

Great War Bulletin

No. 84...Newark...Monday 6 March 1916

£530 boost for hospital

THE ANNUAL general meeting of Newark Hospital and Dispensary was held in the Town Hall on Tuesday.

Captain Walter John Need, the treasurer, reported that the satisfactory amount of £530 19s 6d had been received in subscriptions. It was the equivalent of £48,770.12 in 2016. Subscriptions were the major means of income in the decades before the National Health Service came into existence in the late 1940s.

Since March 1915, there had been 55 military patients, 340 in-patients, 476 out-patients, 368 casualties and 302 dental cases treated at the premises on London Road.

WAR BRIDE IS MOURNED

One of the earliest Royal Engineers to become a Newark bridegroom, Sapper John Barker was given compassionate leave today – to attend the funeral of his wife.

Mrs Kate Elsie Barker, only 26, passed away after a brief illness.

They had married in 1914, just before John was shipped off to the Western Front.

Tragic Kate was the sixth of the seven children of railway foreman George C Titchener and his wife Mary Elizabeth, who live in Wellington Road, Newark. But life went on...

The funeral took place 48 hours after a football match between two teams of Newark-based Royal Engineers at The Stadium, Sparrow Lane, raised £15 for Lombard Street Red Cross Hospital.

Teacher's unholy view of Garden of Eden...

THE Garden of Eden in Mesopotamia was far from heavenly in the experience Sergeant John Gamble Waller, 28, from Brinkley, the hamlet between Southwell and Fiskerton.

A school teacher before he joined the 5th Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment, he wrote home as he recovered from the rigours of Gallipoli:

"We have plenty of money but we cannot buy things here. We have completely run out of cigs and, except for a present from the ladies of Calcutta, we should have been hard-up indeed.

"We sold a fellow's kit by auction: 56 cigs fetched 11s 4d and 24 penny bars of Cadbury's chocolate brought in £3. I bought 2 penny bars for 5s 8d – cheap at the price!"

Inflation note: £1 in 1916 would be worth £91.85 in 2016.



Council's officer off to fight and fly

NEWARK'S Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr Herbert Stansall, 32, of 109 Baldertongate, joined the Royal Flying Corps on Wednesday.

His father William, 61, has taken over his role with the Corporation – an occurrence that could well be repeated many times around the country before this Great War is over.

Home safe: first hero to lose leg

THE first Newarker to lose a limb in the War, Corporal Ernest Godfrey Burgess, 23, arrived home at 116 Beacon Hill on Friday after being severely wounded in Gallipoli.

An iron foundryman in Civvie Street, he was shot through the ankle and thigh two days after arriving in Suvla Bay, and never saw a Turkish enemy.

In the siege conditions, prompt treatment was out of the question.

For three days Ernest lay in agony and had no food. Sceptic poisoning set in to the wounds.

By the time he reached sanctuary in a hospital ship, amputation was the only option.

He has two brothers serving: James Herbert John, 18, a Private in the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters was wounded at the Hohenzollern Redoubt and is now attached to the third line of the 8th Battalion based at Belton Park; Driver Archy Broadway, 22, rejected four times because of a defective forefinger on his right hand, is in the Army Service Corps at Ripon.

Ernest, born on 8 April 1892 to John and Mary Ann Burgess, will live to the grand age of 80.

Shot Private back in action

PRIVATE George Henry Statham, 24, of the 16th Notts & Derbys 17th Infantry Depot wrote home last week lamenting that he did not get home to his dad, 59-year-old widower Charles, at 15 Sleaford Road, Newark, after spending six weeks in hospital having a bullet removed from his leg.

He's back at the Front now and reports: "We are getting a lot of rain and we are under canvass so it is very cold at night."

WEEKLY PAPERS HALVED

FIRST it was censorship that hit the newspaper industry. Now there is a short-age of wood with all ships required for food and military transportation.

The Government's decision to restrict the import of paper and paper-making materials forced all newspapers to curtail their pagination. For example, the *Newark Herald* announced on Saturday it would have to confine itself to four pages rather than the usual eight weekly until further notice.

Follow Newark's trauma in The Great War as it happened 100 years ago this week

Farmers in the front line

NEWARK RURAL District Tribunal began hearings at the Ossington Coffee Palace on Thursday ... and military representative Charles Constable Curtis JP acted like a prosecuting counsel in a court of law.

Most appellants were farmers desperate to keep unmarried workers...

Widow Phoebe Vale, 74, of Bulpit Lane Farm, Balderton, said her son Sydney, 28, looked after her 21 cows and 102 acres. Under questioning she agreed she had another son, 50, who delivered the milk. Constable Curtis, who resided at Langford Hall, urged that the appeal be refused. The Tribunal gave Sydney temporary exemption to 1 June...

North Clifton farmer of 170 acres, John William Brown said two of his employees had already gone to fight. His son William Leonard, 19, was now yardman, engine driver, ploughman, shepherd, milkman and labourer. Curtis noted William had a doctor's certificate saying he had a foot problem that prevented him walking properly. William was given a temporary exemption to 1 June...

Charles Sheldon, 25, was given until 1 June to find someone else to manage the family's 1,200 acres and 13 workers at Collingham though his brother had already enlisted...

Conditional exemption was given to Joseph Smith Camamile, 25, Winthorpe's village carpenter who said he was working dawn till dusk also looking after his mother, young brother, a 61-acre farm, two horses and 15 cattle...

G Pykett wanted to keep both his sons – horseman Edward and cowman-shepherd Clarence George – on their 170 acres with 100 head of stock and eight horses at Staple Farm, Balderton. Curtis suggested one stayed home and one went to fight. The Tribunal agreed with him (and eventually four of his seven sons went to serve)...

Thorney farmer John Henry Watson was given until 14 May to make do without labourer Arthur Edward Leach, 19...

Conditional exemption was granted to William Drury for as long as he remained the only worker at his family's Staunton farm: three brothers were in the Forces,

Tribunal finds fighters among our feeders

his parents were old; if he went, they would have to sell-up...

Temporary exemptions to 1 May were earned by Joseph Taylor Senior of North Scarle for his stockman Arthur Almond and horseman Harry Denton...

Joseph Taylor Junior of Harby wanted to keep horseman Harry Lambert, 20, and stockman Edward Lanes, 31. He was allowed to keep Lambert but told Lanes must enlist...

Daniel Hardy of Harby won permission to keep two of his sons, horseman Richard, 22, and cowman John, 18; but the eldest, shepherd and general labourer Thomas, 26, must go to fight...

Walter Tom Baston of Wheatley's Farm, Brough, was given until 14 May to find a way of replacing William Blow, manager of his farm on Langford Moor...

Thomas Pacey of Castle Farm, Thorney, who already had three workers enlist, was also given until 14 May to get along without his son Thomas Burgess Pacey on his 256 acres...

More Tribunal decisions

AWAY from the land, the Newark Rural District Tribunal granted a conditional exemption to John Tatley, 24, described as "indispensable" by Mrs Ellis, the commandant of Thorney Hall auxiliary hospital, which had 71 beds for wounded soldiers. He was chauffeur and electrician; if he went, as 14 Thorney men already had, she would have to close the hospital and discharge 40 patients...

William Mitchelson was given until 3 April to teach someone else to do all the ordering and look after the finances in the family's stores at Collingham...

Baker Alexander F Burn, 24, lost his plea to stay working for confectioner John Eyden, 63, on Main Street, Old Balderton...

Horace John Stray, 26, miller and poultry farmer at Farndon Mill, argued he was in a reserved occupation; the Tribunal agreed...

Amos Garner Bedford, 19, son of the Harby Railway Station master, was allowed to continue his studies at a teacher training college but ordered to re-appear in a month's time to prove he had joined the ATC.

Dealing with a 'Conchie'

NEWARK Rural District Tribunal was told that conscientious objector Arthur William Seaton of Balderton, who worked as an insurance agent, had been a Primitive Methodist preacher for three years, had always been opposed to War and could not take a life even if his own mother or sister were threatened.

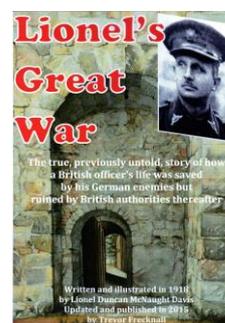
His application for exemption from military service was refused but he was recommended for a non-combatant role.

OUT NOW:

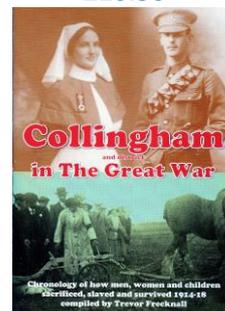


New book to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Ransome and Marles' bombing in World War II. £9.99 from WHSmith, Market Place, and Osborne Stationers, Kirkgate, Newark.

Great War books still available include...



£10.50



£9.99

from WH Smith, Newark Market Place