

# Coalville Times – April 1915

**Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1915 (Issue 1204)**

## **Local News**

The Vicar of Whitwick, the Rev. T. W. Walters, is this week, sending to all the men at the front he knows to have gone from his parish, a pictorial postcard emblematic of Easter, bearing his name and that of St. John the Baptist Church, Whitwick, also with these words, "At our Easter communion we are praying for you."

## **Sales by Auction**

*The Whitwick and Thringstone Conservative Club Limited*

*In Liquidation*

*Valuable Freehold Residence*

*Whitwick, Leicestershire*

Moore and Miller are instructed to offer for Sale by Auction on the premises, on Monday, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1915, at 7 o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale to be then produced. All that modern and substantially brick built residence, known as "Kingcroft" with the stables and outbuildings, lawn, garden and appurtenances thereto situate in Silver Street, Whitwick, now and for some time past owned and occupied by the Whitwick and Thringstone Conservative Club Limited or their under-tenants.

The residence which occupies a central situation, contains good entrance hall, dining room, drawing room, breakfast room, kitchens, six bedrooms, good roomy attics, capital cellar, butler's pantry, bath room, w.c., and convenient domestic offices.

The premises are supplied with gas and cold and hot water service throughout. The outbuildings comprise stabling, coach-house and harness room, with loft over, w.c., etc.

The residence could, if desired, be conveniently converted into two or three separate tenements, the present lawn providing good garden. For further particulars or to view apply Mr George West, Church Lane, Whitwick, the Auctioneers, Belvoir Chambers, Coalville, or Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, Solicitors, Coalville, Ibstock and Loughborough.

## **Whitwick Soldier in a Great Battle**

*Continued Fighting after being Wounded*

Since publishing a photo of Pte. E. Howe, of Golden Row, Whitwick, and copies of letters he had sent to his wife, we have received a further communication direct from Howe in the trenches, in which he states that he is still in the land of the living. Since his last letters appeared in this journal, he says, he has been through a big battle, during which he received a small wound in his right arm, but he kept on fighting and went for the enemy "more savagely than ever." He concludes, "Roll on England! Come out here boys, and keep at it till its finished."

## **Whitwick Soldier Killed**

*Fell in the Neuve Chapelle Battle*

Official intimation was received on Tuesday morning, by Mrs Hall, of Talbot Street, Whitwick, that her husband, Pte. Ernest Hall, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicestershire Regiment, was killed in action between March 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, which was the period of the battle in which the British gained a great victory at Neuve Chapelle.



The news had been broken to Mrs Hall a few days previously, having been conveyed in letters from comrades of Hall at the front. She is left with three children, aged 9 years, 1 year and a baby in arms. Hall wrote a cheery letter to his wife only a few days before.

The deceased soldier was a son of Mr John Hall, of Thringstone, a popular figure at the Whitwick Imperial football matches. Before leaving Whitwick for the war, he worked at the Whitwick Colliery. He is believed to be the first Whitwick man to be killed in action. A younger brother of his is now in the trenches.

A memorial service will probably be held at Whitwick Church next Sunday week, attended by the members of the local Citizen Corps.

### **Local Chit Chat**

Police Sergeant Betts, of Whitwick, who has been a drill instructor at Wigston Barracks, arrived home at Whitwick on Monday night for a few days holiday, prior to leaving today (Thursday) for York. He has been one of the drill sergeants at Wigston, who since September have trained 14,000 recruits.

The treasurer of the Leicester Royal Infirmary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a new annual subscription of £5 5s from the Whitwick Granite Company Ltd.

### **Do You Know**

That the Whitwick Conservative club premises are to be offered for sale?

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

There have been some good audiences here this week again, and a fine programme of pictures, and an excellent 'turn' are to be seen. Much enthusiasm has been shown. The star picture at the beginning of the week was "Dangers of the Veldt." Gretchen, a Boer maiden, loves Captain Raleigh, a British officer. Her mother forces her to marry a villainous Boer farmer. Some years afterwards the wife leaves him. On the way one of the oxen is eaten by a lion. She herself is captured by some natives, but is rescued by some English soldiers at the head of whom is the young officer. Her husband becomes victim of the lions; and in the end the girl and the young officer find happiness. A good film. Another good one was "From Antwerp to Ostend" a most interesting film considering recent events. The 'turn' all week is the Three Rollasons, and they are going fine in their sketch. "Dear Emelina's Boy" a splendid piece. Miss Thelma Rollason's dance is worthy of special mention and should not be missed. Patrons will enjoy this refined 'turn' and there should be bumping houses during the weekend. The star picture for the latter part of the week is "The Awakening of Nora," an Hepworth drama of exceptional merit. Nora hates her husband; he has killed her father. She will not listen to his explanations that the death blow was the result of an accident, and generally takes him down and scorns him in the face of strangers. Nora awakes at last to the loyalty and love of her husband, and all is well. Patrons must see this. "Pigs is Pigs" is a good Vitagraph comedy featuring John Bunny and this is sufficient guarantee of its excellence. "A Child's Intuition," is a good subject, and a heart-stirring drama which will appeal strongly to Picture House patrons. "Sunday with the Merry-pimple Family" is a ripping comic. Mr Merry-pimple decides to take his wife and large family out for a happy day in the country. After wandering some way they decide to have lunch, and we see them with everything spread on the ground. Alas! A hungry dog chances to pass unobserved, snatches away half their lunch. Mr Merry-pimple follows in hot pursuit, but in vain. The day instead of being a joy, begins a tragedy.

On Good Friday there is a matinee at 2pm and the usual evening performance at 7, when the full picture programme will be shown, including a fine one, "Rock of Ages." On Easter Monday also there will be a full programme at 2 o'clock.

It was decided that the final between Whitwick Imperial and Loughborough Corinthians be played on the Fox and Goose ground on Easter Tuesday, the time of the kick-off to be 4.30. Mr R. T. Bradshaw was appointed referee and Messrs. J. Tivey and H. Deakin linesmen. It was decided that medals for the winners be purchased from Mr T. Lashmore, of Coalville, and for the runners-up from Mr C. Usher, of Leicester.

## **Friday April 9<sup>th</sup> 1915 (Issue 1205)**

### **Local News**

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

A dance and whist drive in aid of the Holy Cross Church funds was held on Monday night in the school and was well attended. Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and J. Rewhorn (dancing) and Messrs. T. W. Hull and M. Downes (whist) acted as M.C.'s. and the pianist was Mr A. Adcock, of Ibstock. The winners were:

Ladies: 1, Mrs Haywood; 2, Miss Griffin.

Gents: 1, Mr J. Brooks; 2, Mr T. Botterill.

Consolation prizes: Mrs Avenall and Mr O. Cresswell.

#### **School Anniversary**

The school anniversary was observed at the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Sunday, when Councillor Hill, of Leicester, preached in the absence of Mr W. H. Collett, through illness. The choir and children nicely sang special anthems and hymns conducted by Mr J. Ward. Mr J. B. Newbury officiated at the organ and there was an efficient orchestra. The collection for the school funds realised £20.

#### **To Let**

Double-fronted shop to let, Whitwick. Apply Mrs Benson, Pare's Hill.

#### **Local Chit Chat**

Mr Raymond Fern, a son of Mr Joseph Fern, formerly a plumber of Whitwick, and now of Lloydminster, Albert, Canada, has been on a visit to Whitwick this week. He was with the Canadian troops now in England preparing for the front.

The first annual report of the Whitwick Church Women's Service and Bible Class has just been published in book form and the publication also contains the names of the officials, rules, list of sick visitors, a letter from the Vicar, list of Sunday School teachers, a summary of Dr. Milligan's recent address on hospitals, notes, a child's prayer, history of Whitwick Church and other information which makes it quite an interesting and useful little booklet. It is proposed to publish a similar book in connection with the men's service.

The following interesting information concerning Whitwick Church is culled from the book above referred to:

Tradition says that the Church is over 800 years old. Its fine, sombre-looking tower, without the usual embattled parapet, and relieved by windows of a quaint and singular character, produces a striking effect; it more resembles the larger churches of Normandy than the ordinary village churches of this country. The 11<sup>th</sup> century is not an unlikely era for such an erection. The list of rectors and vicars goes back without a break to the year 1220. A mailed effigy seven feet in length is in the Church, and is said to be that of Sir John Talbot of Swannington, who died in 1356 aged 40 years. There is no inscription to the effigy. The oldest register in the Church was commenced in 1601; it is a register of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials. Since that date similar records have been kept continuously, and they fill more than twenty large registers. There are eleven stained-glass windows in the church, three having been added in 1914.

Mr R. Sharp, of Whitwick, has received the following letter from Lieut-Col. Jones, commanding the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment:

"Dear Sir, - Thank you very much for large box of cigarettes and tobacco sent to me for the men of this regiment. It is all most acceptable and much appreciated. It is good of your friends to take so much trouble. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. I am, etc."

## **Vestry Meeting in Whitwick**

### *Successful Year's Church Work*

The annual vestry meeting in connection with Whitwick Parish Church was held on Tuesday evening, in the National School, the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters, M.A.) presiding over a moderate attendance.

The vicar said the war had affected them very seriously indeed. Many homes in Whitwick had sent their dear ones to fight out there and in the church they missed active workers who were now serving their country. He recently had a letter from Mr Henson, who had been in the trenches, also one from Dr. Burkitt. There were several of their workers either at the front, or preparing to go and he mentioned several names. Particular reference was made to Sergt. Stone, who took such an interest in the men's service. But his (the Vicar) view was that it was a righteous war and they would have been disgraced as a nation had they stood aside. He thought they would feel it more yet and that if there were not sufficient recruits a compulsion would come. It was a serious thing, but they were engaged in a glorious cause – the freedom and honour of Europe. He did not like mentioning it, but he ought to at a vestry meeting, that was that the war had slightly affected the collections. So initially the church had had a good year. The number of communicants had doubled, there were 150 members in the Band of Hope and over a similar number in the Men's Service. He believed the Women's Service also numbered about 120 and all the other organisations were keeping up well. He believed the war was making people think more seriously. During the year they had had three stained glass windows put in the church – in September, the Bishop of Leicester dedicated the Collier's and Quarrymen's memorial window and also the Burkitt window, while in November another window was put in composed of old pieces of stained glass which had been collected. The church collections during the year amounted to £23 more than for the previous year and £42 more than for the year before that. Then Whitwick was asked last year to send £-- 4s to the church finance scheme, large though that was, they sent it. (Hear, hear). This year they were expected to send £17 and he was sure they would do it in spite of the war.

Mr S. W. West (church warden) presented the statement of accounts, first endorsing the remarks of the Vicar in regard to the war and pointing out how the war had brought unity among the people of this country. The collections for special objects amounted to £92 12s 7d, compared with £61 10s for the previous year, an increase of £31 2s 7d. (Applause). The collections for church expenses totalled £88 9s 11d, which with various other items of income was made up to £99 7s 10d. Giving the items of expenditure he said they were advised to increase the insurance of the church. Hitherto it had been insured for £5,000 and now it was insured for £9,050. When they were at the last visitation, the archdeacon found that the church was not insured at all and he told the wardens that if the church had been burnt down, they could have been sued for the value of the church.

The Vicar said one of the main reasons why they increased the insurance of the church was on account of the suffragette movement. So many churches were being burnt down that they were advised to insure the church up to the hilt.

Proceeding, Mr West said the total expenses were £103 15s 4d which left them with a deficit of £4 7s 6d. He said some of the expenses were items which were of a special nature and would not recur. Under this --- they had a total of £27, so that on the whole the position was satisfactory. The total of the church collections for the year was £178 3s 3d, against £155 19s 8d for the previous year, and altogether they had raised a sum of £250 for different church objects during the year. He thanked the vicar and church people for they splendid way they had supported during the year.

On the motion of Mr C. W. Pegg, seconded by Mr H. T. Bastard, the accounts were passed.

The vicar said he liked to have a warden for three years and for the third time he had pleasure in asking Mr J. Rolleston to accept the office. Mr Rolleston said he had been warden for four years and thought someone else should have a chance. But he had only been two years under the present vicar and it was such a delight to work with him that he again consented. (Hear, hear). Mr C. W. Pegg moved the re-election of Mr S. W. West as parish warden and it was unanimously carried.

Mr West said he had held one office or another in connection with the church, with a short interval, for the past 33 years and was willing to accept the appointment again, but he thought there were several others entitled the position. He said he would move the election of Mr Bastard, who for years had done excellent

work for the church. Mr Bastard said they wanted no change and the meeting confirmed the election of Mr West.

The sidesmen were re-elected en-bloc, with the exception of Messrs. Causer and G. Webster, who resigned. It was decided the Church Council should consist of the church wardens, lay representatives and sidesmen with Messrs. J. Williamson, J. Rawson, J. Clark, R. West, W. Fern, R. T. Bradshaw and H. Roberts.

Mr J. Williamson was re-elected vergger and Mr Webster auditor. The vicar mentioned a long list of church workers to whom he moved a vote of thanks. Mr C. W. Pegg seconded and it was heartily accorded.

The Vicar stated that the number of communicants on Easter day at the 6.30 a.m. service was 140, at 8 o'clock 91, after the morning service 23, and private communions 5 – a total of 259. Mr S. W. West moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding and said the splendid manner in which the church work was proceeding was due to the Christian manner which the vicar carried out his duties. They were all greatly indebted to him. Mr Rolleston seconded and it was heartily accorded.

### **Do You Know**

That 130 men from Whitwick parish are serving in His Majesty's forces?

That two more of the Whitwick Granite Co.'s employees having enlisted this week bringing the total to 26 men who have gone from this firm?

That Dr. Birkett, of Whitwick, wrote this week from the front stating that he was in excellent health, though they are having a strenuous time?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Today – (Friday) Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair) and Mr J. W. West.

#### *An Absentee*

Pte. John Thomas Wardle, a Whitwick man, an absentee from the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, South Staffs. Regiment, stationed at Folkestone, was handed over to an escort.

#### *A Soldier's Application*

Pte. Bunce, of the guard, Donington Park, made an application to the Bench to stay an order for ejection. His wife occupied a house at Whitwick and had tried to get another but had been unable to, as they had a large family.

Mr Jesson said he made the application for the Coalville Urban Council and an order for ejection was made. He did not press the matter immediately, though it had expired, if applicant would give an undertaking to get a house within a month.

He said he would try and the Bench allowed him a further month.

#### *Alleged Assault at Whitwick*

Arthur Worrall, collier, Whitwick, was summoned by Frederick Freeman, collier, for assault at Whitwick, on March 26<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded not guilty.

Complainant said he was going home about 9 o'clock when the defendant met him and said he had been saying something about him. Defendant struck him and knocked him down and hit him several times while on the ground. He had had two black eyes. Defendant's wife pulled him off. Defendant alleged that Freeman was waiting for him and struck the first blow. PC Jones said Freeman complained to him. His face was bruised.

Worrall said that when he saw the complainant, the latter said, "You're the one I have been looking for" and immediately struck him. He (defendant) retaliated.

Fined 25s or thirteen days.

#### *Whitwick Women in Court*

Elizabeth Hurst, married woman, Whitwick, was summoned by Maud Garforth, housekeeper, for assault at Whitwick, on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr F. Jesson (Ashby) was for the complainant and Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) for the defendant.

Complainant said she was house-keeper to Mr Martin and lived at Parson Wood Hill. About five o'clock in the afternoon she was going to meet Mr Martin and had to pass the defendant's door, and when five or six yards past, she received a blow across the shoulder with a brush by the defendant. The latter at the same time threatened to murder her and used an objectionable expression towards her. Defendant struck her several times with the brush, breaking it. Complainant picked up the head part of the brush (produced) and the defendant retained the other part in her hand. About a week before there had been trouble between Mr Martin and the defendant's husband. As a result of the blows complainant had been under the doctor. She gave the defendant not the slightest provocation.

By Mr Sharp: She did not call the defendant a foul name, nor slap her on the cheek. They did not have a struggle during which the brush was broken. Complainant's bruises were not caused in a quarrel with Martin.

PC. Grewcock deposed to Mrs Garforth complaining to him of having been assaulted by the defendant. She had a portion of a brush with which she said she had been struck. Defendant said she lived where she did for a number of years. There had been words between them before the day of the assault. On this date, complainant struck the first blow and they had a struggle for the brush which was broken.

Mr Sharp: Did you actually strike her with the brush during the struggle?

Defendant: I don't think I did, but I should have done if I'd the chance. (Laughter)

By Mr Jesson: She had been summoned there once before for assault, but the case was dismissed.

Ernest Hurst, son of the defendant, said he saw Mrs Garforth strike his mother after calling her a bad name. Then there was a struggle for the brush which was broken.

The Bench dismissed the case, each party having to pay 2s costs.

#### *Court Proceeding*

Thomas Dawkins, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language in a house near the street at Whitwick, on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Round the Theatres**

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

There have been some crowded houses here during the holidays and a fine programme is to be seen all this week, including two exceptional good 'turns.' These are Sid Siddons, a fine bass baritone singer. The chief feature of his entertainment is his illustrated selections, and the song, "When the Ebb Tide Flows," is finely rendered. He has had a first-class reception and is well worth hearing. The Thalias, the up-to-date comedy couple are also very good. Their humorous skit at the commencement of the week "The Porter" was most amusing; the gag about the terrible accident through the "currant" causing much laughter. They have had a fine reception, and should not be missed during the week-end. A first-class 'turn.' – The chief picture at the beginning of the week was "The Afghan Raiders," a most interesting subject, well produced and watched with evident interest. There were many others of equal merit. For the week-end "For the Secret Service" is the 'star' film and this must not be missed. The story is strong, and briefly is as follows: Bosnovia, a strong foreign power noted for its advance in aerial and navigation, succeeds in getting possession of the first model of Carlton's invention. Then Carlton, after the spies have injured the model by trying to disclose its secrets, is captured. Prior to this, Constance Chambers, United States Secret Service Agent has been assigned to the case and in carrying on her operations, she has met the young inventor and fallen in love with him. While trying to rescue Carlton, Constance is captured by the Bosnovian spies. Through threats of injury to her, Carlton is forced to give in to the demands of his captors and repairs the machine which they

have broken down in endeavouring to extract its ominous secret with their lack of experience. Constance, however, escapes with the aid of the chauffeur. The exciting pursuit by the Bosnovian Secret Agents and her wild ride on a desolate country road is shown to the bound and helpless Carlton on the reflector of his invention and his prompt use of the wireless to save the girl he loves supplies plenty of exciting action and a happy ending to the drama. Others are very good, and a most instructive and interesting evenings entertainment may be spent at a very low charge. – Next week there is another good list, and patrons will find full particulars in our advertisement columns.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

#### **Coalville Cup Final**

*Whitwick Draw with Loughborough Corinthians*

A crowd roughly estimated at about four thousand witnessed a fine game on the Fox and Goose ground on Tuesday afternoon between Whitwick Imperial and Loughborough Corinthians in the final for the Coalville Cup.

Loughborough, played their Central Alliance team, except that Belton took the place of Neal, the players being: Hunt, Attenbury and Cumberland; Belton, Butler (captain) and West; Armstrong, Ravenscroft, Kirk, Williamson and Harriman.

Whitwick: Roadley, Waterfield and Cooke; Moore, J. Bird and Lovett; M. Bird, Lockwood, Thorpe, Dexter and Roach.

In the first few minutes Loughborough took the lead through Armstrong, but almost immediately Whitwick were level again, Lockwood scoring, while Dexter put them ahead, but before the interval Williamson had levelled things up again.

Nearly half an hour had gone in the second half before Lockwood again did the trick, and it looked like Whitwick's cup again – they beat Coalville Town 2 – 1 in the final last year – but Armstrong swung a beauty across, the ball hitting the upright and rebounded into the net, a similar one to the one he scored in the first half. Both goals had some narrow escapes but the result was three each.

The score was a good criterion of the merits of the teams on the form shown, neither team being able to claim any superiority. Both played splendid football, which was a treat to witness and the general opinion was that it was the best match seen in the district this year.

It was excellently refereed by Mr R. T. Bradshaw with Messrs. J. Tivey and H. Deakin on the lines, and the general arrangements reflected much credit on Mr J. W. Farmer (hon.sec.) and the committee.

As the funds of the competition are down somewhat this year, for the sake of clarity, a draw was a fortunate result. The replay was fixed for Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>. on the same ground and with the same officials. The gate yielded £45 9s 4d and after taking £15 3s 10d for the charity and £4 11s 2d travelling and match expenses, it left £12 17s 6d for each club.

#### *Leicestershire Senior League*

The Imperial were visited by Coalville Town last Saturday and Whitwick won by two goals to none. Both were scored in the second half. Heward, unfortunately put through his own goal and Lockwood scored the other.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Deaths**

#### **Death of Mr B. Berry**

*Manager of the Forest Rock Granite Quarry*

We regret to record the death of Mr B. Berry, the manager of the Forest Rock Granite Quarry, Whitwick, which occurred in Leicester on Friday. Mr Berry, who was 54 years of age, had not been well for some time, but his death was quite unexpected and has occasioned much regret in the Whitwick district, where he was held in the highest esteem.

The deceased gentleman took a prominent part in the formation of the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps, to the members of which he presented badges some months ago. He was of a very genial disposition and was popular with all who knew him. The funeral took place in Leicester on Monday.

### **Burials**

Hogan – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Hugh Hogan, aged 46 years of Ashby.

Colver – At Whitwick, on Monday, Dorothy Frances Colver, aged 13 months, of Hermitage Road.

Springthorpe – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Elsie Mabel Springthorpe, aged 2 years of Skinner's Lane.

## **Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> 1915 (Issue 1206)**

### **Local News**

#### **“Citizens” at Whitwick Church**

##### *Impressive Memorial Service*

Whitwick Parish Church was packed to the doors on Sunday morning on the occasion of a memorial service for Pte. E. Hall, the first Whitwick soldier to be killed in the great war, and for the late Mr B. Berry, who had taken such an interest in the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps. The members of the Coalville Corps about 50 strong, under the Commander Gutteridge, marched from their headquarters and on reaching Whitwick, were joined by the Citizens there and marched to Church headed by the Whitwick Holy Cross and Boy Scouts Bands, Capt. Stevenson being in command. The parade attracted a good deal attention and was witnessed by a large crowd of people. A good number of relatives of the deceased were at the service.

Suitable hymns and psalms were sung and an impressive sermon was delivered by the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) from the text 1 Cor 15c, 20v, “Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept.”

All over our country in these days, said the preacher, and indeed, all over this great empire of ours there are scenes such as this this morning. The heart of the people has been touched, the whole nation has been stirred, men everywhere are rising up from thoughtlessness and you see everywhere upon their faces the serious looks of manliness, of responsibility, and of understanding. Men are becoming to know what we are engaged in; what the nation is engaged in. But deep as the heart has been touched already, I don't believe, and I don't think that anyone in this church this morning believes, that we have been touched quite deeply enough. There must be a deeper stirring of the human mind and the human heart. We must realise in a way that we have never yet done so, the great forces that are against us. We must understand in a way that we have not done yet that the enemy we are fighting against is extremely powerful; splendidly organised, prepared after years of constant and splendid preparation, and we have to face millions of men, trained, drilled and instructed not only in the art of war, but, unfortunately in the feeling of hatred against ourselves. We have to face such a nation as that and I am afraid, almost certain in fact, that we have not yet realised in this country what we are up against.

Proceeding, he suggested that they ought to keep three, or even four lists of the men who were serving their country. First, a list of the men who are fighting, or preparing to fight; secondly a list of men who had tried to join the colours but who for no fault of their own had been rejected – and there were several such in Whitwick; thirdly, a list of the men who had joined the Citizen Corps for home defence; and the fourth list should be of the wives and children and mothers of the men in the danger zone. Oh, what a list that would be. When they thought of all these things and of the seriousness of them, it was enough to stir them to the very depths. They could not see a congregation like that without feeling the stirring force of it and without feeling that they were awakening to the responsibilities they ought to feel as a nation when facing such an enemy as they were facing in these days. They were being stirred as they read of the great battles on the

Continent of Europe. In the casualty lists for last Thursday, Friday and Saturday appeared 4,011 names. Over four thousand casualties recorded in three days. In Saturday's paper they saw that the Leicesters, 75 were dead after one battle. Many of these men they knew; where were they today. Their bodies lay in graves on the battlefield far from their native land. Their wives, their children, their mothers, would never see them again. Their fathers and brothers would never take them by the hand again and give them a welcome home. They had been buried in graves with a crowd of other bodies, but was that the end of them? Was there not something else after that? If they faced such a question as that with a feeling of doubtfulness, then in the words of the lesson, they of all men were the most miserable. If that was the end of everything what would be the use of standing up and fighting for their country? They would be without hope and would indeed be the most miserable of men. When thoughts like that assailed them, let them think of the text, "Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that sleep." What did that mean? Simply this: That as Christ rose from the dead so shall all men rise from the dead. There was a time coming when they would all come forth graves, a tremendous army facing their God from their graves, a great army facing God on the great resurrection day. In these days they thought far too much of the seriousness of death. It was hard to part from dear ones and they had come to think of death as a terrible thing. It was a mistake to think of it like that. Death was not the ultimate end of life but only the beginning. That was illustrated to them in the parable of the seed. The death of the seed was not the end of it but was only the beginning of a finer life which sprang from it, and so it was with every one of them. Death simply meant the passing into a higher life and that certainly ought not to be terrible. But as they lived today, so they were moulding their future life, and if they kept the doctrine of the Lord Jesus Christ they would become more like Him in the hereafter. They all sympathised very deeply with the mourners that morning, that large congregation of men had come together to express it in that way. They sympathised with the relatives of the brave young soldier whose earthly life had come to an end on the battlefield of France, and also with those who mourned the loss of the chairman of the Citizen Corps of that district. But the time was coming when they would all be reunited, and all the sorrows of partings and misunderstandings, and the difficulties, trials and temptations which they now experienced would be nothing before them but the higher life of that bright, glorious future. They prayed that God in His mercy would look down on the sorrowing ones and bless them and help them to bear the parting and may the relatives of the young soldier be comforted by the knowledge that he died fighting for his country and for them all, that he died in glorious company in the midst of hundreds, thousands, who fell in the same fight. While they sympathised with them, they almost envied them in having a relative so brave, so noble, and so unselfish as to give up his life in that way. May God comfort and bless the mourners and give them all the consolation possible from that religion of theirs – the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ.

At the close of the service, the organist, Mr R. West, played the Dead March, the congregation standing meanwhile, and as they were leaving he played, "O rest in the Lord."

The flag was flying over the church at half mast, and before the service a muffled peal was rung on the bells.

The Citizen's marched to the School of Arms in Silver Street, where after a few exercises, the Coalville contingent continued their journey home.

### **Conservative Club Sold**

The premises in Silver Street, lately occupied as a Conservative Club were offered for sale by auction in the presence of a good company on the premises, by Mr E. Moore, of Messrs. Moore and Miller, auctioneers, Coalville, on Monday night. The lot was knocked down at £600, the name of the purchaser not being stated. Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, of Coalville, Ibstock and Loughborough, were the solicitors to the vendors.

### **Mother's Union**

An interesting gathering took place at Whitwick on Thursday in connection with the Mother's Union. About 200 mothers, representing the Whitwick, Markfield, Hugglescote, Bardon, Shaw Lane and Copt Oak branches of the Union partook of tea in the school and after tea Mrs J. J. Sharp and Miss Burkitt sang solos. In the evening a service was held when the church was packed. Canon Broughton (Hugglescote) took the first part of the service, the Rev. H. K. Bros, (Copt Oak) read the Mothers' Union Litany, the Revs. H. Chambers (Markfield), and R. P. Farrow (Bardon) read the lessons and the Rev. T. W. Walters, vicar of Whitwick preached. After the service the mothers returned to the school, where refreshments were served and recitations were given by Dr. Milligan and Miss Burkitt. Canon Broughton proposed a vote of thanks to the Whitwick mothers for entertaining the visitors and this was seconded by the Rev. H. Chambers and heartily accorded, the Vicar of Whitwick responding. The visitors were then conveyed home in brakes.

## **Coalville Police Court**

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

### *“Banker” at Whitwick*

Ernest Preston, Henry White, Arthur Glover, colliers, and Horace Burford, labourer, all of Coalville, were summoned for gaming with cards and copper pence on a footpath at Whitwick, on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Defendants did not appear. P.C. Spiby said they were playing “banker” on a footpath between Coalville and Whitwick. Witness seized the cards. Defendants were each fined 7s 6d or seven days.

### *Bad Language*

Thomas Dawkins, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language in a house near the street at Whitwick, on March 27<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty. P.C. Grewcock said the defendant told him he was sorry for having used the language but he had been very upset. Defendant said he had been 12 years in the army and always had a good character. He hoped they would be lenient. Fined 5s or seven days.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

#### *Leicestershire Senior League*

Two matches on Saturday concluded the Leicestershire Senior League programme for this season. Both were in the medal competition and they had a particular interest inasmuch as they decided the championship. Coalville Swifts were a point in front of Whitwick and this meant that if the Swifts were beaten by Coalville Town on the Fox and Goose ground and Whitwick won their match at Hugglescote, to Whitwick would have fallen the double honour of winning the league championship as well as the medal competition. But matters panned out very nicely for the Swifts. They won their own match while Whitwick were beaten at Hugglescote, so that the Coalville club finished up with three points to the good.

The match at Hugglescote attracted only about a hundred spectators. Only one goal was scored, this being by Causer for the St. John's in the first half. Whitwick did a lot of pressing in the second half and tried hard to avert defeat but the Hugglescote defence held out. These were the only two points that the St. John's secured in the medal competition.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Good “houses” continue to be the order at this popular theatre, and the programme provided this week is, as usual, a first-class one. The pictures are excellently screened and much interest has been evinced. In addition to the film list there are two fine ‘turns,’ and both have fairly captivated the audiences. The Gipsy Soprano, in operatic numbers and ballads, has had a fine reception. A singer with a splendid voice, being repeatedly recalled. Gertie Delmore is a dainty comedienne and a nice dancer. Her numbers have also been loudly applauded. Patrons should not fail to see these during the week-end. The pictures at the commencement of the week were a good lot, and included “The Million Dollar Mystery” the first part of a Thanouser serial entitled “The Airship in the Night.” The following brief notice will serve to show how matters go. Stanley Hargreaves in his younger days was connected with a secret society called “The Black Hundred.” Disapproving of their methods he disappears. After amassing a large fortune he is tracked down by Countess Olga and Braine, the heads of the secret society. He disappears again, together with one million dollars, leaving his daughter, Florence, in the care of Jones, his trusted butler. “The Black Hundred” then try to force Florence to disclose the whereabouts of the money about which the girl knows nothing. Frank Norton, a young newspaper reporter helps Florence to evade the gang. A fine series which should draw big “houses” and cause much interest. “The Peasant's Life” too, was good, as were several others. For the week-end the star picture is “Our Enemy's Spy” and this should not be missed. Captains Bainbridge and Clifford both love Marie, and this results in enmity between them. Bainbridge plots with a spy to kill Clifford

and steal important papers from him. Clifford is thrown into the sea from a liner, and Bainbridge delivers the papers to his colonel in San Francisco. Clifford is picked up from the water, and returns in time to reveal the duplicity of Bainbridge, a fine picture. "Such a Hunter" is a fine one. Percival talks grandly of his achievements to Eva Spurling and little Cicero, his rival for her hand, listens in open mouthed wonder. Eva invites her two admirers to a picnic, and while washing up the dishes, a bear cub runs up behind Percival, who promptly breaks all speed records in reaching a tree on the edge of the lake. He swarms up the tree and out on to a branch hanging over the water, into which he is precipitated. After struggling ashore he tells the others a tale of an encounter with a four-footed monster. Just then a large mother bear noses up behind them. Percival does another cross-country run, compared to which his first effort was slow. Little Cicero, however, calmly takes the ribbon off Eva's candy box, and to her amazement, ties it gently round the bear's neck, and after giving it a piece of candy, bids Mother Bear to run along home. The beast trots off and Eva throws her arms round Cicero's neck. – Others are splendid pieces, and patrons can rely on getting good value for money at the Picture House. – Next week, see advertisement columns.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Needham – At Whitwick, on Thursday, James Hastings Needham, aged 81 years, of New Swannington.

Mills – At Whitwick, on Thursday, Kate Mills, aged 60, of Castle Street.

## **Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1915 (Issue 1207)**

### **Local News**

#### **Whitwick Soldier in Neuve Chapelle Battle**

##### *Like Playing Skittles*

Pte. E. Howe, of Golden Row, Talbot Street, Whitwick, writing to Mr G. H. Hallam, of the Queen's Head, Thringstone, says he is quite safe up to date (April 7<sup>th</sup>) and wishes to thank the good men of Thringstone for gifts sent to him and his pals. As soon as the parcel was opened and they saw the cigarettes they were all eager to get some as they were to get at the Germans at Neuve Chapelle. They all "make a charge" for it when anything comes from England.

Howe continues, "Perhaps you know how it is out here, and I am going on as well as you can expect. I keep on doing my duty and if I should go under – I hope I don't – I can't grumble. As the old saying goes, "I've had a good run for my money." The Germans asked us to give them a chance, and we did – a dog's chance. It was like playing skittles for a time. I can tell you it was easy enough. I have got a lot of things, but they won't let us send them to England. The wounded can take them and that is how some people have got them in England. If I get a chance I will send you something. I think a lot more will have to come yet. I wish it was all over and I was having a pint of your good old Shardlow. But cheer up! I am not down-hearted, and don't mean to be. Keep smiling.

#### **Bad For the Huns**

Howe has also sent a postcard to the office of this paper which was received on Tuesday morning. He says they are having better weather in France now, which makes it better for getting about. But if it is bad for them it is also bad for the Huns. Howe holds that they are more than holding their own now and they mean to keep pegging away. He comes from the right place for that and there are several more from Whitwick besides himself. He concludes: Keep smiling.

The card is dated April 16<sup>th</sup>, and the writer says he is still alive and kicking and in the best of health.

#### **Coalville Council's New Chairman**

Mr Thomas Young Hay will have many congratulations on his appointment to the important position of chairman of the Coalville Urban District Council. His



election was no surprise since he has occupied the vice-chair during the last 12 months and, in accordance with the Council's rule of going round the wards for a chairman, it was Whitwick's turn this year.

This will be Mr Hay's 12<sup>th</sup> year on the Council as a member for the Whitwick Ward, and he has proved himself a very able and useful member, having for some years been chairman of the Highways Committee, and his desire to promote the best interests of the ratepayers and district generally has always been manifest.

That Mr Hay is closely identified with the industrial progress of the district may be gathered from the fact that in August next, he will have completed 24 years as manager of the largest industrial concern in the neighbourhood – the Whitwick Colliery, which during that period has made great strides. He is a member of the Institute of Mining Engineers and of the National Association of Colliery Managers (South Midland Branch) while for some years Mr Hay has also held the important post of secretary to the Leicestershire Coalowners' Association. Though of a genial disposition, he can be firm as occasion demands, and with his wide experience of Council work, there can be little doubt that the traditions of the chair will be worthily upheld during his term of occupancy.

### **Trade Notices**

#### *For Sale – Pony Trap*

Suit 12 hands, good order. Also several sets second hand harness, cart tackle. Apply W. Adams, saddler, Whitwick.

#### *Wanted*

A Builder to buy or give a price to replace 4 houses. Apply Tower House, Whitwick.

### **Do You Know**

That last Monday was the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Whitwick Colliery Disaster?

That Whitwick Imperial and Coalville Swifts will play the Leicestershire Senior League championship match at Whitwick tomorrow?

### **Sport**

#### **Football**

##### *Whitwick Imperial Win the Hinckley Cup*

Whitwick Imperial were at Hinckley on Saturday playing Earl Shilton Victor in the final for the Hinckley Cup. Both sides were strongly represented and followers of Shilton swelled a large 'gate'. In the first half Whitwick were the superior team, but many opportunities were lost by both sets of forwards. Half-time, Whitwick Imperial 0; Earl Shilton Victor 0.

In the second half Whitwick had an off-side goal. Shilton improved, and Lee missed two fine openings. Eventually Lockwood bluffed the Shilton backs and struck the cross-bar, Thorpe netting from the rebound. Taylor, the Shilton custodian made a number of fine saves. Result, Whitwick Imperial 1; Earl Shilton Victor 0.

In the absence of Mr A. E. Hawley, the cup and medals were presented by Mr John Blakesley. This was Whitwick's second cup this season, having secured the Leicestershire Senior League championship trophy, and they still have a chance of annexing the Coalville Cup.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

This theatre is being well patronised this week again, and no wonder when the excellence of the programme is considered. Patrons have much enjoyed the fare provided, and have shown their pleasure by loud applause. The 'turn' appearing all the week is Gene Fields, a fine musical entertainer, who has met with a hearty reception. He should be seen during the week-end. – The star picture for the earlier part of the week was Episode 2 of "The Million Dollar Mystery" entitled "A False Friend." This was watched with much interest and evidently enjoyed. – A good drama was "The Call"; and "Pimple's Escape from Portland" caused much amusement. Others were also very good. We would especially call the attention of patrons to the excellent list for the week-end, "Daphnia" is the chief film, and this must be seen. – The story in brief is as follows: George Baxter, a United States secret service man, manages to convict John Matthews and James Goodwin for counterfeiting, through misusing the love and confidence of Matthew's daughter, Julia. Ten years pass. On their release from prison, Matthews and Goodwin are summoned to visit a gambling house in St. Louis, in Daphnia, the woman who runs it, they recognise Julia. Bitterly blaming her for the past, they denounce her and return to the southern hills. Daphnia, counting her money, finds a counterfeit bill. She finds that it has been passed by a certain George Baxter, Jun., the son of the man who was the beginning of all her unhappiness. She summons the United States inspector and when he sees his own son he is heartbroken. Julia reveals her identity, and tells him that at last the old account is squared. – "The Airmen of Italy" is a picture of topical interest, comprising flights made by Italy's chief airmen – "Dad and the Girls" is a beauty comedy of exceptional merit, and will amuse. – "The Girl and the Smuggler" is good. Charles, the lighthouse keeper, is in league with a band of smugglers. Walter loves Irene and is jealous of Charles. He tracks him, and Charles ties him to a wreck used by smugglers, and sets it alight. Vivian saves Walter, and Charles is killed in an explosion. – "The Mysterious Lodger" is a champion Vitagraph, and should not be missed. Other items are equally interesting. – Next week's list see ad columns.

## **Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> 1915 (Issue 1208)**

### **Local News**

#### **Twenty-four Convictions**

Before Mr B. G. Hale (in the chair) and Mr J. W. West at the Coalville Police Court on Monday, Jane Pearson, aged 66, widow, a native of Leicester, but now of no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on Saturday night. P.C. Grewcock stated that about 7.30 on Saturday night he was on duty near the Dumps and saw the defendant lying in the middle of the road with a crowd of children round her. She was using very bad language. He assisted her on her feet and found that she was helpless and he had to get a conveyance and bring her to Coalville. She was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment. It was stated that there were 24 previous convictions.

#### **Band of Hope Concert**

In connection with the Whitwick Church Band of Hope a successful concert was held in the National Schools on Wednesday in aid of the funds. Miss Adams excellently made the arrangements and the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters) who presided, expressed pleasure at progress the Band of Hope was making, there now being over 150 members. The first part of the programme was miscellaneous and the second part consisted of the Cantata, "The Band of Hope Queen," Miss Adams being the accompanist. The following were the miscellaneous items: Opening recitation, Miss Gladys West; song, "See the children gather round" children; recitation, Miss Edna Capell; song, "Mr Nobody" Master Charley Jarvis; song, "Hurrah for the British navy" Miss Gertie Baker; dialogue, "The birthday pledge"; song, "Where are you going to my pretty maid" Miss E. Moore and Master H. Moore; recitation, Miss Rosie Baker; song, "Rule Britannia" Miss E. Capell; recitation, Master Charlie Jarvis; screen song, girls; recitation, Master H. Moore, Thomas Williamson, Thomas Gilbert and Harry Moore; dialogue, "Ada's decision"; Russian and French National Anthem, Master Willie Cooke and Thomas Moore; song, "Our noble Flag"

#### **Wesleyan School Sermons**

The anniversary services in connection with the Sunday School were held at the Whitwick Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday, when the Rev. J. R. Sharpley, of Ashby, preached to good congregations. Mr J. S. West conducted the children and choir in the singing of special hymns and anthems, Mr Sharp of Hugglescote being the organist. The collections realised £15 12s 9d, which was slightly below last year.

## **Whitwick Eggs for Soldiers**

The following is a statement as to the number of eggs collected by Mr R. Sharp, of Whitwick, and sent to the wounded soldiers in the 5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital, Leicester:

Mr Robert Sharp, Whitwick – 100  
Mrs Swift, Greenhill – 30  
Mrs W. T. Hull – 30  
Miss Bell, Castle Rock – 20  
Miss Thirlby – 20  
Mr G. T. Harding – 20  
Mrs James, Forest Rock – 14  
Mr Joseph Merriman – 14  
Mrs Beale, Greenhill – 12  
Mr Glyn, Whitwick – 12  
Mrs Neale, Greenhill – 12  
Mrs A. J. Briers – 12  
Mrs Thompson – 12  
Mrs Popples – 12  
Mrs Black, Whitwick Waste – 10  
Mrs Pepper, Greenhill – 10  
Mr W. Ward, Castle Rock Cottage – 10  
Mr H. Stinson – 10  
Mr Downes – 10  
Mr G. McCarthy – 10  
Mr Thomas Kelly – 10  
Mr J Tacey – 6  
Mr W. Berridge – 6  
Mrs Belcher – 6  
Friend – 2

Total = 410

## **Local Chit Chat**

The Whitwick Colliery employees, in connection with their Death Fund decided to exempt men who enlisted from payment during service with the forces, or until such time as the committee determined. The widow of Pte. Jack Manders, of the Leicesters, is the first to benefit by the fund. Manders was a miner employed by the Whitwick Colliery Company, and a collection taken on Friday realised just over £30 for the widow and two children. In the unfortunate event of any other soldier who was an employee at the Whitwick Colliery losing his life in the country's service the same collection will be made for the dependants and paid from the Death Fund.

## **Do You Know**

That the Coalville Charity Cup Final between Whitwick Imperial and Loughborough Corinthians will be re-played on the Fox and Goose ground tomorrow afternoon?

## **Coalville Police Court**

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

### *A Whitwick Fight*

Arthur Cooper and Patrick Costelow, colliers, both of Whitwick, were summoned for violent conduct on April 10<sup>th</sup> at Whitwick. They did not appear. P.C. Grewcock said he saw the defendants fighting near the Duke of Newcastle Inn. Cooper was fined 10s 6d or seven days, and Costelow 15s or seven days.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

#### *Leicestershire Senior League*

##### *Championship Match at Whitwick*

The Senior League champions (Whitwick Imperial) and the medal competition winners (Coalville Swifts) met on the Duke of Newcastle ground, Whitwick, on Saturday in a match for the benefit of the League funds. There was a fairly good attendance and an even and interesting game was witnessed.

The Swifts were first to score through Cliff Price, but Rosch soon equalised and Lockwood put Whitwick ahead. The Swifts pressed a good deal and had a penalty, but Underwood's shot was saved by Roadley. From a good long shot by Bradshaw, the ball hit the cross-bar and Andy Moore, meeting it on the rebound, got in a terrific shot at close quarters, Roadley saving somewhat luckily amidst applause. The Imperial thus crossed over with a lead of two goals to one.

Whitwick did the bulk of the pressing in the second half, but Nicholls kept a good goal. Bourne, however, ought to have scored on one or two occasions and the goal had several narrow escapes. There were also some good attempts by the Swifts and during one of these, Price again scored producing a draw of two goals each.

At the close of the match Father O'Reilly, who was supported by Mr J. Kirby of Coalville, chairman of the league and other officials, presented the cup to Whitwick and medals to both teams amidst applause.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

No. 3 of the "Million Dollar Mystery" series "A Leap in the Dark" was the chief picture here at the beginning of this week, and the story much enjoyed, was briefly as follows; The conspirators in their scheming to rob Stanley Hargreaves and make him suffer for deserting "The Black Hundred," next turn their attention to the man himself. Hargreaves, however, lands from the steamer, which rescues him without being seen by the members of the gang. Norton, who has taken upon himself the protection of Florence's interests, leads "The Black Hundred" to believe that million dollars have been deposited in the safe down at the wharf offices. Braine and a few tough characters accordingly attempt to rob the safe at night, but thanks to Norton are surprised by the police, and all but captured. The leader of the gang escapes by diving into the sea. "East Lyme in Bugville" was good, and "The Night Hawks" also. – For the week end the chief one is "The Strike" a most enthralling drama which will appeal strongly. Price began to court MacLaren's daughter Mary, and all looked forward to the time when the wedding would take place. One day, Peter Black, an agitator, arrived on the scene. MacLaren tried to persuade his fellow workmen about listening to Black. In due time, the discharged workman, urged by his wife, asked the employer to take him back. Things began to look promising for the man especially as the employer's daughter spoke on his behalf, then Black interfered and the employer refused to consider the matter. The union official called a meeting and urged a strike on the grounds that the man had been wrongfully dismissed. After a good deal of tribulation the ruin of the whole village was complete. MacLaren and his family were turned out of house and home, and Trask (the employer) was broken and shunned. Black, who had been in hiding since the explosion, was discovered by his victims and they had the satisfaction of giving him a strenuous five minutes. – "The Wife's Strategem" is good; and "Jann's Lovers" go for one another in fine form but Willie comes off 'top dog'. – Others are good. The turns are Reely and Rieland, a fine comedy couple of the highest order. Their songs and patter are up-to-date and witty, and the two should draw big houses during the week-end. They have had a fine reception. – Mark and Note, too, are a good pair. Their dancing and songs are extra and must not be missed. Patrons can be assured of value for their money by visiting the above theatre. Next week's list another good one, see advertisement columns.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Burials**

Queemby – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Dorothy Queemby, aged 18 days, of Church Lane.