

Coalville Times – March 1913

Friday March 7th 1913 (Issue 1098)

Local News

We understand that Mrs Mackenzie left Whitwick for the Isle of Man yesterday. A sister of the Whitwick Vicar and other relatives are already on the island. The trial takes place on Tuesday next.

The adjourned Brewster Sessions were held in Ashby this morning, when the evidence of the police was taken in objection to the renewal of the licences of the Royal George Inn, and the Beaumont Arms Inn, both at Whitwick. A full report will appear in our next issue.

Colliery Workmen's Accident Club

A meeting of the workmen of Whitwick Colliery was held at the Hermitage Hotel, Coalville, on Saturday night, Mr George Thomas presiding. The result of the ballot of the old age pension scheme was reported, there being a majority of 107 in favour of question 3, that no pension be paid from the funds of the new club. A committee was appointed to draft new rules for submission to a meeting of men as early as possible. Messrs. Thomas Moore, George Brooks, James Musson and George Thomas from Nos. 2, 5 and 6 pits. Messrs. F. Blow, A. Hinds, J. Woodward, from No. 3 pit and William Jarvis were elected to serve on the committee along with the secretary and treasurer, Messrs. George Mason, George Toome and Thomas Leech were appointed treasurers, and Messrs. George Mason and A. Hinds delegates to the Derby Fatal Accident Relief Society.

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held in the Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, on Tuesday afternoon last and was well attended. The tea was given by the ladies connected with the church and was much enjoyed, a pleasant afternoon being spent.

Entertainment

An entertainment was held in the Whitwick P.M. School on Saturday evening in aid of the church funds. Mr Jacob Newbury presided and an excellent programme was given by Hugglescote Baptist friends.

P.M. Church

The preachers at this place of worship on Sunday last were the Rev. Jas. Blayney (morning) and the Rev. W. H. Whiting (evening). Good congregations attended both services, which were much enjoyed. Collections were made on behalf of the trust fund.

Scalding Fatality at Whitwick

Little Boy's Sad Death

The Coroner for North Leicestershire (Mr H. J. Deane) held an inquest at the Police Buildings, Loughborough, on Friday night, on the body of Frederick George Wilson, the two-year old son of Joseph Wilson, of 53 Western's Yard, Talbot Street, Whitwick.

The Coroner said the child died at the Loughborough Hospital on Thursday from scalds, which were sustained on February 22nd. On the evening of that day deceased's mother had bathed the deceased child and another and as they had colds she left them near the fire while she went into the village for some powders. The father, who was a cripple, was left at home with the children, and on the fire was a pot, in which a quantity of bones were stewing. While the mother was away the father removed the pot from the fire, and placed it on the table. The deceased, child-like fetched a stool, and placed it near the table. He then climbed onto the stool, which slipped, and the child, clutching at the pot, pulled the boiling liquid over himself. He was attended by Dr. Burkitt until February 25th when he was removed to the Loughborough Hospital. It would be for the jury to say whether any blame attached to anyone. Accidents would happen while the world lasted, and they would have to decide whether this accident could have been prevented.

The mother and father gave evidence bearing out the Coroner's opening statement, and Mrs Wilson added that she was only out of the house about ten minutes. The child was not able after the accident to tell her anything about it. All he could say was, "Mother, drink."

Dr. Watson, house surgeon at the Loughborough Hospital, said the child was badly scalded about the face, arms and chest. He got on well at first, but became worse and died on Thursday night. Death was due partly to shock and partly to absorption of septic matter from the scalds. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death" and said no blame attached to either of the parents.

Sale by Auction

Whitwick

The sale of Mr R. Sharp's farming stock will be held on Tuesday, March 18th, 1913, at 12 o'clock. Catalogues may be had from the Auctioneers' Office, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Market Bosworth.

Wesleyan Band of Hope

The first anniversary services in connection with the Whitwick Wesleyan Band of Hope were held last Sunday, when two sermons were preached to excellent congregations by the Rev. F. H. Labbett, of Coalville. Special singing of temperance hymns were given by the children, who had been ably trained by Misses Clarke and Cradock. Mr Ottey presided at the organ. The collections amounted to £4 10s.

Leicestershire County Council Election

Polling took place on Wednesday in 10 divisions for representatives on the Leicestershire County Council. In 1907 there were 26 contests, and in 1910 ten. Most of the campaigns were fought more or less on political lines though not in all cases.

Coalville participated largely in the polling. The parish is divided into four divisions and in three of these there were contests. In the Hugglescote division Dr. Meredith opposed the member, Mr R. Blower; in the Swannington division the seat of Mr J. A. Goodman was

challenged by Mr J. Shields, and in the Whitwick division both Mr M McCarthy and Mr C. Mee sought to take the place of Mr W. Lindley, who retired.

The two old members were re-elected, Mr Blower by a majority of more than two to one, but Mr Goodman had his majority greatly reduced, winning by only 10. Mr McCarthy had a huge majority over Mr Mee. In none of the divisions did there appear to be very much excitement, and polling went on steadily throughout the day, being, of course, heavier in the evening.

Whitwick

M. McCarthy (Con)	849
C. Mee (Lib)	467
Majority	382



MR. M. MCCARTHY. J.P., C.O.

Exciting Scenes at Whitwick

Desperate Struggle in a Grocer's Shop

Three Colliers Fined for Assault

At the Coalville Police Court on Friday, George Frederick Burton, grocer, Whitwick, was summoned for assaulting Cyril Johnson, aged nine years at Whitwick, on February 22nd. Mr Fisher Jesson (Ashby) appeared for the complainant, and Mr J. J. Sharp, (Coalville) for the defendant.

Mr Jesson, opening the case proceeded to refer to the character of Burton who, he said, was subject to sudden fits of temper. Mr Sharp objected to this and the Bench agreed that

Mr Jesson should confine himself to this case. Mr Jesson then outlined the case which, he said, would be proved in evidence.

Cyril Johnson, aged 9, stated that on Saturday last he and his little brother met their father near Burton's shop, and received from him a halfpenny. They went into the shop to buy some sweets. Only the defendant was in the shop and he was behind the counter writing something in a book. He (the boy) asked for some sweets, and the defendant gave them nuts. They asked him to change them, as they could not crack them, and the defendant came from behind the counter and kicked him, at the same time swearing at him. The kick sent him out of the shop into the road, and when the defendant slammed the door, it knocked witness's little brother down. His father went into the shop and threw an egg at him and his father threw one back. A crowd of people came round.

By Mr Sharp: *He had been to Mr Burton's shop before, and had never been kicked previously. He had brought nuts there on previous occasions.*

Further answering Mr Sharp, the boy said Miss Walker was not in the shop at the time. The defendant took a running kick at him. He had not been told by anyone what to say. Arthur Worrall, collier, Whitwick, employed at the South Leicestershire Colliery said that on the way home from work on Saturday he had a pint at the Castle Inn, Hugglescote, another at Thornborough, and a third at the New Inn, Whitwick. When he left the latter place it was just after four, and outside he met his two children. He gave them a halfpenny and they went into Burton's shop for some sweets. They came out with nuts, but went back for sweets and witness then saw the defendant kick the boy, Cyril, out of the shop, and knock the other boy down by slamming the door.

By Mr Sharp: *When Sergeant's Dobney and Betts came to his house, he complained to them of the assault on the boy.*

Harriet Johnson, mother of the boy, deposed to receiving a complaint from the latter as to the assault. Defendant, sworn, said Miss Walker was in the shop at the time. It was untrue that he kicked the boy. He did nothing at neither of them. He had never had a complaint from the boy's father or mother about kicking the boy.

By Mr Jesson: *The whole story of the assault was trumped up and was a pack of lies.*

He was amazed to hear the boy tell such lies in the box. He admitted having a bad temper, but said he could control it. His wife had left him through his temper.

Mr Sharp: *And is now back again.*

Mr Jesson asked whether Miss Young left him because of his temper?

Defendant: *You ask proper questions, and you will get proper answers.*

Proceeding, defendant said he had had a law action with Miss Young. He had never been summoned for assaulting a child before. Mr Jesson then asked a question about a Mrs Bunce, but Mr Sharp objected, observing that this had nothing to do with the case.

Defendant: *Let him ask. What about Mrs Bunce? Go on.*

Mr Jesson: *Don't get cross with me.*

Defendant: *It would not take me long.*

Mr Jesson: *I thought so.*

Defendant: *I know you too well.*

Mr Jesson: *Well, don't be personal.*

Answering further questions, he said the father of the boy came back into the shop, and threw nuts at him. Rose Walker, single woman, Whitwick, said she was in Burton's shop when the boys came in and asked for a halfpennyworth of nuts. The boys did not come back again, and neither of them was kicked by the defendant.

By Mr Jesson: *Her mother was a tenant of Burton's and worked for the defendant sometimes.*

Sergeant Dobney said he and Sergeant Betts went to Worrall's house on the 22nd and the boy's name was not mentioned. No complaint was made about the boy being kicked.

By Mr Jesson: *Worrall told witness that when his boy brought nuts he went back with him to the shop and said it was sweets he wanted. Burton made an offensive remark, whereupon he (Worrall) threw the nuts at him. Burton then threw an egg, and as there were eggs handy, he retaliated, and they had a good set-to.*

The Bench decided to dismiss the case.

Another case arising out of the same bother was then taken.

Arthur Worrall, Thomas Hall, and George Bennett, colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for assaulting George Frederick Burton, grocer, at Whitwick, on February 22nd. Complainant said that when Worrall came into the shop he told them he had given the boys what they asked for. Worrall then threw the nuts at him, and he bundled them out of the shop. The defendant came in again, however, and started throwing eggs at him from a case near the door. One of the eggs hit him on the head, and others smashed on the fittings behind him. Then Mr Walter Briers, parish constable, and Mr Williamson, came and they had a struggle in the shop in trying to get Worrall out. Mr Briers then went and fetched a pair of handcuffs, and they had another struggle in trying to get the handcuffs on. Mr Briers was knocked down, and the defendant was most violent. When the people outside saw what was going on, the other defendants, Hall and Bennett, came in to take Worrall's part. Both defendants struck him in the shop and outside and friends of theirs encouraged them. They were kicking and plunging like madmen, and eventually they got Worrall away. In the teens of eggs were smashed and other damage done. He sent for the police. Complainant did not throw any eggs.

By Mr Jesson: *It was a most exciting time, but he was fairly calm, and it was the defendants who were like madmen.*

By Mr Jesson: *When Worrall brought the nuts back he (Burton) did not say to him; "Take your _____ bastards home." He did not take up a butter knife and threaten Worrall. Briers had not taken out a summons against Worrall because, as he was parish constable, he thought the police would take it up. He (Burton) was not making any claim for damage to his property: he was advised not to.*

Walter Briers, contractor, and also parish constable, Whitwick, said he was attracted to the shop by the bother, and saw Worrall throwing eggs at Mr Burton. He did not see Burton throw anything. Witness asked the defendant what he was doing, whereupon Worrall struck him a blow, knocking him down. Defendant also struck Burton. Worrall was very

violent, and threatened to kill Burton and witness. He (Briers) went for a pair of handcuffs, and they had another struggle. He got the handcuff on one hand, and the other defendants came in and demanded the release of the defendant. Bennett kicked witness while Hall went for Burton. The latter was pulled through the doorway and the defendants punched him.

By Mr Jesson: *He (Briers) had not summoned any of the men for assault, as he thought the police would take it up.*

The clerk: *You can take it from me Mr Jesson, that the police have this matter in hand.*

Moses Williamson, of Whitwick, said Worrall had got Briers down when he arrived on the scene. He also witnessed the assault on Burton. Alice Maud Burton, complainant's wife, also gave evidence as to the assault and said the defendants threatened her as well.

Worrall, on oath, alleged that when he took the nuts back, Burton threw an egg at him, and he threw one back. Complainant then rushed at him with a knife and they had a struggle. As soon as he got out of the shop he went across the road. The other two defendants were not in the shop at all. A man named Kenny burst into the shop. During the struggle blows were struck. He received blows, but he never deliberately struck at Burton, neither did the other defendants. Burton was very violent, and struck him (Worrall) several times. He did not see Bennett kick Briers and he (defendant) did not knock Briers down. The other defendants denied going into the shop, and said they did not assault Burton.

Worrall was fined 12s 6d and 14s 6d costs or 14 days, and the other defendants each 7s 6d and costs 14s 6d or seven days.

The Charge Against the Vicar of Whitwick

Criminal Court of Enquiry

As briefly reported in our last issue, the Rev. James Wilson Alexander Mackenzie, vicar of Whitwick, on Tuesday surrendered to his bail, and was charged before Deemster Callow and a jury of six with having uttered a promissory note for £300 with intent to defraud, knowing the same to have been forged. – Messrs. Lay, Farrant and Allen appeared for the prisoner, Mr Lancaster, of Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, Coalville, defendant's solicitors in England, was also in Court.

For the prosecution, in opening, it was pointed out that the jury were not to decide whether the defendant was guilty or not guilty, but simply whether there was sufficient evidence to send the defendant to take his trial. The charge was confined to that of uttering, as the prosecution did not know whether the document had been forged in the Isle of Man or in England. There was no question about the uttering of the document, because it had been produced in the Chancery Division of the High Court in January last in proof of a claim made by the defendant against the estate of Miss Leila Murray, matron of the Ramsey Isolation Hospital. The defendant and Miss Murray were interested in the breeding of poultry. In 1910 defendant came to judge at the Ramsey show at which Miss Murray was an exhibitor. After the show, defendant was introduced to Miss Murray, and they agreed to carry on a partnership in a poultry farm. The final clause of the partnership deed provided that if either of the partners died before the partnership was dissolved, the whole of the assets were to go to the survivor. An account was opened at Lloyds Bank in the name of Miss Murray, No. 2 account. The prosecution alleged that defendant had a number of cheques in blank, signed by Miss Murray, and that he made use of one of these after her

death, filling it up in favour of himself for £300 in order to bolster up his claim. From July 1910 to July 1911, the business was carried on, when a balance sheet was drawn up, which professed to show a balance of £23 3s 11d and purported to be signed by Miss Murray. The prosecution did not admit that the signature on the balance sheet was a genuine one. In July, Miss Murray was being driven by Dr. Roe in his motor car when there was an accident, and as a result, Miss Murray died. She left a will, leaving the defendant her residue legatee. Miss Murray left property worth some £400. Though defendant was on the island at the time of the death, and had several interviews with Dr. Roe and with Mr Nelson, acting for the estate, he never claimed that the estate owed him anything, and it was not till November 26th, 1911, that he wrote to Dr. Roe claiming that he had a promissory note for £300. The prosecution allege that there never was a loan of £300, that the whole thing was pure invention. The executors understood that the money was lent to the deceased nine days before her death and as they could find no trace of it, they wrote to the defendant, and his advocates wrote back and said that at the time of her death the deceased was possessed of considerable means, including two £50, and three £5 notes and it was not till the matter came before the Chancery Court that they heard that the money was advanced a year before in 1910.

Mr Lay said that the letter from the defendant's solicitors had no reference whatever to the loan of £300, but was in support of an allegation that the executors had not accounted for the whole of the estate, and had not accounted for a considerable sum of money that Miss Murray had at the time of her death.

The prosecution, continuing, alleged that the defendant made the date of the loan 1910 as in that year he got money from his agent; but even in 1910 the executor could find no trace of that money. If the defendant could trace that money in any way to Miss Murray it would be of great assistance to him. The defendant drew from his agent on July 5th, 1910, £250, and, on the following day, £50, making the £300; but when arrested, a bank book, called a pigeon and poultry book, was found on him. This showed that on July 6th, £125 was paid into that account, and another sum of £38 11s 7d while on the same date the letter book showed that he sent £20 to a Mr Heath; while on Monday, the 8th, he paid into the account £38. They alleged that that money was part of that he had drawn from his agents. When writing to Mr Nelson about his loan, defendant said he had not inquired why Miss Murray wanted the £300; but in the witness box in the Chancery Court he said that she wanted it to send to her sister in America. Evidence would be called as to the signature on the note – expert evidence which would show the jury that the signature had first been traced at the foot of the note by some sharp instrument, and afterwards filled in with ink.

The first witness called was C. T. Hughes-Games who had acted on behalf of the late Miss Murray's sisters in connection with the winding up of the estate. He deposed to seeing the promissory note in May or June of 1912, in Mr LaMothe's office in Ramsey. He examined it carefully, and first of all noticed that the signature was in a different coloured ink to the body of the note. He noticed a peculiar gloss or sheen on it. He turned it over and looked on the reverse side. The signature was clearly expressed on the reverse side. On the front side he also observed a grooving of each letter of the signature, and distinct pitting after the 'L' and 'E' of the signature. He had since examined it under a strong glass, and the grooving and pitting was still quite apparent. The final 'y' seen under the glass, indicated that the ink had been put on downwards, not upwards. He next saw the document a few days before the Chancery Court, when the expression of the signature on the back, which before was perfectly obvious, had become almost indelible. William Henry Warburton, photographer, produced negatives and photographs of the promissory note.

Harold Francis Gurrin, handwriting expert, stated that Miss Murray's signature had certain characteristics, viz., that she wrote lightly and thinly. There was hardly any pressure at all – so little that the pen would hardly open. The signature on the note was the exact opposite to that on the cheques, and suggested that it was heavily and slowly written. There was considerable variation between the up strokes and the down strokes. He examined the signature under a glass, and there was a grooving or indentation in the letters, which would require considerable pressure to make. The signature had the appearance also as if before the ink, it had been written in pencil or traced with carbon paper. You could in a side light see the glint of the other substance on some of the letters. The back of the note showed certain indentations which corresponded with the letters of the signature. Seeing all these things, it was beyond question that this was not a natural signature, but had been produced in an artificial manner. It was hardly a matter for expert opinion, but a statement of fact. He had examined the signature on the balance sheet, and apparently it also was not a natural signature. It corresponded in detail with the signature on the note, and apparently one was taken from the other, or else they were both taken from the same model.

Mr C. B. Nelson, who acted as advocate for the executors of the will of Miss Murray, gave evidence that the first he heard of the claim for £300 was in November, 1911. They got a letter from defendant stating that the money was a loan to Miss Murray for purposes of which he (defendant) knew nothing. They understood the money was lent to Miss Murray a few days before her death, and though they made every effort to trace it, could not. It was a reflection on the honesty of the executors. They did not know that the money was lent the year before, till very shortly before the hearing in Chancery.

Dr. Roe, one of the executors of Miss Murray's estate, gave evidence that he first heard of the defendant's claim for £300 some time in October. Previous to this, he had handed Mr Mackenzie a number of articles. He went most carefully through Miss Murray's papers, and could find no trace of her having received £300, or of it having been passed through her bank accounts. Miss Murray's investments realised £430, and she had those in 1910.

Thomas Edward Acheson, manager of Lloyds Bank in Ramsey, produced a list of cheque books issued to Miss Murray. A. E. Rothwell, deposed that he was a shorthand writer, and on January 22nd and 23rd, was present in the Chancery Court, when Mr Mackenzie's claim was gone into. His notes were transcribed for newspaper purposes, not in full. The print was absolutely correct in substance. In addition, he had written out a certain part of Mr Mackenzie's evidence in full (produced).

John Henry Fayle deposed to arresting defendant on January 27th, at Whitwick. In reply to the charge, defendant said, "*I don't understand it.*" He searched the defendant's room and found the bank books, 'pigeon and poultry account', and his own private account, a letter book and cash book, all of which he brought to the Island. On the evening of January 28th in Douglas, defendant said, "*It is very trying, but before God I am innocent.*"

Cross-examined: *He had not a search warrant, and was not looking for stolen goods.*

Mr Lay: *By what authority did you search this man's house and rooms?*

Council for the prosecution submitted that the question was not relevant. The question was allowed.

Witness: *I had official instructions to search and bring with me anything connected with the case.*

Mr Lay: *No objection was made to you making a thorough search?*

Witness: *No.*

Mr Lay: *And we have all the documents?*

Witness: *They are not all put in. All the documents have been shown to Mr Lay, and he has free and open access to all of them.*

This was all the evidence for the prosecution – Mr Lay said that at this stage he did not intend to offer any defence. It was for the jury to say as to whether there was sufficient evidence to send defendant for trial. After a short summing up Mr Gill, on behalf of the jury, said that they were quite agreed that prisoner should go to trial.

Bail was allowed in defendant's bond of £200, and one security of £200. General Gaol will be held on March 11th. The case is expected to take two days.

Coalville Police Court

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

Bad Language

Henry Richards, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick on February 21st. Defendant did not appear. P.C. Grewcock gave the facts and defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs 12s 6d, or seven days.

Coalville Urban District Council

Mr W. Sheffield presided at the monthly meeting of the Coalville Urban Council on Tuesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. S. Perry, A. Lockwood, F. Griffin, J. Kirby, S. P. Matterson, J. R. Bennett, and T. Kelly, with the clerk (Mr T. E. Jesson), surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), medical officer (Dr. R. W. Jamie), assistant surveyor, (Mr G. F. Hurst), and gasworks manager (Mr J. W. Eagles).

Highways Committee Report

The Highways Committee reported that they had considered the question of the erection of a public convenience near the Market Place, and recommend the Wyggeston Hospital trustees be asked to give a piece of land on which one of substantial design could be erected. – The committee also recommend the Whitwick members and the surveyor report on a site for the erection of an additional convenience in Whitwick. Also that a light be fixed on the one in Belvoir Road, Coalville.

The surveyor reported on his suggestions for preventing the flooding on the Hermitage Road, and that the Whitwick Colliery Co. be asked to allow a line of pipes to be laid on their land, and the committee recommend he carry out the suggestions.

Carting Tenders

Mr Lockwood said they had the tenders for the gas works carting and he suggested they be opened in Council. Eleven were asked to tender but only three had replied. The first was that of Mr James Thomas, of Church Lane, Whitwick, as follows: Carting coal from the Coalville Midland station to the gas works, 10d per ton, carting tar into the tank 1s 6d per ton, ammoniacal liquor 1s per ton, coke to Messrs. Stableford's Works 1s per ton, coke to

the Coalville Co-Operative Society, including throwing into the cellars 1s 6d per ton, coke in bags to the Council Schools at Bagworth, including getting in 5s per ton, coke in bags to Stanton Schools 4s 6d, coke to Whitwick, including L. and N.W. dock 1s, coke to Hugglescote district 2s, coke to Ellistown district 2s 6d, coke to Coalville, including M. R. dock 1s 3d, coke to Forest Rock and Whitwick quarries, 1s 6d and day work, odd jobs as required 10d per hour.

Messrs. E. Briers and Son: Coal 1s, tar 2s, liquor 1s 3d, Stableford's 1s 6d, Co-Operative Society 1s 9d, Bagworth 5s 6d, Stanton 4s 6d, Whitwick 1s, Hugglescote 2s, Ellistown 2s 6d, Coalville 1s 6d, quarries 1s and day work 10d per hour.

Mr John Moore: Coal 11d, tar 11d, liquor 11d, Stableford's 11d, Co-Operative Society 1s 6d, Bagworth 4s, Stanton 3s 6d, Whitwick 1s, Hugglescote 2s, Ellistown 2s 6d, Coalville 1s, quarries 1s, and day work 10d per hour.

Mr Eagles said the carting of coal from Coalville to the works and the liquor were the chief items. Replying to Mr Lockwood, the manager said Thomas had previously done the work very satisfactorily. On the motion of Mr Lockwood, seconded by Mr Bennett, the tender of Mr Thomas was accepted.

Sport

Football

Whitwick Imperial Easy Winners

Whitwick Imperial "got their own back" on Saturday in the match with the Imps from Leicester. In the match at Leicester earlier in the season, the colliery district representatives were beaten 3 – 0, but at Whitwick on Saturday they went one more and won 4 – 0.

There was no mistake about Whitwick being the better side. Though only one goal was scored in the first half, and this from a penalty by Brady, the home side had the bulk of the play and missed many chances. But they were handicapped in having Springthorpe off injured for a good portion of the half. He came into collision with Egan when the two were trying to head the ball at the same time. But Springthorpe returned by the second half, when Whitwick were seen to great advantage. Beautiful goals were scored by A. Starkey (2), and Lees, and the Leicester club were fortunate in not having more put up against them, considering the pressure.

In both the matches between these clubs last season Leicester won by two goals to one.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

In Memoriam

Mrs Ashford and Family desire, through the medium of this paper to thank all kind friends for expressions of sympathy shown to them in their recent sad bereavement.

Friday March 14th 1913 (Issue 1099)

Local News

Sewing Tea

The usual weekly sewing tea was held in the P.M. schoolroom on Tuesday afternoon last, when a good number sat down to a good tea provided by the ladies. The afternoon was spent in a most enjoyable manner, the proceeds being in aid of the trust fund.

Christian Endeavour

The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening last and was fairly well attended. Various members spoke on the topic and, a most interesting and profitable evening was spent by all present.

Lantern Lecture

In connection with the P.M. Band of Hope, the Rev. W. H. Whiting gave a lecture illustrated by lantern views to a fairly large audience in the Primitive Methodist schoolroom on Friday night last. The proceeds were for the band of hope funds.

P.M. Church

The preachers at this place of worship on Sunday last were the Rev. W. H. Whiting in the morning and Mr Hardwick, of Coalville, in the evening. Good congregations were present and the services were much enjoyed.

Public Notices

Albert Edward Hood, Deceased

All persons having any claims against the estate of Albert Edward Hood, deceased, late of Whitwick, who died on the 2nd day of January, 1913, are requested to send particulars thereof, to us, the solicitors for the executors, on or before the 25th day of March, 1913.

Fisher, Jesson and Co.
Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Dated 12th March, 1913.

To Let

House and shop to let in Vicarage Street, Whitwick. Suitable for pawnbroker, clothing of any kind, hardware or shoe trade. Stabling if required. Burton, grocer, Whitwick.

Local Chit Chat

The "Coalville Times" will be published at the usual time on Thursday next week, Friday being Good Friday.

Several Whitwick and Coalville residents left for the Isle of Man on Monday to be present at the trial of the Vicar. Among them was the Rev. S. Hosking, vicar of Coalville.

It is not generally known that the Ashford family, of Whitwick, had another member who distinguished himself for bravery, in addition to the late postman who won the Victoria Cross. This was Thomas George Ashford, a cousin of the Victoria Cross holder, who lost his life in the Alhambra Theatre fire in London on December 7th, 1882, while engaged as a member of one of the fire brigades in trying to extinguish the flames.

Coalville Urban District Council Election

List of Nominations

Nominations in connection with the Coalville Urban District Council election were received by the clerk, Mr T. E. Jacques, up to 12 noon on Thursday (yesterday). Four members are required for each of the three wards, and 23 candidates were nominated – nine Coalville and seven each for the Hugglescote and Whitwick wards. All the old members are again nominated.

Whitwick (or North) Ward

Bastard, Henry Thomas, Silver Street, Whitwick, schoolmaster. Two papers.
Bourne, Thomas William, Market Place, Whitwick, draper and clothier. Nine papers.
Hay, Thomas Young, Forest Road, Coalville, colliery manager. Six papers.
Kelly, Thomas, South Street, Whitwick, licensed victualler. Five papers.
McCarthy, Michael, New Swannington, surveyor and estate agent. Two papers.
Perry, Samuel, Silver Street, Whitwick, tailor. Six papers.
West, George, Church Lane, Whitwick, house agent. Two papers.

Seven candidates for four seats.

A Broken Arm

A little boy, son of Mr S. Briers, insurance superintendent, had the misfortune on Tuesday to break his arm for the second time in the course of a few weeks.

Ashby Brewster Sessions

Two Whitwick Houses Referred for Compensation

Friday – Before Mr George Moore (in the chair), the Rev. C. T. Moore, Major Hatchett, Mr G. D. Orchard and Mr G. Brown.

Royal George, Whitwick

The police objected to the renewal of the license of the Royal George Inn, Whitwick.

Mr Fisher Jesson (Ashby) appeared for the owners, Messrs. Bindley and Co., Burton, and for the tenant, Mr H. Ward. Supt. Lockton it was an ante-67 beer-on license and Ward had been the tenant for about four years. The population of the Ashby division at the 1911 census was 43,328 and the average per licensed house was 231. The population of Whitwick was 4,433 and the average per licensed house, 147, there being 28 licensed houses in Whitwick. The house was 147 yards from the New Inn and there were 13 houses between. The Duke of Newcastle Hotel was 347 yards away and there were 36 houses between. The Duke of Newcastle was a much superior house, being a new

building and the New Inn was also superior. It was a working class trade of about £8 a week. The assessment was £23 10s and the rent £18 a year. The house was tied to the owners for intoxicants. He objected because the house was not required, the number of licences being excessive and it was not in the interests of the public that it should be renewed.

Mr Jesson said that in the face of the superintendent's report he would hardly but justified in taking up the time of the Bench. He would, therefore, formerly apply for the license to be renewed and leave it in the hands of the Bench. The Bench renewed the license provisionally and referred the house to the compensation committee.

Beaumont Arms, Whitwick

Superintendent Lockton also objected to the renewal of the license of the Beaumont Arms Inn, Whitwick.

Mr H. Hanson of Walker and Hanson, Nottingham, appeared for the owners (Hanson's Ltd, Kimberley), and for the tenant, Mr Thomas Allen. Supt. Lockton said this was a fully-licensed house and had been occupied by Allen for five years. The "White Horse" was ten yards away, the "Hastings Arms" 32 yards, "Three Crowns," 85 yards, "Railway Hotel" 74 yards, "Crown and Cushion" 104 yards, "Waggon and Horses" 137 yards, and the "Black Horse" 157 yards. There were eight licensed houses within 157 yards. This house was inferior to the others, it being thatched property. He understood that the tenant's trade was between £12 and £16 per week. The assessment was £28 a year, £22 10s net, and the rent £18. The house was tied to the owners. The house was not required in the neighbourhood, not being suitable as a licensed house, and was inconvenient for police supervision, owing to adjoining cottages having access at the rear.

By Mr Hanson: *The house was the worst building of the eight in the neighbourhood. He had nothing against the conduct of the house. The tenant was a very good landlord, and witness would like to see him in a good house. He could not say that the trade of this house was less than the others. The previous tenant was in the house for a long time.*

Mr Hanson: *19 years I am told.*

Mr Hanson asked the Bench to renew the license, and said the owners would then undertake in the coming year to improve the property by taking in an adjoining house. He submitted that the amount of trade being done justified the continuance of the license. It could not be said that the house was not required. The average takings were £12 to £14 per week, and on special occasions, the tenant had taken £20 to £30 a week. The tenant had been there for five years, and the tenant before him was there 19 years. It was the only house owned by Hanson's in Whitwick, and that was a reason they wished to retain it. There were other brewers with more than one house in the parish, and he submitted that to take this away would be a hardship.

Mr Allen, the tenant, said he had been at the house for five years, and it was his only source of livelihood. The lowest week he had ever had was £11, but the average was £14 to £15. He had a respectable class of traders and provided lunch for callers. He believed that if premises were improved the trade would be extended. His customers did not like the idea of the license being taken away. This was the only house in Whitwick which supplied Hanson's beer, and they liked it.

Wm. Smith, secretary to Hanson's Ltd, said the house had provided a good living for the tenant for years. His firm had had the house for 25 years. If the license was renewed they would undertake to make structural alterations to meet the police objections.

The Bench considered the matter in private and decided to refer the house to the Compensation Committee, the license meanwhile being provisionally renewed.

Trial of the Whitwick Vicar

Was the Promissory Note a Forgery?

Local Witnesses Examined

(From our Special Correspondent)

Douglas, Wednesday Morning.

Lord Raglan, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island, together with His Honour, the Clerk of the Robe, their Honours the Deemsters Moore and Callow, presided on Tuesday at a General Goal Delivery, or Criminal Court held in Douglas, where the Rev. James Watson Alexander Mackenzie, Vicar of Whitwick, surrendered to his bail, Mr Ellis Wood, to stand his trial on the charge of uttering forged documents, to wit, a promissory note for three hundred pounds, purporting to bear the signature of the late Miss Murray, late matron of the Ramsey Isolation Hospital. The Court was crowded. The Attorney-General for the Island, assisted by Mr R. B. Moore, prosecuted, and Messrs. W. Lay, Allen and Durrant, (instructed by Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, solicitors of Coalville), appeared for the prisoner, who appeared in the dock in his clerical costume, and looked tired and worried. His wife was present, accompanied by Miss Mackenzie, the prisoner's twin sister, and his other sister, Mrs Gibbs and her daughter.

The case started at 11 o'clock, and the opening speech of the Attorney-General occupied three hours. The Court adjourned at 6.30 until 10 o'clock next day. The following is a report of the proceedings:-

The Attorney-General, in opening the prosecution, said that the defendant was charged under the Criminal Code with uttering a forged instrument, knowing the same to have been forged. The prosecution could not charge him with actually committing the forgery, because they could not say where, or by whom the forgery was committed. What they said was a false signature was made, and they could not prove that it was made in the Isle of Man. The instrument in this case was a promissory note for £300, said to be signed by L. E. Murray, matron of the fever hospital at Ramsey. She met with a motor accident on July 21st, 1911, and died on the 23rd of that month. She left a will appointing Dr. Roe, of Ramsey, and another, her executors. Her estate came to be wound up by the Chancery Court, and in support of a claim against the estate he put in this note. He first made a claim against the estate of £501 0s 11d, and later an amended claim for £604 5s 1d, and it was in support of the second cheque that he put in the promissory note. He would ask them to believe that he had never left Miss Murray any money and, therefore, he must have known that the note was a dishonest and false one. If he could prove that there never had been a loan, the rest of the case was quite simple. Defendant interested himself in poultry and pigeons, and was brought to Ramsey to judge the poultry at a show there. Miss Murray was an exhibitor, and the defendant was introduced to Miss Murray by Dr. Roe, and in July, defendant and Miss Murray entered into a deed of partnership to keep

poultry and pigeons. Under the deed of partnership the poultry farm was to be at Ramsey, and the bankers, Lloyds Bank, at Ramsey, the account to be in Miss Murray's name. Mr Mackenzie was to put in £125, and Miss Murray, certain stock. It was provided that on the death of either party the assets of the partnership should vest to the survivor, subject to the whole of the liabilities. In connection with the partners a certain cheque or cheque books were given to Miss Murray. One book was numbered 024541 to 024570. This cheque book, the Attorney-General alleged, had been signed by Miss Murray and given to the defendant to pay for certain partnership accounts. The body of all these cheques, down to "65" were filled in, in prisoner's writing, and the signature of them were Miss Murray's. Two other cheques were put in, made payable to defendant – one for £300, and the other for £162. They (the prosecution) contended that these cheques had been wrongfully filled in by the defendant after Miss Murray's death, so as to bolster up his claim against the estate. Miss Murray left a will dated 15th February, 1911, in which, after leaving legacies of £100 to each of her two sisters, and £75 to her servant, she left the residue of the estate to the defendant. He had also stated that he had made her his residue legatee, and that after providing for his wife and family, she would have benefitted to the extent of some £800. After Miss Murray's death defendant became entitled to the partnership assets, and though a number of financial matters were discussed, defendant left the Island without saying a single word to the executor or the lawyers that were acting, about the debt that he now claimed was due to him. On August 30th, after defendant got home, he wrote to Miss Murray's sister in Canada, in which he said that the only reason he was made residue legatee was that deceased wished him to get back the £300 he had put into the poultry farm. He did not in that letter say anything about his claim against the estate, which would have made it hopelessly insolvent, and done away with the legacy left to the sisters. It was not till November that the executors first heard that defendant had a claim against Miss Murray's estate, and it was not till he was giving evidence in the Chancery Court did defendant say that the £300 was lent to Miss Murray in July, 1910, and not in July, 1911, the date of the note, which was only nine days before her death. The promissory note and the cheque for £300 were admitted in relation to the same matter. In the box of the Chancery Court defendant said that on the 14th July, 1911, Miss Murray gave him the cheque for £300, as she wished him to have security for the loan of £300 made in July of the previous year, but later in the day she said that he had better have some further acknowledgement of the loan, and asked him to write out a promissory note. He did that, and later in the day Miss Murray returned him the note signed. He also said that Miss Murray wanted that money to aid her sisters, but the executors had been quite unable to trace the payment of the £300 to Miss Murray. They might ask why defendant wished to date back the loan for 12 months. There were two reasons that might arise from that being done. One was because no trace of the money was found among Miss Murray's assets, or he might wish to show where he got the money from. They suggested that he had dated it back for the second reason, as in the Chancery Court he had produced a statement from his lawyers. Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, showing that on July 5th and 6th, 1910, he had drawn £300, and that he said was the money. When arrested, however, at Whitwick, the constable took possession of the defendant's books, and among them was a pigeon and poultry bank book, which showed that on July 6th, the day after he received the £250, he paid £125 and £38 11s 7d into the Bank, and paid £20 for poultry. This came to £183 11s 7d. The £50 which he received on July 6th was paid - £38 of it into the pigeon and poultry account, and £12 taken in cash. This brought down the whole fabric of the story put forward by the defendant to show how he obtained the £300 he said he had lent to Miss Murray. At this stage the case was adjourned for lunch.

On resuming, Deemster Moore told the jury that they would not be able to get home that night, but postcards would be supplied to them to communicate with their families. Mr Lay

said a number of the other jurymen summoned had asked him to apply to the Court to see whether they need attend on Wednesday, as the present case would not end on Wednesday. The Clerk of the Rolls said they would see at five o'clock.

The Attorney-General, resuming, said that in 1910, when he was supposed to have lent this money to Miss Murray, he was really in financial difficulties. In the early part of 1910 he purchased some poultry from Mr Johnson, at Sulby, for £11 11s. He gave him a cheque post-dated June. Mr Johnson evidently did not notice the date, and paid it into the bank. The cheque was returned, and defendant wrote asking Mr Johnson to hold it over till June. At the same time he also got a letter from a Mr Woodruff, pressing defendant for money. Mr Lay objected to the letter going in, as it could not be proved. The Clerk of the Rolls suggested that it would be better to simply state that he was not in a good financial position, and prove it later.

The Attorney-General adopted the suggestion, and continuing, said that in 1910, Miss Murray gave defendant a cheque for £100, so that it looked as if she was lending him money and not he her. In July, 1911, the defendant stated that while in the Isle of Man, Miss Murray drew up a balance sheet of the partnership account, showing a profit of £27 13s 9d. They said that signature was also a forgery. The Clerk of the Rolls said that the prosecution was not allowed to put that in at the present time. It had nothing to do with this case. If the defendant produced it as a genuine signature the prosecution could question on it. The Attorney-General argued that he should be allowed to put the document in. Deemster Moore agreed that the document up to the present was not evidence.

Proceeding, the Attorney-General dealt with the alleged forged promissory note. Mr Hughes-Games, who was acting for the sisters, saw the note in Ramsey, in Messrs. LaMothe and Cowley's office, and saw that there was distinct grooving in the letters, and that it was impressed on the back of the note, which showed that it had been made first with a pencil or other sharp instrument, and afterwards inked over. The signature to the note was heavy and thick, and directly opposed to the usual light writing of Miss Murray. He would call Mr Gurrin, a writing expert, who could tell them how that signature was made. His theory was that it was first traced in pencil and then filled in with ink. The Attorney-General's address lasted two and three-quarter hours. Evidence was then given in support of the Attorney-General's statement.

The first witness was Mr Hughes-Games, who spoke of the suspicions that were aroused in his mind as to the genuineness of the signature on the promissory note. He noticed that grooving of the letters, and saw the signature quite clearly impressed on the reverse side, while there was a gloss on the letters which was produced by putting ink over lead pencil. The letters produced were written by the defendant to his clients. – Cross-examined: the whole claim was dismissed in the Chancery Court, and he then asked to have all the documents impounded. He did not instigate the prosecution. He knew about the gloss and sheens, etc., because he had eyes. He had got the idea in his head from the start that the signature was a forgery caused by having been traced, and it had stuck there ever since. John Cannell, clerk in the Rolls Office, gave evidence as to the filing of the claims against Miss Murray's estate, by the defendant's advocates, and the production of the promissory note in the Chancery Court, and of the cheque for £100 in support of the claim.

Alf. E. Rothwell, deposed to reporting the proceedings in the Chancery Division of Mr Mackenzie's claim. He produced a verbatim transcript of Mr Nelson's cross-examination of the defendant as to how he had paid Miss Murray the £300.

Charles Roe, one of the executors of Miss Murray's will, deposed that he was well acquainted with Miss Murray. In January, 1910, he met Mr Mackenzie at the dog show dinner and the next day introduced him to Miss Murray. Mr Mackenzie and Miss Murray started a poultry farm, and in July, 1911, defendant came to stop at witness's house. On July 21st, Miss Murray met with an accident and died in his house on 23rd July. Between the 21st and 23rd July defendant had been twice to the hospital at Miss Murray's request. After her death, defendant gave witness the will in a sealed envelope, and it was given to Mr Nelson, who opened it. He then learnt that he was executor, and that defendant was residue legatee. Next day, he went to Miss Murray's room for the assets. Defendant stayed with witness till the end of the week, but never suggested that Miss Murray owed him any money, though they discussed the estate, and they knew that she was worth £400 or £500. There was no suggestion that the estate was insolvent, and defendant took away goods valued at £64. In the autumn, when Mr Mackenzie was again on the Island, he mentioned that there was £300 owing to him, and witness took it that it was in connection with the partnership. He mentioned it to Mr Nelson, and defendant wrote to both Mr Nelson and witness. He had been quite unable to find any trace of the loan of £300 among Miss Murray's documents. He knew before Miss Murray's death that she had shares worth about £400. She had an assured income quite adequate for her needs. – Cross-examined: He could not say whether Miss Murray had given a lecture to mothers. He could not say that writing in the book produced was in Miss Murray's writing or not. Mr Mackenzie did not wish to prove his claim against the estate for the £300, and he only wanted paying back to him some £89 which defendant paid into Lloyd's Bank to release Miss Murray's securities. The whole trouble arose because witness refused to refund that £89. – Re-examined: The £89 was paid into the No. 2 account in order to get rid of the debt. Witness now understood that defendant was liable to pay off that debit.

W. H. Warburton, gave evidence as to taking photographs of the promissory note for Col. Madoc. He produced the negatives and the photographs of them. John Gurrin, handwriting expert, stated that the outstanding feature of Miss L. E. Murray's signature was the lightness of touch, which was an indication of fast writing. In the signature to the promissory note, the outstanding feature of lightness in the other signature was missing. The signature was thick and heavy, and evidently written with considerable pressure. On examining the signature under a glass he found that there was an indentation or groove running through all the letters made with a single point, and not with a double point, as would have been the case with a pen. If the signature was examined in a side-light you could see a peculiar glint, especially in the first two letters, probably caused by some substance other than ink, as lead pencil, or from carbon paper, but not ink. On the back of the note he could see an indentation of the letters. The signature could have been made in several ways, but there was no doubt it had been traced. It certainly was not a genuine signature. He explained to the jury photographs of the signature on the note, showing a groove in the letters, and the use of another substance other than ink.

Mr Gell (a juror) asked how witness accounted for the large curve on the final "y," if it was a tracing of Miss Murray's signature. Witness said he could not account for it. He had seen none of Miss Murray's signatures with a "y" like that on the note. In none of the signatures he had seen was the turn up of the "y" so pronounced as in the one on the note. In cross-examination, witness said that among the bundles of cheques produced there was one with a "y" quite different from the others. She wrote her "y" erratically. It was eleven years ago when he commenced the study of handwriting with his father. His father was engaged in the Adolph Beck case. The Attorney-General objected to the question.

Mr Lay: *Have you heard of the Beck case? - Yes, but he was engaged in the case.*

*Have you heard of the Edalji case? – Yes.
Were you engaged in it? – No.*

He was not engaged in the Shee case.
Was the gentleman who taught you all you know engaged in these three cases?

The Attorney-General objected.

Mr Lay: *Have you ever been proved to be wrong?*

Witness: *In only two cases in which I have been engaged the verdict of the jury has gone contrary to my view.*

Mr Lay: *Can you show me a single indentation in that signature? – I can show it you. I don't know whether you will see it.*

Witness endeavoured to show the indentation to Mr Lay, but without success. Witness, continuing, said that a stylographic pen would not make an indentation like the one on the note. He could not tell whether the letter card produced had been tampered with or not. He would give no opinion. He could not tell whether the pass-book was written by Miss Murray, and would not say without a careful examination. To the best of his belief the sheen and gloss was not ink. He would not go further than that.

Henry Williamson said he was engaged at the Whitwick sub-office of the Nottingham and Notts Bank. Defendant had a poultry and pigeon account at the Shepshed branch. A cheque for £50 drawn by Mr J. J. Sharp, payable to the defendant, was paid in at the Whitwick branch on July 7th, 1910. £12 was given to the person who brought the cheque and the rest was put into the pigeon and poultry account. Mr Mackenzie's eldest son brought the cheque to the bank. Cross-examined: His head office told him to come to the Island and give evidence. The directors told him to come over and give evidence about this.

Mr Lay: *It is most unusual for a banker to disclose any of its customers' transactions?*

Witness said that he could not tell. T. E. Acherson, manager of Lloyds' branch at Ramsey, gave evidence as to the cheque books issued to Miss Murray. C. B. Nelson deposed to opening Miss Murray's will, shortly after her death. Before Mr Mackenzie left the Island he saw him several times, but he never mentioned that he had a claim against the estate. He had had a long correspondence with the defendant's solicitors. (Letters produced). He first heard that the money was lent in 1910, and not 1911, in the Chancery Court. The counterfoil for the cheque for £100 was not among Miss Murray's papers. At this stage the case was adjourned till ten o'clock on Wednesday morning, bail being allowed in the same amount as before.

Wednesday's Proceedings

The jury, who had been locked up overnight took their place in the box, and the case began at 10 o'clock.

P.C. John Henry Fayle, deposed to arresting the defendant, who in answer to the charge said, *"I don't understand."* Witness then searched his room and his papers at the Vicarage. He found two bank books, one of his private account and the other "Pigeon and Poultry" account. He also found a carbon letter book and cash book. Defendant told witness that there was no necessity to take the cash book, as it only contained matters belonging to the

church. There was a considerable number of church accounts in the book, but at the commencement of the book there were accounts "birds sold," "birds bought" etc. Defendant said that they had reference to dealings before Miss Murray's partnership. The first of the book was headed "Cronk Ruagh," the name of the hospital. He said that the book would not help them, as it had never been on the Island. He then searched for correspondence with Miss Murray and the farm. He found the letters produced in a drawer in defendant's writing desk. Mr Moore was proceeding to read a letter dated August 14th, 1912, when Mr Lay objected. The Attorney-General said that the letters showed his financial position from 1910 to 1912. The letters were admitted.

The first letter was from James H. B. Woodroffe, brother-in-law of the prisoner, and was dated January 2nd, 1911. It was evidently in reply to a letter written by the defendant, and advised him to make a bankruptcy petition as his affairs were so bad. There was also a letter, Maple and McGrith to Sharp and Lancaster, dated 14th of August, 1912, written on behalf of the Nottingham and Notts Bank, stating the terms on which they would allow an overdraft. By the letter, all money received from Miss Murray's estate was to be paid into the bank. Several items from a cash book were also read referring to loans from the Nottingham and Notts Bank, including one for £655 6s 1d on January 1st, 1912, another for £375 10s 2d dated July, 1911, from Beardsley and Son; and one for £100 from the Provincial Union Bank. Witness, continuing, said that he also found jewellery which was given him by Mrs Mackenzie. Defendant instructed her to get them.

Cross-examined by Mr Lay, witness said that he had no search warrant, and was not looking for stolen goods or forged documents. While he was making the search, Dr. Burkitt, a magistrate, came to the house. He did not ask if I had a search warrant, but he asked me to read the warrant over to him. I refused to read.

Mr Lay: *Did you know that you had no authority to search the house?*

Witness: *I asked for Miss Murray's ledger and he told me to search the house.*

Mr Lay: *That was not a general authority to search.*

Witness: *I had instructions.*

Mr Lay: *Though you had no authority at law. How long were you in the search?*

Witness: *Four hours.*

Continuing, witness brought also a large cash book. David Charles Johnson deposed to selling £10 10s worth of poultry to Mr Mackenzie in January 1910. He had some difficulty in getting the money. P.C. Fayle, recalled, said that when in the police station on the night he arrived on the Island, defendant said, "*Before God I am innocent.*"

The Defence

The case for the defence opened about 11 o'clock. Annie Corkhill said: "*I was in the late Miss Murray's employ for 20 years, up till the time of her death. I saw the promissory note produced in the Chancery Court. I also saw Miss Murray put her signature to it. I swore that in the Chancery Court, and my word was questioned there, but I still stick to it that I saw her sign it. I handed the pass-book containing "An Address to Mothers" to Mr Allen when he called. All in the book was in the handwriting of Miss Leila Eleanor Murray. It was in the kitchen, as it contains recipes for things in the house.*" Cross-examined by the Attorney-General: In the Chancery Court she did not hear the Clerk of the Rolls say that he did not believe her evidence. A few weeks after Miss Murray's death she went to Whitwick, and worked for defendant, and remained till June, 1912. She did not put her name as a

witness, as Miss Murray did not ask her to. She had never witnessed any other paper for Miss Murray.

“When Miss Murray came into the kitchen she asked me if I remembered her getting a loan of £300 from Mr Mackenzie. I did remember it, as in June, 1910, Miss Murray told me that she had a loan from Mr Mackenzie. This was when then first went into the partnership. She told me about the partnership and I understood that the £300 was for poultry.”

The Attorney-General: *He was putting £300 into the farm?*

Witness: *Yes sir.*

Continuing, witness said that she had not seen the note again till just before the Chancery Court in Mr Farrant’s office. In the Chancery Court she repeated the note word for word. Asked to repeat the note again witness did so. She said that the note was only read to her once, and she remembered it from July, 1911, till January, 1913, at the Chancery Court. After she got back to the Island after leaving Whitwick, she received a letter from the defendant early in December, 1912. In the Chancery Court she said that she could not remember what was in the letter she kept. Mr Hughes-Games asked her was there a copy of the note in Mr Mackenzie’s letter, but she could not remember her reply.

The Attorney-General: *Was there a copy of the note in Mr Mackenzie’s letter? – Yes there was. I remembered it after.*

The Attorney-General read witness’s reply. Witness, continuing, said that the note was signed in the kitchen. Miss Murray brought the pen and ink down with her. Re-examined: *“I thought that the £300 was invested in the poultry. In the letter she said she knew nothing about the cheque. That was a cheque for £300 that had been signed that day.”*

Ella Fraser Magdalen Mackenzie said: *“I am sister of the prisoner. I am a church worker, residing in London, and have been for many years. I have had many money dealings with my brother. I have many times given him money. Up to July, 1910, I gave him £378. In 1910, at the end of June I gave him £50 in notes. I have no accounts or bank book. I have ample means.”*

Cross-examined by the Attorney-General: *“I keep no account book. I keep a diary, but I do not enter it every day. I just put things down as I think of them. I sent the £50 in notes. I have no account of that. Sometimes I get a salary as church worker, and sometimes work voluntarily. I have received £80 a year as church worker. I have ample means.”*

The Attorney-General: *What is your income?*

Witness: *Is that a lawful question?*

The Attorney-General: *I am afraid it is. What do you receive?*

Witness: *I have an income apart from salary of £200 a year. I have a pension of £60 a year.*

Her trustees were Kennedy, Ponsonby and Ryde. She got a salary of £80 in 1911, and that was all she had received during the past three years. She got her income in bank notes from her solicitors. Her pension was from the army. She used her money as it came, and never had any amount. She arrived at £378 because she had calculated it from her diary and from memory. The £378 was given within the last few years, but she could not definitely say how far back she went, but it was not over six years back. Her brother had

never asked her for any money to use in his parish or for his family. She did not care twopence what he did with the money.

Re-examined: Her father was a general in the army, and she had received the pension since his death. Her personal expenses were very little, and she always had plenty of money to spend.

Amy Adelia Magee Mackenzie, wife of the defendant, who is very deaf, had to be spoken to by a tube, which she placed to her ear. She said: *"I knew the late Miss Murray very well indeed. I was introduced to her in November, 1910, when she came to stay at Whitwick Vicarage. I invited her to come again at Easter, 1911. During the Easter visit I had a conversation with her about money matters."*

The Attorney-General objected to the evidence, as Miss Murray was no party to case.

Deemster Moore: *Suppose it is a statement made by a deceased person against her own interests?*

The Attorney-General: *That would only be admissible under certain circumstances.*

Mr Lay handed a copy of the statement to the Bench – The evidence was allowed.

Mr Lay: *Did she tell you anything? – Miss Murray told me that she and her sisters were hard up, and she said that Mr Mackenzie had lent her some money.*

Was the sum mentioned? – No, and I did not ask her.

Was the time mentioned? – No.

The Attorney-General: *You knew Miss Murray intimately? – Yes.*

By Mr Lay: *Mr Mackenzie first met my brother, Mr T. Woodrooffe in Ramsey, after Miss Murray's death.*

By the Attorney-General: *The conversation was in Easter, 1911. Miss Murray was interested in parish affairs at Whitwick, and gave subscriptions to church affairs. She gave something to the restoration fund, £5, I think, but I am not sure. She did not always read the parish magazine. She might also have given £5 to the Lady Workers' fund in August, 1910. I did not know of a donation to the Deaconess' Fund. I knew about the poultry partnership between her and Mr Mackenzie, but I knew very little about or its financial position. When Miss Murray told me that my husband had lent her money, I did not ask her how much. I would be surprised to hear Miss Murray had £400 or £500.*

The Attorney-General: *The parish magazine shows that in three months in 1910, there were donations of £15 from Miss Murray.*

Witness: *This conversation was at Easter, 1911. I did not know she had made the donations you mention, except the one to the restoration fund.*

John Joseph Sharp deposed: *I am a solicitor, and I carry on business with Mr Lancaster at Loughborough and Coalville. I live at Whitwick. I have acted for the prisoner for many years and I have frequently gone into his financial position. With regard to money matters, I have frequently to advise him. – The Attorney-General objected.*

Mr Lay: *I wish to show that defendant is a perfect fool over money matters.*

Witness: *As far as money matters are concerned, he is very generous, and not a business man. He is something like what you have seen his sister is. I don't think he considers money. The account produced shows that from December, 1909, to July, 1910, we had £1,125 12s 8d to the credit of the prisoner. That sum included £1,000 price of a poultry*

farm. All he got of that was £337, and the rest went to money-lenders and so on. I instructed Messrs. LeMothe and Cowley to act in this matter.

The Attorney-General: *What are you going to give now?*

Mr Lay: *I wish to show that the signature was questioned before the case came to Court and he still went on with it. I will leave it.*

Witness: *Defendant had a valuable pigeon loft, known all over the country. In the church magazine the vicar tells his parishioners that he is hard up. He tells them that during the past 19 years he has spent £12, 619 – of which £4, 317 was his own money. This was in the magazine of May, 1912. I think that if he had £300 in his hands, he would go straight off and spend it.*

Cross-examined by the Attorney-General: *In 1909 defendant was not in a good financial position, and paid 15s in the pound to his creditors. This left him pretty free of trade troubles. This was in October, 1909, when the first payment was made. Neither the vicar nor I had anything to do with that. I didn't know that the vicar had given £4,000 to the restoration fund, but I quite believe it. I have no doubt that he has. His financial position was, some few years ago, much stronger.*

By Mr Lay: *The money for the compromise with his creditors was found by his friends: there was no assignment of his property, or anything of that sort.*

Robert Thomas Marsh said: *"I am an auctioneer and valuer practising at Wigan. At the request of the defence, I have made a valuation of Mr Mackenzie's belongings at the Vicarage. There are some valuable pictures. A fair estimate of the value of the furniture was £634 10s, outside the pictures and a very valuable table. The value of the pictures depended on how and where they were sold."*

Fred Smart said: *"I am a handwriting expert and have carried on business in Manchester for 35 years. Since 1879 I have been continuously engaged by the Crown at Manchester and Liverpool Assizes. Within the last fortnight I was engaged in three cases at Manchester for the Crown. I have examined the note for a considerable time under a powerful glass. I have examined the signature "L. E. Murray" on the cheques and compared it with that on the note. I think that the signature on the note is a genuine one. It has not been written with the same pen. The note and signature have evidently been written by different people and at different times with different ink. The signature, I should say, has been written with an old disused pen. I have examined the paper of the note, and it has not in the slightest way been tampered with. There is no indication of ironing, or smoothing out."*

On resuming after lunch, the Attorney-General proceeded with the cross-examination of Fred Smart, handwriting expert, at great length.

Storer West said he resided at Whitwick, and was people's churchwarden, and had acted in that capacity for five years at different periods. He had known the prisoner 19 years. His general reputation was very good, and he knew of nothing to the contrary.

The Rev. David Jenks, a warden of the Theological College of the Church of England in the diocese of Suffolk, said he and prisoner had been personal friends since 1885, when entered as students at Pembroke College, Cambridge. Prisoner was a somewhat quixotic man. His reputation was that of an exceedingly honourable gentleman.

Samuel Hosking, vicar of Coalville, the adjoining parish to Whitwick, said he had been there five years. He had known the prisoner intimately all the time. His income was just over £500 nett. During the time witness had known him he knew of nothing against his reputation, and had never heard it questioned. Witness had seen his pigeons and knew he was constantly selling them. Prisoner had a reputation of being over-generous.

This concluded the case for the defence.

Mr Lay began his address to the jury for the defence at 3.25. Mr Lay wished the jury to remember that at the Chancery proceedings the onus of proving his claim against the Murray estate was upon Mackenzie. He had no fault to find with the judgement, as the corroborative evidence necessary to prove the claim was not forthcoming. But then they were in the Criminal Court, and the onus entirely shifted. It was for the prosecution to prove to the hilt that he had forged this document and uttered the forgery. That was where the difference came in. The prosecution, to prove this case, had had to resort to unusual methods. He had never heard of conversations between client and advocate being given before in Court. Then they had an improper search. The information gained by the prosecution was gained from the prisoner's house in an improper manner. It only showed to what extent the prosecution had gone to encircle round the unfortunate man exposed in this case. The prosecution point out that there was no trace of the £300 going into Miss Murray's accounts: that his financial position did not permit of the prisoner lending the money. In answer he realised there was no trace of the £300. That fact was not sufficient to bring the charge upon. The charge was uttering a false document. He submitted the money did not find its way into Miss Murray's account. Still there was evidence she had the money, and she stated to the prisoner's wife, that Mackenzie had lent her money. What else could that refer to but the £300 concerned? Coming to his financial position, and the statement that at that time he could not have afforded this £300. They had it from Mr Sharp that prisoner was careless and reckless over money matters. He was freed by a compromise made for him at the beginning of 1910. They were told he was over-generous. They would see from his magazine what he had been doing for the parish. At the time in question he was free by the compromise, and with his salary, and what his sister sent him, he was in a position to advance this money to Miss Murray. For months his attitude was – let the debts be paid in full, and he would have what was left, and it was not until he found that he was not being fairly dealt with by the executors that he started proceedings. He submitted that the case was full of doubt, and that the prisoner was entitled to the benefit of it. He concluded his address to the jury at 4.45.

The Attorney-General said if the doctrines propounded by his friend were to prevail, criminals would enjoy a fine time, because the bulk of crimes were brought home to defendants, not where the crimes were being committed, but where facts were such that beyond any reasonable doubt that they pointed conclusively to the guilt of the person accused. Every plaintiff must "prove his case" and the Crown was in the same position. The jury ought to be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the story of the loan was a fabrication, and that the documents brought in to support it were forged documents. If there was no loan, how could the documents have come into existence except through forgery: it all hinged on the proper loan. Although they were not trying defendant on any question of the loan, the offence for which they were trying defendant on any question of the loan, the offence for which they were trying defendant could not have come into existence without the loan. The loan was the basis for the production of the document, which was a receipt for money supposed to have been lent, and the document was inseparable from, and dependant on the loan. If the jury were satisfied there was no loan, the fabric fell to pieces, and the defendant had made a false claim. As to the attack on the

police, the police had the power and right in cases of felony to search the prisoner, and make any march they thought proper. That was common knowledge to anybody who read the newspapers, and the attack on the police did not help the defendant, whose business it was to get rid of the effect if he could. Then there was an attack on bank officials; it was argued that it was the duty of the bank, where a felony was charged, to keep back essential facts and documents. He knew of no such law or doctrine, and he entirely denied there had been any impropriety in the conduct of the bank officials. The Attorney-General said his learned friend said that the jury were not entitled to draw any inference from the fact that the defendant did not go into the box. If there were damaging points which could be explained by defendant, and he did not go into the box when he had the opportunity, the jury were entitled to draw their own conclusions. It was only where a case was weak and in the balance, that the fact of the prisoner bearing a good reputation could come in. It was a frequent experience that people bearing good characters committed crimes. His contention was that from 1910 to 1912 the defendant was in a decrepit financial condition, and was not in a position to advance money to a person who did not require it. Miss Murray, so far from wanting money, was in a good position, earning a sufficient salary and held realisable securities to the amount of £400 or £500.

At six o'clock, the proceedings were adjourned until 10 o'clock yesterday, the jury being placed under the custody of the police authorities.

The final stage was entered upon yesterday morning. Deemster Moore immediately proceeded with the summing up. He asked the jury not to draw any conclusions from the fact that prisoner had not given evidence on his own behalf, as a man labouring under a serious charge would be under considerable amount of excitement. After referring to prisoner's position, he went on to deal with the accounts.

The jury found Mackenzie guilty and he was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour. The judge expressed approval of the verdict, and sorrow at seeing a man in defendant's position in the dock.

After being sentenced, prisoner declared that he was positively innocent of all knowledge of the forgery.

Ashby Police Court

Saturday – Before Mr George Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, Mr J. Hassall, and Mr G. D. Orchard.

Distress Warrant Against a Whitwick Bricklayer

The Ashby Union relieving officer, Mr J. W. Bowley, applied for a distress warrant in regard to a judgement obtained against John Bakewell, bricklayer, Whitwick, for maintenance arrears. An order to contribute towards the support of his wife had been made by the Bench and Mr Bowley said this had not been complied with. The amount owing was £1 2s and 10s 6d costs. A distress warrant was issued.

Coalville Police Court

Today (Friday) – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Major Hatchett, and Mr B. G. Hale.

Cruelty to a Horse

Thomas Lacey, 40, carter, Whitwick, was summoned for cruelty to a horse at Whitwick, on February 21st. He pleaded not guilty. Inspector Green, of the R.S.P.C.A., stationed at Loughborough, and Sergt. Betts having given evidence, defendant was fined 5s 6d and costs 12s, or seven days.

Friday March 21st 1913 (Issue 1100)

Local News

Mrs J. W. A. Mackenzie, accompanied by the Rev. S. Hosking, vicar of Coalville, and Mr J. J. Sharp, of Whitwick, (Mr Mackenzie's solicitor) arrived from Douglas, Isle of Man, on Friday night, Mrs Mackenzie being met by Mr H. T. Bastard, master of the Whitwick Church of England Schools, and with whom the lady, who was very distressed drove in a cab to Whitwick.

The Rev. C. H. Fox, of Leicester, who has been conducting the services at Whitwick Parish Church, during the last few weeks, will continue to do so over Easter, and we are informed that there is a likelihood of a curate-in-charge being appointed, until matters are definitely settled.

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 ladies, and was much enjoyed. The proceeds were for the debt reduction fund.

Primitive Methodist Church

The preacher at this place of worship on Sunday last, was Mr George Forman, of Ibstock, who delivered two very interesting and instructive sermons to good congregations. Collections were taken on behalf of the trust funds.

Christian Endeavour

This society met on Wednesday evening in the P.M. schoolroom, there being a good number of members present, several of whom spoke on the topic for the evening. A good discussion took place, the meeting being most interesting throughout. The Rev. W. H. Whiting presided.

St. Patrick's Day

About 150 people were present at a whist drive and dance at the Holy Cross School on Monday night, in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. As the bulk of those present preferred dancing to whist, only one prize was awarded, and this was won by Mr Burton, of Thringstone. The M.C. for the "drive" was Mr J. O'Mara and Messrs. J. H. McCarthy, and J. Rewhorn acted in a similar capacity for the dance, Mr and Miss Popple being the pianists. Refreshments were nicely served under the superintendence of the Misses O'Reilly.

Whitwick Vicar's Sentence

Question of an Appeal

A Douglas correspondent says the question of an appeal against the conviction of the Rev. J. W. A. Mackenzie, vicar of Whitwick, is under consideration. The rev. gentleman, it will be remembered, was last week convicted at the Manx Gaol Delivery of uttering a forged promissory note, and was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour. The grounds on which such an appeal would be made, it is believed, are that the verdict was against the weight of evidence, and that Deemster Moore, in his address to the jury, did not clearly and sufficiently indicate exactly what the jury could legally find.

There are two methods of appealing in a Manx criminal case, one to the Home Secretary, as in the Dixon sheep-stealing case, and the other to the Privy Council, as in the case of Dubbells' Bank directors.

Whitwick Parish Meeting

Mr McCarthy and more Councillors for Coalville

"Silly Men's Ideas"

The annual parish meeting was held in the Church School at Whitwick, last night. Mr M. McCarthy, J.P., was voted to the chair, and there was a good attendance, though not nearly so large as usual for a Whitwick parish meeting.

Mr T. Kelly (overseer) read the notice convening the meeting and also the minutes of the last meeting. The chairman said they now had a Sunday delivery of letters according to a resolution passed at the last parish meeting. Mr T. Kelly said it was much appreciated. Mr Harper moved and Mr J. S. West seconded a vote of thanks to the Coalville Urban Council for their persistence and success in getting a Sunday delivery of letters and this was unanimously carried. Mr A. J. Briers moved the re-election of the old overseers, Messrs. T. Kelly, George West, and Jos. Kelly, and this was unanimously carried.

The chairman said it was usual to send half a dozen names to the Urban Council and they generally elected the first three. He thought two or three more names should be sent as a matter of courtesy to the Council. They could elect overseers without reference to a parish meeting at all if they liked. Mr Kelly said that if anything happened to the old overseers, the next on the list would act.

It was decided to send the names of Messrs. Irons and S. W. West as last year. The old parish constables were Messrs. W. Briers and J. Robinson and the chairman asked whether the meeting wished to re-elect them. Mr S. Boot said they did not know whether they were willing to accept office again. The chairman said they could nominate whom they liked. The following were nominated, Messrs. H. Beeson, A. Beers, S. Boot, F. Harper, Walter Briers, Jos. Henson, F. Ducker, and J. Wm. Briers.

The next business was the nomination of assessors of taxes and the chairman pointed out that it was not on the agenda and he would like to know whether it was necessary. Mr George West said they used to have a notice from the Commissioners to appoint assessors, but they had had no such notice for four or five years.

The chairman said he hoped it did not mean that if there was any question in regard to the taxes the parish would be held responsible. That was a point that should be cleared up before another meeting. The same three were nominated as before, viz., Messrs. George West, John Pegg and T. W. Bourne. Mr Albert Briers asked whether anything more had been done with the Whitwick Colliery directors in regard to opening the road from the Hermitage to Mantle Lane for vehicular traffic. The chairman said that he had mentioned the matter several times, but it was for the parish to take it up. Mr Briers suggested that the Urban Council be requested to take the matter up with the Whitwick Colliery directors. The chairman said it was purely a parish matter. The Urban Council did not care about them at Whitwick as they would see if they read the papers. They wanted to smother Whitwick out of existence, by putting on a lot more members for one place, but that would not happen just yet. He said this road, if made, would greatly facilitate carting. They did a tremendous lot of carting to gasworks and when this question was before the Council some time ago, it was suggested that they put a line to the gas works, but they found the interest on the money required to do that would cost more than they paid for carting. They wanted men of brains on the Council or they would soon be in a difficulty.

Mr Boot moved that Messrs. George West, T. Kelly, J. Kelly, and A. J. Briers, be a deputation to wait on the Whitwick Colliery directors on the matter, and this was carried. The chairman said that this was the third time a resolution of that sort had been carried, and he hoped something would come of it this time.

Alluding again to the proposal for more urban councillors for the Coalville ward, Mr McCarthy observed that Coalville would soon be built up, and the opening of new roads would facilitate the extension of the other wards. Some people seemed to lose sight of the fact that there were in the Whitwick ward 2,000 acres, and in the Hugglescote ward 2,200 acres, while in the Coalville ward there were only 777 acres, and these were nearly all filled up. The other wards could grow and extend, but Coalville for building purposes, was practically finished. If they were to carry out the ideas of some silly men they would want a re-shuffling of cards, and the re-arrangement of the number of members every so often. They were developing a new estate up by Mr Mansfield's which was in Whitwick parish, and before long there would be fifty new houses up there. They did not see 50 houses springing up anywhere in Coalville. One side of the picture was all very well until they saw the other side. Mr W. Adams said he thought the Urban Council should give more attention to the Whitwick thoroughfares.

The chairman said that before the summer was over they would be surprised to see the amount of flagging done in Whitwick. They had this matter in hand under a new scheme the Council had adopted. Some people in Coalville who had paid for their own flagging, or provided the material, were grumbling, thinking it was one-sided that the Council should do this work wholly, but it was being paid for by loan, and would be a great improvement. Mr Adams said he meant in regard to dangerous places. The chairman said they had paid £150 on deposit for Mr Hemsley's corner.

They could not carry out ever so many permanent improvements at once, without increasing the rates. They knew how high the rates were in 1906. A 4s rate would not go far unless they were careful. Mr Adams said he was satisfied with that. The chairman said the Council were only trustees of the public funds, and must consider the interests of the district. Mr Adams asked whether the Silver Street corner had been considered at all.

The chairman: *Many a time before you came here, and since. But I am not going to be the one to pay for land out of the fire to please anybody.*

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman and in reply Mr McCarthy said he would like to thank all those who voted for him in the County Council election, and also those who did not. He hoped to so convert them that they would vote for him for the Urban Council. (Laughter).

Coalville Police Court

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

Cruelty to Horses

John Moore, 28, contractor, Whitwick, was summoned for cruelty to a horse at Whitwick on February 25th. Mr T. E. Jesson appeared for the defendant who pleaded guilty. Inspector Green said he met a boy named Griffin with the horse attached to a coal cart. It was suffering from ringbone and side bone and had a wound under the saddle. Defendant told him he was responsible. He was short of horses that day.

The horses had been rested for several days and the defendant thought it would be all right. Defendant had kept horses for many years, and was reared among horses, and there had been no previous complaint. He now had ten horses to carry on his business but lately had had the bad luck to lose his two best mares through influenza, which made him short of horses. The animals in question had now been sold and was working on a farm.

Fined 5s 6d and 10s 6d costs, or 7 days.

Isaac Emmerson, 68, farmer, Belton, was summoned for cruelty to a horse at Whitwick, on February 25th. Defendant pleaded not guilty. Inspector Green said he was at Whitwick and notified the defendant driving a horse attached to a trap. He observed that the animal was exceedingly lame and followed the defendant who stopped outside a public house in Talbot Street, Whitwick. Defendant invited him go and have a drink. Witness told him he was surprised at the defendant's driving the horse again after witness cautioned him on the previous Friday against doing so. Defendant called him a _____ liar, and told him he could go to _____. Patting his trousers pocket, he said "*I have a few sovereigns and if you take me to Coalville, I shall lick you again.*"

The clerk: *Has he been summoned before?*

The Inspector said he was summoned for cruelty to some fowls but the Bench gave him the benefit of the doubt.

Defendant: *And he has had it on his mind ever since then.*

Witness said the horse had a partly dislocated fetlock and other defects and was quite unfit for work. By defendant: He bore him no ill will in connection with the previous case. Defendant said he was 69 years of age, and had never been summoned until Green summoned him.

John Robert Green, veterinary surgeon, of Nottingham deposed to finding the horse lame in both fore feet, and unfit to work on the road. It might do light work on the land. There was no doubt that the horse had been badly used. It was an old hunter, and, he was told, formerly belonged to Lord Lonsdale.

Defendant said the horse was as sound as possible, and would jump a 6ft fence easily. The case had been brought for spite.

Fined 5s 6s and costs £1 18s 6d in all, or seven days.

Henry Wright, 52, farmer, Osgathorpe, was summoned for cruelty to a horse at Whitwick, on February 25th. He pleaded not guilty. Inspector Green said he was in Talbot Street, Whitwick, and saw defendant driving a bay mare attached to a cart containing defendant and a lady. The mare was lame and witness stopped them. Defendant admitted the horse was his, and said he would not work it again. The horse had a sprained tendon and was in pain. It was in fairly good condition.

John Robert Green, veterinary surgeon, of Nottingham deposed to examining the mare which he found very lame and unfit for work on the road. He denied the defendant's suggestion that in trying the mare, which is in foal, he turned it very sharply, and injured the animal.

Fined 5s 6d and costs, £1 13s or 7 days.

Case Withdrawn

Joseph Biddle, 50, joiner, Leicester, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick on March 7th. Mr T. E. Jesson (Ashby) for the defendant, pleaded not guilty.

John Thomas Haywood, farmer and parish constable, Thringstone, said he met the defendant and asked him to use better language but he was very abusive. He was staggering about the road, as though he was drunk, though it was dark, and witness would not say positively that he was drunk.

Supt. Lockton said Haywood was his witness and if the witness could not say the man was drunk, according to the report sent him, he would withdraw the case. He only wanted what was fair. Mr Jesson said he much appreciated the course the Superintendent had taken. He could have shown that the defendant was not drunk, and would have shown that there was some little feeling in the matter, but he need not go into that now. They had been put to some expense, but as the Superintendent had been very fair, he did not ask for costs. Case withdrawn.

Bad Language

Levi Robinson, 36, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for using bad language at Whitwick, on February 28th. He did not appear. P.C. Jelley gave the facts and defendant was fined 5s 6d and costs 12s 6d or 7 days.

James Robinson, 21, Herbert Skellington, 25, and Ernest Brooks, 18, colliers, Whitwick, were summoned for using bad language at Coalville, on March 8th. Police-Sergeant Dobney said the defendants were shouting at the top of their voices in Mantle Lane. Skellington gave the name of Potter, Robinson gave his correct name, and Brooks ran away, but they identified him later.

Fined 2s 6d and 8s costs each, or 7 days.

Sport

Football

Whitwick's Point at Market Harborough

The Senior League match between Market Harborough and Whitwick Imperial resulted in a division of the points. It was a remarkable game in one respect, for though it was nothing like rough, the number of minor casualties was extraordinary. There was somebody down every few minutes. No less than three men got the ball full in the face, with sufficient force to lay them out for a minute or so, and one spectator met with a similar misfortune. Then Bridgeman and a Whitwick back got their heads together with a crack that could be heard all over the field. Fortunately, both players were subsequently able to resume. Quite a number of other players had to receive attention from their respective trainers. Not one of this list was due to a foul. Notwithstanding the many stoppages, the game was full of interest. Whitwick showed themselves a smart, speedy team, with the assistance of the wind in the first half and they had most of the play. The goal they got about halfway through the half was a good one. Cross had saved once, but A. Starkey beat him with a first time shot. The second half went in favour of Harborough. Bridgeman brought the scores level, and narrowly missed getting another. Harborough certainly ought to have got ahead, for they pressed continuously for twenty minutes or more, and Fox, with an open goal, missed from right close in. From a breakaway, to which Whitwick were indebted to their outside right, the visitors scored again. Harborough equalised through Basson, who was making his debut for Harborough, and they struggled very hard to get the lead, although Hall came very near to doing the needful in the last minute.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

In Memoriam

Preston: In ever loving remembrance of our dear son, Samuel Gordon, who fell asleep in Jesus, March 15th, 1910, at Holly Hayes Farm, Whitwick.

*Green is the plot where our darling is laid,
Fond are the memories which never shall fade,
Gone and forgotten by the world he may be,
But the memory of him will always be precious to me.*

From Mother and Father
Canada, 1913.

Friday March 28th 1913 (Issue 1101)

Local News

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 ladies, and was much enjoyed. The proceeds were for the debt reduction fund.

Separation Order

At Loughborough, on Wednesday, Thomas Hutton, collier, Whitwick, was fined 20s or 10 days for assaulting his wife, who was granted a separation order defendant to pay 10s a week.

Dance and Whist Drive

On Monday evening a successful dance and whist drive were held in the Holy Cross School, about 300 being present. Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and J. Rewhorn were M.C.'s for the dance, Miss and Mr Popple being the pianists. Mr T. W. Hull was M.C. at the whist drive and the prizes were won by Mr Perkins and Mr G. Knight, junr., respectively and Miss Griffin and Miss Brown. The proceeds were for church expenses.

Boy Scout's Concert

The Whitwick Troop of Boy Scouts, under the supervision of Scoutmaster S. Perry, gave a capital concert in the National School, on Tuesday evening. The programme was as follows: Pianoforte selection, Mr O. Ratcliffe; musical solo, Mr D. Blood; Scenes from Camp Life, "Evening in Camp" and "Morning in Camp", musical entertainment by Mr D. Blood; song, "The Spaniard that blighted my life" (encored); Mr L. Gough; humorous play, "Tom, the Piper's Son" in which the characters were: Thomas, the piper, Scoutmaster Perry; Farmer Giles, Scout J. Robinson; Tom, the piper's son, Leader W. Belcher; patrol-leader; Jack, Leader G. Kay; and widow Martha, Corporal A. Armstrong, with a patrol of scouts; song, "Softest of the Family", Mr L. Gough. The "Evening in Camp" was a very effective illustration of a camp-fire concert, and included the following items:- Choruses by the Troop: song, "When the Ebb Tide Flows", Assistant Scoutmaster Pegg; recitation, "Tim Dare", Scout A. Armstrong; song, "Dolly Gray" (encored) Scout H. Heape; song, "The Drummer", Scout R. Whitmore; recitation, "Captain Smith", (encored) Scoutmaster S. E. Perry; song, "Ora Pro Noblis", (encored), Scout E. Cook; duet, "Killarney" (encored), Scouts A. Underwood and F. Cook.

The camp-fire concert proved a great success and was quite the event of the evening, though the play "Tom, the Piper's Son" was excellently performed, and created roars of laughter. Particular mention should be made of the splendid acting of Scout J. Robinson, as "Farmer Giles". The concert proved a great success, being well attended. The proceeds were for the camp funds.

P. M. School Anniversary

The Sunday School anniversary usually held on Easter Sunday, was observed on Sunday at the Whitwick P.M. church, when there were large congregations. As for several years past, Councillor T. W. Walker, of Leicester, was the preacher and he delivered two appropriate sermons. The children and choir acquitted themselves admirably in the special singing under the direction of Mr John Ward. Miss Leach, of Griffydham, was the organist. The collections realised £21 for the school funds.

To Let

House and land, Cademan Street, Whitwick, possession after March 25th. Apply Tower House, Whitwick.

Muffled Peal

At Whitwick Parish Church on Sunday last, 1,150 changes of Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells muffled as a small mark of respect for the late Miss Kathleen Burkitt. The bells were rung by Messrs. H. Pegg, treble, B. West, J. Moore, S. W. West, H. Partridge, J. Rawson, W. Fern, conductor, J. Bonser, tenor.

Coalville Police Court

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

No Light

Charles Perry, 20, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a light at Coalville, on March 20th. Defendant did not appear. P.C. Robertson stated the case, and defendant was fined 1s and costs or 7 days.

Sport

Football

Whitwick Win Well at Coalville

A great attraction to followers of football at Coalville on Good Friday afternoon was the meeting of the Town and Whitwick Imperial in the Leicestershire Senior League. Notwithstanding that it was a bitterly cold day, there was a big crowd, over a thousand people being present.

Owing to Wharmby and Toon having to be at work, the Coalville club committee had to somewhat re-arrange their forces. Dexter took Harry Toon's place, Glover (a reserve man) being brought inside left with Brownlow Davis went to right half and was substituted at back by Stevens. The rest of the team was as usual and Whitwick also had a strong side.

Though playing against a strong wind, Whitwick were first to open their account, through Brady. The match was keenly fought and it was not long after that Twigg equalised. Both defences had plenty to do, but there was no further score before the interval.

In the second half, when the elements were in favour of the Imperial, they were pressing most of the time. Stinson kept a good goal, however, while Herbert Smith was as reliable as ever, and for a time the defence were equal to all attacks. But the pressure told eventually, as after Wright had lost a good chance, Starkey put his side ahead. It was not long after that the same player had a lovely chance and shot wide, but he clinched a little later by scoring Whitwick's third goal. The Imperial were clearly the best side, and towards the close Coalville tried hard to regain the lost ground. They made one or two determined attacks, and forced two or three corners, but when Warden and Croson were beaten, which was not frequent, Commons was always equal to the occasion in goal.

Whitwick well deserved their win and are to be congratulated on securing the points. Under Mr Dexter, of Shepshed, the match was fought throughout in a pleasant and sportsmanlike manner.

Harborough's Holiday Experience at Coalville and Whitwick

The Market Harborough players have good reason to remember their visit to the Coalville district on Easter Monday. It is no easy task to play two matches in one day and whether this had anything to do with their sorry experience, I cannot say, but their goal average was considerably spoiled as a result of these two games. On the Town ground in the morning they lost 6 – 1. Coalville made the issue safe in the first half, crossing over with a lead of five goals to none. Twigg (2), J. Smith (2), and Thompson being the scorers.

At Whitwick in the afternoon, they fared even worse. The Imperial romped home to the extent of six goals to none.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

In Memoriam

In loving remembrance of Edith Berrington, who died April 4th, 1908.

*“I always think of thee, dear daughter
But not with outward show
The heart that mourns sincerely
Mourns silently and low”*

From loving Mother and Father

Deaths

Death of Miss Kathleen Burkitt

Youngest Daughter of Dr. Burkitt J.P.

We regret to record the death of Miss Kathleen Burkitt, youngest daughter of Dr. J. C. Burkitt, J.P. which occurred at her home, the Old Vicarage, Whitwick, on Friday afternoon. The deceased, who was only 13 years of age, had not been well for some time. The respect in which the family are held and the great sympathy felt for them in their sad bereavement was strikingly demonstrated on Tuesday afternoon when the funeral took place. The Parish Church was crowded, and there was a huge concourse of people to witness the last rites at the cemetery.

The chief mourners were Dr. and Mrs Burkitt, Miss Burkitt, Misses Eileen and Nora Burkitt (sisters), Mr R. S. Langford, J.P., of Padstow, Cornwall, and Fleet-Surgeon M. C. Langford, R.N. of H.M.S. Thunderer (uncles), Mr Forbes Handcock, cousin, Miss Trevena, Nurse Lilly and Dr. Griffin, Shepshed. Others present included Mr and Mrs and Miss de Lisle, Garendon Hall, Mrs Haydock, Charnwood Towers, Father O'Reilly, and Miss O'Reilly, Mrs Mackenzie, Miss Hunt, Mr H. T. Bastard, Mr J. H. Robinson, Mrs J. J. Sharp, Whitwick, Miss Hosking, Nurse Hosking, the Misses Powell, Dr. Vaughan, Mr and Mrs Vavasour, Coalville, Dr. and Mrs Wykes, Hugglescote, Dr. Atkinson, Osgathorpe, Mr J. Weston, Thringstone, Mrs Potter, Shepshed, Miss Bangham, Ashby, Mr M. B. Johnson, St. George's Lodge, Swannington, and others.

The service was conducted by the Rev. F. Boothby, vicar of Ellistown, and formerly the curate at Whitwick. In church, the hymn, "There is a green hill," was sung, and at the close of the service, Mr R. G. West, organist, played the Dead March. At the grave side, the

choir and congregation sang "Loving Shepherd of thy Sheep". The coffin bore the inscription "Kathleen Mackenzie Burkitt, died March 21st, 1913, aged 13 years." It was lowered into the grave which had been prettily lined with ivy leaves, narcissi, hyacinths and tulips. There was a handsome lot of floral tributes, which bore cards as follows:

From Daddy and Mums.

For darling baby from Doris, Eileen and Nora.

In loving memory from Uncle Morris and Aunt Agnes.

With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs T. Atkins, Swannington.

With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs Downes.

For my darling baby, from Nana.

In loving memory of our dear little friend, from Miss Hunt and Miss Harding.

In loving memory from Connie and Eileen Robinson.

In loving sympathy from Mr Powell, Pollie and Lill (Coalville)

From cousin Ethel and Gie.

From Charles and Mary Booth.

With the Rev. and Mrs H. D. Geo. Clark's deep sympathy. (Shepshed)

With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs W. West and family.

In loving memory from Mr and Mrs H. T. Bastard.

With deepest sympathy from Isaac Foster.

From Mrs and Miss M. E. Bansham (Ashby) in loving remembrance.

For our dear little friend, from Dr. and Mrs S. E. Atkinson, Osgathorpe.

With deepest sympathy from R. Briers and Sons.

From Reggie Ross.

With deepest sympathy from Father O'Reilly, Annie and Helen.

In loving memory of our dear little Kathleen, from Mrs C. Potter (Shepshed).

With Nora Dutton's love and sympathy, Shepshed.

With much love and sympathy from Mr and Mrs J. J. Sharp, and Aubrey.

With deep respect from Mr and Mrs Bird, Hermitage Road.

From the Rev. and Mrs James Mackenzie. "And Jesus called a little child unto him, saying, Suffer little children to come unto me."

With Mr and Mrs Bosworth's love and heartfelt sympathy.

With heartfelt sympathy from Forbes Handcock.

In tender loving memory from Dr. and Mrs Vaughan.

"God has taken her into his own home." Percy Woodroffe.

From a loving friend, Mrs Haydock.

In loving memory of our little mistress, from Annie, Fanny and Jim.

With loving sympathy from Eric Hewes, Coalville

With sincerest sympathy from Mr and Mrs J. H. Robinson.

In loving sympathy from Mr and Mrs W. Hindley and family.

In ever loving remembrance of Kathleen, from Sidney Allgood.

With deep sympathy from the Misses Rolleston.

With deepest sympathy from Eric Pegg.

With love and sympathy from Birdie Hewes, Coalville.

From Mr Farmer, Coalville.

From Mr Massey, Coalville.

The funeral arrangements were excellently carried out by Messrs. E. Briers and Sons, of Whitwick.

In addition to the list reported on Page 7, of floral tributes received at Miss Kathleen Burkitt's funeral, the following sent flowers: Sir Geoffrey and Lady Palmer (Withcote Hall,

Oakham), Lady Beaumont, Nurse Milne, Mr John Richards, the Rev. F. Boothby, Mr Annable, Mrs Jones, Mr Walker and Mr Kirby.

Burials

Burkitt – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Kathleen Mackenzie Burkitt, aged 13 years, of the Old Vicarage.