

“Merthyr Express” 2 January 1915

Sale By the order of the mortgagee: Fochriw: Sale of a desirable leasehold property. Mr. J L Cunningham will sell by public auction at the Rising Sun Inn, Fochriw, on Friday January 15th, 1915, at 7 p.m. the Leasehold Property, namely all that dwelling house, and premises being No. 8 Aelybryn, Fochriw, estimated to produce an annual rental of £16. 18s. and held under release for a term of 99 years from the 29th day of September 1901, subject to the low annual ground rent all of 18s. The auctioneer would draw the special attention of workmen and others to the sale as it affords them a rare opportunity of acquiring a good substantially built house for their own occupation, as, by special arrangement with the auctioneer, four-fifths of the purchase money can remain on mortgage at five percent per annum interest if required. For further particulars, applied to the auctioneer at his offices, 19, Glebeland-Street, Merthyr Tydfil, or to Washington Bowen, Esq., solicitor, Merthyr Tydfil.

Christmas at The Fochriw Churches

St Andrew's Church at Pentwyn The annual Christmas tree and prize distribution to the Sunday school scholars took place on Thursday evening, when a large number of teachers, scholars, and parents were present. Mr. J. C. Payne, licensed lay reader in-charge, presided, and opened the proceedings with an interesting address, after which a short concert of a sacred character was held as follows: organ solo – Mr. H. Brown; solo – Mrs. Morgan; recitation - Miss E. M. Jones; quartette – Messrs. H. Brown, J. C. Payne, Miss C. Davies, and Miss M. Jones; solo - Miss Elsie Brown; recitation - Miss R. Jones. Mr. T. Baldwin, the secretary of the Sunday School, gave an appropriate address in which he appealed for volunteers from the senior class to become teachers in the junior classes. He reminded the senior pupils that they would not only be helping in the good work that was being done, but they would find it very interesting and instructive to themselves. He also said how sorry he was to find that many of the boys on leaving the day schools to commence work, drifted away from the Sunday school, which was a great mistake on their part. It was at that stage that they would most benefit from the influence of their Sunday school. Mr. Brown also gave a short address, after which Mr. Payne, assisted by Mr. Baldwin, presented about 150 scholars and teachers with books. Mr. Payne, in reviewing the work of the past year, which had been very satisfactory, said he wished to thank all the teachers and others who helped him so heartily in the good work that was being done. He especially thanked Mr. T. Baldwin, secretary; Mr. H. Brown, organist; Mr. J. Wood, choirmaster, and Mr. C. Ballard.

Nazareth On Christmas Day at Nazareth, a Christmas Tree was held in the afternoon, when the Rev. Isaac Roderick presided. The following persons presented the children with handsome gifts from the tree: Messrs. J. D. Jones, School House; E. Parry; R. Jones; William Jones. The following children contributed to the programme: recitation - Miss L. M. Lawrence; duet - Miss Hilda Davies and Miss Mattie Jones; recitation - Addie Lawrence; song - the children - conducted by the Mr. William Morris; recitation – Mr. Griffiths Jones. In the evening a splendid eisteddfod was held when Councillor John Jones, Central Stores, presided. The adjudicators were: music – Mr. B. Angell, Fochriw; literature - Rev. Isaac Roderick. The secretary was Mr. Roderick Jones, and the treasurer Mr. Edward Parry. The successful competitors were as follows: recitation, children under 10 - divided between Muriel Jones and Griffith Morris; soprano solo - Miss Martha Davies, Aelybryn; recitation, under 14 - L. M. Lawrence; solo, under 10 - divided between May Davis and Muriel Jones; open recitation - William Jones; contralto solo - A. M. Jones; short speech on "Home" - William Morris; solo for girls - Hilda Davies; reading at first sight - Willie Adams-Jones; solo, over 40 - William Jones; dialogue - Edward Jones and Willie A. Jones; three verses on "Robin Redbreast" - William Jones; quartet - divided between A. M. Jones' party, and M. Davies and party; best letter - William Jones and William Morris; duet - A. M. Jones and Mrs. R Jones; baritone solo - divided between Idris Jones and William Morris; party of 8 – Mr. Evans John Jones and party. The singing of a Christmas hymn ended a most successful evening.

Noddfa Baptist Church During Christmas Day, three meetings were held. In the morning, the minister, the Rev. Esiah Williams, delivered a very appropriate sermon to the children bearing on the birth of Christ. In the afternoon, a competitive concert was held exclusively for the children of the Church. The meeting was quite a success. The way in which the solos were rendered, and the recitations given, was a credit to the children, and also to the Church for catering so well for the young talents. Another competitive concert was held at night. This was a meeting for adults and proved a real success. Competitors were numerous. These meetings have become an annual treat at Noddfa. Great praise is due to the young men of this Church for their support and good attendance at the meetings. The prizes were distributed as follows: recitations: under 10 - 1. Gwenda Thomas; 2. Elvis Phillips; 3. Enid Evans; under 13 - 1. Tudor Williams; 2. Joshua Thomas; under 16 - 1. Phyllis Williams; Psalm 146 (open) - 1. Tudor Williams; 2. Thomas Evans & Sam Evans; solos: girls under 10 - 1. Enid Evans, 2. Gwenda Evans 3. Phyllis Evans; boys under 16 - Clifford Davies; 2. Thomas John Jones, with

consolation prizes to David Rees and Joshua Thomas; girls under 16 - 1. Elizabeth Ann Evans; 2. divided between Elvis Phillips and Enid Evans; boys under 10 - 1. Clifford Davis; 2. Joshua Thomas; alto solo - Maggie Morgan; bass solo (novice) - Thomas Evans; tenor solo (novice) - Wm. Henry Jones; tenor solo - divided between John Evans and William Evans; hymn, over 40 - John Evans; bass solo - Thomas Evans; soprano solo - divided between Miss Mary Rees and Mrs. J. Williams; hat trimming for gentleman - Seaborne Williams; darning stockings - Tom Evans; Children's Choir - 1. conductor Miss Elizabeth A. Evans; 2. conductor, Miss Esther Thomas; 3. conductor, Mrs. C. Thomas; Chief choral - 1. Mr William H Jones' choir; 2. Mr. William Evans' choir. The chairman was the Rev. E. Williams; the adjudicators were: music: Mr. William Morgan, Dowlais; recitations – Mr. E. Elias; the accompanists - Miss Hilda Davies and Mr. John Evans.

Musical Festival at Carmel At this Christmas Day event, the conductor was Mr. John Thomas of Dowlais. The chairman was the Rev. D. Hughes Jones and the vice-chairman of Mr. Daniel Jenkins. Mr. Thomas Lewis was treasurer, and Mr. Daniel Rowlands, secretary. The leaders of the rehearsals were; adults – Mr. Daniel Jenkins; children – Mr. Thomas Walters. The accompanists were Mr. Thomas Walters, assisted by Misses Annie Evans and Olwen Hughes, and Mr. J. Elias Davies. A children's service was held in the morning. In the unavoidable absence of Dr. Davies, the Rev. D. Hughes Jones presided. The programme was: recitation - Edna Burrows; duet - Lydia and Ceinwen Ballard; solo - Doris Davies; catechising the children – Mr. Howell Thomas. At the evening meeting, the president was the Rev. D. Hughes Jones. The Rev. T. S. Davies conducted the devotional part. Various hymn tunes from the Congregational Hymnal were rendered, the chant "Trecelyn," and the anthem, "Ti ydwyt loches i mi" being especial favourites. A solo was rendered by Miss F. M. Williams. At the evening service, the president was the Rev. R. D. Jenkins, who also led the devotional portions. The programme consisted of the anthems "Ti ydwyt loches i mi" and "Yr amser a gyflawnwyd" and the chorus, "Thanks be to God." The conductor was enthusiastic in praising the choir for its rendering of this difficult chorus. The entire programme reflects great credit on the committee. Quartet: Miss M. A. Walters, Mrs. T. Walters, Messrs T. Walters and J. Jones; short speeches – Mr. Thomas Lewis and Mr. Thomas Jenkins. Messrs D. Jenkins and T. Walters deserve the highest praise for their assiduous rehearsing of the choirs, and it is a matter for general congratulation that the labours of all were brought to such successful fruition. The service closed with the Benediction, pronounced by the chairman, after the usual votes of thanks had been accorded.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business had been transacted, short addresses on "Privileges of the Young People of Today," were given by the brothers, Thomas Walters, Sam Lewis, Henry Thomas, Moses Williams, and Charles Payne.

“Merthyr Express” 9 January 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business had been transacted, interesting addresses on "Christmas" were given by Brothers Thomas Walters, Thomas Lewis, J. R. Dean, M. Williams and C. Payne. Brother Thomas Walters presided.

Intercession It all the churches and chapels of Fochriw and Pentwyn on Sunday, large congregations assembled, and took part in services of prayer, intercession and thanksgiving, for the remembrance of those who have fallen in our country's cause. A special form of service, issued under the authority of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York was observed in the Church of England, and the form of service was feelingly and devoutly followed.

Entertainment A successful entertainment was given at Pentwyn school room on Tuesday evening, Mr. G. Evans presiding. The following contributed to the programme: solos - Miss Elsie Brown, Mr. A. Coggan, and Mr. J. C. Payne; duets - Miss Polly Jones and Miss Blodwen Williams; Mr. Brown and Miss Jones; address – Mr. Payne; comic song – Mr. H. Brown; quartet – Messrs. Brown, Payne, Miss C. Davis and Miss P. Jones; instrumental duet – Mr. H. Brown and Master C. Brown; solo – Mr. G. Evans. An enjoyable evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the chairman and the singing of the National Anthem.

Wedding: Evans-Tamblyn A very pretty wedding was solemnised at the Parish Church, Pontllytyn on Saturday, the contracting parties being Mr. Joseph Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Evans, Stoney Houses, Penybank, and Miss Edith Mary Tamblyn, Fochriw. The bride, was charmingly attired in a costume of light blue serge, was attended by a Miss Lily Maud Tomkins, who also looked very pretty in a costume of light blue serge. Mr. W. J. Jones, Pentwyn, acted as best man. The wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Ashley, Pontllytyn. The Rev. Gilbert Williams, vicar, officiated. The bridegroom is a sidesman at St. Andrew's Church, Pentwyn, and is a faithful church worker, and Sunday school teacher. The happy couple were the recipients of numerous presents.

Golden Wedding Celebration At The Fochriw Mr. & Mrs. Howell Thomas, Station-terrace, Fochriw, celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday last. In honour of the occasion, a grand party was held, at which, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, their four sons and one daughter, were all present. Also present, were their twenty-four grandchildren and the three great grandchildren. All have been reared in the village, and still live there. Mr. Thomas was born at Pontllynn, and Mrs. Thomas at Big Meadows, near Dowlais. Mr. Thomas is, and has been for over 30 years, an official at the Fochriw Colliery. They were married in the Old Church, Merthyr, on January 2nd, 1865. Both are faithful members of the Carmel Congregational Chapel, where they are highly esteemed. The family is well-known and greatly respected in the village and throughout the surrounding districts. The tables cleared, a splendid programme was contributed to by the following: pianoforte solos – Mr. Thomas Walters, son-in-law; Mr. David Thomas, grandchild; comic songs – Mr. Howell Thomas - grandchild; reading – Mr. Wm. Thomas, eldest son (under-manager of the No. 1 Pit, Fochriw); recitation – Mr. Jenkin Thomas, son; song - Miss Ceridwen Thomas, grandchild; reading – Mr. David Lewis, grandchild; numerous folks songs by the little children; solo – Mrs. C. Walters; duets – Mr. and Mrs. Walkers, daughter and son-in-law; Mr. Howell Thomas and Miss Lily Davis, grandchildren. Appropriate speeches were given by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, who were the recipients of numerous presents in honour of the occasion. An enjoyable and memorably evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" led by Mrs. Walters.

8. Aelybryn, Fochriw The sale of the above property advertised to take place at Fochriw on Friday is withdrawn. J L Cunningham, auctioneer.

“Merthyr Express” 16 January, 1915

Stop Trucks Both pits were idle on the day owing to a shortage of wagons. The pits were also idle from 11 o'clock on Saturday for the same reason.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Brother Lewis presided. Addresses on "Resolutions for the New Year" were given by Brothers Dean, M. Williams, and C. Payne.

Band Of Hope The St Andrew's Church Band of Hope held their weekly meeting on Wednesday evening, Mr. A. Coggan and Mr. G. Evans presiding. They spoke encouraging words to the children. An interesting programme was contributed to by several members, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Magic Lantern A lecture was given in the vestry of Noddfa Baptist chapel on Tuesday evening, on "The Life of David" by the Rev. E. Williams, pastor. He gave an excellent account of David's life, which proved edifying and inspiring. The lecture was illustrated by lantern pictures, which were much enjoyed by the large number present. The lantern was manipulated by Mr. J Evans.

“Merthyr Express” 30 January, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, ode practice was indulged in. A vote of condolence was passed with Brother William Griffiths in his recent bereavement. Brother Thomas Lewis presided.

“Merthyr Express” 6 February 1915

Departure of Mr. J C Payne: Farewell Sermon At Pentwyn Fochriw has just lost one of her most prominent townsmen in the person of Mr. J. C. Payne, who is leaving in order to prepare for ordination, and has taken an appointment offered by the Rev. Canon Lewis, at St Mark's Church, Gelli, Ystrad Rhondda. Mr. Payne has for over 20 years been engaged as engineman at the local colliery of Messrs Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, and during the whole of this time has actively associated himself with every social function in Fochriw, but his efforts were more particularly identified in connection with church work. His interest in this direction matured early, and he was a voluntary lay-reader in the parish of Pontllynn for 14 years, officiating at Tirphil, Pentwyn, Troedrhifwuch, Newtown and Pantywaun. Six years ago he was appointed licensed lay reader to St Andrew's Church, Pentwyn, and the energy and devotion which he applied to his work raised the Church to its present flourishing state with a crowded congregation. Amongst other duties which he discharged, were those of Chaplain to Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth, R.A.O.B., and secretary of the Soldier's and Sailors Association. During the last 10 years, he has represented the "Merthyr Express" at Fochriw, and his contributions to these columns have been much appreciated. We regret the loss of his valuable services in this capacity. Mr. Payne has taken a bold step with commendable courage, and one that involves very considerable personal sacrifices, in order to follow more closely the work he loves. The choice, however, will bring its own reward in the ultimate realisation of his ambition. The Church at Pentwyn, and his friends at Fochriw, will undoubtedly miss his genial companionship, but their loss will be others' gain.

Mr. Payne preached his farewell sermon on Sunday evening, when the Church was packed from chancel to door. At the conclusion, he referred to the growth of the Church since he had taken up the

duties nearly six years ago, when, at the request of the late vicar, the Rev. T. Rees, he opened the Church after it had been closed for three years. Tonight, he said, he was proud to be able to say they had a flourishing Sunday School of 150 scholars, a strong staff of teachers, the Band of Hope, an excellent service, and various other organisations for the welfare of the Church, and also a full Church of worshippers. During his ministry, the Church had been renovated, and new heating stove put in, and an acetylene lighting plant installed throughout the Church and vestry, the gift of the late Viscount Tredegar. He said it was very hard for him to leave such a flourishing Church and a loving congregation. He was not leaving because he was tired of his work; he loved the work and the people, who worked so harmoniously for the good of the Church. He was leaving with the object of preparing for ordination. He hoped that they would continue the good work that they had been doing in the past. Nothing would hurt him more in his new sphere than to hear that the good work was falling away at Pentwyn. Appropriate hymns were sung under the conductor Mr. John Wood, with Mr. H. Brown presiding at the organ.

Obituary We have to record death of Mr. William Williams, Rees-row, Pentwyn.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Brother Thomas Walters presided. The following officers were elected for the next quarter: Chief Templar - Brother Thomas Walters; vice-templar - Sister Maggie Thomas; past chief Templar - Brother William Jones; treasurer - Brother Sam Lewis; chaplain - Sister C. Jones; marshall - Brother R. Thomas; financial secretary - Brother W. A. Davies; assistant secretary - Brother Wm. Griffiths; guard - Sister M. Tyler; sentinel - Sister B. Frances; deputy marshal - Sister A. Griffiths; organist - Brother J. E. Davies; lodge deputy - Brother Charles Payne; electoral secretary - Brother William Jones; S.J.W. - Brother Thomas Lewis; secretary - Brother Henry Thomas. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a fruit banquet was provided by the Sisters. During the evening, a splendid programme was provided by the following: solos - Sisters C. Walters, C Thomas, M Tyler; reading - Sister B Francis.

R.A.O.B. The weekly meeting of the Lodge took place at the Lodge room, Pentwyn, on Wednesday. The lodge was opened in due form by Primo Edward Morgan. During party the evening the royal chain was occupied by Primo Brother J. C. Payne, the worthy chaplain of the lodge, who stated that he was leaving for St. Mark's Church, Gelli, in the parish of Ystradfodwg. Therefore, he wished to resign his office as chaplain. He delivered an interesting and touching address, speaking highly of the Order and its good objects, and wished the Order and all its members a bright and successful future. Addresses were then delivered by several of the brethren, all of whom spoke in glowing terms of Brother Payne and services he had rendered to the Lodge as chaplain. His departure would be an immense loss to them. They asked him to continue to be their chaplain, and passed a unanimous resolution to that effect. Brother Payne responded, and thanked them for their kind words and confidence. He promised to continue in his office and to do his best. Several members contributed to a most enjoyable programme, and the meeting was brought to a close by the National Anthem.

"Merthyr Express" 13 February, 1915

Nazareth Chapel The annual lecture was given at this chapel on Monday evening, the Rev. Isaac Roderick presiding. The lecturer was Miss Eluned Morgan, Cardiff, whose spoke on "Griffith Jones, Llanddowror, and the Welsh Awakening."

Obituary The funeral of the late Mr. William Williams, Rees-row, Pentwyn, took place on Thursday last at Pentwyn Churchyard, and was well attended. Deceased, who was 62 years of age, had resided at the village for a number of years, where he was well-known and highly respected. He had been ill for many months. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the Rev D. Huws Jones, who also officiated at the graveside.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Brother Thomas Walters presided. The programme for the evening was a "Sing, say, or penny pay." The following contributed to an enjoyable evening: songs - Brothers W. Jones, D. James, W. Davies, Sisters Mary Tyler, F. Williams, C. Walters, Mrs Walters; readings - Brothers O. Evans, J. E. Davis, L. Evans, M. Williams, H. Thomas, Sisters M. Cole, D. Francis, M. Thomas, D. Griffiths, M. Griffiths, C. Jones; addresses - Brothers Lewis, T. Lewis, and C. Payne.

"Merthyr Express" 20 February 1915

Carmel Chapel The pulpit was occupied by Mr. Thomas, Brynteg, Fochriw, on Sunday evening last. He preached an eloquent sermon to a large congregation.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening last. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, humorous readings were given by the following: Brothers C. Payne, J. R. Dean,

M. Williams, J. E. Davies, C. Cooke, W. Davies, Sisters E. Griffiths, C. Thomas, M. Thomas, M. Griffiths, C. Jones, D. Francis, M. Cole, F. Williams and Maggie Griffiths.

“Merthyr Express” 27 February, 1915

Accident On Friday evening, at No. 2 Pit, Fochriw, John Williams, of Dowlais, was severely injured by a fall of the roof. Dr. Davies descended the mine and attended to the man's injuries. Afterwards, he was conveyed to the Merthyr General Hospital, where he died the same night. Deceased was 25 years of age, and a native of North Wales.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Topical Temperance Talks," Sister M Cole being responsible. Most of them brothers and sisters contributed. Brother Thomas Lewis presided.

Wedding: Edwards-Evans A pretty wedding was solemnised at St Tyfaelog's Church, Pontlottyn, on Wednesday, the contracting parties being Pte. Wyndham R. Edwards, 3rd Welsh (Deri), and Miss Margaret H. Evans, Fochriw. The bride, who was given away by her father, Mr. William Evans, Pitrow, looked pretty in a rose-coloured dress with cream hat. She was attended by Mrs. Edmund Thomas, sister of the bridegroom, and Mrs. W. J. Payne, sister of the bride. Messrs. W. J. Payne and Edmund Thomas were also present. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Gilbert Williams, vicar. The happy couple were the recipients of many useful presents.

Coal Worked in the Parish of Gellygaer for the year ending 31st December, 1914 2,045,784 tons (large coal), a decrease of 92,473 tons on last year. Fochriw Pits: 211,322 tons (large coal); 48,652 tons (small coal).

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“Merthyr Express” 6 March 1915

Noddfa Chapel A social was held at Noddfa Baptist Chapel to celebrate St David's Day. The provisions were given by the ladies of the Church, and the young men were also very liberal with their contributions. The tables were waited on by the following: Mrs. J. Evans, Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. J. Pugh, Mrs. John Rees, Mrs. D. Davies, Mrs. J. Williams, Miss Beatrice Jones, Miss Hannah Evans, Miss Maggie Evans. A shooting range was prepared in a corner of the room. The young people nicknamed the target "The Kaiser." A considerable sum of money was raised by this means. Miss Hilda Phillips accompanied the concert on the piano. Solos were rendered by the Mr. David Thomas and Mrs. J. Williams. Prizes were awarded for the following: stump speech – Mr. S. Williams; translating a piece into Welsh – Mr. David Thomas. Three minute speeches were delivered by many, all of whom paid a fine of one penny for every English word spoken. The toll was very heavy on some. A sketch, prepared by Mr. David Thomas and Miss Mary Rees was performed. The gathering was kept in a state of continuous laughter throughout the performance. At the end of the evening, Miss Mary Rees sang the Welsh National Anthem, all joining in the chorus.

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Nazareth Chapel The St David's Day Annual Festival was held at the chapel on Monday evening. It was celebrated in the form of a popular banquet and concert. The following ladies served at the tables: Mesdames Martha Parry, Mary Lawrence, M. J. Jones, L. Roberts, L. Parry, M. A. Lawrence, Emily Davies, Mattie Jones, Martha Davies. After the banquet, the following programme was gone through: address by the president, Councillor John Jones; solo - Willie Edgar; recitation - Lizzie Mary Lawrence; overture on the organ - Miss Katie Jones-Davies; drama - the Nazareth Dramatic Society; overture on the organ – Mr. Willie A. Davies; quartette – Mr. Willie Adams-Jones and friends; recitation - Edward Jones; solo - Willie Edgar. The singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" brought the evening to a close, Miss Mary Richards leading the singing.

Fochriw Mixed School Gwyl Ddewi was celebrated in the Mixed School with enthusiasm and earnestness. An extensive programme was gone through in a masterful way, the chief item being "Pont Orewyn" given by the boys of the upper classes. This was performed in full character, and Prince Llewellyn, in his shining armour, looks extremely well. The dresses were all made by the scholars at the school. The singing of patriotic songs and Welsh airs, under the guidance of Mr. T. J. Jones, reflected great credit upon the teachers. The scholars were addressed by Dr. E. Davies, and Rev. Roderick, on Welsh life and Welsh ideals. Mr. Roderick dealt with the important lessons which can be

drawn from the stories linked with for the life of Dewi Sant. Mr. Jones, headmaster, and the staff, are to be complemented upon the excellent work done, and the enthusiasm and patriotism shown. Mrs. M. E. Morgan presided at the piano.

Penybank School Gwyl Ddewi was celebrated with the usual enthusiasm at Penybank School. The school had been prettily decorated by the staff and scholars. Large numbers of the childrens' parents were present, and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Miss Richards, the head teacher, took the chair, while the following took part: pianoforte solos - Miss H. Evans, teacher; paper on St David - Miss J. A. Morgan, teacher; recitation - Blodwen Watkins; song - David James Williams; recitation - Agnes May Williams; song - Blodwen Watkins; competition - blackboard drawing; chorus by scholars "Pa Wlad fel Cymru lan?" game - the infants; trio - "Mae Doli'n Crio;" recitation - Amy James; chorus - "Doh"; competition - word building; game - the infants; "Harlech" - Std. III girls; recitation - Ivy Tyler; solo and chorus "Jester"; game - the infants. The Welsh National Anthem was then sung. Miss Angell deserves great praise for teaching the little ones their games, songs, and recitations so well. Messrs. Evans and Davies, teachers, were the accompanists.

Fochriw Infants School St David's Day was celebrated with the customary enthusiasm. The school was beautifully decorated with bunting, banners of the Red Dragon, leaks, and daffodils. The school being always conducted in Welsh, the programme for the day was entirely in the vernacular, and included Welsh airs, old folk songs, games, and dances, Welsh rhymes, recitations, and short addresses. The head teacher extended a hearty welcome to the parents and friends present, and made a pressing appeal to all present to speak the Welsh language in their homes, and do all in their power to foster the Welsh spirit. The accompanist was Mrs. C Walters, a former teacher on the staff. Mr. George Sibley, seconded by Rev. D. Huws Jones, thanked Mrs. E. Cole Jones, head teacher, the staff, and Mrs. Walters, for their excellent services. The rendering of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" by Miss Marsie Davies, one of the teachers, brought an inspiring meeting to a close.

"Merthyr Express" 13 March 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the Juveniles entertained, the following contributing: songs - Irlis Jenkins, Agnes Cook, Doris Davies Mary Cole; recitations - Mary Jones, John Evans, Leonora Jenkins, Lala Cole, Edmund Davies, Maggie Griffiths; dialogue - Lizzie Mary Lawrence, Ceinwen Ballard, Gladys Davies, Mary H. Cooke, and friends.

Wedding: Morgan-Evans A pretty wedding was solemnised at Merthyr on Thursday last. The contracting parties were Mr. Habacuc Morgan, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morgan, Glenview, Pentwyn, and Miss Elizabeth Jane Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Evans, Guest-street, Fochriw. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by her sister, Miss Maggie Evans. Mr. Evan Morgan, father of the bridegroom, and Mr. Aneurin Evans, brother of the bride, were also present. The wedding breakfast was partaken at the house of the bride's mother.

Noddfa Chapel On Sunday last, the half-yearly meetings of the chapel were held. The officiating minister was of the Rev. E. Lluchwr Jones, Bedwas. On Monday night, he delivered a lecture on "Vavassor Powell," the Rev. Esaia Williams, pastor, taking the chair. Rev. D. Huws Jones, Congregational minister, and Rev. Isaac Roderick, Calvinistic Methodist minister, thanked the speaker for his excellent address.

"Merthyr Express" 20 March 1915

Gellygaer District Council: To the Electors of the Fochriw Ward Ladies and gentlemen, - In 19th October, 1913, You adopted and returned me, with a handsome majority, as one of your representatives on the above Council. My term of office is now at an end, and I appear before you again, to seek a continuation of your generous support. Before doing so, however, you would naturally wish me to give an account of my stewardship. (1) I have successfully appealed to the Council for an efficient system of lighting all along the road from Deri to Bargoed, with operations already commenced. (2) Very extensive street improvements at Bailey-street, Deri, are to be proceeded with immediately. (3) Instructions have been given to the surveyor to prepare plans for widening the bridge over the river near the Post Office, Deri. I have also supported and secured better made roads throughout the ward. I have contested successfully, in conjunction with my colleague, a disputed right-of-way for the benefit of Fochriw, Penybank and Deri workmen employed at the Bedlinog Collieries. I have also supported and secured better lighting and sanitary arrangements for the whole of the ward. Briefly, these are the larger benefits secured, and if you are satisfied with these results, obtained within the short period of 18 months, show your approval by returning me again on March 29th as one of your representatives, with such a majority as will give additional force to any argument that I will put on your behalf in future. In return for your further support, I pledge myself again to secure the greatest

possible good for the greatest possible number. I am, ladies and gentlemen, your obedient servant, W. J. Giles. 2&3, Central Buildings, Deri.

Concert A concert was given at St Mary's Hall on Thursday last by the scholars of the Fochriw Mixed School. The programme consisted of plays, songs, recitations, etc. The chair was occupied by Councillor John Jones, Fochriw. The following pieces were performed: "Owain Glyndwr;" "William Tell;" "Pont Orewyn;" "Buttonhook" (by the 10 girls). National Anthems and a few glees were sung; soloists - D. J. Rees, Ruth Griffiths, Phyllis Williams; duets were given by Elizabeth Ann Jones and Elizabeth Ann Angel, and Lydia and Ceinwen Ballard; recitations - Dan Davies, Ceinwen Ballard, Ernest White. The singing and acting was all that could be desired, and reflects great credit upon the Headmaster and staff, who must have laboured very hard. The scenes, dresses, and arms were all prepared by the scholars, and tickets were also sold by the scholars of the upper classes. The proceeds were in aid of the Fochriw Sewing Class.

"Merthyr Express" 27 March, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a singing competition took place. The following were competitors: Sisters C. Thomas, Florrie Williams, M. Thomas, H. Davies, M. Jones, and Brother D. James. The adjudicator was Brother Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M. The first prize was awarded to Sister C. Thomas; the second was divided between Sisters H. Davies and Florrie Williams. During the evening pianoforte solos were given by Brothers W. A. Davies and T. Walters. Brother T. Lewis presided.

Lantern Entertainment A series of war and local pictures were shown at Noddfa Baptist Vestry on Tuesday, to a very large number of adults and children. The lantern was managed by Messrs. Seaborne Williams and Johnny R. Walters. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Isaiah Williams, who gave interesting lectures as the pictures were shown. During the intervals the following sang and recited: duet - Phyllis Williams and Elvis Phillips; songs - Mary Dilys Evans, and Phyllis Powell; recitations - Elsa Matthews, Johnny Evans, and Edmund Davies. Miss Hilda Phillips ably presided at the piano. Mr. Thomas B. Edwards also rendered valuable service during the evening. The singing of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable entertainment to a close.

"Merthyr Express" 3 April 1915

Gellygaer Council Election Result Elected: Mr. W. J. Giles, 340 votes; not elected, Mr. E. Savaker, 251.

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Eliza Jones, wife of Mr. John Jones, 9 Martin-street.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. The night was set apart for "Ode Practice." Several of the brothers and sisters took part. Brother Thomas Walters was responsible. Brother William Griffiths presided.

Noddfa Chapel A concert was held at the above place last Tuesday. The chair was taken by the Reverend E. Williams. Clifford Davies opened the concert by singing "Only an Armour Bearer." The following contributed to the programme: solos - Mary Dilys Evans, Mrs. J. Williams, Mary Rees; recitations- Misses M. Lewis and Enid Evans; violin solo - Irene Phillips; sketch - "All in a Muddle" - Misses Mary Rees, Hilda Phillips, Irene Phillips, Lily M. Rees, Elvis Phillips, and Messrs. David Thomas, S. Williams, and D Rees; sketch - "John a Mari yn y Ffair" - Miss Mary Rees and Mr. D. Thomas; duet - Elsa Matthews and Joshua Thomas; Phyllis Williams and Enid Evans; trio - Misses E. A. Evans, L. J. Evans, Lizzie Thomas. Miss Hilda Phillips ably presided at the piano. The concert was brought to a close by the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau."

"Merthyr Express" 10 April, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to the programme: songs - Brothers William Griffiths, Dan James, C. Payne, William Jones; recitation - Brother William Jones. Brother T. Lewis presided over the meeting.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. Jones, Martin-street, took place on Saturday last at Pentwyn Churchyard. The Rev. E. Williams officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Mr John Jones, husband; Messrs David D. Jones, Evan Jones, George Jones, Thomas Jones, Sam Jones, sons.

Operetta At the council schools on Friday and Saturday, a performances of the operetta "Pearl, the Fishermayden," was given by the Carmel Sunday School Choir, conducted by Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M. The school was crowded for the occasion, the acting and singing being a very high standard, and the dresses making a magnificent display of colours. The chief performers were: Mrs. C. Walters; Mr. J. Jones; Miss M. J. Walters; Mr. M. Cole; Mr. Daniel Jenkins; Mr. H. Thomas; Mr. Ll. Rees; Mr.

H. Hughes; Miss F. Williams; Master B. Sibley; Mr. J. E. Davis; Master D. Rowlands. The accompanist was Miss H. Evans, Aelybryn.

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Hannah Davies, the wife of Mr. E. H. Davies, Hill-row, Pentwyn, after a very painful illness. Deceased was well known in the district. The death has also occurred of Mr. James Evans, Aelybryn. He was an old and respected inhabitant of the place, having resided in the village for upwards of 40 years. He will be greatly missed by his many friends. He had been employed as an official at No. 2 Pit for a number of years, where he was well-liked and respected, but he had been idle for the last three years owing to illness. He was interred at Pant Cemetery on Tuesday. The funeral was very well attended, many of his friends meeting of the cortege at Pant Station. The mourners were: Messrs. Thomas, Sam, David, John and William Evans, sons; Thomas and William Evans, brothers; Iorwerth and Johnny Evans, grandsons; Joshua Evans, Sam Evans, William Evans, James Evans, Ebenezer Thomas, Jenkins Thomas, Tom Matthews, nephews. The Rev. E. Williams, assisted by the Rev. Isaac Roderick, officiated at the house and the graveside.

“Merthyr Express” 17 April, 1915

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. H. Davies, Hill-row, Pentwyn, took place on Wednesday last, and was for gentleman only. It was well attended. Deceased was very well known. She was just 31 years of age, and leaves a husband and four children. The place of interment was Pentwyn churchyard. The Rev. D. H. Jones officiated at the house and graveside.

“Merthyr Express” 24 April, 1915

Fochriw Soldier's Child: Why A Girl Refused to Marry David Lewis of Fochriw, now a private in the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry, was summoned by Mary Alice Davies. The Magistrate's Clerk had received a letter from the defendant admitting that he was the father of the child, and added that he had offered to marry the girl. She had refused. The Stipendiary asked the girl "Is this true?" "Yes sir," she replied, "I have already gone through my shame." Stipendiary: "You might have got rid of your shame by marrying him. It is senseless for a woman to refuse to marry the father of her child." However, an order for three shillings and sixpence per week was made .

“Merthyr Express” 1 May, 1915

Obituary We have to record the deaths of two well-known inhabitants of the village, Mrs. John Lewis, 11, Dynevor-street, and Mr. Caradoc Shankland, 16, Guest-street.

Musical Success Master David Thomas recently passed first class elementary grade of pianoforte playing, London College of Music. He is a pupil of Mr. Thomas Walters, organist of Carmel Congregational Church.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Brother Thomas Walters presided. A letter was read by Brother T. Lewis from Private Harry. In the election of officers for the coming quarter, all the existing officers were re-elected. The programme for the night was "Merry Evening," the following contributing: song - Brother Thomas Walters; recitation- Sister C Thomas; dialogue - Sisters Bronwen Francis and May Rowlands; solo - Sisters C. Walters. A vote of sympathy was passed to Brother William Jones on the recent death of his father.

Recruiting Meeting On Friday last a recruiting meeting was held at St Mary's Hall, Fochriw. The band of the 3rd Welsh, Cardiff, came up for the event. Before promenading the village, they were entertained to tea at the Fochriw Schools, the tables being prepared by Mesdames Dr. Davies, John Morgan, M. E. Morgan, J. Davies, James Williams, H. Bates, and Mrs. Roderick, and Misses E. G. Williams, M. A. Lewis, M. Parry, M. Cole, and E. M. Thomas. These ladies, with other members of the Sewing Class, had busied themselves for some little time previously, in preparing seven hampers and a huge parcel of shirts, blankets and socks, for the St. John's Ambulance Association, Cardiff. 453 articles were sent. A further hamper is being prepared. After the tea, the Band, headed by the regimental goat, P.S. Williams, P. C. Perrott, and others, paraded the village. Private John Price of the Welsh Regiment, who has been through several engagements and is now home wounded, was also in the procession. After parading the streets of the village, the Band returned to St. Mary's Hall, where the recruiting meeting was held. The meeting was presided over by Dr. E. Davies, J.P., who gave a very spirited speech. He spoke of the good work done at Fochriw by the ladies of the Sewing Class in providing clothing, etc, for the comfort of the soldiers who had joined. The object of the meeting was to rouse them up and do better. The Rev. James Evans, Cardiff, spoke in Welsh, appealing for recruits. Private Derry of the Welsh Regiment, made an earnest appeal from men to join, and so relieve some of his comrades in the trenches. He gave a thrilling account of the German atrocities he had himself seen. Colonel Marwood Elton gave an account of what had been done by the 3rd Welsh in supplying drafts to fill up the gaps caused by the wastages of war, and appealed to the young men to come forward and offer themselves for recruitment. Major Russell, in a fine speech, made a pressing appeal for recruits. Councillor B. Hughes, Pontlottyn, also spoke in the same strain. A very enthusiastic meeting was

bought to a close with the band playing the National Anthem. At the close, a number of recruits offered themselves for recruitment.

“Merthyr Express” 8 May, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a vote of sympathy was passed to Brother E. H. Lewis on the death of his mother. During the evening, a paper was read by Mr. David Jones, son of Councillor Jones, and headmaster of Pantywaun School, entitled "Prydferthwch ac Ardduneth." Brother Thomas Walters presided.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mr. C. Shankland, Guest-street, took place on Wednesday at Pentwyn Churchyard. There was a large attendance. The Rev D. Hughes Jones, Congregational minister, assisted by the Rev. I. Roderick, Rev. R. D. Jenkins, and Rev. I. Williams, officiated. The chief mourners were: Mrs. Shankland, widow; Messrs. J. Morris and W. Williams, brothers-in-law; Meirion, Nellie, Jennie, Bessie and Bob, children; Mr. T. Shankland, brother; Mrs. David Davies, sister; Mr. and Mrs. George Shankland, Mr. and Mrs. K. Shankland, brothers and sisters-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Lewis, sister and brother-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. T. Carter, cousins; Mr. J. E. Davies, Miss M. J. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Crook, nieces and nephews; Messrs. T. J. Shankland, D. J. Shankland and W. Davies, nephews; Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Shankland, Mr. and Mrs. G. Shankland, cousins. The deceased was only 47 years of age and was well known in musical circles.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Lewis, Dynevor-street, took place on Saturday at Pant cemetery. She was 57 years of age. The funeral was a very large one. The deceased had lived in the district for nearly 30 years, where she was well-known and highly respected. She was one of the most faithful members of the Carmel Congregational Chapel, very rarely missing a service. The officiating ministers were the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, and Rev. R. D. Jenkins. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. David Davies, sang well known hymns en route to the cemetery. The chief mourners were: Mr. John Lewis, husband; Messrs. Daniel Rees and Evan H. Lewis, sons; Mr. and Mrs. D. L. James, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Lewis, Mr. Thomas J. James, Nellie May, Dannie, and Willie John, grandchildren.

“Merthyr Express” 15 May 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Topical Talks". Sister Myfanwy Cole was responsible. During the evening, the annual trip was discussed, and it was decided to postpone it for a while. The meeting was closed in due form by the Brother Moses Williams.

“Merthyr Express” 22 May 1915

Nazareth Chapel Half yearly meetings of this chapel were held on Sunday and Monday, with large congregations. The preacher was of the Rev. B. Watkins, Ferndale, who preached appropriate sermons. Mr. W. Morris conducted the singing, whilst Miss K. Davies presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was a prize for "Unpunctuated Reading." The adjudicator was Sister M. A. Lewis, who, together with the other sisters, gave the prize. The prize was divided between Sister M Cole, and Brothers Thomas Walters and W. A. Davies.

Wedding: Hughes-Price A pretty wedding was solemnised at Gellygaer on Tuesday, the contracting parties being Miss Maggie Hughes, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes, Martin-street, and Mr. David Price, butcher, Deri. The bride was attired in a mole-coloured costume, with pale blue hat, and was given away by her father, whilst Mr. H. Hughes was best man. The bride was attended by four bridesmaids: Miss Bessie Hughes, sister; Miss Eileen May Price, cousin; Miss Katie Williams, niece of the bridegroom; and Miss Jennie Jones. The wedding party drove to Gellygaer in a motor car. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Canon Jones. The party returned to the house of the bride's parents for the breakfast. Mr. and Mrs. Price left later for Swansea, whether honeymoon is being spent. They were the recipients of many presents.

“Merthyr Express” 5 June 1915

Obituary The death has taken place of an old inhabitant in the person of Mr. Jno. Lewis, Dynevor-street. This took place on Tuesday night, after a very painful illness.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to the programme: Bros. Thomas Walters, Lewis Evans, James C. Cooke, C. Payne, M. Williams, T. Lewis, W. Jones, and Sisters M. A. Lewis, C. Jones, B. Francis, M. Rowlands, Maggie Thomas, D. Griffiths, M. Cole, and C. Thomas. The lodge was closed in due form by Brother M. Williams.

Annual Tea The adults and children of Noddfa Chapel held their annual tea on Wednesday last. The little ones had looked forward to the treat. They all sat down to the good things which had been provided for them. After the tables had been cleared, they all went to the mountain, where they spent a very happy time playing games etc. Praise is due to all the help to make the event such a success.

“Merthyr Express” 12 June 1915

Memorial Service A memorial service to the late Mr. John Lewis was held at Carmel chapel on Sunday last. Rev. D. Hughes Jones preached to a very large congregation. The "Dead March" was played by Mr. Thomas Walters, organist, whilst the singing was conducted by the Mr. David Davies.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "What Have Learned since I Began in the Lodge." The following responded: Bros. Owen, Walters, Williams, and Payne. A vote of condolence was passed with Brother E. H. Lewis upon the death of his father.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mr. John Lewis, late pitman, Dynevor-street, took place on Saturday last, the place of interment being Pant Cemetery. His wife had died just five weeks ago. Deceased was a faithful member of Carmel Congregational Chapel where he was well respected. He was 62 years of age, and leaves one daughter and three sons. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Daniel and Evan Lewis, sons; Mr. and Mrs. D. J. James, daughter and son-in-law; Thomas J. Jones, Nellie May James, Daniel Janes, Stanley James, W. J. Lewis and Elwyn Lewis, grandchildren; Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, sister and brother-in-law; Mr. M. J. Williams, nephew; Mr. Tom Jones, cousin; Messrs. David Rees, Wm. Davies, Johnny Davies, George Davies, cousins; Mr. and Mrs. J. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. B. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. W. Davies, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Mrs. M. H. Davies, Mr. J. Davies and Mr. Edgar Davies, niece and nephews. Revs. D. Hughes Jones, and Rhys Jenkins, officiated at the house and graveside.

“Merthyr Express” 19 June 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Ode Practice." The conductor was Brother Thomas Walters. Brother Moses Williams presided.

Carmel Chapel The annual services of the chapel were held on Sunday and Monday last. The preacher was the Rev. T. E. Nicholas, Llangybi, Cardiganshire. He preached most edifying and inspiring sermons. Mr. David Davies conducted the singing.

“Merthyr Express” 26 June 1915

House Rents Great dissatisfaction is felt at Fochriw owing to the fact that the rents of certain houses have been raised by 20 per cent. A petition has been forwarded to the landlords, with the tenants arguing that they are now worse off than before receiving a war bonus of two and a half per cent.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the Bedlinog Lodge entertained. Brother Moses Williams presided.

Fochriw "Slackers:" Vicar's Indictment An extraordinary passage appears in the Pontlottyn Church Magazine for this month, from the pen of Rev. G. A. Williams, vicar. It reads as follows: "During the concert held at St. Mary's Church Hall, Fochriw, the performers did their parts right well, when the behaviour of not a few is taken into consideration. They were not aided by the patriotic enthusiasm which characterised the Pontlottyn concerts. This is not to be wondered at, for, if report be true, there are more "slackers" in Fochriw than in any other village in the parish of Pontlottyn, yea, in the civil parish of the Gellygaer. Methinks that twelve months in khaki would tend to civilise not a few who are over-endowed with animal spirits." Similar remarks were also passed at a recent Gellygaer Council meeting by the Rev. Canon T. J. Jones, and of Mr. W. Hammond, Tirphil, about the 'slackers' at Fochriw.

Summons William Price, White Horse Inn, Fochriw, was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale of liquor contrary to the closing order made under the Temporary Restriction Act. The following were summoned for aiding and abetting by being on the premises: Henry Jones, Bert Evans, Thomas Pugh, John Davies, Rees Jones, and Charles Edwards. The defendant was fined £3, and the others £1.

“Merthyr Express” 3 July 1915

A Pentwyn Presentation: Mr. J. C. Payne's Record of Service On Thursday evening week, a presentation took place at the Federation Hall, Pentwyn, when Mr. J. C. Payne was made the recipient of a handsome marble clock, subscribed for by the members of the Fochriw branch of the Enginemen, Stokers and Surface Craftmen's Association, and other workmen of the colliery, as a token of their great esteem for him, and to mark the occasion of his leaving Fochriw to take up an appointment

offered him by the Reverend Canon Lewis at St Mark's Church, Gelli, Ystrad Rhondda. A good number of members and friends were present, the proceedings being presided over by the Mr. Edward Lewis. The Chairman spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Payne. He had always been a faithful member of the Association, had filled many positions of trust, and had always carried out his duties honestly and straightforwardly. They heard a lot of recruiting for his Majesty's Army in these days, but Mr. Payne was recruiting for the army of the King of Kings. He sincerely hoped that he would continue with this good work and rise to a high position in the Church. A fine programme of songs, recitations and instrumental solos, given by Mr. Payne's colleagues, followed. Mr. Lewis then made the presentation of the clock. Others who spoke were Mr. Alfred Evans, Mr. Fred Wootten, Mr. Harry Hughes, Mr. H. C. Seaborne (the secretary of the branch), and Mr. M. Jones. The singing of the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

"The Merthyr Express" - a paper from home will comfort you're soldier lad as nothing else can. But it must be the paper, the one that gives all the news of home. It must be the "MERTHYR EXPRESS." Send him a copy each week, or let us do it for you.

On Leave Driver Ernest Chaffey, A.S.C., is home for a few days holiday. He is looking in the best of health after his long stay in France. It is interesting to note that since the commencement of war, over 100 have joined His Majesty's forces from the Fochriw district.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Members were entertained at to Welsh cakes and drinks. A card was read from the Star of Bedlinog Lodge inviting members to an open air meeting at Bedlinog. Brother Moses Williams presided.

"Merthyr Express" 10 July 1915

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. M. Griffiths, wife of Mr. J. Griffiths, Dynevor-street, which took place on Tuesday morning after a very painful illness.

Chapel Teas The annual tea in connection with the Carmel Congregational Chapel and Nazareth Calvinist Methodist Chapel took place at their respective chapels on Monday last, when a large number of friends and children sat at the tables. After tea, games etc. were played.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was proceeded with, the Juveniles entertaining. The election of officers for the coming year was also made: Brother Thomas Lewis, S. J. W.; Brother C Payne, L.D.; Brother W. Jones, E. S.; Brother Dean, R.C.T. J. Brother Moses Williams presided.

"Merthyr Express" 17 July, 1915

St Andrew's Church, Pentwyn: Presentation to Mr. J. C. Payne On Thursday last week, the annual tea in connection with St Andrew's Church Sunday school Pentwyn, took place when teachers and scholars, about 150 in number, attended. A public meeting was afterwards held, the occasion being a presentation to Mr. J. C. Payne of an illuminated address and suitcase, subscribed for by the Vicar, Pentwyn Church people and friends, in appreciation of his six years ministry at St Andrew's Church, and as a token of the high esteem in which he is held, and to mark the occasion of his leaving. Mr. T. Baldwin, superintendent of the Sunday School, presided, and made the presentation to Mr. Payne. The address was as follows, and included excellent photos of Mr. Payne, and of Pentwyn Church:

"St Andrew's Church, Pentwyn, Fochriw. In presenting to Mr. J.C. Payne this address, together with a suitcase, we the congregation and friends of St. Andrew's Church, desire to express our deep regret that we are losing you after nearly six years work as licensed lay reader in charge of our Church. We ask you to accept, with this small token of esteem, our heartfelt thanks for all that you have done amongst us. Your labour has been earnest, sincere, and thorough in every branch of Church work which has fallen in part or in whole to your care. We rejoice to believe that the result of all your labour has been an increase in the spiritual and moral good of those among whom you have worked, and we trust that in so helping and serving, you yourself have met with divine rewards of grace and encouragement. It is our sincere prayer that our Heavenly Father made graciously continue to bless your work for him in the new sphere of labour to which he has been pleased to call you, and that there, as here, you may be privileged to strengthen the Lords people, and gather fresh trophies to his kingdom." T. Baldwin, W. J. Jones, A. Coggan, M. Parry, E. Jones, J. Evans, G. Evans, A. Gwynne (sidesman), H Brown (organist), John Wood (choirmaster), Gilbert Williams (vicar). Mr. H. Brown, Mr. W. J. Jones, Mr. T. J. Gwynne, and Mr. J. Williams then spoke, all showering great praise on Mr. Payne for his good work. Mr Payne responded.

St. John Ambulance The Fochriw Division held their annual parade on Sunday. They met at their headquarters, the Ambulance Drill Hall, and marched in review order to Carmel Congregational Chapel to attended Divine Service, which was conducted by the Rev D. Hughes Jones, pastor. He delivered a very impressive sermon. Some of the members of the division, have joined the R.A.M.C.

unit of the Welsh Army, and are now in training at Prestatyn. The brigade turned out wearing the new uniforms, and looked smart and efficient, their uniforms being of the new design. The Division was under the command of Superintendent W J. Ballard. Dr. E. Davis, Corps surgeon, was unable to attend owing to ill-health.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. J Griffiths, Dynevor-street, took place on Saturday last. The deceased was 44 years of age, and was well-known and highly respected in the village. She will be greatly missed. A short service was held at the house prior to the removal of the body, which was interred at Pentwyn Churchyard. The chief mourners were: Mr. John Griffiths, husband; Ruth and Maggie Griffiths, children; Mrs. Evans, mother; Mrs. Pugh, mother-in-law; Mr. David Evans, brother; Mr. and Mrs. Dran, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, sisters and brothers-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. James Griffiths, Mr. William Griffiths, Mr. David Griffiths, Mr. Thomas Evans, Mr. Jenkins Pugh, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. W. Wright, uncle and aunt. The officiating minister was the Reverend D Hughes Jones, Congregational minister, of whose chapel the deceased was a faithful member. Rev. I. Williams and Rev. R. D. Jenkins assisted.

Concert: Noddfa Chapel The Penywern and Dowlais Male Voice Choir, conductor of Mr. Evan Thomas, gave a concert at Noddfa Chapel last Wednesday evening. Many artistes assisted. Master Jenkins Whiting has a splendid voice and sang sweetly. Mr. E. Evans made a very successful debut. Mr. Tudor Davies proved an excellent chairman.

"Merthyr Express" 31 July 1915

Noddfa Chapel Mr. James J. Lewis, of Dowlais, rendered the solo "Yr Arglwydd yw fy Mugail" to the congregation on Sunday evening.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the election of officers for the coming quarter was made as follows: Chief Templar - Bro. Moses Williams; vice-templar - Sister M. Thomas; chaplain - Sister C. Jones; marshall - Sister E. Griffiths; deputy marshal - Sister A. Williams; secretary - Bro. W. A. Davies; financial secretary - Sister C. Thomas; guard - Bro. L. Evans; Sentinel - Bro. Dean; past chief Templar - Bro. Thomas Walters. The programme for the evening was "Humorous Readings." The following contributed: Bros. S. Lewis, W. Jones, C. Payne, J. E. Davies, and Dean, Sisters C. Thomas, C. Jones, C. Walters and Lewis. The lodge was closed by Brother Walters.

R.A.O.B. On Sunday afternoon, the members of the Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth Lodge of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes, met at the White Horse Inn, Pentwyn, for a Church Parade. A procession was formed and then paraded the villages of Pentwyn and Fochriw. The procession was large and was marshalled by Primos H. C. Seaborne and Ben Evans, and was headed by the Rhymney Brass Band. Members from Deri, Bedlinog and the Pontlottyn Lodges were present. The service was held at St. Andrew's Church, Pentwyn, where Bro. J. C. Payne, chaplain of the lodge, preached an eloquent sermon, the Church being filled.

Tea Party A tea party in connection with the Siloh Chapel, Penybank, was held on Monday. The helpers were Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. D. Evans, Mrs. J. Williams, Mrs. Sydney Phillips, Mrs. Thomas Evans, Mrs. Matthews and others. The children were treated to buns and milk, the milk being supplied by Mrs. Evans, Penybank Farm. The party later went to the field adjoining the chapel, kindly lent by Mr. Evans, and played games. Praise is due to Mr. H. Williams for his good organisation of the arrangements. The Sunday School of Siloh is very flourishing at present. Credit is due Rev. I. Williams, Noddfa Chapel, who has charge of Siloh, for the flourishing condition of the Church.

Railway Accident A railway accident occurred at Fochriw on Friday last. A goods train was nearing the station when the coupling between the guard's van and a passenger coach broke. The guard's van was thrown across the 6ft way. Before the train was brought to a standstill, the coach, which contained no passengers, also left the rails, tearing up the permanent way as it was borne along. The line between Deri and Fochriw being a single one, the Newport to Brecon train, which was full of passengers, could not proceed. Within an hour, the four o'clock train steamed into Fochriw station bound for Newport. This train also was held up. It was eventually decided to change trains, so that passengers from the up train walked to the station to take their places in the down train, and the down train passengers walked to the spot below the smash to join the up train. Colliers and others helped to transfer luggage from one train to the other. A breakdown gang was soon on the scene, and by six o'clock the van and coach had been removed from the permanent way.

Scholastic Successes All the children from the Fochriw Mixed School who entered for the County School Scholarship Examination this year, have been successful. This reflects great credit upon Mr. J. D. Jones, the headmaster. There were seven candidates, and the seven have passed successfully. Six have gained probationers' scholarships and one a governors' scholarship. Their positions on the list for the whole of Gellygaer Parish were as follows: girls - Lydia Ballard, second; Annie Maud Jones, third,

Annie Jones, seventh; boys: Tudor H. Williams, second; Evan Brinley Sibley, third. Morfydd Thomas was placed seventh on the Governors' list. Others were also successful in the College of the Preceptors Examination, as follows: Miss Maria Jones and Miss Hilda Phillips. Hardly any other school in the parish of Gellygaer can show such a splendid record as that of the Fochriw Mixed School.

“Merthyr Express” 7 August 1915

Scholastic Success Miss Mary A. Walters, Brynteg, Fochriw, has been successful in passing the College of Preceptors examination. Miss Walters gained distinctions in domestic economy.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, an edifying paper, entitled, "Recreation and Amusement," was read by Sister M. A. Lewis.

Lily of Fochriw Philanthropic Society Disbanded The Lily of Fochriw Philanthropic Society has been disbanded after being in existence since 1866. The funds were equally divided between the members on the 30th July, 1915, the proposition having been carried by a large majority to that effect. The officers of the society were: chairman – Mr. Thomas D. Thomas; trustees – Messrs. James Lawrence, Walter Walters, David R. Jones;

Pals' Club Supper and Concert A very pleasant evening was spent at the Workmen's Institute on Thursday evening last, when the members of the Pals' Club of the above Institute held their annual supper and entertainment. A large number of friends sat down to an excellent spread, followed by an equally excellent concert. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. Wilcox, with Mr. W. S. Williams as vice chairman. The following contributed to the programme: Messrs. Isaac Martin, C. R. Mills, W. Evans, B. Evans, H. Wilcox, T. Jones, D. H. Evans, J. Keefe, W. S. Williams and T. Harris. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of the Anthem of the Allies. Secretarial duties were ably carried out by Mr. S. E. Phillips.

White Horse Outing Club On Monday, the members of the White Horse Outing Club, Pentwyn, held their annual outing. The party, numbering about 20, travelled by motor charabanc to Carmarthen town. The party left the White Horse Hotel about 6:30a.m. The first stop took place at Senny Bridge, and then again at Llandovery and Llandeilo before reaching their destination. On arriving at Carmarthen dinner was taken. The afternoon and was given to sight-seeing and amusements, the party of reaching home about the 11:00pm. The excellent arrangements were carried out five Messrs. H. Edgar, secretary, W. Price, treasurer, and Edward Morgan, chairman.

“Merthyr Express” 14 August 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a presentation was made to Bro. Dan James on the occasion of his marriage. The gift was a silver cruet, subscribed to by the members of the lodge. Sister Walters made the presentation, to which Bro. James suitably responded. During the evening an excellent programme was gone through, and addresses were given by Bros. Williams and Dean. Brother Moses Williams presided.

Obituary The death of Mrs. Martha Griffiths, Brynteg, took place on Saturday last. Deceased had been ill for the last three years, and bore her illness patiently. She had lived in the village for a number of years, and her genial countenance will be missed by many friends. She was a faithful member of Carmel Congregational Chapel. Her husband died 19 years ago. She was 62 years of age. She leaves one daughter and two sons. The funeral, for men only, took place on Tuesday at Pentwyn Churchyard, the Revs. D Hughes Jones and J. Roderick officiating at the house and graveside. The chief mourners were: Mr. J. Griffiths, son; Mr. Thomas Jenkins, son-in-law; Messrs. William Jones, J. Thomas, J. Bowen, David Howells and J. Wooding, nephews.

“Merthyr Express” 28 August, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for "Temperance Topical Talks." The meeting was presided over by Brother Moses Williams.

Drunkenness John Hughes was fined 9s., or 10 days imprisonment, for being drunk at Fochriw.

Mount Pleasant Outing Club The members of the above club held their annual outing on Saturday. The party journeyed to Leominster by motor-car. The secretary was Mr. C. R. Mills.

“Merthyr Express” 4 September, 1915

Sale FFYNONAU DUON FARM, FOCHRIW Distance about half a mile from Fochriw Station on the Brecon and Merthyr railway, and about two miles from Bedlinog Station on the Great Western and Rhyrnyon Railways.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF FARMING STOCK, CROPS, IMPLEMENTS, HARDY'S, ETC.

SHEEP: 16 mountain breeding ewes, 20 fat and store lambs.

CATTLE: 5 cows in milk and in calf; 1 cow in full milk; 1 yearling heifer; 1 yearling steer; 2 calves.

HORSES: 1 aged horse pony, about 13 hands high, good worker; one 2-year-old pony.

PIGS: 1 fat pig.

IMPLEMENTS: 1 cart, gambo, trap, swing plough, a pair of harrows, 1h.p. mowing machine, rakes, pikes, scythes and sneads, 3 ladders, cow chains, two pig troughs, a hay knife, etc.

DAIRY UTENSILS: small butter churn, butter prints, milk pans, etc. CROPS: the whole of the crop of hay on the farm in three lots.

MR WILLIAM LEWIS has been favoured with instructions from Mrs Thomas, who is leaving the farm, to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION at the above named place on MONDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER, 1915. Luncheon on the table at 12 o'clock. Sale commences at 1.30 sharp. Terms, cash. Auctioneer's Office, Bryntitton, Nelson, Cardiff. August 31st 1915.

Fancy Affair At Fochriw On Thursday last, at Fochriw, a Fancy Fair was held under the auspices of Noddfa Baptist chapel. The fair was held at Mr. R. Slimmons' field, the weather being ideal. The procession was large and the different dresses and costumes made an imposing spectacle. The Fochriw Brass Band headed the procession. The band, which comprised most of the old members, had been got together and trained by their respected conductor, Mr. W. J. Powell, who has spared no pains in bringing them to a state of great efficiency. After parading the streets of the village, the procession made its way to the Fair Grounds. The opening ceremony was performed at the entrance to the field by Mrs. Dr. Davies, who delivered a most appropriate speech. After the fair was declared open, the company entered the field. Hundreds of people visited the field during the afternoon. The chief attractions were: sketches, a fish pond, musical chairs, hoop-la, shooting range, hat-trimming for men, nail driving for ladies, fruit stall, flower stall, fancy stall, cigarette and sweet stall. The Band played appropriate music at intervals during the evening. Other musical items were given by Mr. J. J. Lewis and Mr. J. P. Jones. Mr. W. S. Williams and Mr. T. Thomas gave conjuring feats which were very well received. The president was Mrs. George Phillips; the treasurer Mrs. D. T. Evans (mechanic); the secretary, Mrs. T. Matthews (butcher). The accompanists were Mr. J. Evans and Mr. H. Hughes.

"Merthyr Express" 11 September, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a programme, prepared Bro. Dean, was presented, the following contributing: Master Dean, Sisters G. Williams and M. Davies. The first prize for the unpunctuated reading was awarded to Bro. L. Richards, Bedlinog, and the second prize divided between Bro. William Jones and Sister Maggie Griffiths. A reading was then given by Master W. Dean. Bro. Moses Williams closed the meeting in due form.

Annual Meetings The annual meetings in connection with Noddfa Chapel were held on September 4th, 5th, and 6th. The officiating ministers were the Rev. James Griffiths, Aberdare, and Rev. W. J. Williams, Aberystwyth. Both gentleman preached inspiring sermons to large congregations.

Wedding: Bell-Williams On Wednesday, at Soar Chapel, Merthyr, the wedding took place of the Rev. R. W. Bell, Penderyn, and Miss A. G. Williams, schoolmistress, Fochriw. The bride, who looked charming in a white Chinese silk dress with black hat, was attended by Miss E. Owens, Porth, and was given away by her brother, Mr. Jesse Williams. The best man was Mr. Dan Evans, Llandovery. The officiating ministers were the Revs. D. H. Jones, and J. Roderick, Fochriw. The wedding breakfast was taken at the Y.M.C.A, Merthyr, after which the Reverend and Mrs. Bell left by motor for their new home at Llwynhendry, Llanelly. The happy couple were the recipients of numerous presents and congratulatory telegrams.

"Merthyr Express" 18 September, 1915

Fochriw Choir The Fochriw Choir was successful in carrying off the chief honours at the Newbridge Eisteddfod on Monday, under the leadership of Samuel Evans.

Scholastic Successes The numerous friends of the following will be glad to hear of their recent success at the Central Welsh Board Examinations: Honours: Miss Margaret J. Jones; senior: Miss Edith M. Thomas, Miss Margaret Davies, Miss Mafanwy Cole; junior: Miss Annie Evans, Miss Tegwen Jenkins; senior with Welsh metric conditioned equivalent: Mr. T J Jones ; junior: Mr. T. H. Jones.

"Merthyr Express" 25 September, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for "Select Readings," the following taking part: Brothers William Griffiths, Dan James, Sam Lewis, William Jones, and Charles Payne.

Wedding: Evans-Davies A pretty wedding was solemnised at the Baptist Chapel, Hengoed, on Thursday last, the contracting parties being Miss Maggie Evans, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Evans, Guest-street, and Mr. Thomas J. Davies, Pontlottyn. The bride, who looked very pretty in a champagne coloured dress with lace coatee and black hat, was given away by her father. She was attended by her sister, Miss Hannah Evans, who was dressed in a champagne colour dress with black hat to match. The best man was Mr. David Davies, brother of the bridegroom. Mr. Thomas Evans, the bride's brother, was also present. The happy couple left by motor for Swansea, where the honeymoon is being spent. They were the recipients of many presents.

Ffynonau Duon Farm An important sale of farming stock, crops, implements etc, took place at the above Farm on Monday. There were a large number of buyers present. The auctioneer was Mr. William Lewis.

“Merthyr Express” 2 October, 1915

Home From The Front Driver D. J. Price, Army Service Corps, is home from the front for a few days leave to see his father, who has been seriously ill. Mr. Price, who has been in France since April, looked very fit and smart. He returned to duty on Saturday.

Band Parade On Saturday afternoon, the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. W. J. Powell, paraded the streets of Fochriw and Pentwyn, playing appropriate music en route. It seemed like old times at Fochriw to hear the strains of the band again. There is now a strong committee formed to look after the interests of the band.

Harvest Festival The harvest Festival in connection with St Andrew's Church, Pentwyn, was held on Sunday and Monday. The preacher on Sunday was Mr. D. Greening, Pontlottyn. On Monday evening, the pulpit was occupied by Mr. J. C. Payne, who preached a powerful sermon. The services were well attended. Mr. Harry Hughes presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Ode Practice." Brother Thomas Walters was responsible.

Missing Official information has now been received by Mrs. W. Edwards, Pit-row, that her husband, Private W. Edwards (13428), 1st Welsh Regiment, is reported missing after an engagement on May 25th in France. Official information has also been received by Mr. John Jones, Pit-row, that his son, Private David Jones (27247), 8th Battalion Welsh Regiment, Pioneers, Mediterranean Force, is also missing after an engagement on August 8th at the Dardanelles.

Carnival A highly successful Carnival was held on Thursday last week under the auspices of the Fochriw Sewing Class, in aid of wounded soldiers. The carnival was chiefly composed of the children of the Fochriw and Penybank schools, and their teachers. The Fochriw Ambulance Brigade was present. The procession was headed by the Fochriw Brass Band under Mr. W. J. Powell, and prominent also was the banner carried in front of some ladies displaying the motto "Votes For Women." The dresses of the children represented the different dress of the Allies. Parents spared no trouble and expense to make the carnival the success it was. Lieutenant George, home wounded from the Dardanelles, was also in the procession. Dr. Davies had placed his motor-car at his disposal. After the parade, the procession returned to St. Mary's Hall, where an excellent concert was held. The chair was occupied by Mr. George Thomas. The National Anthem was sung by the children, Mr. T. Jones, Pontlottyn, conducting.

Special Display Of New Autumn Fashions In All Departments Commencing On Friday Next, October 8th. A Visit Of Inspection Is Cordially Invited – R. T. Jones and Co, Market Square, Merthyr.

“Merthyr Express” 9 October, 1915

Musical Success The Fochriw Choir, under their conductor Mr. S. Evans, A.C., was successful in carrying off chief honours at the Abertyswg Eisteddfod on Thursday last week.

Harvest Festival Harvest Festival Services were held at St. Mary's Church, on Sunday and Monday last, the Church being nicely decorated. The preacher on Sunday was the Rev. J. Davies, Pontlottyn, and on Monday of Rev. T. Richards, vicar of Bargoed. Both preached powerful sermons to large congregations. Mr. O. Richards presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to the programme: readings - Brothers William Jones, Lewis Evans, Cyril Cooke, Moses Williams, Morgan (Bedlinog), and H. Thomas. Fruit was served during the evening. Brother Walters presided.

Miners' Doctor The result of the ballot was made known on Wednesday, for a doctor to take the place of the Dr. E. Davies, who is retiring owing to failing health, to the general regret of all the inhabitants of the place. The voting was as follows: Dr. Munro, Tonyrefail, 461; Dr. Dunbar, Treharris, 179.

Majority for Monro, 282. Dr. Davies held the position to the satisfaction of all for over 30 years, and his departure will be greatly felt.

Wedding: Meredith-Prosser A pretty wedding was solemnised on Wednesday at Gelligaer Church, the contracting parties being Mr. E. L. Meredith, Bailey-street, Deri, and Miss Beatrice M. Prosser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Prosser, Aelybryn, Fochriw. The bride looked very pretty in a royal blue costume with hat to match, and was given away by her father. She was attended by Miss Nellie Meredith, sister of the bridegroom, who wore a cream dress with hat to match. The best man was Mr. Ivor Prosser, brother of the bride. Mr. James Meredith and Mr. David Evans, father and uncle of the bridegroom, was also present. The Reverend Canon Jones officiated. The wedding breakfast was held at the home of the bride's parents, at which a large number of relatives and friends sat down. The presents were numerous and useful.

“Merthyr Express” 16 October 1915

R.A.O.B. A benefit concert took place on Wednesday at the Cosy Cinema, Pontlottyn, in aid of the Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth Lodge, Fochriw, of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes. The Fochriw Brass Band, under their conductor Mr. W. J. Powell, accompanied by the Brothers of Pontlottyn, paraded the streets, before going to the Cosy Cinema. The place was crowded long before the curtain rose to commence the concert, which was one of the finest ever produced, and was much appreciated by one and all. Thanks are due to Brother Francis of the Blast Furnace Hotel, for his kindness in granting such a fine benefit for the Lodge.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. David Jones, the 11, Railway-terrace, took place at Pentwyn churchyard on Tuesday, amid manifestations of deep sorrow. The deceased was well known in the district. He had been in failing health for a long time, but the end came suddenly on Friday last. The deceased was only 34 years of age, and leaves two young children to mourn his loss. Prior to the removal of the body, a short service was held at the house, conducted by the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, who also officiated at the graveside. The chief mourners were: Masters Thomas Owen Jones and Rees Jones, sons; Mr. Thomas Jones, father; Miss Elizabeth Jones, sister; Mr. Thomas Jones, brother; Mr. David Lewis, father-in-law; Messrs. D. Lewis and H. Archer, brothers-in-law; Thomas R Lewis and Elfed Lewis, nephews.

Reading Room The annual meeting of the above institution was held on Tuesday, Mr. Walter Walters, chairman, presiding. Several matters of importance were discussed, including the extension of the building. It was decided to call a general meeting of subscribers to discuss the question, and to appeal to the young men of the place for support. The auditor's report was given by Mr. Thomas Evans, Dynevor-street, and this showed that the institution was in a healthy condition. The net increase during the year was £10 14s 4d. The secretary and treasurer were complimented for the able manner in which their accounts were kept. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mr. T. D. Thomas, Aelybryn, chairman; Mr. W. T. Jones, Brook-row, treasurer; Mr. Walter Jones, Brynteg, secretary.

Local Eisteddfod A very successful eisteddfod, under the auspices of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the I.O.G.T., took place at Carmel Congregational chapel on Thursday last. After the opening speech of the president, the competition started. The following were winners: children's solo - 1. Ceinwen Ballard, 2. Mary J. Cole and Mary Jones; recitation - 1. Ceinwen Ballard, 2. Mary Jones; children's solo - Stella Cole; girls' solo - 1, Mary J. Cole; best verses on eisteddfod - Mr. Sam Lewis; recitation - Ceridwen Thomas, Brynteg; best bag - divided between Elsie Griffiths and Annie G. Thomas; unpunctuated reading - divided between Myfanwy Cole and May Rowlands; tenor solo - Mr. Thomas Walters; best essay - Mr. William Thomas Jones; soprano solo - Miss Ceridwen Thomas, Martin-street; recitation - Mrs. C. Walters; bass solo - Mr. Moses Williams; best letter - Miss Maggie Griffiths; children's choir - Young Beginners, conductress, Miss Florrie Williams; quartette - the Martin-street quartet. The adjudicators were: music - Mr. Tom Jones, Pontlottyn; recitations - Mr. David Jones, headmaster of Ystrad Mynach School; prize bags - Mrs. E. Cole Jones, headmistress of Fochriw Infants' School; conductor - Brother Moses Williams; president - Brother Charles Payne; treasurer - Brother W. T. Jones; accompanist - Brother J. E Davis; secretary - Brother Thomas Walters.

Drunkenness Evan Jones of Fochriw was summoned for being drunk in Brook-row and was fined 9s. or seven days in prison.

Travelling Without Paying David Lewis, Fochriw, was summoned for travelling on the Brecon and Merthyr Railway without paying his fare on Saturday 18th September. William Lewis, station master at Fochriw, said the defendant did not pass through the gate after leaving the train, but went up the line. Defendant: "I was drunk." Stipendiary: "If you work a day for somebody and were not paid for it, you would think your employer dishonest." Defendant: "Your Honour, I cannot hear properly." Stipendiary: "Pay a pound, or down for 21 days."

“Merthyr Express” 23 October, 1915

Annual Meetings Large congregations assembled at Nazareth Chapel on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, for the anniversary services. Two well-known preachers delivered eloquent discourses - Rev. J. D. Davies, Llanelli, and Rev. Michael Williams, Cilfynydd. The singing was conducted by the Mr. W. Morris, whilst Miss Katie Davies and Mr. Roderick Jones presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for "Bible Class." Large numbers were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The lodge was closed by the singing of "Work For The Night Is Coming," after which the chaplain engaged in prayer. Brother Moses Williams presided.

Presentation to Dr. E. Davies The members of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the I.O.G.T. made a presentation on Saturday last to one of their members, Dr. E. Davies, Ivor House, on the occasion of his departure from Fochriw. Dr. Davies has been a member of the Order from the commencement. His departure will be keenly felt by all. The presentation took the form of a fountain pen suitably inscribed. It was handed to him privately at his house by Bros. W. Jones and S. Lewis. In a letter which Dr. Davies sent to friends of the Order, he asked them to accept his sincerest thanks. It would serve as a reminder of pleasant meetings in the days that are gone, listening to speakers, singers, reciters, debaters, etc., each with a pleasure of its own, with the promise of the future activities of the various members of the lodge. I look back with pleasure on all these experiences. I am pleased to accept the pen on account of the special principles which such an acceptance involves, and this is an acknowledgement of these principles. I wish the Lodge every success in the continuation of its teaching.

"Merthyr Express" 30 October 1915

Military Jottings The numerous friends of Corporal George Everett, Welsh Guards, will regret to hear that he is now lying wounded in the hospital at Oxford. He was wounded in the back, arms, and thigh, at the great fight in which the Welsh Guards took part at Hill 70. Corporal Everett is an old soldier, having served through the Boer War with the Queen's Medal with five bars, also of the King's Medal with two bars. He rejoined when the Welsh Guards were formed, and he was made corporal. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Sewing Guild It is gratifying to know that the carnival, held by the St. John Ambulance Sewing Guild in aid of wounded soldiers, proved a success. In spite of a rather inclement weather, the procession was large and pretty, including Boy Scouts, Red Cross nurses, the Brass Band, and the Ambulance Brigade. The receipts were £13-8-6, and the expenses £1-7-11, leaving a profit of £12-0-7. The proceeds were spent in sending four dozen shirts, five dozen pairs of stockings, and 19 scarves to our wounded heroes, through Mr. Herbert Lewis, honorary secretary of the R.A.M.C. Association, Cardiff. The members of the committee wish to thank all who helped with the carnival, the concert and refreshments, also the ladies who washed the garments before they were sent away.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a debate took place on "Ought I To Keep A Diary?" Bro. William Jones took the affirmative, and Bro. Sam Lewis and negative. After the debate, the following officers were installed for the next quarter: chief Templar - Sister C. Walters; vice-templar - Sister C. Thomas; secretary - Bro. W. J. Davies; financial secretary - Sister A. J. Jones; treasurer - Bro. Sam Lewis; chaplain - Sister C. Jones; marshal - Sister Elsie Griffiths; guard - Bro. Lewis Evans; sentinel - Bro. B. Davies; assistant secretary - Bro. William Griffiths; deputy marshal - Sister E. Davis; past chief Templar - Bro. Moses Williams; lodge deputy - Bro. Charles Payne; electoral superintendent - Bro. William Jones; superintendent juvenile temple - Bro. T. Lewis. During the evening, a sister from London visited the Lodge.

"Merthyr Express" 6 November, 1915

Obituary We have to record the death of Mr. Beynon Davies, Moore's-row, an old inhabitant, after a very long illness. The funeral took place on Thursday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for competitions, including an impromptu speech.

"Merthyr Express" 13 November 1915

Russian Flag Day A Russian flags day was held at Fochriw on Saturday, the sellers being very busy. A very large number of flags were disposed of.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, singing practice followed, conducted by Brother Thomas Walters.

Special Mission Services Special services were held at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, when Mr. Parnell, Caerphilly, preached to large congregation. Appropriate mission hymns were sung. Mr. O. Richards presided at the organ, while Mr. B. Angell conducted the singing.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. Benjamin Davis took place on Thursday week at Pentwyn Churchyard. A short service was held at the house prior to the removal of the body, conducted by the Revs. D. Hughes Jones and I. Williams. The chief mourners were Messrs. D. Davies and L. Davies, nephews; James Turner, William Roberts, Lewis Thomas, Dan Evans, Joshua Evans, David Thomas, J. Williams, W. Thomas, Walter Williams, Uriah Evans, C. Thomas, R. Thomas, A. T. Lloyd, Johnny Thomas, D. Thomas. Hymns were sung en route and at the graveside. Great sympathy is felt for the widow and relatives.

“Merthyr Express” 20 November 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Sing, Say or Penny Pay." All members took part.

War Wounded Private Benjamin James, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. O. James, 14, Martin-street, 8th Welsh Regiment, took part in the landing at Sulva Bay. He was slightly wounded and is at present at Lord Derby's Hospital, Warrington, where he is convalescing.

Drunkenness David Davies, of Fochriw, was fined nine shillings or seven days imprisonment for having been drunk in Pontlottyn. The police constable stated that the defendant had lost his way and did not know where he was. He had sent 10 shillings to the police station stating that he would not appear in court and that the money would pay his fine. Charles Lewis, Fochriw, was fined 13 shillings, or seven days imprisonment, for having been drunk and disorderly in Pontlottyn.

“Merthyr Express” 27 November, 1915

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for "Ode Practice." Brother Thomas Walters was responsible. Sister C Walters took the chair.

Home From The Front The numerous friends of Driver J. Morris, R.F.A., were pleased to see him home from France this week for a short holiday. He was looking in the best of health. Driver Morris was called up in August, 1914, this being his first visit home for 15 months. He returned yesterday, Friday. Private T. James is also home from France, where he has been for many months. He too was looking well. Also, Rifleman Addis is home wounded from the Front.

Concert A successful concert was held at Carmel Chapel on Thursday week, organised by the ladies of Fochriw Sewing Class, the object being to provide comforts for the Fochriw soldiers and sailors relief fund. The chapel was crowded, the chair being occupied by the Rev. Rhys Jenkins. The programme was provided by the Apollo Glee Party from Bargoed, who gave a real musical treat.

“Merthyr Express” 4 December 1915

Home From The Front We were pleased to see Private J. Way, Welsh Regiment, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Way, Aelybryn, home from the front for a short stay after being wounded. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Jottings The following members of the Cardiff City Battalion were home on short leave last Friday, looking in the pink of condition - Privates Rees Jenkins, Evan Evans, William Rees, Benjamin Shankland, and Francis Jones. They returned again on Saturday with the best wishes of their many friends.

Appointment: the Reverend Rhys D. Jenkins The many friends of Rev. R. D. Jenkins, Fochriw, will be interested to learn that he has received a hearty and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Goshen Welsh Congregational Church, Rhymney. He is well fitted to fill the position, but he will be greatly missed by his numerous friends in Fochriw and District, where he is held in very high esteem.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to the programme: solos - Brothers T. Lewis, C Payne, Sisters Ruth Griffiths and Annie Evans; duet - Sister Mary Tyler and Sister Bronwen Francis; reading - Sister C. MacArthur; pianoforte solo - Brother O. Richards. Brother T. Lewis presided.

Fatal Accident An accident occurred at Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Fochriw No. 2 Colliery, on Friday last, which resulted in the death of Mr. Philip Davies, Martin-street. It appears that the deceased was injured through some timber discharging, with the result that he received severe internal injuries, to which he succumbed the following day. Great sympathy is felt with the young widow and family in their sad bereavement. The inquest was held at the Rising Sun Inn on Wednesday by Mr. R. J. Rhys, coroner. Evidence of identification was given by Mr. T. Edwards, father-in-law. Mr. T.

Shankland, a workman who was with the deceased at that time of the accident, also gave evidence. Mr. Tudor Davies, agent of the company, Mr. McBride, inspector of mines, Mr. C. Griffiths, miners' sub-agent, and Mr. D. O. Jones, an official at the colliery, were present. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned. Mr. Charles Payne was foreman of the jury.

Golden Wedding Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Jones, Brook-row, celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday last week. Mr. Jones was born at Aberaeron, and is 81 years old, whilst Mrs. Jones, a native of Dowlais, is 74. Mr. Jones left Cardiganshire in 1855 and worked for over half a century under the Dowlais Company. The couple rank with the oldest inhabitants of Fochriw, where they have lived for 46 years. There are ten children, nine of whom are still living. These include Councillor John Jones, Bargoed, and Messrs. D. L. Jones, Evan Jones, and Walter Jones, active members of the Miners' Federation in the Dowlais district. Mr. Walter Jones is secretary of the Fochriw Workmen's Library. There are 35 grandchildren. Mr. Jones, who has been a lifelong Liberal, has a store of interesting reminiscences. At the age of seven years, he drove a tram of horses, and whilst 17, he, and a band of others, walked from Aberaeron to Shrewsbury for harvesting, the journey taking two days. At the time there was but one steam engine in Wales that he had heard of, and whilst on the march to Shrewsbury, hearing the passing of an engine, he ran to a railway bridge in the hope of seeing it. Reaching the bridge, he peeped over, only to be temporarily blinded by smoke and steam. Notwithstanding the fact that the engine only travelled six miles an hour, it had gone too far for him to see it by the time his sight was restored. He also remembers the old mail coach, and its disaster near Trecastle. He says that there was a time when starch dared not be used by the poor, and also a time when tea was a luxury, to be used only when persons above the ordinary visited. He remembers the construction of the Rhymney Railway and the Brecon and Merthyr Railway through the Fochriw valley. To celebrate the event, supper was taken at No. 2, Dynevor-street, the home of one of his daughters, Mrs. T. Evans. All the children and grandchildren were gathered together. The old couple were the recipients of many handsome presents.

Advertisement: Rats in the Trenches We read the other day in a published letter from a soldier at the Front, that our men in Flanders amuse themselves, when they have nothing else to do, by testing their skill with the gun and bayonet at killing rats. We did not realise how numerous in the trenches these rats are until we received a letter, the other day, from a Mr. Thomas Hardy of Perth, the manufacturer of "Rodine." The letter was sent him by a R.F.A. sergeant, dated November 1st, in which he says that rats are a plague on the battlefield, and that during the recent cold weather, they have all flocked to the dug-outs, making matters very uncomfortable for Tommy. Thanks to "Rodine" the whole lot have been cleared away. Another present for Tommy - "Rodine." From the "Chemist and Druggist," November 20th, 1915.

"Merthyr Express" 11 December, 1915

Military Jottings We notice the following home this week: C. Edwards, Royal Naval Division, who is invalided home with dysentery; Gunner T. Wellings, R.F.A.; Private Joseph H. Evans, D.C.L.I.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to a programme: solos - Sisters Stella Cole, Mary J. Cole, M. Tyler, Brothers D. James, T. Walters; recitation - Sisters M. Jones, C. Ballard, C. Thomas; quartette - Brother Thomas Walters and friends. A vote of sympathy was passed with Brother William Griffiths upon the death of his mother. Brother Moses Williams presided.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. P. Davies, who was accidentally killed at Fochriw colliery, took place at Pentwyn churchyard on Wednesday week. The deceased was very well known and respected. He was a very keen sportsman, and had been so at Brynmawr before he came to Fochriw. He will be sadly missed by his many friends. He was only 26 years of age. The funeral, which was for men only, was one of the largest that has left the village, and was headed by the Fochriw Male Voice Party and Brynmawr cricketers, of whose club the deceased had been a member. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the Revs. Isaiah Williams and D. Hughes Jones. The chief mourners were: Messrs Rees Davies, David Davies Tom Davies, Garfield Davies, brothers; Thomas Edwards, father-in-law; Charlie Hamlett, Thomas Bailey, John Stornoway, brothers-in-law; William Edwards, Thomas Edwards, Albert Mantle, brothers-in-law; John Mantle, nephew; William Evans, David Evans, Henry Evans, Thomas Evans, Benjamin Evans, William S. Edwards, Charles Edwards, uncles. The following acted as bearers; Messrs. Johnny Puddle, Thomas Shankland, Thomas Jones, and Tom Davies.

Fatal Accident At Fochriw On Thursday week, a fatal accident happened at Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Ltd, No. 2 Pit, Fochriw, to a man named Michael McCarthy, aged 26, living at 221, Lower High Street, Dowlais. Mr. R. J. Rees, coroner, conducted an inquiry into the circumstances at the Dowlais Inn, on Monday afternoon. Mr. Tudor Davies, M.E., colliery agent of the company; Councillor John Davies J.P., miners' agent; and Mr. Jenkins, H.M.I., were present. Evidence of

identification was given by Pat Daley, who said deceased was a native of Cork. John Allen, banksman at No. 2 Pit, said McCarthy often worked as a banksman, though he was employed as a labourer underground. The accident happened about 1:30p.m. when they were winding stones and mortar. He could not see the man, but he signalled to the engine driver to stop, and he slackened down steadily. The man was fastened down by the fangs of the carriage, and he was squeezed terribly. The fangs were within two inches of their place. Daniel Singleton, who was working on the same side as the deceased, said he saw the cage and a load of stones and mortar. He also saw the tram lowered and catch on McCarthy. Jenkins Pugh, winding engineman, said he had a signal to ease the carriage at the fangs which he did very carefully. Mr Tudor Davies showed a plan of the pit and the bed plate. The coroner, in summing up, said he could not help thinking that the deceased had lost his head and there was no blame to be attached to the men working with him. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

“Merthyr Express” 18 December, 1915

Carmel Chapel The half yearly meetings in connection with the chapel were held on Sunday and Monday, when the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. W. H. Price, Talgarth. The singing was conducted by Mr. David Davies, with Mr. Thomas Walters at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following contributed to the programme: solos - Sisters F. Williams, K. MacArthur, R. Griffiths, M Tyler; reading - Sister C Thomas. A vote of condolence was passed with the widow and family of the late Brother J. Healy .

“Merthyr Express” 25 December, 1915

Postcard Day Saturday last was Picture Postcard Day in aid of the National Fund For Welsh Troop. It was observed at Fochriw, when a number of ladies were busy throughout the day selling postcards. Thanks to their untiring efforts, a large number were disposed of.

The Rev. Rhys D. Jenkins The Rev. Jenkins has accepted the pastorate of Goshen Welsh Congregational Church, Rhymney, and hopes to commence his duties there at the beginning of January. Mr. Jenkins has associated himself with every good movement for the welfare of Fochriw, and the uplifting of his fellowmen.

Welsh Drama On Thursday and Saturday last, two excellent performances of the Welsh drama "Asgro Lan" by R. G. Berry, were given by the Carmel Dramatic Society at the Council Schools to large audiences. The acting was all that could be desired, and reflects great credit on the abilities of the members. The scenery and dresses were very effective, and the drama was well received. The following took part: Mr. David Evans, Mrs. M. A. Walters, Mr. Evan Morgan Davies, Mr. Howell Thomas, Mr. Tom Jones, Mr. Harry Hughes, Mr. Moses Williams, Mr. D. Rowlands, Mr. David Lewis, Mr. Tom Jenkins, Mr. Simon Lewis, Mr. Thomas Walters, Mr. T. J. Jones, Mr. James Jones, Mr. Evan Williams. The stage-managers were: Messrs. T. J. Jones and D. Harris. Miss Olwen Hughes presided at the piano on Saturday evening.