

# Coalville Times At War

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## THE WORLD WAR

### SIR EDWARD GREY ON GREAT BRITAIN'S ATTITUDE

#### FLEET AND ARMY MOBILISED

The mobilisation of the Navy was completed at four a.m. on Monday. The mobilisation of the Army and embodiment of the Territorials were at once proceeded with. On Sunday Sir Edward Grey gave the French Ambassador the following assurance:

*"If the German fleet comes into the Channel, or through the North Sea, to undertake hostile operations against the French coast or shipping, we will give France all the assistance in our power."*

This announcement was made by Sir Edward Grey in the course of his very grave speech to the House of Commons on Monday. The news reaching London early was of the gravest description. Following close upon the German invasion of Luxemburg came news of the violation of Belgian neutrality, after Germany had offered to Belgium an entente if she would consent to give facilities for the passage of German troops through the country, a proposal which was refused. To accept it, said the Belgian reply, would be to sacrifice the honour of the nation. Belgium further stated her resolve to repel aggression by every possible means.

The statement of Sir Edward Grey with regard to the attitude to be taken up by Great Britain was awaited with the keenest anxiety. The atmosphere in the crowded House of Commons was tense with excitement. The Foreign Secretary said the policy of peace so far as the Great Powers of Europe was concerned had failed. The House was now free to decide what the British attitude would be. He assured the House that in the present crisis, up to Sunday, the Government had given no promise to any country of anything more than diplomatic support.

France was involved in the dispute between Austria-Hungary and Serbia because of her obligations and honour under a definite alliance with Russia. The obligation of honour could not apply in the same way to us. How far our friendship with France entailed obligations, let every man look into his heart and judge for himself. He would speak personally for himself. The French fleet was in the Mediterranean, and the northern and western coasts of France were absolutely undefended. The French fleet had been concentrated there because of her friendship with us. His own feeling was this:

*"If a foreign fleet, engaged in a war which France has not sought and in which she is not the aggressor, comes down the English Channel and bombards and batters the undefended coasts of France, we cannot stand aside."*

Were we to say nothing as to what France should do with her fleet in the Mediterranean and leave her northern and western coasts absolutely unprotected at the mercy of the German fleet?

They were in the presence of a European conflagration, the consequences of which no one could foresee. If Italy departed from her attitude of neutrality because she considered the war an aggressive one, what would be the position in the Mediterranean? No one could say that in the course of the next few weeks the neutrality of Great Britain might not expose her to the most appalling risks. They were sounded as to whether a guarantee after the war as to the integrity of Belgium would content them.

#### GERMANY'S OFFER

He understood that the German Government would be prepared if we would pledge ourselves to neutrality to agree that its Fleet would not attack the northern coast of France. He only heard that shortly before he came to the House, but it was far too narrow an engagement.

There was a more serious consideration, becoming more serious every hour, and that was the question of neutrality of Belgium. It was most important to know whether the French and German Governments were prepared to respect the neutrality of Belgium, and he addressed a Note to Paris and Berlin. The French Government said they would do so, but the German Foreign Minister said he could not give a reply, as it would disclose part of their plan of campaign.

From the news he had received he did not know how accurate it was that Germany had offered friendly relations to Belgium on condition that the passage of troops was facilitated. If it were the case that there had been anything in the nature of an ultimatum to Belgium asking her to compromise her neutrality, her independence was gone, and if her independence went the independence of Holland would follow.

Now he must ask the House from the point of view of British interests to consider what might be at stake. And what would be our position if France was beaten in a struggle for life and death and lost her position as a Great Power and became subordinate to a Power greater than herself, and if Belgium also fell under the same dominating influence, and then Holland and Denmark?

#### **“IF WE RAN AWAY – “**

It was stated that we might stand aside, husband our resources, and whatever happened intervene in the end and put things right. If, in a crisis like this, we ran away from our obligations of honour and interest with regard to the Belgium treaty, he doubted whether, whatever material force we might have at the end, it would be of very much value in the face of the respect we should have lost. If we were engaged in war we should suffer but little more than if we stood aside. We were going to suffer terribly in this war whether this country were at peace or war. Foreign trade was going to stop. He put the question of Belgium hypothetically, but if the facts turned out as they had reached them at present it was quite clear there was an obligation on this country to do its utmost to prevent the consequences to which those facts would lead.

He thought it was due to the House to say that we had taken no engagement yet with regard to sending an expeditionary force out of the country. The mobilisation of the fleet had taken place. But we had not yet taken any engagement, because the Government felt that with our enormous responsibilities in India and other parts of the world, and with all the unknown factors, we must be very careful until we knew how we stood. We must be prepared – and we are prepared – for the consequences of using all the strength we had in the present crisis.

At any moment – they knew not how soon – we might have to defend ourselves and take our part. If we shrank from using all the forces in our power, we would sacrifice our respect and our good name in Europe, and at the same time not escape the serious economic consequences.

#### **UNITED IRELAND**

Mr Redmond, who was received with great cheering, said there was a possibility of history repeating itself. In 1778, at the end of the disastrous American War, when it might be said that the military power in this country was almost at its lowest ebb, the shores of Ireland were threatened with invasion. Then 100,000 Irish volunteers sprang into existence for the purpose of defending those shores. To-day there were in Ireland two large bodies of volunteers, one in the North and another in the South. He said to the Government that they might withdraw every one of their troops from Ireland. Ireland would be defended by her armed sons from foreign invasion, and for that purpose the armed Catholics in the South would be only too glad to join arms with the Protestant Ulstermen. Was it too much to hope that out of this situation a result might spring which would be good not merely for the Empire but for the future welfare and integrity of the Irish nation?

#### **OUR FOOD SUPPLY**

#### **NO JUSTIFICATION FOR PANIC PRICES**

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has stated officially that this year's wheat crop of the United Kingdom is grown on an acreage 4 per cent greater than last year, and that the yield will be above the average. It is

estimated that the crop will be not less than 7,000,000 quarters. After deductions for seed and taking stocks into account – on which an inquiry conducted by the Board has just been completed – there is now in this country sufficient wheat to supply the whole population for about four months. This allows for the normal rate of consumption, and it is irrespective of all future imports from abroad.

A reassuring statement on behalf of the Government has been made by Mr Runciman in regard to our food supplies. Sir Richard Cooper, M.P., had given private notice of a question asking the Prime Minister if the Government was prepared with a scheme for the protection of the people in every part of the country against exorbitant prices of food being artificially created by speculators and trusts, and for the purpose of preventing unnecessary wastage in consumption; and if so, did he contemplate putting such a scheme into operation. Mr Runciman, replying for Mr Asquith, wrote:

*“The matters to which the hon. baronet refers have long been under the careful consideration of the Committee of Imperial Defence, and plans have been prepared for safeguarding the regular supply and distribution of food-stuffs. Detailed arrangements for carrying out these plans in the light of the present situation are engaging the attention of a Committee of the Cabinet in consultation with the departments concerned. Meanwhile it is desirable that I should state emphatically that there are abundant supplies available, and that there is no justification whatever for panic prices.”*

### **BANK HOLIDAY IN LONDON**

Many Londoners spent Bank Holiday in Whitehall and the Mall, or round about Buckingham Palace. The crowds gathered in Whitehall cheered lustily every prominent politician who was recognised. Mr Winston Churchill and the Prime Minister had specially hearty receptions. Outside Buckingham Palace there was also a great crowd. When Prince John was seen at a window there was cheering again and again, and the young Prince, obviously delighted, waved his handkerchief.

The enthusiasm reached its height when the King and Queen left Buckingham Palace in an open carriage about twenty minutes past four in the afternoon. Their progress along the Mall was a royal one in the most popular sense of the word. The King and Queen received another ovation on their return to the Palace, while the Prince of Wales, who came on foot, was surrounded by the cheering crowd, and it was only with difficulty that a way was made for him.

Waterloo Station presented an animated appearance on Monday morning for it was thronged with Naval Reservists answering the mobilisation order. Similar scenes were witnessed at Victoria and other stations as the naval men left for various ports.

### **THE MONEY CRISIS**

Drastic action was taken by the Government on Monday to deal with the grave financial situation. In the House of Commons, Mr Lloyd George introduced a Moratorium Bill – entitled the “Postponement of Payments Act” – and the measure was passed through all its stages in the afternoon sitting. The House of Lords also dealt with it expeditiously, and the Bill received the Royal Assent in the evening. The extension of the Bank Holiday for three days was also announced in order to enable the Banks to adjust themselves to the changed conditions. The extension, however, applies only to banks.

Meanwhile the Post Office announces discontinuance of withdrawals by telegraph from savings bank. The Moratorium Bill authorises postponement of any bill of exchange or negotiable instrument or any other payment in pursuance of any contract to such extent for such time and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the King’s Proclamation.

### **NAVY SERVICE EXTENDED**

In response to the call, the men of the Royal Navy Reserve have travelled from all parts of the country to the naval depots. A special supplement to the “London Gazette,” published on Monday contained proclamations by the King calling out the men of the Royal Navy Reserve and Royal Fleet Reserve and the officers and men of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. The officers of the Royal Naval Reserve are also called up. A proclamation is also issued dealing with the question of extending the services of time-expired men of the Royal Navy. Under this proclamation:

*'All classes of men now serving in Our Navy, whose term of service may be expired or may expire while this proclamation shall continue in force, shall be required to serve for a period of five years from the expiration of their respective terms of service if their services be so long required.'*

It was announced on Monday that Scotland Yard have issued notices calling up the police reserves. The object of this is to fill the places of the 1,000 officers and men who have already been detailed for special duties, and to fill the places of the men who have been called up owing to the mobilisation of the Naval Reserve.

### **HELP FROM THE DOMINIONS**

Our Overseas Dominions and Colonies are rallying round England at this time of crisis. They have sent messages to the Imperial Government, containing offers of money and men to uphold the honour and supremacy of the Empire to which they belong.

In Canada, regiment after regiment has

Between 40,000 and 50,000 Canadians have offered their services.

*"There is no lack of Australian volunteers,"* says Mr Cook, the Federal Premier. *"If the Motherland is at war, so are we."* The Government of Australia has decided, in the event of war, to place the Australian fleet under the control of the British Admiralty. It also offers, in the event of war, an expeditionary force of 20,000 men, of any suggested composition, for any destination desired by the Imperial Government; the cost of the dispatch and maintenance of this force to be borne by the Commonwealth. The Minister of Defence has ordered a partial military mobilisation.

Proclamations have been issued placing the New Zealand naval forces under control of the British Government, and also calling up the Naval Reserves. The defence authorities have taken control of the principal ports as a precautionary measure.

### **NAVY IN THE NORTH SEA**

Our Home Fleets have now been completely mobilised. The First Fleet, always with full complements, was ready; the Second Fleet was soon in line by taking on board the small proportion of the Immediate Reserve required, and the Third Fleet has now been mobilised by drafting into the ships the men of the several classes of the Fleet Reserve, Royal Naval Reserve, and Volunteer Reserve.

Every effective vessel is at sea or ready for sea, and there are nine squadrons of Dreadnoughts or pre-Dreadnoughts, besides the cruiser squadrons and flotillas and auxiliaries attached. In the North Sea the British superiority over Germany is very marked. We can place in line forty-two battleships and battle-cruisers, as compared with the German's twenty-five or twenty-eight if the new ships are included. Besides battleships and battle-cruisers, we can place in the North Sea 100 other cruisers, 250 destroyers, and seventy-five submarines.

### **BALTIC NAVAL FIGHT**

A battle was fought off the Aland Islands in the Baltic on Sunday between the German and Russian fleets. The Russians were driven back and took refuge in the Gulf of Finland. The Aland Islands, an archipelago stretching from the Swedish coast to Finland, are now in the occupation of German troops. This is an important success for Germany. The possession of the Aland Islands opens her way to Finland, and she has now a base from which to operate against St. Petersburg.

### **BRITISH SHIPS SEIZED**

With regard to the reported seizure by Germany of two British vessels, the German Embassy states the facts are as follows:

The Wilson liner, *Castro* was in the Kiel Canal, and was ordered by the German authorities to proceed to Hamburg for military reasons, as it was not desirable that any commercial vessel should be in the canal at present.

As regards the second case, the Government had purchased coal shipped for Germany to a private firm, and the order was given for the ship to proceed to Hamburg with her cargo. It was solely a matter of changing her destination. In both cases there was no intention whatever of interfering with the property of the vessels. It was simply a police measure.

### **FRANCE INVADED**

A denial was issued by Germany on Monday of the statements that her troops had crossed the French frontier. The German Ambassador, Prince Licknevsky, declared that up to Monday morning not a single German soldier had been on French soil, while there were several reports about French troops crossing the German frontier.

From German sources it was stated that a French aviator had thrown bombs over Nuremburg on Sunday, while on Saturday night French aviators were seen over the Rhine provinces. A story was told of French officers in German uniforms crossing from Belgium into Germany by motor cars.

From the French side it is stated that on Sunday a German patrol entered French territory and came into collision with a French force near Jencherai. The officer in command of the Germans killed one of the French soldiers, and was himself slain by one of the dead man's comrades.

A fairly strong force of German cavalry advanced on Sunday morning towards Suaree, situated to the south-east of Belfort, three kilometres from the frontier. They seized the horses, which has been requisitioned by the Mayor of the commune, and captured the men in charge, who were compelled to lead the animals to the frontier.

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## **AT WAR WITH GERMANY**

### **SUMMARY REJECTION OF BRITISH ULTIMATUM**

#### **GERMANS IN BELGIUM**

Great Britain is at war with Germany.

The declaration was made by Great Britain at seven o'clock on Tuesday night, following the summary rejection by Germany of a British ultimatum to which an answer was demanded by midnight. Great Britain's action followed promptly upon Germany's declaration of war upon France and Belgium and the receipt of official news that the German troops had invaded Belgium territory.

Germany, in alliance with Austria-Hungary, is now at war with Great Britain, France, Russia and Belgium, while Austria is at war with Servia. Proclamations of war were signed at Buckingham Palace at a meeting of the Privy Council on Tuesday night.

#### **PREMIER'S STATEMENT**

On Tuesday in the House of Commons, Mr Asquith made the announcement that an ultimatum with respect to the neutrality of Belgium had been presented to Germany. Mr Asquith, who was received with general cheers, said:

*"In conformity with the statement of policy which was made by my right hon. friend the Foreign Secretary yesterday, a telegram was sent early this morning by him to our Ambassador in Berlin. It was to this effect:*

*The King of the Belgians has made an appeal to his Majesty the King for diplomatic intervention on behalf of Belgium. His Majesty's Government are also informed that the German Government has delivered to the Belgian Government a Note proposing friendly neutrality for maintaining a free passage through Belgium territory, and promising to maintain the independence and integrity of the kingdom and its possessions at the conclusion of peace, but threatening in refusal to treat Belgium as an enemy. An answer was requested within twelve hours. We also understand Belgium has categorically refused this as a flagrant violation of the*

*laws of nations. His Majesty's Government are bound to protest against this violation of a treaty to which Germany is a party in common with us, and must request an assurance that the demand made upon Belgium will not be proceeded with and that her neutrality shall be respected by Germany.*

*We asked for an immediate reply."*

### **"BY FORCE OF ARMS"**

We received this morning from our Minister at Brussels the following telegram:

The German Minister has this morning addressed a Note to the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that, as the Belgian Government had declined the well-intentioned proposals submitted to them by the Imperial Government, the latter, deeply to their regret, is compelled to carry out, if necessary by force of arms, the measures considered indispensable in view of the French menace.

Simultaneously, or almost immediately afterwards, we received from the Belgian Legation here in London the following telegram from the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs:

General Staff announce that territory has been violated at Gemmenich, near Aix-le-Chapelle. Subsequent information tends to show the German force has penetrated still further into German territory.

### **THE GERMAN REPLY**

We also received this morning from the German Ambassador here a telegram sent to him by the German Foreign Secretary, and communicated by the Ambassador to us, which is in these terms:

Please dispel any mistrust that may subsist on the part of the British Government with regard to our intention by repeating most positively the formal assurance that even in the case of armed conflict with Belgium, Germany will under no pretence whatever, annex Belgian territory. The sincerity of this declaration is borne out by the fact that we have solemnly pledged our word to Holland strictly to respect her neutrality. It is obvious we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making at the same time territorial acquisitions at the expense of Holland.

Please impress upon Sir Edward Grey that the German army could not be exposed to French attack across Belgium, which was the plan, according to absolutely unimpeachable information. Germany has consequently to disregard Belgian neutrality, it being to her a question of life and death to prevent the French advance.

That is the end of the communication. I have to add this on behalf of his Majesty's Government:

We cannot regard this as in any sense a satisfactory communication. We have in reply to it repeated the request we made last week to the German Government that they should give us the same assurance in regard to Belgian neutrality as was given to us and Belgium by France last week, and we have asked that the reply to that request – a satisfactory answer to the telegram of this morning which I have read to the House – should be given before midnight.

### **AMBASSADOR HANDED HIS PASSPORT**

Soon after midnight on Tuesday the following statement was issued from the Foreign Office:

Owing to the summary rejection by the German Government of the request made by his Majesty's Government for assurances that the neutrality of Belgium would be respected, his Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin has received his passports, and his Majesty's Government has declared to the German Government that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Germany as from 11 p.m. on August 4.

### **GREAT BATTLE IN BELGIUM**

### **BELGIANS BEAT BACK GERMAN ARMY**

Belgium is offering a splendid resistance to the German advance, and have driven back from Liege a vastly superior force. Telegraphing on Wednesday from Brussels, the "Daily Chronicle" correspondent says:

Fierce fighting has been going on all round Liege. At four o'clock the Germans who had been trying to storm the forts, were repulsed everywhere. All Germans who succeeded in passing between the forts were killed, the Belgians behaving with great gallantry. The attack on the forts was not renewed. The Germans are said to have behaved in the most brutal fashion to the people of Vise. Several of the civilians were shot in cold blood, and the town was burnt. The strength of the German force attacking Liege is put at 80,000, while the Belgians had 25,000.

The German losses are said to have been considerable, while those of the Belgians were slight. The "Daily News" correspondent says the Belgian troops have given a splendid example of bravery, discipline, and courage. He states that the Germans constructed on Tuesday a temporary bridge to replace that at Vise which was destroyed by the Belgian engineers on Monday. As soon as the temporary bridge was finished it was destroyed by the Belgian artillery. A brilliant feat by a Belgian aviator is recorded. A German aeroplane flying above Liege was attacked by a Belgian, who dashed his machine straight into that of the German, cutting the aeroplane of the latter in two.

### **GERMAN LOSSES 3,500**

A further account of the fighting in Belgium is given by the "Chronicle's" special correspondent at Amsterdam. Telegraphing early on Thursday he says:

*"I have learned the following details from Maastricht concerning the German attack on Vise:-*

*The German infantry arrived before the place in motor-cars, and were followed by cavalry. Already the bridges had been blown up by the Belgians, but the Germans made pontoons. These in turn were destroyed by the Belgian guns and aviator's bombs. When the Germans approached the village they were received with hot rifle fire. In this several women and civilian villagers took part, and in consequence when the Germans took the village they seized and executed seventy villagers who, though not in uniform, had taken part in the firing. They also set fire to the place.*

*Among the German wounded who were taken to Maastricht in motor-cars many expressed disappointment and discouragement, which seemed to be general, at the unexpected strength of the opposition of the Belgians. No fewer than 3,500 Germans were killed or wounded before Vise, it is declared.*

*A party of Germans are posted near the Dutch frontier to shoot down deserters fleeing to Maastricht. It is also reported that the wounded say that their officers were under the impression that they were fighting with French troops, and had no idea they were in Belgium. There is great praise in Holland for the plucky Belgian resistance, and a determination to resist by force any German attempt to cross Dutch Limburg on their way to Belgium."*

The official announcement says that 25,000 Belgians were engaged against 40,000 Germans. 80,000 French troops are now co-operating with the Belgians on the Belgian-German frontier.

### **NAVAL WARFARE BEGUN**

#### **GERMAN MINE-LAYER SUNK**

It was reported on Wednesday that a German Dreadnought and cruiser had been captured in the Mediterranean, and that another German cruiser had been sunk. The news came from a French source, and up to Thursday morning had not been confirmed, though it is officially announced that the French have captured one German cruiser. On Wednesday there were many rumours of a North Sea battle between the British and German fleets but the only official news announced by the Admiralty on Wednesday night was the following:

The commander of the torpedo flotilla reports that his Majesty's ship Amphion and the Third Torpedo Flotilla have sunk the German mine-layer Konigin Luise at noon today (Wednesday).

The Konigin Luise is a passenger vessel of the Hamburg-America Line, of 2,163 tons gross tonnage, speed 20 knots, specially fitted as a mine layer.

The affair probably took place off the Dutch coast as it had been rumoured that the Third Destroyer Flotilla had been engaged with mine-layers there. The laying of mines in shallow and commercial waters is a form of warfare against which Great Britain has consistently set her face. At the Hague, however, Germany opposed the imposition of any restrictions in the matter.

### **MANY GERMAN SHIPS SEIZED**

As soon as war was declared on Tuesday night British authorities began to detain German merchant vessels in many ports, and many have been declared prizes of war. The most important capture was that of the Hamburg-Amerika steamer Belgia, which had on board foodstuffs valued at between £100,000 and £200,000, as well as 73 German Reservists. She was on a voyage from Boston for Hamburg when she was captured in the Bristol Channel early on Wednesday morning by the Newport Dock master, Captain Cutcliffe, and a dozen armed policemen and brought into Newport docks. No resistance was offered.

Early on Wednesday morning police officers boarded the steamship Marie Leonhardt, a cargo steamer of 2,500 tons laden with flour, which was lying at Nicholson's Wharf near London Bridge. Other German boats detained are as follows:

Blyth: - Three steamers, Gemma, Ostprussen, and Hands Otto, in hands of police.

Leith: - Otto and Adolph, the latter having loaded coal.

Walton, near Warrington: - Dryad, with timber for Sweden.

Tyne: - Albert Clement.

West Hartlepool: - Denebola, with cargo of pit props.

Hull: - Lucinda and Levenson, of Fleusburg, and others captured and crews made prisoners of war.

Foynes, near Limmerick: - Terpischore, bound for Hamburg.

Gibraltar: - Emir and Adolf brought in. Emir belongs to German Naval Reserve.

Bristol – Elfreida. Captain and crew detained.

Several other vessels have been seized in the South Welsh ports and one at Dunstan, Newcastle, while the German coal steamer Porto was captured by a French gunboat and taken to St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

### **FOREIGN SHIPS FOR OUR NAVY**

The Admiralty have taken over the two battleships, one completed and the other shortly due for completion, which had been ordered in this country by the Turkish Government, and the two destroyer-leaders ordered by the Government of Chile. The two battleships will receive the names Agincourt and Erin, and the destroyer-leaders will be called Faulkner and Broke after two famous naval officers.

## **THE NAVY**

### **OUR "SURE SHIELD" : THE KING'S MESSAGE**

The following message has been addressed by his Majesty the King to Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, who has assumed supreme command of the Home Fleet:

*"At this grave moment in our national history I send to you, and through you to the officers and men of the fleets of which you have assumed command, the assurance of my confidence that under your direction they will revive and renew the old glories of the Royal Navy, and prove once again the sure shield of Britain and of her Empire in the hour of trial."*

GEORGE, RI

The above message has been communicated to the senior naval officers of all stations outside of home waters.



## **NEW HEADS OF ARMY AND NAVY**

Vice-Admiral Sir John Jellicoe has been appointed to the supreme command of the Home Fleet.

Field-Marshal Sir John French has been re-appointed to his former position of Inspector-General of the Forces, which he resigned some time ago.

Sir John Jellicoe has been Second Sea Lord since December, 1912, and it was known several months ago that he had been selected to succeed Admiral Callaghan. He has had a most distinguished career, having served in the Egyptian war and in China. He was wrecked in 1893 in the Victoria, but was saved after sinking, and severely wounded at Peitsang. Among his many decorations is one conferred by the Kaiser. He is fifty-five, and has been described as the Roberts and Kitchener of the Navy. In the Navy he is known as "J.J."

Rear-Admiral Charles E. Madden has been appointed Chief of Staff to Admiral Jellicoe. He has been Rear-Admiral commanding the Third Cruiser Squadron since 1912; prior to that he commanded the Home Fleet, and he has also been Fourth Sea Lord.

## **LORD KITCHENER WAR MINISTER**

Earl Kitchener has been appointed Secretary of State for War with a seat in the Cabinet. In consequence of the pressure of other duties the Prime Minister has been compelled to give up the office. The King has approved the appointment of Lord Kitchener as his successor.

## **SCENES IN LONDON**

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM AT THE PALACE**

Extraordinary scenes of enthusiasm were witnessed in London on Tuesday night. In anticipation of the receipt of Germany's reply, huge crowds gathered in Whitehall and outside Buckingham Palace. A Privy Council at the Palace was preceded by a concentration of ministers at Downing Street, and each was loudly cheered as he entered the Premier's official residence.

Not since the Boer War have such crowds been seen in London, and Whitehall, the Mall, and Trafalgar Square were all packed with excited throngs. The enthusiasm culminated outside Buckingham Palace. A lady came out of the palace and announced that war had been declared.

This was received with tremendous cheering, which grew into a deafening roar when King George, Queen Mary, and the Prince of Wales appeared on the balcony shortly after eleven o'clock. The great space in front of the Palace was packed with a dense mass of excited people, many of whom had clambered on to the Victoria Memorial.

As if by general accord, the cheers gave way to the singing of the National Anthem, which was taken up lustily by the whole throng. For fully five minutes the Royal party remained on the balcony. They retired amidst a perfect storm of cheering, and although the crowd subsequently began to melt away, thousands remained.

## **GOVERNMENT TAKES RAILWAYS**

An Order in Council has been made declaring that the Government has taken control over the railroads in Great Britain. This control will be exercised through an executive committee composed of general managers of railways, which has been formed for some time and has prepared plans.

Although the railway facilities for other than naval and military purposes may for a time be somewhat restricted, the effect of the use of the powers will be to co-ordinate the demands on the railways of the civil communities with those necessary to meet the special requirements of the naval and military authorities. More normal conditions will in due course be restored, and it is hoped that the public will recognise the necessity for the special conditions and will in the general interest accommodate themselves to the inconvenience involved.

Mr H. A. Walker, general manager of the L. and S. W. Railway, who is acting chairman of the executive committee of managers, has issued a statement pointing out that Government control is for the purpose of ensuring that the railways, locomotives, rolling stock, and staff shall be used as one complete unit in the best interests of the State for the movement of troops, stores, and food supplies.

The official chairman of the committee is the President of the Board of Trade, and the railway secretary is Mr Gilbert S. Szlumper. It may be necessary to discontinue at short notice a portion of the advertised service, or to close certain of the lines against ordinary traffic. Under these circumstances no responsibility can be accepted for any delay or loss that may arise.

## **GRAVE NEWS THIS MORNING**

### **BRITISH CRUISER SUNK AND 130 LIVES LOST**

Grave news is to hand this morning. Yesterday it was intimated in Brussels and Berlin that the German troops in their attack on Liege the previous day lost 8,000 men, a number of prisoners, and seven guns. About 1,200 Germans were wounded in an unsuccessful attack on Liege on Wednesday night. Fighting in the neighbourhood continues. News from other areas in Europe in which fighting is proceeding is lacking. There is no official news of the naval battle believed to be proceeding in the North Sea, but the Admiralty announced last night that the British cruiser Amphion struck a mine yesterday morning and was sunk, 130 lives being lost.

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## **COALVILLE AND THE WAR**

### **LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION AT BOSWORTH PARK POSTPONED**

### **LOCAL AMBULANCE MEN CALLED UPON**

### **KEEN INTEREST IN THE CAMPAIGN**

The people of Coalville and District, as in other places are showing deep concern at the serious turn which events on the Continent have taken and during the week the war has been the main topic of conversation. Each morning, the newspaper shops have been besieged by many, anxious to learn the latest news and all the copies of the evening papers arriving in the town have been quickly bought up.

Moving about the town one hears various opinions expressed. All reasonable people regret, of course, that things have come to such a pass, and while there are some who contend that England should have held aloof from the fray, there are others who express different views and consider it an opportune time to "have a go" at Germany and so curb her ambitions. "A smashing blow to Germany is one of the best things that could happen" was the remark of one well known resident, "it would go a long way towards preserving European peace in future and save England some of the increasing millions being spent on the navy."

It seems a deplorable thing however, that international differences should have to be settled in this barbaric way. Possibly when millions of money have been squandered and the blood of thousands of fellow creatures has been shed, the originators will realise that it was all a horrible mistake. Below will be found a few interesting items showing the effect which the war is having upon this district.

### **COALVILLE MEN'S ADULT SCHOOL FOR PEACE**

Telegrams were sent from the Coalville Men's Adult School on Sunday morning to Sir Edward Grey, Sir Maurice Levy and the Hon. H. D. McLaren as follows:

*"In grave crisis for humanity and christianity the Coalville Men's Adult School strongly supports your efforts of peace."*

The president of the school, (Mr B. B. Prewitt) made reference to the war in his opening remarks and a suitable lesson from the Psalms was read. It was decided to offer the free use of the hall for any public meeting which might be held on the matter.

Reference was also made on Sunday to the course of events by the preachers at churches and chapels in the district.

### **DESFORD MEN FAVOUR NEUTRALITY**

The following resolution was passed by the Sunday Morning Adult School at Desford:-

*“That this Adult School deeply deploras the war spirit now prevalent in Europe, and whilst jealous of the honour of our country sees no valid reason for our interference and conscious of the irreparable injury, in every direction, a war, whether successful or otherwise must inflict on our people, respectfully calls upon the Government to maintain an absolute neutrality during the crisis.”*

### **MASS MEETING AT SHEPSHED**

After the services at places of worship in Shepshed, a mass meeting was held in the Bull Ring on Sunday night. Mr E. Harriman presided, and amongst those present were the vicar, and Revs. Pope and Foley.

Councillor Mee proposed a resolution that the men and women of Shepshed deeply deplored the news of war on the Continent, and urge the Government to use every effort to promote England's neutrality, and to urge their influence in the interests of peace.

Councillor Nelson seconded a vigorous speech, and the resolution was carried unanimously, and a copy ordered to be sent to Sir Edward Grey.

### **AN APPEAL TO MOTORISTS**

All owners of motor-cars, motor-cycles, and mechanically propelled vehicles who are prepared to offer their services in the defence of their country are invited to send their names and addresses together with particulars of their vehicles, to Mr R. Sutton Clifford, jun., who is preparing a list on behalf of the Leicestershire Automobile Club, to forward to the War Office.

All motor owners in this district, whether members of the Club or not, are urgently invited to co-operate. Motor cyclists may be particularly useful. The particulars required are as follows:-

Maker's description and year of manufacture.  
Type of body, with heating or carrying capacity  
Name of driver  
Telegraphic address (where instructions are to be sent)  
Telephone number (if any)

These particulars should be sent to R. Sutton Clifford, jun., Solicitor, Loughborough

### **TERRITORIALS RETURN FROM CAMP**

The several units comprising the Leicester and County territorial forces returned to Leicester on Monday evening having been in camp only one day. The main body had commenced their annual training at the brigade camp near Bridlington, and keen disappointment, tempered with some excitement as to immediate possibilities was felt when the order reached them calling upon them to return to head-quarters.

A considerable number of men belonging to the Naval reserve left Leicester on Sunday in response to the mobilisation order.

### **LOCAL POLICE AFFECTED**

Scotland Yard have called up the police reserves to fill the places of reservists and men specially detailed. The police in the Coalville and Ashby District who were to have leave, have been informed that this is cancelled for the time being.

### **BOSWORTH LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION POSTPONED**

Owing to the war, the Liberal Demonstration which was to have been held in Bosworth Park to-morrow, when the Hon. H. D. and Mrs McLaren were to have given addresses has been postponed.

### **LEICESTERSHIRE CORONER AND NATIONAL RESERVE**

Mr H. J. Deane, coroner, of Loughborough, wore the badge of the National Reserve at an inquest held at Ashby on Wednesday. He was formerly in the Loughborough Company, and is amongst a number of Loughborough National Reserve who have volunteered for service with the Territorials and passed the necessary medical examination of fitness.

### **MR A. T. SHARP CALLED UP**

Mr A. T. Sharp, the Leicestershire amateur cricketer, was on Wednesday morning called up for service with the Territorial Forces, and left Northampton about eleven o'clock.

Mr Sharp was formerly an officer connected with the Gunnery Section of the Territorials, and only recently resigned his commission. In view of the present crisis he volunteered his services a day or two ago, and the War Office accepted his offer. Mr Sharp, being reinstated in his old rank and receiving a telegram to that effect on Wednesday morning. Leicestershire in consequence had one wicket less in the concluding stage of their match with Northants on Wednesday.

### **COALVILLE POLICEMEN FOR THE WAR**

The police force includes several army reserve men, and some of the local constables have been called up. These included P.C. Heggs (Ashby), P.C. Durrands (Coalville) and P.C. Henson (New Swannington) who were all formerly in the Guards, and P.C. Granger of the 17<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment. They left for headquarters on Wednesday.

### **IBSTOCK RESERVISTS**

About twenty reservists have been called up from Ibstock, including Police Constable Butler, and several leave behind wives and families.

### **TERRITORIALS MOBILISED**

The call came to the Territorials on Tuesday night. Several of the local members were enjoying a night at the Coalville Electric Theatre and the proprietor (Mr Johnson) having received news of the order, threw a notice upon the screen that all Territorials were requested to leave for the railway station at once. A good number left for Ashby on Tuesday night, and others on Wednesday morning. Other troops including the mounted brigade from Hugglescote, also left Coalville Station on Wednesday, these departures being witnessed by large and enthusiastic holiday crowds.

Mr Waldron, caretaker at the Swannington Isolation Hospital, was among the reservists who left on Wednesday.

### **CALL TO COALVILLE AMBULANCE MEN**

There was considerable excitement in Coalville on Sunday night, a large crowd assembling to witness the departure by the 9:20 train of several Coalville ambulance men. They were Corporal A. C. Chandler, Privates Moreton, J. Bland, E. Curtis, and J. Mulrooney. Supt. Scott gave the call to Mr Mulrooney while he was in church. On Tuesday morning Corporal Slatter and Private G. Reason also left Coalville. The men all journeyed to Devonport being members of the Royal Naval Sick Berth Reserve, and it is understood that they have been placed on three different war vessels which are now on active service in the North Sea. Their duties will consist of rendering first aid to the wounded. One of the men left behind a wife and ten children.

On Tuesday afternoon there was an indication of serious developments by a telegram received by Supt. Scott from headquarters enquiring how many names he could give of ambulance men not belonging to the Royal Naval Sick Berth Reserve who would join an expeditionary force at once. Mr Scott, and other officers of the brigade, were busy during the afternoon going round getting names. It was stated that the men would be required to join the R.A.M.C. for one year, the rate of pay being 4/- per day. If not wanted so long, they would receive two months pay on discharge.

### **NO CHEAP TICKETS**

Notices were posted at the Coalville M.R. Station on Wednesday that from that date the issue of excursion and cheap tickets, except workmen's tickets, would be cancelled, until further notice. The L. and N. W. Co. had posted similar notices two days earlier. It was intimated that cheap tickets issued prior to that date would be allowed to be used up to the date they covered for returning. People going to Leicester from Coalville on Wednesday found that they had to pay ordinary fare, market tickets being among those cancelled.

### **COALVILLE CO-OP HORSES FOR THE FRONT**

Eleven of the Coalville Co-Operative Society's horses were selected on Wednesday by army officers for use in the war.



### **COALVILLE FOOD PRICES**

Reports from various parts of the country are to hand as to the increase of food prices, but it is urged that there is no cause for panic. Tradesmen who are rushing the prices up unduly are said to be taking a mean advantage of the crisis. Enquiries yesterday at the Coalville Co-Operative Stores which supply about 5,000 families in the district elicited the fact that no increase in the price of bread was anticipated at present. The price is now 5 1/2d for a 4-lb loaf, the same as in Leicester, where a halfpenny has been put on, the price having been 5d up to this week. Reports state that a further 1d advance is to be made at Leicester on Monday next, but this is not anticipated at Coalville. The Coalville stores on Wednesday raised butter 1d per lb., and sugar one farthing per pound. To assist the committee, the members are asked to buy just their weekly supplies, and not try to lay in large stocks. They have stopped the sale of flour in bulk. This applies also to the tradesmen generally. People should keep their heads, and go along as usual. To buy large quantities and deplete the tradesmen's stocks, while there is a shortage in supplies only means likely hardships for many of the poorer classes during the next few weeks.

### **ASHBY CONSERVATIVE GATHERING CANCELLED**

There was to have been a large gathering of Conservatives from the Coalville and Ashby area on August 19<sup>th</sup> at the Manor House grounds, Ashby, where Mr and Mrs A. E. Hawley are temporarily in residence, but owing to the war the event has been cancelled.

### **ARMY CAPTAIN'S STRIKING LETTER TO SWANNINGTON CONSERVATIVES**

Captain Brazier-Creagh was to have addressed a Conservative meeting at Swannington on Wednesday, but wrote the following letter:-

*"Mr dear Lady Beaumont, - Your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. has been forwarded here, and under the present circumstances, you will perceive that being on military service it is impossible for me to speak at your fete on 5<sup>th</sup> August. Things look very serious, and I do not know where I may be sent to do duty for my country, but I do hope we shall give Germany a thrashing for bringing this uncalled war upon us. She could have stopped Austria, and referred the Servian question to the Hague for arbitration. Luckily, we were never better prepared for war than at the present moment, and if only our navy makes scrap-iron of the German fleet at the bottom of the North or Baltic Sea, all will be well. Politics ought to be barred, and all should unite and join ranks against our enemies and support the united forces of the empire in this critical period. - Yours very sincerely, F. C. Brazier-Creagh."*

### **COALVILLE BANKS CLOSED**

The Coalville banks in accordance with the Royal Proclamation, affecting the banks all over the country, remained closed from Saturday to this (Friday) morning. One or two instances have been heard of, of Coalville men becoming a little panic stricken, and drawing their money from the banks on Friday and Saturday, but one of the local bank officials assured us that there was no need to be alarmed. The banks of the country, he said, would take advantage of the extra holidays to make adequate provision for any contingencies that may arise.

### **EXCITEMENT AT LOUGHBOROUGH**

Loughborough has never witnessed such exciting scenes as were witnessed throughout Wednesday. The town was full of territorials, all the companies attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment having been drafted in to await orders. The local company was billeted in the various schools while the outside companies were billeted at the hotels. The yeomanry were also located in the town.

A most memorable scene was witnessed in the afternoon, when the Loughborough Company, headed by the battalion band, marched from the Drill Hall to the Parish Church to deposit their colours, which were carried by Lieutenants Vincent and Barradell.

### **FORTY LEICESTER TOURISTS AT DUSSELDORF**

News came to hand on Wednesday evening that a party of tourists from Leicester are held up in Germany. The party in question consists of about forty people who, on Thursday last, left Leicester by the 4:40 train on the Midland Railway for Dusseldorf, Germany, via Harwich. They booked their passage as the Leicester Education Party, while they also termed themselves the German Peace Party. It was expected that they would be in Leicester again on Tuesday, but as they have not arrived, and as nothing have been heard of them, it is assumed that they have been held up.

### **REPORT OF HARVEST PROSPECTS**

Reports just received from the Crop Reporters of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries throughout the country show that the wheat crop is forward and that the yield per acre will be well over the average. The harvest has commenced in the southern counties. Barley has improved during the past month and will probably be up to the average. Oats are a fair crop, but peas are not quite so good. The potato crop is very strong and healthy, and there will be a full supply, without any addition from imports, for a whole year's consumption. The root crops look well but require rain.

The apple crop especially in the districts where it is chiefly grown is considerably above the average while the crop of pears is even more satisfactory.

### **LEICESTER BRIDEGROOM CALLED TO THE GERMAN COLOURS**

A young German, residing in Leicester, has been placed in an awkward predicament as a result of the European war. The patriotism of the German is something to marvel at, but it is surely trying his patriotism too far when he receives a command on the eve of his marriage.

The German, in Leicester, had completed his arrangements to marry Miss Coting, a waitress at the Turkey Café, during the holiday week, when from Germany came the 'cammando' stating that he must go to the Fatherland either on Monday night or Tuesday morning.

The prospective bridegroom naturally decided to respond to his country's call, but this did not interfere with the actual celebration of the marriage. The ceremony was fixed for Bank Holiday Monday, and as shown above, the bridegroom was compelled almost immediately afterwards to join the German troops.

### **CROWDS AT ASHBY**

Crowds of people in the Ashby streets discussed the war news. The Territorial Company, the A (Hastings) Company 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire assembled at the Armoury, Rifle Range Road, on Wednesday morning where a medical examination of the men was made by Dr. Logan. They were billeted in Ashby on Wednesday. Time-expired men are being asked to rejoin, and application will be made to headquarters. Lieutenant Reginald Hastings is in command of the Territorials in the absence of Lieutenant Hassall, who has reported himself at Loughborough (the headquarters), along with Lieutenants Moore, Burnett, Lawton, and R. D. Farmer. Mr Thomas E. Jesson, who was formerly in command of the Hastings Company has offered his services to the War Office.

### **WANTED 1000 BOY SCOUTS**

Mr Hugh Goodacre, Commissioner of the Boy Scouts for Leicestershire, has received a telegram from the Chief-Scout, General Baden-Powell, who makes an appeal for 1,000 Scouts to aid the local or civil defence authorities in such duties as collecting and distributing information re supplies, billeting, guarding culverts and telegraphs, assisting post offices, police, fire brigades, ambulances and poor relief distribution. Scout Masters in Leicester and district are, therefore, asked to collect and forward to the secretary, 2, New Walk, Leicester, the name and addresses of boys willing to act, and to give nature of employment and address of employer. Names in Coalville should be sent to Mr Frank Goddard.

### **RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES FORGOTTEN**

On Sunday night a special service of intercession was held at Peterborough Cathedral. It was addressed by the Dean and was attended by the Mayor and Corporation, clergy and Nonconformist ministers, and a large body of the general public.

### **ROBBING THE POOR**

Great indignation is being expressed in many parts of London, says the "Telegraph," at the selfish action of some well-to-do people in buying up inordinately large stocks of provisions for their own private use. They thus drive up prices and directly cause a scarcity. In one of the districts near Regent's Park it is said there is now little left for the poor to buy. Even the small shops have been cleared out of bacon, flour and all kinds of provisions.

### **SECURING CANADIAN WHEAT**

It officially stated that the Government will guarantee war risks on wheat and flour shipped or to be shipped from Atlantic or Canadian ports to the United Kingdom under existing contracts, a list of these contracts to be supplied within 48 hours, premiums to be paid by the importer, and to be charged by him against the eventual receiver.

It is understood that this step is being taken with the view of securing 8,000,000 qrs. of Canadian wheat.

### **FLOUR 40s PER SACK**

Millers from Durham, Yorkshire, and the Midlands decided at Hull on Monday to advance the price of flour to 40s per sack.

### **FLOUR PRICES REDUCED AT HULL**

At a meeting of millers at Hull on Wednesday, the price of flour was reduced from 40/- to 35/- per 20st sack.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE OF RESERVISTS AND TERRITORIALS**

Contributions during embodied service will be reduced at Army Rate of 3d per week, 11/2d of which will be deducted from pay. They will be paid on special Army (B) Cards supplied by Military Authorities.

As regards ordinary cards for current half-year, reservists should fill in the name of the society and branch (if any) and deposit cards at Military Depot in the box provided for the purpose. Territorials should send their cards to their societies writing across them the word "Territorial." Cards left in custody of employers should be kept until further notice unless claimed by the man.

During the embodied service any claim to maternity benefit should be made by the wife to the approved society, or, in the case of deposit contributors to the Insurance Committee, in the ordinary way.

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#### **HOW A DESERTER WAS DETECTED AT IBSTOCK**

At Hinckley on Tuesday, John Gregory, collier, Ibstock, was charged with being a deserter from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, whilst stationed at Bloemfontein, since June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1906. P.C. Screamon said defendant went to Ibstock last November, and witness hearing that he had been in the army had been expecting him to be called up as a reservist. Defendant was remanded to await an escort.

#### **LOUGHBOROUGH BOY SCOUTS**

The scouts in the Loughborough district from 14 years of age, have been mobilised, and they are now guarding bridges and public works. The Loughborough companies of the Church Lads' Brigade have offered their services for similar work. Several of the older members of the brigade have joined the territorials.

#### **POST OFFICES TO CIRCULATE SUNDAY NEWS**

It is officially announced that the Postmaster-General has decided to distribute every Sunday morning during the war a digest of telegrams supplied by the Admiralty and the War Office Press Bureau. The message will be exhibited at all telegraph offices which are open on Sunday morning, and will also be distributed to telephone exchanges so as to be available for subscribers and callers.

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#### **TERRITORIAL CHURCH PARADE AT LOUGHBOROUGH**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment paraded on Sunday afternoon for Divine service in the Queen's Park. The various companies marched from their stations in the schools. The Loughborough headquarters company assembled at the Drill Hall, and met in the Market Place, from whence, headed by the battalion band, a move was made to the park. The battalion formed up in three sides of a square, the drums were grouped in the centre, and the service opened with the singing of the hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers." After the prayers, Canon Blakeney, the senior battalion chaplain, gave an address from Ecclesiastes, c3, v8, "A time of war."

There were thousands of people present.

#### **AN APPEAL TO ADULT SCHOOL MEN**

A letter from the National Council of Adult Schools was read at the Coalville Men's Adult School and at all schools throughout the country on Sunday morning. In the letter, a lengthy one, the following suggestions were made.



(1) The preservation of a peaceable spirit is a matter of vital importance. Everyone may contribute to the common welfare by restraint and control of speech and conduct. Let us do all we can to avert the disgrace of "mafficking," of yielding to "loud thanksgivings over slaughtered men," and of giving way to the "war-fever," and let us study to live up to all that is implied in the term "Christian courtesy."

(2) The treatment of foreigners amongst us. There are thousands of men and women living amongst us who may be of foreign birth, bearing foreign names, or who may not have become naturalised in our country. It is very important that all such persons be the object of special care and consideration at this time. Though guiltless of all offence, they may be made the subjects of unworthy attack and ill-treatment. We urge our members to seek opportunities for aiding and protecting them, and offering them such kindnesses and courtesies as are possible.

(3) The work of relief for sufferers and of the organisation of production and distribution. There is evidence that this is being undertaken thoroughly and on an extensive scale by the Government, but in every city, town, and village, there will be urgent need for co-operation by individuals. All who are able should volunteer to take what part they can in this service of compassion, each working in his or her district or sphere. Faithful service is true patriotism.

(In connection with the National Relief Fund about to be raised in the name of the Prince of Wales, mayors and chairman of local authorities are to form committees and organise the work of relief. Immediately any local announcement is made, all who are able should report themselves at their municipal offices, stating exactly what time and service they are able to offer.)

(4) Readiness for organised efforts in favour of a speedy settlement as opportunities offer. In every country there are men and women working and praying for peace, for this is not a "people's war." The great work is for international friendship carried on in recent years by our own and other movements has not been fruitless. The men and women in Germany who but a few weeks since welcomed our folk into their homes, or who have been honoured guests in our homes, can have no enmity for us. In every country in Europe there is a great body of goodwill towards the people of other nations, and on this fact we must build our hope. Though at the moment the voices of these people are drowned in war cries, it will not be long before they are able to make themselves heard, and there will be many in that day who will gladly receive their message of peace and goodwill. On our part we must be ready to take our share in efforts for peace the moment an opportunity occurs.

#### **LETTERS FROM COALVILLE M.P.'s**

Letters were read on Sunday morning by Mr B. B. Drewett at the Coalville Men's Adult School, from the Hon. H. D. McLaren, M.P. and Sir Maurice Levy, M.P. in reply to telegrams sent the previous Sunday before England was involved in the war and urging efforts for peace.

The letters were as follows:

*House of Commons, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1914.*

*Dear Sir, I thank you for your telegram from the Men's Adult School, I shall continue to do all I can to promote peace, but I fear the attitude and actions of Germany will render it practically impossible for us to stand aside. It will be a terrible calamity if we should be involved and every effort is being made to avert such a disaster without sacrificing our interests. I am yours faithfully.*

Maurice Levy.

The President, Men's Adult School, Coalville.

*69, Eaton Place, London, S.W., 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1914.*

*Dear Sir, I am in receipt of the Resolution which you send me with which I entirely agree. I feel convinced that the Government has used every possible effort to preserve peace and I assure you that all Members of the House of Commons, of every party, view with the gravest concern and sorrow the outbreak of war. I am, yours faithfully.*

H. D. McLaren  
The Secretary, The Adult School, Coalville.

### **PRESIDENT OF COALVILLE WOMEN'S ADULT SCHOOL**

Mrs Walter Moss, president of the Coalville Women's Adult School, who holds the St. John Ambulance Certificate, gave in her name on Monday as a nurse for service in connection with the war. On Sunday afternoon at the Women's School, Mrs Moss gave an interesting address dealing with the war and showing the geographical positions.

### **COALVILLE NATIONAL RESERVES**

Quite a busy scene was witnessed in Hotel Street, Coalville, on Friday night when the commander of the local National Reserves, Capt. Stevenson, of Ashby, attended to enrol names of volunteers for service. There was a capital response and the same experience is being met with in all the parishes which Capt. Stevenson is visiting this week. Up to Monday, after visiting Coalville, Ashby, Swannington and Ibstock the Captain had enrolled 170 names. The national reservists are invited to join one of two classes. The first class is for men under 42 years of age who have served in the army or territorial forces. If they pass a medical examination they are eligible for foreign service and on being passed receive a bounty of £10, with pay according to rank and marriage allowance on receiving their kit. Class two is for men between the ages of 42 and 50 whose services will be utilised for home defence and they are offered £5 bounty, pay according to rank, etc.

### **SHEPshed TERRITORIALS LEAVE**

An unprecedented scene was witnessed at Shepshed on Friday afternoon, when the 'G' or Shepshed Company of the 5<sup>th</sup> Batt. Leicestershire Regiment left under orders from the War Office. The company which was over a hundred strong, was in command of Capt. Blane, and formed up in a field adjoining Belton Street. When the order was given to march the Shepshed bands took the lead, and played along the route to the Ashby Road for Loughborough. Large crowds assembled at every point to witness the departure.

### **QUEEN MARY'S APPEAL**

#### **HER MAJESTY'S NEEDLEWORK GUILD**

Queen Mary has issued the following appeal:

*I appeal to all the presidents of the Needlework Guilds throughout the British Isles to organise a large collection of garments for those who will suffer on account of the war, and I appeal to all women who are in a position to do so to aid the guilds with their work.*

*Garments will be of service to the soldiers, sailors, and territorials, to their families, to the military, in naval hospitals and to those among the poorer classes of the population who will suffer from any distress that may arise.*

*I hope that the guild will co-operate with the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund, with the Red Cross Society, who the organising of working parties among their schemes, the Territorial Associations, Soldiers' and Sailors' and Sailors' Families Associations, and the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society.*

*The most useful garments for soldiers and sailors on active service are: Flannel shirts, socks, sweaters, and cardigan jackets. For the naval and military hospitals: Night-shirts, pyjamas, flannel bed-jackets, and bed socks which would be distributed by the British Red Cross Society.*

*Large numbers of all the ordinary garments for women and children will be required. Those intended for wives and children of soldiers, sailors, and territorials will be distributed with the help of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association and of the Territorial Associations, through whom every possible assistance will be rendered to the families of those called to service in the reserve and territorial battalions.*

*Those garments intended for persons suffering from distress owing to unemployment should be sent to the Committee for the Prevention and Relief of Distress which are being formed by the Mayors and Provosts, and the Chairmen of the County Councils and larger Urban District Councils. These committees will give all forms of assistance to persons who stand in need of it, and it is important that they should have information, of all the help, of whatever kind, given in their districts.*

*I have arranged that all work by my Guilds in London shall be received at Friary Court, St. James Palace, and distributed from there to the various associations.*

*I trust that the presidents of the guilds all over the country will follow my example and co-operate with the local officers of the same organisations and arrange with them for the local distribution of the garments.*

*It should be remembered that all flannel garments should be sent in a large size, and suitable paper patterns can be obtained from Butterick, 175 Regent Street.*

*Anyone who is willing to assist in this work can obtain on application the name and address of the president of their local Needlework Guild.*

*All letters and parcels to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Friary Court, St. James Palace, S.W. and should be marked Q.M.N.G.*

(Signed)  
Mary R.

## **PAPER MONEY AT COALVILLE**

Paper money has been in circulation in Coalville and District since Saturday. The paper money consists of £1 and 10s notes and postal orders without counterfoil or poundage fee. Instances of some Coalville tradesmen refusing paper money have come to notice, but this will doubtless be remedied as they get used to the system.

As an example of how the system works, a gentlemen went into a Post Office in Leicester for a postal order for 6s 6d. He expected to receive in change 3s in silver and 5d in copper. Instead he was handed a 3s 6d postal order – no poundage being charged for the order he bought. But he also wanted 6d worth of stamps. He went to the stamp counter and tendering the 3s 6d order, received as change, a 2s 6d order and a 6d order.

Still without coppers he boarded a tramcar, and tendered the 6d order for his fare. The conductor at first demurred, but assured that it was legal tender and that the passenger had absolutely no change, took it. The paper money system undoubtedly is somewhat inconvenient, but it is astonishing how soon traders and the public get used to it.

## **FOOTBALL AND THE WAR**

### **THE SECRETARY OF THE F.A. ON THE SITUATION**

In view of the opinions expressed by Mr Lacey, the secretary of the M.C.C., that he felt no good purpose can be served at the present time by cancelling matches unless the services of those engaged in cricket, who have military training, can in any way be utilised in their "country's service", a 'Daily News' representative interviewed Mr F. J. Wall, the secretary of the Football Association, in regard to the coming opening of the season.

Mr Wall, who did not speak officially, said he personally thought it was best for matters to take their normal course. It was in the best interests of the country that the games should go on. As it was, a large number of football players have returned to the Army and Navy, and several thousands are now under arms with their territorial regiments.

The games will not only provide a pastime for the men who have not had military training and for whom the Government could not probably find profitable employment, but they will provide a pleasant occupation for

those who are not in the position to take up arms, and thus help to keep us as cheerful a tone as possible in the country.

Above all the football will be the means of providing, he hoped, large sums of money to assist the sufferers through the war. The practice matches in August in the past have provided upwards of £5,000 yearly, and he trusted that this years' receipts would go to the relief funds.

As for the F.A. itself, Mr Wall would give no opinion beyond stating that "*the point has not been overlooked.*"

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### **BEAUMONT RIFLE CLUB**

Men of the National Reserve, and others, who have signed on for service with the Territorials or other Corps are invited to attend at the Rifle Range, Sinope, on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm for instruction in the use of the rifle, and for target practice. – Ammunition free.

The undersigned will be glad to have the names of those likely to attend.

C. W. H. Gutteridge, 5, Hotel Street.

### **A SUGGESTION**

*Sir, In the present stress when surely all available help will be needed for the relief of our wounded soldiers, it may be thought presumptuous to suggest that those in whose hands the power is vested might be free to place Broom Leys at the disposal of the Government for use as a Military Hospital and that the large supplies of material generously given by the public in the Urban area might be retained for use in the manner stated. I am informed that the Leicester Hospital is abundantly supplied with material. Why not keep local gifts for local purposes, especially when one bears in mind that the district is a poor one and many of those who have already given may not be in a position to again do so. I offer the above suggestion hoping that someone who is more influential than the writer may take up and carry the idea through successfully.*

Yours faithfully

A Resident

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Many people in Coalville and District who had anticipated spending a holiday at the seaside during the next few weeks have cancelled their arrangements and will forego the holiday this year. Such a course is not unwise for several reasons. One factor is the curtailed railway facilities by the suspension of cheap tickets; then there is the increased cost of living at the seaside to say nothing of the feeling of unrest which exists, particularly along the east coast. A Coalville gentleman who returned from Yarmouth on Friday states that the parade is in entire darkness every night and there was considerable difficulty in getting provisions. Reports from other resorts on the east coast are to a similar effect. The reason for keeping the places in darkness as much as possible is quite obvious in the present state of affairs. The serious course which events have taken during the last few weeks also counter-acts the holiday feeling and there are many who deem it advisable to save as much of their cash as possible in view of hardships which may yet have to be faced. At the same time one sympathises with seaside residents who make their living largely by catering for visitors. Just now is their harvest time, but in many instances their rooms are empty and they are among the people who will be heavily hit.

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The war spirit has everywhere reached a very high pitch. A strict censorship is rightly being kept upon the Press, but the reports that have filtered through have been read with deepest interest, and anxiety, for the latest news has been intense. Never has there been so much excitement in the streets, and even the stirring scenes there witnessed have been surpassed by the mobilization of our citizen soldiers and the departure of reservists to rejoin their regiments. In this district as everywhere throughout the land, a deep feeling of

patriotism is being manifested. This feeling is not a mere surface sentiment, but a deeply rooted conviction. Territorials, Yeomanry, and Reservists, have responded to the call to arms with promptitude. Ambulance men, nurses, and people of all classes have proffered their services in a war thrust upon us and taken up in order "to vindicate the principle that small nationalities are not to be crushed in defiance of international good faith at the arbitrary will of a strong and over-mastering power." We have taken up the sword in a just and righteous cause, after strenuous and untiring efforts for peace had failed.

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But we must not disguise from ourselves the fact that great sacrifices will be needed. It is a vast undertaking we are embarked upon and all the resources of the nation and the Empire will be invoked to ensure success. Inspired by the splendid example of the Mother Country, whose sons are flocking to answer Lord Kitchener's call for another half a million men, the Dominions and India are offering help with a patriotism that proves how real and enduring is the tie that binds the Empire together. And for those who are unable to take up arms there is work to do. We can all do something to mitigate distress and suffering. We can supply comforts for the wounded, and we can help the families of those who have been called away to join the colours. The National Fund inaugurated by the Prince of Wales affords an opportunity which will be embraced by all who realise the pressing duty cast upon them. Our soldiers and sailors will loyally perform their task, let us see to it that we do ours.

It is inevitable that war should have a disastrous effect on all branches of industry. The inability to replenish stocks, or to ship consignments to the Continent, must lead to short time in many industries, and eventually to complete stoppages in some of them. Russia, Germany and France are large customers of ours, and a state of war necessarily stops business with these markets. Cotton-spinning, hosiery, engineering and other works are bound to suffer, and with the impoverishment of vast multitudes of people, whose purchasing power is restricted the home trade will be affected. In these circumstances the rise in the prices of food can only be viewed with some anxiety. No condemnation is too great for the middleman, who taking advantage of the country's adversity demands exorbitant prices for the necessaries of life: and no less reprehensible is the practice of those selfish householders who make a rush on the provision shops and lay in stores sufficient to sustain a family during a long siege. There is absolutely no real cause for panic in regard to the matter. The Government is making adequate arrangements for securing our food supplies by sea, and it is believed that their co-operation with distributors will prevent the cornering of food, and help to keep down prices.

There has been no "commandeering" of farmers' horses for the war according to information received by us from Mr T. E. Jesson, who with Mr F. Spencer and Mr F. C. Stevenson, have been making purchases for the war office. Of course, several farmers have supplied horses, but it was in cases where they were willing to sell, and the work has been carried on in such a way as not to inconvenience farmers in their harvesting operations. Mr Jesson informed the writer on Tuesday, the demand for horses, both for transport and riding, has now been fully met. There were several more horses they could have in the district, he said, but no more were wanted at present.

Parents of young children will know what a keen interest is being taken in the war by the youngsters even though they do not understand it, and in this connection a rather pretty story has been brought to our notice this week. It was to the effect that a certain little Coalville chap, only six years old, on being put to bed, surprised his mother by concluding his prayers, entirely on his own initiative with these words "And God bless all the poor little boys and girls whose daddas have gone to the war." It was this spirit which prompted such a capital response to the invitations to a meeting in the Coalville Council Chamber on Wednesday evening to consider the steps to be taken locally to alleviate any distress which may be caused by the war. Pending the decision of a large meeting to be held in Leicester on Saturday, there being a desire to act uniformly throughout the county, not much progress could be made at the meeting, but the right tone prevailed and it is apparent that Coalville people will not be found lacking in their duty upon this matter. We anticipate a crowded meeting at the Adult School Hall next Wednesday night and that there will be a generous response from this district to the appeals which are being, and will be, made.

The Boy Scouts of the district have had a busy time in Coalville, Hugglescote, Whitwick, and Ellistown this week in collecting articles which have been given for equipping of a county hospital in connection with the war. Ladies first went round taking promises and the boys collected the articles with drays and other conveyances which were kindly lent for the occasion by various tradesmen. There was an extremely generous response all over the district, the articles contributed varying from fully equipped beds down to a few pieces of linen, while money was also freely given in subscriptions ranging from £3 3s to one penny. In

addition to the many articles about £17 was subscribed in Whitwick and a similar amount at Coalville, while Hugglescote and Ellistown also did well, nearly £20 being obtained at the latter place. Mrs J. J. Sharp had charge of the arrangements at Whitwick, Mrs H. R. Brown at Coalville, Mrs Meredith and Mrs Fellows at Hugglescote and Mrs R. Blower at Ellistown.

## **THE WAR AND A WEDDING**

### **COALVILLE BRIDEGROOM CALLED UP**

The marriage was quietly celebrated at St. Peter's Church, Leicester, on 6<sup>th</sup> inst., of Lucy May, youngest daughter of Mrs Powell, 4 Brookhouse Street, Leicester, to Mr Ernest W. Hurst, second son of Mr W. Hurst of Forest Road, Coalville. The wedding was to have originally taken place in October, but the bridegroom who saw service in the Boer War having been called up for the war from the National Reserve on the 5<sup>th</sup>, it was decided that it should take place at once and a licence was obtained through the good office of the surrogate, Rev. Lethbridge, of St. Peter's and the registrar, Mr Flude.

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## **WHITWICK AND THE HOSPITAL**

### **LETTER OF THANKS FROM THE MAJOR**

Mrs J. J. Sharp this morning informs us that she has received the following letter from Major Harrison:

*5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital, Victoria Road, Leicester.  
Aug 13<sup>th</sup>.*

*Dear Mrs Sharp,*

*I should like to thank you, and through you, the inhabitants of Whitwick and the district, for the most prompt and generous response that you and they have made to my appeal on behalf of the Base Hospital. The assistance received from you and indeed from all quarters has greatly facilitated the equipment of the hospital, and will render it available for the reception of the wounded at an earlier date than would have been otherwise possible. Believe me.*

*Yours Sincerely*

*Louis K. Harrison,  
O.C. 5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital*

Mrs Sharp adds that she wishes to thank most heartily all who have worked so magnificently and so promptly in getting these goods together. The number of articles sent was upwards of 5,000 from Belton, Bagworth, Ellistown, Hugglescote, Ibstock, Osgathorpe, and Whitwick, and there will be another large consignment from Coalville, including contributions from Coleorton, Ravenstone and Swannington.

## **GERMANS ARRESTED IN LEICESTER**

Up to Saturday afternoon, the Leicester police had arrested about 100 German aliens resident in the town and handed them over to the military. They are being confined to the Corn Exchange under a guard of territorials. The arrested men include several well-known German residents. They are all being treated with courtesy and well fed.

About a dozen Germans were arrested in Derby and handed over to the military authorities for registration under the new Aliens Order. This formality complied with, they were released.

## **AID FOR SOLDIERS AND WIVES AND DEPENDANTS**

A public meeting is to be at the County Assembly Rooms, Leicester, at noon, on Saturday next, under the presidency of the Duke of Rutland to consider the urgent necessity of raising funds in aid of sailors and soldiers, including reservists, and those dependant upon them. Clergymen and ministers of religion are asked to have collections made for this purpose in their respective places of worship, and that merchants, manufacturers, traders and others will be asked to subscribe and organise subscriptions in aid of the Prince of Wales' Fund. If specifically desired the donation can be given to General Fund to be dealt with by the committee at its discretion, or to any of the Central Funds administered by the various Soldiers' and Sailors' Societies. Cheques may be sent to Mr W. J. Freer, 10, New Street, Leicester, or may be paid into Parr's Bank, Leicester.

## **LOCAL APPEAL TO EQUIP HOSPITAL**

The following copy of a notice sent out to the Coalville and District places of worship by Mr L. L. Baldwin, on Sunday morning:

*"The 5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital of 520 beds is being mobilised in Leicester at the Old County Asylum, which is being prepared for it. A great opportunity is thus afforded to the inhabitants of Leicestershire of showing their patriotism by sending money or any of the following articles:- Mattresses, pillows, and cases, sheets, blankets, counterpanes, old linen, dusters, glass cloths, floor cloths, towels (bath or hand), handkerchiefs, socks, bed slippers, bed socks, table cloths, shirts (day or night), vests, drawers, etc. A local committee has been formed and ladies will make a house visitation soliciting promises tomorrow (Monday). On Wednesday, Boy Scouts will call for parcels and convey them to the Council Chamber, Coalville, which will be the receiving centre."*

## **100,000 MEN**

### **FORMATION OF THE SECOND ARMY**

#### **LORD KITCHENER'S CIRCULAR**

The following circular has been issued to Lords-Lieutenant of Counties and Chairman of the Territorial Force County Associations.

War Office, London, S.W.  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1914.

*Sir, In the present grave emergency, the War Office looks, with the utmost confidence to you for a continuance of the invaluable help which you have given in the past. I, therefore, desire to invite your co-operation in the work of raising the additional number of irregular troops required at once for this army.*

*It is intended to enlist, as soon as possible, 100,000 men, and I would ask you to use your great local influence, and that of the Territorial Associations, to secure these necessary recruits as soon as possible. The men will be accommodated in camps, established at or near the existing regular depots, to which intending recruits may be sent, the camp nearest the place from which they are drawn being selected.*

*No responsibility for clothing or equipping the men will devolve upon the County Associations. This will be arranged by the military authorities. Members of the territorial force may be enlisted, provided they fulfil the prescribed conditions, as to age and physical fitness. Territorial force units that are at full strength will not recruit additional men until the 100,000 men are provided, but should any of their numbers desire to join the regular forces now being raised, their places in the territorial unit should be filled as soon as possible by men desirous of joining the territorial force only and not the regular army. Territorial units available for foreign service will naturally not be affected by this recruiting of regular troops.*

*Such is the general outline of the scheme, in the furtherance of which you are desired to co-operate as far as possible. It is not an ordinary appeal from the army for recruits, but the formation of a second army, and it is hoped that you will be able to assist in meeting the men in every way in your power.*

*I am sir, your obedient servant.*

Kitchener.

### **THE CHIEF SCOUT'S MESSAGES**

Colonel Sir R. S. S. Baden-Powell has issued the following messages:-

*"I am confident of one thing, and that is that all ranks will pull together with the greatest cordiality and energy on this unique occasion for doing a valuable work for our King and country."*

*"It is most desirable that scouts should assist in gathering the harvest quickly and safely, as a number of men generally engaged in this duty will not be available, and at the present time it is absolutely essential that this should be done with a view to securing this important section of the food supply of the nation."*

### **TOWN'S MEETING TO BE CALLED**

#### **TWO THOUSAND POUNDS WANTED FROM THIS DISTRICT**

A largely attended and influential meeting, called by circular by Mr L. L. Baldwin on the initiation of Mrs J. J. Sharp, was held at the Coalville Council Chamber on Wednesday evening to consider the steps to be taken locally to relieve any distress which may be caused by the war.

There were present Mrs J. J. Sharp, Canon Broughton, Father O'Reilly, the Rev. F. Pickbourne, Messrs W. Sheffield, T. J. Hay, Dr. Atkinson, W. Lindley, W. Hurst, W. Eames, J. W. West, J. Husband, A. Wilkins, S. W. Brown, B. B. Drewett, R. J. Brown, J. W. Farmer, B. G. Hale, J. J. Sharp, R. G. Cresswell, J. W. Eagles, W. Hatchett, T. W. Bourne, G. F. Burton, W. Lander, C. W. Brown, C. Bradshaw, H. Mills, E. Hanson, M. Tyler, T. I. McCarthy, H. R. Brown, S. West, James Smith, T. Kirkham, L. L. Baldwin, R. Blower, S. Armson, S. T. Boam, C. Coleman, W. G. Wheatley, F. Storer, Dr. Meredith, F. Wootton, J. Johnson, E. Hawthorn, and others.

Mr R. Blower, chairman of the Urban Council, was voted to the chair, and in opening the meeting, said he was sure he was expressing the feelings of them all when he said he regretted the cause which had called them together. They had all hoped that the time had arrived when differences between nations would be settled without resorting to such barbarous methods, but he trusted that out of this dark cloud light would come. (Hear, hear.) He invited suggestions.

Mrs Sharp said it was the first time they had met together since this terrible war was thrust upon them and they all felt they must do their best for those left at home while those on whom they were dependant were engaged in upholding their country's cause. They had to preserve a sacred heritage, which was the greatest Empire that the world had ever known, they would not consider they had finished until they had sacrificed the last drop of blood, if necessary, in fighting for it. Some days ago she saw Mr Baldwin and asked what they might do and he was only too pleased to undertake the calling of that meeting. Her idea was to have a big patriotic concert to start a fund, as they did during the Boer War. They had a great result then, and she had no doubt that they would have a greater one on this occasion. But since those notices were sent out several things had happened. They had seen in the papers that a national fund had been opened. She had seen the Mayor of Leicester and he thought it would be best for them to send subscriptions direct to the National Fund, as they could deal directly with the fund and get direct communication when they were needing money. So many funds were started by newspapers and others during the Boer War that there was considerable overlapping and some families received six or seven times more than they would have done had the men been at home. They wanted to prevent that if possible this time and she thought they could do that by having only one fund. The Mayor of Leicester had promised to come to their concert and she hoped to get other influential patrons. If they gave their money to this fund it would be the same as sending it to London. She had already received the following promises, Mr G. F. Burton £10, Mrs Everard, sen., £5 and her husband and herself £5. That was just a start (Applause.)

The Chairman then read a letter from Ald. T. Cope, stating that the Local Government Board had requested him to establish a County Committee, whose function would be to consider the needs of the localities and co-ordinate such relief as might be required. He (Mr Blower) was asked to act on the Committee and a meeting was to be held in Leicester on Saturday. He had wondered whether it would not be wise to wait until after that meeting and see whether there could be uniformity of action throughout the county.



Mr J. W. West said he thought they might discuss ways and means of getting money but wait till after Saturday before deciding what to do with it. Dr. Atkinson enquired whether this was for the Urban district only, or whether the surrounding parishes would be included.

The Chairman said Mr Cope asked him who was chairman of the Ashby Board of Guardians and who was a suitable person to represent the largest trade union in the district. He gave the names of Mr William Sheffield and Mr Lovett. It was evident that Mr Cope was trying to make the committee as representative as possible.

Mr J. J. Sharp moved that the appointment of a relief committee be deferred until after the meeting on Saturday and this was seconded by Father O'Reilly and carried.

The Chairman said they should now decide as to the concert. Mrs Sharp had a promise from the Mayor of Leicester to come over in a fortnight. Canon Broughton said that while not wishing to disagree with Mrs Sharp he thought the concert would be best postponed for a time. While fighting was going on as it was, they did not feel like concerts. Mr J. W. West concurred.

Mrs Sharp said she thought that by acting at once they were likely to get more money. They had the first concert in the county during the Boer War and got a lot of money. She considered that singing of patriotic songs was quite in accordance with what was going on. They wanted to be inspired at times like these. However, she did not mind. It was for the meeting to decide.

Mr R. G. Cresswell asked whether the concert would be by local performers. He did not think the arrangements could be made in a fortnight. Mrs Sharp said she had invited Mr F. Storer to the meeting that night and perhaps he could give them some idea.

Mr Storer said that if the meeting decided to have a concert he would be only too pleased to do all he could (hear, hear), but he thought they would find it enormously difficult to arrange a concert of any description in a fortnight's time. Canon Broughton moved that the question of holding a concert be postponed. Mr W. Eames seconded. He said he agreed with Mrs Sharp that they wanted to be as cheerful as possible under the circumstances but he thought it was an inopportune time to have a concert, and he was hoping that Mrs Sharp would find that she would get more money by asking for subscriptions than by having a concert. The organising of a large concert meant money, and subscriptions could be collected free of expense. But his objection was chiefly from the sentiments point of view. He did not think the present was the right time to be having concerts. Mr Sharp said he associated with them though he did not agree as to sentiment. In London and other towns the theatres were continually open and it was done to keep the people in a cheerful condition. He agreed with Canon Broughton however, that the concert might be postponed for a little time. They could 'wait and see'.

Mr Kirkham, manager of the Coalville Olympia Theatre, said the lessee, Mr McDonald, would only be too pleased to place the theatre at their disposal for a concert (cheers.) They would have good and suitable films dealing with the war in a few weeks' time, which should stimulate their young men to follow the example of those who had gone to do their best for their country, he could promise the committee the use of these and the theatre machinery, and he was sure that the artists would also give their services, making other items in the programme. There were several good bands, quartet parties and choirs in the district and he thought they would have no difficulty in getting up a good concert at a minimum cost. On behalf of his employer, Mr McDonald, he assured the meeting that he would be only too pleased to help all he could. (Cheers.)

Mrs Sharp said the manager of the Leicester Palace had told her that they could also have the pick of the Palace artists and he would send them. Mr Kirkham said they were not opening the Olympia until August 31<sup>st</sup>. Mrs Sharp asked how many the Olympia would hold. Mr Kirkham said there was seating accommodation for between 1400 and 1500, while another 200 or 300 could be in the promenade. They would undertake the sale of tickets in their box office and help in any way they could.

Father O'Reilly said the last concert they had did not take a fortnight to arrange. Mr Sharp said it was not a question of time. The Chairman said that whichever way the vote went, he was sure they all appreciated Mrs Sharp's offer, and he hoped she would not take it the wrong way. (Hear, hear.) They all also appreciated the offer of Mr McDonald. (Applause.) The postponement of the concert was agreed to.

Mr W. Lindley said Mrs Sharp would be at liberty to organise a concert later on if she chose. Whatever committed was elected they would not object to Mrs Sharp handing over £200 to £300 to them. ("No" and laughter).

Mrs Sharp asked whether it would be wise to open a subscription list at that meeting. Mr Lindley said they did not know yet what they were to subscribe to. Mr Sharp said they might let that stand over till after the meeting at Leicester. Mr Hay said they had to arrange for the next meeting.

Mr Lindley said the next should be a public meeting and everybody given a chance to come. They did not want sixpences on this occasion from anyone who could afford more. They would want from that district at least £2,000, because this war would last twelve months and was going to cause serious inconvenience.

Mr Drewett said the Adult School Hall was available, free of cost, for any of their meetings. (Hear, hear.) He had been pleased to see such a splendid response to the invitations to the meeting. Mr Lindley moved that the offer be accepted with thanks and a public meeting be called in the Adult School Hall. Posters should be issued giving everybody a chance to attend if they wished.

It was suggested that the meeting be next Wednesday night. Mr Hale said it seemed to him that it would be best for that meeting to re-assemble and formulate some scheme to submit to a public meeting. To call a meeting before they had a plan of campaign seemed a round-about way to him. They would have such a lot of people to consult and would have difficulty in arriving at a decision.

Mr Lindley said his view was to elect a committee from the public meeting. He was not invited to the meeting that night. He had only heard of it that afternoon. Mr Drewett moved that a small committee be appointed to meet immediately after the Leicester meeting and prepare a report for the public meeting. Dr. Atkinson seconded.

Mr Hale said he agreed that, after they had expressed their views, the public meeting should form a committee. Mr Drewett said his idea was to have a small committee to make suggestions to the Wednesday night meeting. This was carried.

The following were elected as the committee: Mr and Mrs J. J. Sharp, Father O'Reilly, Dr. Meredith, Dr. Atkinson, Messrs. W. Lindley, B. B. Drewett, B. G. Hale, F. Hawthorn, L. L. Baldwin, W. Eames, W. Hatchett, J. W. Farmer, T. J. Hay, T. Kirkham and G. F. Burton.

Mr West remarked that the meeting at Leicester would not be private. Mr Cope asked him to take as many as possible. They would go as his friends.

Mr Lindley: *And guests?* (Laughter.)

It was decided that the committee appointed meet in the Council Chamber on Monday night at 7.30 to consider suggestions for the public meeting on Wednesday night also fixed for 7.30 in the Adult School Hall.

Mrs Sharp suggested the meeting might be announced in the pulpits at places of worship on Sunday. Father O'Reilly said he would do that. Canon Broughton added that collections were being made everywhere next Sunday.

The Chairman: *Yes, and it will be a good time to mention a thing like this.*

Mr Mills asked whether they were aware of any cases of distress in the district at the present time. He knew of two naval reservists of St. Saviour's Road and Owen Street, Coalville, having gone, 1 leaving a wife and 5 children, and the other a wife and ten children. Up to the present they had had nothing from the Government whatever. At the meeting on Saturday, these cases might be mentioned. No doubt there were others in a similar position and it would be advisable to relieve such cases as soon as possible.

Mrs Sharp said she was sorry to hear that. She was the soldiers' friend for this district having been appointed during the Boer War, and she had kept it on ever since. Things were somewhat in a state of chaos at present, but she was in communication with Major Craig, of the head office in London. If the names were given to her she would see that they were attended to.

Mr Baldwin said one of the men was in the employ of the Urban Council who were paying his wages for the next month. Mr Mills said that was so, but they had had no communication from the war office. In the other case they were getting nothing. Mr Baldwin said the Council employee's family could not be in distress, unless they had been in distress all the time, as they were receiving the man's wages.

Mr Lindley: *And he would have the £5 mobilisation fee.*

Mr Mills said there was a wife and ten children in the other case.

Mr Hay: *No, our man has ten children. That is why we give him his wages.*

Mr Drewett said he took it that all cases would be registered, but he knew that there were people who were being pinched just now. A woman he knew had been left with four children. They were getting a little, but needed help until something official was done. If they could find out such cases and relieve them it would be well.

Mr Lindley quoted a case in which there had been an addition to the family since the man went away. That was a deserving case. Dr. Meredith said he had been asked in regard to cases at Bagworth who were the authorities that should give relief. One woman whose husband went at four hours notice had received nothing. He would give the names to Mrs Sharp.

The Chairman said these were reminders that there was need for immediate action. He was sure there were those around with sympathetic hearts enough to see that no one suffered between then and next Wednesday. Dr. Atkinson said people might register at once.

Mr Drewitt said it would help matters if all who knew of cases would give the names to Mrs Sharp. Mr Lindley said Mrs Sharp had not the money. He suggested that the Press be asked to inform people that they send in their names and addresses and number and ages of their children.

The Chairman said that in some cases employers were still paying the wages and all circumstances wanted enquiring into. The Press were asked to invite the people concerned to send in all particulars to Mrs Blower at the Council offices.

Canon Broughton said a lady had suggested to him that they might get Broom Leys for a Convalescent Home. Mr Lindley said that question had better not be brought up at that meeting.

Canon Broughton: *It would be a splendid place for that.*

The Chairman: *You have made the suggestion and Mr Lindley won't forget it.*

Mr R. G. Cresswell said he had a house empty at Ravenstone and had offered that. (Hear, hear). In closing the meeting the chairman said he hoped the spirit which had been manifested would be maintained as long as it was required. (Hear, hear).

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## **LOCAL TERRITORIALS**

### **DEPARTURE FROM LOUGHBOROUGH**

#### **A CIVIC SEND-OFF**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, 879 strong including Coalville and Ashby men, which has been mobilising in Loughborough, left the town on Tuesday afternoon to join their brigade at the concentration camp. Precisely where this is was not officially announced, but it is believed to be Belper. All that was known when the battalion left Loughborough was that it was going to Derby, where it would receive further orders as to destination. A splendid send-off was given to the men, both civic and popular. The battalion assembled in the Market Place, the pavements on each side of which were densely packed with townspeople. All the factories and works in the town were closed temporarily to allow the employees to witness the departure of the battalion. The Imperial Yeomanry still in the town were on parade in the square to join in the farewell.

The Chief Constable of the County, Mr E. Holmes, was present, and a strong force of police under Supt. Agar kept the square clear.

On a platform erected on one side of the square were the Mayor (Alderman Thomas Mayo), the Rev. Canon Pitts, Rev. J. Hurler, the Town Clerk (Mr H. Perkins), and several representatives of public bodies. The battalion was drawn up in companies facing this, and his worship addressing them, said:-

*“Officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Fifth Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment, I am called upon to-day to give you an official send-off, and wish you God speed. I must first congratulate you upon your soldierly appearance – you look like business. This is not the first time in capacity of Mayor that this duty has fallen upon me. In 1900 I sent off a contingent to South Africa and I trust you may be as fortunate as they for I believe everyone returned in two or three years – I was Mayor when they returned and went to Wigston Barracks, and they were most of them there, one or two turning up afterwards. My friends, you have a great duty to perform and I am confident you will uphold the great traditions of the Leicestershire’s, who have done such noble deeds in the past. In our war with South Africa the wives and families left here were looked after to the best of our abilities. Rest assured the same will be done again. Now, my men, remember your motto must be to trust in God to protect you, and give you back to us. This will be the prayer of the people of Leicestershire. Good-bye. I hope to see you back again, and give you a welcome home.”*

Lieut-Col. Jones, the commanding officer, on behalf of the battalion, replied with the words: “Mr Mayor, and Loughborough, we thank you.” The Mayor then shook hands with the commanding and other officers, and the battalion was given marching orders, the crowds cheering and waving hats and flags and handkerchiefs, with great enthusiasm as the men who looked very fit and steady marched off. Two mounted members of the county Constabulary led the way to the Midland Station, and the battalion band headed the battalion. All along Church Gate, Sparrow Hill, and Nottingham Road the route was thronged with townspeople, and the vicinity of the station was absolutely packed. As the two trains were filled and left the station ringing cheers were raised.

#### **THE BATTALION’S THANKS TO THE TOWN**

The Mayor of Loughborough received the following letter on Tuesday morning:-

Headquarters 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment  
Drill Hall  
Loughborough  
11<sup>th</sup> August 1914

*Dear Mr Mayor, Before leaving Loughborough to join our brigade on behalf of the officers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment, I would thank you as the representative of Loughborough and our host for the kindness we have received while here as your visitors. One and all from the highest official to the humblest inhabitant, have been unfailing in their courtesy to us. It has made our work easy and we leave Loughborough regretfully, though fit and ready for any task to which we may be set. I am, dear Mr Mayor, yours truly.*

*C. H. Jones, Lieut-Col  
Cmdg. 5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regt.*

To his Worship, the Mayor of Loughborough

#### **IBSTOCK RESERVES**

In connection with the enrolment of the National Reserve, Captain Stevenson attended at the Hastings Arms Hotel on Sunday evening last when upwards of 15 young men enlisted. Subsequent to these proceedings, a special service was held in the Ibstock Parish Church conducted by the Rector the Rev. S. Flood, M.A. Special psalms and prayers were sung and chanted. No address was given.

#### **LOCAL RUGGERITES RESPONDING TO THE CALL**

It is gratifying to note that large numbers of local Rugby football players are joining the colours. In view of the formation of a second army and possible contingencies Mr S. C. Parker, hon. secretary Leicestershire Rugby Union, would be glad if any local Ruggerite who is desirous of volunteering his services "for the period of the war" will communicate and register the name and address with him at 2, Newarke Street, Leicester.

Arrangements can then be made so that all Ruggerites so volunteering can be examined and tested in a body, and efforts be made to draft them one or more companies according to the volume of the response. By this method the "esprit de corps" that is so noticeable on and off the playing field amongst Ruggerites may be maintained amongst various units.

#### **LOCAL COMMITTEE FORMED AT IBSTOCK**

A meeting was held at the Rectory on Monday afternoon last of ladies representative of the various denominations in the parish to form a Central Committee for Ibstock in connection with the Leicester Emergency Hospital. The parish was divided into districts which has been canvassed for suitable articles for anticipated use at the hospital during the War. Mrs Flood was supported President and Mrs J. T. Jacques secretary and treasurer.

#### **GERMAN PRISONERS LEAVE LEICESTER**

Shortly before three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon a party of Germans, six in number, who have for some days past been 'housed' at the Corn Exchange as prisoners of war, left there under an armed escort of four Territorials with a sergeant in charge. They proceeded across the Market Place and up the London Road to the Midland Railway Station. When near the General Post Office a few small boys betrayed excitement, but otherwise the procession was viewed calmly by the passers-by. On arrival at the station the party were allowed to converse with friends until the departure of the train. The captives as a whole appeared to be in fairly good spirits. It is understood that they will ultimately be conveyed to York.

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#### **LEICESTERSHIRE PATRIOTIC FUND**

On Saturday afternoon the Duke of Rutland presided over an influentially attended county meeting at Leicester, convened with the subject of considering the urgent necessity of raising funds in aid of the families of the soldiers and sailors and the reservists and territorials at the war. Among those present were the Duchess of Rutland, the Countess of Landsborough, Sir Maurice Levy, Bart., and M.P., and Lady Levy, Mr J. W. Logan, M.P., Sir Arthur Hazlerigg, Bart., Sir John and Lady Rolleston, Sir Herbert Marshall, Sir A. Fayre, Mr L. T. Topham (High Sheriff), the Mayor of Leicester (Mr Frear), Mr T. Cope, the Mayor of Loughborough (Ald. Mayo). etc.

The Duke of Rutland in the course of a short speech, said they had arrived at a crucial situation with reference to the future welfare of the country. Their national existence depended on what might occur in the next few weeks. The war they had been forced to take part in had not been through any desire of aggression, or power, or to obtain further internal possessions. Sir Edward Grey did all in his power to avert war, but failed. Germany counted on the weakness of a smaller state, and on the weakness of England. In both cases, he was grievously mistaken. The war had had the effect in this country of sinking all differences – political, social, and labour – and England was determined to see this matter through to the end. He hoped she would not lay down her arms until Germany was taught that she could not rule the world by the force of arms. (Applause) In conclusion, his Grace expressed the hope the Leicester, Loughborough and the county would not go back upon their traditions for generosity. (Applause)

The High Sheriff (Mr Topham) moved a resolution, pledging the meeting to raise funds by every means in its power for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund. He said it behoved them to remove from the minds of those who were fighting their battles any feeling of anxiety as to the welfare and interests of those dependant upon them. (Hear, hear.)

The Mayor of Leicester seconded.

Ald. Dalgliesh, Chairman of the Leicestershire Territorial Association, expressed himself in favour of the county keeping the money instead of remitting it to London. The Chairman, replying to some question at this point, said the Prince of Wales's Fund did not deal with hospital work, so far as he knew. The wives of those serving in the war would receive help from the fund. Mr Cope said he had been requested by the Local Government Board to form a County Committee for the purpose of dealing with distress, and doing anything possible to prevent unemployment.

Mr Frear said that a certain amount of money had already been received by the Prince of Wales's Fund, but not enough to deal with 700 and 800 cases in the town and county. Fortunately they had money subscribed for the purpose, and were able to pay out £500 to the widows and dependants of those who had gone to the front.

Eventually, it was agreed that the donations should be given to the local patriotic fund to be dealt with by the committee at their discretion.

### **MORE MOTOR CARS WANTED**

The Leicestershire Automobile club have been asked to obtain motor-cars to convey the wounded on arrival from the Leicester Midland Station to the 5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital (the County Asylum). This of course, a purely voluntary service, but it is one which the club feels assured a large number of Leicester car owners will only be to ready and willing to help.

It is anticipated that a sufficient number will send in their names to enable a rota to be formed, and, this being so, it would only entail the car being held in readiness for a few hours each week, with the possibility of never being called on at all. No infectious or contagious cases will be carried.

Those cars on the rota will be given as much notice as possible (probably not less than three or four hours). Motorists who, for business or other reasons, have been prevented from voluntarily offering their cars for service, either with the expeditionary force or for home service, will welcome this opportunity of assisting, especially as the cars are not likely to be required for more than an hour or two. Those willing to lend cars are asked to notify Mr R. Sutton Clifford jnr., solicitor, Loughborough, who is making all arrangements on behalf of the club.

### **THE RED CROSS SOCIETY**

The Leicestershire Branch of the British Red Cross Society is organising working parties throughout the country to make useful garments (according to the Red Cross Society pattern). These garments will be forwarded in batches to the headquarters in London for despatch to the front and various centres where they will be needed.

Information as to the formation of working parties in the county may be had from the Hon. Mrs Packe, Prestwold Hall, Loughborough, to whom all donations for the Red Cross Society may be sent. Funds are urgently needed.

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### **LOCAL CHIT CHAT**

On Saturday about thirty troop and transport trains passed through Coalville Midland Station and were witnessed by large cheering crowds. To facilitate the movement of the troops, goods traffic on the line was temporarily suspended.

In these stirring times curious rumours get about and one has to be careful in giving credence to what is heard from time to time. This has been amply testified by silly reports which have been circulated in Coalville and district during the last few days. It has been necessary for the Coalville Motor 'Bus and Garage Company to issue notices offering a reward for information as to who was circulating a false report that the company were employing German drivers of their 'buses, while a well-known Coalville tradesman has had to

take a similar step to stop the extraordinary and unfounded rumour that he was of German nationality. After the steps that have been taken, it is hoped that no more will be heard of such nonsense.

The collections at Coalville Christ Church on Sunday last were for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund and on Tuesday, Mr T. Goacher (church warden) forwarded a cheque for £8 made payable to the Prince. Mr S. W. West, one of the Whitwick Church wardens, forwarded on Monday a cheque for £3 5s 6d, the amount of the Whitwick collections. Collections were made at most of the other parish churches in the district and the amounts forwarded in due course, at Ibstock Church the sum realised was £10 and at Hugglescote Church £8 15s 4d.

It is interesting to note that the people of Coalville and District are now getting into working order in regard of the relief of distress which it is believed must eventually be experienced in connection with the war. The meeting in the Adult School Hall on Wednesday night was largely attended and of a very enthusiastic character and though there were slight differences of opinion, it was apparent that all were anxious to do their best for the object for which the meeting had been called. A central committee for the district was formed and a local committee for each parish will be elected at meetings to be held within the next few days, after which the organised work of collecting funds will be got in hand. We have no doubt as to there being a generous response.

The suggestion made by Canon Broughton at a meeting in the Coalville Council Chamber last week that Broom Leys would make a good hospital for wounded soldiers has not fallen on deaf ears and in another part of this issue we publish correspondence which has passed between Mr Walter Lindley and the Duke of Rutland showing that the Whitwick Colliery Company have generously decided to allow the use of the building for that object. The company have gone one more than this and have added to their kindly action by agreeing to supply coal free to the hospital and also continue to employ a gardener to keep the grounds in order. If any of our soldiers are wounded and are brought to Broom Leys, it is hoped that in such charming surroundings and with the bracing forest air they may soon be nursed back to convalescence.

Sir Robert Lucas-Tooth, Bart., formerly of Garendon Hall, has given £10,000 to the Countess of Dudley towards forming the fund for the voluntary hospital for war service organised by her and accepted by the War Office. Sir Robert has promised to act as chairman of the committee. His son, who is in the 9<sup>th</sup> Lancers, is now on active service.

It has been pointed out to us in reference to what transpired at the Coalville meeting on Wednesday night as to the appointment of treasurer for the local war distress relief fund, that the London City and Midland Bank in Leicester is receiving the contributions being made to the Mayor's Fund, and Mr W. T. Williams, the manager of the Coalville branch of the bank, states that he will be pleased to receive subscriptions at the Coalville bank, and sub-offices, which will be paid into the bank at Leicester for the Mayor's fund, and acknowledged in the local press.

It is gratifying to learn in regard to some Coalville men who have gone to the war that for a time, at any rate, their employers are paying their wages. Although the wives and children of such men will receive pay from the Government or through the National fund, the machinery cannot be got into operation all at once and but for the kind action of employers and others there may be some temporary suffering. This was shown by one or two cases mentioned in the Ashby Board of Guardians' meeting on Saturday. The cases we have heard of in which the employers are continuing to pay wages are the Coalville Urban District Council and the Co-Operative Society. The Council are paying full wages for a month to the wives of two employees who are engaged in their country's service, and the Co-Operative Society are paying the woman 15s a week for a month though her husband had only been in the Society's employ a fortnight when he was called away.

There are few trades that have not been affected by the war in one way or another, and from a local point of view it is interesting to note how the coal trade stands in this critical time. With the object of ascertaining this a representative of the "Coalville Times" has been making enquiries at several local collieries this week. A rumour has been going about that the pits were getting short of timber used for sprags and props and that they might have to cease work unless fresh supplies could be obtained. Enquiries made of officials at the

Whitwick, South Leicester, Nailstone, and other pits show that the difficulty is likely to be a real one unless the position improves soon. At each of these collieries named they have in a supply of timber at present sufficient to last for about a month and fresh supplies which would carry them on another month or six weeks are expected, but there is a difficulty in getting the railways to carry the timber. Moreover, merchants have taken the war as a reason for breaking their contracts and any timber that is being purchased now is costing 40 per cent above the contract price. Another difficulty being experienced by the collieries is a shortage of railway wagons and they are unable to get the coal away, though in the words of a South Leicester Colliery official, "*We are full of orders,*" and for this reason the pits have been at play several days when they would have been working. In the event of the shortage of timber becoming more acute, there is a proposal to arrange for the importation of Canadian timber, though this would add considerably to the expense. It is to be hoped that ample supplies will be available, otherwise it seems as though colliers will only be making two or three days a week through the winter months.

The directors of Whitwick Colliery Co., at a meeting yesterday afternoon, decided to make allowances of 10/- per week to the wives of all their workmen who had been called to serve their country and 2/- a week for each child under 14 years of age, with coal free.

### **DO YOU KNOW**

That boy scouts are guarding railway tunnels between Coalville and Leicester?

That Coalville Flower Show has been abandoned for this year on account of the war?

That a retiring collection at the Coalville London Road Baptist Church on Sunday night realised £3 2s for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund?

That six members of the nursing staff of the Leicester Royal Infirmary left Leicester on Monday morning for duty in the Queen Alexandra Nursing Service?

That Mr W. C. Stevens (Sweepstone) and Mr H. A. Scott (Cadeby) were in Coalville on Tuesday inspecting horses with a view to purchase for the war office authorities?

That Shepshed has formed a society of ladies to provide articles for wounded soldiers, Mrs T. Nell and Mrs C. Griffin being appointed hon. treasurers, and Miss Alice Merriman, hon. secretary?

That among many places in Leicestershire offered as temporary hospitals or convalescent homes for the sick and wounded are Thornton Vicarage, by Mrs H. R. Cooper, and Ravenstone House, by Mr R. G. Cresswell?

### **STRANDED SCHOOL TEACHERS**

The Leicester schools re-open next Monday, but it is by no means certain that they will be equipped with their full staff of teachers for quite a number are stranded in Switzerland and various parts of the Continent. Amongst these are Miss C. Lever, of Moat Road School, and Miss Stevens, of Melbourne Road School, who left on the 24<sup>th</sup> July for a fortnight's tour, and have not been able to get back at present. Letters received from Miss Lever showed that until the end of the first week in August she had no knowledge of the war, and after that no message was received until Monday, when a postcard got through after a journey of nine days. This contained bare information: 'We do not know when we shall be able to leave. The Consul at Berne will arrange a train for the English. We have received neither letters nor news. All goes well.' This was written in French, and instructions were given that the reply must also be in French. Miss Lever is the daughter of Mr W. H. Lever, the headmaster of Ingle Street School.



At Glen Parva Barracks, about one hundred recruits per day are joining Kitchener's Army. About 100 left for Aldershot on Wednesday for musketry training.

### **VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE**

Applications are desired from suitable men to make good the vacancies in the Coalville Section of the above Brigade caused by the absence of some members serving in the war, and the removal of other members from the district.

Four firemen are required, who should live in the neighbourhood surrounding the Fire Station which is situated in Highfield Street. Conditions of membership and particulars of drill and fire attendance allowances can be obtained from the undersigned to whom all applications should be forwarded.

(Signed) Thomas Elsworth, Captain.

Waterworks Testing Office, Highfields Street, Coalville. August 1914.

### **TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATION'S THANKS**

*Dear Sir, The Territorial Associations of Leicestershire and Rutland wish to thank the manufacturers and tradespeople of the counties for the splendid manner in which they have worked to supply the various articles required for mobilisation by the Territorial troops of the Borough of Leicester, and the counties of Leicester and Rutland. In not a single instance were the words 'No,' or 'Can't' said, though the demands were heavy and urgent. It is greatly due to the assistance given that the progress of mobilisation worked as smoothly as it did.*

Yours faithfully,

R. Dalgliesh

Chairman of Joint Committee

### **AMBULANCE WORK**

Dr. Archibald has met with a great success in his scheme for men for ambulance work. Over 50 men have given in their names to be taught first aid work, by the doctor. These are prepared to attend to the wounded if the necessity arises. Many of the volunteers are men who hold certificates gained in connection with colliery examinations.

### **FOR THE HOSPITAL**

The Bagworth people readily responded to the appeal for funds and gifts towards the temporary fitting up of the Leicester Hospital for the wounded soldiers. Upwards of 100 parcels of goods were collected and about £9 / 10 / 0 in money and 2 complete beds. We understand there are other ladies in the village who are making up goods to be sent on later.

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### **UNREGISTERED GERMAN AT LEICESTER**

A German electrical engineer, named Johann Friederich Gaus, 30, no fixed abode, was charged before the Leicester County Magistrates on Friday with being an alien enemy within the meaning of the Aliens Registration Order 1914, and failing to register himself.

The evidence showed that when the defendant was arrested, at Oadby, on Thursday, he was found to have in his possession, an atlas, pocket-box, a new pair of wire cutters, and several other tools, an insulator tape, rubber solution, a map, a daily newspaper, and other papers and documents.

Defendant, who had no firearms, said when charged, that he did not know he had to register himself. The magistrates remanded him.

## **ASHBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The monthly meeting of this council was held at Ashby on Saturday, Mr T. Varnham presiding. There were also present the Rev. C. T. Moore, Dr. Atkinson, Messrs W. Gascoigne, J. W. Fowler, W. Massey, J. Pargetter, S. Stanley, J. T. Bradshaw, and W. Ramsell, with the clerk (Mr George Farmer), sanitary inspector (Mr S. Turner) and highways surveyor (Mr F. Horbury).

### **WAR ITEMS**

The Chairman said he had been invited to serve on the Patriotic Committee at Leicester and had implied that he was willing to do so, though not able to attend the meeting in Leicester that day. Mr Turner reported that the caretaker of the Swannington Isolation Hospital had been called for military service, but they would try to carry things on as usual at the hospital.

### **SHEPSHED RESIDENTS ON THE COUNCIL**

#### **EXCITING EXPERIENCES**

Miss May Amos, daughter of Mr F. Amos, of Field Street, Shepshed, gives an account of a much-looked-forward to holiday in Switzerland, which was abruptly terminated through the Continental war cloud. Leaving home on July 24<sup>th</sup> with a relative they arrived at Les Avanat, where they stayed for a week. On July 31<sup>st</sup>, when near Lake Geneva, they first heard rumours of war, and were quickly informed that no English money would be taken. They had no other money to pay hotel bills with, and 20 francs were offered for a sovereign instead of 25. However, some friends at Geneva came to the rescue, and after five hours on the Sunday they managed to get a passport to Paris, at which city they arrived at 5 pm on Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Trams and railways were at a standstill, so far as the general public were concerned, and they had to while away the time by walking about Paris. They were eventually informed at Messrs Cook and Sons' Office that a boat would leave Calais at 20 minutes past 10 on Tuesday evening. They were, however, taken to Bologne, and reached British shores about 2 o'clock on Wednesday, and arrived at Shepshed later in the day. Miss Amos is a schoolmistress at the Lomond Grove School, Camberwell.

Mr Joseph Chapman, of Ivy Dene, Sparrow Hill, Shepshed, has had a never-to-be-forgotten experience on the Continent. Some time ago he came in touch with a German who was staying in Shepshed while fixing some machinery at a hosiery factory. They became close friends, and attended the Men's Adult School. The result of the friendship was an invitation to Mr Chapman to spend his holiday at the home of his friend at Chemnitz, which was accepted, and on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> Mr Chapman set out for his destination. He arrived safely on the Saturday following and was received with the greatest kindness by his host and family. On Sunday, whilst out for a walk Government orders were rapidly distributed, with the result that his friend chartered a motor, and took Mr Chapman to the British Consul in order to get him if possible, safely away. German officials acted in a most insulting manner, and more so if possible, to the German himself than to his friend the Englishman. The parting between the two was of a most pathetic character, the German completely breaking down at the treated meted out to his friend. Arrived at the station Mr Chapman produced his tickets to the stationmaster, who flung them across the hall. Picking them up, however, he hastened across the platform and boarded the train which was the last out. Before reaching Holland they were twice held up, first for about one and a half hours and next for three hours. Included in the train were about 100 English and Hollanders. Eventually they reached Holland and made for a hotel, where their famished appetites were refreshed. In the end Mr Chapman got through to Harwich by Tuesday night, and reached his home in Shepshed on Wednesday.

### **WAR AND WORK**

#### **EMPLOYERS' APPEAL TO TRADERS AND THE PUBLIC**

"You are anxious to help at this crisis in our history. The wage-earner will be in want of help. Employment is what he will want to provide his daily wants.

“Employment means wages – wages requires money. Money for wages can only come from work done for wages.

“Wage paying manufacturing trades must soon cease unless orders for work and payment for work are forthcoming to the utmost.

“No worker will be discharged as long as money is available for wages. Help at this hour by giving orders to the utmost.

“Help by paying promptly and readily for work already done, work now in hand, and work to be done hereafter. If you pay your accounts your creditors will pay theirs, and those who owe you money, will pay you. There will be no starving people on the rates. You will have truly served your country in the hour of need.

This appeal is made on behalf of the printing trades of the United Kingdom by the Federation of Master Printers.

### **LEICESTER YEOMANRY AND HORSE ARTILLERY**

The Leicestershire Royal Horse Artillery paraded on the Filbert Street Recreation Ground, Leicester early on Thursday morning and subsequently left for the town for their appointed destination. Large crowds lined the streets and cheered the men of the battery as they rode through the town.

Curiously enough, two old political opponents are associated in the command of the Leicestershire Battery, namely Major W. B. Du Pre and Captain Elliot Crawshay-Williams, who was formerly a lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery. The men wore their complete war accoutrement, and in the great heat which prevailed it was anticipated that the march would be a trying one.

The Leicester squadron of the Yeomanry (Prince Alberts' Own) also left Leicester on Thursday morning, under the command of Lieut-Col. Evans Freke, among the officers being Captain C. N. Newton, a prominent rider of steeplechasers at Croxton Park, Southwell, and Melton hunt meetings. The men looked exceedingly fit, and were heartily cheered en route by the populace.

### **THE ADULT SCHOOL PEACE TRIP TO GERMANY**

#### **INTERESTING LETTER FROM THE LEADER OF THE PARTY**

The following, which appeared in Monday's "Leicester Daily Post" from the leader of the Adult School Party on their recent German trip, Mr F. Merttens, will be read with interest:

*Sir, - There seems to be some mishapprehension in the Rothley and Leicester districts with regard to my position. May I quite briefly and simply explain it? I ceased to be a German subject in the year 1869. I have never served, nor am I liable to serve in the German Army. I emigrated with the consent of the Prussian Government, which means that I can never again expect any protection or assistance from any German Government. I was a British subject before the bulk of the people in Leicestershire were born. I have lived and worked 42 years in England.*

*I have always deplored and condemned the arrogant and aggressive spirit of the Prussian military party, which has provoked our intervention in this lamentable war. I hate all warfare as a negation of Christianity and the cause of infinite, undeserved, and profitless suffering. But my sympathies are with England. I stand by her with all my heart and all I have in her hour of need: I hope for the success of her cause and a speedy end to this unhappy and fratricidal war, and I pray that no feelings of hatred and bitterness may survive in the hearts of the two peoples.*

*I venture to plead, not for myself but for others here and elsewhere of German birth but English sympathies, whose position is even more painful than my own, and who may surely with confidence, claim generous treatment at the hands of a generous people.*

Yours faithfully  
F. Merttens.  
Rothley, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1914.

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## **THE NEW HOSPITAL**

### **RAPID CONVERSION OF THE OLD COUNTY ASYLUM**

Of all the preparations made in connection with the war there is no department more important than that which may be needed for the care and medical treatment of the sick and wounded. It is now well-known that the Old County Asylum, adjoining the Victoria Park, has been obtained by the R.A.M.C. as a hospital, and at the present moment the various blocks of buildings are in the hands of the mechanic, bricklayer, carpenter, and painter, who are fast making it look like a modern hospital.

The circumstances leading to the Asylum being utilised as a mobilisation hospital are interesting. A few years ago, Mr S. Perkins Pick the well-known local architect made plans for adapting the technical school, Alderman Newton's School, and the Wyggeston Boys' School to army hospital purposes (from which it may be assumed that what has now happened was devised a few years ago by the military authorities). These plans were approved by the War Office. About a fortnight ago, when the British foreign policy was at a high tension, it was felt that the old Asylum buildings, which for the past seven years have been in a state of desuetude, would be a much better place than the Corps could hope to get by the adaptation of the other buildings. The Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils, as owners of the buildings, generously agreed to lend them for hospital purposes free from rent.

Major L. K. Harrison, the officer commanding the R.A.M.C., and his staff, then speedily go to work on the process of transfiguration. The necessary alterations are being carried on a perfect organisation and a wonderful concentration of purpose from the highest to the lowest in the ranks, and a remarkable change has already taken place. What were, less than a fortnight ago, rooms void of everything save dust, are now spick and span as a permanent infirmary, with nice clean, comfortable beds arranged in "apple-pie" order. The wards that once sheltered the mentally afflicted have been brought into conformity with modern ideas of hospital treatment and these wards surround, as it were, a central block which will be used for administrative purposes.

It is impossible to go the round of the buildings, and not notice the great care and foresight which has been shown in the conversion of the asylum into a hospital. The nurses, officials, and staff generally will be comfortably housed: nothing has been spared in the preparation for culinary operations, surgical accommodation and an operating theatre and an X-ray room have been provided.

It will take some time to complete the alterations, but when the last brush has been wielded, Leicester will have a splendidly equipped hospital and the erstwhile asylum will stand as a remarkable monument of a work which for its nobility has no superior.

When finished the hospital will have accommodation for 520 beds, quite apart from the staff quarters. It is expected that by the end of the week there will be about 400 beds in the hospital.

## **THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS**

### **IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING OVERLAPPING**

A circular has been addressed from the Local Government Board to chairmen of County Councils, Lord Mayors, Mayors, and chairmen of Urban District Councils with reference to the local representative committees who are dealing with distress arising from the war. The Board consider it important, in order to prevent overlapping, that all funds should, in the first instance be merged into the National Relief Fund. Local committees should endeavour, as far as practicable, to confine the assistance which they may afford to the

persons ordinarily resident in their areas: but no such restriction should be allowed to interfere with the due mobility of labour.

The circular proceeds: "*While it is desirable that the committee should make their arrangements as complete as possible and consider, in consultation with the local authorities and other bodies, what schemes should be prepared for dealing with exceptional distress, should it unfortunately arise, it is important that relief works should not be opened or recourse had to the distribution of relief funds until other means of dealing with distress have proved to be inadequate.*"

## **COALVILLE'S EFFORT FOR THE WAR RELIEF FUND**

### **ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC MEETING**

### **CENTRAL COMMITTEE FORMED**

There was a large and representative gathering including a good number of ladies, at a public meeting in the Coalville Adult School Hall on Wednesday evening, convened to consider the steps to be taken to relieve any distress which may be caused in Coalville and District as a consequence of the war.

Mr R. Blower, chairman of the Urban District Council, presided, supported on the platform by Mrs J. J. Sharp, Canon Broughton, the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, Messrs W. Sheffield, J. W. West, W. Lindley, W. Hurst, J. W. Farmer, and L. L. Baldwin.

The Chairman expressed pleasure at seeing such a response to the posters calling the meeting. They all regretted the cause of these meetings, but they had the consolation of knowing that they were not responsible for it. (Cheers). It had been caused by a nation which by sheer weight and irrespective of treaties, wanted to subjugate the smaller nations; and as Englishmen they would have been lacking in their duty had they not taken the part they had. Possibly some of their soldiers who had left these shores had gone never to return again, and those at home must see that they did their duty to dear ones who had been left in their care. (Hear, hear). They must not think they had reached a stage of the campaign when they could see results. They were only on the fringe of one of the great battles in history, and they should be prepared for the worst, at the same time keeping as calm as possible, and raising all the money they could for those in need. (Cheers). It was such a great question that they could not allow a particle of party spirit to intervene. (Cheers). It had been forced upon them. Sir Edward Grey (Cheers), had done all he could to avoid it and it was for the people to do the best they could in the position in which they were placed. He was sure that Coalville and District would maintain its traditions for generosity in a good cause. Thousands would be dependant on the relief fund and a million pounds would soon filter away. He would like to see the needs met and the fund be never less than a million. It would mean great sacrifices which he hoped they would be prepared to make. The district allotted to them was the Coalville Urban District with Bardon Hill, Ravenstone with Snibstone and Swannington and a committee of 20 was suggested to represent that district to ascertain who was in need and to administer the fund. Eleven other ladies and gentlemen, through having been invited by Alderman Cope to join the County Committee, would also be on the committee. It was suggested that the committee be made up of four for each ward in the Coalville Urban District, three for Ravenstone, three for Swannington and two for Bardon Hill. As the bills calling that meeting had not been circulated in the three outside parishes named, it was suggested that the representatives for those three parishes be elected at a meeting called for the purpose, but the representatives for the urban district might be elected that night. It was also suggested that Messrs L. L. Baldwin and J. W. Farmer be elected hon. secs., and the manager of Lloyd's Bank (Mr J. Husband) be treasurer to whom any subscriptions might be paid by any who may not hand their contribution to members of the committee. He warned the public against giving money to any persons who were not authorised to collect. Their might be people who were mean enough – he hoped they were very few – to take advantage of the position. The 11 ex-officio members on the committee would be Mrs J. J. Sharp, Canon Broughton, Messrs W. Lindley, M. McCarthy, W. Hurst, T. Jesson, L. Lovett, B. G. Hale, R. Blower, W. Sheffield, and J. W. West. The committees which were elected would have power to gather a band of helpers round them to assist in the work which had to be done.

Mr C. W. Brown suggested that the committee should be representative of all classes.

The Chairman said that was the reason for leaving the selection to the public meeting. When the committees were appointed, they would call meetings in their parishes to elect larger committees, but only those elected as suggested that night would be on the Coalville Central Committee.

Mr F. Griffin asked whether all money collected would be sent to the Prince of Wales's Fund.

The Chairman said that was so. Messrs J. W. West and L. Lovett were the Coalville representatives on the executive at Leicester and an estimate of the needs of the district for a month ahead had to be given to the Leicester executive, so there was need to get to work at once.

Mr G. Brooks suggested that three of the Coalville four should be working men as they knew the needs of the poor.

The Chairman said that they must not think of classes. In this business they were all workers on the common ground of brotherhood. There were to be no aristocrats in this great object, which had brought them all to the same level. (Cheers). It was for the meeting to elect whom they thought had the greatest hearts and the best capacity for getting money. (Cheers).

Mr Smith (Belvoir Road) said that if they were all one the rich would get off the backs of the working classes and give up the profits they were making out of them. (Cries of "sit down"). He held that the workers should be represented on the committee and not called in to do the graft. (Repeated cries of "Sit down").

The Chairman read a circular letter from the Local Government Board suggesting how the committee should be formed, adding that Mr Cope had called the committee as instructed by the Local Government Board, no man had a greater admiration for Mr Cope than he (the chairman) had. (Cheers). Mr Cope was most fair and had invited representatives of all classes on the committee. Mr Cope asked him who would be a good man to represent the workers and he gave the name of Mr Levi Lovett, who represented one of the largest unions in the country. Mr Lovett had been brought right to the front and placed on the Leicester executive. (Hear, hear).

Mr Lovett: *That is so.*

He repeated there was no room for party feeling. They all had one object and they would all work amicably together.

The appointment of Messrs L. L. Baldwin and J. W. Farmer as joint hon. secs., was carried with applause and in the regard to the appointment of treasurer it was suggested by Dr. Hamilton that the managers of all the local banks be treasurers. The Chairman said the idea was to have one fund.

Mr Drewett said nobody was going to get anything out of it so it did not matter. He moved the appointment of Mr Husband. Mr Cook seconded. Mr A. Lockwood moved that payments be made at all the banks. Dr. Hamilton seconded. Mr W. Lindley said they could not have three treasurers but only one.

Mr Lockwood: *You have two secretaries* (Laughter).

Mr Lindley: *If you had thought about it you would not have made that remark.*

Mr Lockwood: *I don't know.*

Mr Lindley said they must have one bank to draw cheques on. The other banks could receive subscriptions. Mr Lockwood still held that three treasurers would be better. The chairman said he was glad Mr Lockwood was so optimistic as to think the response would be such as to require three treasurers.

Mr R. J. Brown (manager of Notts. Bank) said he thought one treasurer would be sufficient. The banks did not wish to make anything out of it but assist all they could. As far as he was concerned he would be pleased to receive money, if desired, and hand it over to the treasurer. Mr W. T. Wilkins (manager of the London City and Midland Bank) endorsed this and said he should be pleased to receive subscriptions and hand them over to the treasurer. The chairman asked whether Mr Lockwood pressed his resolution in the face of these statements. Mr Lockwood agreed to withdraw his motion adding that he only thought too much was coming from the platform. The Chairman said they had merely done what they were asked to do.

A question was asked by Mr Oliver whether the money was not to go to the fund of which the Prince of Wales was treasurer. The Chairman said that was so, but they wanted a treasurer for local purposes and all money paid in Coalville and district they wanted to go through the county fund credited to this district. Eventually the appointment of Mr J. Husband as treasurer was agreed to.

Several nominations were then made for the four Coalville places on the committee and the Chairman said they had better decide whether the committee altogether should consist of 20 as recommended. Mr Darby moved that this be so. Mr Smith nominated that all those nominated be on the committee. Mr Drewett said this was only really for the executive committee. A larger committee would be appointed for each parish afterwards. The resolution to restrict the committee to 20 was carried.

The four elected for Coalville were: Miss McKernon (Capt of the Salvation Army), Messrs W. Eames, A. Lockwood, and C. W. Brown; Hugglescote, Mrs Meredith, Dr. Wykes, Messrs B. B. Drewett and F. Griffin; Whitwick, the Rev. T. W. Walters, Father O'Reilly, Messrs T. W. Bourne and G. F. Burton.

The Chairman pointed out that those who had been nominated and not elected need not feel disappointed as there would be plenty of room for them when the larger committees were appointed for each parish. Public meetings would be held in those parishes as soon as possible. The Chairman intimated that subscriptions might be paid in at once to any of the banks. Mr Taylor thought collecting cards should be issued at once. Mr McCarthy said the district committees would appoint collectors and allot to them certain districts so as to cover the whole of the parishes. Mr Lindley said no one had authority to collect money unless appointed. On the motion of Mr West, a vote of thanks was accorded the chairman and the meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

## **BROOM LEYS AS A HOSPITAL**

### **GENEROUS OFFER BY THE WHITWICK COLLIERY COMPANY**

The charming residence on the Forest Road near Coalville, known as Broom Leys, occupied for some years by the late Mr H. R. Mansfield, from whom it was purchased by the Whitwick Colliery Company, has been generously offered by the company to the county authorities for use as a hospital during the war. This interesting information is conveyed in correspondence which has passed between Mr Walter Lindley, J.P., secretary of the company and His Grace the Duke of Rutland of which the following is a copy:

*Coalville, August 14<sup>th</sup>,*

*My Lord Duke, I beg to enclose you particulars of Broom Leys House, Coalville, - the property of the Whitwick Colliery Company - and I have great pleasure in informing you that I am instructed by my directors to place this house and grounds at your disposal for use as a hospital during this lamentable war. The house is at present vacant and unfurnished, otherwise it is in perfect condition and ready for immediate possession; the use of it is offered free of charge, this company undertaking to retain the gardener and maintain the grounds as at present, and also to provide all coals required for the house during the term of its occupation for hospital purposes. I can assure you that my directors will be exceedingly pleased if this house can be found to be of any use to the country. I hope to attend your meeting in Leicester tomorrow (Saturday), and should be glad to have a word with you on the subject if you will kindly give me the opportunity. As your movements just now are no doubt uncertain I am sending a copy of this letter under cover to Mr Freer. - I beg to subscribe myself, your grace's most obedient servant, p.p. the Whitwick Colliery Company.*

Walter Lindley  
Commercial Manager and Secretary

The reply was as follows:

Stanton Woodhouse, Rowsley, Derbyshire, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1914.

*Mr dear sir, - I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter on the 14<sup>th</sup> inst., in which you offer, on behalf of the Whitwick Colliery Company, the use of Broom Leys House as a hospital for county use during the war. I will at once forward your communication to the proper authorities, who, I am confident, will feel as grateful for this generous offer as does yours very truly.*

Rutland  
Ld. Lt.

*I trust you will tender my personal thanks to your directors for their most valuable and kindly thought.*

“R”.

### **THE 5<sup>TH</sup> NORTHERN HOSPITAL COALVILLE'S CONTRIBUTION**

The Local Committee wishes to thank the Coalville public who so promptly and generously responded to the appeal for the above object, and particularly to thank the members of the Co-Operative Womens' Guild and the local troop of boy scouts for their great assistance.

Several thousands of articles were sent in to Leicester on Saturday last, including 208 sheets, 53 blankets, 247 shirts, 388 pillow slips, 112 pairs of stockings and socks, 154 towels, parcels of surgical bandages, 5 fully equipped beds, a large number of bedsteads and mattresses, 51 pillows, an invalid chair, 100 pants, vests and bedjackets, large box of bedsocks, mufflers and slippers, and several hundredweights of old linen, floorcloths, dusters, etc., and parcels of sundries. £17/14/7 was also collected in the various districts at the same time in amounts varying from £3/3/0 to a penny, and other subscriptions have since come in. This money will be spent in making articles for the hospital as required.

(Signed) Mrs A. A. Brown, Hon. Secretary; Mr L. L. Baldwin, Chairman.

Major Harrison acknowledged the receipt of these supplies in the following letter:

*5<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital, R.A.M.C. (T)  
Leicester, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1914.*

*Dear Sir, - Very many thanks for your letter and the assistance you have given me in collecting material for the hospital. It is gratifying to find such a universal spirit of patriotism prevailing amongst all classes, and I hope you will convey my sincere thanks to your many willing helpers.*

*Stock-taking is now in progress, and until that is over we shall not know our deficiencies. We have started a patient's fund for the purchase of greater comforts for the patients and nurses, and contributions to that will be very welcome. – Again thanking you, I remain, yours sincerely.*

Louis K. Harrison  
Major R.A.M.C. (T).

### **IBSTOCK**

The collections taken at the Parish Church and the Baptist Chapel, on Sunday last, were in aid of the National Relief Fund, and the British Red Cross Society respectively.

The various places of worship in Ibstock have been open and free to the public throughout the week, for private prayer on behalf of our soldiers and sailors, and the welfare of the country at this critical time.

Patriotic Committee – The Rev. S. Flood presided over this meeting and explained in full detail the proposed working of the Central Committees in the alleviation of distress. Mr Jacques detailed the objects of the scheme and explained suggested methods of raising funds.

Parade and Gala – A meeting was held on Wednesday when Mr W. Eggington presided, and gave the report of the County Committee and explained thoroughly the scheme proposed to deal with the dependants of those who had been called upon to defend our country, and also stated the fund was intended to assist other necessitous cases of privation due to the war.



Mr Dunstan proposed and Mr Flood seconded that we place on record our best thanks for their excellent services in the cause of the Infirmary Parade. Mr Eggington and E. W. Mee suitably responded.

## **SHACKERSTONE**

On Sunday last special intercessory services for the success of the naval and military forces in the war were held in the Parish Church. The vicar (the Rev. W. H. Neep) conducted the services. Collections were made on behalf of the National Relief Fund, and totalled £5/1/0. Two young men of the village who have enlisted for the war, left on Tuesday morning for the Wigston Barracks to enter upon their training for active service.

## **THORNBOROUGH PUBLICAN'S PATRIOTISM**

### **ONE-HANDED MAN VOLUNTEERS FOR SERVICE**

There has been a striking example in the Coalville district this week of the splendid manner in which old service men are responding to their country's call.

Mr Frank Palmer, landlord of the Queen's Head Inn, Thornborough, near Coalville, is a naval pensioner. He was formerly an engine-room artificer on board H.M.S. Pioneer, but two years ago when in New Zealand he had the grievous misfortune to lose his right hand. Whilst he was at work in the vessel's engine room, a chain broke allowing a heavy block to fall on his right hand which was severed, well above the wrist.

Notwithstanding this physical disability, Mr Palmer volunteered for service, and on Saturday morning received a message from Chatham to come at once. Eager and ready to render assistance to his country in her hour of need, Mr Palmer, without delay, proceeded to Chatham, but in view of his previous accident, was informed that his services would not be required at present and he returned home.

Should the necessity arise he is quite willing to assist in any way he can. Mr Palmer is a son of the late Mr Maurice Palmer, of Belvoir Road, Coalville.

## **THRINGSTONE**

Parish Church – The preacher at the Parish Church on Sunday night was the Rev. H. Gee Clark, vicar of Shepshed, and the collection was for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund. The vicar of Thringstone, the Rev. C. Shrewsbury, preached at Shepshed Church where the collection was for the same object.

## **WHITWICK MAN RETURNS FROM AUSTRALIA**

### **AN EVENTFUL VOYAGE**

### **CHASED BY GERMAN WARSHIPS**

Mr H. Allgood, son of Mr H. Allgood, painter and decorator, of Whitwick, arrived home on Monday night from Australia, and has since been seen by a representative of the paper to whom he related some interesting and exciting incidents of the voyage.

Mr Allgood sailed from Sydney on July 6<sup>th</sup>, on the R.M.S. Osterley, of the Oriental Line. The first they heard of the war was when they reached the Red Sea, a message to that effect then being received by wireless and posted on the notice board in the mess room, subsequent messages being conveyed to the passengers in a similar manner. But the first actual sign of war was observed when the ship reached Port Said, where some 30 or 40 German and Austrian ships were being detained. All these ships had been compelled to take down their wireless apparatus. Two days after leaving Port Said, said Mr Allgood, their vessel received a call by wireless which the skipper suspected as coming from a German ship and he refused to answer. The call was repeated, being in the nature of an inquiry as to who they were and where they were. No answer was given, but it was subsequently ascertained that the enquiry was from a German warship which was now giving chase to the liner. *"It was a most exciting time,"* said Mr Allgood.

*“They followed and got to within 20 miles of us, when we ran into Malta, instead of going to Taranto or Naples, having gone 60 miles out of our course.”*

The vessel reached Gibraltar safely, though Mr Allgood said that for three nights they steamed without lights, passengers not being allowed even to strike a match, and for the rest of the journey home they only carried mast head lights and lights in the cabin, no deck light being allowed.

Continuing his narrative, Mr Allgood said that after the liner left Malta, the Germans again took up the chase, and there was great cheering, and dipping of flags when they met ships of the French fleet which drove off their pursuers, who got away to the Dardenelles. At Gibraltar they observed some 60 or 70 German and Austrian liners which were being held up as prizes. One of the naval officers told him that one of the German merchant ships, the night before, had tried to get through the straits, but were discovered by the search-lights, it then being found that the vessel was flying a white flag and had its funnels painted a different colour. The captain was ordered to heave to but kept going, and a torpedo boat gave chase. The latter was fired on, but secured its prize and when brought back to Gibraltar, the body of the ship was found to be loaded with shells. The “Osterley” stayed at Gibraltar about 14 hours during which time she had to take down her wireless apparatus, for what reason, Mr Allgood did not know, but it was installed again before leaving for England. After leaving Gibraltar they frequently saw French and English warships, which several times bore down upon the liner making close scrutiny, and after being satisfied that it was a British ship the men of war saluted and passed on – an indication that Britain has her watch-dogs on the seas. The same thing happened as they proceeded along the channel, search-lights being frequently thrown upon them. Along the south coast numerous military camps were noticed and there was one at the mouth of the Thames.

The liner berthed at Tilbury docks on Monday and Mr Allgood at once proceeded to his home at Whitwick. He is a married man, and with his wife, a niece of Mr Oliver Burton, of Leicester Road, he left Whitwick for Australia three years last Easter. All the time he has worked in Sydney as a painter and decorator.

Asked whether he liked Colonial life and whether he intended to return, Mr Allgood said he liked it very much, but as to returning he was at present undecided.

## **Friday August 28<sup>TH</sup> 1914 (Issue 1173)**

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### **THE FOX HUNTING SEASON**

It is understood to have been declared that most of the Leicestershire packs should begin cub hunting at the usual time in order to reduce, as far as possible, the number of foxes in the country, and so minimise the damage to farmers from the loss of poultry; but it is extremely doubtful whether hunting, in the ordinary way, can be carried on during the coming season.

The horses commandeered by the Army authorities have seriously depleted the studs throughout the country, while many of the regular followers of the several packs will be engaged in the serious business of war. The committee of the Masters of Foxhounds Association have passed a resolution, in which they recognise that under the present circumstances regular hunting will be impossible, but that it would be most prejudicial to the country in general if it were allowed to lapse altogether. They therefore recommend that cub hunting should take place and continue as long as necessary, in order to kill as many foxes as possible, but that hunting should not be looked upon from a sporting point of view until the war is over.

### **JAPAN DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY**

The Press Bureau in London on Sunday afternoon issued the following:-

4.35 pm

The Imperial Government of Japan has declared that a state of war exists between Japan and Germany.

**A LEICESTERSHIRE OFFICER**  
**LIEUT-GEN. W. P. POULTENEY AT THE FRONT**  
**IN COMMAND OF THE THIRD ARMY CORPS**

An officer whose fortunes in the war will be closely followed in the Midlands is Lieut-Gen. W. P. Poulteney, C.B., D.S.O., who has command of the Third Army Corps of the British Expeditionary Force. Gen. W. P. Poulteney is the youngest son of the Rev. R. T. Poulteney, of Ashley Rectory, Market Harborough. He was born in May 1861, and was educated at Chatham and Eton. He joined the Oxfordshire Militia from which in April, 1881, he passed into the Scots Guards. He has had a distinguished military career.

**ABSENTEE FROM THE ARMY**

**THORNTON MAN CHARGED AT HINCKLEY**

Walter Herbert Wright (22), collier, of Thornton, was charged before Mr W. H. Bott, at the Hinckley Police Court on Monday with being an absentee from the Leicestershire Regiment since Friday last.

P.C. Hall stated that on Monday last, prisoner and another man went from Thornton to join the army at Glen Parva. He saw prisoner again on Friday, and having questioned him, told him he suspected him of being an absentee without leave. Prisoner admitted he was, giving as his reason, the excuse that he had a bad knee. Witness apprehended him. Prisoner, who admitted the offence, gave no reason for absenting himself, and could not say why he joined. He was ordered to be handed over to the authorities at Wigston.

**HORSES FOR THE ARMY**

**GOVERNMENT WARNING TO VENDORS**

The Board of Agriculture on Tuesday night issued warnings to farmers and others against unauthorised persons seeking to obtain commission on the price paid for horses taken for the Government.

Farmers are informed that all impressing is done by constables, provided with magistrates warrant, without which the owners need not part with animals or vehicles, and they should insist upon seeing it. The voluntary sale and purchase of horses will, of course, now continue in the ordinary course of business.

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**LOCAL CHIT CHAT**

The Clerk to the Coalville Urban District Council, Mr T. E. Jesson, of Ashby, who is gazetted as Captain to the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, formerly commanded the Ashby (Hastings) Company, and volunteered for active service when the war broke out. He is expecting to join his regiment. Lieut. H. S. Hassall, who is gazetted Captain has been in command of Ashby Company since mobilisation but is at present on the sick list, at home in Ashby.

Water supply is of vital importance to any town, and while any interference with the works at Coalville is not anticipated, one never knows what might happen in these stirring times and it will be reassuring to know that the engineer, Mr L. L. Baldwin, backed by the Urban Council, is taking no risks. Both the waterworks and the reservoir area are constantly being guarded and it is interesting to know that the patrols are armed. A notice issued by Mr Baldwin invites volunteers to assist in the work and there should be no lack of reliable helpers. While our soldiers are fighting bravely at the front, there are many ways in which those left at home can render useful service to the community and this is one of them.

The officials of the Coalville Central Relief Committee have had a busy time during the last few days ascertaining and registering the names of men who have left the district in connection with the war and have wives and children dependant upon them. The work is proceeding in a methodical, and at the same time

expeditious manner, and it is hoped that none will be missed. Already the names of over a hundred married men have been recorded and a rough estimate of the number of men from the Coalville area who are now serving their country in one capacity or another in connection with the war is between two and three hundred, which shows that the Coalville district according to its population had contributed a good quota. If there are any that have left dependants behind who have not yet been registered, it is urged that information should be given at the Coalville Council Chamber without delay.

Arrangements have been made for the Ashby Women's Working Party to meet several times weekly, the object being the making of garments for our soldiers. A class for instruction in nursing has been formed, with Dr. Logan as instructor.

County Cricket is still contesting for the supremacy, and the Football Associations are making preparations for the winter game, but the war is having a depressing effect upon sport generally. There are practically no shooting parties, and the fox will be little hunted this winter. Not a few of those who shoot, or ride to the hounds, will have serious duties to attend to, and it is suggested that farmers should be given a licence to shoot game and foxes. In the one case, to provide food, and in the other to keep down the numbers of foxes preying on their poultry. The war will have a paralysing effect on international sport for many years to come. All the nations were preparing for the Olympic games to be held in Berlin in 1916, but whatever happens in Europe, it is certain that there will be no Olympiad in the German capital for a generation to come. The German Government stands self-condemned before the world, and the nations will not readily resume social or business relationships with its people. In one particular respect the effect of war is not to be regretted. It has damped down the boxing boom and the revival of the prize-ring.

About seventy ladies of Coalville and District have volunteered their services to assist in the nursing of the wounded and they are being instructed in rendering first aid at classes being held in the Adult School Hall. The first examination under the auspices of the St. John's Ambulance Association will take place shortly and there will be about 30 candidates. Afterwards an examination in home nursing has to be passed. The position is quite voluntary and to the ladies who are accepted there will be no pay and they have to provide their own equipment. The number therefore, who anxious to serve shows a patriotic spirit among the ladies of Coalville and district which is very gratifying. Those who successfully pass the examinations will be retained for service in the hospitals in Leicestershire, but may be sent to other parts of the country if they desire it.

Mr W. Weaver, writing under date of 11<sup>th</sup> August, from Winnipeg, to his brother, Mr Frank Weaver of Bridge Road, Coalville, states that Winnipeg is wild with excitement in connection with the war. All French reservists had to sign on at Montreal by August 14<sup>th</sup> and some of them were leaving that night by the 5:50 train. He goes on to say that volunteers are joining by hundreds there. *"That German sausage,"* proceeds the writer, *"ought to be made to eat snails, frogs and rats like the French in 1870, at the siege of Paris. He has got big thoughts in his 'napper' like the Emperor Napoleon. I hope he will meet with the same result as Napoleon did in 1815. Hurrah! For plucky little Belgium; they are the heroes as yet."* Mr Weaver states that newspapers in Winnipeg are selling at 5 cent (2 1/2 d) each. He encloses a picture of some handsome new Y.M.C.A. buildings which have just been erected in Winnipeg, the subscription for membership of which is 12 dollars a year, or nearly £3 in English money.

Thirty members of the National Reserve (Class I) residing in Coalville and district, having offered themselves for active service left on Wednesday morning for training, 16 from Coalville, five from Thringstone, four from Whitwick, two from Heather, and one each from Swannington, Bardon Hill and Markfield. They were medically examined, passed and enrolled at the Coalville Labour Exchange on Monday night.

Some uncertainty appears to exist with regard to the re-opening of the public schools, and a number of the headmasters have been asked whether their schools will re-assemble as usual next month. The headmaster of Charterhouse, as chairman of the committee of the Headmaster's Conference, has made the general announcement, on behalf of all the public schools, that there is nothing in the present situation and that nothing is foreseen in the future which should prevent term beginning as usual. We can certainly see no reason why school life should not be carried on under perfectly normal conditions, but this announcement will reassure those people who had doubt on the matter.

#### **PATRIOTIC MEETING AT HUGGLESCOTE**

## LOCAL COMMITTEE FORMED

There was a capital attendance at a meeting at Hugglescote last night called to appoint a local committee for Hugglescote to deal with the distress arising in connection with the war.

Mr R. Blower presiding, explained how a Central Committee had been formed for the Coalville district and the immediate object of the meeting. He said there were two other funds – the Leicestershire Patriotic Fund, and Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Aid Association – from which relief would be given to the dependants of soldiers, and while the Prince of Wales' fund was also to meet that object, it was mainly to relieve distress caused to civilians. They knew that many industries were affected by the war, and there was a danger of the staple industry of that district – coal mining – suffering from a lack of timber. Other local trades were also likely to be affected. There were only two ways of alleviating distress, and those were by voluntary effort or appealing to the Board of Guardians. The feeling was that no one ought to be compelled to go to the Guardians because of the war (cheers) so he would ask those who were appointed collectors to impress on the people they called on that it was their duty to give. They ought to give all they could as a thank offering that the war was not being waged in their own land. (Hear, hear) He knew that some of the householders had been called on already for the hospital and there had been a splendid response. They would be interested to know that he visited the hospital recently and found that the preparations for the receipt of the wounded were well in hand. One hundred beds were ready and the arrangements were excellent and they should feel thankful that they were so prepared that what transpired during the Crimean War was not to be repeated as regards our wounded men (Cheers.) The matter was one in which there was no room for party or sectarian feeling but all could work together. He had been delighted to see the splendid feeling of unanimity which had been manifested and he hoped it would continue to exist throughout the war and not die down afterwards. (Cheers.)

Mr Drewett said the collectors would call on some householders, doubtless, whose wages were already reduced in consequence of the state of affairs and they should not be over-pressed. He was sure all would do all they could. (Cheers.)

Mr Butterworth, in reply to a question, said he had the honour of representing the miners at a meeting of the masters and men in Leicester on Wednesday, and while he was not at liberty to divulge what had been done, he assured them that the miners and the colliery owners did not mean to be lacking in their duty in the matter. (Hear, hear.) Mr Drewett moved that a committee of 14 be appointed and this was carried. The following were elected:-

Mrs Blower, Mrs D. Taylor, Mrs C. W. Taylor, Messrs. W. Hatchett, C. Derry, T. Haywood, S. Armson, D. S. Moore, A. Jones, E. Darby, W. Fellows, J. Garratt, W. Andrews, and F. J. Wainwright.

The chairman said the committee had power to add to their number if they thought well. He added that he had been asked if the money collected locally was to be spent locally and he had tried to discourage that. If they had no so much distress in that district, they would all be the better for it. It was like a sick society. They would pay their contributions and would be most fortunate if they did not have to draw heavily on the fund. If they did not see much distress in the district they must not assume that there was none in other parts of the country.

Mr Jno. Taylor, asked how often collectors would go round, because a man who gave 10s and no more might not contribute so much as the colliers and other workmen who were contributing weekly to the fund. The chairman said they hoped the need to collect should impress on the people that the first contribution would not be the last they would be asked to give.

Mr Drewett said he hoped that would be noticed in the Press. The need was great and the collectors should point out that they might have to call three, four or half a dozen times.

The committee stayed behind after the meeting and Messrs. T. H. Hatchett and W. E. Canner were appointed joint hon. secs. of the committee, Mr B. B. Drewett chairman, and Mr F. Griffin, vice-chairman.

## LOCAL NEWS

Coalville Relief Committee: Mr F. S. Weaver has been appointed hon. secretary of the War Relief Committee for Coalville Parish and at a meeting of the Central Committee on Wednesday night, the parish was divided into 16 districts. The secretary was asked to write to the heads of denominations in the town asking them to appoint four collectors from each place of worship – two males and two females – and the local committee will be selected from these at a meeting next Tuesday night and the collectors allotted districts.

## IBSTOCK PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

A general meeting was held in the National Schools on Wednesday evening which was well attended and over which the Rev. S. Flood, M.A., presided. The chairman was supported by the Rev. J. W. Campbell, Dr. T. N. Wilson, Councillors W. Eggington, J.P., J. T. Jacques, E. W. Mee, and Mr W. Dunstan (schoolmaster), and Messrs. G. Thirby and J. Newman.

Mr Dunstan read the minutes which were confirmed and signed. The Rev. Flood said he would like to emphasise the kindly way everybody had acquiesced in the work of National Relief from the County Committee down to their local Committees and so far as they could see the miners would be willing to give their weekly subscriptions. They were also adopting the card system of collecting which would help the fund it would probably need. It may be months or years before they had finished with it. If the cards only brought in amounts made up of 3d or 5s it would be better as a regular weekly subsidy than a lump sum down, and by these weekly contributions, a sum of £25 per week or more was hoped to be raised. He had heard a rumour that what the men gave would be probably doubled by the masters and by that means they would raise a sum of which Ibstock could be proud. (Hear, hear.)

Mr J. T. Jacques gave the report of the Executive Committee and explained how the scheme of card collections would be worked. There were six parish committees, through whom all names would pass to the Central fund. The Executive Committee was comprised of 27 representatives including co-opted members who dealt with the work brought before them by the Patriotic Committee. Incidental expenses were to be borne by the members of the Executive so that every penny subscribed would be sent direct to the County Council Fund.

Mr Eggington seconding the adoption of the report said the card system was their own scheme and had been adopted by other Committees. They had sent some of their brethren to fight for them and it became them to see that none dependant upon them at home should lack anything. The war was not a flash in the pan, and he was afraid some brave volunteers would never return so that it made it very necessary that provision be maintained to help them for a long time. The fund was also intended to help the civil population as well as military dependants.

The report was then adopted.

Mr Dunstan proposed the adoption of the card system of collecting. He said this was a scheme which acted like a network throughout the country from the local committees right through the district and county committees up to the Central committee at London. All contributions should go through one channel to the central fund and distributed through one channel to the individual. In that way they simplified the work and secured more efficient distribution of monies collected. They had divided Ibstock into different areas and it was proposed a collector should leave a card at any home where they had not paid through a works contribution in order that everyone may have an opportunity of paying towards the fund.

The Rev. Campbell, in seconding, said he hoped the ladies would have an opportunity of taking part in that good work as from what he knew of them they were most anxious to do so.

The proposition was adopted.

In answer to Mr Forman, Mr Dunstan said that a County Council Committee had appointed as the committee for Ibstock the Rev. S. Flood, Rev. J. W. Campbell, Messrs. W. Eggington, J. T. Jacques, C. Watson, A. B. Emerson, Dr. Wilson and W. Dunstan. The committee had also co-opted Messrs. Jabez Newman and George Thirby.

The following collectors were then appointed:- Messrs. H. Swingler, W. Newman, E. Hardy, W. Wallace,, J. Cartwright, G. Forrester, W. Ottey, T. Wyatt, J. Barnes, L. Hardy, A. Cooper, A. Hardy, E. Newbold, R. Kirton, R. West, G. Forman, C. Eggington, T. Capers, jun, J. J. Sparrow, and Mrs Campbell.

Mr Stevens kindly promised to receive the collectors' monies every Monday evening at the National School.

It was decided to invite the collieries to send their collections through the local committee.

The following collections were handed in:- Ibstock Wesleyan Chapel, per Mr W. Eggington £3; Ibstock Wesleyan Reform, per Mr F. Holmes £2; Stanton-under-Bardon Congregational Church, per Mr Gibson £1 10s.

## **COALVILLE ELECTRIC THEATRE**

### **SPECIAL FILM**

#### **OUR DEFENDERS IN THE NORTH SEA**

Being the first in a series of films we have booked specially produced in view of the present situation

Tuesday Morning 10:30

Every Evening 7:30

Saturdays 6:50 and 9

Children's Matinee at 2:30

Doors open half-hour earlier

3d. 4d and 6d (Num. & Res.)

Children 2d.

(The above advertisement appeared the week before – review appeared this week)

Another good one is "Our defenders in the North Sea," showing the dreadnoughts etc., manoeuvring. Much cheering greeted this picture, and the audience continually broke out in the singing of patriotic songs. Photographs were also shown of our Army and Navy leaders, which were also received with loud cheering, and on the appearance of the photograph of King George, the whole audience rose with one accord and sang the National Anthem.

### **DO YOU KNOW**

That 44 men have joined the army from Whitwick and Thringstone?

That the Church collections on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst., swelled the National Relief Fund by £37, 673 14s 10d ?

That all railway authorities and steamship companies have been ordered by the Government not to transport pigeons?

That collections at Holy Trinity Church, Ashby, realised £27 11s 3d for the Prince of Wales's Relief Fund?

That the four recruiting sergeants in Coalville and District have obtained nearly one hundred men for Lord Kitchener's new army?

That a series of working parties at Blackfordby have been arranged by Mrs Joyce for the making of garments for the sick and wounded in the war?

That as a result of the meeting of Shepshed women held last week, over £45 and a quantity of linen and other material has been collected on behalf of the Red Cross Society?

That the South Leicestershire and Snibston Collieries have just received a fresh supply of timber for props and sprags which will carry them on for several weeks?

That collection taken at the Ashby Congregational Chapel on Sunday in support of the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund realised £4 4s?

That two rural postman reservists, W. B. Hopkin and B. Ellis, attached to the Ashby Post Office, have been called up for service?

That the Beaumont Rifle Club has thrown open the Range on and after Monday next from 5 p.m. until dark, and will give free ammunition and the use of rifles to all who care to go down and practice shooting?

That the workmen of Messrs. Wooton Bros., engineers, Coalville, have decided to work two hours overtime weekly, and devote the money to the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund?

That Messrs. Stableford's (Coalville) workmen have decided to work one hour per week and give their pay for the same, nearly £20, to the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund?

That a collection at the practice match on the Coalville Town football ground on Saturday realised 16/8 for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund, which is to be paid into the Coalville account?

That in respect of sixteen employees who have left home in connection with the war, the Nailstone Colliery Company have decided to pay the wives 10s per week each with 1s for each child under 14 years of age and free coal while the men are away?

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### **CHURCH PARADE AT LOUGHBOROUGH**

A church parade of the Loughborough National Reserve took place on Sunday. The men paraded at the Drill Hall where they were met by the remaining company of the territorials under Lieut. Burder, the Church Lad's Brigade, and the Boy Scouts. The procession, headed by the combined C.L.B. and scouts band, when marched to the parish church; where the sermon was preached by the Rev. G. A. A. Finch on the words "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

### **COALVILLE CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE**

#### **REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED FOR SWANNINGTON, RAVENSTONE AND BARDON HILL**

Meetings were held at the National Schools at Swannington, Ravenstone and Bardon Hill on Friday night to elect representatives of these parishes on the Coalville Central Relief Committee in accordance with the scheme laid before a public meeting in the Adult School Hall at Coalville last week.

Mr R. Blower, chairman of the Coalville Urban District Council, presided at each meeting, and was accompanied by Mr Walter Lindley, and the two secretaries, Messrs. L. L. Baldwin and J. W. Farmer. The meetings at Ravenstone and Swannington were attended by about 20 parishioners and at Bardon there were 50 present.

The chairman explained the object of the meeting and expressed regret at the necessity for it though he pointed that they all had a duty to perform. At the Bardon meeting, Mr J. Ward made a patriotic speech. The representatives elected on the committee were as follows:-

Swannington. Lady Beaumont, Capt. Deveraux, R. N. and Mr T. Atkins.

Ravenstone. Mr L. Fosbroke, Mr R. G. Cresswell, and Mr Hunt.

Bardon Hill. Mr J. Ward, J.P., and Mr R. B. Grant.

It was pointed out that a local committee might also be formed in each parish to facilitate the work.

### **RESERVISTS' KITS**



A letter received by the Town Clerk of Nottingham from the War Office says it has recently been decided that the cost of carriage of reservists' kits to their homes should be borne by the public and not by the men and their wives, and instructions have now been issued to this effect to all concerned.

### **DESFORD**

Defence Corps – A well attended meeting was held in the Council Schools, over which Major Kelly, R.A.M.C., presided, to discuss the formation of a Civil Defence Corps. After discussion, it was decided to form the corps. Major Kelly was appointed chief officer, with Mr F. H. Burdett as secretary, and Mr J. E. Dawson assistant secretary. It was decided to have drills twice a week. Amongst those present were Mr A. Pickard, C.C., Mr T. Kirkman, Mr W. Brand, and Mr F. Nutt.

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### **BATTRAM**

Relief Committee Formed – A meeting was held in the Battram Council School on Tuesday for the purpose of forming a committee for that district to work for the National Relief Fund in connection with the committee formed at Ibstock. Mr William Eggerton presided and Mr W. Jacques of Ibstock, outlined what was proposed from Ibstock. Mr W. Dunstan also spoke. A large working committee was formed. Mr J. A. Hume was elected hon. secretary and Mr John Blower as representative on the Executive Committee at Ibstock.

### **ELLISTOWN**

Effort for the Hospital. – A house to house collection was made in Ellistown, Battram, and Bagworth, for the 5<sup>th</sup> Northern Hospital at Leicester. About 240 parcels were received, these after being sorted and classified by order of the Hospital Authorities, were repaired where necessary by several ladies, who kindly gave their services for this; as well as for the collecting. A summary of the articles shows as follows:-

Bedsteads and mattresses 3, sheets 124, pillow cases 300, towels 172, shirts 107, night shirts 7, woollen shirts 12, pillows 27, blankets 31, counterpanes 18, draw sheets 51, handkerchiefs 39, tablecloths 12, stockings 6 pairs, socks 46, bed socks 7, vests 13, pants 5, cushions 3, rug 1, bedroom slippers 7 pairs, dusters 48, floor cloths 4 bundles, surgical lint etc, 1 bundle, bandages 1 bundle, old linen 12 bundles.

These were conveyed to the Hospital on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., in the Nailstone Colliery's steam lorry, kindly lent for the occasion. In addition a cheque value £23 7s 10d has also been sent to the hospital.

### **GRIFFYDAM**

National Relief Fund. – On Sunday morning last, a combined effort to assist the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund was made by the Wesleyan and Wesleyan Reform Sunday School scholars and teachers at Griffydham, helped by the presence of a section of Coleorton Boy Scouts. The parties met at 9 a.m. in the playground of the Wesleyan day school where they were placed in marching order and then they paraded the village streets headed by the boy scouts under the control of Scoutmaster David Sporne, and a resident who has served his time under the British flag, wearing, it was noticed, his service medals. Following these came two elder boys carrying a banner bearing the inscription, "God save the King" and "Prince of Wales's Relief Fund". Next in order came the girls, followed by the boys, the teachers marching at intervals by the side of the procession. Halts were made at several houses on the route and appropriate hymns were sung. To four young ladies had been allotted the task of collecting, and armed with boxes, sealed with red, white and blue paper, this work was very carefully carried out for upon reaching again the starting point and singing the National Anthem it was found that they had collected the handsome sum of £7.

### **BAGWORTH**

Relief Committee. – A meeting in connection with the National Relief Fund was held in the Council Schoolroom on Tuesday evening, Mr J. Emmerson presiding. Mr J. C. Williams has been appointed secretary. The chairman remarked that the time had come when they and all take a part in the work and do their share. A Committee was chosen consisting of about 30 ladies and gentlemen. Three collectors were appointed to collect through the village, viz, Messrs. H. Cherry, H. Ball and T. H. Smith, to collect from any

who are not working at the collieries. The collieries are making arrangements (owners and men) to decide what money should be levied each week towards the National Relief Fund.

War Distress. – A largely attended meeting was held in the Council School on Friday evening, Mr W. Eggington, J.P., C.C., presiding. He stated that the meeting was called to consider what steps should be taken to relieve the distress which might arise through the war. The chairman, Mr J. T. Jacques, and Mr W. Dunstan (Ibstock), and Mr J. Emmerson addressed the meeting. Mr Emmerson stated that about £9 and about 80 parcels of goods, and two complete beds had been sent from Bagworth to the Leicester Military Hospital. After some discussion it was decided to form a committee to work in conjunction with the National Relief Fund. Mr J. C. Williams was elected secretary.

## **SWEPSTONE DISTRICT AND THE WAR**

### **RELIEF COMMITTEE FORMED**

The county councillor for the Nailstone Division, Mr J. W. West, J.P., undertook to call a meeting for the formation of a relief committee in connection with the war, for the parishes in his division which were not included in the Coalville area, and the meeting was held at Sweepstone on Tuesday night, there being an attendance of about 30, thoroughly representative of the several parishes. The invitations issued were to the clergy of each parish, the chairman and clerk of each parish council, rural district councillors, school master or mistress and, in parishes where there was no parish council, the overseers.

Sir William Abney presided and it was decided that all those invited be on the committee, to be known as the Sweepstone Committee, with power to add a number of ladies.

Sir William Abney was appointed chairman of the committee, Mr W. Lambert, the Heather schoolmaster, hon. secretary, and Mr Illsley, of Parr's Bank, Ashby, treasurer. It was decided to form parish committees for collection purposes.

Votes of thanks to Sir William Abney for presiding and to Mr West for convening the meeting were passed.