

Coalville Times – June 1916

Friday June 2nd 1916 (Issue 1265)

Local News

The new order issued by the Ashby magistrates on Saturday in connection with the sale of intoxicating liquor throughout the Ashby Petty Sessional Division, which was in force as from Saturday last, will settle the vexed question as to what is a bona fide traveller. It has generally been supported, hitherto, that men out for a Sunday morning walk, were entitled to a drink as soon as they had travelled three miles, and whether such men come within the category of bona fide travellers has often been a subject of discussion among the parties concerned. In a recent prosecution at Coalville, the Chief Constable of the county asked the magistrates to express an opinion on the matter and Major Hatchett, voicing the feelings of his confreres on the Bench, intimated that a man merely out for a Sunday morning walk, could not be regarded as a bona fide traveller, even though he had gone over three miles. In some districts it is a common thing to see public houses open all day on Sundays, travellers only being supplied during prohibited hours, but so far as the Ashby Petty Sessional division is concerned in future, public houses must not be opened for the sale of drink under any pretext before 12.30 pm on Sundays.

Egg Collection

Mr R. Sharp, of 106, Silver Street, Whitwick, has collected the following number of eggs for wounded soldiers. Previously acknowledged, 551 eggs. Mrs C. Illsley 25; Mrs J. Henson 20; Messrs. J. Baker, and R. Sharp 12 each; Mr J. Stinson 10. Mr R. Sharp also wishes to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions for the purchase of eggs: Mr I. Thorp 6/6; late Mrs Musson 2/1; Mr A. Smith 1/9; Mrs J. C. S. Burkitt 2s; Messrs. Springthorpe, A. Isaac, J. Williamson, J. West, J. Whittle, A. Moore, and M. Concanon, 1/- each; and Mr Richard 6d.

Advertisement

Moore & Miller

Are instructed by the executors of the late Mrs Mary Musson to offer for sale by public auction at the Three Crowns Hotel, Whitwick, on Wednesday 7th June, 1916.

At 6 for 7 in the evening prompt, subject to Conditions of Sale to be then produced.

All that freehold messuage or dwelling house, situated on the south side of Silver Street, Whitwick, aforesaid, and known as "Ivy Cottage" in the occupation of Mr Jas. F. Musson, at the weekly rental of five shillings. The council gas and water are laid on, and there is a good supply of soft water. The house contains three upstairs and three downstairs rooms, together with the usual out-offices, and a capital kitchen garden.

For further particulars, apply at the Three Crowns Hotel on the premises; the Auctioneers' Offices, Belvoir Chambers, Coalville, or to Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, solicitors, Coalville and Loughborough.

Whitwick Soldier Poet

A Memorable Charge

Private J. Cato, 2285, of the 2nd Notts and Derby Regiment, 6th Infantry Base, B.E.F., writes as follows:

"I am a native of Whitwick and am sending you a few verses which I composed while in hospital to commemorate the bravery of the good old Leicesters and the good old Sherwoods, who are in the same division. If there are two regiments who cling together they are the Leicesters and the Sherwoods. I have the pleasure of knowing a lot of them and every time we go into the trenches, we can hear someone shouting about Whitwick and the surrounding places. No doubt you will hear of great things being done shortly. I hope you are all well at Coalville and Whitwick, and that there are not many conscientious objections. There are plenty of spare dugouts."

The verses referred to are as follows:

On the 19th of _____ at St. _____ the Leicesters lay,
Impatient for the signal to advance;
And the Germans will remember the charge we made that day,
For a finer regiment never fought in France.
On the morning of the battle, the canons loud did roar,
And shrapnel dealt out death on every side;
Such terrific cannonading was never heard before,
It was as if hell's jaws had opened wide.
In the trenches there we stood, drenched with our comrades' blood,
While maddening cries from wounded rent the air;
But like tigers we did stand, bravely waiting the command,
To drive the wily Germans from their lair.
Hark! Now the signal comes, midst the booming of the guns.
How we welcome that glad signal with a cheer,
Then we charged with glittering steel, see those cowardly Germans reel.
And we took their trenches ere the day broke clear,
We have read about the Durhams, and the gallant Sherwoods too,
The Warwicks and the Worcesters have done brave deeds for you;
But give to me the Leicesters gay, there's none can with them be,
And when they fight for Britons' right, they fight to win or die.

We have also received some lines on the death of Nurse Cavell, composed by Private Newberry, 26429, of the R.A.M.C., 27, Casualty Clearing Station, B.E.F., France, and a further poetical effort headed "Rusty Iron and Failure." From Isaiah Chapman of the Coldstream Guards, through Mr A. Bevin, of Bardon Hill, but we regret that we are unable to find room for these.

Whitwick Colliery Fatality

Pony Driver's neck dislocated

Inquest

The Coroner for North Leicestershire (Mr H. J. Deane), held an inquest at the Victoria Hotel, Coalville, on Saturday, concerning the death of Eli Grant, which occurred as the result of an accident at the Whitwick Colliery.

There were present Mr Lea, H.M. Inspector of Mines; Mr Elliot Smith, of Mansfield, for the Whitwick Colliery Co.; Mr Binns, of Derby, for the Indemnity Co.; Mr T. H. Moore, of Coalville, for the Midland Mining Officials' Association; Mr T. Y. Hay, manager of the Colliery, and Mr W. Price, under-manager. Mr Frank Goddard was the foreman of the jury.

Annie Grant, wife of Eli Grant, locomotive foreman, of 27, Hermitage Road, Coalville, said the deceased was her son, who was 18 years of age, and was employed at the Whitwick Colliery as a pony driver. He went to work about 2.50 pm on the 24th May and he was then in his usual health, which was good. He had never suffered from fits or fainting attacks.

Dr. S. E. Dunkin, of Coalville, in partnership with Dr. Burkitt, stated that shortly after 9pm he was summoned to the Whitwick pit. He went down the pit and saw the body. Deceased was quite dead. Later at the home, witness examined the body and found dislocation of the neck. Post mortem stains on the lower part of the back also indicated internal injuries. There was a slight abrasion on the back. Witness saw the place where the accident occurred and it was explained to him how the body was found. From that he concluded it was from a sudden jerk, similar to death by hanging. He was quite satisfied that death must have been instantaneous.

Charles Clarke, pony driver, Whitwick, said he had known the deceased for about a month, having worked in the same district for that time. He seemed alright when they went down the pit at three o'clock and during the work witness passed him several times. The first part of the time deceased was driving the pony, "Jimmy," but about seven o'clock Grant changed his pony, taking "Merriman" out. Witness had worked the latter several times and it was a quiet pony and a good worker. The last time witness saw the deceased alive was just after eight o'clock. That was when he was going to his stall. Returning with his full set, he noticed another set with the front tub off the rails in front of him. On going to see what was the matter he found Grant lying on the rails and the front tub was up against the middle of the deceased's back. The pony stood there quiet. It was near a switch that the accident occurred. The first tub of the deceased's set was over the switch and the others were on it. Witness fetched the deputy. Answering the Coroner as to whether he thought the tub jumped the rails at the switch, witness said he thought it was Grant's body that knocked the tub off the line.

By the Inspector: Deceased would have to alter the switch as he came out. Witness had never seen him ride on the limmers.

Mr Smith: Tell us how you think the accident happened.

Witness: I can't unless it was that the horse knocked him down and went over him.

By the foreman: They had to lift the tub to get the deceased out.

By the Coroner: He was lying across the rails with the tub on the top of him.

By Mr C. H. March (a juror): It was usual for the pony to keep going while they altered the switch.

Herbert Allen, of Coleorton, deputy at the Whitwick Colliery, said he had known the deceased for about six months. He was a very good lad and capable at his work. Witness last saw the deceased about 8.20 when he was coming out of the stall with a full set. It was the duty of the pony drivers to alter the points according to where they wanted to go. Coming out of the stall a driver had to go a little forward to see that the switches were right and if not to put them right. He was called to the scene of the accident by Clarke, and saw deceased lying under the front part of the first tub. He showed no sign of life. Witness's idea as to how the accident happened was that the pony knocked him down as he was stooping to alter the switch. The dislocation of the neck would be from the tub running on to him. The pony was quiet. It was one of the best ponies in the pit.

By Mr Moore: He thought the deceased did not allow himself time to alter the switch.

By Mr Lovett: That was only witness's opinion.

Answering jurors, witness said the pony would not be going much more than a walking pace. Nothing had fallen to block the way and witness saw no hole in the road, or anything to cause the deceased to stumble. The Coroner said it was quite clear that death was due to an accident for which no one was to blame. There had been no breach of the rules either by the deceased himself or the officials or anyone working in the mine.

The jury found that the death was due to an accident, for which no one was to blame, and that there was no evidence to show how the deceased was knocked down.

Coalville Tribunal

Over 30 Cases Dealt With

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

Mr Geo. F. Burton, baker and confectioner, Whitwick, applied for the exemption of his baker, Wm. P. A. Bland, aged 26, and married. He said he had advertised for another man unsuccessfully. He employed two bakers, the other being 55. Applicant did the bulk of the delivering himself and also attended to the horses. The time of both men was fully occupied in baking. He had three men before the war. If this man went, it would mean having to give up a lot of trade. Conditional exemption was allowed.

Four months were allowed to Wm. D. McCarthy, the Whitwick poor-rate collector, who appealed on financial grounds.

Isaac Cyril Foster, hairdresser, Whitwick, who said he supported a sister in feeble health, applied for exemption. His sister and himself depended solely on the business, his parents being dead. The Advisory Committee recommended two months, and Mr German urged this should be adhered to. Mr Briers said they were there to decide the cases, no matter what the Advisory Committee said. Three voted for two months, and five for three months, which was carried. Mr German said he agreed that the Tribunal could act exactly as they wished,

but he intended to appeal against this. Mr Brown asked whether, in a case like that, if the man joined the army, and was killed, would his sister get a Government pension? Mr McCarthy said that was an important point. The chairman said he did not suppose Mr Jesson would care to answer it off-hand. The clerk said he had his own opinion, but he would rather not answer. Mr Brown said that weighed with him. They wanted questions like that answering for their guidance. The chairman said he thought nothing definite had yet been settled.

The Clerk: She would be a total dependant, there is no doubt about that.

The Forest Rock Granite Co. applied for Jas. Ar. Hull, aged 32, single, who looks after the machinery, but a letter was received from the company, stating that as they were on Government work, they were appealing in London for all their men to be starred, and pending a decision on that, they asked for the case to be adjourned. Agreed.

Conditional exemption was granted to the following, as recommended by the Advisory Committee: Jas. Toon, 28, master butcher, Whitwick; Hy. Ed. Birkbeck, 23, farm worker, Greenhill; John Thos. Briers, 29, manager of the Forest Rock Granite Co.; Ernest Handford, 30, loom-turner, employed by Messrs. J. Burgess and Son, Coalville; Thomas Wm. Thirlby, 32, farmer and cowman, Greenhill; Wm. Moseley, 25, waggoner, Hugglescote; Thomas Neville Radford, 19, cowman, of Blackberry Farm, Ibstock; and Thos. Percy Deacon, 25, baker, Ellistown.

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday at 6.30.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

There have been some good 'houses' here again this week and the pictures have been very much enjoyed. – "Exploits of Elaine," No. 23 (The Tell-Tale Heart), was a good one and others were also much liked. – The Sadie Vone Trio, in a musical interlude, have had a great reception, their act being top-hole, and should not be missed during the week-end. A real good show. – Miss Victoria, the chic comedienne, has also been well received. A first-class artiste, who should be seen. – For the week-end "The Collingsby Pearls" is a good Éclair drama. John Collingsby buys his wife a wonderful string of pearls. Later in order to raise money he plans to pledge his wife's pearls unknown to her, and has a duplicate set of pearls made, substituting them for the real ones. A society thief named Dowling, plans to steal the pearls but another crook forestalls him and in a fight Dowling is injured. Mrs Collingsby sends for a doctor, and Dowling is being attended to when her husband returns home. He suspects the worst, but she tells him of the loss of the pearls. Just about this time the thief has been caught by the police, and is brought back. Mrs Collingsby takes back the supposed pearls with a cry of joy. Collingsby forgives her and surprises her by breaking the rope of pearls, and throwing them on the ground. Then he gives her the real ones, explaining what has happened, and the story ends happily. – Others are good. – See advertisement columns for next week's programme.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

In Memorium

Mr and Mrs E. Grant and family, of 27, Hermitage Road, Coalville, desire to thank all friends for kind expressions of sympathy with them in their recent bereavement by the death of their son, Eli, accidentally killed in the Whitwick Colliery.

Friday June 9th 1916 (Issue 1266)

Local News

Property Sale

At the Three Crowns Inn, on Wednesday night. Messrs. Moore and Miller (Coalville) sold the property known as "Ivy Cottage", Silver Street, Whitwick, occupied by Mr James Musson, at 5/- per week. It was brought by Mr Musson at £230. Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster were the vendor's solicitors.

Do You Know That

The Rev. T. W. Walters, Vicar of Whitwick, has been appointed a surrogate for the Diocese of Peterborough which, among other duties, gives him the power to grant marriage licences?

Coalville Police Court

Friday – Before Major Hatchett (in the chair), Mr J. Ward, Mr B. G. Hale, Mr J. Wootton, and Mr L. Lovett.

Shooting Rooks

Jabez Poxon, platelayer, Whitwick, was summoned for discharging stones from a catapult at Coalville, on May 25th. The defendant, an elderly man, said he discharged one stone. Inspector Dobney said defendant was shooting at rooks in the trees near Broom Leys. There had been complaints of lamps being broken and he had attributed it to boys. He was surprised to see a man the defendant's age using the catapult (produced). Defendant told him he had just picked the catapult up, but there was no dust on it. Defendant also had two pebbles in his pocket. Fined 7/6 or seven days.

Absentee

Jos. Ambrose Hall, aged 22, private, of Whitwick, was charged with being an absentee from the machine gun corps, Belton Park, Grantham, since May 21st. Defendant admitted it, and said he had been ill. P.C. Jones said he found the defendant at his home. He told him he had two bottles of medicine. Remanded to await an escort.

Escort for an Escort

Before Major Hatchett at the Coalville Police Court on Monday, Corporal G. Roberts and Private S. Hayton, were charged with being absentees from the Machine Gun Corps at Belton Park, Grantham, since the 3rd inst. Inspector Dobney said they were sent as an escort

for another absentee, remanded by the magistrates on Friday, and left the Police Station at 8.30 on Saturday morning to catch the 9 o'clock train. They went to Whitwick instead, and remained there till Sunday afternoon, when they were arrested and brought to the Police Station. The other prisoner was there as well.

P.S. Betts said he saw the escort and their prisoner in Whitwick at 5.30 pm. on Saturday, and asked them what they were doing there. They said they were returning at 8.30 that night. Witness received a complaint as to them drinking in a public house on Sunday, and later arrested them.

The Corporal said they had missed the train on Saturday morning and intended returning in the evening, but missed that train also. They intended leaving Whitwick on Sunday, but found there was no train from there. Inspector Dobney said there was a lot of trains from Coalville, between 9 in the morning and 9 at night on Saturday, but they never went to the station to see.

The escort was remanded to await an escort.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

Good 'houses' have shown much appreciation of this week's "fare". "The Exploits of Elaine" part 24, was good, and was followed with the usual enthusiastic interest. – St. Malo and Coombs, in a novel musical comedy act, "The Gipsy and the Sailor", are a very nice 'turn' and they have received loud applause for their efforts. The singing, etc, is very good and smart, and should prove a decided 'draw' this week-end. – "The Beginning of the End" is the 'star' for the week-end and this must not be missed. It is a fine drama in two reels, and is the sort of story which will please Whitwick patrons. – Next week, another good programme, see advertisement columns.

Friday June 16th 1916 (Issue 1267)

Local News

Mr R Sharp's Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged 763: Messrs Hawthorn Bros., 25 eggs; Mr J. Toon 12; Mr A. Barker 12; Mr R. Sharp 12; Miss J. Thompson 12; Miss M. Smith 12; Miss S. Boughton 4; P.O.D. 3; a friend 3; Mr G. Underwood 8.

Subscriptions to the fund: Mr R. Squire 4/9 ½; Conservative Club 9/-; Mr J. Burton 2/3 ½; Miss M. E. Palmer 2/-; and the following 1/- each: Messrs H. Moore, M. Larner, O. Burton, T. Bourne, B. West, T. Aris, A. Pal, anonymous, Mr C. Williamson 6d.

Parish Church

On Sunday last the evening service took the form of a memorial service in honour of Lord Kitchener, staff, officers and crew of H.M.S. Hampshire, together with our fallen heroes in

the naval battle, on May 31st. The Vicar made very suitable references during his sermon, special hymns were sung, and the organist (Mr R. G. West) played most impressively the "Dead March." The new setting of the National Anthem was sung at the conclusion by a large congregation. Previous to the service, the bells were rung muffled, by Messrs T. Partridge, A. Belcher, J. Rawson, S. W. West, H. Partridge, J. Williamson, R. Roulston, J. Howston, conducted by Mr H. Partridge, captain of the Bellringer's Society.

Citizen Corps' Shooting Match at Ashby

Whitwick: Irons 88; Hull 95; Eagles 89; Blow 94; Palmer 89; Bishop 68; Holland 75; Dodds 57; Storer 96; Briers 79; Collins 89; Robinson 86; Lester 47. Total 992.

Ashby: Joyce 95; Williscroft 96; Gamble 90; Taylor 87; Collier 93; Hussey 88; Parkes 94; Simpson 68; Peck 91; Willis 93; Worrall 90; Webb 92; Redfern 83. Total 1,160.

A Year's Sanitary Work at Coalville

In his annual report to the Coalville Urban District Council, the surveyor and sanitary inspector states that during the year half a mile of new sewers were laid, 50 houses were erected, 68 w.c.'s erected, there were 9,130 inspections of premises, and 4,417 re-inspections, 4,234 notices to abate nuisances were served, 86 houses were disinfected after infectious disease, 1,444 accumulations of night soil and refuse were removed, 338 houses were inspected under the Housing and Town Planning Act, and there are numerous other details of work done.

Common Lodging-Houses

I have to report that the three common lodging-houses at Whitwick have been maintained in a satisfactory manner during the year. There have been no cases of overcrowding or of infectious disease. The houses have been systematically inspected at monthly intervals, and also twice at midnight, no irregularities being however found. Limewashing has been carried out as usual according to statutory requirements. The total number of lodgers accommodated for the year was 8,029 (less than half the capacity of houses), against 11,337 for 1914, and 10,573 for 1913.

Local Chit Chat

Five of the Whitwick church bellringers are now serving in the Army, viz., Mr Walter Adams who volunteered with the Leicestershire Yeomanry at the beginning of the war; Sergeant Harold Pegg, who joined one of the Leicestershire regiments shortly after, and is now in France; Alfred Neath and Joseph Bonser, are in training in England; the fifth is Mr Joseph Sharp, of Silver Street. Mr Sharp left for Australia several years back, and is now with one of the Australian contingents in France, having volunteered at the end of last year. Mr S. W. West has been pleased to receive a letter from Private Sharp recently, in which he explains that whilst in training in Melbourne, Australia, he used to ring at the Cathedral every Sunday and Wednesday when not on duty at the camp. It is noteworthy that over 20 per cent of Whitwick church ringers are now in the Army, which means that if the same percentage of men had joined all over the parish, Whitwick would have an army of 600 men.

The secretary of the Whitwick Nursing Association acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £2 from the Coalville Horticultural Society, and £1 from the workmen of Messrs Griffin Bros. Coalville.

Coalville Tribunal

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

Before any appeals were heard, the chairman remarked that an article appeared in the "Coalville Times" last week, which they had carefully gone through, and which he thought he ought to mention. They considered that they regulated and managed the Tribunal in the best way they could. They tried to do the best they could for the men who appeared before them, and for the country. He would ask the clerk to read a paragraph dealing with the matter, which appeared in the instructions from the Local Government Board. The clerk then read the following extract:

"The regulations contemplate that cases shall generally be conducted in public, but power is reserved to the Tribunal to conduct in private, if they so desire, the whole, or any part, of their proceedings in any case. If any party to a case, or any person concerned requests that the case shall be conducted in private, the request should be conceded, if there are good reasons for it. Matters of a business or domestic nature may arise in connection with cases which it would be obviously unfair to divulge to the public, and the Tribunal should have regard in cases of this kind, to the interests of the parties or of any persons concerned. The Tribunal may confer in private respecting the decision of any case."

Three months were allowed to Mr W. H. Allgood, aged 31, a Whitwick painter, signwriter, etc.

Mr C. W. Pegg, a Whitwick painter, applied for two of his men, H. Webster, 33, and R. P. Roulston, 31, both married, with one child each. He asked for temporary exemption to completed contracts on hand. His own son, formerly employed in the business, had joined the Colours. The Advisory Committee recommended one month each. Webster was allowed conditional exemption, and Roulston one month (final).

A Whitwick hairdresser, Frederick Palmer, aged 34, asked for temporary exemption, stating that if granted reasonable time, he could train his son, aged 14, to the business.

Mr German: How long would it take to teach him – two months?

Applicant: You can't teach a boy to cut hair and shave in two months.

The Tribunal granted two months.

Conditional exemption was granted to the following: John Moore, 33, carting contractor and farmer, of Whitwick; R. J. Gee, 32, boot-maker, Thringstone; Walter Briers, 35, cabinet maker etc, Whitwick; John W. White, 35, horseman and ploughman, Bardon Hill; and J. H. Underwood, 31, baker and grocer, Whitwick.

Ashby Police Court

Saturday – Before Mr J. P. Adcock (in the chair), Mr G. D. Orchard, and Mr C. H. Parsons.

Transfers

On the application of Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) a beer-off license at Whitwick was transferred to Mrs Emily Belcher from her late husband, who, Mr Crane said, held the license for 35 years.

Mr J. J. Sharp, (Coalville) appeared for Reginald Bamkin Squire, in an application for the transfer of the license of the Three Crowns Inn, Whitwick, from the executors of the late Mrs Musson, and it was granted.

Other licences transferred were: Crown Inn, Heather, to Augustus Wm. Beardall, from Amelia Allen; Snibston New Inn, Coalville, to Mrs Dennis from her late husband; Griffin Inn, Worthington, to Geo. Kilby from Geo. Edwards; and the Forester's Arms, Whitwick, to Bernard O'Mara from Reginald Bamkin Squire.

Whitwick Bricklayer to Pay

John Bakewell (56), bricklayer, Whitwick, was summoned by the Ashby Board of Guardians, in respect of wife maintenance arrears. P.C. Grewcock stated that the defendant the previous night paid him £1 on account. John Wm. Bowley, relieving officer, said the man was in a position to pay, but would not do so till he was pressed. After allowing for £1, he now owed £1/2/6. He had given a lot of trouble, and witness asked for a committal order. Defendant said he could earn 30/- a week if he worked regularly, and a return from his employer showed 25/- a week for the last six weeks. Committed to prison for 14 days if the money is not paid forthwith.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

"Exploits of Elaine" No. 25 was an interesting part of this excellent serial during the first half of the week, and all the other pictures were also good and enjoyed by the usual large audiences.- The Six Units in a singing and dancing scena are an "excellent turn" and have been well received. Their repertoire consists of smart singing, dancing, and brilliant harmony and clean comedy, and they are a most entertaining combination of artistes who cannot fail to please. The "show" is well-staged and dressed, and we recommend patrons not to miss it during the week-end. – "Kings of the Forest" should be seen tonight or tomorrow. This is a Selig animal picture of the usual excellence of this firm's production, and is both exciting and instructive. – Others are good. – Next week an extra good programme. For further particulars see our advertisement columns.

Friday June 23rd 1916 (Issue 1268)

Local News

George H. Copson, formerly of Loughborough was one of those who went down in the North Sea battle. His father lives at Oxford Street, Loughborough. Copson had lived at Whitwick where he was a miner, and joined the Navy on the outbreak of war. He was 28 years of age, and leaves a widow and two children.

Mr R. Sharp's Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged 1,006 eggs. Mr R. Sharp 12; Mrs T. Hull 12; Mrs Barker 12; Miss A. L. Grimley 7; Mr Biddle 2; Mr Noon's company 5/-; Whitwick Liberal Club 3/6; Mrs J. H. Robinson 2/6; Mrs J. Toon, Miss Hunt, Mr F. Swift, and Mr J. Moore 2/- each; 1/- each Messrs G. Limb, E. Glynn, R. Beeson, G. Boam, J. Musson, A.V.C.; B. Hurst; H. Ward and A. Yearby; 6d a friend.

Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps

Whitsuntide Camp

By kind permission of the Right Hon. Chas. and Mrs Booth, the Whitwick and Thringstone Corps was enabled to go into quarters at the Thringstone House Club on the Saturday evening, and to remain there until the Monday morning. The corps paraded at headquarters, the Gymnasium, Whitwick, at 5 pm., on the Saturday and marched to Thringstone, the necessary baggage having been carted there by Mr Biddle free of charge. On arrival, the remainder of the evening was spent in preparing quarters for the night, making ready the mess-room, and in "settling in" thoroughly. After supper an enjoyable time was spent in billiards, etc., and a "sing-song" until "lights out" at 11 pm.

Sunday, June 17th was a full day. Reveille at 6.30 am with parade immediately following. A march was taken via the Warren to the cricket ground at Gracedieu for drill. The ground had been placed at the disposal of the corps for the camp by the Rt. Hon. Charles Booth, as had adjoining ground by Mr R. H. Vesty. Ninety minutes was done, and a return made to quarters for breakfast. Church parade at 10.45 am was followed by a march to Thringstone Church, where an excellent discourse was given by the Rev. C. Shrewsbury (vicar), who is assistant-chaplain to the corps. On the return route a visit was paid to Mrs Booth's Convalescent Home, where the matron kindly showed the member, round the institution. This was found to be such a model that a desire at once was expressed for a "week-end". The afternoon, unfortunately, proved unpropitious from the weather point of view. An under-cover shooting range was, however, improvised, so that no time was wasted. A number of very good cards were returned. Private T. Irons heading the score with a "possible." At tea, the corps had the pleasure of entertaining Lieutenant Miss O'Reilly (of the Birmingham W.V.R.) the Rev. J. M. O'Reilly, of Whitwick (chaplain), and the Rev. C. Shrewsbury (assistant chaplain). Parade followed at 5.45 pm and the corps marched to St. George's, Swannington, to a memorial service to the late Lord Kitchener. A splendidly appropriate service was gone through, during which one lesson was read by the Commander of the Corps and the other by Private O. Geary, and a bracing sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. G. Robinson).

Monday, June 12th. Reveille at 5.30 was anticipated by some members and 6 am found a full parade, with the exception of one or two who had to return to work. A march to the drill ground by a new route followed, where all were kept hard at it until dinner time. The afternoon again found the corps busy and the drill and manoeuvring grounds. A great feature of the afternoon was the winning of a scratch shooting competition by Pte. 'Bob' Holland, who, acting as marker for all the others, himself fired last, and who amidst salvos of cheers which greeted the result of each shot, scored the only "possible" made during the competition proper. Ptes. Blow and Williams tied for second prize, each having dropped one point only. In the shoot-off Private Williams proved the winner of second prize with a "possible." After tea, a short time was spent under the presidency of the Rev. Father O'Reilly, who had been with the corps throughout the day. A most hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Right Hon. Chas. and Mrs Booth for their great kindness, which had contributed so largely to the success of the gathering. Similar compliments were paid to Mrs Towle, the popular manageress of the club, and to Mr R. H. Vesty, who in their respective spheres had also added largely to the success attained. After the Commandant of the corps had been similarly thanked he complimented the men on their conduct and enthusiasm, and commented upon the keen spirit which had kept the corps going. He also congratulated the men upon the standard of efficiency they were reaching in drill, etc., and in conclusion thanked them all for the splendid manner in which they had always seconded his efforts.

A most enjoyable gathering was brought to a conclusion in the usual manner with general expressions of the hope for an early opportunity of "having another."

Coalville Police Court

Friday – Before Mr H. J. Ford (in the chair), Mr J. W. West and Mr L. Lovett.

Bus Driver Fined

Alec Wardle, 'bus driver, Coalville, was summoned for dangerously driving a motor 'bus at Coalville, on June 9th.

Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty. Inspector Dobney said he was near the Whitwick Picture House, at 10.20 pm, when he saw a motor omnibus coming round the corner near the King's Arms at a very dangerous rate – quite twenty miles an hour. The road at this spot was only 15 foot wide, and winds like a letter 'S'. Several people were about and had to rush onto the path out of the way of the bus. It was impossible to see who was the driver owing to the speed and dust. P.C. Grewcock shouted to the driver to stop, but he took no notice, and witness sent P.C.'s Grewcock and Jelley after him to the stopping place in Whitwick Market Place, but the bus was then going up Pare's Hill. Had anyone been coming round the corner into Silver Street, there might have been an accident. He saw the defendant later the same evening and he admitted driving the 'bus at Whitwick. Witness told him he would be reported. Silver Street, Whitwick, at that corner, was one of the most dangerous spots in Leicestershire, and it was certainly not safe to driver at more than 10 miles an hour.

By Mr Sharp: He had no independent witness. One who was to have been called up was on business.

P.C. Grewcock corroborated, and said several people complained. Witness and P.C. Jelley had to jump out of the way.

Mr Sharp said he wondered how the 'bus got round the corners at the rate the police said he was going.

P.C. Grewcock: He is a very good driver.

P.C. Jelley, who also gave evidence, said that had there had been a horse and cart turning the corner, there would bound to have been an accident.

Mr Sharp said the Bench had to be satisfied that the public were endangered. If the man was driving so fast, it was remarkable that he got round these difficult corners safely, but there was no accident, and there was no evidence of the public complaining. The rules of the 'bus company were that the drivers were not to exceed twelve miles an hour, and he suggested that the police had exaggerated the speed.

Defendant said he had worked for the 'bus company two years. He had been charged twice before with driving to the danger of the public, at Wigan and Leicester. At Wigan, he had to pay the costs, the speed being only 3 miles an hour, but there was a procession passing at the time. He was then driving a motor-cycle and sidecar. At Leicester he was driving the motor 'bus and the speed was eight to ten miles an hour. He was fined 40/-. As to the speed on this occasion, at Whitwick, he said he was not going more than 10 miles an hour. They could not get 20 miles out of the 'buses on the level ground. He did not hear the police call to him. None of the passengers or public complained.

By Supt. Lockton: The speed did not always matter. It was a question whether it was dangerous to the public. He could pull the 'bus up in twenty yards, at 10 miles an hour. He turned into Whitwick Market Place at only about 3 miles an hour. He had never been previously cautioned by the company directors or the police as to his driving.

Sidney Cliff, conductor of the 'bus, said there were ten or twelve passengers in the 'bus. Nobody complained. A great speed at the Market Place corner would turn the 'bus over.

By Supt. Lockton: He did not tell Inspector Dobney the next morning that he was frightened at the speed, and was glad the police had taken it up.

Samuel Williamson, collier, said he was riding on the front of the 'bus, and he estimated the pace at about 12 miles per hour. Defendant had the 'bus well in hand, and it did not occur to witness that the pace was too great. He heard no complaints.

Fined 30/-, or 14 days.

The Chairman said the Bench had taken a lenient view, but they cautioned the defendant to be more careful in the future, especially when going round dangerous corners.

"Heading"

Thomas Wright, John Williamson and Jno. King, colliers, all of Whitwick, were summoned for gaming with coins on the highway at Whitwick, on June 11th. Defendants did not appear. P.C. Jelley said he saw the defendants playing "heading".

Fined 7/6 each, or seven days.

American's Offence

Wm. Freer, labourer, and Robert Lee, scrap iron gatherer, both of Whitwick, were summoned for a breach of the Alien's Restriction Act, at Whitwick, on June 1st. They pleaded not guilty.

Inspector Dobney said he visited Freer's house and saw the other defendant there. He said he was American. He had not signed a form, and Freer said he had no register. Later witness saw a form signed by Lee as an Englishman. He had previously stayed at the Whitwick lodging houses for about eight years. Lee said he was American. Freer said he was ignorant of the law.

Inspector Dobney said notices had been posted about the district, and had also appeared in the "Coalville Times".

Freer was fined 5/6 and Lee 15/6, the chairman telling Lee he must properly register himself as an alien.

Round the Theatres

The Picture House, Whitwick

Good "houses" have attended here this week and "The Exploits of Elaine" (No. 26) was another good part of this excellent serial, and "Across the Desert" was a fine Selig; others were good. For the week-end "The Outrage" is a good one featuring Henry Ainley. There are some very thrilling incidents and the piece should not be missed. – Others are good. – Next week, "The Trap that Failed" and "The Second String" with a large selection of other fine subjects.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Burials

Quemby – On Saturday at Whitwick, Sarah Catherine Quemby, aged 61 years, of Leicester Road.

Friday June 30th 1916 (Issue 1269)

Local News

Coalville Soldier on the Hampshire

Mrs H. Heggs, widow, of Bath House, Greenhill, has received information from the Admiralty, that the name of her son, Herbert Heggs, aged 18 years on May 5th last, rated as acting ordinary on H.M.S. Hampshire does not appear in the list of survivors received by the Admiralty, and it is feared that he must be regarded as having lost his life. Mrs Heggs has also received a letter signed by the First Lord of the Admiralty stating that the King commanded him to assure the sailor's mother of the true sympathy of his Majesty and the Queen in her sorrow. The deceased joined the Navy three years ago, and before that was employed by Mr S. Berrington, farmer, Whitwick.

Cycling Accident

Mrs Potter, of the New Inn, Whitwick, while cycling at Coalville on Wednesday morning, collided with a horse and cart at the corner of Belvoir Road and the Market Place, and was thrown off her machine, but fortunately, was not seriously hurt.

Mr R. Sharp's Egg Collection

Previously acknowledged, 1,251; Messrs. Hawthorn Bros. 25 eggs; Mr R. Sharp 12; Mrs W. Stinson 10. 1/- each from Mrs C. Pegg, Mrs P. Aris, Messrs. T. Moore, D. Otter, H. Stanyard, W. Moore, H. Belcher, R. Moore, A. Isaac, W. Moss, W. Smith, J. Burton, T. Saddington; 6d each from Messrs. E. Moore, T. Wyatt, J. Berrington; 3d from Mr T. Whitwmore.

The Wake

Whitwick Wake has been observed this week, Monday being the principal day, and in the evening there was a large number of visitors, though it was a much quieter event this year than on some former occasions. Roundabouts, shows, etc., were erected on the land off Church Lane, and were an attraction chiefly for the younger portion of the community. The collier's usually take a day or two holiday for the wake, but this year, with a few exceptions, loyally complied with the request to keep at work.

Club Dinner

The members of the 5/- club at the Castle Inn, had their 16th annual dinner on Saturday night, a splendid repast being served by Host and Hostess Griffin, to a company of about 70. Father O'Reilly occupied the chair, and after dinner the loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk. Songs were given by Messrs P. O'Mara, B. Revill, Parker, G. Thirlby and others. The secretary Mr W. Stanyard presented the balance sheet, which showed a heavy year for sickness, £12 having been paid out. The dividend was 5/10 per member. The club was started again, practically all the old members re-joining and nine new ones were enrolled.-

Five Shilling Clubs

In accordance with the annual wake custom there has been a sharing up in the various 5/- clubs at Whitwick this week. At the Hastings Arms (Mr T. Young, secretary) a dividend of 8/6 per member was paid out; the King's Arms club, for which Mr Wm. Benistone, is secretary, paid out 5/4 to each member, while the members of the women's club at the same licence (Mrs Smith secretary) each received 12/10; at the Castle Inn, the club members received 5/10 each, and 7/- is the amount to be paid to members of the Three Crowns club on Saturday, by the secretary, Mr Jas. Howell.

Exciting Wake Incident

When the wake was at its height on Saturday night, a Ravenstone visitor, Mr Frank James, furnace man at Messrs. Stableford's works, saw smoke issuing from one of the show vans. He saw flames in the van, and ascertained that the floor was alight. He promptly entered the van and rescued a little boy and, being told there was an infant in another department, James entered a second time, and saved the second child. But for his timely discovery and prompt action, the children might have lost their lives, the parents being engaged at stalls at the wake when the incident occurred. It is supposed the fire was caused by some paraffin being upset near the stove. The flames were soon extinguished.

Round the Theatre

The Picture House, Whitwick

A good list of first-class films is to be seen here this week, and "The Exploits of Elaine" as usual, was much enjoyed at the beginning of the week. This was episode 27 (The Vanishing Man) and was up to the usual standard of excellence of the other parts of this serial. – Others were good. – For the week-end, "The Second String" is a good racing drama. Diana Nugent ensnares the younger son of an old country family, but after having made good his name for a £2,000 debt owing by her, she spurns him, and he finally does away with himself in desperation. The eldest brother resolves to avenge his wronged brother, and learns that Diana's future depends on her horse winning a great race. He also has a horse (of the first string) running in this race, Diana resents to foul play, but is ultimately the loser and is ruined: thus the younger brother is avenged. – A good picture. – Others are also excellent. See advertisement for next week's list – another good one.