called to the woman, she used a bad expression and rode on. Fined 10/- or seven days.

Henry Garratt, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not having two front lights on his trap at Whitwick, on July 6<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Grewcock said he met the defendant coming from Shepshed Wake. When he stopped him and told him to light the lamps, he told witness to light them himself, he should not. Fined 15/- or seven days.

Elsie Horrobin, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for assaulting Pearl Horrobin, another Whitwick married woman, on July 1<sup>st</sup>. She pleaded not guilty. Complainant said the defendant was her step-daughter-in-law, and wrote to her husband, who was a soldier, making a complaint against her. Witness asked her she had been writing about and the defendant then struck her in the face. Complainant's husband corroborated. Defendant said her husband was a soldier at Cleethorpes. On the date named they were in the garden and complainant came for her like a wild cat. She (defendant) merely took her own part. She had had her baby in her arms at the time.

Eliza Price, defendant's grandmother said they were sticking beans in the garden when complainant and her husband came out like two wolves out of a forest. They were angry about the letter which defendant's husband had written. It was untrue that defendant struck complainant in the face. The chairman said the magistrates had heard enough and dismissed the case.

### **Theatre Items**

Films showing at the various local Picture Theatres during next week:

Whitwick – Picture House: First Half: "By Whose Hand", a grand society drama of interest. No. 13 "Fatal Ring" and many other good subjects. Weekend: "Her Official Fathers," a magnificent drama which should not be missed. No. 4 "The Fighting Trail," with a list of other good ones.

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

#### **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs Ottey and family desire to thank all kind friends and neighbours for kind expressions of sympathy towards them in their sad bereavement by the death of their daughter, also for wreaths and flowers.

Whitwick

Mr and Mrs Wm. Waterfield, Hall Lane Farm, Whitwick, sincerely thank all friends for kind sympathy shown with them in their bereavement by the death of their dear daughter, Emma.

#### **Burials**

Ottey – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Georgina Ottey, aged 24 years, of Silver Street.

Cowley – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Annie Cowley, aged 13 years, of Green Lane.

Slattery – At Whitwick, on Friday, Prudence Slattery, aged 14 months, of Brooks Lane.

## **Friday July 26<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1377)**

### **Local News**

#### **Service of Song**

A sacred service of songs entitled, "The Coming of the Flowers" was given in the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon by the members of the Girls' Guild and the church choir. Mr R. G. West was the organist, and the service was much enjoyed by a good congregation. A collection was made for the church war memorial fund.

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

Egg and flower services were held at the Baptist Chapel on Sunday when the Rev. A. Dalton preached. Offerings of eggs and flowers were received and the collections were for the chapel funds.

#### **Concert**

A concert in aid of the chapel funds was held in the Whitwick Baptist School on Monday night, when there was a good attendance. The Rev. A. Dalton presided and a capital programme included flute solos by Mr A. Clarke, violin solos by Mr E. Marriott, songs by Mrs Aris, Miss Mann and Miss Newman, the latter also giving monologues. Refreshments were provided and an enjoyable evening was spent.

#### **Absentee**

At the Coalville Police Court before Mr J. W. West, on Saturday, Pte. N. Smith of North Street, Whitwick, was charged with being an absentee from his regiment, the North Staffords. P.C. Jelley gave evidence as to arrest and Smith was remanded to await an escort.

#### **Local Casualties**

Private E. Wardle (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, has been wounded.

**TRADE NOTICES.**

**EVERY } of SCRAP  
{ OUNCE } WANTED**

**For Munition Purposes.**  
Collections by our Own Carts on  
Receipt of Postcard to the Address  
undermentioned.

**Best Prices Given for Spot Cash.**

**A. J. Briers, MARINE  
STORES,  
Silver St, WHITWICK.**

### **Local Casualties**

News has been received through the War Office by Mr G. H. Morriss, Green Lane, Whitwick, that his son, Private E. Morriss (23290), 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicestershire Regiment, has been killed in action on May 30<sup>th</sup>. He volunteered three months after the commencement of the war, and was rejected on the eye test, but on second application 2 ½ years ago, was accepted. He was sent out to Mesopotamia, and later transferred to Egypt, where he met his death. Previous to enlisting, he was employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co. Ltd, Coalville.

Pte. A. Baugh (Coalville) and Pte. W. J. Watret (Whitwick) of the Leicestershire Regiment, are both reported wounded.

### **Do You Know That**

Ten Whitwick colliers were fined at Loughborough on Wednesday for gaming with cards at Shepshed on Sunday, the police hiding, watched them with field glasses?

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Wm. Horrobin, collier, Whitwick, and Alfred W. Armson, collier, Coalville, were summoned for riding bicycles without a red rear light. They were each fined 5/6 or seven days, the cases being proved by P.C.'s Grewcock and Bursnall.

James Heritage, labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for bathing, without covering, at Whitwick, on May 30<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. Ursula Smith, wife of a Whitwick collier, said

she saw the defendant in a nude state in a brook, only four inches deep. Several children were about, and she went to fetch her little boy away. She told defendant he ought to be ashamed of himself and he then went into a wood and dressed himself. Fined 10s and 4/- witness's fee or seven days.

### **Theatre Items**

Whitwick Picture House list contains: First Half, "Queen of the Circus" a powerful drama in 5 parts. "Fatal Ring" No. 9 will interest; and others should not be missed. Week-end, "The Americano" a fine Triangle-Fairbanks drama which will be enjoyed. Also "False to the Finish", a Triangle 2-reel comic, and others.

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

#### **Burials**

King – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Emma King, aged 28 years, of Hermitage Road.

#### **Family's Heavy Bereavement**

Last week, reference was made to the heavy bereavement of Mr and Mrs Frank Middleton, of the White Horse Inn, by the deaths of three of their children within a month, and since then the family has suffered a further bereavement by the death of Mr Middleton's sister, Mrs King, aged 28, of Hermitage Road. The funeral took place at Whitwick Cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

## **Friday August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1378)**

### **Local News**

#### **Wesleyan Chapel**

The services at the Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday had a particular interest inasmuch as in the morning, the Rev. J. R. Sharpley, of Ashby, preached his last sermon there before leaving the circuit, and in the evening, the preacher was the Rev. J. E. Eagles (son of Mr J. W. Eagles), the gasworks manager) who is a chaplain to the Forces and is over on leave from Palestine. There were good congregations. The service on Tuesday night was the last to be conducted by the Rev. T. Cottam, of Coalville, before leaving for another circuit.

#### **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, C. H. Coleman, A. Lockwood, and A. J. Briers, with Capt. Stevenson (National Service representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk gave the results of the National Service representative's appeals at Leicester against the decisions of the Tribunal. The appeal against a Whitwick licensed victualler was withdrawn, and in the case of another Whitwick publican and miner (formerly a professional footballer), the appeal was allowed, the man not to be called up till September 15<sup>th</sup>.



In the case of a Whitwick publican, 31, married, Grade 3, Mr J. J. Sharp said the man was working whole time as a waggoner on a farm at Onebarrow, and the War Agricultural Committee had granted a certificate. The appeal was therefore, withdrawn.

In the case of a Whitwick Colliery farm waggoner, the man was told to get a War Agricultural Committee's certificate.

Three months was allowed a Whitwick foreman bricklayer, 42, married, Grade 1, it being stated that the National Service representative's appeal at Leicester against this man's previous exemption was dismissed.

Mr J. J. Sharp appealed for a Whitwick shoehand, single, 23, Grade 3, whose father, an old soldier, said he had been through two wars. He would not appeal for his son, but for the latter's health. Three months.

When it was mentioned that the head clerk and cashier of the Whitwick Granite Co., 38, Grade 1, was on volunteer duty on the East Coast, a member remarked that if the company could spare him for two or three months for that work, they could spare him for the Army. Mr McCarthy said it had been distinctly stated by the authorities in London that that argument was not to be used against the men who volunteered for this work. One month was allowed which, it was stated, would commence when the man returned to his work at Whitwick. It was stated that he had eight children.

Six months was allowed a Whitwick chemist, 40, C3, married.

Three months was allowed a Whitwick Colliery clerk, 34, married, general services, the man who had recently had a serious illness, to be graded in the meantime.

### **Do You Know That**

Additions are to be made to Mr G. F. Burton's hosiery factory at Whitwick occupied by Messrs. Banford and Miller, by which employment will be found for about another 50 girls?

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

#### **Wedding**

The wedding took place at Melton Mowbray Wesleyan Chapel, on Thursday last week of Miss Frances Ellen Thurman, of Melton, and the Rev. James Ed. Eagles, of Whitwick, who is over on leave from Palestine, where he has been acting as chaplain to the Forces. The Rev. John Gill, another Army chaplain, from Aldershot, performed the ceremony in the presence of a good number of friends. The bride was accompanied by her sister, Miss Mary Thurman, as bridesmaid, and Mr A. B. Eagles, (brother of the bridegroom) acted as best man. The Rev. J. E. Eagles is returning to Palestine on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Burials**

Carr – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Mabel Carr, aged 22 years, of New Swannington

## **In Memoriam**

In loving and honoured memory of Lance-Corporal A. W. Concannon, M.M. 1<sup>st</sup> Sherwood Foresters, who was killed in action in France, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1917.

*"I never knew what pain he had,  
I never saw him die;  
I only know he passed away,  
Without a chance to say good-bye.*

*He sleeps beside his comrades  
In a hallowed grave unknown,  
But his name is written in words of love  
In the hearts he left at home."*

From his Wife

## **Friday August 9<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1379)**

### **Local News**

#### **School Treat**

The children attending the Baptist Sunday School held their annual treat on Monday, being taken to Spring Hill. Under the supervision of the teachers and officers of the church tea was served, and the children had a happy time amid the beautiful forest surroundings.

#### **Fancy Fair**

A popular event at Whitwick, on Tuesday afternoon was a fancy fair in the Church schoolyard, organised by the Young Helpers' League connected with the Parish Church, in aid of the funds of Dr. Barnardo's Homes. The president of the League is the Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, treasurer, Mr J. H. Robinson and secretary, Miss Connie Robinson. The latter was in charge and to her and her numerous helpers much credit was due for the success achieved. The stalls were well-laden with all sorts of articles and a good trade was done.

#### **Commission for Whitwick Teacher**

Mr R. P. Rice, formerly a teacher at the Whitwick Day School, and a popular member of the Coalville Tennis Club, has been granted a commission, and is gazetted to the North Staffs Regiment. He will have the hearty congratulations and good wishes of many friends in the Whitwick and Coalville district.

#### **Local Casualties**

Mrs Laundon, of Leicester Road, Whitwick, on Sunday received official news, that her son, who has been posted as missing since last October, is now presumed to be dead.

Corporal John Edward Ducker, of the Leicestershire Regiment, is stated to have died while a prisoner of war in Germany. His parents reside at Leicester Road, Whitwick, and they have received notice from his authorities that the soldier's name has appeared in an official list published by the enemy of prisoners who have died in their country. His friends have not heard anything of him for nearly 12 months, when he was reported as missing.

Pte. C. Cavendish, of the Leicestershire Regiment, another Whitwick soldier is officially reported to have been killed in action. He was formerly a miner employed at the Whitwick Colliery, and lived at Pare's Hill, Whitwick. He leaves five children. Some of his relatives live at Hugglescote.

## **Remembrance Day**

### *Observances in Coalville and District*

"Remembrance Day" – the anniversary of the declaration of war, falling on Sunday this year, afforded the people a good opportunity of taking part in its observances, which were general at all the places of worship throughout the Coalville district. In the Established Churches, a special form of service was used, and references to the war by preachers at chapels and churches throughout the area were generally made.

At Whitwick Parish Church, the Vicar, the Rev. T. W. Walters, conducted three services and at each made suitable reference to the war. The special form of prayer and intercession was used, and suitable hymns were sung. At the close of the evening service, the National Anthem and also a verse for the Anzacs were sung, "All the services were well attended."

## **Do You Know That**

The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) read the Prime Minister's message at both performances at the Whitwick Picture House on Monday night?

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Marriage**

Beer – Burton. On the 30<sup>th</sup> ult. at St. John's the Divine, Leicester, by the Rev. White, vicar, Ethel May, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Beer, to Gunner James Smith Burton, R.F.A. second son of Mr James Smith Burton, both of Whitwick.

### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of Agnes Aris, the beloved wife of Philip Aris, of Whitwick, who passed away, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

*"One year has gone, our hearts still sore,  
As days go by we miss her more;  
Her sunny smile and loving face,  
No one on earth can fill her place.*

*This day brings back our memory,  
Of one who is called to rest;  
And those who think of her today,  
Are those who loved her best."*

From her loving Husband and Family.

## **Friday August 16<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1380)**

### **Local News**

#### **Rival Milk Sellers at Coalville**

##### *A Provoked Assault*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, William J. Cracknell, milk-seller, Coalville, was summoned for assaulting Enoch M. Green, a Whitwick milk-seller, at Coalville, on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Defendant pleaded guilty, but said he had serious provocation. Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) appeared to prosecute.

Complainant said he was 20 years of age and had been medically rejected for the army through an operation to his throat and a weak heart. He assisted his aunt, Mrs Edwards, of Castle Rock Farm, Whitwick, and delivered milk at Coalville. On the date named he met defendant in High Street, and Cracknell said *"I will kill you for taking milk to my customers in Mammoth Street,"* and immediately struck him several blows in the face with his fist. Complainant had supplied milk to people in Mammoth Street at their request, but did not know they were customers of Cracknell.

In reply to defendant, complainant said he had supplied milk to him, but was under no contract to do so, and had missed him some mornings. Defendant lent him a churn.

James Gutteridge, grocer, Coalville, said he witnessed the assault, and said to Cracknell *"Don't hit the kid like that."* After he went away, defendant hit the lad again. Inspector Dobney said the complainant had a swollen face when he complained at the Police Station of having been assaulted.

Defendant said he was nearly 54 years of age, and had never been summoned before. He was carrying on the milk business of his son, while the latter was in the army, and was annoyed because the complainant had been trying to take his customers. He was anxious to keep the business together for his son when he returned from the army. All his four sons had joined up and one had been killed. When he struck the complainant he lost his temper because Green called him a liar, and said he would wipe the floor with him. It was a despicable action for a man to try to take the trade of a man serving in the army: it was like what the Kaiser would do.

The chairman said there was no doubt defendant was provoked, but that did not justify an assault. Defendant was fined £1/1/0 and 5/6 for witness's allowance or 14 days.

#### **Fancy Fair**

The fancy fair organised by the Young Helpers' League for Dr. Barnardo's Homes, was held in the Church School yard on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, and was a great success, realising nearly £30. The half-hour concerts were held in the schoolroom, in which the following young helpers took part

The Misses G. C. and R. Baker, E. Robinson and C. Whitmore. Prizes were given for the best fancy dresses worn by the stallholders. The winners being: Miss E. Moore (Spanish gypsy), Miss G. Baker, Jessie Robinson (gypsy) and Audrey Robinson (fairy).

### **Coalville Tribunal**

A meeting of this Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber, on Wednesday evening, Mr T. Y. Hay presiding. There were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, C. H. Coleman, J. Baker, A. J. Briers, with Captain Stevenson (National Service representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A welcome was extended by the chairman and Mr McCarthy to Mr J. Baker, the representative of the Leicestershire Miners' Association, who took his seat on the Tribunal for the first time.

Three months' each was allowed a Coalville painter and plumber, 29, and the overlooker and loom tuner at a Whitwick factory, 37, both married and in Grade 3.

A Whitwick market gardener, 47, Grade 2, was allowed two months.

A Coalville plumber's labourer, 46, married, expressed dissatisfaction at being classed Grade 2, saying he had had rheumatic fever three times. Three months.

Similar exemption was granted to another Coalville plumber's man, 41, and in Grade 3, and to two employees of the Coalville Co-Operative Society's a warehouse man, 33, who, Mr Jesson said, according to the application form was in Grade 3 ½ (laughter) and the Whitwick branch grocery manager, 40, also Grade 3.

### **The Volunteers**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Volunteer Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment went into camp on the Saturday before Bank Holiday at a popular seaside resort on the East Coast. A smart body of men from the "B" Company, among whom Coalville, Whitwick and Hugglescote were well represented, proceeded to Leicester, where the battalion assembled. It was late when the destination was reached, but the advance party had done their work well, and a meal was served immediately on arrival. On Sunday, there was an early morning parade, and after breakfast, the battalion paraded for divine service. Impressive addresses were delivered by the chaplain (the Rev. Canon Bowers) and Major Brockington, O.B.E. the commanding officer. On Monday the camp settled down to an energetic course of training, the beneficial results of which were rapidly obvious. Nor was the lighter side neglected, for on Tuesday, there were regimental sports, where, by-the-way, the athletic powers of Coalville and Whitwick veterans in the persons of Sergt. J. C. Brown, Sergt. G. H. Grant, Ptes. Bernard Concannon, Garner and others, received suitable reward. Nor should it be forgotten that a burly team from B Company achieved success in the tug of war. Following the sports on Tuesday was a camp concert, where musical talent of a high character was

disclosed. Another concert was given on Thursday and on Friday afternoon there was a cricket match in which a team of officers played the N.C.O.'s and men and defeated them by 0 to 53. Captain G. J. German reminded one of pre-war days in a spirited innings of 39, and Captain Alvins and Lieutenant Wilkinson proved irresistible with the ball. Camp was struck on Saturday. Before dismissing the battalion, the C.O. expressed the gratification at the work undertaken, and the high standard of discipline maintained. This camp was the first summer camp for the battalion, and it was a huge success, many regretting that pressure of civil affairs curtailed their stay.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Ada M. Botterill, married, of Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on July 27<sup>th</sup>. In her absence, P.C. Grewcock gave the facts, and defendant was fined 10/-, or seven days.

William Baxter, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without front or rear lights at Whitwick, on July 27<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley proved the case, and said defendant offered him money not to report him. Fined 15/-, or seven days.

John Moore, carter, Whitwick, was summoned for not having front or rear lights on his vehicle at Coalville, on August 1<sup>st</sup>. P.C. Langham stated the case and defendant, in his absence, was fined 15/- or seven days.

Charles Ekins, collier, Whitwick, was charged with stealing two walking sticks, at Coalville, on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and, further, with stealing a leather dog-collar, at Ashby, on July 24<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. Supt. Lockton asked for a warrant to apprehend the defendant for the next Ashby Court, and it was granted.

### **Was it the Strength of the Beer?**

#### *Whitwick Men Fined at Loughborough*

On Wednesday before Major W. H. B. Holgate (chairman), Mr B. H. C. Fox, Mr J. G. Shields, Mr J. Cartwright and Mr W. Whitworth.

John Bircumshaw, labourer, Whitwick, was fined 20/- and Samuel Clarke and Patrick Allen, colliers, Whitwick and George King, labourer, Osgathorpe 15/- each for being drunk and disorderly at Shepshed.

The chairman asked what was the meaning of four drunken men at Shepshed, adding, “*Is it the strength of the beer?*” The police replied that the colliers earned plenty of money and some did not know how to spend it quickly enough; they usually had whiskey before coming into town, and did not get the bottles at Shepshed, for there was very little in the place, and there was no beer, so that all would be teetotalers at Shepshed this week.

### **Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1381)**

## **Local News**

Whitwick Holy Cross and Coalville Town C.C. met at the Hermitage Hotel last night, and decided to have a match on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> on the Hermitage ground for the Prisoners' of War and Broom Leys Hospital. A return match will be played on the Fox and Goose ground at an early date.

### **Whitwick Collier's Thefts**

#### *Two Charges at Ashby*

At the Ashby Police Court on Saturday, Charles Ekins, collier, Whitwick, was charged with stealing two walking sticks at Coalville, on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and a dog collar, at Ashby, on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

The case relating to the walking sticks was taken first, and the defendant, a discharged soldier, with two wound stripes on his coat sleeve, told the magistrates he did not care which, when asked whether he elected to be dealt with summarily, or tried by jury at Leicester. He eventually pleaded not guilty.

Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) said he had been consulted by the defendant's wife and mother, but when he saw the defendant, Ekins told him he did not require his services. He (Mr Jesson), therefore, held a watching brief in the case for defendant's wife and mother.

Thomas Lashmore, jeweller, Coalville, deposed to missing two sticks from a show case adjoining his shop. He valued them at £1/2/9. Inspector Dobney said he met the prisoner with his wife in Forest Road, Coalville, on Sunday night and told him he admired his walking stick. Defendant said he bought the stick from a soldier twelve months before. Witness told him he had not worked it much. Later, witness took possession of the stick and received another from a man at Whitwick. He told prisoner he would be charged with stealing them and he said he bought them from a man whom he saw with an armful selling them near the Red House, Coalville.

Mr Jesson submitted that the man was not responsible for his actions.

Inspector Dobney said Ekins was in the Army for some years before the war and was three years in France. He was wearing the Mons ribbon though he was not entitled to.

*Defendant: I'll rip it off then. I understand I was entitled to it. I have got the three blues.*

Giving evidence on oath, prisoner said he found the sticks near the Red House. He had a good character from the Army, having received a permanent discharge, and he had since been working on munitions.

Jane Elizabeth Ekins, defendant's wife, said they had been married for 13 years, and he was a good and loving husband, and a good father to their three children. It hurt her very much to see him as he was. He sometimes suffered from delusions.

Ekins was then charged with stealing the dog collar, and pleaded guilty.

Thomas Orton, builder, Ashby, identified the collar (produced) as his property. Inspector Dobney said he went to prisoner's house to enquire about a dog belonging to Mr Orton, which had been stolen, and he saw the collar in the house. Defendant told him that the dog followed him from Woodville, and someone had let it escape from the house. Mr Orton had not yet recovered the dog, which was a valuable animal.

Prisoner said he believed he knew where the dog was and would help Mr Orton get it back. Mr Jesson urged that the man should be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Act, rather than as a criminal.

The clerk said there was no medical evidence. Mr Jesson then read a certificate from Dr. Jamie. The magistrates sentenced Ekins to one month's imprisonment in each case, without hard labour, the sentences to be concurrent, and recommended that the prisoner would be under the supervision of the prison doctor.

## **Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1382)**

### **Local News**

#### **Organ Recital**

At the Parish Church on Wednesday evening, Mr R. G. West, L.V.C.M. gave a capital organ recital to an appreciative congregation. The programme included choice selections from the works of famous composers, and Mrs Briggs nicely sang, "He shall feed His flock" and "A Perfect Day".

#### **Whitwick Military Medallist**

##### *First Public Presentation*

Although seven Whitwick soldiers have won Military Medals, the first to be publicly presented with the medal is Sapper A. P. Hicken, R.E. whose investiture took place at the Whitwick Picture House, on Friday night.

The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) explained that in 1916 – nearly two years ago – Hicken was awarded the medal for conspicuous bravery on the battlefield, and when he was at home last year he was presented with a beautiful clock by the townspeople of Whitwick as a mark of their appreciation of his services. In March of the present year, he (the Vicar) received a request from the War Office that he would publicly invest Hicken with the medal, and at the same time he had a letter from the Commanding Officer in France stating that the soldier would be allowed leave at the end of March or the beginning of April. But the Germans commenced their big offensive on March 21<sup>st</sup>, which he believed would be their last, and that prevented Hicken from coming home then. They were delighted to see him now (cheers). They were always pleased to hear of the success of any Whitwick men and honoured them all for the part they were taking in the war. This was a particularly interesting ceremony, he said, because though Whitwick was honoured by having seven military medallists, this was the first public investiture which had taken place.

Amidst great cheering, the Vicar then pinned the medal on Hicken's coat, and the soldier, who was accompanied on the stage by his wife, said he thanked them very much. Mr D.



Martin, an old campaigner with five medals also said a few words, the proceedings being of an enthusiastic character.

Sapper Hicken's home is at the Dumps, Whitwick, and he was a collier before joining the army.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when others were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, C. Coleman, J. Baker, A. Lockwood, J. W. Fisher, T. F. Fox, A. J. Briers with Captain Stevenson (National Service representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

The clerk read a copy of a new Order as to the grading of men over 41 and said it now followed as a matter of course that a man exempted must drill with the V.T.C. and it was not necessary to tell him so. If he was excused it had to be endorsed on the certificate.

A Grade 3 shoehand, working at Shepshed, and having a small poultry farm at Whitwick, made a domestic appeal. Formerly Grade 1, he said he was now Grade 3, and his wife was ill. He was 35 years of age. Three months allowed.

Similar exemption was granted a Whitwick carter, 35, Grade 2, married, the managing partner of a Hugglescote building firm, 40, Grade 2, and a Coalville carter, 47, Grade 2.

A Whitwick widower, 35, Grade 1, stated in his appeal that he was a miller and ground corn for between 40 and 50 farmers. The application was not assented to, it being stated that the man had been granted a protection certificate by the War Agricultural Committee.

### **Whitwick Picture House**

That grand picture, "The Cigarette Girl" was shown during the first half of the week at the Whitwick Picture House and was much enjoyed by the usual good audiences. It featured Gladys Hulette, and some good acting was seen. No. 18 "Fatal Ring" was a pleasing part; and others were equally enjoyable, the whole being put on the screen in the usual first-class manner. During the week-end patrons must see "Her Secret" a grand Vitagraph piece of exceptional merit, and featuring Alice Joyce and Harry Morey. No. 9 of "The Fighting Trail," will please followers of this excellent serial, and it should not be misled. A long list of others make up an ideal week-end programme. Particulars of next week's list will be seen elsewhere.

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Mr H. J. Ford, Captain Deverell and Mr M. McCarthy.

John Garrett, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a rear light at Whitwick on August 10<sup>th</sup>. In his absence, P.C. Grewcock stated the case and defendant was fined 5/6 or seven days.

Cyril Wyatt (17), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without lights at Whitwick on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Sergt. \_\_\_\_\_ proved the case and defendant was fined 10/6 or seven days.

John O'Mara, Enoch Garrett, Thos. Middleton, Edward Larner, Wm. Stretton (all 18), John Stretton (16), colliers, all of Whitwick, were summoned for gaming with cards and coins at Whitwick on August 11<sup>th</sup> and Maurice Wheeldon (18) furnace hand, Whitwick, was summoned for aiding abetting. O'Mara and Middleton only appeared and pleaded guilty. P.S. Betts said he saw the defendants playing "Nap" on the footpath between Leicester Road and Loughborough Road. It was about 12 noon on a Sunday. O'Mara and Middleton stated to have been previously convicted, were each fined £1/1/0 or 14 days and the other defendants 10/6 each or 7 days.

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

#### **Burials**

Kay – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Samuel Kay, aged 12 days, of Hermitage Road.

Simpson – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Wm. Jos. Simpson, aged 15 minutes, of North Street.

### **Friday September 6<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1383)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Local Casualties**

Ptes. J. Wilks (Whitwick) and F. Morley (Swannington), also Lance-Corporal F. Black (Ibstock), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, are prisoners of war in Germany. Morley had previously been reported killed.

Lance-Corporal J. E. Ducker of the Leicestershire Regiment, officially reported killed in action, was a Whitwick man, his relatives residing in Leicester Road.

#### **Sports**

##### **Cricket**

###### *Coalville Town V Whitwick Holy Cross*

Played on the Hermitage Road ground in aid of local prisoners of war and Broom Leys Hospital. Before a good crowd the Town won, for whom J. Revell was the chief scorer with a well-played 27, Whitwick fared badly against some good bowling by Kimberlin and Baxter, being all out for 34.

##### **Coalville Town**

H.M. Harris	b J Massey	11
W. Rowell	b Richards	0

J. Rowell		b A. Massey	27
N. Hibbert		b. Rev. Wills	8
T. Price	not	out	3
L. Baxter	s. Newell	b A. Massey	8
J. Richards		b Rev. Dalton	16
F. Kimberlin	c Beeson	Rev. Dalton	3
F. Price		b Rev. Wills	8
Extras			<u>6</u>
Total			95

### Whitwick Holy Cross

A.M. Abbott		b Baxter	0
G. Richards	c T. Price	b Kimberlin	0
Rev. A. Dalton		b Baxter	3
Rev. W. H. Wills		b Kimberlin	11
A Massey		b Kimberlin	0
J. Massey	c W. Rowell	b Kimberlin	9
G. Stanyard		b Baxter	2
H. Beeson		b Baxter	2
T. Hull	not	out	0
J. Newell	run	out	1
E. Taylor absent			
Extras			<u>6</u>
Total			34

### Whitwick Picture House

“The Mystery of the Listening Forest” was shown at the Picture House to good audiences at the beginning of the week. It was a splendid French domestic drama, in which a scientific wonder-working machine was introduced. No. 19, “Fatal Ring” was interesting and others shown were good. This weekend a delightful and fascinating photoplay is “Miss Nobody” in which Pathe presents Gladys Hulette. No. 10 is another grand part of “The Fighting Trail,” and other excellent ones are to be seen. See advert for next week’s.

### Births, Marriages and Deaths

#### **Marriage**

Burton – Leeson. The marriage of Catherine Smith the second daughter of Mr and Mrs James Smith Burton, 20, Silver Street, Whitwick, to Thomas Henry Leeson, of Edward Cottage, Griffydam, took place at the St. John the Divine, Leicester, by the Rev. W. G. Darbybin Rowles.

### Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1384)

#### Local News

## **Holy Cross Schools**

The children at these schools in three evenings last week collected 3 cwts of blackberries, which were forwarded by Mr Downes, headmaster, to the Ashby depot.

## **Local Casualties**

Notice has been received by Mrs Partridge of Whitwick, that her husband, Private Walter Partridge, of the 1<sup>st</sup> South Staffs Regiment, who has been missing since October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917, is now presumed to have died on that date or since, in France. He was a son of Mr H. Partridge, captain of the Whitwick Church bellringers, and a former scholar of the Whitwick Church School. He was last at Whitwick on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917, when his baby boy was baptised at the Parish Church. His widow and three children reside in Green Lane.

Official news has been received by Mrs Costelow, of 65, Silver Street, Whitwick, that her son, Pte. Wm. Harold Knight, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, was killed in action in France, on August 8<sup>th</sup>. He was only 21 years of age, and volunteered for service on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1915. He was last at home in October last year.

Further details are also to hand of the death of another Whitwick soldier, Private Charles Cavendish, who was killed in action in France on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. He enlisted in the Spring of 1915, and went to France in the following October. In July, 1916, he was wounded in the head by shrapnel and was in hospital in France for seven weeks. Again, on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917, he was dangerously wounded in the chest by a bomb from an enemy aeroplane, being the only one left alive on that occasion of a group of eight men. In November last he was invalided to England and returned to France in March this year. On June 18<sup>th</sup>, he was gassed; but recovered sufficiently to join the fighting again and after this somewhat remarkable record he was killed on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. He formerly lived at Pare's Hill, Whitwick, and leaves a widow and five children.

## **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, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox, C. Coleman, J. W. Fisher, J. Baker, A. J. Briers and the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson).

In all the following cases the clerk said the Advisory Committee recommended three months, and the Tribunal agreed. A loom tuner at a Coalville factory, 37, married, Grade 3; two Whitwick Colliery clerks, 34 (to be graded) and 44, Grade 1; Coalville builder, 40, Grade 1; two Coalville bricklayers, 39, Grade 3 and 45, Grade 2 (seven children); Coalville chemist, 46, Grade 1; Whitwick wood machinist, 40, Grade 2; Coalville tailor, 43, Grade 2; Whitwick butcher, 34, Grade 2; Coalville butcher, 33, Grade 2; Whitwick baker, 41, Grade 3; Coalville carrier, 34, Grade 2; Coalville printer, 37, Grade 3; Coalville foreman baker, 42, Grade 3; Whitwick baker and grocer, 36, Grade 2; Hugglescote clothing stores manager, 41, Grade 3; Coalville grocer and off-licence holder, 40, Grade 3; Hugglescote boot repairer, 42, Grade 3; Hugglescote baker and grocer, 34, Grade 2; Ellistown baker and grocer, 42, Grade 3; Ellistown ironmonger, 42, Grade 1; and Central grocery manager, Coalville Co-Operative Society, 33, Grade 3.

A question was asked in regard to one of the Whitwick Colliery clerks and Mr Kirby and the instructions to the National Service representatives were that no more colliery clerks could be taken.

Mr McCarthy: *Then why waste our time with them.*

## **Friday September 20<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1385)**

### **Local News**

#### **Captain A. T. Sharp Promoted to Major**

Many congratulations will be offered to Captain A. T. Sharp, of the Leicestershire Regiment, Territorial Force, on the announcement in Thursday's "London Gazette" that he had been promoted to the rank of temporary Major, dating from February 16<sup>th</sup>, 1918.

Major Sharp is the well-known Leicestershire amateur cricketer, and the only son of Mr J. J. Sharp, solicitor, of Coalville. He held a commission in the Leicestershire Territorial Force when the war started, and has been serving throughout. He is now in France serving with the Machine Gun Corps.

#### **Local Casualties**

Having been reported wounded and missing since October 26<sup>th</sup> last year, Pte. Ernest Brotherhood, of the South Staffs Regiment, is now presumed by the authorities to have died on that date or since, news to this effect having been forwarded to the widow, who resides with her child in Green Lane, Whitwick. Before the war, the deceased soldier worked at the Ibstock Colliery. His parents reside at Gutteridge's Farm, Belvoir Road, Coalville.

#### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

The harvest festival was held in the Whitwick Baptist Chapel on Sunday when the preacher was the Rev. A. Dalton (pastor), and the services were well-attended. In the afternoon, a musical service was held, the programme being by the Coalville Orpheus Glee Singers. The garden produce was sold on Monday night.

#### **No Rear Light**

At the Loughborough Police Court on Wednesday, Joseph Bircumshaw, collier, Whitwick, was summoned a cycle without a rear light on September 11<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Highton said he heard a conversation which caused him to watch, and soon after defendant came along without a rear light. He told the constable later on someone had taken off the bottom part of the lamp. Fined 10/- or seven days.

#### **Serious Charge against a Whitwick Collier**

*Alleged Assault on a Girl*

Before Major Hatchett at the Coalville Police Court, on Monday, Charles Ekins, collier, Whitwick, a discharged soldier, was charged with unlawfully and indecently assaulting and ill-treating Agnes Willett, domestic servant, at Coalville, on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Inspector Dobney deposed to arresting the prisoner that morning and reading the charge to him, to which he replied, "*I am innocent of that. I have never been to the house since I used to do the front garden.*" On August 8<sup>th</sup>, witness received a complaint as to the offence and on August 14<sup>th</sup>, he arrested the prisoner on a warrant in respect of another offence. Ekins was afterwards seen by the complainant, who at once identified him as the man who had assaulted her.

The clerk: *Did he say anything?*

Witness: *Yes, he said "What's this all about?" I told him that the girl had made a complaint that he had indecently assaulted her, and he said he had never been to the house that day. Up to that time nobody's house had been mentioned.*

Answering Supt. Lockton, witness said the prisoner denied having been to Coalville that day, but he reminded him that he saw him about 2.15 that afternoon near the Baptist Chapel. Prisoner then said, "*Yes, I did come to Coalville.*" Later, he said, "*I didn't commit a rape on the girl,*" and witness told him he was not charged with that, but that he was charged with indecent assault.

On this evidence, Supt. Lockton asked for a remand to the Coalville Petty Sessions today (Friday).

Prisoner asked if he could have his \_\_\_\_\_. Supt. Lockton said it was a serious matter, and he thought the defendant should not be set at liberty until the magistrates had heard more of the case. It took some time to find him the last time when a warrant was out against him for stealing. The magistrate said bail could not be allowed at that stage.

Ekins: *Then I am a prisoner till Friday?*

The clerk: *Certainly.*

A request by the prisoner's wife to be allowed to see him after he had been taken to the cell, was granted.

## **Friday September 27<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1386)**

### **Local News**

A remark by Mrs Pratt at the Ashby Guardian's meeting on Saturday concerning the death of an old inmate led us to make an enquiry which has brought a very interesting fact to light. The inmate referred to was Mr Edwin Moseley, who was 68 years of age and formerly belonged to Whitwick, It is now well-known that many of the inmates pass their time pleasantly and profitably in doing various kinds of Brabazon work in which they are instructed by several ladies who kindly interest themselves in the matter. All kinds of articles, useful and fancy, come within the scope of these operations, and it seems that Moseley's speciality was fancy fire screens. Of these he would very cleverly work in different colours of silk the figures of peacocks, and other designs, and some of his productions have been regarded as real works of art. At the sales of Brabazon work which

have been held at Coleorton Hall from time to time, some of the articles made by this aged inmate, now deceased, have been sold for good sums of money.

### **Retirement of Mr John Eames**

Mr John Eames, of James Street, Coalville, has retired from the Whitwick Colliery where he has been employed for 52 years. He came from Leicester in February 1866, and commenced at the Whitwick Colliery as a carpenter. Finding his wife here, he has brought up a highly respectable family of 13, all of whom are now grown up. The youngest son is a prisoner in Germany. Throughout his life, Mr Eames has set a fine example of devotion to duty, and good citizenship. He will be greatly missed by his fellow workmen at the colliery, as he was never known to lost a day or even a quarter through any fault of his own. Blessed with a fine and healthy constitution, he has never had a bottle of medicine in his life, and has only been to a doctor once, with a slight accident. There are 13 children, 25 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren, all of whom reflect great credit to the honourable example set before them by their parents. All who know Mr Eames will wish for him continued health and enjoyment in his retirement.

### **Local Casualties**

Leading-Seaman A. J. Wilson, of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, was killed in action on August 21<sup>st</sup>, news to this effect having been forwarded by the Admiralty to Mr and Mrs A. Allen, of Silver Street, Whitwick, with whom Wilson formerly resided. The deceased was an old boy of the Whitwick Church School and a popular member of the Whitwick Gymnasium, where the experience gained was such as to enable him to act as an instructor while in a training camp after joining the Forces.

### **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. W. Fisher, J. Baker, A. J. Briers, A. Lockwood and C. E. Coleman, with Major Wellsman and Captain Stevenson (National Service representative) and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Three months each, as recommended by the Advisory Committee, was allowed in the following cases; Brick setter, 39, married, Grade 2, and a brickworks manager, 39, both employed by the South Leicestershire Colliery Co.; Donington-le-Heath baker, 39, married, Grade 3; Coalville draper, 48, married, Grade 2; head clerk and cashier at Whitwick Granite Quarry, 41, married, Grade 1; Coalville plasterer, 44, married, Grade 2 subject to three days a week at work of national importance, a time-sheet to be produced; Donington-le-Heath carter, 44, single, Grade 2; Coalville motor and horse driver, 31, married, Grade 3, employed by an ironmongery firm; Whitwick painter, 33, married, Grade 3, subject to 3 days a week at work of national importance, a time-sheet to be produced, and the furniture department manager, 36, married, Grade 3, employed by Coalville Co-Operative Society.

In all the following cases the Advisory Committee recommended three months and the Tribunal allowed six months: Coalville builder's waggoner, 42, married; Coalville builder's joiner, 47, married, Grade 2; Hugglescote builder's foreman joiner, 39, married, Grade 3;

Coalville bricklayer, 41, married, Grade 3, employed by a Hugglescote building firm; Coalville foreman printer, married, Grade 2; Whitwick grocer and provision dealer, 47, married, Grade 2, also exempted from volunteer drill; Coalville boot-repairer, 37, married, Grade 3; and a bakery warehouseman, 41, married, Grade 3, employed by Coalville Co-Operative Society.

A list of applications for leave to appeal a fortnight hence was granted.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Bertie Cowley (11), schoolboy, son of Bertie Cowley, stoker, Whitwick, was charged with stealing potatoes, value 9d, at Whitwick, on September 5<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty. P.C. Jelly said the potatoes were taken from an allotment occupied by Mr Wm. Massey. The boy admitted that when his mother sent him to their allotment he got up potatoes on Massey's plot as well. There was a footpath between the two allotments. The boy's father said the lad told him that he went to the wrong allotment by mistake. Witness had offered to replace the potatoes.

Answering Captain Deverell, the boy said he \_\_\_\_\_ five. The chairman said the Bench would not record the conviction against the boy, that he must be more careful in future. The father was ordered to pay 10/3 costs and damages.

Thomas \_\_\_\_\_, (39), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not sending his child regularly to school. Mr H. Freeman, school attendance officer, Coalville, explained the circumstances which had arisen, and asked for the case to be withdrawn, to which the Bench agreed.

### **Coalville Servant Girl's Remarkable Story**

#### *Alleged Assault by Strange Man*

#### *Prolonged Struggle in Mistress's House*

Serious allegations were made in a most extraordinary story told at the Coalville Police Court, on Friday, when Charles Ekins (42), collier, Whitwick, was charged with indecently assaulting and ill-treating Agnes Willett, domestic servant, at Coalville, on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the defendant.

Superintendent Lockton produced a plan of the house where the offense was alleged to have taken place. He said it was a detached residence.

Agnes Willett, domestic servant at Victoria House, London Road, Coalville, stated that on the afternoon of August 8<sup>th</sup>, she was in the house by herself. Her master and mistress had gone out for the day. About 3 o'clock there was a ring at the front doorbell, and she went to the door and saw the prisoner. She asked him what he wanted. He said he wanted a box of matches. She told him she had not got one, and he replied, "Yes, you have. *There is one there,*" pointing to one on the hallstand, "*and I mean to have it.*" She told him he could buy some at a shop across the way, and he would not have it. He said he should not go across there as he had no money. She attempted to close the door, but he put his foot in



and prevented her. He then asked her whether she wanted any mats repaired, and she said she did not. He picked one up just outside the door and said, "*This one wants mending,*" and threw it on the lawn. There was another small mat just inside the hall and defendant said, "*I will mend that free of charge if you will let me come in.*" She said it was nearly new, and did not want repairing. He then started to force his way through the door. He pushed her backwards and she fell on the floor.

When he got in, he started to act like an auctioneer and offered her money for things in the hall. She told him they did not belong to her and he could not have them. Next, he pulled off his coat and waistcoat, and threw them behind the front door which was open. She asked him what he had pulled those off for and he replied, "*It doesn't matter to you; you will see later on.*" He then gripped her by the arms near the shoulders, and they had a struggle in the hall. He said, "I mean to have you down," and went on talking in a language she could not understand. She told him that if he did not go she should fetch someone down to him. He said, "*You can't do that because they have gone out. I saw them go.*" In the struggle he dragged her down the hall, and eventually got her onto her back, and sat on her chest. She tried to scream but he put his hand on her mouth. She tried to get up and started kicking and punching him. He said, "*Rather than be kicked, I will take your boots off,*" and he did so.

He told her it was no use her trying to scream as there was no one to hear her. She said her master would be home soon, and prisoner replied that it was not his time yet. The front door was partly open at the time. Defendant got up and closed the other doors, refusing to let her get out, though she tried. He caught hold of her again and said he meant to get her down. He asked her how old she was but she would not tell him. She struggled with him for all she was worth, and he dragged her to the bottom of the stairs. He said that if she did not get down he would force her down, and he threatened her with a razor which he took from his trouser pocket. He forced her down and again sat on her and showed her five rings and a wristlet watch which he said he would give to her if she would submit to him, but she refused.

She tried to get to the telephone, but he forced her down again and, sitting on her, started to undress her. He took all her clothing off but one article, which he unbuttoned, and she tried to scream but was too exhausted. He made a remark about the French girls, and she told him he ought to be ashamed of himself. He took her handkerchief, and when she was nearly naked, he said he was going to blindfold her. He tried to do so, but found the handkerchief was too small. He produced a small bottle containing a white liquid and was about to put some on the handkerchief, when he remarked, "*Never mind, you will do without that,*" and put the bottle in his pocket.

He then got off her and closed one of the doors. She got up too, and he sprang towards her and tried to throw her down again, but did not succeed. She tried to get him towards the front door, and he said, "*If you will let me stop in I will help you to dress,*" but she pushed him through the door and locked it. After locking the back and sides doors, she went upstairs and dressed. Shortly afterwards, the front door bell rang again. She thought it was her master, but on going to the door found the prisoner standing there. He started swearing, and said she looked prettier still. He said he meant to come in again, but she succeeded in closing the door and locking it. Then she saw him trying to open the drawing-room window. She went round to him from the back and told him that if he did not go, she would let the dog on him. He said, "*If that's it, I'll be going,*" and he went.

From the time prisoner came to the house to going away was about two hours. She told her mistress when she arrived home. The defendant was quite a stranger to her and she had never seen him before. She saw him again on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Police Station and she at once identified him as the man who had assaulted her. At the time he left the house, prisoner remarked, *"Well, never mind, I mean to have my revenge."*

By Mr Sharp: *She was a Hugglescote girl and was 18 years old last April. She had been ten weeks in her employment at that time. She was previously in the service of a Hugglescote doctor for seven months, prior to which she worked at the Belvoir Road factory. She did not communicate with the police, her mistress did so. There were houses on each side her employer's house, which was on London Road, along which there was usually a constant stream of people. The man who assaulted her was not drunk. She complained to her mistress as soon as she got home, but did not tell her all the details then. It was after the master had been informed that she told them the whole story. It was the first time anybody had ever attempted to assault her.*

By Supt. Lockton: *The house stood back some distance from London Road, and there was a space on each side between it and the next properties.*

Louisa Annie Hunt, wife of John Clifford Hunt, Victoria House, London Road, Coalville, said the last witness was in her employ. On August 8<sup>th</sup> witness and her husband were out. Willett, being left in charge of the house. Mr Hunt left for business in the morning, and witness and the children went by the 11:40 train from Coalville East to Hugglescote. She returned at 5:30 in the afternoon and noticed the front door mat on the lawn. She told the girl of this, and Willett said a man put it there. She asked her what man, and she then made a complaint as to the alleged offense. The girl was very worried and upset. She showed witness an undergarment which looked as if it had been trodden on, and fingered very much, being very dirty. Witness told her husband, and he sent for the police. The prisoner had never been to the house to do any work to her knowledge.

Inspector Dobney said he received a complaint by telephone from Mr and Mrs Hunt about 9.15 the same night. He went to the house and saw the girl, Willett, who complained of having been assaulted by a man between three and five o'clock that afternoon. He was shown an undergarment which Miss Willett said she had been wearing that day. There was dirt on the back of it, and it looked as if the person wearing it had been dragged along the floor. He obtained from the girl a description of the man. On August 14<sup>th</sup>, he arrested the prisoner on another charge, and feeling certain that he answered the description, he sent for Willett. Immediately she saw the prisoner in the police office she said, *"That's him!"* Prisoner replied, *"I don't know you."* She told him he knew what he did to her on the previous Thursday, and prisoner said, *"What's it all about?"* Witness told him that the girl alleged that he had indecently assaulted her in a house on London Road, on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and he replied, *"I never went to Hunt's house that day."*

Up to that time no mention of Hunt's house had been made. He also said he was not in Coalville that day. Witness reminded him that he saw him in London Road at 2.15 and the prisoner then admitted that he was in Coalville that day. Later, he said to witness, *"I did not commit a rape on the girl."* Witness told him that rape had not been mentioned, and he would probably be charged with an indecent assault. He replied, *"That's all right. I did not rape her."*

The prisoner was a discharged soldier. He had served in the army prior to and since the war. Before then he used to go about doing odd jobs. Witness had known the man for some years, and knew him to be very eccentric. He arrested the prisoner on this charge on Monday, and in reply to the charge, he said, "*I am innocent of that. I have not been to Hunt's house since I used to do the front garden.*" Witness said it was the prisoner's habit to make use of portions of the French language which he knew.

Prisoner said he had served in the army in France, and he also fought in the Boer war. He pleaded not guilty, and said he called no evidence now, but would reserve his defence.

He was committed for trial at the Leicestershire Quarter Sessions on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr Sharp applied for bail, stating that the man had a wife and three children. He had suffered from shell shock, and had twice been wounded. He had recently undergone a term of imprisonment for another offence.

Defendant's wife from the court, said someone had to keep her and the children. If bail was not allowed they would have to go on the parish. Supt. Lockton said that bail, if granted, should be substantial, as it was a serious charge. Bail was allowed prisoner in £50 and two sureties of £25 each.

### **Story of a Bracelet**

#### *Whitwick Woman Acquitted of Theft Charge*

At the Coalville Police Court, on Friday, Florence Brealey (39), married, of Whitwick, was charged with stealing a gold bracelet, value £1/10/0, at Whitwick, on August 15<sup>th</sup>. She pleaded not guilty.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) held a watching brief for Mr Whitford, pawnbroker.

Elizabeth Burton, wife of John Burton, munition worker, Whitwick, said the bracelet (produced) was hers. Defendant had been to her house assisting whitewashing and papering. She missed the bracelet from a bedroom. She spoke to the defendant about it, and she replied that was where she (witness) put it.

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, she went to see defendant, and accused her of having pawned the bracelet. Defendant then said it was because her husband was out of work and she offered witness two pawn tickets. Defendant alleged that complainant asked her to pawn the bracelet for her.

P.C. Grocock said he received the pawn ticket and recovered the bracelet from the pawnbroker's shop. He saw the defendant, and she replied that she knew nothing about it. Later, she said she should say that complainant gave it to her to pawn, adding, "*My word is as good as hers.*"

Defendant, the wife of Wm. Brealey, collier, said Mrs Burton knew that she was going to Coalville, and asked her to do her a kindness by taking the bracelet and she pawned it for 10/-, giving the money to Mrs Burton.

The latter, recalled, admitted having asked defendant to pledge a bracelet for her on a previous occasion, but not this one. John Smith, assistant to Mr Whitford, pawnbroker, Coalville, said that when defendant pledged the bracelet, she told him it was for Mrs Burton. She had pledged things for Mrs Burton on previous occasions.

The Bench dismissed the case, and on the application of Mr Sharp, ordered that the bracelet be returned to the pawnbroker until the 10/- was refunded.

## **Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1387)**

### **Local News**

#### **Wesleyan Chapel**

Harvest / Thanksgiving services were held at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday, conducted by the Rev. W. Solomon, of Measham. There were good congregations and a capital display of fruit and vegetables which were sold on Monday night.

#### **Local Chit Chat**

The Games and Entertainment Committee of the Coalville and District V.A.D. War Hospital wish to tender hearty thanks to the Whitwick Holy Cross Cricket Club for a contribution of £6/1/6 to the committee's funds, and to the Coalville Women's V.A.D. for £5/5/0. Wm. Rowell, hon. secretary, London Road, Coalville.

#### **Sudden Death in the Whitwick Colliery**

##### *Inquest*

An inquest was held by Mr H. J. Deane, at the Christ Church School, Coalville, on Saturday afternoon concerning the death of George Curtis, collier, of 20, London Road, Coalville, which occurred suddenly in the Whitwick Colliery on Thursday night when the man was proceeding to his work. Mr Elliott Smith, of Mansfield, appeared for the Whitwick Colliery Co., the manager, Mr T. Y. Hay also being present, and the Leicestershire Miners' Association was represented by Mr T. Gowdridge.

The Coroner said the facts were simple and but for the fact that the death occurred in a coal mine it would not have been necessary to call a jury together for an inquest.

Florence Walton, wife of a soldier, and housekeeper for Curtis, said she and her husband and family had lodged with the deceased for 12 years. He was 67 years of age and a widower. She had not known him to suffer any illness and had never heard him complain about any difficulty in breathing. He left home for work at the Whitwick Colliery at 9.50 on Thursday night, and then seemed alright. He had a doctor two years ago in consequence of injury to his shoulder, but he had quite recovered from that.

William Clarke, collier, 68, Melbourne Street, Coalville, said he met the deceased in the bottom of the shaft, shortly after ten o'clock on Thursday night. They worked in the same stall and walked along together from the pit bottom. Curtis seemed alright, was talking on the way, and made no complaint. When they had gone about a quarter of a mile deceased

stopped to get his breath. He was in the habit of doing that. He put his arm on a bar and rested his head on his arm. Almost immediately he reeled over and witness asked him what was the matter. He made no reply, but smiled at witness. Then he gave three sighs and witness laid him down and went for assistance. He had never complained to witness about his health, and he always did his work alright.

By the foreman (Mr J. Kirby): *Deceased only complained of being short of breath when going uphill.*

Dr. S. E. Dunkin, of Coalville, said he saw the body about midnight at the Whitwick Colliery. He examined it and found no marks and nothing unusual in the external appearance. Witness thought death was due to sudden heart failure. It might have happened at any time, without any previous warning. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, viz, heart disease.

Mr T. Y. Hay expressed the regret of the company in losing an old servant, and their sympathy with the relatives. Mr Gowdrige also expressed sympathy on behalf of the Miners' Association, and Mr J. Kirby for the jury.

### **Do You Know That**

The cricket match played a few weeks ago between Whitwick Holy Cross and Coalville Town realised £12/3/0 which has been equally divided between the Broom Leys Hospital and the Prisoners of War Funds?

### **Local Casualties**



Mr and Mrs Amos Allen, of 32, Silver Street, Whitwick, have received news that their adopted son, Leading-Seaman Alfred John Wilson, R.N.V.R. was killed in action on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Before the war he was a shunter at the Whitwick Colliery, and a popular member of the Whitwick Gymnasium. After joining the army, he was appointed gymnastic instructor while in the training camp.

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

#### **Burials**

Robinson – At Whitwick, on Monday, Mary Ann Robinson, aged 74 years, of Crescent Road, Donington-le-Heath.

### **Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1388)**

#### **Local Casualties**

Pte. W. J. Watret, whose parents live at 18, Talbot Street, Whitwick, has been wounded in action for the third time.

Mrs Hall, of 49, Talbot Street, Whitwick, has been notified that her son, Pte. Fred Hall, has been gassed for the third time, and his brother, J. A. Hall, is also in hospital.

Mrs Price, of 11, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, has been officially notified that her husband, Pte. Thomas Price, of the Machine Gun Corps, was killed in action on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He was 27 years of age and joined the Colours in May, 1917. The widow is left with one child.

## **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs Amos Allen, 32, Silver Street, Whitwick, desire through this medium to tender their sincere thanks to all friends who have expressed sympathy with them in the bereavement that they have sustained by the death of their adopted son, Leading-Seaman A. J. Wilson, who was killed in action on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **Coalville Tribunal**

### *Exemption Allowed in All Cases*

A meeting of the Coalville Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday night, when Mr T. Y. Hay presided, and there were also present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, A. Lockwood, C. H. Coleman, J. W. Fisher, J. Baker, A. J. Briers, and T. F. Fox, with Capt. Stevenson (National Service representative) and Mr A. L. Bertenshaw for the clerk, who wrote that he had an important appointment.

The cases of Whitwick butchers were first considered, and a Grade 3 man, 31, married, was allowed three months, the chairman remarking that they were short of butchers at Whitwick.

In the case of a Grade 2 man, 42, married, Captain Stevenson said the man declined to sign Form B of the Volunteer Force, and would not go to the drills on Sundays. With a good many of the men drilling was becoming an absolute farce. If the man was given exemption, he (the captain), strongly urged that he should be requested to drill. Applicant said he was working 14 to 15 hours a day, was assisting in carrying on another business and was deputy buyer and secretary to the Coalville Butcher's Association.

Captain Stevenson: *What do you do on Sundays?*

Applicant: *I go to chapel. I am organist at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel.*

Captain Stevenson: *Why do you refuse to sign Form B?*

Applicant: *Because I can't fulfil the conditions. I have been to drill many a night after working 14 hours and have gone without my tea. The Tribunal put on the condition that I was to help in another business and drill as well, and I don't call it justice.*

Captain Stevenson: *Your father assists you, doesn't he?*

Applicant: *He does what he can.*

Answering Mr Baker applicant said that if he had to drill on Sundays, the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel would be without an organist. Three of them used to share the duties

between them, but two joined the forces. Mr McCarthy said this man was assisting in the business of a woman whose husband had joined up. He was working hard, and it would be cruel to ask him to drill. Captain Stevenson said several men were making greater sacrifices to drill than this man would have to make. A member remarked that butchers were only open two days a week. Two months allowed and applicant to drill with the V.T.C.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

Frederick C. Parker (12), and Walter E. Harris (9), schoolboys, of Whitwick, were charged with breaking and entering an office and stealing a map measure, stationery, cigars, rubber bands and a ball of string, of the total value £2, at Whitwick, on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Both pleaded guilty. P.C. Grewcock said the defendants admitted the offence to him when he told them he was making enquiries about the office of the Forest Rock Granite Co., being entered and the articles named stolen. Parker said he entered with a key obtained by Harris. Witness explained that the key was left at Mrs Harris's house to be called for by the woman who cleaned the offices. The boys did a lot of damage. Mrs Parker said her husband was in France. She was trying to bring the boys up well and was sorry this had occurred. Harris's father also expressed regret.

Parker was ordered to receive 6 strokes with the birch rod, and as the magistrates thought the little boy, Harris, was led into it, they dismissed the case against him and ordered the father to pay £1 costs.

Alice Hicks (35), married, of Whitwick, was summoned for drunkenness at Coalville, on September 20<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Bursnall said the defendant was helpless, and was taken to the Police Station in a handcart. Her husband fetched her away in a trap later. Fined 10/- or seven days.

## **Friday October 18<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1389)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Soldier in Mesopotamia**

Pte. Bottrill, of the R.A.M.C. with the forces in Mesopotamia, whose home is at 33, Talbot Street, Whitwick, writes that he is "in the pink" and hopes his letter will find his pals all well and still smiling. He has had four years of the war and would dearly like to see the old country once more. They have not had it as hot this year as last, but the temperature in the shade has reached 117 degrees, which he says is quite enough. Last year it reached 123 degrees and there were plenty of cases of heat stroke. There has been very few cases this year, and not so many of other diseases. He continues, "*We are going on fine with our work, and are making the troops comfortable. They all love the R.A.M.C. out here. I am now in charge of a ward.*" He concluded by wishing all the best of luck.

#### **Death of an old resident**

The death occurred yesterday morning of Mrs Harris, of Silver Street, at the age of 91. She was the widow of a Whitwick farmer, and mother of Mr T. W. Harris, chairman of the Swannington Parish Council.

### **Absentees**

At the same court on Thursday before Captain Deverell, James Armstead, was charged with being an absentee from the R.A.F. P.C. Jelley found the man in bed at his home at Whitwick. Remanded to await an escort.

## **Friday October 25<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1390)**

### **Do You Know That**

Whitwick Holy Cross School hold the record in this district for blackberring and the children there having gathered 11 cwts?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Capt. Deverell and Mr W. Fellows.

Henry Stretton (27), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not having a rear light on a carriage at Whitwick for October 6<sup>th</sup>. In his absence, P.C. Jones gave the facts, and said defendant refused to stop when called on. Witness blew his whistle and the man was stopped further on by Sergeant Betts. Fined 10/- or seven days.

Thomas Lees (25), Edward Hurst (19), Archie Rennocks (20) of Whitwick, Walter Tugby, William Morley (34), Harry Morley (28) and Arthur Bishop (28), of Thringstone, all colliers, were summoned for playing with cards and coins and a game of chance at Thringstone, on September 29<sup>th</sup>. None of them appeared – P.C. Jones said he saw them playing “banker”. They ran off after seeing him, and he gained possession of the cards and two coins. It was Sunday morning. Defendants were each fined 30/-, or one month.

### **Whitwick Boys Steal Drakes and Fowls**

#### *Mother Fined for Receiving*

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, Frank Roberts (7) and George Upton (8), Whitwick schoolboys, were charged with stealing one drake, value 10/- and two fowls, value 15/-, at Whitwick, on September 26<sup>th</sup>, and also one drake, value 10/-, on September 28<sup>th</sup>, and Alice Upton (39), married woman, mother of the boy Upton, of Whitwick, was charged with receiving one of the fowls. The boys pleaded guilty in all three cases, but Mrs Upton pleaded not guilty.

P.C. Grewcock said one drake belonging to Mr Thomas Dawkins was taken from a field on the Loughborough Road, and the other was taken from Mr Joseph Henson's yard in Hall Lane. He recovered one from a brook and the other was given to him by Mrs Beeson, of Green Lane, who said her daughter saw the boys with the drake and took it from them for enquiries to be made.



In regard to the fowls, Richard Massey, mineral water manufacturer, deposed to missing two from a field on Parsonwood Hill. P.C. Grewcock said the boys admitted taking the fowls, and Upton said he took one home, and his mother told him to put it in the hen run with the bantams. Witness found the fowls in adjoining yards. He spoke to Mrs Upton, the boy's mother, and she said she knew nothing about it, and should say nothing. The father of the boy Roberts, said witness, gave him all the assistance he could. The boy Upton now said that his mother did not tell him to put the fowl in the pen. The woman denied it and said she never saw the fowl.

The parents of both boys said they were sorry, and Upton's father admitted that the lad had done a similar thing before and was troublesome, but he said he hoped the Bench would not order him to be birched.

Mr Fellows said there was no doubt to was all due to lack of parental control. The chairman said Upton had been convicted before this year for the same sort of thing, and he would receive four strokes with the birch rod, the parents to pay the costs £1/8/6. The cases against Roberts were dismissed with a caution, the parents to pay £1/8/6 costs. For receiving Mrs Upton was fined £2/2/0 or one month. Three weeks were allowed to pay.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Whitwick Swifts won 4 – 2 on Saturday against Stableford's second team.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Harris – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Rebecca Harris, aged 91 years, of Silver Street.

### **The Oldest Inhabitant**

The funeral took place at the Holy Cross Churchyard, on Sunday, of Mrs Rebecca Harris, of Silver Street, who was believed to be the oldest inhabitant of Whitwick. She was 91 years of age, and the widow of a former Whitwick farmer.

## **Friday November 1<sup>st</sup> 1918 (Issue 1391)**

### **Local News**

#### **Fancy Dress Ball and Whist Drive**

A very successful fancy dress ball and whist drive was held in the Holy Cross School on Wednesday night in connection with the Coalville Munition Workers' Sports and Recreation Club. There was a large attendance. Messrs. J. H. McCarthy, J. Bradley and J. Williamson acted as M.C.'s for the dancing, for which the music was supplied by Mr J. Locker's orchestra. The winners of the prizes for the best fancy dresses were:

1 Mrs Brewin, an Eastern Princess; 2 Mr S. E. Beer, Dutch boy; 3 and 4 (equal), Mrs Knight and Mr Hardy, representing America; 5 Mrs Stevenson, Welsh lady; 6 Miss Hunt, War Loan.

The winners of the whist prizes were:

1 Mr T. Partridge; 2 Mr H. Hopkins; 3 Mr A. Needham; 4 Mr A. Cooper.

Miss Boyle, the lady superintendent presented the prizes. The proceeds were for the Recreation Club funds.

### **Local Officer Wins M.C.**

Lieutenant R. Alcock, an old boy of the Whitwick National School, has been awarded the Military Cross. He is a son of Mr R. Alcock, of Leicester, formerly of St. Helen's Cottage, near the Forest Rock, and well-known as the agent for the Bagworth Farmer's Association. The young soldier joined up in September 1914.

### **Local Casualties**

Official news has been received by Mr J. Orton, of 16, Leicester Road, Whitwick, that his adopted son, Pte. G. W. Underwood, was killed in action on September 24<sup>th</sup>.



He was one of the first to join up at the outbreak of war and before then, worked as a miner at the Whitwick Colliery, and his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday has occurred since his death. He was in Ireland during the rebellion and since then has been in France for about two years. A letter from an officer states, *"I regret to tell you that Pte. G. W. Underwood was killed on September 24<sup>th</sup> whilst his battalion were making an attack on a village. The company to which he belonged made a glorious charge against great odds and obtained their objectives. It was while making a rush on a machine-gun that he met his death. The officers of 'A' Company and his comrades send you their deepest sympathy in your great loss."*

D. Earp and W. J. Watret (Whitwick), S. Smith (Osgathorpe), all of the Leicestershire Regiment, have been wounded.



The sad news has been received by Mr and Mrs Taylor, the Forest, near St. Bernard's Abbey, Coalville, that their son, Sergt. William Taylor, of the Leicesters, was killed in action on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1918. He was a well-known lad on the Forest, and was much respected by all who knew him. When war broke out he was in camp with the Territorials and went to France in February 1915, and has seen nearly four years of active service. He has also won distinction for his many brave deeds. Only a few days before his

death he was recommended for decoration. His death was a great blow to his mother and father, brother and sister, Rolla and Cissie, and he is greatly mourned by all who knew him. He was 24 years of age. Writing to Mrs Taylor, an officer states, *"We had reached our final objective on the 29<sup>th</sup> and were engaged in consolidating our ground when a shell splinter hit your son in the head. He was killed immediately and can have suffered no pain. He was buried two days afterwards in one of the villages he himself had helped to capture. He had been with me for more than two years and I had come to look upon him as a personal friend as well as an excellent N.C.O. The whole company mourn his death and I must convey to you their deepest sympathy in your loss. Only a few days previously I had recommended your son for a decoration. He single-handedly dealt with an enemy machine-gun which was holding up his platoon. This was only typical of his many brave deeds, and I can never replace him in my company."*

## **Broom Leys Hospital**

A series of games was played at the Broom Leys V.A.D. Hospital on Tuesday night between the members of the Men's V.A.D. and the patients. The results were as follows:

Billiards: The soldiers won 3 games to 1. Scores, 377 and 223.

Draughts: Soldiers' won 15 games to 8.

Dominoes: Five games each.

Whist: Nine games to four (won by the soldiers).

## **Whitwick Woman's Terrible Death**

### *A Butcher's Gruesome Discovery*

At the Three Horseshoes Inn, Whitwick, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr H. J. Deane (Coroner) held an inquest, without a jury, concerning the death of Jane Parker, widow, who resided alone in the City of Dan, and up to the time of her death from burns the previous night, carried on an extensive midwifery practice despite her 82 years.

John Baker, collier, Highfield's Street, Coalville, said the deceased was his mother and he last saw her alive at six o'clock on Sunday night, when she complained of feeling giddy.

Alicia Harris, wife of Walter Harris, a soldier, of 6, Leicester Road, Whitwick, said the deceased, whom she had known for many years came to her house about 9 am on Tuesday, and enquired how they all were. Witness asked her how she was, and deceased replied, *"I have got up with one of those swimming bouts. I will go home and have a lie down on the sofa and see if it will go off."* Witness did not see her again alive.

James Toon, butcher, Whitwick, said that from what he was told, he went to the house about 9.40 on Tuesday night. The door was not locked. The house was full of smoke and the woman's body lay smouldering on the hearth. He fetched P.C. Grewcock and they returned to the house together.

P.C. Grewcock said he found the deceased lying on the floor, her head being between a chair in the corner and the fender, and her feet towards the middle of the room. The house was full of smoke. The right hand and arm were missing altogether, and from the chest to below the knees was completely burnt away. The feet had on the stockings and boots and

lay away from the trunk of the body. They did all they could and sent for the deceased's son.

Dr. Rolston said it was the worst case of burning that he had had during his 20 years' experience. There was nothing to show how the woman got on fire. He found that death was due to an apoplectic seizure and burns.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Laundon – At Whitwick, on Monday, Herbert Laundon, aged 28 years, of Leicester Road.

## **Friday November 8<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1392)**

### **Local News**

#### **P.M. Chapel**

On Saturday evening, the Rev. W. Hughes, of Leicester, lectured on "Christmas Evans", the prophet of the Welsh hills. Mr B. Lowe, of Hugglescote presiding. On Sunday, the Rev. W. Hughes conducted the services, and spoke at a meeting in the afternoon, at which Mr J. H. Gilberd presided, and Miss Button, of Shepshed, gave solos. The collections were for chapel funds.

#### **The Influenza Epidemic**

##### *Two Deaths on the Forest*

Though the reports from various parts of the country show that the influenza epidemic is abating, the death-roll still is heavy, and there have been more fatal cases in this district since those reported in our last issue.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr John Tacey, grazier, of the Oaks Cottage, near the Monastery, who has lost his wife and daughter. Their deaths occurred from influenza on successive days last week.

A young married woman has succumbed to the disease at Whitwick, and there are similar cases at Crescent Road, Hugglescote, whilst the deaths of a single young woman and a little girl are reported from Donington-le-Heath.

#### **Broom Leys War Hospital**

The following concerts have been given with great success:

October 30<sup>th</sup>: Sister Bedlow, boys of the hospital assisted by Miss Anderson, Miss Astley and Mr Barton.

November 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sister Bedlow and boys of the hospital, also Miss Astley.

November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Mr Holmes and party.

After each concert the soldiers went to bed well pleased. They want "some more."

## **Whitwick Protection Association**

### *Annual Meeting and Dinner*

The annual meeting and dinner of the Whitwick and District Association for the Protection of Persons and Property was held on Tuesday evening at the Snibstone New Inn, Coalville, when Mrs G. A. Dennis catered excellently for a company of about 80 of the 91 members of the Association. The menu (an interesting item in these days) was as follows:

Tomato soup; boiled cod with anchovy and fennel sauce; roast venison; venison pick; apple tart and custard; cheese and celery.

After dinner, the business meeting was presided over by Mr J. J. Sharp, and the balance sheet, which had been circulated among the members, was passed. It showed a total expenditure of £25/4/6 and the balance carried forward was £24/6/2, compared with a balance of £24/1/8 at the beginning of the year.

Mr Edward Hull (Whitwick) was unanimously re-elected president, as was the vice-president, Mr E. Parramote (Coalville) and the secretary Mr J. W. Peters, of the Star Inn, Thringstone. In regard to the latter, Mr J. J. Sharp mentioned the number of years the secretary's late father occupied the office and the present secretary had proved a worthy successor. Mr J. J. Sharp was unanimously re-elected solicitor to the Society, and the bankers, London City and Midland, and the auditors, Messrs. H. G. W. Howe and F. Griffin, were also re-elected.

The following were re-elected as the committee: Messrs. J. Gutteridge, H. G. W. Howe, T. Twigg, F. Griffin, P. W. Griffin, T. Kelly, J. Billings, H. Hallam, A. Poole, W. Walker, G. Bramwell and W. Berrisford.

The business over, the meeting was devoted to songs and toasts under the presidency of Mr E. Hull, who thanked the meeting for his re-election, and he assured the members that he should in the future, as in the past, do his best for the Association.

Proposing "The Imperial Forces," Mr H. G. W. Howe said they had a feeling of gratitude to their brave forces and their Allies for all they had done for them and they believed they were now nearing the goal – the overthrow of Prussian militarism. He hoped and believed, thanks to the splendid efforts of their brave soldiers and sailors, that we should secure a peace which would be satisfactory and enduring. He was glad to see a number of service men in the room that night (cheers). He assured them that those at home appreciated the noble sacrifices the troops had made and were making on their behalf, and he hoped they would soon be able to welcome the victors home again (cheers). The toast was coupled with the names of Sergeant Ellis (Grenadier Guards), Pte. Jos. Massey (Lancashire Regiment), Pte. H. Chamberlain (Durham Light Infantry), Pte. Siddons (Bedfordshire Regiment) and Trooper Dawson (Leicestershire Yeomanry). It was heartily received, and the soldiers named responded, all saying they were proud to have taken their part in saving the old country, which was now pretty well assured. Sergeant Ellis said, "*Give the lads a rousing welcome when they come home*" (loud applause).

Mr J. J. Sharp proposed "Success to the Association" remarking that the Association originated in 1847, so that it had gone on for 71 years, and had merged into larger proportions year by year, and the fact that it never had a larger membership than now was a matter for congratulation (cheers). They were all well aware of the objects of the Association and it did its work extremely well in preventing minor offences. He hoped the Association would go on till it reached a century. A lot of them would not be there to see that, but he hoped the same success would continue and be with the Association at all times. The toast was enthusiastically drunk and coupled with it were the names of Messrs. E. T. Casson (Coalville), P. W. Griffin (Whitwick), and A. J. Briers (Whitwick), who each replied, and expressed pleasure at the growth of the Association. Mr Griffin said he hoped the old members would do their best to bring new ones, so that as old ones dropped out there would be others to carry on the work of the Association (cheers).

The chairman proposed the health of the hostess, who, he said, had put before them a most excellent dinner under the circumstances (applause). Mr H. G. W. Howe responded for Mrs Dennis, thanking the company for their expression of appreciation for her efforts. He said that if the coupon system had prevented them from having good old English beef, the best Southdown mutton, or some prime pork, they had, at any rate, had some tasty venison, which, they would be interested to know, came from Donington Park.

During the evening, some capital songs were given by Messrs. H. Gledhill, J. Peters, J. Kelly and others, Mr H. Hallam (Thringstone) acting as accompanist. The proceedings terminated with the National Anthem and "Auld Lang Syne."

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Captain Deverell, R.N.

Thomas Middleton (19), John O'Mara (18), Enoch Garrett (18), Albert Robinson (17), William Isaacs (16) and Henry Ward (15), colliers of Whitwick, were summoned for gambling with cards on the highway at Whitwick, on October 14<sup>th</sup>, and Harold Smith (16) and Joseph Middleton (16), colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for aiding and abetting.

P.C. Jelley said the first six defendants were playing "Nap" on the footpath between Broom Leys and Whitwick, and the other two defendants were watching. It was 12.20 on Sunday. The chairman said this Sunday gambling must be stopped. Each defendant was fined £2 or one month. Seven days allowed to pay.

Edward Moore (36), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick on October 24<sup>th</sup>. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley said the language was used by defendant when witness went to serve a summons in the gaming case. In connection with the same affair, Walter Moore (20) and Albert Moore (17), colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for obstructing P.C. Jelley whilst in the execution of his duty, at Whitwick, on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The constable said the defendants tried to prevent him from serving the summons and pulled him about. Supt. Lockton said it was a serious case. The police must be protected. Edward Moore was fined £2 or one month and Walter and Albert Moore, £3 or one month.

### **Colliers Summoned at Loughborough**

At the Loughborough Police Court, on Wednesday, Thomas Wright, and J. Moore, colliers, Whitwick, were each fined 5/- for being drunk and disorderly at Shepshed. They did not appear but sent a relative to pay the money.

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

#### **Funeral of Mrs Parker**

Amid many manifestations of public sympathy the funeral took place on Saturday of Mrs Parker, of the City of Dan, whose death resulted from burns. The deceased, for many years a midwife, was held in the greatest respect and there were many drawn blinds on the route of the funeral cortege. The chief mourners were the son and daughter, Mr John Baker, Highfields, and Mrs George Swain, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, and a good number of friends and relatives were present. The body was enclosed in an oak coffin with brass furniture, the inscription being, "Jane Parker, died October 29<sup>th</sup>, 1918, aged 82 years." Six grandsons acted as bearers. The service was conducted by the Rev. A. Dalton, assisted by Mr James Toon, the first portion being at the Wesleyan Chapel, where the deceased had been a member for over 30 years. There were several beautiful wreaths sent by Mr and Mrs G. Swain and family, Mr and Mrs Baker and Family, Mr W. A. Knowles and Family, Mr T. Faulkner and Family (Church Gresley), Mr and Mrs Charles Edwards, Mr and Mrs S. Edwards, Mrs Hill, Mrs Eli White, members of the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel, neighbours in Leicester Road (a globe and wreath), Mr I. Thorpe and Family, Mr and Mrs F. Parker, friends from Pare's Hill, Rose and Eddie Griffin, and Mrs Bull. Mr J. Toon will conduct a memorial service at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Burials**

Parker – At Whitwick, on Saturday, June Parker, aged 84 years, of the City of Dan.

Jarvis – At Whitwick, on Monday, Prudence May Jarvis, aged 29 years, of Church Lane.

### **Friday November 15<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1393)**

#### **Local News**

##### **Whitwick Postman's Double Bereavement**

A well-known Whitwick postman, Mr John Brulin, of Castle Street, Whitwick, has this week suffered a double bereavement by the death of his wife and daughter, whose funerals were take place together on Saturday afternoon. Mrs Brulin, aged 56, died on Tuesday and the daughter, Agnes, aged 25, died on Wednesday.

##### **Wedding at Whitwick**

*Miss M. Simpson and Mr L. P. McCarthy*

The marriage was solemnised at the Whitwick Holy Cross Church on Tuesday morning, of Mr Leo. P. McCarthy, eighth son of Mr M. McCarthy, J.P., C.C., and Mrs McCarthy, of New Swannington, and Miss Mary Simpson, youngest daughter of the late Mr James Simpson and Mrs Simpson, of Darnick, Melrose, Scotland. Nuptial Mass was conducted by the Rev.

M. J. O'Reilly, in the presence of a good number of friends. The bride was given away by Mr M. McCarthy and was attended by Miss L. White as bridesmaid. Mr Justin McCarthy (brother of the bridegroom) acted as best man. During the morning the happy couple left for Matlock, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bridegroom is the occupier of the Meadow Lane Farm, Coalville. There was a handsome lot of presents, including the following:

Bridegroom's father, cheque; Mrs Simpson, linen and silver spoons; Mr Justin McCarthy, cheque; Miss Helen Simpson, house linen and cheque; Capt. and Mrs Cave, Ditchem Park, Petersfield, bride cake and table silver; Mrs and Miss Fairfax-Cholmeley and Miss Vialls, dinner service; Mrs Laurenno Cave, cheque; Master Dick Cave, silver salt spoons; Midshipman H. Cave and Miss D. Cave, valise; Miss Hawthorn, silver sauce ladles; Miss White, silver fern pots; Miss Aldridge, silver sauce ladles; Miss Saunders, silver rose bowl; Mrs Haseley, silver inkstand; Miss Star, bedspread; Miss Stanton and Miss Ellis, silver cruet; Mrs W. D. McCarthy, silver cake stand; Mrs Charles McCarthy, silver bread board; Mr and Mrs A. Swift, tea service; Mr Brosy, crucifix; Mr Holdrom, Wedgwood biscuit barrel; Mrs Gamble, set of carvers; Mr and Mrs Tunney, silver tea spoons; Mr Thomas McCarthy, easy chair; Mr Jas. Musson, knives, forks and spoons; Mrs McCarthy, mahogany table and kitchen utensils; Mr and Mrs Morris, set of carvers; Mrs Swift, decanters; Miss Swift, glass; Mr and Mrs Edward, engravings; Miss McCarthy, Irish tea serviettes and brass vases; Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, pair of candlesticks; Mr Brearley, Wedgwood jugs; Mr and Mrs Downes, silver salad bowl, silver tea pot and hot water jugs; Mr and Mrs T. Hull, grandfather clock; Mr and Mrs Saunders, toilet service; Mrs Wm. Simpson, eiderdown; Mrs E. Pickworth, set of jugs; and several other useful presents.

### **Whizz Bangs at the Picture House**

A very successful concert in aid of the funds of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild, was given in the Whitwick Picture House on Wednesday evening by the Coalville lady troop of performers, popularly known as the Whizz Bangs. There was a large audience, the theatre, which holds 800 people, being nearly full, and the singing and patter of the young ladies was highly appreciated and much applauded. It was a splendid programme throughout, and all the items were much enjoyed. It is anticipated that the proceeds will amount to about £20.

### **Friday November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1918 (Issue 1394)**

Sadly, this issue of the Coalville Times is not in the archives.

### **Friday November 29<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1395)**

#### **Local Chit Chat**

The chairman of the Coalville Urban District Council, Mr Michael McCarthy, recently offered three 15/6 War savings Certificates to the school children in each of the three Wards who purchased the greatest number of certificates through their School War Savings Association during October, and the following are the winners:



Whitwick: Robert Waite, (Whitwick Holy Cross School, 30 Certificates); Muriel Bird and Eric Bird, both of the National School, 14 each.

Coalville: Amos Clarke, National School, 9, George W. Ward, 5 and Leonard Brewin, 3, both of Bridge Road Council School.

Hugglescote: Beryl Wheatley, 27, and N. Morley, 15, both of Ellistown School; and Thomas J. Pepper, 24, Hugglescote Council School.

### **Whitwick Brothers Killed**



A B. Heighton, R.N.D. Killed in action, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1916.



Private G. E. Heighton, Machine Gun Corps, killed in action, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

### **Bosworth Election**

*Hon. H. D. McLaren at Whitwick*

The Hon. H. D. McLaren on Thursday night made his debut at Whitwick, one of the new parishes added to the Bosworth Division and there was a good attendance at the meeting in the National School.

Mr S. Perry who presided, extended a cordial welcome to Mr McLaren, and assured him of a good measure of support. It would be an important election, as at this time, Parliament needed the best brains that the country could give. The reason he was not in the Labour Party was because he thought they had gone wrong. If the Labour Party got into power he

believed they would deal leniently with the greatest murderer on earth. A speaker in Leicester said they hoped soon to shake hands with their German brothers.

Mr A. Vesty: *Hear, hear, and so we ought.*

Mr D. Martin: *They are a lot of vagabonds.*

Mr Vesty: *They are as good as you.*

After further interruptions, the chairman went on to say that they must deal justice to the Germans. He hoped the coalition Government would be returned, because then they got the best men of the different parties into the Government. He referred to the great work which Mr McLaren had done at the Ministry of Munitions, giving his services for over three years to the good of his country.

The Hon. H. D. McLaren said that having been adopted as the Liberal Coalition candidate, he was anxious as soon as possible to visit the new parishes which had been added to his constituency, and before the election there would be another meeting. Sir Maurice Levy having promised to pay a visit to his old constituents and address them on his (Mr McLaren's) behalf. He went on to speak of the awful effects of the war, and the misery it had brought into thousands of homes, and there were many problems facing the country in the near future. In supporting the Coalition Government, he believed he had carried out the wishes of the majority of his constituents. The Government may have made mistakes, but on the whole it had been a great success. In the first place, it had united the nation. It would have pleased the Germans very much if there had been a lot of party strife in this country. The Government's policy had been good, and in no previous war had our armies been so well supplied with food, clothing and equipment. Two great things were largely due to Mr Lloyd George – the unity in command of the Allied armies, and the establishment of the Ministry of Munitions. The hon. member went on to show how largely these two things had been responsible for the successful prosecution of the war.

The Government also passed three great measures of social reform. They had established a minimum wage for the agricultural labourer, placed a splendid Education Act on the Statute Book, and also passed the Franchise Act, giving votes to all serving with the Colours over 19, votes to women and abolishing plural voting. (Cheers). The first thing they expected of the Coalition Government now was to secure the fruits of our victory. One of the things they wanted to get was the punishment of those of our enemies who had broken the rules of war (cheers). One of the audience had said that the Germans were as good as any of us. ("Shame"). He wondered if that man had ever talked with anyone who had been in hospital and seen a British soldier dying of gas. "*I have,*" said the hon. member, "*and I defy him to say that any Englishman would ever have introduced gas into civilised warfare. I would like him to talk to some of the British prisoners who have come from Germany. I recommend him to talk to some of them. Let him ask them if the Germans are clean fighters, and if the Germans treat well those whom they have at their mercy. Then let him talk to some of the German prisoners in England. We have some doing agricultural labour and they are as well nourished, as healthy and as well-dressed as any man in this room. Compare the prisoners with the English prisoners in Germany, and then say if the Germans are as good as us. I say that the things which the Germans have done in this war are dastardly and I think the men who ordered these things to be done ought to suffer the extreme penalty.*" (Loud applause).

Mr G. F. Burton: *Now, Mr Vesty, retract what you have said about the Germans being as good as Englishmen.*

Mr Vesty: *I am talking about the German population. Are not they as good as you? I am not talking about the soldier.*

Mr Gilberd said these interruptions were not fair. Let Mr McLaren hold his own. Mr McLaren said he did not complain for a moment to any interruptions. He wanted to know their views so he could answer. What he did take exception to was the arguments which had been used. He did not mean to say that the whole German nation was like that, there were good and bad men among them, but it was to the discredit of the German nation that they did not protest. Did the German Socialists protest against the sinking of the Lusitania? No, they struck medals and glorified in that foul deed. The rank and file of the Germans might not be responsible for these deeds, but they allowed them to pass without protest, and though they would not hang a man for that, they could see that he was a man with whom they would not shake hands. They wanted recompense for their countries which the Germans had devastated. They wanted it made clear in the terms of peace that they could not have another war like this, and that must be done by the formation of a League of Nations. They wanted to put an end to the whole Continental system of conscription and blasted armaments (hear, hear). Conscription had been necessary during the war, but it was not a proper thing for any free nation to persist with, and he hoped that this country and all Continental countries would be forced to give up big armaments, and conscription. Big armaments were a huge waste of national effort, apart from the fact that they tempted nations into war. While there was any chances of actions like Germany disturbing the peace they had to be in a position to defend themselves, but he hoped a League of Nations would prevent it in future (cheers).

Proceeding, the hon. member spoke of the problems of demobilisation and said the Government were tackling these by granting unemployment benefit on a substantial scale. They must also have a restoration of personal liberty. The D.O.R.A. had extended far beyond what the House of Commons intended.

Mr T. Kelly: *It has made us all teetotallers, nearly* (laughter)

And one of the first things the Government must do was to abolish this, except for a few months the prices of food might have to be controlled until the world's supplies became normal. He also mentioned Mr Lloyd George's proposals as to better housing, and said there must be better wages and better working conditions than before the war. England depended on the success of her industries and to accomplish this they needed three things – plenty of capital, the best brains in the organisations, and the hearty co-operation of employers and employed. In regard to Home Rule, this was to be granted to the Nationalist portion of Ireland, and Ulster was not to be forced, but he believed Ulster would ultimately join of her own accord, and that they would have a united Ireland. He felt in honour bound to support the Government's fiscal policy, though still an ardent free trader. If by granting a Colonial preference they could show to the Colonies how much they appreciated the splendid help they have given in the war, he thought no Liberal would object.

Questions were invited, and answering Mr T. Kelly, the hon. member said he was in favour of the restrictions being removed as soon as possible. Mr Gilberd asked whether Mr McLaren agreed with 50 per cent being added to railway fares. Mr McLaren pointed out

that there had been substantial increases in railwaymen's wages. None of the revenue from extra fares went to the railway shareholders, who only got the same return as before the war. Any surplus went to the Government. Mr Waterfield asked whether an election now was not an injustice to the men at the Front. Mr McLaren said voting papers were being sent to them. He agreed it was hard on the men in Mesopotamia and Palestine. With sailors there was always a difficulty when the men were at sea, but he did not think a great number of soldiers would be disenfranchised.

Mr Gilberd asked if it was fair for co-operators who paid income tax on their incomes to be taxed again on the profits of their own stores. Mr McLaren said he agreed that Co-Operative Societies were in a different position from the ordinary trader.

A lady in the audience said there should be no compulsory trading with a landlord. Mr McLaren said the housing scheme of the Government would alter that. They could live in one of the new houses, and get their groceries where they liked. Mr Gilberd asked if the candidate was prepared to fight compulsion. Mr McLaren said compulsion in some things were necessary. They must compel a man to pay taxes, or how could they build houses? Mr Gilberd said his idea was more freedom for the working man all round. Mr McLaren said he favoured as much freedom as possible, but there were obligations to the State which everyone must come under.

The chairman moved a resolution of confidence in Mr McLaren and pledging the meeting to use every legitimate means to secure his return. Mr S. Armson (Ellistown) seconding, said that as a trade unionist, and member of the Leicestershire Miners' Association.

Mr Waterfield: *Only for 25 minutes.*

He was pleased to support Mr McLaren and to recommend the workers to do so. No sooner had the Miners' Association joined the local Labour Party and paid their affiliation fee than they had a request to pay £70 towards the funds of the so-called Labour candidate.

Mr Waterfield: *Why "so-called". He is as much a Labour man as you.*

Mr Armson advised the miners to be careful.

Mr Waterfield: *They will know what to do.*

Mr Armson: *I agree. I have every confidence that they will return Mr McLaren at the head of the poll (cheers).*

The chairman put the resolution and when he asked for those against, Mr A. Vesty called out, "Up with them, chaps," but in response to this appeal only four hands went up, and the chairman declared the vote carried by a large majority, amidst applause. A vote of thanks to the chairman ended the meeting.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Cowley – At Whitwick on Sunday, Martha Cowley, aged 8 years of Green Lane.

Eames – At Whitwick on Tuesday, Sidney Eames, aged 18 months, of the City of Three Waters.

## **Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1396)**

### **Local News**

Owing to the whole of the “Coalville Times” printing works staff, with one exception, being ill with influenza, several reports have this week been omitted or curtailed.

Owing to the continued prevalence of influenza, all the infant schools at Coalville have been closed for another week. Ellistown and Battram schools were closed on Friday for a fortnight, and the schools at Ibstock, Whitwick, Ravenstone and Snibstone have also been closed through the same cause.

### **Election News**

#### *Labour Women’s Meeting at Coalville*

A public meeting for women voters was held in support of the candidature of Mr T. Richardson in the Coalville London Road Baptist School on Tuesday night, Mrs C. W. Brown presided and there was a fairly good attendance. Mrs Aldersley (Nelson) was the chief speaker and a resolution of confidence in the candidate, was carried unanimously. A similar meeting was held at Whitwick last night.

### **Shorthand Success**

Recent examinations in Pitman’s shorthand show that the following results were obtained:

Elementary: Agnes M. Bown (Whitwick)

### **Whitwick Soldier Promoted**

Mrs Aris (nee Maud Wheeldon), a popular vocalist in the Whitwick and Coalville district has received news that her husband, Quarter-Master-Sergeant E. Aris, of the Leicestershire Regiment, that he has been promoted to a Captaincy. He went to France last June and is now at Croix. Captain and Mrs Aris will receive many hearty congratulations.

### **Coalville Urban Council**

#### **A Record Death Rate**

The monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban Council was held on Tuesday night, Mr M. McCarthy, J.P., presiding and there were also present, Messrs. B. G. Hale, J.P., T. Y. Hay, J. W. Farmer, A. J. Briers, A. Lockwood, C. W. Brown, T. Kelly and F. Griffin.

The reports of the various committees were adopted.

The medical officer, (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported that during the month of November five cases of diphtheria were notified and five cases of scarlatina were reported.

Influenza had been prevalent throughout the month and had added materially to the death rate, 27 deaths having been attributed to this cause. The most fatal complication was broncho-pneumonia, which complication practically accounted for all the deaths. The total number of deaths during the month was now giving a death rate of 33 per 1000. This compares with 17 and a death rate of 11 per 1000 for the corresponding month of 1917. No deaths were caused by the ordinary infectious diseases. During the month, 37 births were registered – 19 boys and 18 girls – giving a birth rate of 23 per 1000.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

Thringstone House played Whitwick Imperial on the Gracedieu Park on Saturday and the result was a draw of one goal each. S. Clarke was the Thringstone scorer.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Garrett – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Daisy Elsie Garrett, aged 3 years, of 26, Green Lane.

Garrett – At Whitwick, on Sunday, John Arthur Garrett, aged 17 months, of 26, Green Lane.

Beeson – At Whitwick, on Saturday, James Beeson, aged 23 years, of 53, Church Lane

Cooke – At Whitwick, on Sunday, Joe Kitchener Cooke, aged 4 years, of 7, Hermitage Road.

Slattery – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Edith Slattery, aged 33 years, of New Swannington.

Bailey – At Whitwick, on Monday, Carrie Bailey, aged 2 years, of 10, Leicester Road.

Cufflin – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Harriett Ann Cufflin, aged 44 years, of 25, Silver Street.

Eggleton – At Whitwick, Wednesday, Fanny Elizabeth Eggleton, aged 28 years, of 60, Hermitage Road.

Hall – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Clarence Hall, aged 30 years, of Silver Street.

Brotherhood – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Joseph Albert Brotherhood, aged 2 years, of 37, Green Lane.

## **Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1397)**

### **Local News**

An interesting event took place in the Whitwick Picture House on Monday last when Pte. Frank West, M.M., of the 13<sup>th</sup> London Regt., and a native of Whitwick was presented with a gold chain subscribed for by the inhabitants of Whitwick. The committee were represented on the platform by Messrs. G. F. Burton, C. Pegg, S. W. West, and F. Blow. Lieutenant S. Perry, M.G.C., of Whitwick, made the presentation. Private Frank West responded, and expressed his thanks, receiving a great ovation from the audience. Mr George West (father) also responded, and thanked the people of Whitwick for the honour they had bestowed on his family. Nine decorations have been awarded to Whitwick soldiers including, the M.C., 7 M.M.'s and 1 M.S.M. The latest to receive the M.M. are Ptes. Bishop and Bailey to whom presentations will be made by the people of Whitwick as soon as arrangements can be made for the soldiers to come home on leave.

### **Do You Know That**

A large number of people assembled at the Whitwick National School on Monday night for a meeting of support for the candidature of Mr Richardson, but none of the speakers turned up and the meeting was adjourned till last night?

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

#### **Death of Mr Weston, of Whitwick**

The death occurred on Wednesday last week of Mr J. F. Weston, of Whitwick, formerly a Coalville tradesman who was well-known and highly respected in the district. The deceased gentleman, who was 80 years of age was a prominent Wesleyan, having for many years been a class leader and prominent church worker. For over 20 years he was a manager and correspondent of the Wesleyan Day School at Coalville before it was taken over by the County Council, having at all times displayed a great interest in education.

The funeral took place in Thringstone Churchyard on Saturday afternoon. The chief mourners present were the Widow, Ernest, Percy and Eric Weston (grandson), Mrs Morgan and Mrs Glynn (granddaughters), Mrs W. Farmer and Miss Weston (sisters), Messrs. J. W. Farmer and J. H. Stinson (nephews). Friends also present included Mr and Mrs J. Lager, Mr and Mrs T. Frith, Mrs Smith and Mr A. Wilkins. The first portion of the service was held in the Wesleyan chapel and was conducted by the Rev. W. Solomon, of Measham, and the Rev. J. Scott, of Coalville. Two hymns sang during the service were, "I will praise my maker while I've breath," and "Give me the wings of faith to rise," and at the graveside the choir and friends sang, "Sleep on beloved."

Among those present at the internment was the Vicar of Thringstone, the Rev. C. Shrewsbury. Messrs. C. H. March, T. Stinson, H. Weston, G. Moore, W. Stinson and W. Jarvis were the bearers and the coffin bore the inscription:

*"John Willars Weston, born August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1838: died December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1918."*

Many beautiful floral tributes were sent by relatives and friends.

#### **Burials**

Wass – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Elizabeth Wass, aged 45 years of Thornborough.

Maddison – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Eliza Maddison, aged 3 years of Silver Street.

Isaac – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Leslie Isaac aged one month of Green Lane.

Moreton – At Whitwick, Saturday, Eileen Clara Moreton, aged 20 months, of Pares Hill.

Toone – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, James Horace Toone, aged 21 years, of Leicester Road.

Limb – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Isaac Limb, aged 74 years, of Green Lane.

Weston – At Thringstone, on Saturday, John Willars Weston, aged 80 years, of Talbot Street, Whitwick.

### **Mother and Daughter Buried at Whitwick**

Much sympathy is felt for Mr Frank Wass, of Thornborough, a fitter employed at Messrs. Stableford's Works, Coalville, on the death of his wife and daughter from the effects of influenza.

The funerals took place at the Whitwick Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, the bodies being laid side by side in separate graves. Many friends and relatives were present and there were numerous signs of the great respect in which the family is held and the sorrow which the sad event has occasioned. The service was conducted by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly. The inscriptions on the coffins were:

*“Elizabeth Wass, died December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918, aged 45 years” and “Minnie Wass, died December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1918, aged 19 years.”*

Numerous floral tributes were sent by relations, friends and neighbours.

## **Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1398)**

### **Local News**

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

##### *Miner Killed by Fall of Coal*

An inquest was held yesterday (Thursday) by Mr H. J. Deane at the Blacksmith's Arms, Coleorton, concerning the death of Samuel Matchett, collier, of Stoney Lane, Coleorton, who was injured whilst at work in the Coleorton Colliery on Tuesday, and died after being taken home.

Mr T. H. Bull (H.M. Inspector of Mines) and Mr A. G. Greensmith (manager of the colliery) were present, and Mr L. Lovett (agent) represented the Leicestershire Miners' Association.

Mary Matchett, the widow, said the deceased was 49 years of age, and was employed as a miner at the Coleorton Colliery, where he had worked for four or five years. His health



had been good. He went to work on Tuesday morning about 6.15 and was brought home about 2.45 pm on a stretcher. He said his legs and chest were injured, and he appeared to be in great pain. He died about 3.30. The doctor (Dr. Jamie's assistant) came at ten minutes to five.

Dr. R. W. Jamie (Coalville) said he saw the body at 11.30 on Wednesday morning and found that the injuries were a dislocation of the left knee, fracture of the left thigh, a large flesh wound on the right leg, and evidence of serious abdominal injuries. Shock from the latter was the cause of death.

The Coroner remarked that the man was injured about one o'clock and was not seen by a doctor till after he had died. It was nearly five o'clock before the doctor arrived. Dr. Jamie said the messenger arrived at his house at 2.45 and said the man had a broken leg and was still in the pit. Witness's locum tenens was then on his rounds.

George Costelow, School Lane, Whitwick, said he was a chargeman at the Colliery and was working in No. 9 stall on Tuesday with deceased, who was also a chargeman. The stall had been properly examined and appeared alright, but about one o'clock the coal fell without the least warning. It burst the sprags out and knocked Matchett down. He was caught by the thighs and witness called for assistance. They liberated deceased in about five minutes. About three tons of coal fell and it came from the place where a shot-hole had been made.

George Brotherhood, loader, of Brooks' Lane, Whitwick, and George Edward Francis, undermanager, also gave evidence. Francis said he rendered first aid. They got the man out of the pit about a quarter to two.

Answering the Coroner as to the means of communicating an accident at the pit, witness said they telephoned out of the pit to the office on the bank, and the office made the arrangements. A man was at once sent on a bicycle for the doctor if that was thought necessary.

The Coroner, summing up, said he thought the means of communication between the collier and the doctor ought to be improved without delay. He also wished to call the jury's attention to the fact that Dr. Robbins had been warned by P.C. Sibson (the Coroner's officer) to attend to give evidence, and had not done so. He (the Coroner) knew the great call there was upon doctors at the present time, but anyone who was called to give evidence at an inquest, and failed to do so, was liable to arrest. Excellent relations had always existed between the doctors of the district and himself, and he desired those relations to continue, but he must show them that a Coroner's jury was entitled to respect.

A verdict of "accidental death" was returned and sympathy with the widow was expressed by the Coroner and jury. Mr Greensmith and Mr Lovett, who said the woman had also lost two brothers by fatal colliery accidents.

### **Coalville Police Court**

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

On the application of Mr T. H. Moore (of Messrs. Crane and Moore, Solicitors, Coalville), permission was granted to the three picture houses of Coalville and Whitwick to give performances on Christmas Day (between 2 and 10.30 pm) Superintendent Lockton said a similar application had been granted in previous years and the places were well conducted. He thought it was a good thing, as it kept people off the streets.

### **Thanks**

Mr and Mrs Henry Beeson and Family, of Church Lane, Whitwick, desire through this medium, to express their thanks for the many kind expressions of sympathy shown to them in their recent sad bereavement.

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

#### **Burials**

Sanson – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Florence Mary Sanson, aged 2 years, of Leicester Road.

### **Friday December 27<sup>th</sup> 1918 (Issue 1399)**

#### **Local News**

#### **Annual Event**

The annual Christmas whist drive and dance took place in the Holy Cross School last night, the M.C.'s being Mr T. Hull (whist) and Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and M. P. Downes (dancing).

#### **Whist Drive and Dance**

On Saturday evening a whist drive and dance was held in the Holy Cross School promoted by the local lodges of the R.A.O.B. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. E. Commons, F. Harper, H. Stretton and A. Beer, and for the dances, Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and T. Lees, Mr J. Locker's band providing the music.

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

#### **Burials**

Lowe – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, George Harry Lowe, aged 23 months, of Leicester Road.

Whitmore – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Chas Whitmore, aged 82 years, of the City of Three Waters.