

Coalville Times – January 1913

Friday January 3rd 1913 (Issue 1089)

Advertisement

A Whist Tournament

In the NATIONAL SCHOOLS, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH, to commence at 7.45 prompt.

Ticket for lady and gentleman 1s 6d; single ticket 1s. Players will have the same partner throughout the evening. – It is proposed to have two tournaments of 13 games each and double set of prizes. – The last whist competition till after Easter.

Local News

New Years Eve

The bells at the parish church rang the old year out and the new year in and they sounded very nice indeed and the ringing reflected great credit on the Whitwick Hand. The performance of this old custom was much appreciated.

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held on Tuesday afternoon last in the Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, when a fairly good number sat down to a good tea provided by the lady members of the church. The proceeds of the tea were in aid of the church funds. A very enjoyable time was spent.

C. E. Society

The Christian Endeavour Society in connection with the P.M. society, was held on Wednesday evening last, being attended by a fair number of endeavourers. A discussion took place on a Biblical topic, which was much enjoyed, and refreshments were partaken of at the close by those present. A most interesting and profitable time was spent.

Watch Night Service

A united Nonconformist watch night service was held on Tuesday night in the Wesleyan Chapel. A good number were present and a very enjoyable time was spent. The meeting was conducted by Messrs. John Ward (Primitive Methodist), T. W. Bourne (Baptist) and James Toon (Wesleyan). Mr Ward gave a most impressive and instructive address to a good congregation. Suitable hymns were sung, and at the close of the service the usual greetings were exchanged by friends present.

Whist Drive and Dance

A whist drive and dance were held in the Whitwick National School on Tuesday evening in connection with the Church Restoration scheme. There was a good attendance. Messrs.

G. Underwood and A. Dyer were the M.C.'s for the dance and the music was supplied by Messrs. R. G. West (piano), W. Eagan (cornet) and Haywood (violin). The Vicar was M.C. for whist and the prizes were won by Miss G. Henson and Mr C. W. Pegg. Songs were rendered by Miss Dorothy Underwood. Refreshments were served, this department being in charge of Mesdames J. Roulstone, C. Pegg, O. Burton and Webster.

Trap Accident at Whitwick

Mr Bert Hood Seriously injured

By a trap accident late on Tuesday night, a well-known Whitwick tradesman, Mr A. E. Hood, Butcher, was seriously injured. About ten o'clock Mr Hood was driving home and by some means the trap was overturned at the corner of Cademan Street and Loughborough Road. Mr Hood was thrown out and found lying unconscious on the road, being subsequently conveyed to his home by Mr Z. Parker, landlord of the Compass Inn. Dr. Burkitt was summoned and every attention was given to the injured man, but on Wednesday afternoon, he had not recovered consciousness.

"Aladdin" at Whitwick

Successful performances at the White House

Two performances of "Aladdin" were very successfully given by members of the Whitwick Church Girls' Guild, on Saturday last, in the salon at the White House, Whitwick, the residence of Mr and Mrs J. J. Sharp. The production of "Cinderella" twelve months ago by the members of the same Guild was so well received that it was decided to make the effort an annual one, but, unfortunately, some difficulty arose in getting the National Schools on the required dates this year. In order, therefore, not to disappoint the girls who had been at considerable trouble and expense in the preparations, Mr and Mrs Sharp decided to allow the production to take place at their house. They had to be in the nature of private performances, however, no charge being made for admission, and on that account the church restoration fund, nursing association and guild funds will probably be considerably the poorer, as the proceeds were originally intended for these objects.

The arrangements were admirable in every way, and a company of about 80 accepted the invitations of the girls in the afternoon and nearly a similar number in the evening, both performances being much enjoyed. The following were the principal characters:

| | | |
|--------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Scintilletta | | Miss Ethel Rawson |
| Brillianta | | Miss Nellie Rawson |
| Hohum | | Miss Lily Adams |
| Emperor | | Miss Hilda Waters |
| Aladdin | | Miss Mahala Knight |
| Mustapha | | Miss Hannah Robinson |
| Princess | | Miss Mabel Williamson |
| Slisloflo | | Miss Thurza Cresswell |

Under the direction of Mrs Sharp, the girls went through the piece in a very creditable manner. Many of the players wore real Chinese costumes which had been obtained from London.

The soloists were Misses Ivy Taylor and Lily Adams, and several popular airs were introduced. There were also classical dances, cleverly executed by Miss Bailey, of Leicester, some excellent songs by Mr D. L. G. Williams, of Leicester, and songs and clog dances by Mr A. T. Sharp, all of which much enjoyed, as encores testified. Items equally appreciated were a rainbow dance by Miss Nellie Rawson, a country dance by eight of the performers, a fairy dance by the fairies and courtiers, and the Moon Song and chorus by Miss Ivy Taylor and company. Mr Mann of Whitwick, with the aid of his lantern, was responsible for some splendid limelight effects and Miss Storey, of Norwich, ably played the piano accompaniments. During an interval refreshments were provided.

Whist Tournament

In connection with the Church restoration fund, a whist tournament was held in the National School on Wednesday evening, and was largely attended. Mr Walter Fern acted as M.C. The first part was played as a tournament, and the winners were Mr I. Foster and Mrs Smith. The prizes being clocks. In the subsequent whist drive, Nurse Lilley won the lady's prize, a cruet, and Mr A. Baum, of Coalville, was the winner of the gent's prize, also a cruet. Refreshments were provided.

Coalville Police Court

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

The Chairman's good wishes

The chairman said that with the dawn of a new year, he would like to be permitted on behalf of his colleagues and himself to express to the officials and others connected with the court the wish that they would have a happy and prosperous new year, also that there would be a considerable diminution of crime locally, and throughout the county.

Bad Language

Joseph Fewkes, (60), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on Boxing Day. Sergeant Betts gave the facts, and defendant was fined 5s 6d and 11s 6d costs or seven days.

Holiday Aftermath

Chas. Bailey, (31), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on December 13th. He did not appear – P.C. Jones said the man had been refused drink at several places. Fined 5s 6d and costs 12s 6d or seven days.

Wm. Frearson, (29), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on December 21st. P.C. Grewcock gave the facts in the absence of the defendant who, he said, first gave the name of Jim Jackson. Fined 5s 6d and 12s 6d costs or seven days.

John Doyle, (40), shoehand, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on December 21st. P.C. Grewcock said the defendant's face and clothes were covered with blood. Fined 5s 6d and 12s 6d costs or seven days.

Charles Cooper, (27), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on Xmas Day. P.C. Grewcock said defendant was challenging everyone to fight and threatened witness. Fined £1 1s and costs 12s 6d or 21 days, there being previous convictions.

Wm. Henry Bottrill, (20), bricklayer's labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Thringstone on December 24th. Defendant did not appear. P.C. Jones said the defendant was very violent on Xmas eve, being like a lunatic. He broke the windows of a man named Bird, struck several persons, including witness, and also threw a bottle at him. When in drink the man was not fit to be at large. – Fined £1 1s, and costs 12s 6d or 21 days' hard labour.

Ashby Police Court

Saturday – Before Mr George Moore (in the chair), Sir Wm. De Abney, Mr J. German, Mr J. Shields, Mr J. Hassall, Mr George Brown, Mr T. Dennis, Mr J. P. Adcock, Mr J. H. Sutton, Mr G. D. Orchard and Mr T. Varnham.

Whitwick collier ordered to pay

James Newell (48), collier, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Board of Guardians for refusing to contribute to the support of his wife chargeable to the common funds of the union. Mr J. W. Bowley, relieving officer, said the defendant's wife was removed to the Asylum on November 1st and the Guardians asked him to pay 8s a week, the cost to the Guardians being 10s 6d per week. The defendant refused to pay more than 2s 6d. he earned 24s a week, but had three sons at work and the total amount going into the house for the last six weeks was 78s 6d per week. Defendant had two children dependant upon him, and a girl aged 19 kept house for him.

Defendant said his earnings were 24s a week at the Whitwick Colliery and out of that he had to pay 6s a week rent, and 6s for clubs and insurance. That took half his wages and there were three children and himself to be kept out of the other 12s.

The Bench made an order for the payment of 3s per week and 10s costs.

Sport

Football

Only one match was played in the Senior League on Saturday, though four were in the list. The only match played was that at Hugglescote, where the United were beaten by Whitwick Imperial in a hard game by the odd goal in seven. Also included in the chart are Hugglescote's win 1 – 0 over the Imperial at Leicester on Xmas day and Shepshed's 2 – 0 win against Whitwick.

Keen Fight at Hugglescote

Warden as Goal-Scorer

The elements overhead were very favourable for football on Saturday, but after the recent heavy rains, the grounds were in a wretched state, and this was particularly the case at

Hugglescote, where Whitwick Imperial were visitors in a Leicestershire Senior League match. In the approaches to the Crescent Road enclosure the slush was ankle deep, and the playing piece itself was a veritable quagmire. Despite these conditions there was a big crowd, and an interesting game was witnessed.

The Hugglescote team was strengthened by the inclusion of several new men and the United came very near sharing the points, which would have been a good performance, considering how things have been going lately. T was a pity for them that that penalty was not improved upon.

Hugglescote's new goalkeeper, Walters, of Leicester, gave a good display, and could not be blamed for any of the four goals scored against him. Percy Brown showed what a versatile player he is by making a splendid partner for Croson in the back division, and Williams, at centre forward, was a capable deputy for Sturman, who was unable to play on Saturday. Williams, undoubtedly was one of the best forwards on the field. Abell was also an absentee from the forward line, which was made up of Marshall and Cartwright on the right, and Chapman and Bee on the left. Causer was a new man in the half-back line, the others being Reeves and Spencer.

Whitwick had their usual team, though the players were somewhat re-arranged. Warden, for instance, after being off injured for a short time in the first half, went from his usual position as back, to centre forward, changing places with Starkey. And this provided the outstanding feature of the match, for within a few minutes of his appearance in the front line, "Shinty" had put on no less than three goals. That was all right so far as it went, but Starkey was not such a success in defence and as Hugglescote began to reduce the arrears the Whitwick captain acted prudently in putting Warden back again to his proper place.

The United opened the score through Marshall, with the game still young, and Starkey soon afterwards equalised. It was after this that Warden performed his "hat trick," though in the meantime, Bee had scored from a fine centre by Marshall, the score at the interval being 4 – 2.

Hugglescote were seen to greater advantage in the second half, and their supporters became quite enthusiastic when Chapman reduced the lead with a capital shot. The excitement was intense, when Referee Bradshaw awarded the United a penalty, but Marshall shot straight at Commons, who returned the leather, to the great delight of the Whitwick portion of the crowd. Hugglescote thus lost their chance, and it never came again. They tried hard, but never looked like scoring again. Warden and Lester always holding them well in check, while the Hugglescote goal had one or two narrow escapes from further disaster.

In the end Whitwick won by four goals to three. There was a decided improvement noticeable in the Hugglescote team, and it is to be hoped that this will be maintained.

Whitwick's Goodbye to the Rolleston Cup

Loughborough Corinthians were visitors to Whitwick, on Friday last, playing the Imperial in a Rolleston Cup match. The weather conditions were execrable and the ground was in a dreadful condition. Loughborough scored the first goal through Widdowson, and at half time this was the only goal in an indescribable game, rain completely soaking the players. It was thought the game might not be proceeded with, but the official order was "go

ahead." Roach equalised for Whitwick Imperial, but J. Belton and Harrison afterwards scored for the Corinthians, while Roach responded for Whitwick Imperial, who made gallant attempts to get on terms, but were beaten by the odd goal in five.

Rolleston Cup Fiasco

Coalville Town and Whitwick Ordered to replay

When Whitwick Imperial played Loughborough Corinthians for the Rolleston Cup at Whitwick last Friday, it was generally concluded that nothing had come of Coalville Town's protest in reference to them having played Sam Lester at Coalville on the previous Saturday in an earlier round, Lester not having been registered long enough. But it has transpired that the Whitwick V Corinthians match stands as nought.

Coalville Town have won their protest. The cup committee met at Leicester on Monday night and on Tuesday morning, the Town club secretary (Mr T. Earp) received an intimation from the cup secretary that their match with Whitwick has to be replayed at Coalville next Saturday (Jan 4th), Whitwick to play without Lester, and the winners have to play Loughborough Corinthians on Jan 18th.

The teams had arranged to re-play their Coalville Cup match at Whitwick on January 4th and as January 18th is the date for the next round of the Coalville Cup, there seems likely to be a clashing of dates.

Coalville Town are anxious to play both these matches on January 4th, keeping a team at Coalville and sending another to Whitwick. The Town committee have chosen the following teams:

For Whitwick match: Stinson; Davis and H. Smith; Toon, Nicolls and Wharmby; Beard, Twigg, Heward, J. Smith and Brownlow:

For the match at Coalville: Palmer; Stevens and Holyoak; Starkey, Pringle and Geary; Webster, Dexter, Lees, Barratt and Thompson.

It is stated that Whitwick have scratched in the Rolleston Cup competition.

Whitwick Player at Halifax

Mr Aubrey T. Sharp, the Leicestershire amateur cricketer, of Whitwick, who is studying for his final law examination at Halifax in the spring, is playing a great game for Halifax Town at centre-half, and has a good share in assisting the team to reach the first round proper for the English Cup, when they meet Queen's Park Rangers. Mr Sharp has been invited to play in this match.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Death of Mr Bert Hood

The death of Mr A. E. Hood, butcher, Whitwick, occurred this (Friday) morning as the result of injuries received in a trap accident on Tuesday, reported on Page 6 of this issue. The deceased never regained consciousness.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Burials

Fowkes – At Whitwick, on Xmas Day, Phoebe Fowkes, aged 51 years, of North Street.

Mould – At Whitwick, on December 28th, Eleanor Mould, aged 5 years, of Cademan Street.

Holland – At Whitwick, on December 30th, Elizabeth Ann Holland, aged 19 years, of Brooks' Lane.

Friday January 10th 1913 (Issue 1090)

Local News

On Tuesday afternoon, a bullock belonging to Mr T. Moore, of Whitwick, was being driven along South Street, when it entered the Crown and Cushion Inn, kept by Mr M. Noon. It went through the passage into the kitchen, and the surprise of the occupants may readily be imagined. Happily, the animal was induced to leave quietly and no damage was done.

Whist Tournament

In connection with the Church restoration fund, a whist tournament was held in the National School on Wednesday evening, and was largely attended. Mr Walter Fern acted as M.C. The first part was played as a tournament and the winners were Mr I. Foster and Mrs Smith, the prizes being clocks. In the subsequent whist drive Nurse Lilley won the lady's prize, a cruet, and Mr A. Baum, of Coalville, was the winner of the gent's prize, also a cruet. Refreshments were provided.

Gifts

Gifts to the church have again been made by Mrs Howe, viz., a fair linen cloth for the new altar and kneelers.

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held in the P.M. schoolroom on Tuesday last and was well attended. The tea was provided by the lady members and was enjoyed, a most enjoyable afternoon being spent. The proceeds were in aid of the debt reduction fund.

P.M. Church

The preacher at the Whitwick P.M. Church on Sunday was the Rev. J. Blayney, of Coalville. There were good congregations at both morning and evening services and the rev. gentleman's remarks were listened to with interest by those present. A collection was made at each service on behalf of the trust funds. The minister gave an excellent address to the Sunday school scholars in the afternoon.

Social and Presentation

A social was held in the Exchange Hall on Wednesday evening in connection with the Y.M.C.A. There was a large attendance. Messrs. J. W. Taylor and A. Curtis acted as

M.C.'s, and Mr O. Ratcliffe played for dancing. Mr Cyril Walton gave a club display, and there were songs by Misses N. and M. Chambers, Gill, and Mr J. G. Ward, and a stump speech by Mr F. Newman. On behalf of the members, Mr J. Edwards (Snibstone) presented Mr H. Heward (the hon. secretary) with a timepiece and tea service on the occasion of his recent marriage, and voiced their good wishes. Mr Heward similarly replied.

The Church Yard

In view of the commitment which has been made on the churchyard alterations, the following, from the Parish Magazine, will be of interest: *"The Churchyard work has made progress, but darkness prevents our band of voluntary workers doing much at present, and indeed little more can be done before the Spring, other than levelling the mounds and sowing with lawn grass seed. It is interesting to know that families connected long ago with Whitwick have been communicated with by one, who has of course tried to remain unknown, in the hope that no difficulty would be made in proceeding with the work. The result has been a visit to the churchyard, approval expressed of the work and a subscription."*

Local Chit Chat

It has several times been said that a subscription should be given from the Whitwick "Disaster Fund" to the Collier's Memorial in Whitwick Church, says the parish magazine. The paragraph continues: *"This cannot be. The money is held in trust for the dependants of those who were killed, and until there are none of these left to receive it, the money can only be applied in this way. There is little doubt that there will be some unexpended when all dependants are dead. Then, but not till, can the question arise as to how the trust shall be dealt with, but it should be for the benefit of colliers who suffer through their work, and a Cottage Hospital in Whitwick would be a good scheme. The memorial can hardly be called a "benefit." It is a mark of respect for those quarrymen and colliers whose industry has assisted to make the district, and one which all should be ready to support for the heroes of peace as they would be ready to support a similar memorial had the list been one of the heroes of a war."*

The day schools at Hathern, where Mr Ed. Fern, of Whitwick, is headmaster, have been closed until January 20th, on account of the prevalence of measles.

It is contemplated to close the "Field" Club connected with the Whitwick Colliery, and a meeting has been held to consider the matter. The club has in the past been very useful to members who met with accidents, and in the case of death the relatives of the deceased member received a grant from the fund. It is thought that the benefits of the National Insurance Act negative the necessity for the club.

Extraordinary Story at Whitwick Inquest

Grim Struggle in a Trap

How Mr Bert Hood Met His Death

Tragic End of an Exciting Drive

An inquest concerning the fatal accident to Mr A. E. Hood (49), butcher, Whitwick, was held on Saturday morning at the Whitwick Conservative Club, by the North Leicestershire Coroner, Mr H. J. Deane.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, solicitors, Coalville) held a watching brief for one of the parties interested, and Mr T. E. Jesson (Fisher, Jesson and Co. of Ashby) appeared for the relatives. Mr S. Perry was foreman of the jury.

The Coroner, opening the inquest, said many of the jurors had served on inquests before and doubtless knew that it was customary on such occasions to first outline the facts as reported to him, and possibly comment on the same. But in this case the facts seemed to be of such an extraordinary kind that he did not propose to adopt such a course that morning, but would the jury hear the evidence direct from the witnesses first and reserve any comment he had to make until after the evidence had been taken.

Francis Samuel Bramwell said he assisted his father, George Bramwell, and lived with him at the Forest Rock Hotel. On Tuesday afternoon he saw the deceased at the Stamford and Warrington Hotel, Coalville, and he asked him where he was going. Witness said he was going home and deceased said he would drive him home. When they got into the trap deceased said he should take him to Osgathorpe though he did not want to go. They had a whiskey and soda each at the Queen's Head, Thringstone, and then went onto Osgathorpe, having one or two whiskeys at the Storey Arms. Both witness and Hood were sober. They left the Storey Arms at about five o'clock. It was two o'clock when they started from Coalville. After leaving the Storey Arms they went to the Royal Oak Inn, Osgathorpe, and had several mixed drinks there. Deceased had chiefly whiskey. They left the Royal Oak about seven o'clock and went by a circuitous route and witness not knowing the district, thought they were going home, but eventually they got to the White Horse on the way to Shepshed. Witness had a ginger ale there and deceased had other drinks. Deceased wanted to drive witness to Belton and when he (witness) said he should get out, deceased said he would chuck him out. They left the White Horse about nine o'clock and deceased wanted to call at another public house, but witness would not let him. Driving down the Ives' Head Hill, deceased whipped the pony which went at a very sharp pace, the cart swaying from side to side. Witness tried to get the reins from him, and they had a struggle in the cart. Deceased tried to throw witness out of the cart and asked him if he had ever been thrown out. Deceased did not succeed in throwing witness out, but in the struggle the trap went into the ditch and turned over, both of them being thrown out. It took some time to put matters straight, as Hood thought the trap was broken and started to unharness the horse, and the reins and harness all became entangled about the horse's legs. Deceased afterwards got into the cart and witness was adjusting the bridle when the deceased struck the horse, which darted away, leaving the bridle in witness's hand. The horse galloped away with no bridle on and the deceased in the cart. Witness told his father of the occurrence when he got home. He had had such a rough time that he hardly knew what he was doing.

The Coroner: *I can understand you not knowing what you were doing, after having so much drink.*

Witness: *I admit having had some drink.*

Proceeding, witness added that when he heard of the accident to Mr Hood, he informed the police. Replying further to the Coroner, witness said he had seen the deceased in some wild moods but never so wild as he was that night. He was angry because witness tried to take the reins and drive. Deceased said no one should drive but him. Deceased

had threatened him several times before, but he could not say why. It was a wonder he went with him that day.

The Coroner: *You could have left him at one of the houses you called at.*

Witness: *I wanted to see him home.*

Replying to jurors, witness said it was near the cross roads where the trap turned over into the ditch, past the lodge going to Onebarrow. The horse was never out of the cart, but the bridle had come off.

Sarah Ann Gardner, wife of Wm. Gardner, Cademan Street, Whitwick, stated that about 9.20 on Tuesday night she heard a crash and going outside saw deceased lying in the road unconscious. The cart was on its side and the horse also lay in the road. She called for help and sent for the police. She and neighbours attended to the deceased until the police arrived. He had cuts and abrasions on his head.

Sarah Parker, wife of Zachariah Parker, beerhouse keeper, Loughborough Road, said she stood against her door at 9.20 and saw a horse and cart coming from the direction of the monastery at a great pace, as hard as it could go. There were no lights on the cart. The speed was maintained up to the corner where the cart went over. She found Hood lying with his head near the kerb and feet on the splashboard of the cart.

By a juror: *Not more than two minutes elapsed after the accident before the deceased was attended to.*

Dr. Burkitt, Whitwick, said he had attended the deceased. There were abrasions on the head, but no bones broken. Deceased was unconscious and remained so till the time of his death, which was due to concussion and laceration of the brain substance, due to the fall. Deceased was in a comatose condition all the time after the accident occurred. Witness had known the deceased for many years.

The Coroner: *Can you say he was in his right mind?*

Witness: *At the time of the accident?*

The Coroner: *No, at any time?*

Witness: *He was given to drink and when in drink did some extraordinary things.*

Mr Jesson: *But when not in drink, he was quite rational?*

Witness: *Oh, yes.*

The Coroner, summing up, said the jury might have been holding an inquest on two persons instead of one. He went on to review the evidence and said everything pointed to the deceased being mad drunk. It was very sad and very regrettable that a man should end his life in that way. If he could have refrained from drink he might have been a useful citizen, but he could not overcome his craving for it and so it had ended in this sad fatality.

The jury returned a verdict of death from concussion and laceration of the brain due to being thrown out of a cart whilst in a state of intoxication.

Coalville Urban District Council

The monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban Council was held on Tuesday night, Mr M McCarthy J.P., presiding. There were also present Messrs. W. Sheffield, S. Perry, T. Y. Hay, A. Lockwood, F. Griffin, J. Kirby, S. P. Matterson, J. R. Bennett, W. Fellows and T. Kelly, with the clerk (Mr T. E. Jesson), surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), and assistant surveyor (Mr F. G. Hurst). The chairman wished the members and officials the compliments of the season.

Closing Order

After the reading of the minutes, Mr Lockwood asked whether the closing order served in respect of the old property at Whitwick had been complied with. The surveyor said the notice did not expire until March 31st.

Highway Committee's Report

The surveyor reported that an accident had occurred to a pony owned by Dr. Burkitt, of Whitwick, on the Hermitage Road, through the giving way of the road crust, and read a long report on the matter, and the committee recommend Messrs. McCarthy, Sheffield and the surveyor, inspect the site and report thereon. A claim from Dr. Burkitt for £25 for damages was considered by the committee, and on the advice of the clerk recommend that Dr. Burkitt be informed that the Council could accept no liability in the matter.

Medical Officer's Report

The medical officer, (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported that during December four cases of scarletina had been notified – two in Hermitage Road, Whitwick, one in Gutteridge Street, Coalville, and one in North Street, Hugglescote. Four cases of diphtheria were reported, one in Silver Street, Whitwick, two in Ashby Road, Hugglescote and one at Battleflat. Those were probably contact cases in connection with the outbreak referred to in the report of the previous month. One of the cases proved fatal. Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis had also been notified – two at Ibstock Road, Ellistown, and one in Cademan Street, Whitwick. Two of these had since died. The number of cases of whooping cough was declining. There had also been a considerable number of cases of influenza, more particularly amongst children, frequently complicated with broncho-pneumonia. During the month 20 deaths occurred, giving a death rate of 13.3 per 1,000. These included, as above referred to, one from diphtheria, two from phthisis and two from broncho-pneumonia. Forty births were registered during the same period, giving a birth-rate of 26.6 per 1,000.

Replying to Mr Lockwood, the sanitary inspector (Mr Hurst) said there was nothing special connected with the cases that he need call the attention of the Council to.

The Chairman: *Drains and everything in fair order?*

Mr Hurst: *In very reasonable order.*

The Chairman: *You could not put your finger on the cause?*

The surveyor: *The medical officer tells you that they are contact cases.*

Mr Lockwood: *They would not be all be contact cases, I take it?*

The Chairman: *They are a long way apart.*

Whitwick Lodgers

The surveyor reported that during the month of December 979 people were accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses, against 1,111 for November and 1,157 in December last year. The totals for the year were 8,868 males, 818 females, and 117 children, total 9,803, against 12,632 in 1911 and 16,236 in 1910.

Mr Hay: *The number is going down.*

The chairman said that in 1910 and 1911, the Swannington sewerage scheme, and the Mantle Lane improvement were proceeding and that increased the number of casuals who made their home at the lodging houses. Mr Sheffield said there was a great decrease of tramps about the county.

The Chairman: *A good thing too.*

Mr Kelly: *It shows good trade.*

Mr Sheffield said he hoped it meant that there was more employment. The surveyor was authorised to prosecute two Whitwick colliers who had refused to pay 1s 6d each for the removal of night soil.

Sport

Football

Coalville Cup Match at Whitwick Postponed

The elements were again unkind to footballers on Saturday, and several matches in the Coalville district had to be abandoned or postponed.

The most important of these was the Coalville Cup replay at Whitwick, between the Imperial and Coalville Town. The players were there all ready to start, and a great game before a big crowd would doubtless have taken place under favourable conditions, but rain fell practically all day and the referee declared the ground unfit.

Considering that it is practically a new pitch, having been re-laid at great expense not many seasons ago, the field was in a much worse state than one might have imagined. Round the Church Lane end goal, the water and slush were two or three inches deep, and all over it was a quagmire. The postponement caused keen disappointment.

By a peculiar coincidence, the Whitwick and Coalville clubs were down to play three matches on Saturday. They had been ordered to replay the Rolleston Cup tie at Coalville, which was scratched by Whitwick, and they were also to have played in the Leicestershire Senior League, the latter, of course, being postponed.

Friday January 17th 1913 (Issue 1091)

Local News

Sewing Tea

On Tuesday afternoon the usual weekly sewing tea was held when a fairly good number sat down to a good tea, provided by the ladies of the church. The proceeds were in aid of

the church debt fund. In the evening the usual preaching service was held, when the Rev. W. H. Whiting was the preacher.

C.E. Society

This society held their usual weekly meeting on Wednesday last, when the Rev. W. H. Whiting presided and also spoke on the topic set apart for the week. A good discussion was taken part in by various members present and a most interesting time was spent.

P.M. Church

The preacher at this place of worship on Sunday morning was the Rev. W. H. Whiting (Whitwick), who delivered a most interesting sermon to a fairly good congregation. In the evening, owing to the change of pulpits which is carried out on this Sunday night in each year by the Coalville and District Free Church Council, the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. J. A. Hopwood, of Bardon Park. This gentleman delivered a most inspiring address, which was appreciated by a good congregation. The collections at both the morning and evening services were in aid of the Whitwick Nursing Association.

Local Chit Chat

The employees of the Whitwick Colliery, who held a meeting to consider whether they would close the Field Club, have since decided to continue that excellent institution. The club has been established several years, the members receiving weekly payments in case of accident and the relatives, in the event of a member's death by accident, a substantial grant.

We regret to hear that Mr J. J. Sharp, of the White House, Whitwick, is indisposed, and confined to his home. Many will join us in wishing him a speedy recovery.

In connection with the dispensary opened in London Road, Coalville, by the County Council in reference to the tuberculosis regulations under the Insurance Act, we hear that Dr. J. C. S. Burkitt, of Whitwick, has been appointed as the medical officer for the Coalville district.

Remanded

Before Mr J. W. West, yesterday, John A. Stanley, a youthful labourer, of Whitwick, was charged with being found on enclosed premises for the purpose of attempted felony, and remanded to the Coalville Sessions today.

Mission

Mr and Mrs Fred Elliott, evangelists, commenced a mission at the Wesleyan chapel on Saturday, which is to continue until the 23rd inst. Meetings are being held nightly.

Wintry Weather

Deep Snow in Coalville and District

A snowstorm, the like of which in severity, has not been experienced for some years, visited Coalville and District, on Saturday. Starting about half past nine in the morning,

there was quite a blizzard which lasted for fully 12 hours, and by ten o'clock on Saturday night, when there was a calm, snow lay to a depth of about two feet, while this was considerably exceeded in places where the snow had drifted.

Vehicles were snowed up in all directions, the conditions making road traffic almost impossible.

The train service was also affected. The heavy downfall made it extremely difficult to keep the points or the line clear and several of the trains were delayed on that account. The Leicester to Burton express, due at Coalville about eight o'clock, was nearly an hour late, having been held up at Bardon for half an hour or more, owing to the "point" difficulty above referred to, and other trains were correspondingly late.

A youth whilst driving to Shaw Lane collapsed in the conveyance, so intense was the cold. An aged woman, belonging to Whitwick, was also overcome, and was found unconscious, and carried to Mr S. Perry's house in Silver Street, where Mr Perry generously provided her with some hot tea, and the woman recovered. She was found face downwards in the snow, and undoubtedly narrowly escaped death from exposure. The woman was Mrs Robinson, of Cademan Street. She was subsequently taken back home by relatives.

Numerous cases of damage to property occurred in the locality, chiefly the breaking of water spouts by the heavy weight of the snow, and the next week or two promises to be an exceptionally busy time for the local plumbers.

On Sunday morning the weather was spring like and a considerable portion of the snow melted, but in the evening a severe frost set in and people out with horses and vehicles on Monday morning had a very uncomfortable time. The snow had been converted into huge ice chunks, making traffic on the roads exceedingly difficult, and matters were not improved by a dense fog which enveloped the district, it being impossible to see more than a yard or so ahead until about ten o'clock, when the mist began to lift.

Mr Moore, carrier, of Whitwick, had great difficulty in returning from Leicester and was beaten before he got home, being unable to get further than just beyond the Hermitage Hotel. He completed his delivery of parcels on Sunday morning.

One of the Coalville Co-Operative Society's bread vans got stuck in the snow near the Forest Rock Hotel, and had to be left there, the driver returning home with the horse and another of the same society's bread vans was in a similar position at Highfields, having to be left there till an additional horse was forthcoming.

In Coalville Streets

The Coalville streets were almost impassable on Monday. The Urban Council insist on occupiers of property clearing the pavements in front of their premises, and this being readily done, led to a huge bank of snow on either side of the road, leaving only a narrow space in the middle, and drivers of vehicles in the main thorough fares of Coalville found traffic very difficult.

On Tuesday, however, the Council had a good number of men at work with horses and carts clearing the snow away and a great improvement was soon effected in High Street, Belvoir Road, and other places where the traffic is heaviest.

Coalville Man's Leg Broken

One of Messrs. Stableford's workmen, Mr Charles Tipper, of Ashby Road, when going to his work on Monday had the misfortune to slip down in Mantle Lane with the result that one of the bones in his leg was broken. He is being attended by Dr. Jamie. Mr Tipper is a well-known comic singer and much sympathy will be felt for him in his trouble. He has a wife and four children, one of them recently born, but which came a few days too soon to entitle the parents to the maternity benefits of the Insurance Act.

General Thaw Sets In

A general thaw set in over Coalville and District on Tuesday night and on Wednesday morning, rain was steadily falling.



New Trial in a Whitwick Case

A Collier's Successful Application

At the Ashby County Court, before His Honour, Judge Wightman Wood yesterday. Geo. Edward Walton, collier, Hermitage Road, Coalville, applied for a new trial in respect of a

judgement obtained against him by George Frederick Burton, grocer, Whitwick, for £13 4s 8d, on February 9th, 1911, alleging that he did not then nor now, owe Burton anything.

Mr T. E. Jesson (Ashby) was for the applicant and Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) for the plaintiff in the former case.

Mr Jesson, making the application, said his client had receipts for amounts paid since the date of the action. The Judge said that was possible. They might have nothing to do with the amount in dispute. Mr Jesson said that it was likely than if applicant did owe the money, any subsequent receipts would have to be given on account. Mr Crane opposed the application and held that no proper ground for a new trial had been put forward. He also pointed out that judgement was obtained in this case on a default summons.

The Judge said that could be set aside just the same if there was sufficient reason. Walton was then called and stated that he did not attend the court at the time, as he did not understand it. The Judge said it was very plain. Anybody who could read could understand that it was a summons to attend the court. Applicant added that later when he received an order to pay he denied owing the money, and said he should not pay.

Replying to questions, applicant said he had been twice married and he was a widower for a little over a year before his second marriage.

The Judge: *Were the debts in the time of the first wife?*

Mr Crane said that was so. The applicant formerly kept a shop and was supplied by Mr Burton for goods for sale. Applicant produced receipts from Mr Burton, which Mr Jesson pointed out were not marked on the account.

The Judge said that apparently no proper particulars were filed at the time of the action which should have been done as the amount was over £2.

By Mr Crane: *He called on him (Mr Crane) soon after the judgement in reference to the matter and Mr Crane told him he had better consult another solicitor.*

The Judge said it was very proper advice, but the applicant did not seem to have done anything he ought to have done. Mr Jesson said that if there was a new trial, plaintiff would have to produce his books and they could be compared with these receipts.

Replying to the Judge, Walton said he was in work. The Judge said that if a new trial was granted, the plaintiff should have some guarantee as to his costs on coming to court again. Mr Jesson said he appreciated that and suggested a sum of 10s.

Mr Crane objected to this and urged that they should have the costs of the former case. The clerk said the first judgement was for £2 16s 8d and the costs were 30s.

The Judge agreed to reopen the case at the next court provided the applicant paid £1 into court within a fortnight. In that case plaintiff must bring proper particulars as to how the claim was made up.

Mr Crane raised the question as to costs in connection with this application and His Honour said that would be held over.

Sport

Football

Coalville Town F.C. have been ordered to play two cup matches tomorrow – the replay for the Coalville Cup with Whitwick Imperial at Whitwick, and with Loughborough Corinthians for the Rolleston Cup. In the latter however, Loughborough have scratched. For the Coalville Cup match at Whitwick, the Town have selected the following team:

Stinson, Davis and H. Smith; Toon, Dexter and Wharmby; Beard, Twigg, Heward, J. Smith and Thompson. Res. W. Brownlow.

The Whitwick team is: Commons, Warden, F. Smith; Wright, Springthorpe and Moore; Bradford, Brady, Starkey, Lees and Roach. Reserve Egan.

Players Stranded

The Leicester Belvoir Street S.S. players journeyed to Whitwick on Saturday for their Senior Cup Match, in a motor charabanc, which became weather bound and was unable to get away from Whitwick in the evening.

The players had to make their way to Coalville and return to Leicester by train.

A Whitwick junior team were on their way to Ibstock, but failed to reach there, the brake being snowed up. The players had to walk back home.

Coalville Charity Cup

A meeting of the management committee of the above was held at the Red House Hotel, Coalville, on Friday evening. Mr R. T. Bradshaw presided and there were present, Messrs. J. Kirby, G. Swain, H. Clamp, A. E. Clay, D. Marston, H. S. Goacher, and J. W. Farmer (hon. sec). The meeting was called to settle a difficulty which had arisen in reference to the replay between Whitwick Imperial and Coalville Town.

The secretary read a copy of a letter he had sent to the secretary of the Rolleston Cup complaining of their committee ordering Rolleston cup matches to be played on Coalville Cup dates and a replay had been received stating that the matter should be laid before the Rolleston Cup committee.

In reference to the Whitwick v Coalville match having been postponed on January 4th owing to the bad state of the ground, Mr Whitmore (Whitwick) resented the suggestion in Mr Earp's (Coalville Town) letter that Whitwick influenced the referee, Mr Dexter, in postponing the match. The chairman said they had nothing to do with that. The referee had power to decide. Mr Dexter wrote that the ground was quite unfit.

The committee unanimously agreed that the match must be played to a finish on Saturday, January 18th, Mr A. Dexter, of Shepshed, to be the referee.

Friday January 24th 1913 (Issue 1092)

Public Notices

All persons having accounts owing in connection with the estate of the late Emma Whittaker, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, in the County of Leicester, are hereby requested to send particulars of the same on or before January 31st, 1913. And all monies owing to the said estate must be paid by that date, to the undersigned executors under the will of the late Emma Whittaker.

(Signed)

W. Gill Wheatley, Ingle Nook, Whitwick, Leicestershire
Albert J. Briers, The Farm, Whitwick, Leicestershire

To the overseers of the poor of the Parish of Whitwick, in the County of Leicester; to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, in the same County; to the Clerk to the Licensing Justices of the said Division of Ashby-de-la-Zouch; and to all whom it may concern.

I, Charles Beasley, now residing at the Hermitage Inn, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, in the said County of Leicester, Beerseller, and for six months and upwards last past having resided at the Hermitage Inn, Hermitage Road, Whitwick, aforesaid, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Police Court, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, aforesaid, on the 8th day of February, 1913, for a licence, to hold an Excise Licence or Licenses to sell by retail all intoxicating liquors to be consumed either on or off the house, and premises thereto belonging situate at Hermitage Road, Whitwick, aforesaid, and known as the Hermitage Inn, of which house and premises Messrs. Thomas Salt and Co. Limited, of Burton-on-Trent, in the County of Stafford, Brewers, are the owners, of whom I rent the same, and which said house and premises have for some time past been used and occupied by me as a beerhouse under the name or sign of the Hermitage Inn.

Given under my hand, this 16th day of January, 1913.
Charles Beasley.

Local News

Mr T. W. Bourne has consented to be nominated as a candidate in the Whitwick Ward at the forthcoming Coalville Urban Council elections.

We understand that it is the intention of the Liberals in the Whitwick division to run a candidate in opposition to Mr M. McCarthy at the ensuing County Council election.

Concert

A successful concert was given in the Holy Cross School on Saturday and Monday evenings, there being a large and appreciative audience on each occasion. The programme included two dramatic pieces, "The Irish Attorney," and "The Irish Tutor." In the former, Mr W. Griffin appeared as a solicitor and Mr M. Downes as his partner, while Messrs. B. Revell were clerks, Messrs. B. Dyer, B. Orton, A. Dyer and J. W. Orton, farmers, and Miss F. C. Needham, maid. In the other the characters were, An Irish Tutor, M. O'Reilly, pupil J. Garrity, father of pupil F. Johnson, and English tutor D. Dyer.

In both pieces the parts were admirably sustained, and the performers were much applauded. There were also songs by Miss G. O'Mara and Miss C. Needham, duet by

Misses M. Higgins and C. Needham, and a recitation "Kissing Cup" by Mr T. F. McCarthy, who gave an encore, "Lightning, the famous cab horse,"

Miss Revell was the accompanist. The arrangements were well carried out by Mr M. Downes and the proceeds were for the Altar Society at Holy Cross Church.

A Successful Mission

The mission which has been conducted at the Whitwick Wesleyan Church by Mr and Mrs Elliott, was concluded last night. It has been very successful, there having been crowded meetings nightly.

Whist Drive and Dance

A whist drive and dance was held in the Holy Cross School on Wednesday evening in aid of the Holy Cross Cricket Club. There was a moderate attendance. Messrs. J. McCarthy and J. Rewhorn were the M.C.'s for the dance and Mr Jones was the pianist. The M.C.'s for whist were Messrs. W. T. Hull and J. O'Mara. The prize winners were:

Ladies: 1. Miss A. Needham; 2. Miss L. Middleton.

Gents: 1. Mr J. Glynn; 2. Mr M. Noon.

Coalville in the Early Days

An Old Resident's Reminiscences

When Colliers Worked Twelve Hours a Day

There are still surviving in Coalville, members of a few old families whose recollections either from actual experience or what has been told them by friends who have gone before, carry us back to the early days of the nineteenth century when things in the Coalville district were very different from what they are today, there being in fact no such place as Coalville at that time.

One of the oldest Coalville families are the Uptons, so William of that ilk informed the writer in a little chat we had the other day. William Upton was born in 1847 and was one of six sons who first saw light in a small cottage of the London Road, near the butcher's shop at present occupied by Mr W. F. Moore. The father of the family was also named William and he had been living in the district for some years. He was a resident here at the time of the sinking of the Whitwick pits and was one of the first to be employed there. As soon as coal was discovered, great rejoicing took place and ale and other refreshments were freely given at the Engine Inn, kept by James Shaw, and now known as the Leicester Hotel. For a time Mr Upton went to work at the Glascote Colliery, near Tamworth, but labour then was scarce in the Coalville district, and the company offered to fetch him and his sons back to Whitwick, and he returned after a few months. This was the first time that young William, our informant, had had a ride in a train, and he tells us that the carriages were all open then. They lived in Mammoth Street for some years, but Mr Upton gave the assurance that it was a much more respectable street than it is today.

All along the Hermitage Road, the land was open to the road, there being no walls or fences, and from the Whitwick dirt bank, he said, cannons were fired in connection with the peace celebrations at the conclusion of the Crimean war.

When Mr Upton snr., returned to Whitwick, he went down the pit as a loader and the miners then used to work twelve hours a day and only used to see daylight once a week – on Sunday. And it was not so long before that, that the men would descend the mine in the early morning and be working below till 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening. Boys were then employed in the pit at the age of 9 to 10 years and the younger William Upton started to work on the bank at the age of ten, afterwards going down the pit as a pony driver. He recalls several accidents from causes which would not be tolerated in these more enlightened days. A case in point. At this time it was not deemed necessary to fence round the pit shafts and there was one instance of a boy who had just been brought up one shaft walking into another on his way home, and, of course, being killed. In these early days, the colliers were paid 2s 6d a ton for getting the coal at the Snibston pit and 2s 7d per ton at Whitwick, and out of this stallmen had to purchase their own timber.

Mr Upton recalls one of the earliest strikes which was to shorten the hours and in other ways improve the working conditions. A novel idea of the strikers was to draw a wagon load of coal from Whitwick to Leicester where the coal was sold for bread. But it had a wonderful effect, and the men got their hours reduced.

The old Baptist School was one of the earliest day schools in Coalville, and the first teacher was Mr W. Bott, of Hugglescote, he being followed by Mr Porter. The Whitwick Colliery Co. used to find the coal for the school, and the children of parents who worked at the colliery were allowed their education free. Others had to pay. It seems that in the earlier days they managed the Sunday school treats better than they do now. Instead of the sects holding their treats separately, they used to all amalgamate and Mr Upton recalls when they ran a joint trip to Matlock. The first colliery excursion from Coalville was from the Whitwick pit, when Mr Harrison was the manager. The colliery headstocks and wheels were painted on canvas and fixed on the front of the engine.

The first internment which took place in Coalville Cemetery, says Mr Upton, was that of Mr R. Gamble, and another fact which we are assured, is not generally known, is that a good deal of the stone with which the Coalville church is built was got from a field close to the top of the Swannington Incline.

The first brass band in the district was started in the sixties at the Whitwick Colliery and was soon followed by a rival band started at the Snibston pit. Mr Vaughan provided the instruments and also for years paid for an instructor. Mr George Locker was the first bandmaster there. The first policeman at Coalville was named Bailey and he lived on the Ashby Road. He was followed by Mr Fardell. Things were very quiet in the locality at this time. With the wind favourable, it is asserted, the blowing of a Derby "bull" could be heard at Coalville. The first "buzzer" ever blown in this district was at the Nailstone Wood Colliery.

A more modern event, but one which stands out prominently in the history of the place, was the attempt by Mr F. Whetstone to close the Broom Leys footpath. Mr Upton, Mr T. Hardy and a few other old residents took a prominent part in frustrating this, there being a public subscription to meet the cost of their defence in the legal proceedings which ensued.

In the early days referred to, there was no such place as Coalville – it was known as Long Lane. It received the name of Coalville when the railway station was opened, and for a time passengers had to go to the Railway Hotel (Mr Sheffield's) to get their tickets. There

were only two big houses on London Road, those now occupied by the Rev. F. Pickbourne and Mr J. W. Stableford, besides the Engine Inn previously referred to, and, coming along Hotel Street, only the mill and mill-house, occupied by Mr Webster, and later by Mr Franks. Where the Labour Exchange is now there used to be an old saw-pit open to the road. There were the little houses against the pump. Marshall's Row was also there, and the Blue Bell Inn, and the Fountain. Bowling used to be a popular game in front of the Fountain. A Mr Taylor kept a butcher's shop where Mr Fryer now lives and there were two old private houses where the late post office was. The Red House, known as the Cradle and Coffin, was then kept by a Mr Burton. There were very few houses in Belvoir Road, and from Vaughan Street corner to Mr Atkin's butcher's shop, were lane gardens belonging to the poor people. When the owners of the land at the back wanted to sell for building there was considerable trouble but ultimately a compromise was effected by land being given for gardens on another site.

Possibly there are other old readers with interesting recollections. If they care to send them along we shall be glad to publish the same.

Leicestershire Miners' Association

Annual Lodge Meetings

Whitwick No. 3 Pit

A meeting in connection with the Whitwick No. 3 Lodge was held on Saturday, Mr A. E. Clay presiding. The figures of the ballot for the election of council delegates were received and Messrs. W. Glover and Jos King were declared elected. The voting was as follows, Wm. Glover 204, Joseph King 130, Ernest Hinds 87, George Summers 70, Fred Blow 50, George Wright 46, and Charles Hipwell 32. Mr Glover was a former delegate and Mr King displaces Mr E. Hinds.

Christian Endeavour

The usual weekly meeting of the P.M. society was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday last and was well attended. Various members spoke on the topic and a most enjoyable time was spent.

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held in the P.M. schoolroom on Tuesday afternoon last and was well attended. The tea was given by the lady members of the church and was much enjoyed. The proceeds were for the debt reduction fund.

A Poultry Farm Partnership

Whitwick Vicar's Interesting Claim

In the Manx Chancery Court, on Wednesday the Rev James Wilson Alexander Mackenzie, vicar of Whitwick, claimed £640 from the estate of the late Miss Lena Eleanor Murray, formerly matron of Ramsey Isolation Hospital.

Claimant, who is a residuary legatee under Miss Murray's will, was in partnership with Miss Murray in a poultry farm in the Isle of Man. Four hundred pounds of the claim was in

respect of money claimant alleged he had advanced Miss Murray, to enable her to assist relatives, and the balance was in connection with the poultry farm.

Claimant deposed that in respect of the advance £300 Miss Murray subsequently gave him a promissory note, and that shortly before her death she also gave him two cheques, one for £300 and one for £162 to meet the loans and charges incurred with a moneylender he had resorted to in the matter. The whole claim was strongly resisted by the executor of Miss Murray's will, and next-of-kin, and in cross-examination, claimant admitted he judged at a show in England at which Miss Murray had exhibited birds from the partnership farm. He had awarded her a prize for one bird he had not previously seen, but passed another of her exhibits, as he knew it.

It was suggested to Mr Mackenzie, in cross-examination that the signature of the promissory note had been traced by him in black lead, and filled in with ink, and that subsequently to her death he had filled up blank cheques, which had been supplied him by Miss Murray for purchasing poultry, for sums of £300 and £162. Both suggestions claimant indignantly denied – Annie Corkill deposed Miss Murray had signed a promissory note in her presence. In cross-examination she admitted the claimant had sent her a copy of the note.

The hearing was adjourned till yesterday.

Yesterday, Dr Roe, one of the executors, giving evidence resisting the claim, said he first heard from plaintiff as to the promissory note some months after Miss Murray's death, and knew nothing about the cheques until these proceedings. Among Miss Murray's papers there was nothing to show she had borrowed money. The poultry farm ledger which plaintiff claimed he could not get from the executors, witness had seen in plaintiff's possession after Miss Murray's death. In his opinion, the promissory note and balance sheet signatures were forgeries.

Mr Acheson, manager of the Lloyd's Bank in Ramsey, said the signatures would pass with him in the ordinary way, but if his attention was particularly called to them, their character would cause him to make inquiry. Counsel for plaintiff ridiculed the suggestions of fraud and forgery, and submitted that the claim had been established.

The Judge, without calling on the other side said the claim lacked sufficient corroboration. He believed plaintiff had taken away the poultry farm ledger, and with regard to the signatures which had been questioned, he entirely disbelieved the evidence of Miss Corkill, who had been called by plaintiff, and had sworn she saw Miss Murray sign the note. He was not satisfied the signatures were those of Miss Murray. He did not go further, but the onus lay with plaintiff to satisfy him, and he had failed to discharge it. He dismissed the claim with costs.

On the application of counsel for the legatees, the papers were ordered to be impounded.

Coalville Police Court

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

Wilful Damage at Thringstone

Wm. Hy. E. Bottrill, (20), bricklayer's labourer, Whitwick, was summoned for wilful damage to a window, to the amount of 30s, the property of Sarah A. Bird, at Thringstone, on December 24th.

The clerk said Inspector Pegg had ascertained that the damage was only 5s 6d. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Bird said that the defendant, after some words with her husband, threw six stones through the window. Defendant said he offered to pay for the repairs.

Fined 5s 6d and costs 10s 6d and 5s 6d damages or seven days.

Hy. Robinson, (19), collier, Thringstone, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a light at Whitwick, on January 10th.

He did not appear. P.C. Jelley proved the case.

Fined 1s and costs 12s 6d or seven days.

Drunk at Whitwick

Mary A. Robinson, (57), married, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk on the highway at Whitwick, on January 11th. She pleaded not guilty.

P.C. Jelley said he found the woman lying in the snow in Silver Street, and took her into Mr Perry's. She was very drunk. Defendant said her condition was due to the cold, and she fell down in the snow.

John Hussey, reporter, Coalville, corroborated as to the woman being drunk.

Fined 2s 6d and costs 14s 6d or seven days.

Sleeping Out

Wm. Smith, and Francis Insley, labourers of no fixed abode, were charged with sleeping out on the previous night. Insley said he had some capital.

P.S. Dobney deposed to finding the men sleeping on the boilers at the Whitwick brickyard. Insley had five pence and some tobacco and matches. Defendants did damage by this sort of thing apart from the danger they ran. They admitted having slept there each night since Saturday.

Smith was sentenced to 14 days' hard labour and Insley to a month's hard labour, the latter having been several times previously convicted of a similar offence.

Whitwick Youth sent to the Assizes

John Arthur Stanley, (16), labourer, Whitwick, was charged with attempting to steal 3s 4d from the shop of Hy. Moore, at Whitwick, on the 16th inst., and he was further charged with stealing a pocket knife, the property of Philip Aris, barber, of Silver Street, Whitwick.

Catherine Moore, wife of Hy. Moore, collier and grocer, Silver Street, Whitwick, stated that about three o'clock on Wednesday she saw the defendant prowling round the shop. She put off the bell, and retired to watch. She saw him come along by the counter, and one arm on the top, then trying to reach the drawer with his other hand. He got it a little way open, and she then came out of the living-room and caught hold of him. She asked what he was doing, and he made no reply. She said she should detain him until her husband came home, and she sent for the police. The till in the drawer contained 3s 4d in silver and coppers.

Philip Aris, barber, said he kept a shop in Silver Street, Whitwick, and sold pocket knives like the one produced. He had one in a case on the counter at his shop at Christmas. He had not sold one from that case since Christmas, but one disappeared. He identified the knife produced as his property and valued it at 6 1/2d.

P.C. Grewcock said he went to Moore's shop on receiving a complaint, and saw the prisoner who was being detained by Mrs Moore. She charged him with the offence, and witness asked him what he had to say. He replied that he went into the shop for a pennyworth of rock, but in reply to a further question admitted that he had no money. When charged, and told he would be arrested, prisoner replied, "*I will tell you the truth, I came into the shop for the money in the till.*" Witness then took him to the police station. On the way, he called at Sergeant Bett's house, and searched prisoner, finding the new pocket knife (produced). Defendant said he gave 8d for it, but on the way to Coalville, told witness he stole it from Mr Aris's shop about a fortnight before.

Prisoner had nothing to say, and was committed for trial at the Leicester Assizes.

Sport

Football

Sensational Football at Whitwick

Coalville Town's Wonderful Recovery

An interesting event on Saturday was the replayed Coalville Cup tie at Whitwick between the Imperial and Coalville Town, which had postponed from the previous week on account of the weather. Possibly the belief that the ground might still be unfit kept a few away and the gate proceeds, though good – between £11 and £12 – would doubtless have been much larger under more favourable conditions. As things turned out, the ground was not in such a bad state, except on one small portion which was covered by straw. It was, of course, rather heavy and this seemed to suit the Coalville players more than Whitwick. The latter went off in a sensational manner and when they had got a lead of three goals, things looked anything but rosy for the Coalville team. To the credit of the Town men, however, they recovered the lost ground and secured a sensational win, which they well deserved.

Whitwick were the best team in the first half and it was not long before Joe Lees opened their account. Soon afterwards, Starkey got another, while there was something like consternation in the faces of the Coalville portion of the crowd when Percy Wright splendidly headed the third from a corner. The Town strove gamely and ultimately Beard reduced the lead. Then a penalty was awarded, but Commons finely saved Heward's shot, so that at the interval, Whitwick were leading 3 – 1.

The luck of the Imperial seemed to wane afterwards. Warden was injured and had to be off for some time and Coalville gradually wore their opponents down and had matters pretty much their own way. Further goals were obtained by Jim Smith and Thompson, and there was great excitement when Twigg kicked the winning point. Whitwick made a strong effort towards the close, but were always held in check and when the end came, the Town had won a most strenuous game by the odd goal in seven.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Burials

Beech – At Whitwick, on the 20th inst., Lilian Maud Beech, aged 2 years, of Leicester Road.

Pollard – At Whitwick, on the 21st inst., Louisa Pollard, aged 10, of Leicester Road.

Cotton – At Whitwick, on the 23rd inst., Sarah Austin Cotton, aged 59 years, of Forest Road.

Friday January 31st 1913 (Issue 1093)

Local News

Whitwick Boy's Chance to Reform

Three Years at the Borstal Institution

Case at Leicester Assizes

At the Leicestershire Assizes on Saturday, John Arthur Stanley, 16, described as a labourer, of Whitwick, was sent to the Borstal Institution for three years on charges of attempting to steal 3s 4d., the money of Henry Moon, and a pocket knife, the property of Philip Aris, at Whitwick, to which he pleaded guilty.

Mr G. W. Powers prosecuted. Supt. Lockton told the court that the boy had a bad home, and it was his surroundings that had brought him to this. His Lordship was afraid that the boy was developing tendencies which, unless they were put a stop to, would lead him into a criminal life, and he would give him a chance, through the Borstal treatment, of becoming a useful member of society.

Another Burglary at Whitwick

A Collier's Rent Stolen

Whitwick just now seems to be infested with people on burglary bent. There have been several minor robberies lately, and another was added to the list on Saturday night. The burglars, apparently, are no respecters of persons, for in this case, they broke into the house of a working collier, and stole the money which the good wife had put on one side to pay the rent with on Monday.

The house entered was that of Mr James Frederick Musson, who works at the Whitwick Colliery, and resides in Silver Street. Mr Musson, on Saturday night went to a supper at the Forest Rock Hotel, and Mrs Musson went to a children's concert at the Whitwick National School.

Apparently, the burglar or burglars knew this. At any rate, when Mrs Musson returned a surprise awaited her. After leaving the concert she had proceeded to the Three Crowns, kept by her husband's mother, to there await her husband's return. When she arrived home it was about 11 o'clock, and she then found that the window at the back had been smashed near the catch by means of which the window was unfastened and the sash raised. The house was all in confusion. The front door stood wide open, and the key was missing. Drawers both upstairs and down had been ransacked, but all that Mrs Musson missed was 5s 2d., which she had placed in one of the drawers to pay the weekly rent with on Monday. The intruders had evidently made a very minute search, but this was all they got for their pains. A remarkable circumstance is that there was a somewhat similar case on Sunday evening at the house of Mr J. W. Briers, up Leicester Road, half a mile away from Musson's house. In this case the window at the back had been broken in a previously similar manner near the catch, whilst the family had gone to chapel, but there were no signs of the house having been entered, the offenders possibly being disturbed.

Both cases were reported to the police.

Fancy Dress Ball

A fancy dress ball and whist drive in aid of the funds of the Leicester Infirmary, was held at the Holy Cross School on Wednesday evening, there being about 200 present, many in fancy dress. Mr and Miss Popple played for dancing, and the characters represented included: Miss Hault, Billiards; Miss Bancroft, Miss Hook of Holland; Miss Avery, Italian peasant; Mr Carter, Pierrot; Mr F. Henson, Indian; Miss A. Moore, Cowboy; Miss A. Black, Gipsy fortune-teller; Mr M. Black, Dick Turpin; Mr H. Black, Pierrot; Mrs Bishop, Five o'clock tea; Mr G. F. Burton, 13th Century; Miss S. Pickworth, Japanese; Miss McCarthy, Irish Colleen; Miss A. O'Reilly, Erin; Mr H. Pickworth, Forador; Miss North, Indian; and others. The prizes for the best fancy dress were won by the following:
Ladies historic, Miss B. Carter, 1840; comic, Miss C. Moore, harem.
Gents historic, Mr Vendy, Charles I; comic, Mr E. Burton, Private Potts.
The judges were Nurse Lilley, Miss D. Underwood, the Rev. W. Sykes, and Mr Dick Francis.

The M.C.'s for whist were, Messrs. W. J. Cracknell and G. Greasley, and the winners were:

Ladies: 1. Miss Barnet; 2. Miss Weston, who won a cut with Mrs Hull.
Gents: 1. Mr G. Abell; 2. Mr C. W. Pegg. Mr Abell also winning on a cut.

The prizes were distributed by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly. The proceedings were very successful and it is intended to make the same an annual event.

Whitwick Sensation

The Vicar Arrested

A Serious Charge

Police Court Proceedings in the Isle of Man

A profound sensation was created in Whitwick and district, on Monday, when it became known that a detective had been over from the Isle of Man, to take the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. A. Mackenzie, back to the Island to answer a very serious charge.

The detective, in company with Superintendent Lockton, proceeded to the Vicarage in a taxicab on Monday afternoon, and were there for about two hours, after which they left for Leicester, and the accused was conveyed to the Isle of Man next day. The charge arises out of proceedings in the Isle of Man last week in which the Vicar made a claim against the estate of the late Miss Murray. As reported in our last issue, the main facts of the case are as follows:

The Vicar claimed £640 from the estate of the late Miss Murray in the Manx Chancery Court. Claimant is a residuary legatee under Miss Murray's will, and £400 of the claim was in respect of money claimant alleged he had advanced Miss Murray to enable her to assist relatives, and the balance was in connection with the poultry farm.

Claimant deposed that in respect of the advanced £300 Miss Murray subsequently gave him a promissory note, and that shortly before her death, she also gave him two cheques – one for £300 and one for £162, to meet the loans and charges incurred with a moneylender he had resorted to in the matter.

The claim was strongly resisted by the executor of Miss Murray's will, and next-of-kin and in cross-examination, it was suggested to Mr McKenzie that the signature of the promissory note had been traced by him in black lead, and filled in with ink, and that subsequently to her death he had filled up blank cheques, which had been supplied him by Miss Murray for purchasing poultry, for sums of £300 and £162. Both suggestions, claimant indignantly denied. Council for plaintiff ridiculed the suggestions of fraud and forgery, and submitted that the claim had been established. The Judge, without calling on the other side, said the claim lacked sufficient corroboration, and dismissed the claim with costs. On the application of counsel for the legatees, the papers were ordered to be impounded.

The Charge Outlined

Handwriting Experts Opinion

Before the Douglas Stipendiary, on Wednesday, James Wilson Alexander Mackenzie, vicar of Whitwick, Leicestershire, was charged that he did on the 22nd of January, 1913, feloniously alter, dispose of, and put off a certain forged undertaking for payment of £300. Mr R. S. Moore prosecuted for the police, and Mr R. Ray defended.

Mr Moore, in opening the case for the prosecution said defendant filed a claim against the estate of Leila Eleanor Murray, hospital matron, who died in Ramsey in July 1911, for £640 3s. The first item in the claim was for £300, money lent by claimant to deceased, and it was in respect of this that proceedings had been brought. The claim was objected to on behalf of the executors.

Defendant attended the Chancery Court in Douglas, on the 22nd inst. to prove his claim. In his evidence, defendant said:

“This sum I gave about July, 1910. When I was in Ramsey, in July, 1911, deceased said she would like to repay me or give me a cheque, and asked me to hold it over, as it would not be honoured. I regard it as an acknowledgement. Later in the day she said she would like to give me a further acknowledgement, and asked me to draw something that would show it. I wrote this on a sheet of paper in her room, and left it there. She afterwards gave me the promissory note.”

Counsel, continuing, said the allegation of the prosecution was that the signature was forged. They did not say defendant forged it, not because they doubted it, but they had no evidence to show if he did forge it, that it was forged in the Isle of Man. The only thing the prosecution could charge was that of uttering, and that was equally serious.

The parties were partners in a poultry farm. Defendant was an expert in poultry, and he purchased poultry, but the banking account was carried out in Miss Murray's name under an account styled “Number two account.” Defendant had admitted that he had received blank cheques signed by Miss Murray which he filled in when he brought poultry.

John Cannell, Clerk to the Chancery Court, testified to the defendant's evidence in support of his claim against Miss Murray's estate and of the presentation of documents, including the promissory note in question.

Mr H. Warburton, photographer, produced negatives of the promissory note, which it was alleged showed grooving over which the signature of Miss Murray had been effected.

Gerald Francis Gurrin, handwriting expert, London, said he carefully examined the promissory note and compared the signature with that in a bundle of cheques admittedly signed by Miss Murray. The common outstanding character of Miss Murray's handwriting was that it was quickly and lightly written, without much pressure. The signature on the promissory note was practically the opposite to the signature of Miss Murray. As far as the pressure was concerned, the ink was darker and heavier, pointing to a slower execution.

After examination of the signature on the promissory note, he found that a strong indentation was visible in a number, if not all the letters. It was a single indentation, such as might be produced by a pencil, and had no indication of a double indentation, such as would be produced by a pen. Neither was it an indentation such as would be produced by a stylographed pen as that always made a clear mark. He also found in several places, particularly at the base of the letter L, and at the top of the letter E, certain strokes other than ink strokes, of a purple or bluish tinge, such as might be produced by a pencil or carbon paper.

“In a strong light, and with a strong glass, the actual glint of this substance could be seen in the photograph. Down the centre of each letter the indentation or groove was clearly shown. In conclusion, witness said the strongest points were the points of fact. Such as for instance, the existence of the indentation on the front and back, the appearance of writing other than ink, and also the substance, appearing to be pencil, seen particularly in the letter “L”. These actual facts, to my mind, point to only one possible conclusion, namely, that the signature is not a natural signature, but one produced by some mechanical means, such, for instance, as a tracing or carbon paper.”

Mr Moore: *You were not asked to direct your attentions any way as to whose signature it was?*

Witness: *No, I was simply asked whether it was a forgery or not. It was not my instructions to say who did it.*

The Magistrate: *In your opinion, it is a forgery?*

Witness: *It is sir.*

Police-detective John Henry Fell, deposed to arresting the defendant at Whitwick. When charged, he said, *"I do not understand it."* At the Vicarage, in defendant's desk, witness found a gold bracelet, set with diamonds and sapphires. In the police station at Douglas, defendant said, *"It is very trying, but before God, I am innocent."* Prisoner was remanded until today, bail being granted in defendant's own bond of £200, and two sureties of £100.

Nineteen Years at Whitwick

The Rev. J. W. A. Mackenzie is a native of Inverness where his grandfather held the position of manager of the Bank of Scotland. His father was Major-General J. R. Mackenzie, of the Madras Light Infantry, 105th Regiment, and being of military parentage, he was himself educated at Cheltenham College with the view of joining the Army, but was debarred from this due to an accident to his eye. He afterwards went to Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of B.A., in 1888 and, later, that of M.A. For some time he worked with the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen on the North Sea and in London, and was subsequently trained by the late Dean Vaughan, of Llandaff with a view to his ordination. His first curacy was at St. Mark's, Leicester, in 1890. He afterwards accepted a private chaplaincy to the Earl of Dunmore, in Stirlingshire, whence he was recalled by the Bishop to become curate-in-charge of Hrafield, Northants. In 1894 he succeeded the Rev. A. F. Tollemache as Vicar of Whitwick. During his ministry at Whitwick, much good work has been done in connection with the church.

Lately the Vicar has inaugurated a large scheme of restoration at the church, and some portions of the new work were dedicated by the Bishop of Peterborough a few weeks ago. Mr Mackenzie has taken an active part in local sports and the "fancy" during his residence at Whitwick. He formed the old Whitwick White Cross Football Club, which ran two or three seasons in the Midland League, and turned out two or three first-class footballers. The club played on the Vicarage field. He has also been intimately identified with the Leicestershire Football Association. He has also won many prizes in the National Homing Union's pigeon races, but is better known, perhaps, in the poultry world, being a recognised authority on fowls, and has judged at many important shows throughout the country.

The services at the Parish Church on Sunday were conducted by the Vicar as usual and in the evening he preached a particularly impressive sermon to a fairly large congregation. After the Sunday evening service the Vicar had an interview with the Churchwardens, Messrs. S. W. West and J. P. Roulstone, and told them of the whole case, and in regard to the failure of his claim, he said it was his intention to appeal.

Two of the Vicar's sons are abroad, one having recently left for Australia. General sympathy is felt for Mrs Mackenzie, who is much beloved by the parishioners and the hope is freely expressed that the arrest of Mr Mackenzie is due to some mistake which will speedily be rectified.

Children's Concert

A successful concert was given by Whitwick Church School children in the National School on Saturday and Monday evenings. The proceeds were in aid of the children's window proposed to be erected in the parish church and there were large audiences, as a result of which it is expected a good sum will be realised. An excellent programme consisting of songs, dances, tableaux, etc., was much appreciated, there being several encores. The vicar (the Rev. J. W. A. Mackenzie) presided on Saturday evening, and on Monday evening the chair was occupied by Dr. Burkitt. The programme was as follows:

Welcome, Miss Gladys West; song, "The land of Nod," children; Morris dance, girls and boys; recitation, "My Toys," Alice Geary; full tableau, "Hush, baby's asleep," girls; parasol song, girls; duet, "Where are you going to my pretty maid?" Harriet Smith and Thomas Gilbert; tableau, "Two strings to her bow," ribbon dance, girls and boys; tableau, "Fairy Queen," song and dance, "No, John," children; song, "The little Irish girl," Miss Atkins; pianoforte duet, Miss Adams and Miss Bourne, A.L.C.M.; tableau, "Peace" song; "I have a doll," children; recitation, "Which shall it go?" Rosie Baker, tableau, "Sleeping Beauty" song, "The Flower Girl," children; pianoforte solo, Miss E. Shelton; tableau, "Bluebeard"; Morris dance, girls and boys, song, "Teasing," girls and boys, nursery tableau; song, "Aunt Eliza," Miss Atkins; tableau, "Babes in the Wood," floral song and dance, sixteen girls; "God save the King" – Miss Edith Henson was the accompanist. The children had been trained by the teachers, on whom the performance reflected great credit. Dr. Burkitt expressed thanks to all who had contributed to the great success of the concert.

Social

In connection with the Christian Endeavour Society held at the P.M. School, a social took place on Wednesday evening last and was fairly well attended. A good programme of musical items was gone through, and various games took place. Refreshments were provided during the evening.

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held in the P.M. school on Tuesday afternoon last, and was fairly well attended. The tea was given by the ladies connected with the church and a most enjoyable time was spent by those present. The proceeds were in aid of the debt reduction fund.

Sport

Football

Whitwick Imperial team to meet Leicester Belvoir Street at Whitwick tomorrow in the Senior Cup competition: Commons (captain), Lester and Springthorpe (A), D. Egan, Percy Wright and Springthorpe (H), Bradford, Brady, Starkey, Lees and Roach.

Ashby Police Court

Saturday – Before Mr George Moore (in the chair), Sir Wm. Abney, Major Hatchett, Mr J. H. Sutton, Mr G. D. Orchard, Mr T. Varnham, Mr T. Dennis and Mr G. Brown.

Whitwick Man ordered to Pay

John Bakewell (56), bricklayer, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Guardians for 11 weeks' arrears in regard to the maintenance of his wife. He said he had been out of work. John Wm. Bowley, relieving officer, stated that on November 2nd, the Bench made an order for the defendant to pay 2s a week, but he had paid nothing. The defendant could work regularly if he liked. If he had a good week one week, he would pay half the next.

Defendant said he had been out of work for weeks. It had taken him all his time to get money to pay his rent to keep a shelter over his head. He had had no fire in the house for days. Unless things altered, he would have to go into the Union. Mr Bowley said the man drank his money away as fast as he got it.

The Bench made an order for payment of the amount due, £1 2s and 10s 6d costs.