

## **Friday December 1st 1916 (Issue 1291)**

### **Local News**

A successful dance and whist drive for the funds of the Coalville and District Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild was held in the Whitwick Holy Cross Schools on Wednesday night, when about 200 people were present. The M.C.'s were Messrs. J. H. McCarthy and G. Underwood (for dancing) and M. Downes and W. Dickens (for whist). The whist prize winners were:

Ladies: 1, Mrs Stevenson; 2, Miss Turner; 3, Mrs Morgan; mystery, Mrs Ballam (Thringstone).

Gents: 1, Mr Mawby; 2, Mr J. Stevenson; 3, Mr W. Musson; mystery, Mr T. Hull.

The winner of a prize-drawing for a pig, given by Mr Geo. F. Burton, was Miss C. Weston. Refreshments were supplied under the supervision of Mrs Burton, Mrs Stinson, Mrs Bourne, Mrs Eagles, and Mrs Eagles.

### **Coalville Tribunal**

Mr T. Y. Hay presided at a meeting of the Coalville Tribunal on Wednesday night, when there were also present, Messrs. A. Lockwood, B. B. Drewett, B. G. Hale, M. McCarthy, T. F. Fox, J. W. Fisher, A. J. Briers, and C. W. Brown, with Mr G. J. German (military representative), Mr R. Blower (military secretary), and Mr J. F. Jesson (clerk).

A Whitwick painter was represented by Mr J. J. Sharp in an application for further exemption for his son, aged 31, married, with one child. He said applicant was 65 years of age and depended on his son to carry on the business which was 100 years old. The young man came from Australia just after the war broke out, to assist his father, because the latter's other son had joined the army. The young man was passed C2. – Three months allowed.

### **Quarry Accident**

Jabez West, a machine-man, employed by the Forest Rock Granite Company, on Saturday morning met with an accident by which his leg was broken, in consequence of a brake not acting. He was pinned against a feeding hopper by a wagon, and his leg was fractured above

the knee. After first-aid at the works, and Dr. Rolston's attention, he was removed to Loughborough General Hospital in an ambulance carriage, this being promptly provided from the Loughborough Fire Station, at the request of the quarry manager, Mr J. T. Briers.

### **Whitwick Soldier on Leave**

Private Wm. Beasley, of the Leicestershire Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Chas. Beasley, of the Hermitage Hotel, Whitwick, has arrived home on ten days' leave – the first he has had since going to France 16 months ago.

The young soldier, who is only 20 years of age, having enlisted when he was 18, is looking remarkably well, in excellent health, and is wonderfully cheerful, though he has had some thrilling experiences. It will be remembered that a few months ago he was reported as having been killed in action. The report originated through a statement to that effect being made in a letter from another Whitwick soldier, a pal of Beasley's who was under a wrong impression. Beasley was out on patrol duty, and was lost from his regiment for two days – hence the report – but he turned up again smiling.

During his 16 months at the Front, Beasley has been in seven or eight charges, and has come through them all unscathed. He was joined in the trenches by Private H. Parish, whose parents live only a few doors away from the Hotel in Hermitage Road, and saw Parish fatally shot in the first charge in which he participated. These two Whitwick lads shook hands and wished each other luck just before jumping over the parapet. Beasley is returning to France on Monday, and will take with him the wishes of many friends that the good luck which has so far attended him may remain with him to the end. He is wonderfully optimistic and, as a friend remarked to the writer, about the most cheerful soldier one could meet, who has returned from the Somme.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

A good show and good audiences here again this week. T. E. Johnson, the actor-vocalist, makes a return visit, and, if anything has had a greater reception than he had before. He is a good 'turn' and his 'special' ("Wellington") is very good. – The films are a capital lot and the one for the week-end is an extra good one, "No. 13, Westbound". This must be

seen. – Prices here now are 3d, 4d, and 6d. – The proprietors having decided to pay the entertainments tax. – Next week's list, see advertisement.

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Old Cricketer's Death**

The death occurred on Wednesday in last week, at his home, Alma Villas, Hermitage Road, of Mr Joseph Middleton. He was 63 years of age, and in his younger days was a well-known member of the Coalville Town Cricket Club, when that club was at its zenith. He was a mighty hitter, and had quickly compiled a big score on many occasions to the delight of the Coalville spectators. He was also a good bowler and it was his proud boast that he bowled the late Arthur Shrewsbury, the famous Notts cricketer on one occasion when he brought a Notts team to Coalville. He leaves a widow, five daughters and two sons, both the latter being formerly well-known footballers, particularly Frank, who went from Whitwick White Cross to Leicester Fosse and then to Derby County. He is now the licensee of the White Horse Inn, Whitwick. The late Mr Middleton was always a man of cheerful disposition. He was a miner by trade but for some time had been unwell. His brother, John, of Albert Street, Coalville, died only a few weeks ago.

### **Burials**

Middleton – At Whitwick, on Monday, Joseph Middleton, aged 63, of Hermitage Road.

Booth – At Thringstone, on Sunday, the Right Hon. Charles Booth, aged 76 years, of Gracedieu Manor.

## **Friday December 8th 1916 (Issue 1292)**

### **Local News**

#### **Volunteers' Field Day**

The Volunteer Contingents of Ashby, Woodville, Moira and Shackerstone marched to Staunton Park, on Sunday for drill. The Mounted Section from Whitwick also took part, and there were a considerable number of exempted men present.

#### **Whitwick Golden Wedding**

Mr and Mrs J. W. Weston, of 55, Talbot Street, Whitwick, have just celebrated their golden wedding, having been married on November 27th, 1866 at the Wesleyan Chapel, Soane Terrace, Chelsea, London, by the Rev. Wm. Shaw, ex-president of the Wesleyan Conference. Mr Weston is a native of Swannington, and Mrs Weston a member of an old Whitwick family, being a daughter of the late Mr Wm. Stinson, of the Dumps House, Whitwick. Both are now in their 79th year. A number of friends were entertained at their home on Monday in celebration of the happy event.

It is interesting to note that Mr Weston has two sisters who have both celebrated their golden weddings, and were present at the gathering last week. The ages of the three combined give a total of 226 years. During his residence in Coalville, Mr Weston witnessed many changes. When he commenced business in 1882 he took over the stock and premises in High Street for many years as a draper by Mr Christopher Newton (now in the occupation of Mrs Emerton). In 1884, he built and removed to the premises now occupied by the Star Tea Co., carrying on business there till 1887, when he built and removed to his present home. When Mr Weston first went to reside in High Street, there was no building between Mr J. Gutteridge's shop and the Mill, and in Hugglescote Lane (now Belvoir Road), with the exception of White Lees Farm, there was no house between Mr W. Stretton's, adjoining the Snibston New Inn, and Hugglescote, while on the other side of the road there was no house between the Engineer's Arms and Hugglescote. As mentioned above, he has been a life-long Methodist, and in 1882, with Messrs. G. Smith and J. Forman, commenced a Wesleyan Sunday School in the Wesleyan Chapel (now part of the Public Hall), and was for some years the superintendent. He also took a great interest in the building of the Wesleyan Church and schools in Belvoir Road, and for a time acted as the official correspondent. For some years he was a member of the old Burial Board at Coalville, and on the death of Mr Robinson, succeeded him as chairman.  
(Photographs of Mr and Mrs Weston accompanied the article)

### **Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Guild**

A whist drive and dance was held in the Holy Cross Schools, Whitwick, on Wednesday, November 29th, when a good company mustered. The proceeds, after paying all expenses, realised £15 7s 5d which amount has been handed over to the above Guild, which has distributed the following to Whitwick soldiers and sailors since the war started: 81 belts; 432 mufflers; 103 pairs of mittens; 590 pairs of socks; 49 helmets; 81

boxes ointment and powder; 1 packet cigarettes enclosed in each parcel; 44 shirts; 2 singlets; 3 vests; 3 sets of gloves for driving; 9 boxes of cigarettes.

### **Colliery Accident**

A miner named Arthur Illsley, who resides at Ravenstone, was injured while at work in the Whitwick Colliery, on Wednesday, through stone falling on him. His shoulder was dislocated, and an arm broken, and he was conveyed to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

### **Girl's Alleged Theft**

Before Mr J. W. West at Police Court on Wednesday, Gertrude Barker, aged 16, factory hand, of Stockingford, was charged with stealing a purse containing 18/3, a lady's wrist watch, lady's gold ring, and flash light, the property of Mrs Mary Ellen Gill, at Whitwick, on the 5th inst. Inspector Dobney said he received information of the theft at 6.15 the previous night and at 6.30 met accused in High Street, Coalville, in the company of two soldiers. He told her he should arrest her on suspicion, and she denied all knowledge of the offence. At the Police Station, witness found the watch and a 5/- piece concealed in the lining of the prisoner's muff, the purse and money, and the ring were in one of her pockets, and the flashlight concealed in the bosom part of her dress. She was remanded to the Ashby Petty Sessions on Saturday.

### **Memorial Service**

A memorial service was held at the Whitwick Wesleyan Church on Sunday evening for Corporal William Boobyer, recently killed in action, whose wife resides in Leicester Road. The Whitwick and Thringstone Citizen Corps, under Commander J. Lester, attended, also the Boy Scouts and there was a large congregation. Mr W. E. Mawby, of Leicester, was the preacher, and suitable hymns were sung. The Dead March was played at the close by Mr Aris, and Scout Richards sounded the Last Post.

### **Local Casualties**

Private F. H. Platts, of Whitwick, is officially reported as missing. He was in the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Mrs Hobson, of Pare's Hill, Whitwick, has been notified that her husband, Private Andrew Charles Hobson, of the Leicestershire

Regiment, has been killed in action. Before the war he was employed as a carter. Mrs Hobson is left with two children.

## **Coalville Urban District Council**

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

### *Plans*

The following plans were recommended for approval: Two houses, Ashby Road, Hugglescote, for Messrs. Reed and Rogers; extension to United Methodist Chapel, London Road, Coalville; two houses, Crescent Road, Hugglescote, for Mr W. Geary; pig-sty, Ashby Road, Coalville; and extension to factory at Whitwick for Messrs. Seal and Co. On the motion of Mr Brown, the report was adopted.

### *More Boys than Girls*

The medical officer (Dr. R. W. Jamie) reported that during November, eight cases of scarlatina were reported – one in Talbot Street, one in Green Lane, Whitwick; one in Margaret Street, one in Albert Street, one in Owen Street and two in Belvoir Road, Coalville and one in Breach Road, Hugglescote. During the same period 56 births – 35 boys and 20 girls were registered, giving a birth rate of 35 per 1,000.

### *Surveyor's Department*

The number of lodgers accommodated at the Whitwick lodging houses during the month, reported the surveyor, was 624, compared with 619 last month, and 701 last year. The premises had been inspected and were in a satisfactory state.

### *Coal to be Got*

The solicitors to the Whitwick Colliery Co. wrote giving notice of the company's intention to get coal up to within 40 yards of the gasworks. The Chairman: *Is that the usual thing.*

The Clerk: Yes.

## **Coalville Police Court**

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

### *Colliers Lamps on Bicycles*

John Warrington (36), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for riding a bicycle without a light at Coalville, on November 22nd. P.C. Bursnall said this was a similar case to the last. Fined 7s 6d, or seven days.

### *Acetylene Lights*

The following, who are all colliers, were summoned for failing to obscure the glass of bicycle lamps at Hugglescote, on November 23rd, viz., William Massey (40), Josiah Chambers (33), John Rady (21) and Zachariah Parker (40), of Whitwick, Geo. Carter (21), William Warden (37), and Herbert Straw (36) of Hugglescote, and George Hill (27) of Coalville. None of the men appeared.

P.C. Langham said it was 6.15 am and all defendants had bright acetylene lights on their bicycles. One collier, who was covered with mud, complained of having been dazzled by the lights and was knocked down by a cyclist who had no light. The defendants were each fined 5/6, or seven days.

The chairman said that as these were the first cases under the new Act, the Bench had taken a lenient view, but future cases would be more severely dealt with.

### *Affiliation Case*

John E. Higgins (26), grocer's assistant, Whitwick, was summoned by Annie Smith, single woman, Whitwick, to show good cause, etc. Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) appeared for the complainant, and Mr T. H. Moore (Coalville) for the defendant, denied the paternity.

Mr Sharp said the girl, who was only 18 years of age at the time, went to assist at the grocer's shop of which defendant was then the manager. She was a well-educated girl, having learnt shorthand at the evening school, and belonged to a very respectable family. He had never known

a more sad case. Evidence was given by the complainant, (who said she was now 19 years of age), her mother, Sarah Ann Smith, wife of William Smith, and two girl friends.

Defendant, sworn, said he was now a grocer's assistant at Sheffield. He formerly managed a shop at Whitwick. He denied complainant's story absolutely.

John Thomas Briers, manager of the Forest Rock Granite Co., Whitwick, and cousin of the defendant, said he had seen the complainant with another man at the Picture Palace. Albert Edward Wallam (14), of Whitwick, grocer's boy, and John William Briers (13), nephew of the defendant, also gave evidence.

The Bench made an order for the payment of 3/6 a week to date from the birth of the child till it is 16 years of age, also £1 13s 6d costs and £2 2s advocate's fee. The clerk said the total required now was £3 15s 6d, and asked defendant whether he intended to pay. Defendant referred the clerk to his solicitor. Mr Moore said he had been instructed to appeal, so the question of payment would stand over for the time being.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The usual good list of films, etc, are to be seen here again this week. There is Paul West, a very fine trapeze artiste, who has received loud applause for his various feats. – A splendid Thanhouser film in the first half of the week was "The Woman in White", founded on the novel by H. Rider Haggard. This was much enjoyed. – Also No. 10 of "Stingeree" was excellent. – Others were good. – For the week-end, "The Man Within" must be seen. This is a 3-reeler, chock full of exciting incidents and dramatic happenings, and has sufficient story to keep the interest sustained, and "The Man Within" is a good example of the Western type of drama. – See advertisement for next week's programme.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### **Burials**

Moore – At Whitwick, yesterday, Mary Ann Moore, aged 84 years, of Silver Street.



## **Friday December 15th 1916 (Issue 1293)**

### **Local News**

#### **Fatality at Snibston Colliery**

##### *Inquest at Whitwick*

An inquest was held at the Duke of Newcastle Inn, Whitwick, by Mr T. J. Webb yesterday (Thursday) morning, concerning the death of Samuel Hurst, an aged miner, of Whitwick, who was killed while at work in the Snibston No.2 pit, Coalville, on Tuesday morning.

There were present, Captain C H.M. Inspector of Mines, Mr J. J. Sharp (Coalville) for the widow and family, Mr C. E. Crane (Coalville) for the Midland Mining Officials' Association, Mr J. F. Jesson (Ashby) for the South Leicestershire Colliery Co., Mr G. J. Binns (Derby) for the Indemnity Co., Mr Levi Lovett (Leicestershire miners agent), and Mr S. T. Boam, manager of the Snibston Colliery.

Julia Hurst, the widow, of 18, City of Three Waters, Whitwick said the deceased was a chargeman at the Colliery, and was 62 years of age. He had worked at the Snibston pit for about 30 years. He was quite well when he went to work on Monday night, and was brought home dead about four o'clock next morning.

Dr. J. W. Jamie (Coalville) said he was called to the colliery about 3.30 on Tuesday morning. The man had then been dead about three hours. There was a compound fracture of the skull, on the right side, which would cause almost instantaneous death, and the right arm and some of the ribs on the right side were also fractured. It was consistent with a heavy weight having fallen upon him.

Thomas Toon, of Ashby Road, Coalville, pony driver, said he was filling tubs in No. 11 gate road, about 12.30 on Tuesday morning, when he heard a fall, and shouted "*Sam*". There was no reply. A few minutes before, witness had seen the deceased taking a bar out. The fall occurred suddenly, and buried the deceased, except his arm.

Thomas Petcher, 45, Bakewell Street, Coalville, said he had been a chargeman shifter, 27 years. He was working in the pit at the time, and was called to the scene of the accident by a boy named Caurah. He helped to get the deceased out.

By the Inspector: *Witness saw that deceased had timbered the place properly before he started to work. He also noticed that deceased was using the timber-drawer and two chains in a proper manner. As far as witness could see the man had gone about his work in a careful and wise manner. He was dead when witness got to him. The stone which fell on the deceased would weigh 25 or 26 cwt.*

By Mr Crane: *Deceased was a chargeman-shifter, and was responsible for his own work. He was a very competent man.*

By the foreman (Mr S. W. West): *He was not aware that deceased had anyone helping him.*

The lad, Toon, recalled, said he was filling stuff got down by the deceased into the tubs. Answering Mr Levett, Petcher said the chargeman's duty was to get stuff down and no one had anything to do with that unless ordered.

Thomas Richards, of Hough Hill, Swannington, deputy at the pit for the last six years, said he examined the place before the work of that shift commenced. It was safe then, and he instructed deceased to remove a low bar just inside the gate. He sent Cyril Caurah and Toon with the deceased, and they were to assist him until Joseph Hodgetts arrived.

By the Coroner: *He tested the roof by tapping it, at 10.15 pm. There was a slip on the left side, but that could not be seen till the bar was out.*

By Mr Sharp: *Witness had known the deceased for forty years, Hurst having been a miner all his life, and was a most practical man. Everything the deceased did, as far as witness could see, was quite in order.*

The Coroner said everything seemed to have been done as it should be. The jury found it was a pure accident for which no one was to blame, and that there was no neglect on the part of anyone. The foreman expressed the jury's sympathy with the widow. Mr Jesson, Mr Crane, and Mr Lovett also expressed sympathy, and Mr Sharp said he would convey that to the widow. He had known the family, he said, for 30 years, and they were very respectable people.

Mr Jesson said the company were sorry to lose so old and valued a servant – one who was held in the highest esteem alike by employers, officials and fellow workmen.

## **Local Casualties**

A Whitwick soldier, Private J. A. Carter, of the Leicestershire Regiment, is reported wounded and missing.

## **Do You Know That**

A committee has been formed at Whitwick with Mr George F. Burton hon. secretary, and Mr H. T. Bastard, hon. treasurer, to receive funds to show the appreciation of the townsmen for soldiers or sailors gaining honours in the war?

## **Girl's Theft at Whitwick**

### *Stolen Money Spent on Soldiers*

At the Ashby Police Court on Saturday, Gertrude Barker (16), single, of Stockingford, Warwickshire, on remand from Coalville, was charged with stealing a purse containing 18/3 in money, a lady's wrist watch, a gold ring and a flash lamp, the articles being of the total value of 30s, the property of Mrs Mary Ellen Gill, at Whitwick, on December 5th.

Inspector Dobney (Coalville) stated that he received information of the offence at 6.15 pm and at 6.30 pm he met the girl in High Street, Coalville, arm in arm with two soldiers. He told her he suspected her and should take her to the Police Station. She denied all knowledge of the offence and at the Police Station witness found the watch and a 5s piece in the lining of her muff. The purse and some money, and the ring, she produced from her pocket, and the flashlight was concealed in the bosom of her dress. She then admitted the offence, and said her mother turned her out because she stayed out late at night with soldiers. Mrs Gill had befriended her. They met in the waiting room at Nuneaton Station on Tuesday morning, Mrs Gill having travelled from Ireland the previous night. In the course of the conversation, Mrs Gill said she was Irish, and the girl also said she was Irish. They travelled by the same train, and on the way, the defendant told Mrs Gill that her mother was dead, and asked her if she could accommodate her for the night. Mrs Gill took the girl to her home and gave her breakfast and dinner. After dinner she missed her purse. Defendant said, "*I hope you will find it before I go, or you will think I have got it.*" She left the house at 4.30 to go to Leicester, and later, Mrs Gill missed the other articles.

The clerk: *That is how the defendant rewarded her kindness. – Yes.*

Proceeding, the inspector said the articles stolen were valued at 30s. Witness recovered 8/10 from the girl. She said she had spent the rest on teas and cigarettes for soldiers. Mr Hallas (the Court Missioner) said he had talked to the girl's parents who seemed to have no control over her. Her mother told him that she had to tell the girl that if she would stay out at night, she would have to go. He thought it would be best for the girl to go to a home.

Defendant was bound over in the sum of £5, in her own recognisances, to come up for judgement if called upon, on condition that she went into a home to be taken care of for two years. She agreed.

### **Ashby Police Court**

Saturday – Before the Rev. C. T. Moore (in the chair), Mr J. German and Mr J. Hassall.

Plans of proposed alterations at the Railway Hotel, Whitwick, for Messrs. Eadie and Co., were approved.

### **Round the Theatres**

*The Picture House, Whitwick*

“Stingeree” No. 11 at the beginning of the week was a good part, and others were also enjoyed. – D. W. Watson, the clever coronet soloist, etc., has had a good reception, and must be seen during the latter half of the week. Also, Phillis May, juvenile male impersonator, will please. – For the week-end “A Change of Heart” is a Lubin drama worth seeing, and others are good. – See advertisement for next week's list.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### **For His Country's Sake**

*A devoted pal, faithful pal,  
One of the best that God could lend,  
He bravely answered duty's call,  
His life he gave for one and all.  
But the unknown grave is the bitterest blow,  
None but an aching heart can know.  
The midnight star shines o'er the grave,  
Of a dear pal, and soldier brave,*

*How dear, how brave, we shall understand,  
When we meet again in the Better Land.*

From 10207, Corporal H. Sharp, Leicester Regt, B.E.F. France.  
In loving remembrance of Private Walton, son of Mr and Mrs Walton,  
Hermitage Road, Whitwick.

## **Burials**

Mould – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Matilda Mould, aged 27 years, of  
North Street.

## **Friday December 22nd 1916 (Issue 1294)**

### **Coalville Police Court**

Friday – Before Mr B. G. Hale and Mr J. W. West.

#### *Educational*

John Wardle (39), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for not sending his  
child regularly to school. Mr C. Hart, school attendance officer,  
Measham, gave the facts, and said it was a very troublesome case. The  
mother said her girl was ill. Fined 4/-.

#### *Dog out at Night*

Thomas Hurst, junr. (23), collier, Whitwick, pleaded not guilty to failing to  
keep his dog under control at night, at Whitwick, on December 7th. He  
pleaded not guilty. P.C.'s Jelley and Jones gave the facts, and  
defendant said a girl loosed the dog. He was not there. Fined 5/6, or  
seven days.

#### *Helplessly Drunk*

David Boot (45), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for being drunk at  
Coalville, on November 27th. His wife appeared. P.C. Jones said he  
found the man lying helpless in Mantle Lane, and sent him home on the  
bus. Fined 10s, or seven days.

#### *Whitwick Collier Fined*

Joseph Tugby (46), collier, Whitwick, was summoned for indecent conduct at Whitwick on November 24th. In his absence, P.C. Jelley gave the facts, and defendant was fined 15s, or 14 days.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

The "star" picture at the beginning of the week was, "The Heart never Grows Old," a fine Ambrosio picture, much enjoyed. The final episode of Stingaree was also good, as also were all the others shown. For the week-end "Wives of the Rich" is a good society drama which should not be missed, and "True to his Oath" is a special Christmas film, which will be must enjoyed. Next week's, including a fine holiday programme, see advertisement.

### **Friday December 29th 1916 (Issue 1295)**

#### **Local News**

An old-fashioned Christmas has been the order in Coalville and district this year. Snow fell heavily all day on Saturday, and covered the ground to a considerable depth, and though there was a thaw on Sunday, it was followed in the evening by a sharp frost, and Christmas morning found Mother Earth weaving her snowy mantle, and there was a delightful crispness about the atmosphere. It was in every respect a quiet Christmas. There were no "waits" or carol-singers out on Christmas Eve, this having been prohibited by the police, and though a few bands were out on Christmas and Boxing Days, there was less music than on former occasions when the grim realities of war did not prevent one from entering into the spirit of Christmas.

The local cinemas were open on Christmas Day, and on Boxing Day, were extensively patronised. The colliers had but two days' holiday, which following Sunday, gave them a well-earned respite, and Messrs Stableford's employees were also back at work on Wednesday morning.

#### **Local Chit Chat**

A visitor to Whitwick this Christmastide was Gunner J. C. Stinson, who will be remembered by local footballers as a former popular goalkeeper, first for the Whitwick Imperial and then for Coalville Town. He is now a gunner in the R.G.A. and has been for some months in France, returning

there on Wednesday. He spent Christmas with his parents, Mr and Mrs W. Stinson, of Sharpley, Whitwick.

### **Round the Theatres**

#### *The Picture House, Whitwick*

Whitwick Picture House has been extensively patronised this week, and a real good programme of pictures is being shown all the week. "The Girl and the Crook" was a powerful Thanouser at the commencement of the week, and was enjoyed, as was "Helen's Babies," a two-reel comedy, and "The Road to Fame" too, was exceptionally good. – For the week-end "A Social Deception" is a Blue Diamond film and is in three parts, a very fine story. Also Charlie Chaplin as the perfect lover will make you laugh. – Others are good. – See advertisement.

### **Patriotic Football Match**

A match between Whitwick Imperial and Mr C. Storer's team took place on Boxing Day on the Duke of Newcastle ground. It was in connection with the effort of Whitwick people to secure funds for sending parcels to Whitwick men serving in the Forces.

### **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

#### **Marriage**

On the 23rd inst., at Higher Ardwick Church, Manchester, John Joseph Sharp, of Whitwick, Leicestershire, to Kate, daughter of the late Wm. Frank Milnes, of Eccleshall, Yorkshire.

#### **Burials**

Fielding – At Whitwick, on Tuesday, Isabella Fielding, aged 53 years, of Meadow Lane Farm, Whitwick.