

Great War Bulletin

No. 85...Newark...Monday 13 March 1916

Area's social care bill rises to £980,000-plus

NEWARK Board of Guardians agreed at their annual general meeting on Tuesday a budget for the new financial year of £10,696, an increase of £107 on the past year. It amounted to £982,382.71 at 2016 values.

The money, collected from the 50-plus parishes in and around the town, will finance the homeless and destitute forced to live in the Workhouse on Bowbridge Road in the era before social service care was nationalised.

Agonising death of Corporal

CORPORAL Thomas Claude (Tom) Carter, 25, who went to the Wesleyan Day School and Barnbygate Wesleyan Sunday School while growing up in Barnbygate, succumbed last Monday to wounds he had received on 3 February.

He has been in the Army for six years, and was rushed back from China to join the War last year.

His parents Joseph and Mary visited him in hospital in Rouen a short while ago and thought he was progressing well from his leg wounds.

What they did not realise was that, as in a growing number of cases, an infection had set in.

Corporal 31762 Carter of 27th Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery is remembered among 3,080 Allies in the St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

Brave village boy

A MEMORIAL service in Caunton Church for 19-year-old Pte Alexander Antcliffe was attended by a large number of friends and parishioners who spoke of his brave and cheerful disposition. He was killed in action while serving with the 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment machine gun section two years all but two days after he enlisted in the 20th Hussars.

Private 19252 Antcliffe is remembered in the Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery three miles from Ypres town centre – and, of course, by dad George Henry and mum Margaret at home.

Coalman lost arm

GEORGE CASTLE, coal merchant at East Stoke Wharf, had to have an arm amputated after his horse and cart collide with a lorry on the Fosse Way on Wednesday.

PUT THAT

First fines are
imposed...

LIGHT

SPECIAL CONSTABLES Walter Harry Pearson and Archer Gerald Samm made history at Newark Borough Magistrates' Court this morning.

They were the first Specials to give evidence in cases against residents accused of allowing lights to show in contravention of laws governing air raid precautions.

By day, Mr Pearson works as the Relieving Officer, Occupation Officer and Collector to the Newark Board of Guardians plus the Registrar of Marriages while Mr Samm is the manager of a chemist's shop and lives at 11 Winchelsea Avenue.

Of the householders they accused...

Painter Lewis Wright, 35, of 33 Millgate was fined 10 shillings after claiming the Specials invented their evidence against him. Ten shillings in 1916 equates to £46.92 in 2016.

Butcher William Snushall was fined 5 shillings because "his man" used an unscreened light in his Pelham Street slaughterhouse.

John Slack was fined a similar amount after saying the Specials caught him in 2 Church Walk as he walked from the freshly-lit candle to close his shutters.

Albert Beckett of 17 Millgate was also fined only 5 shillings after convincing the magistrates that the offending light in his house was left on by soldiers who were billeted there while they trained for roles at the battle fronts.

Labour and the unions

WITH A view to arousing interest in trades union and labour questions, a meeting was held in the Beaumont Picture Hall, Cartergate, on Sunday afternoon.

George Deer of the Workers' Union predicted the introduction of female labour would have a profound effect on industry; and it was in the interests of both sexes that women be persuaded to become members of the Trades Unions. The workers are very wisely being urged to save, and one important way to do so is by contributing an extra premium to their trade union to secure extra financial help in times of need.

Trade unionists would have to take an interest in matters other than wages, such as the welfare of the town; this will entail them getting into politics.

Mr Deer will become Newark's Labour MP – after World War Two.

OUT!

Keeping our spirits up on Home Front

A MOST enjoyable evening at the Burgage Red Cross Hospital for wounded soldiers, Southwell: Mr Litchfield's band played while songs were provided by Mrs E A Merryweather, Mr E Longmore and two of the patients.

ONE HUNDRED people attended the Shrove Tuesday annual tea and concert organised by the faithful of St Leonard's Church, Newark, marshalled by W J Ingram.

BARNBYGATE Young Men's Club organised a social to follow its anniversary celebrations. Although 23 members of the club are already in the Forces, it was popular with soldiers based in the town; and 120 attended.

ROYAL ENGINEERS who staged concerts for a week in the Beaumont Hall announced that they raised £44 4s for the widows and orphans of Sherwood Foresters, Sherwood Rangers and Royal Engineers.

WORK or FIGHT: another 28 face Tribunal

TWENTYEIGHT more men had their immediate fate determined by Newark Borough Tribunal at its weekly meeting in the Town Hall on Thursday evening.

All were said to be indispensable by their employers. All were also deemed to be vital, potentially, to the fighting forces...

Newark Borough Council's Health Department failed in a plea to keep the disinfectant of the Isolation Hospital, George Chilton, 28; it was given until 3 April to find an older man to do the job.

Similarly, Newark Council Finance Department was given until 1 June to find a substitute for its clerk, George B Clark.

Tax assessor and collector George Pink failed in an attempt to keep his right-hand man, Charles R Scarborough, 32. He was given until 1 June "to get someone else" (though no one suggested that tax collection was women's work).

George Charles Wooldridge, 24, of 63 Charles Street was told to go and fight despite claiming he was in a reserved occupation as Newark RDC's highways and sanitary surveyor in charge of 107 miles of roads, Balderton's sewerage works and Collingham's water supply – and adding that he had "a moral objection to taking part in any belligerent action based on convictions formed before the War".

W Dolby of Appletongate failed to keep his only remaining boot and shoe repairer, Thomas Bottomley, 18, of Sydney Street. Military representative Cherry-Downes – whose mantra was: "It is the duty of every single man to serve his country" – told Dolby to get his son home from Mumby's women's clothes factory and train him.

Quibell's glue factory convinced Tribunal that Joseph Pacey, 29, of 3 Maltkilm Terrace was in a reserved occupation.

Dentist's mechanics Robert W Gudgeon and Edgar Baines were exempted from military service until 1 June after their employer, Charles Nelson Park of 16 Castlegate, said much of their work was on soldiers.

Hairdresser William Walker of 77 Bowbridge Road was given five weeks to find an assistant to replace his son, Francis Victor, 18, who must then join-up.

William Henry Barker, 24, of 35 Northgate was given until 2 April to find someone to milk his three cows and keep his milk round going.

Master builder Ed Braithwaite, 31, of 76 Milner Street said he was on contract with

Door-to-door plea for farm women...

A PUBLIC meeting at North Muskhams was told farms need female workers now and will continue to do so for a considerable time after The Great War.

The village vicar, the Reverend Walter Hemrell Williams and one of his most respected parishioners, retired silversmith Herbert Banks Friend, agreed to carry out a door-to-door canvass in search of women willing to work on the land.

The immediate effect of the meeting led to 11 women volunteering to work part-time in the often flooded fields of the Trentside village.

Ransome's, who were on Government work. He was told to hand back the reins to his father Charles, 58, who started the business 30 years ago but had to retire on of ill health: he gets dizzy up a ladder.

Sydney Ash, 18, was allowed to stay as bread-baker for his dad, William Henry at 10 Market Place; his elder brother and another employee had already enlisted.

When Mumby's asked to keep George Herbert Darnell as foreman of girls making hospital wear for the Army, Cherry-Downes said a woman could do the job. Mumby's argued a woman would be cheaper but would not be able to control the girls. The case was adjourned.

Wakes and Lamb's bid to keep W H Kay of 10 Charles Street so that their Government work was not diminished was adjourned for a month, though the Mayor asked him to have his medical examination.

Garrett and Heming lost the manager of their provisions department, Alfred Betts, 32, after they conceded they would still have six of their eight staff.

Master shoemaker Ernest Johnson, 35, of 99 Baldertongate, produced a doctor's note that he had a serious gastric problem requiring him drinking six pints of milk a day. His case was adjourned to 1 May.

Scrap iron dealer Ernest Green, 35, of 11 Cotton Square off Mill Gate claimed he was, in effect, in Government work because his collections went into munitions. He was ordered to go and fight.

So was Arthur Simpson, 25, of 100 Barnbygate, who appealed on the grounds that his employer, baker George Wilson, 35, of 23 Albert Street was in poor health and he gives his widowed mum 17s 6d a week.

John Joseph Keetley, 37, of 20 Sidney Street, was given until May Day to find someone to run his one-man greengrocery business and look after his widowed mother and invalid brother who were dependent on him.

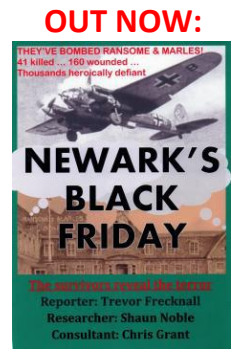
Widow Sarah Dorothy Smedley of 13 Middlegate was given until 1 June to find a replacement for hairdresser Thomas Turner, 26, who took on the business following the death of her husband Stanley, 63, in 1913.

C E Ford & Son were given until 1 May to train a woman to replace confidential clerk Arthur Kilby.

Grocer J W White of Wilson Street lost Laurence Bradley, 24, who took his horse-drawn mobile shop around the villages. Cherry-Downes argued women could replace him. White reckoned the work would be too heavy for them; he would have to cease business.

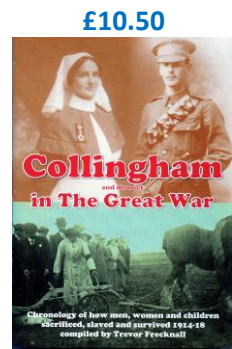
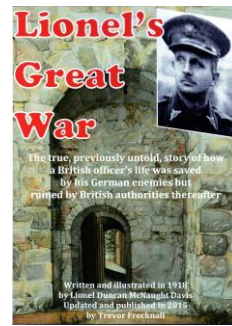
Butcher George Butt, 36, of Kelham Villas plus boatmen Thomas Sooby, 19, and Albert Cree, also 19, of 42 Millgate, who are carrying goods for the Government, were exempted as being in certified trades.

Mayor Knight vacated the chair for one case, in which he personally asked for exemption for his business's director, manager and clerk Edward Thorpe, 39. After retiring to consider the case, the remaining members of the Tribunal – former Mayor Kew, Councillors A Lacy and E Patrick plus military representatives Cherry-Downes and Nicholson – decreed that, as the Mayor was so busy with civic and War duties, he could have until 30 June to make alternative arrangements.



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