

Coalville Times - November 1914

Friday November 6th 1914 (Issue 1183)

Local News **Annual Dinner**

The annual dinner of the Whitwick and District Association of the Protection of Property was held at the Fox and Goose Hotel on Monday, about 65 being present. Dr. Hamilton presided and after dinner the officers were re-elected except Mr E. Hull takes the place of Mr T. Carter as vice-chairman.

Tea and Lecture

A meeting was held at the Whitwick Primitive Methodist Chapel on Saturday and was well attended, and in the evening, the Rev. J. Gorton, of Melton Mowbray, gave a lecture on "The demand of the times." Mr J. Ward presided. The rev. gentleman preached at the services on Sunday. The collections were for the trust funds.

Citizen's Corps

The following officers of this corps have been appointed: Captain: Capt. W. E. Stevenson; Chairman of Committee: Mr B. Berry; Secretary: Mr H. G. W. Howe; Drill Instructors: Messrs. E. Hanson, and G. H. Hallam. A meeting is to be held at the Whitwick Gymnasium on Monday morning at 10.30.

Gruesome Discovery at Whitwick **Man's Body Found Hanging in a Wood** **Missing for Nearly Six Weeks** **Sister's Remarkable Dream**

The story of a tragic discovery in a Whitwick Wood was told at an inquest held by Mr T. J. Webb, deputy-coroner for North Leicestershire, held at Mr Briers' office, Whitwick on Monday afternoon.

The deceased was Samuel Roome, a Whitwick collier, whose decomposed body was found hanging from a tree in Cademan Wood on Sunday afternoon, having been there for five or six weeks. The Coroner said that as far as he knew the evidence was very scanty. Deceased went away at a certain period and only one person who knew him saw him afterwards, as far as they knew.

Albert Roome, quarry engine-driver, Leicester Road, Whitwick, said the deceased was his brother, who was single, aged 36 and employed as a collier at the Whitwick pit. He lodged with witness. On Friday, September 25th, witness saw him last. He was then in bed. He afterwards went to draw his money at the Whitwick Colliery.

The Coroner: Do you know whether he drew his money.

Witness: I don't.

P.C. Grewcock said he did. Witness said he left the door open on Friday and Saturday nights, but the deceased did not return. On the Monday witness told his wife to report it to the police. Witness had a sister at Loughborough and he thought the deceased may have gone there. He heard that his brother was at Loughborough on Sunday, September 27th, and witness went to see his sister on the following Saturday and she said he had been there, but he told her nothing. Witness heard no more of him till the previous night. Deceased was a quiet, reserved sort of man, but witness did not think he would commit suicide. He had never said anything to make witness think he would. As far as witness knew there was no insanity in the family.

P.C. Grewcock suggested that the impression deceased's friends had was that he had enlisted. Witness said that was so.

The Coroner: Had he talked of enlisting

Witness: Yes, in a joking way.

The Coroner: You didn't make enquiries at any of the recruiting depots

Witness: No.

Agnes Simmons, wife of Mr Jack Simmons, Ashby Square, Loughborough, a labourer at the Falcon Works, stated that the deceased was her brother. She last saw him alive on Sunday, September 27th when he called at her house about 11 in the morning and stayed till three in the afternoon. He gave no particular reason for coming, but seemed somewhat quieter than usual. He was rather a quiet man as a rule. She asked him whether he was out of work and he said he had not been to the pit since the previous Wednesday. She did not ask him why he had not been to work since then. When he left her house at three o'clock to walk home he said he should be at Whitwick by five. He went up Ashby Road. She did not know whether Cademan Wood where the body was found was on the way from Loughborough to Whitwick. He looked a bit rough. He wanted a shave badly and she gave him some money for that purpose. She believed he had a drink instead of getting a shave.

One of the jurors remarked that deceased would have to cross two fields to get to the wood.

Replying to the Coroner, witness said deceased took drink at times. She had never heard him say anything that would lead her to suppose he would commit suicide.

The Coroner: Did you think he had.

Witness: Yes, I thought he had. I dreamt it one night.

The Coroner: There is no insanity in your family and no suicide previously.

Witness: No.

By the Foreman: (Mr T. Irons) The reason she thought her brother had committed suicide was because of her dream. She had no other reason for thinking so.

Albert Roome recalled, in reply to the Coroner, said he supposed the reason deceased had no money when he called at his sister although having drawn his wages at the pit on Friday, was that he spent it on drink. He was accustomed to taking drink and he was also in debt.

The Coroner: Had anyone put him in the Court.

Witness: Yes, I believe one person, but that was some time ago.

Further questioned witness said he had made enquiries of the colliers and others as to whether anyone had seen the deceased after he left the colliery, but could not hear of anyone having seen him but his sister.

Dr. Milligan, locum tenens to Dr. Burkitt, Whitwick, stated that he was called at a quarter to eight on Sunday evening to see the body in a shed on Mr Briers' premises. It was in an advanced stage of decomposition, and he formed the opinion that death had taken place between five and six weeks, certainly not less than one month. The features were absolutely gone and he could not recognise the man. He could not remember him either from the name. He had no knowledge of seeing the man before.

John Howe, baker, residing at Thringstone, stated that on Sunday afternoon about half past three he was in Cademan Wood, when he saw a man hanging from a bough of a tree. Witness fetched P.C. Grewcock. He did not know who the deceased was at the time. He knew Roome during his lifetime, but on Sunday could not recognise the body. He had not jumped off anything but hung himself by letting his legs go from under him. The bough was only a little above his head, about 6 feet from the ground. His knees were bent under him and his toes just touched the ground.

P.C. Grewcock stated that about 4 pm he saw Howe and accompanied him to Cademan Wood and saw the body of the deceased hanging from a tree near the Monument. He was hanging from a low bough, which would be not more than 4 feet from the ground. He saw a Coalville reporter produce a knife from his pocket and cut a silk neckerchief from which the deceased was suspended from the bough. The knees were bent and the toes were touching the ground. The body was in an awful state. After removing the body to Mr Briers' premises, witness searched clothes and found two club cards bearing the deceased's name and that helped in identifying the man. He had made enquiries and could not hear of anyone having seen the deceased after he left his sister's house at Loughborough. Witness had ascertained that the man drew his wages at the colliery on the Friday. Replying to the Foreman, witness said the deceased had evidently put all his weight on his neck by bending his knees. He was a man about 5ft 3in or 4in high.

The Foreman said the deceased would be strangled.

The Coroner said it showed great determination and it was clearly a case of suicide. It was for the jury to say whether it was a case of *felo de se*, or whether the man was insane at the time. A third course the jury might take was to say there was not sufficient evidence to show the state of the man's mind. It looked as if drink may have had a lot to do with it as the man drew his wages on Friday and he had not the price of a shave on Sunday. P.C. Grewcock said that on the day after the man went away, Mrs Roome, where he lodged, told witness he owed her a lot of money and she would like to know where he was. She thought he had gone to enlist.

The Foreman said he had known the deceased thirty years and he was always a very quiet man. The question was asked whether the constable knew the amount of money deceased drew from the colliery.

P.C. Grewcock said he did not know but he understood that the man did not do much work that week.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide by hanging, and that there was not sufficient evidence to show the state of his mind at the time.

Accident to a Collier

Thomas Young, working as a holer in the Speedwell new pit of the Whitwick Colliery, is on the injured list with a broken leg, sustained whilst at work. Dr. Milligan, assistant surgeon to the colliery company, set the limb, being assisted by Albert Sparke, a friend of the injured man.

Coalville Urban District Council

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

Plans

The following plans were recommended for approval: Four houses, Crescent Road, Coalville, for Mr W. Geary, and new stables and motor garage, Coalville, for Co-Operative Society. The following plan was referred back, house, Meadow Lane, Whitwick, for Mr L. Parker. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr S. Perry.

Highway Committee's Report

The plan was produced to the Committee of the proposed diversion of the line of railway from the works of the Whitwick Granite Co. to the L. and N. W. Railway, and also a letter read from Messrs. Owston, Dickinson and Co. of Leicester, requesting on behalf of owners of adjoining land that the council refuse to approve of the plan, and the Committee recommend that the company be informed that the committee does not feel it can give any consent with the particulars before it and they be

asked to supply a full section of the line so as to see the possibility of crossing in Hall Lane being either by subway or bridge and the matter brought before the next meeting of the committee.

Mr Hay moved the adoption of the report which was carried. Mr Perry voting against it, intimating that he was against the Committee in regard to the Whitwick Granite Company's railway.

The Committee recommend the Council find labour in laying a pavement in front of Mr Mann's property at Whitwick.

Finance

The Committee recommend the surveyor erect huts for storage of gravel in Hugglescote and Whitwick wards for spreading on the roads in frosty weather.

The Committee recommend that Mr T. Barker, of Messrs. Barker and Sons of Loughborough, be placed on the list of registered plumbers for work at the Picture Palace, Whitwick.

A Good Health Bill

The medical officer, (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported a marked decline in the number of infectious disease during the month of October, only three cases of diphtheria had been notified – two in one family in Ravenstone Road, Coalville, and one in Silver Street, Whitwick.

Public Mortuary

The surveyor reported that the plans of the proposed public mortuary were now ready and tenders for its erection might be advertised for. This was agreed to. Mr Kelly said they had a case at Whitwick this week which showed how necessary the provision of such a building was.

Local Chit Chat

The Coalville Territorial recruits were joined by members of the Citizens' Corps for the church parade on Sunday morning. They met in Marlborough Square and marched to Whitwick Church, the Territorials being headed by the Hugglescote and Ellistown Band, and the Citizens' by the Coalville Boy Scouts Band. Before dispersing them in Marlborough Square on their return, Capt. Stevenson highly complimented them on their marching and general appearance.

The need of a public mortuary for the Coalville district has often been urged, and it was emphasised by the tragic discovery made in a Whitwick wood this week. It is interesting to note therefore, that the Urban Council have the matter so far in hand that plans have been prepared and tenders for the erection of the building has more than once been the subject of strong comment by the District Coroner.

Though the Coalville Council meeting on Tuesday night was a short one, several interesting matters were dealt with, not the least prominent among which was the decision to supply water and gas free to Broom Leys while the Belgian refugees are in residence there. In this the Council will have the support of ratepayers who are themselves responding liberally to the appeal which is being made. Thanks to the liberality of the Whitwick Colliery Company and the Council, the refugees are now assured of a home with fire, light and water free, which form a considerable item. The furnishing is well in hand and there is no doubt that the necessary funds for the maintenance of the refugees will be forthcoming. On enquiry of the hon. secretary, Mr E. Hawthorn, yesterday, we were informed that it is not yet definitely known when Coalville's guests would arrive as the house was not quite in readiness.

Do You Know

That there have been two inquests at Whitwick within a week and five within the last two months?

That Dr. Vaughan, of London Road, Coaville, who for 10 years has been assistant to Dr. J. C. Burkitt, of Whitwick, is leaving shortly for Lincolnshire?

That the Whitwick poor rate for the ensuing half-year will be 1/6 in the £, an increase of 2d?

Sport

Football

Coalville and District League

In all ten matches were played in the Coalville League on Saturday. In the first division, Whitwick Imperial Reserves distinguished themselves by a 6-0 victory over Measham United.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Burials

Bailey – At Whitwick, on Saturday, John Bailey, aged 54 years, of Leicester Road.

Ward – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Sarah Ward, of 89 Hartopp Street, Leicester.

Roome – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Samuel Roome, aged 36 years, of Leicester Road.

Friday November 13th 1914 (Issue 1184)

Local News

Whitwick Citizens' Corps

With the object of obtaining additions to the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizens' Corps, a public meeting was held in the Whitwick Gymnasium on Monday. Mr B. Berry presided and gave a patriotic address and Capt. Stevenson also made an appeal for men over 35 to join the corps and at the close of the meeting 16 more responded. Last night a similar meeting was held at Thringstone in the village hall, with a view to getting Thringstone men to join.

Notice

I, William Waterfield, of 88, Leicester Road, Whitwick, beg to give notice that I will not be responsible for any debt or debts contract by my wife, Martha Waterfield, from this date.

November 13th, 1914

Signed, William Waterfield

Coalville Police Court

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

Fowl Stealing at Whitwick

George Bennox, labourer, no fixed abode, was charged with stealing two tame fowls value 8s 6d, the property of Thomas Belcher, at Whitwick, on November 6th. Asked whether he elected to be dealt with that day or go to the Quarter Sessions, he said he did not care how it was. He was guilty.

Inspector Dobney stated that about a quarter to nine that morning he went to the Victoria Hotel and found the prisoner in the vaults. He had a cockerel (produced) in his possession and was trying to sell it. Witness asked him whether it was his and he said it was and he then asked the defendant how he came in possession of it. The reply was, "_____ well find out. I shall tell you nothing." Witness then arrested him on suspicion. At the police station witness cautioned and charged prisoner who replied, "Last night I slept in a haystack belonging to Tom Belcher in Green Lane, Whitwick, and when I woke this morning, I caught a cockerel and killed it. I took it to Bramall's (Victoria Hotel) and tried to sell it, but Bramall would not have it. Witness asked him what about the pullet he sold to Bramall on Wednesday night and prisoner replied, "I had that from the same place, it belonged to Belcher. I took it out of the fowl pen about seven o'clock on Wednesday night." Mrs Belcher identified the fowls. Supt. Lockton said the man was a thorough ne'er-do-well. He had been away from the district for some time.

Inspector Dobney said the man had two children whom he was dragging about with him sleeping in haystacks or anywhere. Prisoner was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

**Ashby Board of Guardians
Dr. Burkitt's Deputy**

Dr. Wilson, of Ibstock, wrote intimating that Dr Burkitt, of Whitwick, who was serving with the forces, had asked him to request the Board to accept Dr. Milligan as his locum tenens in place of Dr. Vaughan, who was leaving the district. He knew Dr. Milligan personally and could vouch that any work he undertook would be to the satisfaction of the Guardians and the patients. The Board approved.

**Whitwick Holy Cross Church
Letter from the Bishop**

At the Whitwick Holy Cross Church services on Sunday, Father O'Reilly read the following letter which had been addressed to the churches throughout the diocese:

Cathedral, Nottingham

November 5th, 1914

To Our People, the Clergy and the Laity of the Diocese, We appeal with confidence for sympathy and for the eternal manifestation of it by our prayers on behalf of his Majesty, Albert King of the Belgians. Sunday next, November 15th, is his "name-day," a day which is kept amongst them as a feast of special gladness.

One little year ago, his people were chanting his praises through city, town and hamlet. A thousand belfries carried the chant along the dales and up the slopes to the highest hills, while from every little convent, parish church, and stately cathedral the countless voices rose like an echo "God save the King!"

And now, my dear children in Christ, the King of the Belgians has drunk of the waters of bitterness and wears only a crown of sorrow! It is then for us, it is for all those children of the Catholic Church, whose lives are cast in the "pathway of peace" to let our prayers go up to the highest Heaven, in earnest hope that this time of tribulation may pass away, and that peace may once again rule the world, to the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

We propose, with the concurrence of the representatives of Belgium and England, that the High Mass on that day in all the Churches of the Diocese, be celebrated for His Majesty King Albert and for his devoted and much loved people. Also we suggest that in every church, when the usual prayer for our king has been said or sung at the principal mass, the prayers sent herewith should be sung or recited for this intention.

Wishing you every blessing

Robert, Bishop of Nottingham

By command of my Lord Bishop

Leo Moens. Sec.

**"A Grand Life"
Whitwick Man's Cheery Letter**

A Whitwick man who enlisted and is now with the 9th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment at Aldershot, writing to his former employer at Whitwick, says his company has got a good name already for smartness. "We are all trying to keep the old regiment's name up. Our officers are very good to us. They want us to try and be ready as soon as we can. They don't want us to be left behind. I am sorry to say there are only two of us from Whitwick in our company. I think people would wonder what was the matter if the Germans got into England. Then they would blame us and say we were not doing our

best. But if we do go to the front you can trust me to do my best for King and country. We are having plenty of food, a good bed at night, and yet some of the men are always grumbling. They do not think of the poor beggars at the front. It is a grand life. They can do with more men. I should be pleased to hear all the young men from the old place had enlisted. It appears some would sooner see the country go down than come. They ought to be made to come."

Whitwick Quarrymen at the Front Thrilling Experiences in the Trenches

Splendid patriotism has been shown by the employees of the Whitwick Granite Company. Out of 200 workmen, 19 up to now have joined the colours, and one of them, Pte. Charles Milward, of the 1st Leicesters, after a warm time in the trenches, has unfortunately been wounded. In letters written to the quarry manager, Mr J. H. Robinson, Milward states:

"I am pleased to say my cut is going on well, it was a nasty wound: the doctor said if it had been a little deeper I should not have been here. It cut me down the middle of the head and knocked me unconscious. I lost a lot of blood. I shall never forget that Sunday, the 25th October. It was a terrible sight and a hard day's fighting, the busiest I had been in. The Germans started about 5 o'clock in the morning and came up in thousands; they had been trying to break our line for 3 days but we held them at bay, though we lost heavily, about all our officers were killed and wounded, our trenches were full. The dead lay all over the place in hundreds.

The enemy kept blowing our trenches up with the big guns, and when the shells hit the ground you could bury a horse and cart in the hole made. They were shelling us for 3 days. I thought every minute my last had come. Every time the big shells came we had to get under the ground we had dug out for the purpose. I am pleased to get out of it for a while. I shall be glad when the war is over. We had a pretty good time at the battle of the Aisne: we were busier in the last battle. We had some very hard times in the trenches. I am sorry that parcel will not reach me as we long for a smoke and anything in that line, someone will make a fuss of them.

The French people are a good natured lot; they would give us anything. We were well supplied with tobacco and cigarettes, that was something to be thankful for. We fared pretty well for food seeing we were at war. We left Cambridge Hospital on Wednesday afternoon for Bedford. When we arrived at the station there were motor cars waiting for us, taking us to our new destination. We enjoyed the 10 miles ride very much. We have gone to be guests of Lord Lucas. It is a lovely place and a very large estate. We are living on the best of everything. If you want anything you only have to ask for it, they are all very kind to you. I think it is very kind of him to have us here, we get plenty to eat and drink and smoke and we can go for nice long walks in the Park. There is fishing, boating and every game you can think of to amuse yourself. I never thought I should come to a place like this in my time: it is better than being in the trenches. We are going for a motor ride on Saturday to Luton to see a football match. We are to have plenty of rides in Lord Lucas's motors. I could not say how long we are staying here, if we stay long we shall get quite strong again. Remember me to foreman and mates.

Local Chit Chat

The treasurers of the seven local nursing associations – Coalville, Hugglescote, Whitwick, Markfield, Swannington, Shepshed and Ravenstone – all acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 15s from the "Coalville Times" Cricket Cup Competition per Mr D. Marston.

The Belgian Refugees at Whitwick who are being accommodated in a house at Forest Side lent by Mr G. F. Burton, and whom Mrs Glynn is also helping, are Naxarie Amand and his wife Anna with one child and Mathelda Derde (whose husband is in the war) and two children. All come from Alost. Those at Thringstone, whom the Right Hon. Charles Booth is helping, are Frans De Mailly and his wife Josephine and one child. Auguste Alenhant (15), and Gustaf Scheive and Marcel De Smet, from Ghent. The two latter do not know where their wives and children are.

Sport

Football

Whitwick's Big Win

Whitwick Imperial were at home on Saturday in a Hinckley Cup match and they had no difficulty in disposing of Kibworth Town. There were about a thousand spectators. The first goal was credited to Whitwick after five minutes' play through Layton, who scored again 30 minutes later, fed by excellent passing from Bird. Whitwick held the lead with remarkable combination in all departments, and maintained a splendid defence from the opening, as well as forward play. Dexter put in a third goal with ease. Kibworth were very shabby in defence.

More goals were soon forthcoming in the second half, Layton putting two through in quick succession, followed by Dexter, Lockwood and Heath. Kibworth were quite outclassed, but were allowed to get one by way of consolation, and eventually the Imperial ran out worthy winners by nine goals to one.

Coalville and District League

Neither of the matches fixed in the first division took place on Saturday. Coalville Swifts Reserves were to have played Whitwick Imperial Reserves on the Fox and Goose ground but were unable to raise a team through players having joined the colours during the week.

The management committee of this league met at the Red House Hotel, Coalville, on Monday night. Mr J. Kirby presided and there were present Messrs. R. T. Bradshaw, G. Swain, D. Marston, A. E. Clay, F. W. Smith and C. E. Marston (hon. secretary).

Whitwick Amateurs were reported as not having paid a fine of 3s 3d it being ordered at the last meeting that if the money was not paid within 14 days, a further fine of 1s would be imposed. It was decided that this fine be now enforced.

Snarestone reported Whitwick for Amateurs for being late at Snarestone and claimed 12s loss of gate and expenses. The Whitwick explanation was that the driver of the brake lost his way. It was decided that the match be replayed.

Whitwick Imperial asked to postpone a match with Coalville P.S.A. on November 14th to which the P.S.A. did not agree. It was left to the clubs to try and arrange.

Friday November 20th 1914 (Issue 1185)

Local News

War Lecture

On Wednesday evening another of the series of war lectures was given in the village hall. The Vicar (the Rev. C. Shrewsbury), presided and the Right Hon. Charles Booth gave the lecture, the subject which was "How British pluck won in France." It was illustrated by some excellent slides. Messrs. H. Upton and Walter Watts managing the lantern. Miss Burkitt, of Whitwick, nicely sang two solos. The proceeds amounted to £3 4s for the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund.

"Chance of a Lifetime"

Whitwick Lad's Cheery Note from the Front

The Editor of this paper has received the following interesting post card:

From somewhere in France, November 1st, 1914.

Buck Up, Coalville

Dear Editor, Please allow me a few lines. How are the "bhoys" of Coalville rolling up to the flag? I hope they are going strong. If you are out of work "bhoys," try and come out here, and see mustard for mustard. The woolly backs out here have given them socks, I can tell you. So let's hear of a hundred or two from Coalville getting ready to carry the gun, and a few from Whitwick also; every little

helps. It's a chance of a lifetime now, so just go and do the trick. In other words, take the shilling. It's quite all right when get used to it – the get out and get under business. And the sights one sees will live for ever. The “Jack Johnsons” and “Black Marias” are only sent as souvenirs for our “bhoys” because we are just “Little Devils,” as our friend Kaiser Bill calls us. We are getting quite used to all these pet names which they try to make in Germany. Well, buck up, Coalville, and K and K as much as you can.

Yours truly

F. A. C.

One from Whitwick.

Local Chit Chat

Sunday being the “name day” of the King of the Belgians, the Roman Catholics in Great Britain joined with their co-religionists of Belgium in special prayers on behalf of King Albert and his suffering subjects. Throughout the Nottingham diocese which includes Ashby, Coalville and Whitwick, the High Mass was celebrated for the Belgian monarch and people, and the prayers were recited for this special intention.

Scout Master Eagles, of Whitwick, informs us that the Whitwick boy scouts propose to go round to houses in the Whitwick and Thringstone district fortnightly collecting waste paper, which is to be sold and the proceeds donated to the local Belgian Refugees Relief Fund. Households are asked to save up their waste paper.

Do You Know

That there are now 61 in the Whitwick and Thringstone Citizens' Corps?

Coalville Police Court

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

Assault at Whitwick

Frederick Gardner, general dealer, Whitwick, was summoned by William Hardy, quarryman, an old man, for common assault at Whitwick, on November 7th. He pleaded guilty.

Complainant said defendant accused him of being “nothing but a policeman's man” and threatened what he would do at him. Complainant told he must not, but the defendant struck him on the mouth, knocking some of his teeth out and cutting his lip. He had to pay the doctor 5s for stitching his lip.

Fined 10s 6d and costs £1 6s or 14 days hard labour.

Warrant for a Whitwick Woman

Emma Chappel, single woman, Whitwick, was summoned for neglecting her three children on November 3rd at Whitwick. She did not appear. PC Grewcock proved service of the summons on the woman. Mr Lancaster, of Messrs. Sharp and Lancaster, Coalville and Loughborough, appeared for the N.S.P.C.C. and asked for a warrant for her arrest, which was granted.

Whitwick and Thringstone Licensed Victualler's Association First Annual Banquet The New Beer Tax

The first annual banquet of the Whitwick, Thringstone and District Licensed Victualler's, Beerhouse-keepers and Off-license holders' Protection Association was held on Wednesday at the Queen's

Head Hotel, Thringstone, when a company of about forty were splendidly catered for by Mr and Mrs Hallam. The following was the menu:

Fish

Cod and Oyster Sauce

Removes

Roast and Boiled Legs of Mutton

Roast Veal

Roast Pork

Roast Turkey and Sausages

Roast and Boiled Chicken

Game

Roast Pheasant and Jugged Hare

Sweets

Lemon Puddings and Plum Puddings

Cheese and Celery

Dessert

Dr. J. S. Hamilton, of Coalville, presided, and was supported by Mr T. Kelly, of Whitwick, president of the Association in the vice-chair. Those present included Messrs. T. Saddington, F. Bramwell (Coalville); W. James (Forest Rock), E. Briers, E. Hull, M. Noon, T. Irons, F. Middleton, A. Smith, S. Jarvis, R. B. Squire, J. Smith, F. Sear, George West, G. A. Waterfield, H. Allgood (Whitwick), R. Massey (Hugglescote) and others.

Proposing the loyal toast, the chairman spoke of the efforts of the King and Queen in providing comforts for our soldiers and sailors and their activity in going to the various camps in the country and encouraging the recruits. They were all familiar with what the Prince of Wales had done in organising a national relief fund, though he (the doctor) thought it was a disgrace that in such a wealthy country the fund should scarcely have reached four millions. It should have been nearer four hundred millions. Four millions was a nice sum, he knew, but in the wealthiest country in the world it was not nearly as much as it should be. He also mentioned the efforts of the Princess in getting Christmas gifts for the men at the front. Every man at the front was have a gift of some description and he thought that was a fund which they would be glad to help. (Cheers).

The secretary, Mr G. H. Hallam then announced the receipt of a telegram from Mr T. E. Jesson (Ashby), solicitor, to the Association regretting that owing to military orders he was unable to attend the banquet. He wished them every success.

Father O'Reilly wrote that he was sorry not to be able to be present owing to having to go unexpectedly to Bedfordshire. He had been looking forward to the event and was much disappointed. A letter from Messrs. Offler's Brewery stated that owing to the war they regretted they could not take any tickets; Messrs. Hartopp Ltd, Leicester, wrote that they had taken tickets from the Coalville Association, with which they thought Whitwick was amalgamated, and they could not extend their list; Mr Dick Batho, of Leith, wrote enclosing the price of four tickets for gentlemen he named, and expressed regret at the death of Mr George Musson, late of the Three Crowns Hotel, Whitwick; Messrs Shipstons and Co., Nottingham, wrote sending six tickets; Mr M. McCarthy, of New Swannington, in his letter, wished the company an enjoyable time and enclose ten shillings for the funds; Mr A. Gledhill, of Shepshed, and the Vicar of Thringstone (the Rev. C. Shrewsbury) wrote regretting that they were not able to accept the invitations; the Vicar of Whitwick (the Rev. T. W. Walters) expressed in a letter thanks for the invitation which he regretted he could not accept having to go to Leicester; a letter from Messrs. James Eadie and Co., four tickets; Mr E. Parramore, of Coalville, wrote that a previous engagement prevented him from accepting the invitation; and Messrs. Marston, Thompson and Co., wrote regretting that they could not see their way to taking tickets. Mr E. Hull proposed "Success to the Association," remarking that he wished them much prosperity. (Cheers). Mr T. Kelly, responding, said this was their first year as an association and they had no history as some associations had, but they had formed themselves into a nice little body. They had had several meetings and from what was in the papers that day it was suggested that they ought to have another very soon. (Laughter). He was glad to say that all the licensed victuallers in the district, with one or two exceptions, were in the Association, and as they all knew, unity was strength. The object of the Association was to secure unity among the local representatives of the trade and fix

prices in regard to which they could all be unanimous. They would get on very well when they understood one another. Hitherto, one had sold an article at one price and another at a different price, but if they understood each other and worked unanimously, he thought the Association would continue to prosper and grow. (Cheers).

Mr H. G. W. Howe proposing "The County and Local Authorities," said he had very little sympathy with the Leicestershire County Council, whose object seemed to be how high they could make the rate. He gave figures showing how enormously the county rates had advanced of recent years and much of it was due to extravagance in the building of schools and in officialdom.

A Voice: Mr McCarthy ought be here.

Mr Howe: I wish he was.

Proceeding Mr Howe said he did not think the ratepayers in the Coalville Urban area had much to grumble about, considering that the district was of mushroom growth. They had some good officials though he had no doubt that they were well paid, judging by the way the salaries had been advanced. At similar gatherings to that remarks had often been made about the local magistrates, and in his opinion, a lot said that was not true. He thought that instead of being lenient, magistrates were very severe on representatives of the trade. He went on to allude to a "grand authority" motive which had just been circulated by the police to the effect that soldiers and territorials were not to be supplied with refreshment during certain hours. He regarded this and the earlier closing order as unnecessary restriction on the liberties of their gallant soldiers. A good drink, occasionally, he urged, would be a godsend to men in the trenches. Alluding again to the Urban District Council he said he had heard many complaints on the absence of a public convenience at Whitwick. He hoped their public bodies in the future would do their level best to improve on their past misdeeds.

Mr T. Kelly, responding, agreed that the county rates had greatly increased, though if they had their County Councillor there he could perhaps tell them how it was. They had to be careful in what they said about magistrates and it was not for them to dictate to the Bench what their duties were. In regard to the serving of soldiers, he said they might consider it a nuisance that they should have to drink up at two o'clock and clear out, but this was a military order, and at times like these they should try to help, rather than criticise the authorities. It was no doubt intended to apply more to the large towns than the country districts, but they all had to be included. Alluding to the work of the Urban District Council he said they tried to carry out the work as well and as economically as possible. During the time he had been on the council the rate had not gone up, and though he did not claim all the credit for that, he claimed a share. (Hear, hear). The Whitwick members had tried their best to remedy the complaints as to the absence of a public convenience in the parish, and two or three sites had been chosen, but objection was raised by people living near in each case and that had delayed the matter.

At this stage Dr. Hamilton had to leave, and Mr A. Smith proposed a vote of thanks to him remarking that it was the first time he had met the doctor on an occasion of that sort and he hoped it would not be the last. They were pleased to meet a man like the doctor, because he evidently liked to come among the people of the district and make himself popular. (Hear, hear). Mr F. Middleton seconded the vote and it was carried with musical honours. Dr Hamilton responding. Mr T. Kelly presided for the remainder of the evening.

Mr F. Harper proposed "The navy and army" and said that in spirit of the glorious deeds of the past he believed our defenders today in both branches of the service were as good and brave as ever they were. (Cheers). The way the navy was bottling up the German fleet, enabling our food supplies to come in as usual was a great achievement. He believed that in the future, people would be able to read of Admiral Jellicoe as another Nelson. (Cheers). In regard to the army he pointed out that they were all volunteers and one volunteer was worth two or three conscripts. Our men had joined and in joining, did it with the sole object of serving their country and seeing it through this great crisis.

Mr Howe replied and paid a tribute to the late Lord Roberts, a toast in whose memory was silently drunk. Mr Howe said he was proud to respond to the toast which he was able to do as a military man. (Cheers). Though 67 years of age he was going through the drills in the Whitwick Citizens' Corps and he felt already that it had put 27 years back on his life. (Cheers).

Mr Kelly made a statement in reference to the beer tax announced that day, remarking that he did not think they should increase the price until it had been raised to them. As soon as that was done they would call a meeting of the Association because they wanted to act uniformly in this matter and the people should know that it was the Government and not the publicans who had raised the price of beer in order to help the Chancellor in finding the money which he had to obtain to pay for the war. The Chancellor had to tax someone and as publicans he (Mr Kelly) thought they should not be the first to grumble. It would fall largely on the consumer, but he did not think the people would grumble. Everybody would know what it was for and that it was not for the benefit either of the brewer or the publican. They would call a meeting and have a proper understanding about it in due course.

Mr M. Noon said he hoped none would sell under price, but that all would be unanimous about it. Mr A. Smith said he was under the impression that the brewers would fix a price to them and they must wait for that. Some of them lived in tied houses and were largely in the hands of the brewers, but he hoped they would all be able to act in concert. (Hear, hear).

Mr Noon proposed the health of their president remarking that he had known Mr Kelly all his life and had always found him true. Whatever he did was with a good heart. They all wished him long life and prosperity. (Cheers). Mr Hallam supported this and the toast was drunk with musical honours. Mr Kelly replying, thanked the members for their kindness and said he should always try to faithfully discharge any duties entrusted to him. Mr Smith gave the toast of the host and hostess, complimenting Mr and Mrs Hallam on their excellent catering. This was also recorded musical honours, and Mr Hallam replied.

The Chairman proposed the health of Mr D. Marston ("Coalville Times" representative) and Mr Noon supported Mr Marston responding.

During the evening there were songs by Messrs. R. T. Bradshaw, A. Fern, T. Ottey, M. Noon, A. Smith, I. Thorpe, F. Middleton and others. Mr Hallam accompanying. The patriotic songs of Mr R. T. Bradshaw, of Coalville, were very much appreciated.

Sport

Football

Another Big Win for Whitwick Imperial

Coalville Swifts Out-Classed

Whitwick Imperial were at home in a Loughborough Cup match with Coalville Swifts who were beaten by 8 goals to none. Whitwick are going great guns lately. The week before they won 9-0. Seventeen goals to nothing in two successive matches is not bad.

There was not such a big crowd on the Duke of Newcastle ground on Saturday as one might have expected, seeing that the teams are local rivals. Whitwick went off with a dash and were one up through Thorpe in the first five minutes. There was no holding the forwards, who were in fine form, and delighted the spectators, with four further goals from Needham, Dexter, Layton and Payton. This gave them a lead of 5-0 at the interval.

The second half was very similar. Thorpe distinguished himself by putting on two more goals and Payton scored the eighth. The Swifts made desperate efforts towards the close, but never looked like scoring. They were handicapped in having ten men and the side was far from being at full strength. Davis, one of their regular backs, was a spectator at the Coalville Town match. The Whitwick forwards were very smart. Bird and Layton were particularly good on the right wing and Thorpe proved himself a capable centre.

Hinckley Cup

A meeting of the Charity Cup Association was held at the Union Hotel, Hinckley, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of drawing for the semi-final. The draw was as follows:

Whitwick Imperial V Enderby Town (Referee, A. W. Jennings). To be played at Hinckley

Shepshed Albion V Earl Shilton Victor (Referee J. Gibson). To be played on the Fox and Goose ground, Coalville, November 21st.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Death of Mrs Newham

The death occurred on Tuesday of Mrs Newham, at her home in Hermitage Road. The deceased lady was the wife of Mr Charles Newham, a retired publican, who formerly kept the Three Crowns Hotel, at Whitwick, and a sister of Mr G. H. Hallam, and the late Mr S. Hallam, of Thringstone. She was 69 years of age and had suffered for some time from heart trouble, though the end was quite sudden and unexpected.

Burials

Johnson – At Whitwick, on Thursday, John Johnson, aged 31 years, of Alma Villas.

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Local News

Whist Drive

On Saturday, a whist drive was held at St. Joseph's Cottage, from which about £11 was realised to send a Christmas hamper to the Whitwick and Coalville troops of the Leicestershire Yeomanry. It is requested that relatives will forward their names of any of these soldiers to any of the following addresses:

Mrs F. Cramp, St. Joseph's Cottage, near Monastery, Coalville; W. G. Thurman, Freehold Street, Shepshed; or J. Rowell, jun., Iveshead Road, Shepshed.

The Picture House, Whitwick

As will be seen from our advertisement columns the above picture and variety theatre will be opened on December 14th next. The total proceeds of the opening night will be divided between the Prince of Wales's Fund and the local Belgian Relief Fund. The times of commencing are: From Monday to Friday 7 to 10 pm, continuous performances; and Saturday evenings there will be two performances at 7 and 9. Popular prices 3d, 4d, and 6d. Picture-goers should see that the theatre has a good send-off. Further particulars, programme etc., will be announced shortly.

Sport

Football

Whitwick Imperial Reserves created a record on Saturday in scoring sixteen goals in their match against Coaville P.S.A. at Whitwick. The visitors being allowed to get only one by way of consolation. This was the only match in the first division.

Hinckley Cup

Whitwick Imperial's Excellent Chances

Whitwick Imperial stand an excellent chance of winning the Hinckley Hospital Cup. They easily defeated Enderby Town in the semi-final at Hinckley on Saturday and have to meet either Earl Shilton Victor or Shepshed Albion who made a draw at Coalville, also on Saturday. On the form shown on the Fox and Goose ground, either of these teams seem likely to stand little chance of success against Whitwick in the final. The Whitwick Imperial and Enderby match took place on the Holywell ground and attracted only a poor attendance. The opening exchanges were extremely scrappy, though within five minutes, Heath shot a soft goal for Whitwick. Subsequent play was featureless, the work of both sides being half-hearted. Lowe missed a glorious opportunity from West's centre, shooting wide with the goal at his mercy. Spence twice saved magnificently.

Half-time: Whitwick 1; Enderby 0.

Enderby gave a much improved display on resuming, and pressed heavily for some time. Lowe once skimming the bar with a grand shot. Whitwick retaliated but the Enderby backs defended splendidly, frequently saving the situation. Spence's custodianship was also noteworthy. Eventually Dexter scored the second goal for Whitwick, Layton afterwards added the third.

Result: Whitwick 3; Enderby 0.

Births, Marriages and Deaths

Funeral of Mrs Newham

The funeral of the late Mrs Newham, the wife of Mr Charles Newham, of the Hermitage Road, Whitwick, took place on Friday, the 20th inst., at Holy Cross Church, Father O'Reilly officiating. Miss Harris (the organist) played the "Miserere" as the cortege entered the Church. After the church portion of service was concluded the children of Holy Cross School sang "Turn to Jesus Mother turn." The corpse was then borne to the Holy Cross Churchyard where Father O'Reilly officiated at the concluding service. The deceased lady who was 60 years of age was the daughter of the late Mr William Hallam, of Thringstone, and sister of Mr G. H. Hallam of the Queen's Head Hotel, Thringstone. She was in her younger days nurse to Merry Del Val family and had then the charge of the present Cardinal Merry Del Val, Secretary of State to the late Pope Pious the tenth.