

Great War Bulletin

No. 86...Newark...Monday 20 March 1916

Germany link of Lilley & Stone's new headmistress

THE new headmistress of the prestigious Lilley and Stone High School on London Road, Newark, was partially educated in

Germany! The revelation was made when the appointment of Miss Helen Drew was announced at the annual general meeting of the School last Monday afternoon.

The first announcement was the resignation of Miss Skues, the head mistress since the inception of the School in 1905.

There were no fewer than 63 applicants to succeed her, of whom six were selected for interview by the School Committee before three were invited for further interview by all the Governors.

At the conclusion of the process, the role was offered to Miss Helen Drew.

She was educated at Oxford High School and Newnham College, earned her Master of Arts degree in Dublin, and taught mathematics at High Schools in Bristol and Croydon.

After this, she then spent a year studying educational methods in Germany and Switzerland, though it is apparent that none of the Governors considered this should obstruct her ambitions.

When she returned to England, she took her present role as mathematics teacher at Bradford Girls' Grammar School.

Eggs clue to Canadians' suffering

SCHOOLGIRL Gladys Weightman, only six, of 3 King Street, off Millgate, Newark, received a reward for sending eggs to soldiers – a letter from Private K H Toovey in the 3rd Canadian General Hospital (McGill) in France that offered a glimpse of the huge numbers of casualties: "I came out from Canada last May with this Hospital Unit from Montreal ... we have about 700 wounded and sick at the moment."

Schooling is on hold

THE EDUCATION of hundreds of Newark schoolchildren will continue to be interrupted – while thousands of trainee soldiers sleep in their classrooms.

This was the result of a special meeting of Newark Education Committee on Friday to discuss the Army's request to continue using Lovers' Lane and Barnby Road Council Schools throughout the summer.

The Commanding Officer of the Royal Engineers based in town, Colonel Jerome, informed the Committee that the outdoor camps used in 1915 had been extremely bad; 1,200 men were crammed into one when the maximum should have been 600.

Once managers of the schools involved had left the meeting, Committee members voted to allow the military to continue using the schools – and started a search for temporary buildings in which the displaced children might be able to receive a full-time education.

For the time being, the children will continue to attend school for half-days instead of full days.

Teachers' farm fury

THERE was an animated meeting of the Council of the Notts Teachers' Association held in Newark on Saturday.

Members opposed to pupils helping on farms were angry that 102 children aged 12 and 13 were working 60-hour weeks, 12 were working 63 hours, 10 were working 66 hours, one has clocked-up 69, and five toiled for 72 hours.

Many were working fewer hours, but 200 were taking home less than 6 shillings a week.

TURGOOSE FAMILY MOURNS SAILOR

NEWARK'S magnificently militaristic Turgoose family has been plunged into mourning.

The *Newark Herald* on Saturday revealed that Petty Officer Frederick Birkett Turgoose was among the sailors killed when a vessel [identified as His Majesty's Torpedo Boat No. 11] was mined on 7 March off the East Coast [with the loss of 3 officers and 21 ratings].

Aged 37, he attended the Wesleyan School and the Charles Street Wesleyan Chapel before joining the Royal Navy aged 15.

In 1902, he was serving on the ship that brought home the body of the first British Ambassador to America, the Right Honourable Julian, Baron Pauncefote, GCB, GCMC, for the grand funeral at East Stoke in 1902.

Fred's father, the late Thomas Turgoose was for many years a corn porter with Gilstrap Earp. His eldest brother,

Thomas of 9 Sleaford Road, is an Army pensioner who was involved in the Relief of General Gordon at Khartoum, and is now employed by Gilstrap's.

Another brother, 1st Class Petty Officer Albert Turgoose, is chief wireless operator on HMS *Cyclone*.

Tom's brother-in-law, Sgt-Maj Israel S Steptoe, died on service in India.

As if that's not enough, Tom and his wife Mary's sons are in the Army: the elder, another Thomas, a Sergeant in the 1/8th Sherwoods, did great service as a bomb thrower especially at Hohenzollern, before being severely wounded and is now working with recruits at Normanton Barracks, Derby; the other son Joseph is engaged on special duty with the 2/8th Sherwoods "somewhere in England". Petty Officer Turgoose is remembered on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

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

IT WAS a nervy Market Day for 74 farm workers who appealed to the Claypole Tribunal in the splendour of the Ossington Coffee Palace against orders to join-up; and it was an equally relentless day for the Tribunal members who had to make, virtually, life or death decisions: chairman R C Bemrose JP, W H Bingham, G Thompson, L Harvey, A Revill and military representative A D Youngusband, with clerk A J Franks.

Fulbeck widow Charlotte Peach, 52, discovered exactly how desperate the Forces are for manpower. Sons Augustus, 25, and Sidney, 23, are already in the Army. In her plea to keep her third son, George Harry, 26, she spoke movingly of her struggles over the past 20 years, bringing up the boys since her husband died. The Military Representative pointed out: "If this one goes, you will be better-off financially." She replied: "They can take me if they take him. I have read in the papers they won't take the last son of a widow." George was given until 15 June to enlist.

As Mrs Peach exited in despair, there was a hint of inconsistency in the next case: the Military Rep favoured allowing farrier and blacksmith George Leslie Garrett, 38, to stay at home at Brant Broughton with his widowed mum Ellen.

Dry Doddington publican Mrs M Middleton, who already had two sons in the Forces (one of them wounded), was allowed to keep son Martin, 27, to tend their 20 acres ... Fulbeck farmer Thomas Dickins paid solicitor F B Footitt to plead for four of his men, of whom wagoners James P Pass, 23, and Charles W Wardby, 23, were given until 15 May; engine driver Fred Dickins, 20, until 13 Sep-tember to get the harvest in; while his brother Edwin, 22, of Lodge Farm, Dry Doddington, who stated a conscientious objection, was told to go and fight immediately ... Swinderby smallholder George Locking, 30, passed medically un-fit, is given a conditional exemption ... His village's carrier, John Gilbert, 30, was given three months to find a replacement ... Shepherd and horseman George E Roe, said by his father to be indispensable at Thurlby, was given until 15 June, as was Claypole cowman and shepherd Daniel Herbert Streets, 23 ... Tom Laxton Thurlby, 52, at Caythorpe was given until 15 May to work out how to get by without Arthur Devey, 21, George W Broughton, 26, and Albert Huckerby, 24 ... Ernest Burton was allowed to stay farming his 104 acres at Foston ... Percival Arthur Dickinson, 30, was given until 15 April so his mum Rebecca, 69, could replace him on their Foston farm ... Wagoner and horseman William Oldham was given until 15 May after the Vicar of Westborough, Rev F H Footitt spoke up for him ... John Long, 21, of Long Bennington was given until 15 June ... John Thomas Hemphsall, 23, was told to join-up instantly despite pleas by his father William and employer, farmer Robert Mills at Long Bennington ... Fulbeck farmer William Baines was given until 15 May to replace wagoner William Hayes, 29 ... Charles White, 63, boot repairer and cottager at Caythorpe, was given a month to find a replacement horseman and cowman for his son Charles, 26 ... Despite objections by the Military Rep, H B Maltby, 23, was allowed to stay farming 122 Thurlby acres with his brother W G ... Walter Smith, 21, insisted he wanted to enlist, raising a plea to keep him by his boss, Sedgebrook farmer John Bee, who asserted: "No woman could plough this land!" ... Joseph Hutchinson, the Westborough Lodge farmer who had already lost three men to the Army, was given until 15 May to find an older man to replace John Potts, 19, despite telling the Tribunal: "The work cannot be done by old men or women" ... The Military Rep warned he might appeal after George Amos Hopkinson, 22, was allowed to remain at North Scarle as partner in his aged father's 40-acre farm ... The Military Rep was more content when farmer and Swinderby village shopkeeper Isaac Thompson was given until 15 June to find a replacement farm bailiff for his son George Harold, 22 ... Charles Brown of Long Bennington described his son Charles Taylor Brown, 32, as "indispensable"; his enlistment was postponed to 15 May ... Brant Broughton farmer and miller Samuel Ellis was given until 15 April to find a baker to replace John J Milner ... Walter Atkinson, farmer of 183 acres of Brant Broughton Clays, was told his

Widow Charlotte leads farmers' pleas to Tribunals

only labourer, George Dewey, 24, must enlist by 15 May ... Farmer and coal merchant Thomas Pratley, 65, lost a plea to keep his son, Bertie James, 30 ... William Slingsby of North Scarle was given to 15 May to replace horseman Edward William Brown, 23, on one of his farms and stockman Joseph A Buttery, 18, on his other farm after complaining that, the way Tribunal dealt with cases, farms might as well close down and let the country go ... Edward Henry Marfleet left the room before his wagoner, Thomas Willis, 22, was told to enlist ... George and W Ryder, bakers and farmers at Foston, were given until 15 April to replace John Carter Walton, 23 ... Robert Whittaker at Ashes Farm, Long Bennington, was given to 15 April to replace Ernest North, 21, his horseman, cattleman and general labourer ... George Hoyes, 30, was told to join-up though he had been rejected as medically unfit and Thomas Ernest Hoe of Beckingham said he could not continue his business as a carter and farmer without him ... Long Bennington farmer Thomas Daybell was told to replace wagoner and cowman Arthur Harold Dixon, 20, by 15 May ... Farmer Thomas Scarborough said he could not do without son Samuel, 26, who looked after 158 acres; Sam was told to join-up on 15 June ... Foston farmer George Burgin had lost three men; his fourth, William Matthew, 28, was told to enlist on 15 May ... North Scarle farmer and carrier Benjamin Dixon successfully claimed his son Arthur was in a certified occupation on their 180-acre farm ... Butcher and farmer Joseph Brown, 67, was similarly allowed to keep his son John, 26, on 120 acres at Foston ... Cecil Hickson, 36, earned conditional exemption for himself and Fred Smith, 29, to run his Hougham farm ... John Caunt, 21, was allowed to remain at his blacksmithy in Long Bennington after a plea by Edward E Dring of the Lincs Yeomanry ... William Burton, 240-acre farmer at Stapleford, was given to 15 May to produce more reasons for keeping James Barnett, 21 ... Henry William Wilson Hodson of Thurlby claimed he could not find replacements for Ernest Greatorex, 25, and Frank Tattersall, 21; the case was put back to 10 October ... Tom Allwood, wagoner on Bridge Farm, Long Bennington, was given to 15 May; his boss, Edward Tomlinson of Kelham, said he'd have to dispose of the farm then ... Thomas Wilkinson, Barkston, was given to 1 April before Cyril Drury, 25, need join-up ... William Peacock, 64, of Norton Disney was given until 1 October to replace his son Ernest Edwin, 21, as horseman ... F J Willey of Morton Grange appealed on behalf of 2 workers: he was allowed to keep horseman Arthur William Willey, 21, but told wagoner Thomas Maltby, 28, must enlist ... Norton Disney farmer John Spencer Martin was told he must get by without Bertie Pickering from 15 May ...

Stubton farmer George Henry Ross, 30, was told he'd have to make do without his brother William Younger Ross, 20, from 15 May but he could stay working the land ... Horseman Bert Parker, 27, was allowed to defer enlisting until December after his boss, Marston farmer Arthur Lane Abraham at Toft House protested their clay land was too tough for women ... Swinderby farmer and blacksmith Benjamin Poole was absent when his case was called; his son Benjamin 23, and other worker Harold Gilbert, 19, were told to enlist ... North Scarle farmer and market gardener George Hennell lost a plea to keep his son Cecil, 19 ... Claypole dairy farmer Matthew William Oliver made a successful personal appeal but lost his man, Herbert Robinson, 28, to the Forces ... Indefinite exemptions were granted to the following for as long as the stay in their present farm work: Fred Wells, farmer and shepherd, Fulbeck; George William Saddington, 22, Norton Disney; Tom Whyley, 31, Claypole; Cecil Rawding, 21, Norton Disney; Herbert Metheringham, 23, and Ernest George Robinson, 38, who are running family farms at North Scarle since their fathers grew too infirm; Robert Hardy, 37, Thurlby farmer and milk seller; Christopher Charles Thorpe, farmer, North Scarle; Walter Hunt, 20, and his father, Walter senior, at Stapleford; William Wass, 26, horseman to his father Joseph at Norton Disney; George Whitfield, farmer, North Scarle; George Henry Till, 33, horseman, North Scarle; Ernest Watson, 29, farmer with father and threshing machine part-owner, Barkston; John B Dixon, farmer, North Scarle; Walter Templeman, 25, farmer, North Scarle; and Montague Morley, farm manager, Barkstone ... but Charles Levesley, 36, was told he must join-up because another son could look after the family's Fulbeck land ... Fred Wolf, 34, the railway signalman at Sedgebrook, was told to enlist; his bosses, the Great Northern Railway, should have appealed if they wanted to keep him ... Wheelwright and undertaker Robert Shields was ordered to allow his apprentice William Henry Wadsworth, 20, to enlist ... When Brant Broughton's Kelsey brothers Owen Thomas, 39, and Alfred, 33, said they were working 90 hours a week to continue their father's skinner and agricultural business, Owen was told to work on and Alf ordered to enlist ... Tailor George Dalton, married of Swinderby, failed to get Thomas Gibson, 26, spared from service to run his business ... Joiner and undertaker George B Nesbitt, 30, of Fulbeck was granted exemption from service for as long as he remained working for widow and mother-of-six Sarah Farmer, whose eldest son John, 25, had enlisted.

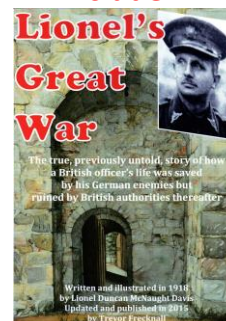
More Tribunal cases next week.

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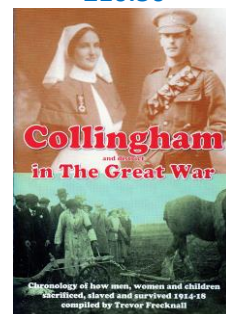


New book to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Ransome and Marles' bombing in World War II. £9.99 from WHSmith, Market Place, and Osborne Stationers, Kirkgate, Newark.

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