

Coalville Times At War

Friday April 7th 1916 (Issue 1257)

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SOLDIERS' PARADE AT LOUGHBOROUGH

The local soldiers of Loughborough on Saturday paraded the town headed by Private Buckingham, V.C., Leicestershire Regiment, in aid of the county wounded soldiers. The procession was led by the bugle band of the V.T.C., and a junior band from Leicester. Collections were taken en route by the Women's Volunteer Reserve, and the sum of £25 was realised. After the parade the local heroes were entertained to tea at the Town Hall by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr and Mrs M. W. Coltman.

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COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

APPLICANT OBJECTS TO A MEMBER ADJUDICATING

THE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY EMPLOYEES

A meeting of the Coalville Urban District Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Monday night. Mr T. Y. Hay presided and there were also present Messrs. B. G. Hale, A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, M. McCarthy, C. W. Brown, T. F. Fox and J. W. Fisher, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Captain Stevenson, and the clerk, (Mr J. F. Jesson).

The clerk reported the resignation from the Tribunal of Mr Levi Lovett, which was accepted with regret, and it was stated that it would be reported to the Urban Council to fill the vacancy.

The Star Tea Co. applied for the total exemption of the manager of their Whitwick branch shop. A representative of the firm said this man was the only one employed at this shop. They gave every encouragement to their employees to enlist on the outbreak of war and over 600 were now serving with the forces. The man applied for was 26 years of age, and had been with the store since leaving school. Mr German remarked that the military authorities were wanting men very badly. Two months allowed.

The manager of the Snibston Dairy Co., Coalville, applied for exemption. He said he brought the business in February last year, having managed it for five years for a Leicester firm. His sister lived with him and was dependant on him. She attended to the shop while he was on his milk round. Two months allowed.

Mr F. J. Bayliss, plumber, Coalville, applied in respect of an apprentice, residing at New Swannington, and produced the indentures. It was stated that exemption had been granted to all apprentices. Mr German asked for the case to be adjourned as he was not sure on the point. The clerk said the course taken by the Tribunal up to now was to give exemption to apprentices on the production of indentures. Mr German said there was some doubt on the point, and they could all be called up. It was agreed to adopt the usual course, and exemption was given.

The next was a similar case, being the application of Messrs. G. Rogers and Son, builders, Coalville, for an apprentice and it was allowed.

Mr F. Hickling, baker and confectioner, Belvoir Road, Coalville, applied for the exemption of his son, aged 27, who, he said, in addition to assisting in the business, was secretary to the National Deposit Friendly Society, which had several hundred members. His son was married some time in November last. He had another son aged 15, who had just left school. The application was not assented to.

A master butcher and slaughterman, of Bardon Road, Coalville, aged 23, married, was granted conditional exemption.

Messrs. A. Wilkins and Son, proprietors of the "Coalville Times," applied for the exemption of Alfred Talbot Richardson, printer, employed at their works. Mr E. J. Wilkins stated that Richardson was married, with two children. The staff was already depleted through the war, and efforts to obtain other men had proved futile. Two months allowed.

Mr G. F. Burton, baker and confectioner, Whitwick, applied for his man, Wm. Bland, aged 26 and married, with one child. Mr Burton said he depended on this man to do the baking and through being short-handed he had already had to give up part of his trade – making pies, sausages, etc. Two months allowed.

Albert Bonser, aged 23, of Main Street, Hugglescote, assistant foreman and banksman at the South Leicestershire Colliery Co., applied for exemption on the ground that he was the sole support of his widowed mother. Mr German said this case was before the Collieries' Tribunal, and was refused.

Answering questions, he said his mother had no income whatever besides what he gave her. He had supported her for three years. He had a brother with one child, and sister who had four children. Two months allowed.

The next application was also by a South Leicestershire Colliery banksman, Samuel Matchett, aged 21, who applied on the ground that he was the sole support of his grand-parents, both old-age pensioners. He said he had worked at the Colliery twelve months, and was formerly at Stableford's. Mr German said they only got seven men from the South Leicestershire Colliery out of nearly 1,500 men. Applicant said he had lived with his grand-parents since he was four years of age. He had two sisters who assisted in the housework. Application refused.

Messrs. Seal and Co., of the Whitwick elastic web factory, applied for the total exemption of a loom-overlocker, aged 25, married, of New Swannington. A representative of the firm said they had a large export trade which they would lose if this man went, and a number of girls would be idle. They employed 120 hands, who depended on four men to alter and repair the looms. He was only appealing for this man as the others had not attested. He was a very good man, and applicant would be sorry to lose him. One man left them last week, making seven in all. Two months allowed.

A Park Road (Coalville) grocer and beer-off license holder, Ed Haywood, aged 26, and married, with one child, applied for exemption stating that he managed the business for his father, who was unable to do it himself. His father and mother, as well as applicant and his wife, depended on the business for a living, and there was plenty to do to meet income tax and other liabilities.

The Chairman: We've hardly started on income tax yet. It will begin next year. They may want it all before long. (Laughter).

Answering questions, he said the grocery was the biggest part of the business.

A member: Which part would you sooner lose – the grocery or the beer?

Applicant: Well, I don't want to lose any. (Laughter)

Two months to enable him to make arrangements.

Mr Josiah Kemp, for Kemp and Co., grocers, Coalville, applied for the exemption of their manager and commercial traveller, Wm. Hy. Holmes, aged 29, married. He said one former employee was with the Colours. It was doubtful whether the doctor would pass him. The chairman said the Tribunal had nothing to do with that. Mr Kemp said he objected to a member of the Tribunal who was in the same business, adjudicating. Such a thing had some influence in some cases.

The Chairman: Would you like the Court cleared?

Mr Kemp: I don't ask for that.

Mr Lockwood asked how a member of the Tribunal stood in a case like this.

Mr German: He should be thankful because you are an expert.

Mr Lockwood: Do you think, Mr Kemp, that anyone desires to capture your trade?

Mr Kemp: I don't think you would.

Mr Drewett said the Tribunal was constituted according to law, and that was sufficient.

Mr Lockwood: I should like Mr Kemp to disabuse his mind of any narrow interest.

Mr Kemp said that if it was at the Police Court, such a member would not adjudicate. He would retire while the case was heard. Mr McCarthy said it was a question of law. They could not waste time over points like these. They would there all night. Conditional exemption was allowed.

Mr Charles Insley, carriage builder, of Margaret Street, Coalville, applied for the exemption of his son, Haydn, who assisted him as carriage-painter. He said he was appealing also for his son, Oswald. They were both indispensable to him in his business, which was in three sections. Answering questions, he said he was engaged now mostly on agricultural work. Two months allowed.

The Highfields (Coalville) Weaving Co., represented by Mr Josiah Kemp, applied for the exemption of Hy. Cave, aged 25, a mechanic, stating that the factory was engaged on war contracts which would last till the end of July. If the war lasted beyond then they hoped to get further Government orders.

A member: But you hope the war will be over. You would rather be without orders.

Mr Kemp: Oh yes, I hope the war will be over.

Answering further questions, he said the firm employed 33 girls, three men and one boy. Two months allowed.

Nine men were applied for by the Coalville Co-Operative Society. The first was Eustace H. Kebbler, manager of the Hugglescote butchery branch. Mr A. Lockwood (manager) said they were only appealing for departmental managers. Two had gone from the butchery this week and they were not appealed for. Kebbler was supplying 368 customers per week. He produced a roll of honour showing that 41 employees of the stores were serving in the forces and the society was paying 7/6 a week in each case to the dependants of those married. There were other butchery managers applied for – G. R. Cockerill, Bagworth branch, who was supplying over 300 customers per week; Archie Barker, Whitwick branch, 244 customers; and Walter Thornley, Ibstock branch, 368 customers. All the men were engaged in slaughtering in the early part of the week. They killed 9 beasts, 14 sheep and 20 pigs weekly.

The Chairman: More pigs than sheep.

Mr Lockwood: Yes. The people in this district are very fond of pork. (Laughter).

Mr German asked if a man or two could not be spared if the work was rearranged and the shops open, say one day less per week. Mr Lockwood was a member of the Tribunal and knew that men were wanted badly. Mr Lockwood said none of these men could really be spared. It was a regular trade. He pointed out that 41 employees had already gone. Three months were allowed in each of these cases.

Four first-hands in grocery shops were then applied for. They were W. Brooks, central stores, where a weekly trade of £625 was done; W. B. Tyers, Ellistown shop, £429 per week; J. D. Smith, Swannington, £213 per week; and W. E. Usherwood, Hugglescote branch, £406 per week. Mr Lockwood said these were the first-hands under the managers. Men were necessary for the heavy work. At Coalville Central they were employing 4 girls, 4 at Hugglescote and 3 at Ellistown, and they were now having to pay for overtime to get the work done. Mr Drewett said it was important that people should have facilities for obtaining food. Three months allowed in each case.

Mr Lockwood next applied for Thos. Wilde, manager of the ready-made tailoring and gents' outfitting department. One month was allowed.

Mr C. W. Brown, chairman of the Co-Operative Society, did not adjudicate in these cases.

A fire-clay getter of Hugglescote, asked for exemption while his aged mother lived. If he went she would be left alone in the world. She was often ill. The Advisory Committee did not assent, but the matter was adjourned in the absence of the applicant.

One month was allowed to Alec Wardle, a Coalville motor 'bus driver; Dr. Hamilton's chauffeur was allowed two months'. Conditional exemption was granted to J. W. Bradley, a loom mechanic at Messrs. Burgess and

Sons' factory, Belvoir Road, Coalville; to Thomas P. Deacon, baker; and to George Piper, manager of the Maypole Dairy Co.'s shop at Coalville.

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BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL
APPLICATION BY IBSTOCK PICTURE PALACE MANAGER
ELLISTOWN COLLIERY CLERKS EXEMPTED

A meeting of the Market Bosworth Rural District Tribunal was held on Tuesday, Mr R. A. Oswald Brown presiding, and there were also present, Messrs. W. Eggington (Ibstock), G. M. Arnold (Shackerstone), and W. Towers (Newbold Verdon), with Mr F. E. A. Wollaston and Mr R. Hanmer (military representatives), Captain Stevenson, Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

An adjourned application by an Atterton farmer for a man on his farm was refused. When the case was up before, the Tribunal intimated that they must have one of two men on the farm. The other had been exempted, but the farmer wanted the man he was now appealing for, and it was left to see whether the one who had been given a certificate was willing to forfeit the same and enlist, but there was no intimation that he was willing to do so.

Another adjourned case was an application by the Bagworth Brick Co. for a brick-burner, the matter having been postponed for the production of a letter from the Ministry of Munitions stating that the work was on a Government contract as stated. A letter was now received from a Leicester firm of solicitors stating that the economy had a Government contract to supply a million bricks at the rate of 100,000 per week. The Ministry of Munitions wrote that it was a matter entirely for the Tribunal. A representative of the firm said they now had nine men and two lads at the works, out of a total of 24. Three were at the front, and others had gone to the pits to escape military service. A member remarked that the Bagworth Colliery Co., under the same management, had taken as many men as they could get hold of. At the brickyard, it was stated, there were millions of bricks in stock. The application was refused.

A Newbold Verdon baker and grocer, aged 71, applied for his son, aged 34, married with one child, stating that he was indispensable to the business. But for him last week, the whole of Newbold Verdon would have been absolutely without bread. They supplied 118 customers, and he had 22 acres of land with stock on. Allowed till October 4th.

A Market Bosworth butcher applied again for his slaughterman whose months' exemption had expired. A member remarked that there were other butchers in Bosworth and surely at a time like this, there should be a friendly arrangement to help one another. Applicant was informed that one more month would be allowed, and there would be no further appeal.

The Leicester Education Committee applied for the exemption of the farm bailiff at the Desford Industrial School. Mr Oxley, the superintendent of the school said the acreage of the farm was 126 acres, and there were 3 men managed at present over military age, besides the bailiff, aged 33, and married. It was not so much a matter of acreage as of training the boys sent to them by the magistrates. Last year they sent out 30 boys for farm work, and 60 boys who had been in the school were now serving in the forces. Mr Oxley said it was not a matter of sentiment with him. He had four sons serving in the army and would not willingly keep men back, but it was a case of necessity. He had assisted recruiting all he could, the school band having been out a good deal for that purpose. Captain Stevenson remarked that Mr Oxley had been of the greatest assistance in recruiting. Six months were allowed, after which it was stated, there might be a further appeal.

Mr Light, for the Ellistown Colliery Co., applied for the exemption of three married employees, Messrs. Farmer, Mason and Kirton, respectively colliery weigh clerk, landsale clerk, and pipeworks clerk. He said the pipeworks were on Government contracts. All the single men had gone from the colliery, and his only son was on active service. A member remarked that two sons of the colliery manager were also on active service. Mr Arnold asked why these men were not before the Collieries' Tribunal.

Mr Blower: They are clerks. Every single man has gone, and they can't be spared. They are working late at night.

Mr Arnold said that applied to lots of cases which had been before the Tribunal. In each case, six months were allowed.

Mr W. A. Wain, manager of the Ibstock Picture Palace, applied for the electrician at the Palace, Mr J. L. Stevens, married, aged 24, with two children. Mr Wain said this man had charge of the skilled part of the business. If allowed a few months, he (Mr Wain) would try to learn it. Three of the staff had enlisted and 6 attested. The military authorities had had the use of the Palace every time they asked for it, and they had helped recruiting all they could. Captain Stevenson said they had had the use of the Ibstock Palace four or five times, and at one meeting obtained 58 recruits. Mr Wain said this was the only man he had applied for, and he did not want to close the place if he could help it. He advised the man to attest, and did not think he would be called up before the autumn. The chairman said it was not essential to the well-being of the country that picture palaces should go on. Mr Eggington said it had been used sometimes to stir the patriotism of the people, though he held no brief for the applicants. Mr Wain said that a man could spend two hours at a picture palace for 3d., and while there was not spending his money in drink. Two of the members held that picture palaces were not essential in these days, and were opposed to any time being allowed. A month was proposed, and the voting being equal, the chairman gave a casting vote for a month. Captain Stevenson said that if the case was dismissed, the man would probably not be called up for a month.

A member: In that case, I'll agree to a month. (Laughter)

It was stated that there would be no appeal after the month. The chairman said there were other things not essential as well as picture palaces. Why not shut all the pubs. (Hear, hear).

A member: There would be some sense in that.

Three months were allowed to a blacksmith's striker, aged 27, single, applied for by Mr Insley, of Shackerstone.

Appealing for his cowman, a Sheepy farmer, said he was a very good man. At a recent executor's sale, fat beast made £49 and milking cows £40/15/0, which showed he looked after them well. Six months allowed.

An Ibstock smallholder was out of date with his application but said he was under the impression that he had not to appeal till he got papers from Captain Stevenson, of Coalville. His two brothers had joined the Colours and his father, aged 66 years, was nearly blind. Six months allowed.

The Tribunal also decided to hear the case of a Dadlington farmer, out of date, on him stating that the man, who was single, went to Coalville to attest, and was sent back, being in a starred trade. The man was a waggoner, and ploughman, and six months were allowed.

A Nailstone farmer applied for his son to whom previous exemption had expired, and three months were allowed.

Several cases assented to by the military authorities were approved.

FRENCH GIRLS NOT SO PRETTY AS ENGLISH

N.C.O.'S AMUSING LETTER

An interesting and amusing letter has been received by Mr D. Marston, of Vaughan Street, Coalville, from a nephew who is a Quarter-master Sergeant with the Leicestershire Regiment, on active service in France.

He writes, "*You will be pleased to hear that we have left the firing line for a rest. Beautiful word – rest. Don't imagine, though, that by that I mean we have nothing to do but sleep and eat. On the contrary, we have plenty of inspections, parades and work. In addition, we have to make ourselves look smart and clean, much smarter and cleaner than in England. We are now able to take short walks without fear of running into danger suddenly. The other night I went for a walk with my friend. It was a beautiful night and had been a lovely day. We sat down on the grass for a short time, and suddenly the church bells began to ring out, and oh, it did remind us of old England. We continued our walk, and on our return something happened which spoiled it all. There, 10 miles away, we could see the starlights ascending, and the flash of the big guns, where before all seemed beautifully peaceful. It brought home to us the grim realities of our work. Of course*

being right away from the firing line, we are not so comfortable as when we are nearer, because here the people haven't left their houses, and we are not able to take possession of the empty one. Try to imagine now, if you can. I am writing this in my billet. My billet is a barn, and a very draughty barn at that, divided into two parts, a dining room, and a bedroom for seven. The bedroom is curtained off with sacking, and the spring bed is made of hurdles and straw, and, I assure you, very comfortable. In the centre of the dining room someone is trying to awaken a sense of duty in a brazier that shirks and is sending to the rafters a cloud of black smoke. My table is one made from a bacon box, and my chair is also a box. The table-cloth is a post bag. Not a yard from where I am writing is a cheeky young mouse, which we have tamed, sitting up on its hind legs and eating our bread and cheese ration. We have several pets of this kind, including a cockerel, which wakes us up at 1 am, 4 am, and 6 am. We also have a cat and a couple of kittens in the straw above our heads, and last night the cat startled us by indulging in a serenade of scrap with an old Tom from a neighbouring farm. The ladies here are much the same as I have seen everywhere I have been. My actual experience as far as cultivating their acquaintance is concerned is, I admit, like my knowledge of the French language – very limited. Ninety-nine percent of them are horribly ugly. They have very large feet and make no attempt at cultivating a figure, but are extremely polite. The girls of our own Midlands lick them hollow for dainty prettiness. The weather here is frightfully changeable. The first two days we were here it was beautiful, the next day cold, yesterday six inches of snow on the ground, and today cold, but fine. I would like to have visited everybody when I was on leave, but when you have travelled 150 miles in a French train in wartime, you don't feel like train travelling for pleasure in England. Pleased to say I am in the pink. I suppose you have heard the joke about a soldier's state of health. He has two – "In the pink" and "in the pink considering."

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LOCAL CHIT CHAT

We are sorry to learn that Sergeant E. W. Hurst, of the Royal Engineers, son of Mr W. Hurst, Forest Road, Coalville, has been badly wounded. Whilst in the trenches in France, a shell burst just overhead, and he was struck in the back, and left side. He is now in hospital, at Rouen. Some pieces of shell have been extracted, and although his left arm is at present useless, he is progressing as well as possible, under the circumstances. Some interesting extracts from a letter written by him two or three days before he was wounded will appear in our next issue.

COALVILLE ATTESTED MARRIED MEN

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING

LORD DERBY AND THE DEPUTATION

About one hundred attested married men of Coalville and district attended a meeting in the Adult School Hall, on Wednesday evening, and unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Government to see justice done to them and others in a similar position throughout the country.

Mr J. W. Farmer presided, and the principal speaker was Mr W. Hood, of the Leicester and County Attested Married Men's Society. The chairman said that considering the meeting was hurriedly arranged, he was glad to see such a good attendance. When he was asked to preside at that meeting he hesitated at first because at a time like this one naturally did not wish to do anything which would interfere with the proper progress of this hellish war, but at the same time they had another duty to perform. As married men with wives and families, they felt that proper provision should be made for their dependants, if they were to be called upon to do their bit. He was not a lawyer politician, and could not understand the ways of some of these gentlemen, but there was no getting away from the fact that last November the walls were placarded asking men, whether married or single, to attest, and they were told that if they did not attest they would have no right of appeal. The only possible inference that could be drawn from that was that all were to be called up, and only those who attested would have the right to appeal, because if a man was not to be called up there would be no necessity to appeal. No bigger libel could be cast upon attested married men than for it to be said that they were trying to shirk their responsibilities (hear, hear). They would not shirk their responsibility, and if the war could only be won by calling married men up, they would go, but they had the right to use every legitimate means to see that their wives and families were properly provided for (cheers). After reading Mr Walter Long's speech on this question they gathered that the married men after being called up were to get the permission of the military authorities to state their case before a committee in order to get relief. That was

a peculiar way of going about it, and was not very satisfactory to them. It had been said that the married men should strike, but that was not the time for strikes. They could go about the matter in a proper and constitutional way and then, whatever other people might think, they would have no ground for mud-throwing. (Applause).

Mr W. Hood said he was an attested married man of 40, and he would tell them straight at the outset that he had not come there to incite any attested married man to try to get out of his pledge. (Applause). What they were out for was to ask the Prime Minister and the Government to keep their pledge. And it was not a local agitation – not a hole and corner business. He spoke of the great meetings held in the Corn Exchange and De Montfort Hall, Leicester, and said that on Monday last he was one of a deputation to Lord Derby representing three-quarters of a million married attested men. They went with a real grievance and Lord Derby received them most courteously. They were with him for three and a half hours discussing their grievances, and he certainly treated them properly and agreed to put their case before the Prime Minister. He intimated that he was in sympathy with some of their grievances and that if they were not remedied he would resign his position. He believed that Lord Derby was an honourable gentleman, and it was not him who had led them into this muddle – they could call it nothing but muddle from beginning to end – and after this, he (Hood) was absolutely done with party politics. In future, he should vote for the man who he thought would do right and do it in a business-like and proper manner. They entered into this war in the cause of righteousness and for the fulfilment of a pledge to a small nation. Had the Prime Minister and the Government kept their pledge to the married men? (“No”) That was why they were out to get their grievances remedied. He asked them to compare the positions of single and married men. The latter paid rates and taxes, and had incurred domestic responsibilities, but single men very often remained single from purely selfish motives – to have a good time – though they were getting as good wages as the married men. Hundreds of thousands of them had got into starved trades, into munitions works, and the coal mines, and were earning better wages than ever before, while the married men were asked to go and defend these shirkers at 1/2 a day. When the deputation were before Lord Derby last Monday, it was proved by statistics obtained from the Registrar-General that during the six weeks from August 15th to November 2nd, 1915, there were over one hundred thousand more marriages than in the corresponding period of the previous year, though 1914 was a record marriage year. It was because after the national registration they could see compulsion coming for single men, and during the passage of the Military Service Act the date for treating newly-married men as single was altered from August 15th to November 2nd. Lord Derby said he considered it a shame and a scandal, and should be make representation to the Government to have this matter put right. Concluding, he said 64 per cent of Kitchener’s Army were married men, and the cry from the trenches was, when are the single men coming to help us? That proved that the single men had not done their duty.

Mr D. Marston moved the following resolution:-

“That this mass meeting of the married attested men of Coalville and District, on the strength of Lord Derby’s statement that the Government have only kept their pledge in the letter, and not in the spirit, considers that the married attested men have been grossly deceived, and are suffering grave injustice, and whilst not wishing to evade their pledges, they demand; - ‘That the Government carry out strictly their promise to call out the whole of the available single men first before calling up the married men.’ ‘They further demand that the only fair scheme to all is to amend the Military Service Act, 1916, to include all men of military age.’ ‘That the Government must make adequate provision for the financial responsibilities of married attested men before requiring them to serve.’ ‘And that the mobilisation of married attested men shall be suspended until these just demands are dealt with.’”

Mr S. Marper, seconding, said that if the married men had not set their backs up, they would have been in the trenches today, fighting for the single shirkers. He knew of families with four or five single sons, and none had gone. Three from his family were serving. (Cheers)

The resolution was unanimously carried and it was decided to forward copies to the Prime Minister and the local M.P.’s. Mr T. I. McCarthy, moving a vote of thanks to Mr Hood, said he felt now that in attesting he had been “had”. He thought there should be equality of sacrifice (Cheers). This agitation was doing good, thanks to leaders like Mr Hood. (Applause).

Mr Willn seconded, and said he would willingly go, if necessary, when the single men had gone, but he did not see why he should go for 1/1 a day to defend the single shirkers at home earning £3 or £4 a week in the pit. He believed in Socialism in that respect. (Laughter).

The vote of thanks was heartily accorded, and Mr Hood having replied, moved a similar vote to the chairman, which was also carried with acclamation, and acknowledged by Mr Farmer. It was decided to become affiliated with the Leicester and County Society, and a local committee was formed, the meeting closing with the National Anthem.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

The flag-day for the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild is Saturday, May 20th?

Two grand patriotic concerts are to be held in the Coalville Olympia (kindly lent) on Easter Sunday, in aid of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild?

Mr and Mrs Pratt, of Wilkins Lane, Hugglescote, have presented to the Church Lads' Brigade a framed portrait of their son, Christopher, a former member of the Brigade, who has been killed in action?

The treasurer of the Coalville Soldiers' Comforts Guild (Mrs J. W. Farmer) acknowledges with thanks the receipt of 10/- from Mrs Saunders of 26, Old Row, Bardon Hill, in gratitude for gifts sent to her son on active service?

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MILITARY ABSENTEE

The first case of a man being charged at Coalville for failing to report himself for military service came before Major Hatchett and Mr Levi Lovett at the Police Court on Monday morning, when Leonard Rowe, aged 27, labourer, was brought up in custody. Capt. Stevenson said the man should have reported himself on February 29th last but failed to do so. He had been living at Ravenstone and left that address without notifying anyone. P.C. Sibson said he arrested the man at Stableford's Works – he was fined £2, the minimum amount, and handed over to the military authorities.

THORNTON SOLDIER KILLED

Private Frank Mee, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Wm. Mee, of Thornton, was killed in action in France by a shell on February 3rd. He formerly worked at the Desford No. 1 pit, and enlisted on the outbreak of war. Further particulars and a photo will appear in our next issue.

TWO MORE COALVILLE SOLDIERS KILLED

We regret to report the deaths of two more Coalville soldiers, killed in action in France. Private Ernest Brownlow, of Margaret Street, Coalville, a coal miner before the war, and popularly known in the football world as "Brudge" had only been in France three weeks and was killed on March 26th, the first time he went into the trenches. He leaves a wife and five children, and is the second of the same family to have fallen. Two more brothers are serving.

Gunner J. F. Cracknell, of the R.F.A., whose parents reside in Bakewell Street, Coalville, and who was working at Coventry before the war, having learnt the grocery business at Hunter's Ltd, Coalville, was killed in action last Sunday.

Further particulars and photos will appear in our next issue.

ASHBY TERRITORIAL OFFICER KILLED

Son of Mr Geo. Farmer, clerk to the Ashby Board of Guardians. Details of the officer's death appeared in our last issue.



Capt. R. D. Farmer,

COALVILLE TERRITORIAL KILLED

ANOTHER OF THE FIRST FIFTY

A BROTHER'S TRIBUTE

A memorable event in Coalville's part in the war was on a bright October morning in 1914 when fifty fine-looking lads, the first batch of Territorials to leave the town, were given such a hearty send-off from Coalville Midland Station. One can never forget the sight of their bright faces, the merry chatter, the touching good-byes, and the cheerfulness manifested at the prospect of being able to get in a blow in defence of the old country, and the cause of right. Since then these 50 brave lads, like others, have been through some thrilling experiences, but, alas, the number has gradually dwindled until now there are very few left.

Another one of them to make the supreme sacrifice is Corporal John Williamson, the second son of Mr Wm. Williamson, of 68, Park Road, Coalville, who is employed as a miner at the Whitwick Colliery, the deceased having been killed in action on the afternoon of Friday, March 24th, while on duty in the trenches, "somewhere in France."

The sad news was first conveyed in an officer's letter dated March 25th, when 2nd Lieutenant G. Russell, wrote to Mr Williamson as follows:

"I am writing this note with very deep regret. We have lost one of our best N.C.O.'s. Yesterday, your son, whilst on duty, was killed by the explosion of a 'sausage' sent by a Hun trench mortar. He did not suffer much, but almost instantly lost consciousness, and died about a quarter of an hour later. The doctor said there was no hope, as he was suffering from internal pressure on the brain. He was very well liked by both his men and his officers. He was always prepared to do his duty and more than his duty. I ask you to accept the deepest sympathy of all the officers and men, his friends, in this, your terrible loss."

Mr Williamson had two sons at the Front, and the elder, Private F. J. Williamson, of the same regiment, has also written a touching letter home. It was dated March 25th and stated:

"I hardly know how to start this letter. I hope you are all well at home, but I can hardly say I am well, as last night was the worst night I have known out here. I regret to say that I have very sad news for you this time, and it is making it hard to write. I am sure it will be a big blow to you all. I must not go in a roundabout fashion to tell you, but Dad, I regret to say that you have lost one of your best sons in this campaign. Our dear Jack passed away peacefully last night. I am sure it will be a great blow to you all, especially to my darling mother, but Dad, break the news to her as quietly as you can. It has been a great blow to me. I did not know till it was over, and I just got there in time to have a last look at our dear Jack. Oh, Dad, I didn't think I should feel it like this, after what I have now got used to. It came as such a shock, and has cut me up completely. It happened at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and I didn't know till nine at night. Jack's company were in the firing line, and from what I can gather, Jack was sitting with three more in the trench when the Germans started sending trench mortars over. They are a big kind of shell, and very high explosive. It happened that they dropped one near Jack and his pals, and buried all four of them. Jack was the first to be dug out, but he was unconscious. The doctor said he was well alive, but there was very little hope for him, as he had his ribs broken very badly. The doctors told me all about it after they had taken him away. I was on duty at the telephone at the time, and did not hear it till 8.30. I and a pal, Jack Smith, went to the dressing station, and when we got there, I had the surprise of my life. They were just taking him away. Jack will be buried quietly right behind the firing line. I could not go to see him buried, but if I get out safe, I shall go to see his grave. Don't take it too much to heart. Dad, for you know Jack is like thousands more of his comrades, - he died doing his duty. He always did his duty without flinching, and was respected by all his comrades. I am sorry I didn't see him before they put him in the blanket. Perhaps it was as well that I didn't. They told me that he did not linger long, and died peacefully. The doctor said that had he lived, he would have been a cripple. It will be hard for you, but you will know that your son died a glorious death. He is one more of Britain's heroes. Write me back as soon as you can and let me know how mother takes it. I expect you will hear from the War Office soon. Don't worry over me, Dad. I shall trust in the Lord to give me strength to endure to the end. You know the saying when Christ was on the cross, "I go to prepare a place for you," and I trust that when the time comes, we shall all be ready to meet our Maker, and all be united round the blood-washed Throne in Heaven, where we shall have no pain and no sorrow. So good morning Dad, comfort darling mother."

Corporal Williamson, who was 23 years of age, was a superior young man, and though working in the Whitwick Colliery before the war, was of a studious nature. He had for some time attended the Coalville Evening Classes, and had won certificates for writing Pitman's shorthand. He also studied mining engineering at the classes, and had achieved some success in this direction. He had applied for a commission and was expecting it almost any day. Before the war, he and his brother used to give character songs at concerts in Coalville and district, and their services were often in demand.



The deceased's last letter home was dated March 17th, when he wrote that they were having a few days' rest about nine miles behind the firing line, after being in the trenches for six days and six nights, the heaviest time they had had since being out there. They had had plenty of fighting, and plenty of work night and day. He continued, *"Still I must say I am as happy as the day is long. That may seem strange to you, but it is strongly in my head that what is to be will be, and what is the use of caring. One has only to die once. The weather is now a lot better than it was, thank goodness. We are only ___ yards from the Germans, and we have some hot "do's" what with bombs, shells, bullets and the blowing up of mines. We have just relieved the French troops, which makes our British line longer. I can't tell you what I should like you to send me. Send me what you like, and it will be a pleasant surprise. I am sorry to hear of your illness, and hope you will soon be better. Give my love to dear mother and all at home, and remember me to all friends."*

LEICESTER CONSTABLE KILLED IN ACTION

An intimation has been received by the friends of P.C. Manton, of the Leicester Police Force, that he was killed in action on March 25th. Manton was a reservist and had been on active service since August, 1914. He was 28 years of age. This is the first death among about 100 men of the borough force who have been serving with the colours.

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MARRIED MEN'S CLAIMS

SHEPSHED TRIBUNAL'S DECISION TO BE OPPOSED

At a sitting of the Shepshed Urban Tribunal on Friday evening a member asked what course it was intended to take with married men, and another member expressed the opinion that it was most unfair to take the man because he had attested after being urged to do so, and other men left. Two propositions for postponement for various periods were submitted, but eventually a resolution agreeing to hear the cases was passed.

Another member of the Tribunal asked why it was that a number of young men whose applications had been refused by the Tribunal – some a long time ago – were still walking about, while others had to go. In answer to inquiries he gave a number of names. The order said they could appeal without informing that Tribunal, and the military representatives said if names and addresses given he would inquire into the matter.

A hosiery firm appealed for a married man, aged 25 years. He had been manager of one department for ten years, and the senior partner said it would be very awkward if he had to go. He was indispensable for the present. Three months' conditional exemption was granted.

The same firm applied for total exemption for an overlocker of 30 Cotton's patent machines, who was married, and aged 40 years. The junior partner said he was quite indispensable for their business because of his practical knowledge, and if called up it would be a great hardship to a number of workers under him. They had only two men of military age in similar employment. Asked if he would do his best to get him the men to join the V.M.C. he said that he would. Six months' conditional exemption was allowed.

On behalf of a shoehand, single, applied for exemption on the ground that he looked after the warehouse and orders for customers. A partner of the firm said they had given every facility for their employees to enlist. They had only three men now in that department, and it would take years for a man to get proficient. Exemption was granted until the end of June.

A journeyman tailor, married, aged 25, applied through his employers for exemption. The employer said he had four men and he advised them all to attest. He had only two men at present, and if this man had to go he would have to give up part of his business. He was not willing to serve, and did not wish to leave his wife. Three months' exemption was granted, and the military representative said he should have to appeal against the decision.

A grazer applied for the exemption of an assistant, who was married, and 25 years of age. He had been with him seven years and was indispensable. He could not employ women for sack lifting in the foodstuff trade. He was the only assistant he had of military age. Three months' exemption was allowed.

A market gardener and farmer of 145 acres, married, applied for total exemption. He had two men over military age and two boys, but he alone managed the business. The chairman said it was certainly necessary to keep up the food supply, and he was employing no man of military age. Exemption was granted while the conditions remain the same.

Similar action was taken in the case of a farmer (single), who had 100 acres and 100 head of cattle.

A Cotton's patent hand, aged 22 years, married, with two children, applied for exemption. A partner in the firm employing him said he was engaged in the manufacture of material for export trade. He could not honestly say he was indispensable, but they had already lost a great many hands until they had only one single eligible man left, and he was ready to go when called up. It was therefore an advantage to have him at work. Three months' exemption was granted, the military representative stating that there appeared to be no personal grounds, and he should have to oppose the decision.

"LIVELINESS" AT CASTLE DONINGTON TRIBUNAL

The sitting of the Castle Donington Rural District Military Tribunal on Saturday was again of a lively character. Mr W. P. Woolley (Kegworth) said that he would ask for a ruling from the chair as to the propriety of members of the Tribunal voting for young men to join the army, while at the same time they were moving heaven and earth to get their own sons out of it after their appeal to the local tribunal had failed. Mr G. Bramley (also of Kegworth), said Mr Woolley appeared determined to do as much injustice to the young men of Kegworth as he possibly could. Men were being stopped in the streets and asked why they had not enlisted. *"I am appealing for my boys,"* Mr Bramley added, *"I am exercising a lawful right."* Mr Woolley, who said he regretted having urged married men to attest, as they would not have a right of appeal unless they did so, moved a resolution declining to proceed any further with the appeals of married men until the Government had made a more pronounced statement on the question. The resolution was carried by a majority of one vote.

A hosiery hand from Kegworth stated that he was not prepared to take human life.

Mr Woolley: Who informed you that you were doing army work?

Appellant: The manager.

Mr Woolley: That is very strange. When I called on the manager he told me that he not said anything of the kind to him. He was not on army work, and never had been.

The employer said appellant had been on War Office work for several months.

Colonel Piercy: Have you a direct contract with the War Office?

Witness: Yes.

Which you yourself, have signed? – Yes.

Have you got it with you? – No.

Mr Woolley: There is every reason to believe that there is collusion here. I move no case. The Tribunal agreed.

A Castle Donington tin worker, unattested, said his business would be very seriously affected if he joined the army. Mr L. Stevenson said it would be a hard case for appellant's mother, but he (Mr Stevenson) had urged upon him several times the desirability of attesting.

Informed that he had no case, and that he would be called upon for military service, appellant said, "*It can't be.*"

LEICESTERSHIRE APPEAL TRIBUNAL

THE EARL AND THE GARDENER

Several interesting cases were heard at the sitting of the Leicestershire Appeal Tribunal at the Castle, on Saturday. Ald. T. Cope presided. The other members present were, Mr G. Murray Smith, Mr L. T. Topham, his Honour Judge Moore Cann, Mr J. Longwill, Mr B. H. C. Fox, Mr W. W. Coltman, Mr G. J. Brooks, Mr J. Bailey, Major Wellsman (military representative), Ald. J. C. Bassett (agricultural representative) and Mr Maurice C. L. Freer (clerk). Thirty cases were dealt with.

The Earl of Dysart applied for the exemption of his head-gardener, a married man, the grounds of the application being that he was the only skilled man left to manage a garden of six acres. Half the produce was sent to market. The chairman said it was not a question as to whether the man was the only skilled man left, but whether another skilled person could not be obtained to take his place. Ladies nowadays were skilled in gardening. The appeal was dismissed.

A farmer, who asked that one of his men be granted exemption, said he lived 'two miles from anywhere' and there were no roads to his house. Asked if he was inclined to try female labour, applicant said, "I am inclined to try anything, but being up to my knees in sludge, I should not like to ask women to go there." The appeal was dismissed.

The military representative asked that a man describing himself as a 'stockman' be removed from the list of men in certified occupations. The man described himself as a labourer in his registration paper. The appeal of the military representative was allowed.

The appeal of a farmer, who said he had 100 acres of pastureland, and assisted his father on another farm, was dismissed. The chairman stating that that the Court took it that the two farms were being worked together.

Three months' exemption was granted to the son of a general builder. The Tribunal which first dealt with the case recommended that exemption be granted because further evidence had been brought to their knowledge showing that if the man was taken away the father would suffer financial hardship. In announcing the decision, the chairman stated that applicant could apply to the Court again at the expiration of the three months, if the circumstances had not altered.

A member of the Church of England asked to be placed in a non-combatant service, stating that the taking of life was contrary to the teaching of Christianity. He had unsuccessfully attempted to get into the R.A.M.C. For six months' he had worked in Egypt with the Y.M.C.A. in conjunction with the British Red Cross Society. He was placed in non-combatant service.

A Sunday School teacher asked for total exemption, stating that he was a conscientious objector. Conscience was his supreme guide, and he looked upon taking life as a sin against God. He was a member of a Free Church, and had offered to work in hospitals without pay. It would be a piece of dirty work if he acted against his conscience at the present time, the time had come when he should set an example to his scholars.

The Chairman: I hope you are not teaching your Sunday School scholars these tenets?

Applicant: It is against Christianity, and I shall teach it while I have breath.

The Chairman: We have a right to our opinions, but we have always a right to put opinions into action.

The appeal was dismissed.

The Court decided to deal with the case of a man who came under the Military Service Act, and who was too late in appealing to the local Tribunal. He was allowed a month to make arrangements in regard to his business, the chairman explaining that under the Act he would receive three months in all.

A saddler obtained a conditional exemption chiefly on the ground that he attended to the belting at a colliery, the chairman stating that it appeared to be in the national interest that he should continue to do that work.

Several applicants asked to be allowed time to settle their affairs before joining the colours, and various periods were allowed by the Tribunal. *"Let them go and fight who made it,"* said a butcher when told that his appeal on behalf of his son would be dismissed.

An application for leave to appeal to the Central Appeal Tribunal was refused, the chairman stating that there was no principle involved in the case.

THE LATE CAPT. R. D. FARMER

TRIBUTES BY ASHBY GUARDIANS

Eloquent tributes to the late Captain R. D. Farmer were made by members of the Ashby Board of Guardians at the meeting on Saturday.

The chairman, (Mr T. Varnham) in moving a vote of condolence with Mr and Mrs Farmer and family, said he thought it was about the most painful duty that had ever befallen a chairman of the Board. Members who had been on the Board for several years had watched Mr Roland Farmer grow up and had hoped that when Mr George Farmer relinquished his office they would have an excellent and worthy successor. But it appeared that things had been differently ordained. When the war broke out, there was no question of appealing, but Mr Roland Farmer shouldered his rifle with the greatest pleasure to go and fight for his country, and they all knew how ably he had done so. Although they read sometimes of young officers losing their heads, and leading their men wrong – which was perhaps excusable – that never occurred in regard to Captain Farmer. They had been led to understand that he had been a most capable, and a most careful and cool-headed officer. He knew that Capt. Roland Farmer led a clean life when at home and felt sure that he would do so as a soldier (hear, hear). He was an ornament to the district from which he went, and it would be a consolation to his parents that he died in the best cause that any young man could die in (hear, hear).

Mr W. Andrews, seconding, said he was sorry to have to associate himself with this vote, but he would not like to leave that meeting without having done so. The late officer was a very amiable young man, and he (Mr Andrews) had often thought what a splendid successor he would make to his father. All who knew him were aware of his good qualities, and it was with great sorrow that he (the speaker) heard of his death.

Mrs Pratt said they all knew Captain Farmer there as a very bright and promising poor law officer (hear, hear). They knew also what an excellent officer he was in the army, and were very sorry for his father and mother. She thought that sometime they would have pride in knowing that he died doing his duty, and they could not have a nobler example.

Mr Bullen said that during the last twenty months many tragic incidents had occurred but there was nothing he had felt more keenly than the loss of their assistant clerk, Captain Farmer. Before he left to take up his military duties, he had attained the highest respect and regard of everyone connected with the Board, (hear, hear) and he was sure that every member of the Board would readily understand why it was that Capt. Farmer was idolised by the men under his charge. He hoped that Mr and Mrs Farmer would find some consolation in their son's gallantry and devotion to duty which he possessed and practiced to such a high degree, and also the fact that he gave his life for a cause than which none more honourable has been waged by nations at war.

Mr J. W. Fowler said he would like to associate himself with the vote of condolence to Mr and Mrs Farmer. He knew of no young fellow who led a cleaner and better life than Roland Farmer. He was a very nice gentleman when he was amongst them and he proved a good soldier fighting for his country.

Mr A. Riley said that through all his connection with the late Captain Farmer, he always found him a straight-forward, honest man; a man who attended to his business, and was not afraid of going into the minutest details in carrying out the work he had to do. Personally, he felt that he had lost a friend. He was quite sure that the Guardians of Ashby had lost a good and valued servant, and the country had lost a valiant soldier (hear, hear).

The Rev. C. T. Moore said he had known Captain Farmer for a considerable time and deeply regretted his death. He had received letters from boys in the trenches which told how Captain Farmer was loved by his men, how well he led them, and what a pleasant companion he was. Speaking with evident emotion, the reverend gentlemen continued: "My own son was out there with him. They have been great friends together, and in his letters home he used to tell me what a nice, good fellow Captain Farmer was." In civil life they also deeply deplored his loss, because as the chairman rightly said, the day might have been coming when they would have seen him doing useful work for that Board. Their hearts went out to Mr and Mrs Farmer in their sorrow and grief. He received a letter from his son only the previous day saying how unfortunate it was that Captain Farmer should have been killed in such an extraordinary way. His son went on to express how deeply grieved they all were, and said that in a large sense they would not be able to replace him. No one regretted it more than him (the speaker), and he hoped that the war would soon be brought to a successful conclusion (hear, hear).

Dr. Atkinson said he had always received the greatest kindness from Captain Farmer, who possessed the kind and courteous manner of his father to the full. During the last few weeks they had had a new postman at Osgathorpe, who formerly served in the Shepshed Territorials, the company to which the late Captain Farmer, before the war, was attached, and when he told the man that Capt. Farmer had been killed, the tears ran down his face. It only showed how the late officer was beloved by his men.

Mr T. Frith said that as a schoolmaster he could add his testimony. Over 200 of his old boys were serving at the Front, and many had expressed the same sentiments to him as mentioned by Dr. Atkinson in regard to the death of Captain Farmer. They were all struck by his kindness, his geniality, and thoughtfulness for the men under his care. All he had spoken to about the late officer had expressed themselves like this: "*To know him was to love him.*" That expressed a great deal more than one could say.

The Rev. T. W. Walters said they were cut to the heart when they read the great lists of splendid young lives that were being lost in this war, and when they found it was one connected with someone they knew, it touched them a great deal more. He had not the pleasure of knowing Captain Farmer, but he knew his father, and wished most sincerely to associate himself with this vote.

The members silently passed the resolution by rising from their seats.

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COALVILLE POLICE COURT

ATTESTED MAN CHARGED

Wm. Maidwell, labourer, Coalville, was charged with being a military absentee under the Group system, since March 25th. He pleaded not guilty. Captain Stevenson (recruiting officer) said the man attested and was ordered to report himself at Glen Parva Barracks on March 25th. He failed to do so, and witness issued the necessary War Office letter for him to be apprehended as a deserter. Defendant had stated that he reported himself at the Barracks on March 29th, but had he done so, his medical papers would have been marked. Witness was going to Barracks that day, and if the Bench would adjourn the case till Saturday, he would make enquiries.

Defendant said he went to the Barracks on March 22nd, was examined by the doctor, and given a months' respite because he was ill. The Bench remanded the defendant in custody till 12 o'clock next day for enquiries to be made.

THE DRINK

Henry Pepper, collier, Swannington, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Swannington on March 18th. He did not appear. P.C. Sibson said the man used very bad language. Witness believed the man

was now on the staff at Donington Hall. Replying to the Bench, witness said the man had enlisted since this offence, and was now one of the guard at Donington Hall. Fined 12/- or seven days.

MORE "LIGHT" OFFENCES

Four residents were summoned for a breach of the Lights in Buildings Regulations, under the Defence of the Realm Act.

The first was Frederick Perry, collier, of Whitwick, for whom Mr J. J. Sharp (Sharp and Lancaster, Coalville and Loughborough), appeared and pleaded not guilty. P.C. Jelley said there was no blind at all at the window, which showed a bright light towards the road. He had cautioned the defendant previously about the lights from the fish shop. By Mr Sharp, "The defendant may have purchased a new blind a few days before, but it was not up."

P.C. Grewcock said he saw the light. He also had previously cautioned the defendant's wife. Mr Sharp said the light was only seen while the blind was changed. Defendant's wife bore this out on oath, and in reply to Supt. Lockton, she admitted that the police had cautioned her twice. Nora Perry, defendant's daughter, deposed to taking home a new green blind from Mr Bourne's where she was employed. A fine of 10/- , or seven days was imposed.

Fred Spencer, colliery banksman, Coalville, pleaded guilty. Inspector Dobney said he saw the boiler-house door open at the Snibston Colliery. There was a powerful electric light which shone right across the road. He asked the defendant three times to close the door while he filled the ashes. But he said he should not shut the door for witness or anybody else. He was very obstinate. Fined £1, or seven days.

Arthur Bishop, grocer, Whitwick, pleaded guilty. P.C. Grewcock, said the blind did not fit by three or four inches and the light was not shaded. Defendant had previously been cautioned. Defendant said it was hard lines to be summoned when his lads had all gone. Fined 10/- or seven days.

Ellen Matterson, grocer, Coalville, did not appear. P.C. Spiby said the light shone across the road through the door being open. Defendant told him she had the blinds down and the door had been left open by customers. He told her she should shade the light. Fined £1 or seven days

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FROM THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Captain Paulyn Charles James Rawdon-Hastings, Leicestershire Regiment, of the Manor House, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, heir-presumptive to the earldom of Loudoun, at one time in the office of the Public Trustee, and afterwards private secretary to Sir A. Griffith Boscawen, who was killed in France on October 13th, aged 25 years, has left unsettled estates of the value of £1,649/0/4. Probate is granted to his mother, Lady Maud Rawdon-Hastings.

CITIZENS' CORPS SHOOTING COMPETITIONS

Competitions between teams of seven men of the Ashby and Woodville Citizens' Corps took place at the 25 yards range in the Town Hall, on Saturday. In the first round ten shots per man were fired, the possible being 100. The Ashby team made 672, or 28 points less than the possible, and won easily. They also won in the second round, 5 shots per man, possible 50, scoring 15 points less than the possible. Service rifles, with Morris tubes, were used.

COALVILLE OFFICER'S TRIBUTE TO THE FRENCH

HOW TO DEAL WITH CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

An officer who has recently proceeded to the front in France, writing to his parents at Coalville, pays a tribute to the French people in regard to the splendid part being taken by them in the great struggle and makes an interesting suggestion as to dealing with conscientious objectors.

He writes:- "As yet we have seen no devastated country and considering our proximity to the firing line it is marvellous how peaceful everything is, except for the ever present British Tommy and the constant stream of artillery and supplies. One is struck more and more every day by the enormous scale on which we, as a nation, are carrying things out. The capital expended and the ordinary daily expenditure for our own small section must be enormous. One is no longer surprised at the army estimates. The men I have seen coming from and going to the trenches all look wonderfully fit, and happy, and excellently equipped. As far as I can see there is no complaint whatever here as regards the rationing and equipping of our army, and I expect this condition is general.

It is more evident every day how France is throwing her whole energy into the war. There is scarcely a man to be seen anywhere. Women are working everywhere, young and old. We were watching them threshing at a farm yesterday. Two young women were putting the wheat into the machine. Three very old women were collecting the straw, and tying it up, and a very old man was pitching it into the loft. And yet farmers and others in England say they can't spare men!

We have a good suggestion for dealing with the conscientious objectors. Bring them out here after the war and make them clear up, empty sandbags, clear away the entanglements, fill in the trenches and repair all the damage. After finishing there, pack them off to Egypt, South Africa, and Serbia to do the same. We would not pay them anything, but would feed them on ordinary rations or a little worse, and when they had done all this let come on tour through Great Britain so that people would have a chance of looking at them."

COALVILLE SERGEANT'S EXPERIENCES

INTERESTING LETTER

The following are interesting extracts from a letter to Mr W. Hurst, of Forest Road, Coalville, written by his son, Sergt. E. W. Hurst, of the Royal Engineers, just before he was wounded.

"I received your letter of 6th March when in the trenches, where I have been nearly a fortnight. I only wish we could bring a few Zepps down, yet these raids will not help the Germans; they don't quite realise the British temper yet. Things were not comfortable when we came to these trenches, it was snow, slush and mud everywhere, but, fortunately, the food was satisfactory, and we can stand more if there is something inside to work on. There was some fearful slaughter here some months ago. The ground is torn and ploughed up everywhere by shells, trenches wrecked, dug-outs caved in, wreck and ruin all over the slopes, and scores of unburied corpses, mostly Germans still lying in the open, or half buried in the ruined trenches. Still the guns roar and the shells pound and rend the already torn ground. Towards the firing line it is an indescribable confusion of twisted wires, broken stakes, torn sandbags, shell holes, old trenches, mine craters, and unexploded shells, bombs, etc. In this part it isn't wise to straighten your back for the trenches are shallow and the German snipers watchful. I wear waders (i.e. rubber boots coming up to the thigh) on these excursions, also a steel cap and feel as if I were in harness then. A day or two ago I was on the look-out for cable routes, and had to go 500 yards along one trench, took half-an-hour, mud and water up to the waist, with the Germans less than 150 yards away at some points, and one had to go along well doubled up because the parapet was low. However, I found a splendid route for my wires, which have as yet not broken. I am living in a series of dug-outs and shelters along a main road, well dug into the hillside, and fairly comfortable, though within 1,500 yards of the Bosches. Still, one does not have to wander about unless necessary, for we get heavily shelled here at times, and bullets hiss over the top of the bank at all times, more especially at night. We get water from a well at night; it is pretty bad stuff and can only be drunk as tea, etc. The Germans dropped shells all round this well a day or two ago, but, fortunately, did not hit it. I wash in an old trench. The first two days we came here I had no time to wash at all, and with a four days' beard I must have looked a nut, especially as I was well plastered with mud from head to foot. Just above our dug-out is a ridge; it is not a healthy locality unless one gets in the ruined trenches. There has been some desperate fighting on the reverse side of this ridge. Here it is that many lie still unburied, though they are mostly in bits, and are getting covered up by trenches falling in or shells throwing earth over them. The first time I went over there was by moonlight, and it was not long before I came across a skull, then a pair of boots with the feet still in them, and so on. At one place, the bodies were very thick on the ground; to bury them would risk more lives, so there they are likely to stop. I don't think leave will come my way again just yet. However, we can't expect everything in a war of this nature; the only thing is to keep on doing one's utmost, and making the best of things in general. It is now nearly thirteen months since we left England, and twenty since I was called up. I have learned something since then, but could not presume to tell the Government how to run the war, like some of the "gas-bags" at home. I find much admirable organisation,

and plenty of persistent silent work under great difficulties. We do our work none the less well because it is done in the British fashion, and we don't need, and do not want, the exaggerated criticism and hysterical advice of these at ease at home, who, in their own opinion, know so well how the war should be conducted."

COALVILLE SOLDIER'S DEATH

SECOND IN ONE FAMILY

The news conveyed in letters to friends in the town of the death of Private Ernest Brownlow, of 99, Margaret Street, Coalville, was confirmed by a letter sent to his wife by Lieutenant A. G. Moore, of the Leicestershire Regiment. The officer wrote:

"Dear Mrs Brownlow, - It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the death of your husband, Private Brownlow. He was wounded by a bomb and died the following day. You and your family have my deepest sympathy, and that of the officers and men of the company. The short time he was in my company he proved himself to be a splendid soldier, perfectly fearless and always cheerful. You have this consolation that he died fighting for his King and country. The greatest honour a man can have is to die for his country. With much sympathy, I remain, yours sincerely, A. G. Moore, Lieutenant."



Ernest Brownlow was one of four brothers who have been serving the army, and was the second to have fallen, his brother, Arthur, having been killed in June last. Their wives, two sisters, both reside in Margaret Street, and Mrs E. Brownlow is left with five little children, whose ages are 8, 7, 5, 3 and the baby about 20 months.

A sad feature is that it was Private Brownlow's first time in the trenches, he having only been in France three weeks. Two months previously he was in Coalville on leave from Bulwell. He was 31 years of age, and enlisted nearly

twelve months ago. Before then he was working at the South Leicestershire Colliery. For many years he played for Coalville Town F.C., and later for Hugglescote United, and was popularly known in local football circles as "Brudge" Brownlow.

COALVILLE GUNNER KILLED

STRUCK BY A PIECE OF SHELL

Mr and Mrs W. J. Cracknell, of Bakewell Street, Coalville, have received the sad news that their son, Gunner J. F. Cracknell, of the R.F.A. was killed in action in France, through being struck by a piece of shell. The information was contained in a letter from a friend of the deceased who enlisted at the same time, and they made a compact with each other that if anything befell either of them, the other would let the parents know.

Cracknell was 24 years of age and single. He served his apprenticeship to the grocery trade at Messrs. Hunter's shop at Coalville, and before the war was engaged in a shop in Coventry. He enlisted in August, 1914, almost immediately on the outbreak of war, and had been at the front in France about ten months. Two months ago he was at Coalville, on leave, and brought home a bayonet which he took from a



German, and also a small cross-shaped knife which had been manufactured from British, French and German bullets. At the time of his death he was attached to the signalling section, having recently been awarded a certificate for proficiency in this branch of army work.

Gunner Cracknell was the second son of Mr W. J. Cracknell, who had three sons serving their King and country. The eldest, William, in the same regiment, was wounded at Loos, and is now at Hawarden. The youngest of the three, Louis, is a driver in the motor transport service.

THORNTON SOLDIER KILLED

Private Frank Mee, Leicestershire Regiment, who was killed by shellfire in France. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Wm. Mee, of Thornton, and worked at the Desford Colliery, No. 1 pit. Before he enlisted at the outbreak of the war, being greatly respected by all his fellow workers. The following is a copy of a letter from Lieutenant J. B. Breacher, officer commanding machine-gun section.

"Dear Mr Mee, - I regret very sincerely to have to announce the death of your son, Frank. He was killed by the explosion of a shell during the bombardments of our billets this afternoon. Fortunately, I was on the spot when he died, and I am glad to say that his was a merciful end, to which there was no pain attached. He is all the more loss to me, since he was such a good honest fellow. There is no doubt that his loss will be greatly felt by all his pals to whom he was an example of all that is good and upright. I sympathise greatly with you in your sad loss, and though he is a true example of the saying that "Those whom the gods love die young." I trust that one day we shall simply avenge his end."

The chaplain wrote as follows:

"Dear Mr Mee, - I feel I must just write you a line to tell you how we all sympathise with you in your great loss. You will be comforted to know that your poor boy lived quite a short time, and did not suffer in the least. I buried him in our little churchyard here and the Colonel was present to pay his last respects. You may be sure that I shall take care to see that his grave is well cared for and looked after. I think we have the prettiest and neatest little cemetery for many miles along this front. We prayed for you and yours in my little church here on Sunday, and I pray daily that the presence of Christ himself may uplift you in your hour of sorrow. - Yours truly, E. P. Woolcombe, chaplain."

A chum who enlisted with Mee from Thornton, writes:

"Dear Mrs Mee, - I am writing a few lines to you to tell you some sad news. Perhaps you have heard it before you get this letter. I hope you have for one thing, because then it will not be my letter that gives you the blow. The Germans bombarded our village heavily yesterday, and we had some casualties. It is a bad blow, and I hope you will try to bear it bravely; at least, I can assure you that you are the mother of a very brave soldier. Frank was standing outside his billet, when a shell came and killed one and wounded another, and I regret to say that poor Frank was the former. It was a bad blow to me when I heard it was an old friend so I know that you will feel it deeply. I had the luck to escape it all, but I cannot say I am safe. I may have missed that even to get one later on, it is all the matters of war. I ask you to bear up as much as possible and also to accept my deepest sympathy. - I remain, yours sincerely, Private William Hares."



LOCAL NEWS

ABSENTEE

Before Mr B. G. Hale, at the Coalville Police Court on Thursday, Pte. John Kinton, of the Leicestershire Regiment, who had been apprehended by P.C. Grewcock at Whitwick, was charged with being an absentee from his regiment at Bulwell since April 2nd. He was remanded to await a military escort.

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LOCAL CHIT CHAT

The Hugglescote Council School, of which Mr W. Fellows is the headmaster, has an interesting record in connection with the war. One hundred old scholars are known to have enlisted, and 60 of those are at the Front. Two of them, J. Emmerson and T. R. Briggs, have been awarded the D.C.M. and by a peculiar coincidence both happened to be over on leave at the same time a few days ago and visited their old school (though now in new premises) where they had a splendid reception by the teachers and children. Each of the gallant soldiers addressed a few words to the children, which were listened to with interest. Up-to-date the teachers and children have contributed £52/5/8 to various war funds, have forwarded 77 parcels to the old boys, while, in addition, the girls have supplied underclothing for Belgian children, and knitted socks for soldiers, and vegetables have been sent to Belgian refugees in the district.

COUNTY APPEALS

SITTING AT LEICESTER CASTLE

The Leicestershire Appeals Tribunal sat at the Leicester Castle on Wednesday, Alderman T. Cope presided, and the other gentlemen on the Bench were Mr L. T. Topham, Mr A. E. Hawley, Mr B. H. C. Fox, Mr J. Longwill, Mr W. W. Coltman, Mr J. C. Plant, Mr J. Bailey, Mr G. J. Brooks, Mr J. C. Bassett (agricultural representative), Major Wellsman (military representative), and Mr M. C. L. Freer (clerk) were also in attendance.

The appeal of an unmarried young farmer, aged 24 years, who had 55 ¼ acres, was dismissed. His father said that one had joined the Forces, one 'hand' had left, and being unable to work himself, he was relying absolutely on the applicant and another son, who managed the butchering business. The chairman suggested that arrangements should be made for one son to look after the farming and the butchering business.

A baker pleaded for his son, who was 21 years of age. They supplied 13 villages with bread, and one son delivered it, and the other did the baking. If the son for whom he appealed went he would not be able to continue. He had lost one assistant and he had been unable to get any more help. The appeal was dismissed.

The difficulty of getting lady clerks in the colliery districts was emphasised in the course of an appeal by a local coal company for a clerk. Before the war they had 12 clerks, and eight had gone, and the four remaining were practically unfit medically. The clerk in question was only fit for home defence duties. They were 90 men short in the pit, and 44 per cent of the output was for Government work. A representative of the firm said it was quite impossible to get lady clerks, although they had offered to drive them to and from the station. The clerks now engaged were very much overworked. A conditional exemption was granted. Mr C. S. Bigg appeared for the proprietors.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

There are 10,659 medical men holding commissions in the Army?

Young women are being set on as engine-cleaners at the Coalville M. R. loco sheds?

A million magazines are wanted for the soldiers and sailors in the Church Army recreation huts at home and abroad?

A hospital train, conveying 114 wounded soldiers from the Front, arrived in Leicester, shortly before one o'clock on Tuesday morning?

Loughborough's D.C.M., George Mitchell, Leicestershire Yeomanry, whose mother lives in Union Street, Loughborough, has been promoted Sergeant-Instructor?

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THE LATE CAPT. FARMER

At the monthly meeting of the Ashby sub-committee in connection with the old-age pensions, held on Thursday evening, Mr J. W. West, J.P., who presided, made suitable reference to the loss of the clerk had sustained by the death of his son, Captain Farmer, who had been killed in action in France. He proposed that a vote of sympathy from the committee be conveyed to Mr Farmer and the members of the family. This was seconded by Mr G. Brown, J.P. and carried in the usual way.

MARKET BOSWORTH POLICE COURT

THE LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS

There was a batch of summonses in regard to lights. In the first case, Edith M. Shepherd, grocer, Barlestone, pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr F. Bouskell, of Market Bosworth. P.C. Shaw said the blind was three parts down, but there was a light from the sides which shone into the street. He called Mrs Shepherd into the street to see it, and she admitted it. He had previously cautioned the defendant.

By Mr Bouskell: Barlestone was cut off from the outside world by the storm, and Mrs Shepherd had to supply the village with bread, and a lot of people were in the shop at the time. Thomas Kirkman, son of Mr W. C. Kirkman, farmer, Barlestone, denied that any light was shining on the road. Mary Saunt, wife of John Saunt, who lives opposite defendant's shop, also said the lamp was shaded, and no light was visible from outside.

By Supt. Smith: The shop stood at a corner, and the window which she saw was not the one complained of in Bagworth Road.

Mabel Evans, defendant's assistant, said the blind may have been temporarily disarranged while she was serving some biscuits. The chairman said people could not be too careful. A fine of 10/- was imposed.

Arthur Tonks, carter, Sheepy Magna, was represented by his wife, who said there was no light at the front, but only on the back yard, where nobody had a right to trespass. (Laughter). The chairman told her that a light at the back was as dangerous as at the front. Fined 5/-.

Herbert Baker, collier, Newbold Verdon, was fined 10/-. It was stated that the light was from a bright fire while defendant was at church. When told what the fine was, defendant's wife said, "*P.C. Shaw told me that if I had to pay it would make me remember next time, and it will.*" (Laughter).

Jane Adcock, midwife, Ibstock, another defendant, said her light was not doing any harm. If anybody was flying over they would have to come right down and peep in to see the light, which was in a covered-in yard. Fined 10/-.

Defendant: It's scandalous.

The Chairman: It's scandalous that the Zeppelins come, but they do.

W. T. Williams, bank manager, Ibstock, whose offence he said was due to the carelessness of a girl, and was not wilful, was fined 20/-. The light was from a washhouse.

In the case of John Poxon, collier, Ibstock, who did not appear, P.C. Potterton said he was on duty in Melbourne Road, and saw a bright light from the front window. He aroused defendant's wife, who said she forgot to pull the blind down. Fined 10/-.

Wm. A. Hadley, collier, Ibstock, through his wife, pleaded guilty. Sergeant Iliffe said there was a bright light from the window about 10.30 pm. Fined 10/-.

Eliza Burton, married woman, Ibstock, pleaded guilty. P.C. Potterton said defendant told him she was sorry, but she forgot to put the light out. Fined 10/-.

Annie Newman, widow, Ibstock, did not appear. Sergeant Iliffe said he saw a brilliant light from a window in Station Road. The blind was not drawn at all. Defendant said they had just been out, and the maid forgot to draw the blind. Fined 10/-.

Arthur Pickering, banksman, Thornton, did not appear. P.C. Sreaton said nothing whatever was done to obscure the light and defendant admitted having been cautioned twice by the parish constable. Fined 10/-.

Thomas Findley, collier, Ibstock, did not appear, but wrote that he was guilty. Sergeant Iliffe said the defendant told him it was due to forgetfulness owing to the illness of a child which had since died. Witness said there were light from three windows. Fined 10/-.

Wm. Smith, collier, Ibstock, pleaded guilty, but said it was due to illness. P.C. Potterton said he saw the light in Chapel Street from Melbourne Road. Defendant told him one of the children was ill in bed, and he forgot to turn the light out. Fined 10/-.

David Manton, decorator and carter, Ibstock, said he put coloured blinds up and thought it was all that was necessary. There was a slight ray of light from the side of the blind. Sergeant Iliffe said there was a ray of light across the road on to the building opposite. Fined 10/-.

Thomas Burton, collier, Ibstock, who did not appear, was, on the evidence of P.C. Potterton, fined 15/-.

Jos Kirk, general dealer, Barlestone, appeared at the Court earlier in the day, but was not present when his case was called on. P.C. Shaw stated the facts, and a fine of 15/- was imposed.

Friday April 21st 1916 (Issue 1259)

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COALVILLE AND DISTRICT

ROLL OF HONOUR

Local Men who have died for their country.

One Hundred and Thirty-One Names

“Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

Appended is a list of names, as far as we have been able to trace them from the file copies of the “Coalville Times,” of the men from this district, who have given their lives for their country:-

William Chambers

Private, of Royal Marines, on board H.M.S. “Pathfinder,” sunk in the North Sea, September 5th, 1914. Mother lives in Margaret Street, Coalville.

L. Henson

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, formerly police constable stationed at New Swannington, died of wounds, September 25th, 1914.

William Ogden Hoden

Private, of the 1st Royal Warwickshire Regiment, killed in action in France, October 13th, 1914. He formerly resided at Page’s Hill, Hugglescote, and left a wife and five children.

George H. Newton

Went down in H.M.S. “Hawke.” Formerly of Bardon Hill

Sydney Herbert Sharpe

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, killed in action in Belgium, November 1st, 1914. He belonged to Heather.

J. C. Andrews

Lance-Corporal, of the 1st Beds. Regiment, killed in action on November 7th, 1914, in France. He was a Ravenstone man.

Thomas Jones

Private, of the Durham Light Infantry, killed in the bombardment of West Hartlepool. Former Thringstone school-master.

S. A. Meakin

Lieutenant, of the 1st North Staffs Regiment, killed in action in France in December 1914. Formerly resided at Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Forester Roberts

Private, of the Northants Regiment, killed in action in France, November 16th, 1914. Formerly employed by Messrs. W. Moss and Sons, Coalville.

Frederick Kirby

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, died from wounds on December 9th, 1914. Formerly resided in Crescent Road, Hugglescote, and worked as a collier.

James Edwin Cox

Private, of the Coldstream Guards, died while in training at Caterham, Surrey. Formerly resided in North Street, Hugglescote.

Alfred Wesson

Sergeant, in the Sherwood Foresters, died of wounds, March 6th, 1915. A former resident of Margaret Street, Coalville.

John Manders

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, died wounds, 15th March, 1915. His wife and two children reside in Belvoir Road, Coalville. He worked at Whitwick Colliery.

James Young

Private, Notts. and Derby Regiment. Died of wounds, 20th March, 1915. A former employee of the Coalville Urban Council, of North Street, Hugglescote.

Owen Hallam

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle, on March 10th. A well-known local footballer, formerly residing at Donnington-le-Heath.

John Williamson

Private of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action, March 10th. A Coalville man.

John D. Sheffield

Corporal of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle on March 10th. Son of the late Mr W. Sheffield, of the Railway Hotel, Coalville.

Ernest Moore

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action on March 10th, 1915. He formerly lived in Ashby Road, Coalville, and was single.

Ernest Hall

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed at Neuve Chapelle, between 10th and 14th March, 1914. His wife and three children reside at Whitwick where he worked as a collier.

James Wardle

Private, of the Grenadier Guards, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. A former collier, residing at Margaret Street, Coalville.

Val Hull

Private, of the 3rd Bedfords, killed in action in France on April 11th, 1915. He lived at Copt Oak.

Ernest Samuel Boot

Private of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on April 15th. He was employed at Messrs. Stableford's works and resided in Melbourne Street, Coalville.

Thomas Dooley D.C.M.

2nd Lieutenant, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action in France, May 1st, 1915. A former Coalville collier, of Margaret Street, adopted the army as his profession and rose from the ranks.

Albert Johnson

Of the Rifle Brigade, killed in action in April 1915. Formerly resided at Park Road, Coalville.

J. A. Johnson

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, died of wounds on April 16th. A native of Swannington.

Harry Spence

Trooper, Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action, May 13th, 1915. He resided at Markfield and was employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co., Coalville.

Samuel P. D. Thomson

Lieutenant of the Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action May 13th, 1915. A director of the Ibstock Collieries Ltd.

George Barker

Trooper, Leicestershire Yeomanry, killed in action, May 14th, 1915. A young farmer of Onebarrow, Whitwick.

C. Avins

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action in May 1915. He was an Ashby man.

William Moore

Private, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, killed in action May 1st, 1915. He belonged to Thringstone.

A. Heathcote

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, died of wounds on April 23rd, 1915. A Bagworth collier.

J. G. Poyser

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle, March 10th, 1915. He left a widow and three children at Ashby.

Timothy Betteridge

Lance-corporal, of the 2nd Leicesters. An Ashby man killed at Neuve Chapelle, March 10th, 1915.

John Gadsby

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in May, 1915. A Breedon man.

George Henry Wesson

Sergeant, of the Sherwood Foresters, killed in action on May 9th, 1915. Formerly of Margaret Street, Coalville.

Cecil Thomas Beadman

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on May 19th, 1915. Formerly worked for Messrs. Wootton Bros., Coalville, and resided at Forest Road, Coalville.

Wilfred Pepper

Of the Royal Navy, went down on the "Goliath," in the Dardanelles, May 13th, 1915. His home was at Ellistown.

Charles William Jewsbury

Gunner, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, June 6th, 1915. He was employed by Messrs. Stableford and Co., and resided at Bakewell Street, Coalville.

Frederick Wilfred Hart

5th Leicesters, killed in action, June 8th, 1915. A railwayman, of London Road, Coalville.

Francis Frederick Martin

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, died in England, on June 11th, 1915, from wounds received in action. Buried with military honours at Coalville.

Ernest H. Butler

Of the Australian Contingent, killed in action in the Dardanelles in May, 1915. He lived at Ellistown, being a former colliery clerk.

H. S. Burton

Lance-corporal of the 23rd London Regiment, killed in action on May 25th, 1915. A Whitwick man.

Ernest Tugby

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action on June 7th. He resided in Leicester Road, Whitwick.

Harold G. Blackham

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in May, 1915. Formerly clerk in the Coalville Conservative office.

Fred Whitmore

Lance-corporal, of the Black Watch, died of wounds on May 23rd, 1915. Formerly lived at Hugglescote, a colliery clerk.

Arthur Brownlow

Private, of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action on June 21st, 1915. A collier, whose wife and child were residing in Margaret Street, Coalville.

John Ison

Private, of the 1st Canadian Contingent, killed in action in June, 1915. An old Bosworth schoolboy of Measham, who had not long before gone to Canada.

William Barney

Lance-corporal, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on June 30th, 1915. A collier of Cumberland Road, Ellistown.

William Wardle

Lance-corporal, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action on July 4th, 1915. He worked at Ellistown Colliery and resided in Main Street, Swannington.

Harry Walker

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 2nd, 1915. A Ravenstone man employed by the South Leicestershire Colliery Co.

G. H. Highfield

2nd Lieutenant, of the 3rd York and Lancaster Regiment, killed in action, July 4th, 1915. A former master at Coalville Grammar School.

John George Bennett

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 15th. He resided in Beresford Street, and formerly worked for Messrs. Wootton Bros., Coalville.

Walter Gray

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 23rd, 1915. He formerly lived in Belvoir Road, Coalville.

John Clibbery

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action July 20th, 1915. A former Ellistown collier, whose father resides in Bakewell Street, Coalville.

George Andrews

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, July 23rd, 1915. A Ravenstone man who worked at Ibstock colliery.

Harry Smith

Petty officer of the Royal Naval Brigade, killed in the Dardanelles, on July 14th, 1915. Formerly worked at Ibstock Colliery.

William Massey

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action August 9th, 1915. A Hugglescote man.

Harry Badcock

Private, 5th Leicesters, killed in action August 1st, 1915. A former Coalville Grammar School boy who resided at Ibstock.

Isaac Hall

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 23rd, 1915. A Whitwick collier whose home was at Thringstone.

H. Ing

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action July 30th, 1915. Resided at Waterworks Road, Coalville.

Cyril Ernest Briers

Of the Coldstream Guards, killed in action, July 29th, 1915. He lived with his uncle, Mr B. Baxter, Ibstock.

Fred Pringle

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in August, 1915. An Ashby man.

E. Dowell

Private, killed in action in France, August 17th, 1915. His wife and four children reside at Markfield.

Clifford E. Scott

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action in France, September 1st, 1915. Son of Mr W. V. Scott, Coalville East station-master, and formerly clerk in the L and N. W. Goods Office, Whitwick,

Herbert Smith Hurst

Private, of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, August 31st, 1915. He was a collier, formerly residing at Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick.

Arthur Charles Johnstone

Private, of the 8th Leicesters, died September 1st, 1915, from wounds received in action the previous day. A collier of Castle Hill, Whitwick.

Alfred Clifford

Private, in the 1st Leicesters, killed in action in September, 1915, in France. He was a Coleorton collier.

Edward H. H. Rawdon-Hastings

Lieutenant, of the Black Watch, died of enteric in hospital at Boulogne, September 15th. Son of Lady Maude Hastings of the Manor House, Ashby.

Bernard Hatter

2nd Lieut., 2nd Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action September 26th, 1915. Only son of Mr T. Hatter, of North Street, Hugglescote.

Walter Irons

Private in the 5th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action in France, September 28th. He formerly worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery and resided at Shaw Lane.

W. L. Pearson

Private, K.O.S. Borderers, killed in action at Gallipoli, on June 28th. He was a Heather man and formerly worked at the Ibstock Colliery.

Walter Shaw

Private in the 9th Leicesters, killed in action September 9th. He was a widower, formerly residing at Swannington and was a labourer.

J. H. Pepper

Private of the 9th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action in France in September. He formerly resided at Newton Burgoland.

Pte. Dolman

Of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, killed in action, October 1915. He formerly worked at Nailstone Colliery and left a widow and two children, residing at South Street, Ellistown.

Joseph Cox

Private in the Grenadier Guards, killed in action, October 1915. He was an Ashby man and formerly captain of the Ashby Hastings F.C.

B. Turner

Private of the 3rd Leicesters, killed in action on September 17th, 1915. He formerly lived at Peckleton and worked at the Desford Collieries.

James Cairns

Private in the Connaught Rangers, killed in action in the Dardanelles on August 21st, 1915. Formerly a Whitwick collier, who leaves a widow and three children.

Frank Underwood

Private in 8th Leicesters, killed in action in October, 1915. Son of Mr John Underwood, of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, and a former employee of the Forest Rock Granite Company.

Paulyn C. J. Reginald Rawdon-Hastings

Captain, 5th Leicestershire Territorials, killed in action, October, 1915. Son of Lady Maude Hastings, of the Manor House, Ashby.

Bernard Whittaker

Private of the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action on September 25th or 26th, 1915. He formerly lived in Leicester Road, Whitwick, and worked at the South Leicestershire Colliery.

George Gadsby

Private of the 5th Leicesters, killed in action October, 1915. He left a wife and one child living at Mill Row, Hugglescote, and formerly worked at Ibstock Colliery.

Percy Lawrence Smith

Private of the 1st Hants Regiment, killed in action. He was a Ravenstone man.

Walter Woodward

Trooper in the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, died of wounds received in action on October 9th, 1915. Son of Mrs Woodward of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

E. Pringle

Corporal, in the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, October, 1915. An Ashby man, brother of Pte. Fred Pringle, also killed in action.

George Fletcher

Private in the 5th Leicesters, reported killed in action October, 1915. Son of Mr George Fletcher, of No. 9, Ibstock Road, Ellistown.

R. C. Lawton

Lieutenant, 5th Leicesters, died of wounds received in action, October, 1915. Son of Mr Lawton of Boothorpe, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

C. Page

Private in the Worcestershire Regiment, killed in action, May 15th, 1915. A former Coalville policeman.

Samuel Thomas Berkin

Private in the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards, killed in action September 27th, 1915. A Swannington man, formerly employed at Messrs. Stableford and Co's Works, Coalville.

Frank William Woolhouse

Private in the 5th Leicesters, killed in action, October, 1915. A Whitwick collier, who resided at Albert Street, Coalville.

Gerald Stewart

Captain, 10th Hussars, and **John Stewart**, Lieutenant, Royal Irish Guards, both killed in action. Only sons of Mr C. H. and Lady Mary Stewart, of Cliftonthorpe, Ashby.

Fred Davis

Private, in the 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle. Aged 26, single, formerly worked at South Leicestershire Colliery, and lived with his sister, Mrs Massey, late of 154, Ashby Road, Coalville.

Edward Jarvis

Private of the 1st Grenadier Guards, killed in action, October 17th, 1915. He formerly resided at 88, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, and worked at the Snibston Colliery.

Harry Toon

Private, 9th Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France on November 15th, 1915. He was aged 20, formerly worked at Coleorton Colliery and lived at Griffydam.

C. H. Smith

Private, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, killed in action in France, November 1915. His parents reside at Nottingham Road, Ashby.

A Litherland

Private, 1/5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, November 1915. His home was at Chapel Yard, Ashby.

Frederick Barttam

Private in the 5th Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) killed in action in France, October 13th, 1915. An Osbastone man.

W. Hadland

Private in the 5th Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.) died of wounds received in action in France, November, 1915. He was formerly employed on the Cadeby estate of Messrs. Scott and Brown.

Joseph A. Hall

Lance-Corporal in the 9th Leicesters, killed in action in France, December 9th, 1915. He was a Whitwick collier, aged 22 years, and his wife and child reside at the Dumps.

Charles W. Cook

Private, 10th Leicesters, killed in action in France, December 10th. Aged 22, an Ashby man.

Robert Ashby

Sapper of Royal Engineers, killed in action December 21st, 1915. A Battram man and former member of the Nailstone Colliery Rescue Party.

L. G. Beck

Corporal in the 1st Leicesters, killed in action December 21st, 1915. Late of Leicester and formerly of Park Road, Coalville, aged 27.

Oliver Pratt

Private, 8th Leicesters, died on New Year's Day, 1916, from wounds received in action in France on December 27th. He was a collier at the South Leicestershire Colliery and resided at 5, Wilkins Lane, Hugglescote.

J. W. Archer

Of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action, November 17th, 1915. He formerly lived at Hill Entry, Desford.

A Lee

Private, of the Royal Engineers, died of pneumonia. He belonged to Ulverscroft, Markfield.

R. Cramp

Private, of the 1st Leicesters, killed in action, January 1916. A Markfield man.

George Spencer

Private in the 3/5th Leicestershire Regiment, died while in training in Yorkshire, December 1915. Son of the late Mr Nat. Spencer, of Belvoir Road, Coalville.

Alfred Bernard Smith

Private of the Grenadier Guards, died January 5th, 1916, from wounds received in action in France the previous day. A former employee of Messrs. Stableford and Co., aged 19 years, of Main Street, Swannington.

Stanley Samuel Snell

Private in the 2nd Leicesters, posted wounded and missing in France, from September 21st, 1915, death officially confirmed January 12th. Had spent 5 years in the army, son of Mr S. Snell, of Snibstone.

James Haywood

Private in the 8th Leicesters, killed in action in France, January 1916. Formerly worked at Ellistown Colliery, aged 32, and lived at Donington-le-Heath.

Eric Compton Dougherty

Lieutenant, of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, killed at the Dardanelles on July 13th, 1915. Son of the Rector of Carlton.

Thomas Sleath

Private in the Leicestershire Regiment, died from wounds in hospital at Torquay, on November 14th, 1915, and was buried with military honours at Hugglescote on November 20th. His wife and children reside at Coalville.

Alec Howard Mason

Private of the 8th Leicesters, killed in action in France, February, 1916. Aged 19, a resident of Copt Oak.

Stenson Hardy

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January, 1916. Lived in Hotel Street, Coalville, aged 28 and married.

George Wilkinson

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January 13th, 1916. Banksman at the South Leicestershire Colliery, and resided at Margaret Street, Coalville, single, aged 33.

John Copley

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January 6th – 7th, 1916. Lived in Margaret Street, Coalville.

Edward Henry Hunt

Private, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January 1916. Aged 20, single. Lived in Pretoria Road, Coalville.

G. E. Hartwell

Corporal, 2nd Leicesters, killed in action at the Persian Gulf, January 1916. A former Coalville postman.

Amos Elkin

Private in the 2nd Grenadier Guards, killed in action January 30th, 1916. Formerly a collier, single of 148, North Street, Coalville.

James Thomas Bishop

Company Sergeant-Major, of the Army Service Corps, died February 17th from illness contracted while on military duty. Formerly a collier, married, and resided in Crescent Road, Hugglescote.

J. Flaherty

Private, Royal Marine Light Infantry, killed on his ship in the Mediterranean, on January 7th. Formerly lived at Ibstock.

Arthur Pegg

Private, 9th Leicesters, killed in action in France, February 21st, 1916. Aged 25, single, son of Mr A. Pegg, of Crescent Road, Hugglescote.

Joseph Satchwell

Private, 8th Leicesters, killed in action in France, February 6th, 1916. A former Ibstock man employed at the Ellistown Colliery.

E. Howe

Private, 2nd Leicesters, died February 16th, of wounds received in action at the Persian Gulf, January 6th or 7th. A former Whitwick collier, of Talbot Street, Whitwick.

Joseph Martin

Lance-Corporal, Royal Sussex Regiment, single, aged 31, a gardener, formerly of Coleorton, killed in action in France, March 3rd, 1916.

John Martin

Private, 1st Leicesters, killed in action in France, March 17th, 1916. Single, aged 19, of Swannington Road, Ravenstone, a former Ibstock collier.

Roland D. Farmer

Captain, 5th Leicesters, killed in action in France, March 22nd, 1916. Son of Mr Geo. Farmer, clerk to the Ashby Board of Guardians, and a popular Territorial officer.

John Williamson

Corporal, 5th Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, March, 1916. Aged 24, single, formerly of Park Road, Coalville, and employed at the Whitwick Colliery.

Ernest Brownlow

Private, 5th Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, March, 1916. Aged 31, married, wife and 5 children who reside in Margaret Street, Coalville. Formerly worked at South Leicestershire Colliery.

J. F. Cracknell

Gunner, R.F.A., killed in action in France, April, 1916. Aged 24, single, grocer's assistant, formerly residing at Bakewell Street, Coalville.

Frank Mee

Private, Leicestershire Regiment, killed in action in France, March, 1916. A Thornton man, single, and formerly employed at the Desford Colliery.

ASHBY POLICE COURT

THE LIGHTING ORDER

James Ireland, (31), dentist, Ashby, was summoned for a contravention of the Lighting Order, at Ashby, on April 5th. He pleaded guilty. Sergeant Fox said there was a bright light from defendant's house in Packington Road. The man had been twice cautioned. The chairman said the public must be protected. It was no use one man observing the Order, if another did not. Fined £2/2/0. Defendant offered to pay by cheque, but the clerk said it was not their custom to accept cheques. He was told to go and get the money.

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COALVILLE TRIBUNAL

COMPLAINTS OF FALSE EVIDENCE

MARRIED MEN'S APPEALS ADJOURNED

A meeting of the Coalville Urban District Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber on Friday night, Mr T. Y. Hay, presided, and there were present, Messrs. M. McCarthy, B. B. Drewett, A. J. Briers, J. W. Fisher, and T. F. Fox, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

Mr Drewett said Friday night was inconvenient for him and one or two others. The clerk said that the meeting was altered to Friday to suit the military authorities. No doubt it could be put back to Monday.

A months' exemption to Thomas Hy. Marks, aged 25, of Coalville, music teacher and pianist at Coalville Electric Theatre, having expired, he applied for two months' further exemption, owing to illness. Answering a question, the clerk said the Military Service Act allowed the man two months if the appeal was dismissed. Dismissed.

Mr German said the Advisory Committee had asked him to suggest to the Tribunal that they request men who were given one month's exemption and more, should train with the local Volunteer Training Corps in the meantime. They could do that while still keeping on with their business and make themselves more efficient when they had to go. Mr Blower said there were V.T.C. at Whitwick, Hugglescote, Coalville, and Ashby. Mr Drewett said he thought the Coalville Corps had suspended all drills.

Mr Blower: It is only because no one attended the drills. These men have been invited, and the drills will be continued if they will go.

The chairman said the Press no doubt would make a note of that.

Joseph Berrington, of Spring Hill Farm, Whitwick, applied for his waggoner, aged 29. He said he was behind with his ploughing and sowing, and Corbett was the only man of any use to him on his farm of 105 acres. A temporary certificate for six months was granted.

At this point one of the military representatives raised the question of misleading evidence having been given at former meetings of the Tribunal. He said that but for the wilful lies that had been told, the Tribunal might have come to a different decision in some of the cases. He thought applicants should be warned. Some of the cases would have to be called up again.

Mr McCarthy said that notwithstanding all the time he gave public work, he would come on a special night to deal again with cases in which they had been misled. Mr Drewett agreed that if wrong evidence had been given, these cases should be brought up again. It was stated that some of them would be.

A further application was made by Mr E. Robinson, a Coalville motor garage proprietor, whose previous exemption had expired. He asked for six months to allow him to get in outstanding accounts and arrange his business affairs. He was allowed one month, this to be final.

An application was made by the secretary of the Whitwick District Manchester Unity of Oddfellows on behalf of Herbert Brewin, aged 33, of Swannington. It was stated that Brewin was confidential clerk at Whitwick Colliery and was previously appealed for by Mr Walter Lindley, secretary to the Colliery Co. He was then put back to a later group. The applicant stated that Brewin carried out the secretarial work for the Oddfellows' district in connection with State Insurance. They had 1809 voluntary members in the Whitwick district and 1520 in the State Insurance department and during 1915 they paid out £1,900. In his letter to the Tribunal, Brewin said he was getting married next week. Mr Lindley had told him that he had advertised in four papers for a successor, but in vain. Two months' allowed.

The military authorities intimated that they should appeal against the decision.

Thos. Egan, aged 21, of Margaret Street, Coalville, employed by the Ibstock Colliery Co. as a fire-clay getter, asked to be exempted while his widowed mother lived. He said she was often ill in the night and would be left alone if he went. She was 63 years of age. Replying to questions, he said he had brothers and sisters, all married. One brother was serving in the army. Three months allowed.

The British and Argentine Meat Co. Leicester, applied for the manager of their Coalville branch shop, Edward H. Rines, aged 26. A representative of the firm said 500 of 600 of their employees were serving with the colours. This man had been their Coalville manager for four years. Answering a question he said this was not a woman's job.

The Chairman: I saw a woman driving a big horse and cart today.

It was stated that the Advisory Committee recommended a temporary certificate for three months. This was moved but there was an amendment that only a month be allowed. Mr McCarthy said they allowed the Co-Operative Society's butchery managers three months each.

Mr German: That was why the Advisory Committee recommended three months.

Mr Drewett said the Co-Operative Society's men were also all slaughter-men, which was a reserved trade. The case was adjourned till the next meeting for details as to the number employed by the firm and the number serving with the colours. Mr Fisher asked whether they could not have some definite rule to guide them in these cases. The chairman said they must take each case on its merits. Mr Fisher said they had had several similar cases and seemed to be going over the same ground several times.

Mr Charles Coleman, managing director of the Coalville Motor Bus and Garage Co. applied for the total exemption of Thos. Hy. Wortley, aged 26, married with one child and a widowed mother partly dependent upon him. Mr Coleman said Wortley was the manager and relief driver. They were having difficulty in maintaining the service, and it would mean financial loss to discontinue, having £5,000 invested. They had three drivers, including Wortley, and were teaching one.

The Chairman: We want men for the army.

Mr Coleman said he realised that. He was doing four men's work himself now. He pointed out that they daily conveyed 100 colliers to and from work.

Mr German: They would get to the collieries in any case, wouldn't they?

Mr Coleman: Yes, but they might lose work.

Mr German: They got to the collieries before the buses ran.

Mr Coleman: Yes, but it might disorganise the work for some weeks.

Two months allowed.

Two joiners and contractors, in partnership, Jos. S. Dodd, of Whitwick, aged 33, and Thos. C. Goddard, of Hugglescote, aged 32, both single, applied for exemption, their previous period of grace having expired. Dodd said he also assisted his mother and father, aged 74 and 73, in a newsagent's business which they had carried on for 46 years. He had a brother in the army. Goddard said he applied on business grounds. They were working on two houses now and would finish in about six weeks. This period of exemption was suggested. Mr German asked whether it was not a serious matter to give two single young men in a small way of business six weeks, which would defer their training, when men were badly wanted. It was agreed to allow one month, to be final in each case.

Mr E. T. Casson, grocer and corn merchant, Belvoir Road, Coalville, made a second application for his son, Frank, his outdoor manager. He said he had advertised in the papers for a substitute and could not get men.

By Mr German: Another son in a business of his own assisted him a little.
One month allowed.

It was suggested six months be allowed Thos. Wm. Gray, tailor, aged 28, and married, who asked for total exemption on business grounds. Mr German asked for such cases as this to be adjourned.

The Chairman: Why?

Mr German: He is in Group 34 and may not be called up at present.

Mr Blower said the man may not be called up for a month or two and his exemption period would be running in the meantime.

Mr McCarthy: He can appeal again.

Mr Blower: Yes, but he will be getting time that is no use to him.

It was decided to adjourn the case.

Harry Johnson, fruit and vegetable merchant, of Ellistown, aged 25 and married, was allowed two months: Frank Harris, farmer, of Hugglescote Grange, six months; and Wm. B. Neath, butcher, Whitwick, six months.

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SCENE AT NO CONSCRIPTION CONFERENCE

BOOT DELEGATES WITHDRAW AT LEICESTER

On Saturday, a conference of the Leicester and district committee of the National Council Against Conscription was held at the Co-Operative Hall, Leicester. Mr J. Langdon-Davies, secretary of the national council, presided, and at the outset described the Tribunals as composed of panic-stricken men over military age, who had an impossible task to carry out.

Mr T. E. Richards, president of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives moved a resolution which "viewed with alarm" any extension of compulsion, and called for the repeal of the Military Service Act. He complained that a clause in favour of the conscription of wealth had been deleted from the resolution. Proceeding to refer to the Tribunals, Mr Richards expressed regret that Mr Philip Snowden should have said that the Labour representatives on those bodies were worse than the capitalists. "*That is not true in Leicester,*" added Mr Richards, a statement from which the meeting loudly dissented. He proceeded to say that he had too high an opinion of his comrades in Leicester to believe what was suggested of them. The speaker was repeatedly interrupted, and the chairman appealed for order at the same time rebuking the speaker for wishing to reply to his interrupters.

Mr G. Parbury, an official of the Shoe Trade Union delegates then left the hall. Ald. Banton characterised Mr Richards' conduct as a childish display of temper, and said he had no right to deprive his society of representation on the conference. He (Ald. Banton) moved the resolution which Mr Richards had withdrawn, and it was duly seconded and carried.

A motion was also carried condemning the conduct of the Tribunals in dealing with conscientious objectors.

SUCCESSFUL APPEALS

AGAINST COALVILLE TRIBUNAL'S DECISION

The County Appeal Tribunal of Leicestershire met at the Castle, Leicester, on Saturday, under the presidency of Mr T. Cope, J.P. There were also present: His Honour Judge Moore Cann, Messrs. L. T. Topham, G. Murray Smith, B. H. C. Fox, W. W. Coltman, J. Longwill, A. E. Hawley, J. Plant, G. J. Brooks, and C. J. Bailey. Major Wellman was the military representative, and Mr M. C. L. Freer (clerk).

Four members of the Christadelphian Church applied for total exemption from military service, combatant or non-combatant. One was a clicker, a second a quarryman, a third a stockman, and a fourth a baker. In addition to having conscientious objection to military service, the stockman and baker appealed on the ground that they were engaged on work of national importance. Mr Gamble, who appeared for the applicants, said they would not take part in any work connected with an organisation for war, combatant or non-combatant. – The Court dismissed all the appeals, and passed each applicant for non-combatant service.

The manager and chief partner in a Whitwick clothing and drapery business, attending under an appeal remitted from the Central Tribunal, said £1,000 or £1,700 worth of stock would be involved by his absence. The business would have to close down, and applicant's mother would be impoverished. By the decision of the Coalville Tribunal he had been put back six groups. Mr Crane, solicitor, of Coalville, who appeared for applicant, submitted that the case should be dealt with at Coalville, but the Court decided to proceed with it. Applicant had two brothers in the army. Exemption was granted, conditional on his remaining in the same occupation.

The Coalville case of a manager earning £2 a week, who was the sole support of his mother, a widow, aged 66, received careful consideration by the Court and a certificate of exemption was granted.

In the case of an overlocker of a circular saw, sent down from Shepshed Tribunal, the Chairman called attention to the great number of times in which that Tribunal had simply made the note, "No action taken." They did not seem to have a proper realisation of their duties, which were to examine applicants, and to give the benefit of their local knowledge. They had several applicants here today from that neighbourhood, and it seemed scarcely fair to them to send them back. The Court would consent to hear the cases, but he should communicate with the Shepshed chairman and state his view to him. On behalf of this appellant his employer stated that before the war he employed 27 men. This number had been reduced to six (including himself); three of those men had gone and he man he was applying for was 25. Three months' exemption was allowed.

In another application in reference to a Shepshed baker, it was stated that the local Tribunal did not decide it at all, and he was told to apply to London. No exemption was granted.

A candidate for holy orders (28) represented by Mr C. S. Bigg, who had given up a profession in 1913 to read in the Honours School of Theology, Oxford, with a view to entering the Church, applied for exemption, and said he anticipated ordination in about a year's time. His appeal was dismissed.

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LOCAL NEWS

In view of the recent revelations as to the terrible sufferings endured by prisoners of war in Germany, the organisations responsible for sending comforts to German internment camps ought not to lack contributions. If it were not for the parcels of food sent out regularly from home, many lives would be lost through starvation, in addition to those already sacrificed by German neglect and cruelty. These parcels are eagerly anticipated, and highly appreciated. They are sadly needed to supplement the scanty rations supplied by the Germans, and they convey to our men the consolation that they are not forgotten by those who, thanks to them and their comrades, are able to live at home in comfort.

Mr Robert Sharp, of Whitwick, has collected eggs for the wounded soldiers at Leicester, as follows: Miss Bell, 20 eggs; Miss Green 18; Miss Stinson 12; Mrs A. James 12; Mr A. Bull 7; Mrs W. D. McCarthy 10; Mr R. Sharp 12; Mr L. P. McCarthy 7; Mrs W. Bowley 7; Mrs E. Adkin 7.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

3,000 German newspapers and periodicals have closed down?

Second-hand clothes dealers are warned against offering uniforms, or anything resembling them for sale?

Two grand patriotic concerts for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild will be held in the Coalville Olympia on Sunday afternoon and evening?

On Monday afternoon a Red Cross train from Southampton brought 60 wounded British soldiers to Leicester, where, under the direction of the county V.A.D. commissioner, Mr A. W. Faire, they were conveyed to the Base Hospital?

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BOSWORTH TRIBUNAL

Mr R. A. Oswald Brown (Cadeby) presided at a meeting of the Market Bosworth Rural District Tribunal on Wednesday, when the following were also present: Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques (Ibstock), W. Towers (Newbold Verdon), and G. M. Arnold (Shackerstone), with Mr R. Hanmer, J.P. (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary) and Mr F. Bouskell (clerk).

A Barton-in-the-Beans farmer applied for the exemption of his son, described as waggoner and milkman. – The clerk said the youth was hitherto starred, but under the new regulation, which unstarred all such men under 25, he had received call up papers. His age was 22 years. – Applicant said his farm was 135 acres, of which 52 acres were under the plough. He had 19 milking cows. Before the war he had two men and a boy, besides his son, and now he only had one man, aged 42. He had advertised but got no applications. One month allowed, and the applicant was informed he need not entertain any hope of extension.

The next was a similar case, the applicant being a Stapleton farmer and the man applied for his milker and carter, aged 21 – Applicant said the youth had previously been exempted, on the strength of which he made fresh contracts to supply milk to London till next September. His farm consisted of 295 acres (25 plough) and there were five men besides himself, but two men were engaged with a threshing machine. The ages of the men were 70, 66, 53, 40 (married with five children and attested) and 21. He milked 27 to 30 cows. Before the war he had seven men. Answering questions, he said he had advertised, but could not get men. Old men of 60 who had worked on farms all their lives were going to work in the factories. If he had not made milk contracts, he would have sold his cows. Three months allowed.

A Peckleton widow applied for her farm bailiff, stating that her son was now serving in France, and he enlisted on the understanding that this man would remain on the farm. The latter was 38 years of age, married, with four children. The farm was 103 acres and the only other man was aged 56. Six months were allowed.

The licensee of the Red Lion Inn, Market Bosworth, applied for exemption. He said he occupied 18 acres of land which was well stocked and if he had to go it would mean ruin. He was 25 years of age and married with one child. He was married four years ago and had been at the Red Lion nine months. His wife was the daughter of the previous licensee. Up to nine months ago he was on munition work in Coventry and would be willing to go back there if they could guarantee him a job. The application was dismissed.

Mr W. C. Kirkman (Barlestone) said he did not think this application should be refused, seeing the man farmed 18 acres of land. He added that he had a right to speak, as he had been authorised to attend the tribunals to watch the interests of agriculture. Mr Eggington said he was sure there was no need for that on this Tribunal. Agriculture was already over-represented there.

The application of a Desford farmer, aged 74, for his grandson, aged 19, was dismissed, it being held that there was enough labour on the 102 acre farm.

The public scavenger for Ibstock, who said he farmed 50 acres of land and was also general contractor and beer house keeper, asked for exemption. He said he had 20 head of cattle and no one to look after them but himself. He had three brothers serving in the army. Mr Jacques said that was so, and one of them had been seriously wounded. Six months allowed.

The application for an employee of a Ratby coal merchant, engaged on the Humberstone Road Wharf, Leicester, was dismissed. He was 19 years of age next May and had only worked on the job for two or three months. The chairman told the lad that his country needed him.

Six months each were allowed to a Sibson farmer, aged 33, married, with one child, and farming 83 acres and to a Barlestone tenant farmer, aged 30, farming 84 acres with only a little boy to help him.

Friday April 28th 1916 (Issue 1260)

This issue is missing from the archives.