

# Coalville Times – February 1916

**Friday February 4<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1248)**

## **Local News**

The Imperial team to oppose Newhall Swifts tomorrow is: A. Roadley, J. Warden and J. T. Cooke, J. Moore, F. Johnson and F. Fern. M. Bird, G. Smith, H. Williamson, J. Watson and J. Roach. Reserves, A. Needham and A. Thorpe.

## **Bishop of Leicester at the Parish Church**

On Sunday evening, the Bishop of Leicester (Dr. C. G. Lang) preached an inspiring sermon to a large congregation in the Parish Church, which included the Whitwick and Thringstone Corps, under Commander G. F. Burton. The National Anthem was sung at the close of the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Walters).

## **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr H. J. Ford.

### *School Cases*

Wm. John Gibbons (46), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting to send his child regularly to school, and Annie Wright (40), of Whitwick, was similarly summoned. Weston Metcalfe, school attendance officer, Shepshed, gave the facts. Defendants were each fined 5/-.

## **Do You Know That**

Whitwick Imperial F.C. play Newhall Swifts in the Leicestershire Senior League at Whitwick tomorrow?

Whitwick's new Guardian, the Vicar, took his seat on the Board at Ashby for the first time on Saturday?

At the Coalville Town V Whitwick Imperial football match on Saturday, a collection was made among the spectators for Alf Twigg, one of the Town players, who had his leg broken in a match some weeks ago?

## **Whitwick Colliery Workmen's Accident Club**

A general meeting of the Whitwick Colliery work-people was held at the Hermitage Hotel, on Saturday last. Mr George Thomas presiding, when a fairly good number attended. The balance sheet was passed, and various officers were elected. Mr Dennis Otter was re-elected secretary with Mr Thomas Price treasurer. The collectors appointed for the Accident Club were Messrs. Ed. Lycett, J. King and E. Briers, jun., collectors for death fund, Messrs. A. Isaacs, C. Brooks and B. Johnson; treasurer Mr Thomas Middleton; governor, Leicester Royal Infirmary, Mr George Mason. Suggestions recommended by the committee and sanctioned at the general meeting were brought forward by Mr G. Brooks, and agreed upon as follows:

*“That the club give a donation of £50 to the Cottage Hospital, and make an extra collection on behalf of the Infirmaries: That widows be allowed to pay to the death fund: That a voluntary collection be made for the old and disabled and that accident pay be allowed for all scheduled diseases due to mining.”*

## **Coalville Urban District Council**

The monthly meeting of the Urban Council was held at Coalville on Tuesday night, Mr T. Y. Hay, J.P., presiding. There were also present Messrs. A. Lockwood (vice chairman), M. McCarthy, W. Fellows, A. J. Briers, J. W. Farmer, S. Armson, T. Kelly, C. W. Brown, B. G. Hale, J.P., R. Blower, and F. Griffin, with the clerk (Mr J. F. Jesson), surveyor (Mr L. L. Baldwin), gasworks manager (Mr J. W. Eagles), and assistant surveyor (Mr G. R. Hurst).

### *Highway Committee's Report*

The surveyor reported on the terms Mr G. F. Burton was willing to give up land in North Street, Whitwick, for the purpose of effecting an improvement to the highway, and the committee recommend the offer be not entertained.

With reference to the application of the Whitwick Colliery Co. Ltd., for permission to erect an overhead cable on the Hermitage Road, the Finance Committee recommended that the clerk write the company that they must indemnify the Council against any claims for accident in respect of such cable.

### *Surveyor's Report*

The surveyor reported that the number of persons accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses during the month was 671 against 686 in December, and 763 in January last year. The lodging-houses continued to be kept in a satisfactory manner. A midnight surprise visit was made on January 28<sup>th</sup>, and everything was found in order. Mr Fellows jocosely remarked that the surveyor's language, 'midnight surprise visit' sounded rather ominous. (Laughter).

### *Dangerous Whitwick Stairs*

Mr T. J. Webb, Deputy-coroner, wrote that at a recent inquest, at Whitwick, the jury desired him to write calling attention to the dangerous stairs in a house there. Mr Kelly said he was on the jury. The staircase was not safe for anybody. It was very steep, and there was no hand rail. Replying to a question, Mr Briers said the stairs were not the cause of the accident, but it was said that the old woman had fallen down them previously. The chairman said the surveyor would look into the matter.

The surveyor said it would be a big job if they were going to tackle all old staircases. The matter was referred to the surveyor.

### *Postal Facilities*

The Leicester Postmaster wrote that in consequence of the war, it had been found necessary to curtail the postal facilities at Whitwick by suspending the 6 pm delivery of letters and parcels on and from the 7<sup>th</sup> February. A further letter from the same source stated that at Coalville the following alterations were to be made from the same date.

## **Round the Theatres**

### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Capital "houses" have been the order again here this week, and the usual excellent programme has been much enjoyed. "Exploits of Elaine" No. 6, was a fine part, and all the other pictures were good. – Mint and Mart, the great comedy artistes, have had a great reception, and must be seen during the weekend. A rattling good 'show'. – For the weekend "The Zaca Lake Mystery" should not be missed. Briefly, the story is as follows: Slippery Joe gags and binds Neil, the miner's daughter, and makes off with a bag of nuggets, her father's treasure hoard. John, the miner, and Nell, in search of the man who has robbed them, come to the cabin of Jim, a ranger. There they meet a 'Mr Bond, of San Francisco,' and Neil is struck with the resemblance between him and the outlaw. Jim explains that Bond has come into the wilderness seeking his twin brother, who, doubtless is the bandit. While Bond and Neil are canoeing on the lake the next day, a stranger staggers into the camp, weak from exhaustion, hunger and mal-treatment. He says he is 'Mr Bond, of San Francisco.' The day before, he had been attacked by an outlaw, he said, and compelled to exchange clothes with him. Now John and Ranger Jim understand Slippery Joe's scheme. They go down to the lake to arrest him. There they find Nell covering the outlaw with her revolver, while in the other hand she grasps the bag of nuggets. – Others are good. – Next week, No. 7 "Exploits of Elaine," and a good list of other excellent picture, the one for the weekend being 'A Country Lad,' an excellent Éclair. – For full particulars, see advertisement columns.

## **Sport**

### **Football**

#### *Whitwick Imperial Beat Coalville Town*

Coalville Town had Whitwick Imperial as visitors after having been idle for several weeks. The match was played in beautiful weather and in the presence of three or four hundred spectators. Both clubs had their strongest available sides, and it was a very even game all through. The only goal scored was one by Smith for Whitwick in the first half, though the Imperial missed one or two good chances by poor shooting. The Coalville forwards also missed chances so that in this respect the teams were equally unlucky. Pearson, in the Coalville goal, and Roadley for Whitwick, both frequently brought off good returns and the defences throughout were most prominent. The forwards on both sides were somewhat weak.

## **Friday February 11<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1249)**

### **Local News**

#### **Annual Dinner**

The members of the Whitwick Liberal Club held their annual dinner on Saturday, in the Public Hall, about 80 partaking of an excellent meal. Mr A. Needham presided, and after dinner submitted the usual loyal and patriotic toasts. – Mr J. Clifford proposed the health of the committee, expressing the thanks of the members to them for providing that spread. – Mr T. Kelly (secretary) responded for the committees. The health of the shareholders was also drunk. – A musical programme was rendered, including songs by Messrs. F. O'Mara, F. Harper, A. Cooper, T. Cooper, D. Martin and others, Mr G. H. Hallam, of Thringstone, being the pianist. The chairman also recited. – on the motion of Mr J. Rose, seconded by Mr J. Gilbert, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded. Messrs. T. Kelly and G. H. Hallam for their services to the members. – As a good quantity of viands were left over, about 30 of the members held another feast on Monday night when a convivial evening was spent.

#### **Whitwick Major's Gallantry**

##### *Dr. Burkitt's Devotion to Duty under Heavy Fire*

The current issue of the "Whitwick Parish Magazine" contains the following:

*"It will interest all our parishioners to read the following letters received by Major Burkitt. The letters explain themselves.*

*'Leicestershire Yeomanry, B.E.F. France.*

*My Dear Doctor, I am only too delighted to send the enclosed for your information and retention. I fear it does not sufficiently meet what you ought to have, still, it is something in the right direction. I am pleased to have the honour of offering you the heartiest congratulations of everyone in the regiment, and to tell you how glad they are one and all to have the chance of doing so in such an honourable way. We all thoroughly appreciate the fact that you are one of the bravest and most gallant men we have had the honour of serving with, and our regret is that you are not with us still. However, in leaving your old regiment, you have left it with a most honourable memory, and have been one of the best in making the honourable name it now bears. We all wish you every good and kind wish for the future. – Yours ever.*

*Abbot Robinson.'*

*The enclosures referred to above are the following:*

*'Dear Robinson, G.O.C. Division has asked me to send round the accompanying list of officers and men of your unit whose names he has forwarded for recognition of good services rendered. He thinks that the officers and men mentioned would like to know that their names have been forwarded. – Yours sincerely.*

*Ed. Chas. Newham.'*

*On the list only two officers are named, of whom Major Burkitt is one. The remarks are as follows:*

*'Major J. C. S. Burkitt, R.A.M.C. displayed great gallantry and devotion to duty in attending to wounded under heavy fire near Ypres on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1915. Subsequently collected the wounded and took them to a place of safety.'*

*We too, heartily congratulate Major Burkitt on the fine reputation he has in the army. He was mentioned recently in Sir John French's despatches.*

*During January it has given us great pleasure to welcome at our services Sergt. A. R. Crane, R.A.M.C., Petty-Officer A. J. Wilson (Blandford), Private Harry Bonser and Private Horace Underwood, (Portsmouth). Letters were received last month from Private J. W. Brotherhood, Sergeant A. W. Hanson (France), Corporal Walter Adams (France), Mr Cecil Brown and Corporal R. P. Rice. We very heartily congratulate W. Adams on his promotion to be a full Corporal."*

### **Whitwick Memorial Service**

A memorial service for Pte. Whittaker, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters, was held in the Holy Cross Church on Sunday evening, conducted by the Rev. M. J. O'Reilly. There was a large congregation which included the Whitwick and Thringstone boy scouts, and members of the Citizen Corps, under Commander G. F. Burton, also representatives of the Coalville Corps. The National Anthem was sung and the organist played the Dead March, while the "Last Post" was also sounded by one of the buglers of the boy scouts, the service being an impressive character.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

There is a good show here this week, the "star" picture at the beginning of the week being No. 7 of "Exploits of Elaine," another good part – Others were excellent and much enjoyed by the usual crowded audiences. "The Dental Riskits" are a fine combination. Have you ever tried to sing upside down? Not with the music upside down, or the singing upside down, but with yourself upside down?

The lady partner in the Dental Riskits does it, and quite tunefully too. But it isn't altogether the tunefulness of the voice that makes you listen to it with so much pleasure. It is a somewhat harassing sight to see an attractive young woman hanging head downward and suspended only by a strap round one ankle, the end of the leather being in the mouth of an upside-down gentleman on a trapeze high above the stage of the Picture House. It is still more harrowing to see her revolving faster and faster until her flowing hair stands out like the tail of a comet, and the free leg is flung out at right angles to her body. And so when she sings a lullaby softly, and even happily, your tenseness relaxes.

They should not be missed – a top notch "turn." For the week-end in addition the "star" picture is "A Country Lad." – Others are good. – Next week Episode 8 of "Exploits of Elaine," and "Valour's Reward." As the title indicates, the hero has to prove his mettle before he is rewarded with the hand of the heroine, and in doing so he provides us with several scenes of tense drama. The setting of the piece is in parts very beautiful, including some delightful country views. There is, incidentally, a dance by a number of young girls at a garden party, but the drama is the main thing, and it is that which grips the attention most.

### **Sports**

#### **Football**

Whitwick Imperial were expecting Newhall Swifts on Saturday, and several spectators assembled, but just before the time fixed for starting, a telegram arrived, stating that the Newhall club could not raise a team. This was the second time that the match has had to be postponed under similar circumstances.

## **Burials**

Brooks – At Whitwick, on Wednesday, Chas. George Brooks, aged 6 months, of Loughborough Road.

Allen – At Whitwick, on Saturday, Winifred Allen, aged one month, of Church Lane.

## **Friday February 18<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1250)**

### **Do You Know That**

The whist drive and dance announced to be held at Holy Cross Schools, Whitwick, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, for the Leicester Infirmary, has been postponed on account of the Lighting Order?

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair) and Mr J. Ward.

#### *An Excusable Offence*

Marcus Crofts, colliery banksman, Shepshed, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a light at Whitwick on February 1<sup>st</sup>. He pleaded guilty. Defendant said it was the early morning following the air raid. He reduced his light and it jerked out going over a manhole. It was not very dark. A Zeppelin went over the previous night and he thought it advisable not to have a big light.

Case dismissed, defendant paying 5/6 costs.

#### *Drunk and Disorderly*

Robert Holland, collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Whitwick, on January 29<sup>th</sup>. He was fined 12/- or seven days, P.C. Jelley having stated the facts in the defendant's absence.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The usual excellent programme is being witnessed by large audiences again this week at the Whitwick Picture House. The chief picture at the commencement of the week was "Exploits of Elaine" No. 8 (The Hidden Voice) a very good part. Other films were excellent, and have been much enjoyed. – A real good, and up-to-date musical, vocal, and comedy act is the Five Flakes. They have had a grand reception, and should not be missed during the weekend. – The "star" picture is "Valour's Reward," an interesting two-reeler, with an element of comedy in it. As the title indicates, the hero has to prove his mettle before he is rewarded with the hand of the heroine, and in doing so he provides us with several scenes of tense drama. The setting of the piece is in parts very beautiful, including some delightful country views. There is, incidentally, a dance by a number of young girls at a garden party, but the drama is the main thing, and it is that which grips the attention most. This picture will please weekend patrons. – There is a long list of other films, all good, which should be seen. – No. 9 "Exploits of Elaine" (first half) and "The Headliner" (second half). Also Albert Wamba and Mercia, comedy musicians and daring gymnasts, in a novel and versatile performance presented in an original manner. Demon handbell-ringers, saxophonists, bagpipers, etc, etc. Patrons must not miss seeing this splendid "turn" next week. – Full particulars may be seen in our advertisement columns.

## **Friday February 25<sup>th</sup> 1916 (Issue 1251)**

### **Local News**

#### **Accident to Sergeant Kirkland**

A serious accident, unfortunately, happened to Police Sergeant Kirkland, of Coalville, on Sunday night. About half-past nine, he was cycling to Whitwick, and when in Brooks Lane, his cycle skidded and he was thrown heavily to the ground, being rendered unconscious. He was carried into Mr Brier's house close by and Dr. Roulston, who was summoned by telephone, found that the sergeant was suffering from concussion. Inspector Dobney was communicated with, and he had the sergeant conveyed to his home adjoining the Coalville Police Station. We are pleased to learn that he is now making good progress.

#### **Memorial Service at Whitwick**

*Sermon by Father Degen*

On Sunday afternoon, at the Holy Cross Church, Whitwick, a memorial and requiem service was held in honour of the late Pte. Edward Hunt, of Victoria Road, Coalville, and formerly of Whitwick, who was recently killed in action in Mesopotamia. The first part of the service was conducted by Father O'Reilly and consisted of the penitential psalms, prayers and ceremonies customary at a Catholic funeral. The catafalque, which represented the coffin, was blessed with holy water and incensed. The Dead March in Saul was then played and afterwards two boy scouts stepped forward and sounded "The Last Post." The Whitwick Citizen Corps presented arms before the catafalque. This was followed by the hymn, "Oh, Paradise" in which the whole congregation joined, and which formed a joyful and dramatic contrast to the earlier note of lamentation and mourning predominant in the first part of the service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Degen, of St. Saviour's Church, Coalville, from the text, "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins." (2 Maccabees xii, 46). Father Degen spoke as follows: "*We are assembled here this afternoon for a two-fold purpose. First to render public homage to the memory of Edward Henry Hunt, who, like many hundreds of other young men from all parts of the Empire, has made the supreme sacrifice of his life in the cause of honour, justice, peace, freedom and patriotism. Secondly, by our united intercessions to obtain from God the hastening of that moment when the soul of our friend shall be admitted into the joy and happiness of the Beautiful Vision. It is fitting that the avowed we make of our respectful admiration of his heroic conduct should be as public and as solemn as possible. For he is our benefactor and we are his debtors. It was for your sakes and for my sake that he left the comforts and quiet of a happy house to sacrifice his life in the very spring-time of his youth, in the bloom and blossom of his age, during just that period of human existence when everything seems to be so full of charm and of sweetness. For the world does appear fascinating and entrancing, it does indeed wear a rosy and beautiful complexion to a youth of but 19 or 20 summers. Far more so than to those of more mature years, who have experienced some of these reverses and mischances of fortune, which disillusion the mind and damp the ardour of early youth. But to a young man, on the threshold of early manhood, everything appears to be smiling and gay, his path seems smooth and easy, sunny and bright, all flowers and but few thorns, full of hope and full of promise. The surrender of life just when life tastes sweetest, enhances the merit of the sacrifice made. Edward Hunt was born in Whitwick, he was baptised here, he made his first confession and first communion here, and here it was too that he was confirmed. Nevertheless, he spent most of his life in Coalville. He was a member of the Sanctuary Guild at St. Saviour's, both under Father Quilter and myself, and later enjoined the recreation circle of St. Francis de Sales. He bore a high character among all those who knew him, being pre-eminent for his generosity and sociability. He also adhered most faithfully to his religious duties, to Sunday Mass, and monthly holy communion. He was one of those whom I looked forward to as the hope of the future for the Catholic Church in Coalville. But he has run his course, he had fulfilled his task. His death on the battlefield is one more proof that where self-sacrifice is needed by the State in the cause of national honour, rights and liberties, Catholics are among the first to come forward and surrender, if need be, their last shilling and their last drop of blood. His death is one more proof that loyalty to the Pope, as the spiritual head of the Church, in no wise weakens or diminishes our allegiance to our King, the temporal sovereign of our dominions. Edward Hunt took part in several fierce battles in Flanders and Northern France, and on many occasions saw men falling thick around him in lifeless heaps upon the ground. He himself, however, was not even wounded. After a severe attack of pneumonia, he was invalided home, and four months ago was sent out to Egypt, whence he crossed more than one desert, and at length reached Nasiriya, an Arabian village on the Euphrates in Mesopotamia. With other men of the second Leicesters, he was sent forward on an expedition along a water course, the Shat-el-Hai, which leads to Kut-el-Amara, where General*

*Townshend is besieged, and which connects the Euphrates with the Tigris. The object of this reconnaissance was to obtain information concerning the intentions of the nomadic Arab tribes. It appears that our men received from them assurances of neutrality and peacefulness. But on their return journey to give in their report, our men unsuspecting and confiding, were treacherously shot down by those same natives, who had previously pretended to be friendly.*

*To him whose memory we are honouring this afternoon we must express our unbounded indebtedness for the great sacrifice he has made in our defence of our rights and interests. Those of us who are Catholics know that we are not entirely bankrupt in the matter of rendering him some practical return for what he has done. By our prayers, communions, acts of mortification, in fact by any good notions whatsoever, we can ask Almighty God to hasten the moment when our benefactor will be admitted into everlasting bliss. We have every reason to believe that the sentence of the just has been pronounced upon him, but it may be that this sentence will be suspended, until his soul is cleansed of all the stains and imperfections which it may have contracted in its pilgrimage through this vale of tears. The words of my text are based on the principle of vicarious satisfaction. It is consoling to think that we are still united with the dead by the golden link of prayer. These waiting souls suffer patiently, sweetly and peacefully. It will also console the bereaved relatives of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leicesters to know that the mortal remains of their beloved ones lie buried in what was the Garden of Eden. In the second chapter of Genesis, the Tigris and Euphrates are expressly mentioned as flowing through the earthly paradise of our first parents. One final topic for consolation, and I have done. Death for those who die in a state of friendship with God, who die in the fulfilment of their duty is not a matter for sighs, tears and groans. 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished for. Death under such circumstances can mean nothing else than the passage, sooner or later, to a happy immortality. It means the return of the soul to God, to whom it really belongs, and who alone can quench its thirst for complete and lasting happiness. Death to one who is just and righteous possesses nothing about it but what is eminently desirable. Why then this "solemn black?" Why "the fruitful river in the eye?" Why the "dejected behaviour of the visage?" Why all the "forms and moods and shows of grief," and all "the trappings and the suits of woe," when he, for whom we are praying, is not lost, but saved? If he, whom we love so dearly, is happy in the knowledge that the sentence of the just has been pronounced upon him, why should we lament and weep? Rather let us stifle our sighs and dry our tears and rejoice and be glad in the conviction that one more soul has been judged worthy by God of citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven."*

The service closed with the Benediction. The mourners were Mr and Mrs Hunt, Mrs Williamson and family, and Mrs King and family. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity, the congregation consisting of quite as many non-Catholics as Catholics. Among the latter were noticed Mr and Mrs de Lisle from Garendon and Mr J. R. Bennett, of Coalville.

### **Young Men's Effort**

A tea was held in the Whitwick Wesleyan School, on Saturday afternoon in connection with the young men's annual effort for the church funds. There was a good attendance, and the proceeds amounted to over £5. There was to have been a lecture in the evening, by the Rev. J. Fisher Robson, of Leicester, but owing to the lighting restrictions, this was postponed. On Sunday, the services were conducted by the Rev. S. Dalzell, of Nottingham, formerly of Ashby, and there were good congregations.

### **Local Chit Chat**

Miss O'Reilly, niece of Father O'Reilly, the Whitwick Catholic Priest, is to be married on Wednesday next at the Holy Cross Church, Whitwick, to Mr John Ward, of Waterloo, Liverpool, and the occasion was marked by a happy incident on Miss O'Reilly leaving the Whitwick Holy Cross day schools, where she had been assistant mistress for some years. The children assembled in the central hall and presented Miss O'Reilly with a leather attaché case and pair of silver salt cellars. They sang "Auld Lang Syne," and other pieces finishing with musical honours to the bridegroom by the rendering of "He's a jolly good fellow."

### **Ashby Police Court**

Saturday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair) Mr J. German, Mr J. Hassall, Mr J. P. Adcock, Mr G. D. Orchard, Mr J. Turner and Mr George Brown.

*Whitwick Bricklayer Summoned*

John Bakewell (56), bricklayer, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Board of Guardians for neglecting to pay 21 weeks' maintenance arrears for his wife, chargeable to the Union. He admitted the arrears.

John Wm. Bowley, relieving officer, said the defendant was ordered to pay 2/- a week, but had not done so. He could earn good money if he liked. Defendant said he was in poor form just now, the weather having been against him. He said he would pay 2/- per week, and 2/- per week off the arrears if they would allow him. The Bench gave judgement for the amount claimed, and the clerk told the defendant he would have to arrange with the Guardians. He was also ordered to pay the costs, 8/-.

Defendant said he only had 3/6 on him.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

This theatre has a good programme again this week and large audiences have attended, and much enjoyed the various films and the most excellent "turn." The latter is Albert Wamba and Mercia, who present their remarkable combination of comedy, instrumental music, humorous sayings, and high-class daring and sensational gymnastics. Expert campanologists, brilliant saxophonist, sensational demon bagpiper, executed with that incomparable ease and finesse which is the hall-mark of the polished artiste. Beautifully mounted, massive apparatus, all nickel-plated. Miss Mercia is the youngest lady gymnast in Vaudeville, 16 years old. Albert Wamba is a musician as well as a gymnast, and is exempt from military service. A real good, and first class "show," which has had a great reception, and must not be missed by weekend patrons. – No. 9 of "The Exploits of Elaine" was good at the commencement of the week, and others were also good. – For the weekend "The Headliner" is a good one. The manager of a vaudeville theatre at Coney Island is advised that his headline act cannot go on on the dates scheduled. In the emergency he engages Gabriel Castinara, the wonderful life guard swimmer. An Italian strolling players' troupe is also featured at the theatre. It includes the old clown Punilli, and his beautiful daughter, Beatrice. When Gabriel and Beatrice meet, they discover in one another old sweethearts – back in Italy. Suddenly, Busoni, one of the members of the strolling players' company, flings himself upon the lifeguard with murderous intent. Then Gabriel tells the story of an ancient grudge, which has to do with the killing of his father by the father of Busoni and his own accidental killing of Busoni, the elder. He had promised Beatrice that he would not be avenged, but meeting his father's murderer unexpectedly, they had been led to quarrel and Busoni had dropped dead of heart failure. Gabriel escaped the police and made his way to America, whither he learned Beatrice had gone. Michael Busoni plots Gabriel's death. But, through his own carelessness, the theatre catches fire. Gabriel braves the smoke and flames to save the girl, and her old father. Michael loses his life. – Others are good. – See advertisement columns for next week's list.