

### **“Merthyr Express” 1 January, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was spent in singing. Brother Thomas Walters was the leader. Sisters C. Walters presided.

The Gale A heavy gale swept over the village on Monday, when several roof slates, chimney pots, and windows were blown in. The waiting room of the down platform on the Brecon and Merthyr Railway was completely blown away. The storm was one of the worst experienced for many years.

Singing Festival The annual singing festival was held at Carmel Congregational Chapel on Christmas Day, and was well attended. The singing was conducted by Mr. D. Roberts, Bargoed. The chairman in the morning was the Rev. R. D. Jenkins, in the afternoon, Mr. David Lewis, and in the evening, the Rev. D. Hughes Jones. The various hymns and anthems were nicely rendered by the choir. Solos were rendered by Miss E. A. Angell, Mr. W. J. Davies, Mr. M. A. Walters; quartette – Mr. D. Jenkins and party. The accompanists were Mr. Thomas Walters, Miss Olwen Hughes, Mr. J. E. Davis and Mr. David Thomas.

Nazareth Calvinistic Methodist The members of this chapel celebrated Christmas Day by hymn singing for the children in the afternoon and the service of praise for adults in the evening. Mr. William Morris was the conductor of this singing at both meetings. Miss Katie Jones-Davies and Mr. W. A. Davies were the accompanists. Mr. J. M. Jones presided in the afternoon. The children sang appropriate hymns very sweetly. A dialogue was given by C. J. Lawrence and G. Morris, and a recitation by Gwynfor Morris, after which the Rev. Isaac Roderick addressed the meeting. Fruit was distributed to the children at the close. The evening service was well attended. The Rev. Isaac Roderick presided. The tunes were selected from the Pontmorlais Festival Programme, and an enjoyable evening was spent. A quartet was excellently rendered by Messrs. W. Adams-Jones, Willie Edgar, Miss Martha Davies and Miss Hilda Davies, with Miss Maggie Davies at the organ. A solo was rendered by Master Johnny Edgar, after which an interesting address was delivered by Councillor John Jones, on Congregational singing. He advised the young people to arrange every part to sit together at the Sunday services, so that the best Congregational singing might be maintained.

Obituary The sudden death has occurred of one of Fochriw's oldest and most respected inhabitants, in the person of Mrs. Margaret Ballard, Aelybryn, wife of Mr. William Ballard. Deceased appears to have been quite well in the morning when her husband left for work about 6a.m., but when her sister-in-law came downstairs at 8.35 she discovered Mrs. Ballard dead on the floor. At the inquiry at the Rising Sun Inn, after evidence was given, the jury, of which Mr. C. Payne was foreman, returned a verdict of off "Death from sudden heart seizure." By her death, Carmel Chapel has lost a faithful member and a devout Christian lady. Her genial countenance will be sadly missed in the villages. She was 68 years of age, and she leaves a husband, five sons and three daughters. Three of her sons are serving their country, one in England and two in France. The funeral was held at Pant Cemetery on Monday, and was for gentleman only. There was a large attendance. There was a short service in the house, the Rev. D. Hughes Jones officiating. At the graveside, he was assisted by the Revs. R. D. Jenkins, and Isaiah Williams. The chief mourners were: Mr. William Ballard, husband; Lance-Corporal Arthur Ballard, Messrs. W. J. Ballard and Thomas Ballard, sons; Messrs. Cumpstone, J. Richards and Owen Davies, sons-in-law; W. James, Tom Sayer, brothers; Willie Ballard, Idris Cumpstone, Nicholas Cumpstone, Bert Cumpstone, Arthur Cumpstone, William Harding, W J. Williams, nephews.

### **“Merthyr Express” 8 January, 1916**

Gale Another heavy gale was experienced in the village on Saturday causing much damage. The storm lasted throughout the day.

Dr. E. Davies' Successor Dr. Cuthbert Rutherford has taken up the post of doctor in succession to Dr. Davies who has retired owing to failing health. Dr. Rutherford commenced his duties on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the topic for the evening was "The happiest Christmas I have ever spent," the following contributing:

Brothers Moses Williams, T. Walters, O. Richards, W. Jones, T. Lewis, S. Lewis, C. Payne, Sisters M. Griffiths and M. A. Lewis.

Concert A well-attended concert was held at Noddfa Chapel on New Year's Eve. The chair was occupied by the Rev. E. Williams, pastor. The programme was contributed to by the following: Miss Davis and Miss Francis, Rhymney; Mr. Tom Phillips, Dowlais. Many of the songs and recitations were illustrated by a powerful lantern manipulated by Mr. Joshua Evans. Solo, "The Sailor's Grave" – Mr. T. Phillips; solo, "Daddy" - Miss Davies; recitation, "Beautiful Snow" - Miss Francis; solo, "Death Of Nelson" – Mr. T. Phillips; solo, "The Holy City" - Miss Davies. Numerous sets of slides were shown on the lantern, including the story "For The Masters Sake."

Obituary The sudden death of Elizabeth Ada Seaborne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H .C. Seaborne, Pentwyn, took place on Wednesday last week. Deceased was in her usual health on Tuesday evening, but succumbed the following day to a serious attack of diphtheria. The funeral took place on Monday at Pentwyn Churchyard, the Rev. J. Davies officiating. The chief mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. Seaborne, father and mother; Miss Jane Seaborne, sister; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jones, uncle and aunt; Messrs. J. and M. Seaborne, uncles; Mrs. W. D. Jones, aunt; Tom and Mary Jones, cousins. Amongst the floral tributes was one of from the teachers and scholars of Penybank School.

Apollo Glee Singers, Bargoed A concert, given by the above singers in aid of the local Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund, proved a musical treat and a financial success. The proceeds amounted to £16-7-8, the expenses were £3-17-0, giving a profit of £12-10-8. At the general committee held at the Ambulance Hall, it was decided to send a parcel valued at three shillings and sixpence to each local lad. 65 parcels were packed and forwarded, containing socks, handkerchiefs, scarves, etc. Great praise is due to the ladies and gentlemen who worked so well for the concert, in obtaining the address of each soldier and sailor, and in packing the parcels. Praise is also due to the members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who so kindly rendered their assistance to make the concert to success. The treasurer of the fund is Mrs. Cole Jones, and the secretary Mr. J. Edwards.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 15 January 1916**

Home From The Front We notice the following home on short leave this week, looking in the best of health: Stoker David J. Shankland, and Gunner David Davies of the Royal Naval Volunteer Service.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was given to "Ode Practice." Selina Burrows was made a member of the lodge. Brother Moses Williams presided over the meeting.

Examination Successes The many friends of the following will be glad to learn of their success at their College of Preceptors Examination: senior - Miss Maria Jones, Miss Hilda Phillips, Miss Mary Ann Walters; junior - Miss Sarah Jones, Miss Evelyn Davies, Miss Edith Parry.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 22 January 1916**

Advert "Sixty Years A Queen" - Olympia Rink Merthyr. 24<sup>th</sup> January.

Advert FOR 21 DAYS ONLY - a discount of 2/6 in the £. Men's and Boy's Overcoats, Suits, Trousers, Knickers, Hats, Caps, Etc. Special Bargains. Suits To Measure From 25 Shillings. H Isaacs And Co., (late J. S. Davies And Co.), 118, High-street, Dowlais.

Social A social and dance was held at St. Mary's on Monday evening, and was well attended. The masters of ceremonies were Messrs. Arthur Woods and W. Jenkins, whilst Mr. Harry Salmon ably assisted at the piano. Miss E J Williams was secretary and Mrs. White was treasurer.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme was "Bible Stories." The following took part: Sister C Jones - The Story of Elijah; Sister M Griffiths - The Love Of God; Brother Dan James – St. Matthew, Chapter 24; Brother H. Thomas - The Present War. Sisters C Walters presided.

Welcome Home An enthusiastic welcome was accorded Pte. John Williams, R.E., Plantation-street, who returned home from France on Friday week. This is Pte. Williams's first visit home since December 1914. The greater part of this time was spent in the trenches. Pte. Williams was met at the station by the Fochriw Brass Band, under their conductor Mr. W. J. Powell, who played appropriate music. They struck up "Men of Harlech," as the train arrived at the station, followed by "Rule Britannia" and the "Marsellaise." The band accompanied Pte. Williams to his home playing en route. Private Williams enlisted in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry along with many other Fochriw boys just after the commencement of the war, being drafted out to France in May. He has been in several engagements, having been gassed and wounded at Ypres, and consequently, confined to hospital for six weeks. He has lately been transferred to the Royal Engineers. He leaves again for the Front this weekend.

**"Merthyr Express" 29 January, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. Sister C. Walters presided. The following officers were elected for the coming quarter: chief Templar - Sister C. Walters; vice-templar - Sister C. Thomas; secretary - Bro. Thomas Walters; financial secretary - Sister A. J. Jones; treasurer - Bro. Sam Lewis; chaplain - Sister C. Jones; marshal - Sister E. Griffiths; guard - Bro. I. Evans; sentry - Bro. B. Davies; assistant secretary - Bro. William Griffiths; deputy marshal - Sister A. G. Thomas; past chief Templar - Bro. M. Williams; lodge deputy - Bro. Charles Payne; electoral superintendent - Bro. William Jones; superintendent juvenile temple - Bro. W. K. Davies. It was "Open Session," the following taking part: address - Bro. W. Williams; solo - Sister C. Thomas; readings - Bro. C. Payne; pianoforte solo - Bro. D. Thomas.

Concert A very pleasant musical evening was spent at the Workmen's Institute on Friday week, when a large number assembled to bid farewell to Sapper John Williams, Royal Engineers, who was about to leave once again for the Front, and also to Mr. J. T. O. Keffi, who has joined the Army. The room was suitably decorated. During the evening, Sapper John Williams was made the recipient of a beautiful cigarette case, the presentation being made by Mr. William Evans. Mr. Keffi was also presented with a cigarette case this time by Mr. W. S. Williams. The following contributed to the programme: overture on the piano - Mr. R. E. Jones; songs - Messrs. H. Turner, Morgan Jones, H. Wilcox, Tom Jones, D. H. Evans, I. Martin, William Evans. A hearty vote of thanks to all the artistes and to the steward and stewardess, Mr. and Mrs. S. Phillips, brought the evening to a close.

Smoker A very successful smoking Concert was held at their The Rising Sun Inn, on Wednesday week, in order to bid farewell to Sapper John Williams, Royal Engineers, Plantation-terrace, before his return to France. The room was decorated with flags of the Allies and a crowded audience assembled, showing the respect in which the young soldier was held. Mr. Tom Jones was appointed chairman. In his opening remarks, he said that Sapper Williams had been at the front for nine months, and during that time had received severe shrapnel wounds in the leg, and had been badly gassed. He was not allowed to return to England but had to go into hospital at Rouen, afterwards returning to the trenches. He was sure that his friends would wish him a less unfortunate time during his next sojourn at the Front. Songs were rendered by Mr. James Evans, Rhymney; Mr. Howell Thomas, Fochriw; Mr. Morgan Jones, Treharris; Mr. Charles Hamblett, Fochriw; Corporal David Griffiths, St. Fagans, and Mr. William Wilcox, Dowlais. Sapper Williams, in a neat speech, thanked all his friends for the reception given him, and Private Cornelius Edwards, who was invalided home from the Dardanelles, also added appropriate words. Mr. Evans, Rhymney, ably presided at the piano.

**"Merthyr Express" 5 February, 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of one of Fochriw's oldest inhabitants in the person of Mrs. Ann Frances, Pit-row, who passed away on Tuesday evening after a very severe illness. Also, Mrs. Margaret Thomas, Brook-row, who died last Saturday evening.

Nurse There were 38 applicants for the post of the colliery and maternity nurse for Fochriw and District, and the voting resulted as follows: Nurse F. Mercer, Cardiff, 341; Nurse A. L.

Pritchard, Llanelly, 118; Nurse A. E. K. Edwards, Aberbargoed, 43. Nurse Mercer commences her duties next Monday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a most interesting paper was read by Miss M. J. Williams, Pontlottyn, entitled "Man's Inhumanity To Man." The following commented on the paper: Brothers T. Lewis, M. Williams and C. Payne, and Mrs. E. Cole Jones, headmistress of the Infant School.

Welcome Home On Thursday evening week, an enthusiastic welcome home had been prepared for Corporal George Everett, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Welsh Guards, who was returning home from Oxford, where he had been in hospital after being severely wounded at the battle of Loos. The Fochriw Brass Band met the train, and the village was gaily decorated with bunting, but Corporal Everett did not arrive until the later train that evening. Corporal Everett is an old soldier, having served through the South African war with the Essex Regiment. He also served through the East African Expedition. He joined the Welsh Guards just after its formation, and was made Corporal. He fought through the battle of Loos up to Hill 70, with the Welsh Guards, and had retired to a reserve trench for a short rest. Corporal Everett and four others occupied a cellar, but they were no sooner settled than a highly explosive shell burst, completely demolishing the building, and burying the five men. Corporal Everett was the only man to be extricated alive, though he was suffering severe injuries to arm, ribs and other body parts, and was unconscious for some time afterwards. He has had to undergo five operations at Boulogne and Oxford hospitals. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 12 February 1916**

From The Front In a letter from the Front, Sapper J. Williams, Royal Engineers, wishes to thank all his friends for their kindness to him during his short furlough home.

Nazareth Chapel A lecture was delivered at the above place on Monday night by the Rev. S. E. Prydderch, Nanrymoel, on "Y Teulu." Mr. J. D. Jones, headmaster of Fochriw Council School, presided.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for questions, all members taking part. Three new members were received into the Lodge. Officers for the new quarter were installed by Brother Charles Payne, assisted by Brother H. Thomas. A vote of condolence was passed with Brother William Jones and Sister B. Francis in their sad bereavement.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Margaret Thomas, Brook-row, took place on Thursday last at Pentwyn Churchyard. The deceased was 69 years of age, and a native of Waenfawr, Caernarvonshire. She came to Fochriw 26 years ago. Her husband died 15 years ago. She was a member of the Nazareth Chapel, and will be sadly missed by her many friends. The Rev. I. Roderick officiated at the house and graveside. The chief mourners were: Mr. William Thomas Jones, son-in-law; Messrs. J. Griffiths, J. Thomas, nephews; Master Gwilym E. Jones, grandson.

Wedding: Thomas-Uzzell A pretty wedding was solemnised at Gellygaer Church last Saturday, the contracting parties being Miss Maggie Thomas, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins Thomas, Martin-street, and Mr. David A. Uzzell, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. George Uzzell, Bailey-street, Deri. The ceremony was performed by Canon T. J. Jones. The bride was attired in a silver grey dress, with black hat to match, and was given away by her father. The bridesmaids were Miss Annie G. Thomas, and Miss Gwladys M. Uzzell, who looked very nice in dresses of brown velvet. Mr. George Uzzell, father of the bridegroom, was also present. The wedding breakfast was taken at the home of the bride's parents. The happy couple were the recipients of numerous presents.

Bankruptcy Evan Henry Davies, aged 35, a collier, of Pentwyn, Fochriw, appeared at the Merthyr Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday for his first public examination. Replying to the Official Receiver, Mr. Ellis Owen, he stated that he was married in 1902, and attributed his failure to his deceased wife "going into debt without my knowledge." Prior to the death of his wife in April, 1915, he had no knowledge that she was contracting debts, but then he received notice from creditors, together with county court papers. His gross liabilities amounted to

£51-10-4, and his assets were £10. There was a deficiency of £41-10-0, of which £17-4-5 were for groceries. The hearing was adjourned for the signing of papers.

Aged Lady's Death The interment of the remains of the late Mrs. Ann Francis, Pit-row, took place last Saturday. The funeral, which was for gentleman only, was well attended. The place of interment was Pant Cemetery. Deceased, who was over 80 years of age, was one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants of the place, being born at Blaenycwm Farm, Cwmbargoed. She has lived at her present home for 51 years. Her husband, John, died 30 years ago. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Rev. D. Hughes Jones assisted by the Rev. R. D. Jenkins. Rev. Jenkins officiated at the graveside. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Thomas and Henry Francis, sons; Messrs. Daniel Rowlands and Charles Hollister, sons in-law; Corporal John Francis, Leyshon Rowlands, Tom Rowlands, Wilfred Hollister, and Danny Rowlands, grandchildren; Leyshon & James Jenkins, Abercynon, Thomas Jenkins, Pontlottyn, Lewis Jarman, Treharris, Richard Evans, Willie Roberts, Bargoed, David Evans, Wm. H. Davies, Evan James, nephews; John Martin Thomas Thomas, M. Evans, Dowlais, H. Jones, cousins.

Presentation to the Rev. R. D. Jenkins: Successful Ministry at Fochriw On Tuesday evening, a very interesting presentation meeting took place at Carmel Chapel, the occasion being the presentation to the Reverend Rhys D. Jenkins, of a gold watch, chain and pendant, and a set of 20 books, subscribed by the Carmel Church members and friends, as a token of the high esteem in which he is held, and to mark the occasion of his leaving to take up the pastorate of Goshen Welsh Congregational Chapel, Rhymney. The Reverend Jenkins has been one of Fochriw's most prominent ministers for many years, taking a leading part in all causes for the uplifting and the betterment of the place. He has held many important offices in connection with the chapel, having been secretary and deacon. His labour has always been earnest and sincere for the spiritual and moral good of those amongst whom he laboured. For eight years he has been a member of their Gellygaer District Council, overseer for three years, school of manager for five years, and a Welsh teacher at Fochriw and Deri for 10 years, under the Glamorgan Technical Committee. The chairman was the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, who spoke in glowing terms of the excellent qualities of Mr. Jenkins, his kind nature and his ready help in all cases. The presentation was made by one of the oldest members of the chapel, Mrs. Lewis Jones. The watch bore the following inscription: "Presented to the Rev. Rhys. D. Jenkins by Carmel Church, Fochriw, on the occasion of his induction at Goshen, Rhymney, as a token of appreciation of his faithful services, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1916." Mr. David Griffiths, one of the deacons, then presented Mr. Jenkins with a handsome set of 20 books. Mr. Jenkins, with much feeling, said he hardly knew how to thank them for their great kindness and good feeling towards him. He was sure he had not laboured for any earthly reward, but had done it because he loved the work. Mr. Sam Lewis read appropriate verses, and Mr. George Sibley then spoke. Mr. Thomas Lewis played a high tribute to Mr. Jenkins for the noble self-sacrificing work he had done in connection with the chapel. He was full of good works. Mr. Griffiths Jones, deacon, Goshen, Rev. J. R. Salmon, Pontlottyn, Rev. Peregrine, Rhymney, and Mr. J. D. Jones, schoolmaster, also spoke. There was an excellent programme of music. A vote of thanks to the artistes, speakers and chairman, brought the meeting to a close.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 19 February, 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of an old and respected inhabitant in the person of Mr. David Davies, 5, Martin-street, who passed away on Monday after a very painful illness.

On Furlough Private John Thomas, Brynteg-terrace, arrived home from France for a few days furlough last Sunday. Private Thomas is now doing military police duty, and has been in France for the last 18 months. He is an old soldier, having served through the South African War. He returned again on Thursday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was spent in asking questions on the third chapter of St. John's Gospel. Brother Moses Williams was responsible.

Flags Day A Flag Day in aid of St. John Hospitals, was observed last Saturday. The principal streets of the village were paraded by the Fochriw Brass Band, under the

conductorship of bandmaster W. J. Powell. The procession also included the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade under the command of Superintendent W. J. Ballard. A number of ladies were busy throughout the day disposing of flags.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 26 February 1916**

Obituary We have to record the deaths of two young persons. Mrs. Nellie Davies aged 22, wife of Mr. W. Davies, 22, Aelybryn, passed away at Merthyr General Hospital last Monday. Mrs. Margaretta Puddle, Fochriw Junction, wife of Mr. John Puddle, passed away on Sunday after a very painful illness.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, Brother Charles Payne gave a report on the Juvenile conference at Mountain Ash, and a guess cake competition took place, directed by Brother Payne.

Presentation A well attended the meeting of the members of the Bristol and West of England Society was held at the White Horse Inn, Pentwyn, on Friday evening week, when Mr. W. Price, treasurer, was presented with the society's certificate to mark his retirement from the office of treasurer which she has held for the last nine years. The presentation was made by Mr. H. C. Seaborne, vice-president, who spoke of the untiring efforts of Mr. Price during the last nine years to build up the lodge to its present membership of 150 people. Messrs. R. Thomas, W. S. Williams and D. J. Thomas also spoke of Mr. Price's good work. It was decided by a large majority to transfer the lodge from the White Horse to the Rising Sun Inn.

Funeral The remains of the late Mr. D. N. Davies, Martin-street, were laid to rest at Pentwyn Churchyard, last Thursday week. The deceased was 74 years of age, was an old and respected inhabitant of the place, and a member of Carmel Congregational Chapel. He had resided in the village for 50 years, and will be greatly missed. The funeral, which was for gentleman only, was well attended. The chief mourners were: Messrs. D. Davies, E. Davies, E. H. Davies, sons; Mr. S. Price, son-in-law; D. J. Davies, Willie Davies, David Davies, Evan Davies, Oliver Davies, Teddy Davies, Albert King, W. J. Angell, grandchildren; Mr. Thomas Davies. The officiating ministers were the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, the Revs. R. D. Jenkins, and I. Williams.

Meeting: Allotments A meeting was held at the Council Schools on Monday evening, Mr. J. D. Jones, schoolmaster, presiding, with the object of explaining to the people of Fochriw, the district Council's intention with regard to the plot of ground held by the council in Fochriw. Councillor John Jones has taken a prominent part in trying to get the council to convert this land into allotment gardens, and he addressed the meeting on this question. He was followed by Councillor W. J. Giles, Deri. It was pointed out that the Council will require sixty names sent in so that the work may be proceeded with. Each allotment will be 10 perches, and the annual rental will be about 6d. per perch. It was resolved to notify the inhabitants with regard to this land, and ask all desirous of obtaining an allotment to send their names to Mr. J. D. Jones, so the list can be prepared and forwarded to the District Council. A vote of thanks to the chairman and counsellors closed the meeting.

Mark of Esteem A handsome gold watch, chain and pendant, have been sent to Mr. Lewis Beynon, late time-keeper of the mechanical department of the Fochriw, Cwmbargoed, and Tunnel Pits, of Messrs Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Ltd. which had been subscribed for by the officials and workmen, as a mark of the esteem in which he was held, and to mark his departure to take up an appointment in London. Because of business arrangements, he was unable to come down to receive the gifts personally. Mr. Beynon has acknowledged receipt of the gifts by letter. The secretary was Mr. William Griffiths, the treasurer Mr. John Walters, and the chairman Mr. Bernard Lewis.

Addresses To Workers A large gathering of workmen assembled at the Fochriw Colliery yard on Monday afternoon, when excellent addresses were delivered by Mr. H. E. Pratten, from Sydney, Australia, and Mr. Robert Tootill, Member of Parliament for Bolton. The chairman was Mr. William Jones, checkweigher. Mr. Pratten spoke of the noble sacrifices they were making in Australia to help the motherland bring this war to a successful issue, saying they had given men in thousands and there were still thousands more anxious to give

of their best. He urged the workmen to attend readily to their work so that they may turn out a plentiful supply of coal for the Navy to command the seas. Mr. Robert Tootill, thanked the men on behalf of their gallant countrymen and Mr. Lloyd George, for the work they were doing in producing the coal so essential in winning the war. He said they were doing their bit working underground, just as the soldiers were doing so in the trenches and other places. He begged them to continue in that work, to sink all differences, and to have one object only - the winning of the war. He spoke of his visit to France, where he had seen the sacrifices our soldiers were making, and he dwelt on the atrocities committed by the Germans upon their entry into Belgium. A vote of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

Advertisement Save your baby from the agony of griping, convulsions, etc. Treating illness in children promptly is of the greatest importance. Don't let the little ones suffer for the lack of a suitable remedy, JONES' RED DROPS should be at hand. Sold in bottles: 1/3 from your chemist.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 4 March, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was devoted to "Ode Practice." Brother Thomas Walters was responsible. Sisters C. Walters presided.

Presentation An interesting presentation took place at the White Horse Inn on Monday evening, when Mr. William Price, late treasurer of the Bristol and West of England Society, was made the recipient of a silver-mounted walking stick, a meerschaum pipe and tobacco pouch full of tobacco, subscribed for by the members as a token of respect for services rendered as treasurer for the last nine years. The chairman was Mr. H. S. Seaborne, who spoke of the good work done by Mr. Price in building up the society. Mr. D. J. Thomas presented the walking stick, and Mr. W. S. Williams presented the pipe. Both made speeches, and Mr. Price thanked the members. Songs were sung by Messrs. John Evans and M. Jones. An exhibition of club swinging was given by Mr. W. S. Williams, which was much appreciated.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. Margaretta Puddle, wife of Mr. John Puddle, Fochriw Junction, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Thursday week, and was well attended. Deceased was well-known in the village, where she had lived all her life, death coming at the early age of 22 after months of suffering. She was a faithful member of Carmel Chapel, and held in high esteem by all who knew her. The Rev. D. Hughes Jones officiated. Mourners: Mr. J. Puddle, husband; Mr. R. Jones, uncle; Mr. and Mrs. T. Powell, father and mother; Mr. T. Powell and Miss Mary Powell, brother and sister; Messrs. Corbett and Ernest Puddle, brothers-in-law; Mr. Rees Jones, Mr. David Walker, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Thomas, Messrs. W. J. Powell and Lewis, Mr. David Jones.

The late Mrs. M. Davies The funeral of the late Mrs. Nellie Davies, wife of Mr. W. T. Davies, Aelybryn, took place on Saturday afternoon at Pentwyn Churchyard, a large number of friends and relatives attending. The officiating ministers were Rev. D. Hughes Jones, Rev. D. G. Jones, Nazareth, Deri, the Rev I. Williams, Noddfa Chapel. Mrs. Davies was a faithful member of Carmel Congregational Church, and was held in great esteem in the locality. Two of her brothers are serving their country - Private B. Shankland, who is attached to the Cardiff City Battalion, and at present out in France, and David John Shankland, in the Navy. Both were unable to attend the funeral. Mourners: Mr. W. T. Davies, husband; Mr. and Mrs. J. Shankland, father and mother; Messrs. T. J. & Caradoc Shankland, brothers; Mrs. B. Shankland, sister-in-law; Mrs. Davies, mother-in-law; Messrs R. Davis, I. Davies, E. Davies, B Thomas, brothers-in-law; Miss M. J. Davies, sister-in-law.

Railway Accident A sad accident occurred on the Brecon and Merthyr Railway early on Sunday morning. Mr. John Price, who was well-known in Dowlais and Merthyr, and lived at Fochriw Junction, was found on the railway in a terribly mutilated condition. By his side lay the body of his spaniel dog. It appears that Mr. Price left of Fochriw on Saturday night for his home, and was run down by one of the trains which he was unable to hear approaching him owing to the snowstorm.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 11 March 1916**

Inquest Mr. R. J. Rhys, coroner, conducted an inquiry at the Rising Sun Inn on Thursday week concerning the death of Mr. John Price, Fochriw Junction, who was found on the line near of Fochriw on Sunday night last. Evidence was given by Mr. T. H. Matthews, nephew, and Mr. C. C. Abbi, platelayer. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death." The funeral took place on Thursday week at Pant Cemetery. Deceased was 49 years of age. Revs. I. Williams, J. Roderick, and R. D. Jenkins officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Messrs. David Price and Dan Price, brothers; Mr. Thomas Evans, brother-in-law; Messrs. T. Matthews, William Phillips, J. Evans, Jenkins Thomas.

Noddfa Chapel The half yearly meetings in connection with the above Chapel were held last Sunday, when sermons were preached to large congregations by the Reverend J. Jenkins, (Gwili). The singing was conducted by Mr. Thomas Evans, junior, whilst Miss Phillips presided at the organ. On Monday evening, a lecture was delivered by the Reverend Jenkins, the subject being "Bywyd a Phenillion Telyn." Rev. I Williams, pastor, presided.

Wedding: Morgan-Gregory A pretty wedding was solemnised at Calfaria Chapel, Bargoed, on Monday, the Reverend Jones, Nazareth, Deri, officiating. The contracting parties were Miss Maggie Morgan, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morgan, overman, Martin-street, and Mr. James George Gregory, Deri. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a grey costume and grey silk hat. The bridesmaids were Miss E. M. Morgan, sister of the bride, and Miss Rachel Gregory, sister of the bridegroom. The happy couple were the recipients of many presents.

R.A.O.B. A raising meeting of took place at the White Horse Inn, on Wednesday week, when three of the brothers were raised to the third degree, and one to the second degree. The names of the brothers raised to the Knighthood were: Brothers Ben Evans, W. Price, and David Hughes. The guard of honour was formed by the following brothers: W. Evans, S. E. Phillips, J. Williams, H. Morgan. Brother J. W. Zetterstrom presented the three knights with their jewels. Musical items were given by Brothers Morgan Jones and Bowen. Brother W. S. Llewellyn was raised to the second degree.

St. David's Day The customary celebrations are of St. David's Day took place at the Fochriw Mixed School, when the scholars went through an interesting programme under the direction of Mr. J. D. Jones, headmaster, and the teaching staff. Mr. T. J. Jones attended to the music part of the programme, Miss M. A. Lewis to the play and recitations, and Mrs. M. P. Morgan ably presided at the piano. The headteacher referred to the number of old scholars serving King and country, and also the three members of staff - Private Daniel Jones, now in India, Corporal A. Ballard, and Private Howell Jones.

At Fochriw Infants' School, St David's Day was celebrated with the customary enthusiasm in this school, which was prettily decorated with banners, bunting, leeks and daffodils, while the Red Dragon held a prominent position. Practically every child wore a leek or daffodil. The ordinary timetable was suspended, and a special programme was carried out, consisting of Welsh songs, Welsh nursery rhymes, plays, recitations, solos, duets, dances to Welsh Nursery rhymes, and patriotic airs. Tales bearing on the life of St. David, the leek and the daffodil were also given. Mrs. Ceridwen Walters, a former teacher on the staff, accompanied at the piano. The crowd of parents and friends present showed a hearty interest in the Welsh celebrations and the school generally. Mr. Charles Payne, in moving the vote of thanks, congratulated Mrs. Cole Jones and her staff for the splendid programme, which was conducted entirely in Welsh, and for the great efforts they made to teach the Welsh language and keep up the native traditions. Mrs. David Lewis, also a former teacher at school, seconded the proposition.

A pleasant morning was spent at Penybank Council School, when the scholars and staff co-operated in celebrating a Welsh National day. The children rendered Welsh folk songs, recitations and anthems, heartily and with good feeling. The chair was taken by a head teacher Miss M. F. Morgan, who gave an address on patriotism. Solos were given by Miss Maria Jones, assistant mistress, and by Miss Blodwen Watkins, an old scholar. Miss M. Davies accompanied the music. Several of the present scholars also sang solos. Miss J. A. Angell took part in conducting the choral singing, and Miss J. A. Morgan gave an address on St. David.



Home From The Front Private David Lewis, D.C.L.I. is home on short leave, looking in the pink of condition.

Fancy Dress Dance A fancy dress dance was held at St. Mary's Hall, on Thursday week, on behalf of the funds of the St. John Ambulance, and was well attended. The master of ceremonies was Mr. R. Woods, and the pianist was Mr. H. Salmon.

Pals Club The members of the Pals Club sat down to an excellent supper at the Workmen's Institute last Saturday. Mr. H. G. Wilcox presided, and Mr. J. E. Lloyd was at the piano.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a paper was read on "Ideals," by Mr. T. Jones, assistant master at the Fochriw school.

**"Merthyr Express" 18 March, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, Sister Uzzell, Deri, was presented with some silver spoons on the occasion of her marriage. Sister C. Walters presided.

**"Merthyr Express" 25 March, 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Mary Morgan, 2, Glenview-terrace, Pentwyn, who passed away on Sunday morning after a very painful illness. Deceased was 60 years of age.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set aside for singing rehearsal, Brother Thomas Walters conducting.

**"Merthyr Express" 1 April, 1916**

Concert A concert was held at Noddfa Chapel on Thursday evening week, the chapel being lent for the occasion. An excellent programme of music, etc, was given a by Bargoed Orpheus Party, under their conductor Mr. D. Roberts. Solos, duets, quartettes, and choruses were rendered by the party. Miss Adelaide Roberts presided at the piano, and the chair was occupied by the Reverend E. Williams. The proceeds of the concert were towards the St. John Hospital funds.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Morgans, wife of Mr. Edward Morgans, Pentwyn, took place on Thursday week at Pentwyn Churchyard. Deceased was an old and very respected inhabitant of the place, where she will be sadly missed by her many friends. A short service was conducted at the house by the Reverend D. Hughes Jones, who also officiated at the graveside. Mourners: Mr. Edward Morgan, husband; Messrs. Thomas Morgan, Habacuc Morgan, William Thomas Evans, sons; Messrs. David Jones, Benjamin Evans, James Williams, sons-in-law; Mr. Thomas Martin, brother; Messrs. John Jones, Evan Davies, Habacuc Morgan, David Jones, brothers-in-law; Edward Morgan Jones, Thomas Jones, Edward J. Morgan, Alfred Morgan, Edward Evans, Habacuc Ballard, grandchildren.

A Fochriw Tragedy: Snowbound On The Mountain The blizzard on Monday night, had a terribly tragic sequel in the adventures of a party of young Fochriw people, and the death of Willie Grimmett, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Grimmett, Pentwyn. On Monday afternoon, a party of young people walked over the mountain to Pontlottyn to visit a picture show. By the time for their return journey, the storm was blowing with great fury, and while some of the party elected to remain at Pontlottyn overnight, others set out to make the five mile walk over the mountain. Darkness had come on quickly, but the party faced the blizzard in the confidence that they were sufficiently familiar with the road to make their way through. Of the party's fearful experiences, there are, so far, only such a disjointed account as the exhausted survivors can give. No news was received of the young people all night, and after nearly 12 hours, the first of the party was found by a search party crawling on their hands and knees from a disused quarry, where they had found partial shelter. This was at 7:30am on Tuesday morning. Search parties scoured the mountains throughout the morning, the distracted mothers themselves making brave efforts to join in the search, but they were unable to get further than the foot of the mountain. The snows had drifted to unheard-of depths, and the fate of the whole party was for some time in doubt. In the absence of telephone, or other communication with Pontlottyn, hours of anxiety were spent at Fochriw, where it was not

known who of the party had set out on their return. The search parties worked through the night heroically, time and again falling back in face of the cruel blizzard. Police Sergeant H. Williams, and Police Constable Perrett, headed the renewal of the search at daybreak, while the storm still raged. The mountain was thoroughly scoured, but it was not till 7.30 that the first discovery was made. Then, Stanley Williams, 8, Plantation-terrace, Fochriw, was recovered from an old quarry. He was able to give little information concerning his companions, but the searchers set out again, and came upon a sixteen year old girl, half buried in a snowdrift. She was conveyed to a dwelling house, and upon recovering consciousness asked for her little brother. Soon the rescuers came upon a brother and sister, almost buried in heaps of snow. The position of the rescuers was fraught with great peril, but brother and sister were eventually dug out, in an unconscious state, and taken to the Rising Sun Inn, where Nurse Mercer was in attendance. The lad, aged 13, died later. His sister, aged 20, clearly made devoted and heroic efforts during the night to succour her brother and to keep warmth in his body, until weakness overcame her. There still remained a lad, Bob Carter, of Pleasant View, to be accounted for. The rescuers probed the snow with long poles for several hours. At length, some County School boys came across a boot protruding from a heavy drift. Carter was completely buried, but was still breathing when dug out. He recovered after being conveyed home. The night's experiences of this little party created a tremendous sensation, and fine tributes are paid to the courage of the rescuers, who themselves braved considerable peril in their search. The father of the dead lad, Willie Grimmett, is in the Army, training at Rhyl.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 8 April, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the following programme was gone through: essays on "Dangers of Intemperance," and "Benefits of Temperance." Essays were sent in by Sisters M. J. Jones, and E. Griffiths, and by Brothers David Thomas and Dan James. Sister C Walters presided.

Band Parade The Fochriw Brass Band parade the village on Tuesday afternoon playing appropriate music under Bandmaster W. Powell.

Obituary The funeral of William Arthur Grimmett, the boy who perished in a blizzard on Fochriw mountain on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, took place on Monday amidst manifestations of deep sorrow. The funeral was public, and there was a large attendance, including most of the party that were out on that terrible night. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Rev. G. Williams, vicar. The cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard with the staff and scholars of Penybanc School, of which the deceased was a pupil, leading the singing of "Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer." At the Church, the service was very impressive, the vicar officiating. Mr. D. Greening read the lesson, and the hymns "Thy Will be Done," "Nearer My God to Thee," and "Lead Kindly Light," being sung with much feeling. The chief mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. Grimmett, parents; Nellie, Fanny and Louisa, sisters.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 15 April 1916**

Eisteddfod An eisteddfod was held at Carmel Chapel on Thursday we under the auspices of the I.O.G.T. A large number of entries had been sent in, and the place was crowded. The president was Mr. Charles Payne, and the conductor Mr. Moses Williams. The adjudicators were: music – Mr. John Thomas, Penywern; recitations - Rev. Fred Jones, Rhymney; prize bags – Mrs. Isaac Roderick; adjudicators of the preliminaries - Revs. D. Hughes Jones and Isaac Roderick; accompanist, Messrs. O. Richards and W. A. Davies; treasurer – Mr. W. T. Jones; secretary – Mr. Thomas Walters. Awards: sole, "Knocking, Knocking, who is there?" - 1. Gwenda Thomas, 2. Lala Cole; recitation, "Yr Ysgoler" - 1. Jack Thomas, 2. Mary Jones; solo, "Will You Meet Me At The Fountain?" - 1. divided between Edith Evans and the singer from Treharris, 2. divided between Miriam Thomas and Mary Cole; recitation, "Vanity of Riches," - Stella Cole, Florrie Cole, and Delcie Turner; pianoforte solo - Aneurin Thomas; love letter - divided between Mrs. Cole Jones and Mr. William Jones; soprano solo - "Y Deryn Pur" – Mrs. Hannah Davies; novice tenor solo - Robert Thomas and John Davies; recitation – Mrs. Blanche Thomas, Penywern; contralto solo, "Flee as a bird," - Miss H. Davies; poem, "The Forest," - Rev. I. Roderick; tenor solo, "Paham y sefi draw?" – Mr.

Edward Lewis, Dowlais; essay, "Habits" – Mr. T. H. Jones; baritone solo – Mr. Tom Jenkins; debate – Mr. Thomas and son, Bedlinog; trio – Mrs. Rachel Williams, Mrs. H. Davies and Miss M. A. Walters; prize bags – Mrs. Blanche Thomas; children's choir - School Children conducted by Miss M. Davies; mixed choir - Aelybryn Choir, conducted by Mr. W. J. Jones; open recitation – Mrs. C. A. Weeks, Abertysswg.

Inquest An inquest was held at the Rising Sun Inn, on Monday, on William Arthur Grimmatt, the boy who perished on Pontlottyn mountain on the morning of Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, after being exposed to the full rigours of the snow storm throughout the previous night. Mr. R. J. Rhys, coroner, presided. Elen Grimmatt, aged 21, sister of the deceased, explained that her father, Charles Russell Grimmatt, was a private in the 20<sup>th</sup> Welsh Regiment. On Monday night, 27<sup>th</sup> March, she said she and seven others proceeded to Pontlottyn and went to a picture palace. They left the cinema about 10 o'clock and proceeded up the mountain by the new road. When they reached the ash tip on top of the mountain, they found they had lost their way. Coroner: In which direction did you go? I could not say where we were. Coroner: Did you lose consciousness yourself? I could not say exactly. Who found you? I could not say. Was your brother with you? Yes sir, he was with me all night. Coroner: It is a mercy that you were alive. It was the roughest night I can remember. I am glad you got through it. You all might have perished. David Stanley Williams, aged 18, said he met the party homeward bound on the mountain path. Having gone a little distance, he fell into a quarry. He shouted to the party to keep back. He remained in the quarry all night, but eventually got out when help arrived. William James Whitby said he was one of the rescue party which set out on Tuesday. He found the Grimmetts on the top of a disused quarry which was right away off the Fochriw road. The eldest girl was semi-conscious, but the other two had gone off. Two of the Grimmetts were taken to the Rising Sun. Coroner: The boy was conscious then? Yes. Were they under this snow? No, not covered. They were in a crouching position. Coroner: How many people were missing from Fochriw altogether that morning? Police Sergeant Williams replied, There were nine in all. There were eight in the group, and another beyond the schools.

Fochriw Wedding Mishap: Dangerous and Foolish Custom A serious mishap, which might have had fatal consequences, befell a wedding party at Fochriw on Saturday. The old custom of placing a rope across the road - which in this case was being carried beyond a joke - to hold up the wedding party until they satisfied the waylayers with coppers, was responsible for an unfortunate occurrence. It was a motor wedding and there were two cars. The contracting parties were Mr. Thomas Walters, an engine driver at the Groesfaen Colliery, living at New-road, Deri, and Miss Eunice Jones, daughter of Mr. John Jones, overman, Fochriw. The party left the bride's house at Fochriw for Cefn Hengoed Baptist Chapel, where the ceremony was to take place. The first car was occupied by the Rev. Isaiah Williams, Baptist minister, Fochriw, and Rev. Rowland Williams, Baptist minister, Deri, Mr. Ben Thomas, uncle of the bride, Mr. John Walters, brother of the bridegroom, together with the driver, Mr. Edgar Watkins, Bargoed. The car was travelling along at a nice pace when, near the station, it came to grief, the whole party thrown into a state of confusion. It appears that a wire rope had been fastened to the walls on either side of the street, and near an awful corner. It spanned the road at the height of some five to six feet, and caught the glass screen in front of the car. The rope did not give way in the impact, with the result that the screen was smashed to bits. The driver, and the gentleman who sat with him, were badly cut to by the glass, while the three other occupants, including the two ministers who sat in the rear, sustained injuries to the face by coming in contact with the rope. The injured parties were taken to the Schoolhouse, where their injuries were attended to. Eventually, they reached Hengoed where the marriage duly took place.

Presentation A very interesting presentation meeting took place at Carmel Chapel on Tuesday evening, when Mr. George Phillips, grocer, was made the recipient of an illuminated address and fountain pen on behalf of the members and friends of Carmel Chapel, as a token of their high appreciation of his services as treasurer for the last 18 years, and to mark the occasion of his retirement. The chairman was the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, who spoke very highly of Mr. Phillips' qualities. The address was presented by Mr. William Ballard, one of

the oldest deacons, and the fountain pen by Mr. George Sibley. Mr. Phillips acknowledged the gifts in very suitable terms. Speeches were also made by the Rev. R. D. Jenkins, the Rev. E. Williams, the Rev. J. M. Jones, and Mr. T. Lewis. During the evening an excellent programme of music was contributed to by the following: solos – Messrs. David Cole, Howell Thomas, David Cole Jones, Mrs. Hannah Davies and Miss E. M. Sibley. Violin selections were given by Miss Irene Phillips, accompanied by Miss Hilda Phillips. The accompanist was Mr. Thomas Walters.

Wedding: Walters-Jones A wedding was solemnised at Hengoed Baptist Chapel on Saturday last, the contracting parties being Mr. Tom Walters, Deri, and Miss Eunice Jones, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Jones, overman, Fochriw. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a Prussian blue moire silk costume, with Tuscan hat trimmed with ostrich feathers, and fastened with orange blossom and white heather. She also carried a bouquet of tulips and carnations. She was attended by Miss Maggie Jones, Bargoed, who was attired in a navy blue costume with a Tuscan hat. The flower girl was Miss Sylvia Morgan, niece of the bridegroom, who looked very pretty in a white silk dress, with a coat of shell-pink, shaunting silk, with white silk hat to match. The best man was Mr. John Walters, brother of the bridegroom. Messrs. Thomas Walters, Gwilym Thomas and Benjamin Thomas were also present. The Rev I. Williams, and Rev. Rowland Williams, Deri, officiated. The party returned to the home of the bride's parents, where reception was held, a large number of relatives and friends being present. The happy couple were the recipients of numerous presents.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 22 April, 1916**

Memorial Service A memorial service for the late Willie A. Grimmett, was held at St. Mary's Church on Sunday evening. There was a large attendance. The sermon was preached by Mr. D. Greening, Pontlottyn. Mr. O. Richards played the "Dead March" at the end of the service.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the lodge was entertained by the Juveniles.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 29 April, 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of Mr. John Evans, Martin-street, who passed away on Easter Sunday morning after a very painful illness. He was aged 62.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for a fruit banquet. Brother Lewis Evans was made the recipient of a fountain pen on his joining the colours. The evening was presided over by Sister C. Walters.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 6 May, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. The following were elected officers: chief Templar, Brother William T. Jones; vice-templar, Sister B. Francis; secretary, Brother Thomas Walters; financial secretary, Sister E. M. Thomas; treasurer, Brother S. Lewis; chaplain, Brother M. Williams; marshal, Sister R. Griffiths; guard, Brother B. Davies; sentinel, Brother C. Cooke; assistant secretary, Brother William Griffiths; deputy marshal, Sister M. Tyler; past chief Templar, Sister C. Walters; lodge deputy, Brother Charles Payne; electoral superintendent, Brother William Jones; superintendent juvenile temple, Brother Thomas Lewis; organist, Brother William Davis. After the election, a paper was read by a Brother Thomas Lewis entitled, "A History of the Fochriw Lodge," which proved very interesting.

The Late Mrs. J. White The funeral of the late Mrs. John White, Brook-row, took place on Monday last at Pentwyn Churchyard. A short service was held in the house conducted by the Rev. Gilbert Williams, vicar. The body was afterwards taken to St. Mary's Church, of which deceased had been a most faithful communicant, for a service. Afterwards, the solemn cortege wended its way to Pentwyn, Rev. Williams officiating at the graveside. Mourners: Mr. John White, husband; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert White, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Tippings, daughter and son-in-law; Messrs. Henry, Robert, Ernest, and T. White,

sons; Mr. and Mrs. William White, brother-in-law and sister-in-law; Mrs. Smith, sister-in-law; Mr. & Mrs. Davies, nephew and niece.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. J. Evans, Martin-street, took place last Thursday week at Pentwyn Churchyard, amidst manifestations of deep sorrow. The deceased had resided in the village for a very long time. She was a faithful member at Carmel Congregational Chapel, where she will be sadly missed. The funeral, which was public, was one of the largest that has left the village. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, and the Rev. Isaac Roderick, who also officiated at the graveside. Mourners: Mr. John Evans, husband; Messrs. D. J. Evans, Tom Idris Evans, Mrs. Esther Edwards, children; Mr. and Mrs. David Lewis, daughter and son-in-law; Elwyn Edwards, Iris Edwards and Enoch Lewis, grand-children; the Rev. D. M. Davies, Swansea, brother; Miss Sarah Lewis, sister.

New School At Fochriw: Opened By Councillor John Jones Councillor John Jones, Bargoed, opened a new school for boys and girls at Fochriw, on Monday. There was a large gathering, and Mr. Jones was presented with a gold key by the contractors, Messrs Hamilton and Millard, of Caerphilly, as a memento of the occasion. The school is pleasantly situated on the mountain top, and has accommodation for 260 scholars, and is on up-to-date lines, the design of which was by the county architect, Mr. D. Pugh Jones. The contract price was £4,402 which is about £16-18-7 per child. The heating engineers were Messrs. J. C. Hill and Sons, Bridgend. Mr. F. E. Huish was the clerk of works. Councillor Sydney Jones presided at a meeting which followed the opening ceremony. He said it was for him an important event in the history of Fochriw, and he congratulated the headmaster, Mr. J. D. Jones, who had laboured under great difficulties in the old school. It was gratifying, he said, that the people of Fochriw were possessed of the opportunity of having education under such healthy conditions. Councillor J. Jones said that as a native of Fochriw it giving him greater pleasure to meet with the reception they had kindly accorded him. He was himself a product of the old School Board system, now obsolete. He remembered the opening of the old school under the Education Board in 1870, and the excitement caused by the event. He remembered also the zeal of those days to get prizes, and those occasions had been a stimulus in later life. Fochriw bore an excellent character in the matter of education, and regular attendance accounted no doubt for the success which had been attained by boys and girls from Fochriw. They had been most successful at the Pengam and Hengoed County Schools. He had heard people say "He is only from Fochriw," but it was a place very dear to him. From that place, some of the finest men in the country had come. There was one in Australia, holding a high position under the government as controller of mines, and some were headmasters of various intermediate schools, from Pantywaun down to Ystrad Mynach. There was a mining engineer at Fochriw with whom he was at school, and in Yorkshire and Lancashire he had met men from Fochriw who were holding high positions. The topic had been suggested to him by Mr. M. Lewis, Bargoed, on the definition of a school. His definition would be that a school was a nursery for the young people of the nation. He wished the school a successful career, and the memory of that occasion would be with him throughout life. Rev. D. Leyshon Evans said that the building of school was long overdue. Some five years ago he was amongst a party that visited the old school, and decided that a new school should be built, but unfortunately there were delays due to lack of money. Alderman W. Williams said he was glad that Fochriw appreciated the educational facility given to it. This was proved by the number who went to the county schools. Just now, education was suffering as it was impossible to staff the schools as they would like, owing to the shortage of teachers due to them serving in the war. He hoped the present crisis would soon be over, but prospects were not favourable. After the war, I hope a period of attention to education will follow. This was the 58th schools erected in the eastern part of the county from designs by Mr. Pugh Jones, and every one of them had been within the contract price. Councillor J. H. Charles delivered an address, and Councillor J. Jones presented a certificate of merit from the County Education Committee to Elizabeth Ann Angel, for having attended school for eight years without losing a day. Councillor Ben Hughes, Mr. J. D. Jones, Rev. Isaac Roderick, Rev. J. R. Salmon, Councillor W. J. Giles, Councillor John Edwards, and Rev. R. Jones, Abertyswg, also spoke.

**"Merthyr Express" 13 May 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the I.O.G.T. was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday last, and was presided over by Sister Walters, C.T. During the evening, the following read very edifying papers: Sisters Edith M. Thomas, Katie Jones Davies and Annie M. Jones. A vote of thanks was accorded the Sisters for the excellent papers, after which the new officers for the coming quarter were installed by Bro. C. Payne, L.D., assisted by Bro. Sam Lewis. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

Easter Vestry The annual Easter Vestry in connection with St. Mary's took place on Monday evening last, and was presided over by the Rev. Gilbert Williams (vicar). The statement of accounts showed a balance on the right side. The following officers were elected: Church secretary, Mr. W.J. Payne; treasurer, Mr. H. Edgar; sidesmen, Messrs Josiah Richards, J. Wood, W. Sibley, G. Way, W.J. Payne, H. Edgar, M. Evans, W. Wilton; organist, Mr. Octavius Richards; choirmaster, Mr. Berkeley Angell. During the evening a Church Council was appointed.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 20 May, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for "Question Time," all members taking part. Brother W. Jones presided.

Eisteddfod A very successful eisteddfod was held at St. Mary's Institute on Thursday week, when there was a record number of entries. The adjudicators were: music – Mr. W. Jenkins, Penywern; recitations - Rev. Isaac Roderick; preliminary music – Mr. David Davies, (Pencerdd Morganwg); mining – Mr. John Bevan, M.E., Fochriw; accompanist – Mr. Octavius Richards. The secretarial duties were performed by Mr. M. Evans, and Mr. H. Edgar was treasurer. The president was Mr. John Bevan, M.E.. Awards: Chief choral, Fochriw United, Mr. John Evans, conductor; soprano solo, Mrs. Hannah Davies, Fochriw; contralto solo, Miss Hitchings, Dowlais; tenor solo, Mr. James John Lewis, Dowlais; bass solo, Mr. J. Brown, Deri; solo for children, Miss May Powell, Treharris; recitation for children, divided between Deslie Turner and Gwenda Thomas; solo for children, Miriam Thomas; recitation for children - John O. Thomas, Bedlinog; pianoforte solos - Robert J. Evans; violin solo - Frances Wilton; open recitation - Archie Powell, Penydarren; prize bags – Mrs. George Way, Aelybryn; pair of knitted gloves - Miss J. A. Angell, Fochriw; essay – Mr. Dan Williams, Pontlottyn; essay – Mr. Harold Richards, Rhymney; novel Love Letter – Mr. J. James, Deri.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 27 May, 1916**

R.A.O.B. A pleasant evening was spent at the Mount Pleasant Inn, Pentwyn, on Wednesday week when the headquarters of the Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth lodge of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes, was transferred from the White Horse Inn to the Mount Pleasant Inn. The room had been artistically renovated by the landlord Mr. David Jones who is also a Buff.

Nazareth Chapel The half yearly meetings in connection with Nazareth Chapel were held on Sunday and Monday last when the Reverend Williams, Mardy, preached to large congregations.

Obituary Mr. David Jones, Aelybryn, passed away on Tuesday evening after a painful illness.

Memorial service A memorial service in memory of the late Dr. Eleazer Davies, J.P., took place at Carmel Congregational chapel last Sunday, the building being full.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, an evening of musical entertainment followed.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 3 June 1916**

Fochriw Golden Wedding: Celebration At Pontlottyn A happy gathering met at Mount Zion Primitive Methodist Church, Pontlottyn, on the Monday evening, when the members of the Church, together with some friends, held a public celebration of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Worman, Fochriw, who are old and faithful members of the Church. The proceedings began with a tea, successfully organised and provided by the ladies of the Church. Mr. G. Moore, Graig Rhymney, presented Mrs. Gorman with a beautiful bouquet, while the Church trustees each received a buttonhole. The company afterwards adjourned to the chapel, where the meeting was presided over by Rev. C. Robert, New Tredegar, circuit

minister. The chairman referred in glowing terms to the high respect in which Mr. and Mrs. Gorman were held by all in the neighbourhood. Mr. Gorman had rendered faithful service as a successful local preacher for nearly 53 years. The Church presented the couple with an individual communion service, with a silver pattern and flaggon, suitably inscribed. Mr. Worman was also presented with a valuable meerscham pipe, and Mrs. Gorman with a silver jewellery case. At the close of the meeting, Mr. Worman baptised a young infant.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge 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." The following pieces were nicely sung: "The Cuckoo," and "Summer Again." Brother Thomas Walters was in charge of the programme.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. David Jones, Aelybryn, took place last Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard. The funeral, for gentleman only, was well attended. A short service was held at the house by the Rev. D. Hughes Jones, who again officiated at the graveside, assisted by Rev. Rhys Jenkins, Esaiiah Williams and Isaac Roderick. The chief mourners were: Messrs. W. J. Jones and Rees Jenkins, sons; Frank Strain, son-in-law; W. J. Phillips, George Rogers, William Edwards, H. C. Seaborne, T. Jones, J. Morgan, W. Morgan, nephews.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 10 June, 1916**

Flags Day Flag Day was observed at the village last Saturday in aid of the Welsh Hospital at Netley. Several ladies were busy throughout today disposing of flags.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a paper on "Habits" was read by the Bro. Thomas H. Jones. The following commented on the paper: Bros. T. Lewis, M. Williams, Charles Payne, and Sister Walters. Brother W. Jones presided.

Annual Meetings The annual meetings in connection with Carmel Chapel were held on Sunday and Monday. The Rev. Evan Jones, Porth, and the Rev. T B Matthews, Penydarren, preached most eloquent and edifying sermon. Mr. David Davies led the singing, with Mr. Thomas Walters at the organ.

Presentation Meeting A pleasant evening was spent at their Rising Sun Inn on Wednesday week, when the members of the Bristol and West of England Society gathered together to present Mr. Morgan Morgans, Rising Sun Inn, on behalf of the Society, with a collarette and jewel on his becoming an honorary member of the society.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 24 June 1916**

Military Jottings We were pleased to see Fred Wright, R.E., and Driver Lewis Evans, R.F.A., home on short leave.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set aside for "Leaflet Practice." Brother Thomas Walters was responsible. During the evening, very encouraging letters were read from Brothers Lewis Evans, Fochriw, and Harry West, New Tredegar, who are serving with the colours.

Wedding: Davies-Williams A pretty wedding was solemnised at Zoar Chapel, Merthyr, on Thursday week, between Mr. John E. Davies, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Davies, Martin-street, and Miss Florence M. Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moses Williams, Brynteg. The bride, who looked charming in a grey dress with hat to match, was given away by her father, and was attended by Miss Mary J. Davies, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Olwen Price, cousin of the bride. The Rev. D. Hughes Jones officiated. The wedding breakfast was taken at the home of the bride's parents. They were the recipients of numerous presents.

Obituary The funeral of an old and respected inhabitant of the village in the person of Mr. William Lewis, Railway-terrace, who passed away after a very painful illness at the age of 62, took place on Thursday week at Pentwyn Churchyard. The Rev. Rhys Jenkins officiated at the house and graveyard. Mourners: Messrs. Stephen Lewis, son; Abraham Jones, son-in-law; Masters Willie and Brynmor Jones, Tommy and David Lewis, grand-children; Mr. Evan Lewis, brother; Messrs. John Lewis, David Lewis and William Lewis, nephews. One of deceased sons, who is with His Majesty's forces in France, was unable to attend.

St. John Ambulance Brigade The annual inspection of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was held at Fochriw last Saturday under favourable conditions. The divisions were in charge of their respective officers, Supt. W. J. Ballard commanding the Fochriw men. The men were taken through different and interesting parts of Ambulance work, and proved very successful at their tasks, satisfying the inspecting officers – Mr. H. Lewis, deputy commissioner; Lieutenant Richards, district superintendent; Captain Dr. Rocyn Jones, district secretary; Mr. Davidson, corps superintendent. Great interest was shown by the people of Fochriw. They attended in large numbers, and were much interested in the work of the brigade. The Fochriw Brass Band played on the procession to the field, under their band master Mr. William Powell. Among the visitors on the field were Mr. Tudor Davies, M.E., deputy agent for Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, who has shown a keen interest in ambulance work since coming to Dowlais, and Mr. J. Bevan, M.E., manager of the Fochriw collieries, who is also a great supporter of the brigade. The inspecting Officer, Mr. H. Lewis, Cardiff, complimented the corps on its efficiency, and expressed a desire to see the ladies of the neighbourhood taking up the work with the men, and helping generally, as a great number of men would be called away. 28,000 men of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were already serving with the colours.

Summonses David Davies, Brook-row, was summoned for stealing 12 cwts. of coal, the property of G. K. N. Ltd. on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The prosecution said that Mr. Davis took a horse and cart and took the coal away from one of the tips. He was fined 40 shillings. Robert Campbell was fined 10 shillings for having a match in his possession at No. 2 Pit, Fochriw.

**“Merthyr Express” 1 July 1916**

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

**“Merthyr Express” 8 July 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the I.O.G.T. was held at Carmel Vestry Thursday week, and was largely attended, the programme being “Sing, Say of Penny Pay.” The following contributed solos - Bros. C. Payne, Sam Lewis, M. Williams, Wm. Thomas; readings - Sisters Selina Burrows, A.G. Thomas, Elsie Griffiths, Catherine Jones; chorus - Sister Myfanwy Cole and friends; saying - Sister Catherine Jones; story - Sister M. Griffiths; debate - Bros. H. Thomas and T.J. Jones; pianoforte solo - Bro. O. Richards.

Tea Parties The annual tea parties in connection with Carmel Congregational, Noddfa and Calvinistic Methodist Churches were held at their respective chapels Monday, and were largely attended, the wants of the children being carefully looked after in each case. After doing ample justice to the good things provided them at the tables, sweets, fruits etc., were distributed amongst them. Afterwards, the respective chapels indulged in sports etc. on the mountain, a very pleasant time being spent.

**“Merthyr Express” 15 July 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a most interesting paper was read on "Peter Pugh" by the Reverend Esaiiah Williams. The paper was read in Welsh.

Home From The Front We are pleased to see the following home on short leave: Private Gwilym Evans, a Fochriw boy who joined the forces out in Australia, and returned to this country a few weeks ago; Sergeant J. Francis of the London Fusiliers; Llewlynn Jones of the Royal Garrison Artillery.

**“Merthyr Express” 22 July 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Jones, wife of Mr. Edward Jones, 24 Guest-street, who passed away last Sunday evening after a very long and painful illness.

In Mesopotamia Mr. George Jones' eldest son, Daniel, is serving with the Colours in Mesopotamia. Before enlisting, he was a student at Exeter College, from which he joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Devons at the outbreak of war.



I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the juveniles entertained. The following contributed: songs - Phoebe Cole, Miriam Thomas, Mary Jones, Latimer Evans; recitations - Lala Cole, Miriam Thomas, Lizzie M. Lawrence, Eirlys Jenkins, Gwladys Shankland. Brother William Jones presided.

Military Jottings Information has been received by Mrs. M. H. Edwards, Pit-row, that her husband, Private Wyndham Edwards, 1<sup>st</sup> Welsh, has fallen in action. He joined the Welsh Regiment just after the outbreak of hostilities. He returned home on short leave to get married on the 19<sup>th</sup> February, 1915, and then proceeded to France with his regiment. He took part in a few engagements, and was reported missing after the engagement on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1915. No information could be obtained of his whereabouts until the present news.

Fochriw Men Wounded News has been received by Mr. J. Williams, Brynawel, that his son, Private Fred Williams, has been wounded. He joined R.W.F. (Public Schools Battalion) in April, 1915, and has been in the trenches since November last. Before the war, he was employed as a clerk at Messrs. G.K.N., Offices, Fochriw. Mr. George Jones, Station-terrace, has been informed that his son, Private Howell Jones of the R.W.F., has been wounded, and is now in hospital at Camberwell, London. Private Howell Jones joined the army in January last, and left for France in June. He was previously a student at Aberystwyth University College.

R.A.O.B. The annual Church Parade in connection with the Cwlwm y Brodoriaeth Lodge of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes took place last Sunday. The members met at the Lodge room, Mount Pleasant Inn, Pentwyn, and headed by the Fochriw Brass Band, paraded the streets of the village before entering St. Mary's Church, where the service was held. The lodge, which is in a very flourishing condition, was augmented by members from several other lodges, making the procession a large and imposing spectacle. The service at the Church was conducted by Brother J. C. Payne, who took his text from 1 Peter, 3, 8, and preached a powerful sermon, exhorting the brothers to love one another, to succour the sick, to care for the fatherless and widows, and so fulfil the proper duties of a true Buff. He also gave some striking figures in connection with the work the order is doing throughout the country. The band accompanied some of the hymns.

Tea Party The annual tea party connected with St. Mary's Church took place on Thursday week at St. Mary's Hall, and it proved to be one of the more successful teas, from a financial and numerical point of view. The weather, though not very promising in the morning, cleared up in the afternoon. The children met at the Church at 3:30p.m., when the Reverend Gilbert Williams, vicar, addressed them, basing his remarks on the hymn they had just sung, "There's a Friend for Little Children." Afterwards, the procession, numbering 200, formed, and headed by the Fochriw Brass Band, under Mr. William Powell, paraded the streets of Fochriw and Pentwyn. The children made a very pleasing spectacle in their dresses of various colours, carrying banners, etc. After the parade, the children sat down to an excellent tea, after which sweets were distributed to each child. Later a sports was held. The Band played selections and dance music during the evening on the field adjoining the Church.

Parade On Saturday week last, a parade in connection with the Bristol, West of England and South Wales Operatives' Trade and Provident Society, Branch 2 (Fochriw) District of Pontlottyn, took place, followed in the evening by an excellent cold lunch and "smoker." The procession, which was a fine spectacle, and composed practically all of young men, reflected great credit on the Society. The Fochriw Brass Band headed the procession. Afterwards, an excellent entertainment took place. During the evening, Mr. D. J. Thomas, secretary, gave a detailed account of the branch work since its opening in 1907. The figures given for the nine and a half years were very interesting, and show the branch to be in a very good financial position. The Branch at present numbers 150 ordinary benefit, and 190 National Insurance members. In addition to the above, there are 30 members serving with the Colours. Mr. William Price, president, presided at the smoker. 124 persons partook of lunch.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 29 July 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. The question of the outing was discussed.

Jack's Day Jack's Day was observed at Fochriw last Saturday, when a large number of ladies were very busy disposing of flags, flowers, etc., in aid of our brave sailor lads.

Brass Band On Tuesday, the Band, under the conductorship of Mr. W. J. Powell, played a fine programme of dance music etc., on the green before a large crowd, their playing being greatly appreciated.

Successes Miss Lizzie Mary Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence, Railway-terrace, has been successful in gaining an entrance scholarship into the Hengoed County School. Miss Ceinwen Ballard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Ballard, Station-terrace, has been successful in passing the probationer examination.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. Edward Jones, Guest-street, took place on Thursday week at Pentwyn Churchyard, amidst manifestations of deep sorrow. The deceased was only 28 years of age. The funeral, which was a public one, was one of the largest that has left the village. A short service was held at the house prior to the removal of the body, conducted by the Reverend Isaac Roderick, and Rev. Jones, Ivor House. The Revs. D. Hughes Jones, R. D. Jenkins, R. Bell, Llwynhendry, assisted Rev. Roderick at the graveside. Mourners: Mr. Edward Jones, husband; Master J. Adams Jones, son; Mr. and Mrs. D. Jones, father and mother; Messrs. D. J., W. A., and Griffith Jones, brothers; Mattie and Muriel Jones, sisters; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jones, brother and sister in-law; Mr. Griffith Pugh, grand father; Messrs. William Adams and T. Pugh, uncles; Mr. and Mrs. R. Pugh, Mr. and Mrs. H. Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. George Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. D. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Williams, uncles and aunts.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 5 August, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a report of the Juvenile Council at Penarth, and the Grand Lodge meeting was given by Brother Charles Payne. The programme for the year evening was "Quotations By Famous Writers," the following contributing: Brothers Thomas Lewis, H. Thomas, Sam Lewis, W. Thomas Jones, Sisters E. M. Thomas, M. A. Lewis, Ruth Griffiths, and Mary Davies.

Wedding: Thomas-Mercer A pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Andrew's Church, Cardiff, this week, between Mr. George Thomas, Fochriw, and Nurse Mercer, Cardiff. Both enjoyed the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances, Mr. Thomas having associated himself with several movements for the welfare of the village, Nurse Mercer having been appointed to the post of nurse to the colliery workmen, having obtained the post by a large majority out of a large number of applicants. Since her advent into the place, by her faithfulness to her duties, she has won the respect of the community at large. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. J. Edwards, vicar. The bride looked charming in a navy costume, with saxe blue picture hat to match. The best man was Mr. J. Evans, colliery manager, Ynysybwl. The reception has held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hurmon, Park Road Cardiff. The happy couple were the recipients of many congratulating messages.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 12 August, 1916**

Fallen In Action Information has been received by Mrs. Williams, Penybank, that her husband Private W. J. Williams, 1<sup>st</sup> Monmouthshire Regiment, has fallen in action. A memorial service will be held at St. Mary's Church next Sunday evening.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme was "Sing, Say or Penny Pay." Officers for the coming quarter were installed by Brother Charles Payne.

Annual Tea Party The annual tea party in connection with Siloh Baptist Chapel, Penybank, took place on Thursday week. There was a large attendance, which included the Fochriw Brass Band.

Noddfa Chapel The pulpit at Noddfa Chapel was occupied by the Rev. Moses Young, on Sunday last. He was home from America for a short holiday. He preached powerful sermons which were greatly appreciated by the large congregation.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 19 August 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening week. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the evening was set apart for questions. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Memorial Service A memorial service in memory of the late Private W. J. Williams, Penybank, was held last Sunday evening, the service being very impressive. Mr. D. Greening, licensed lay reader, preached a powerful sermon, which was well received. Appropriate hymns were sung under the conductor, Mr. B. Angell, with Mr. O. Richards at the organ. The "Dead March" was played at the end of the service.

Parade: Prisoners of War Fund Under the auspices of the Cwlwm y Brodoriaeth Lodge of the R.A.O.B., a parade took place on Monday evening, a collection being made en route in aid of the Prisoners Of War Fund. The procession was large, and was headed by a banner bearing the inscription: "Collection in aid of the prisoners of war in Germany. Help the "B-boys." The procession was headed by the Fochriw Brass Band, followed by members of the R.A.O.B., the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade, the Fochriw Fire Brigade, and the Pontllytyn Fire Brigade. A total of £5-12-0 was collected.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 2 September, 1916**

Obituary We regret to record death of a very old inhabitant of the village in the person of Mrs. Thomas, 1, Aelybryn, who passed away on Saturday after a very painful illness.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening week. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, two new members were initiated into the Order. Words of encouragement were spoken by Brothers Thomas Lewis and William Jones. The annual tea in connection with the Juvenile Temple Lodge took place the same day. A large number were entertained.

Military Information has been received by Mr. Henry Evans, Martin-street, that his son, Private J. Evans, D.C.L.I., has been wounded in action in the thigh and hands. Private D. Lewis, D.C.L.I., son of Mrs. Williams, Railway-terrace, has been wounded in the right shoulder and leg, and is now at Torbay Hospital, Torquay. Private William Robert, R.W.F., has been wounded and is now in hospital at Whitchurch, near Cardiff.

St. John Ambulance A meeting was held at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday evening last, when Lieutenant- Colonel Herbert Lewis delivered a very interesting address on the work already done by the Order of the St. John Ambulance throughout the country for wounded soldiers and sailors. He also pointed out the immediate needs of the Order in order to carry out the work in future. The task of succouring the wounded was very great. 38,000 beds were at present being occupied by wounded soldiers throughout the country. Mr. Evan Evans, sub-agent, presided. The Fochriw Lodge of Miners voted 3d. a week for 16 weeks after hearing the case put by Mr. H. Lewis.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 9 September, 1916**

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

Funeral The funeral of Mrs. Thomas, Aelybryn, took place on Thursday week amidst manifestations of deep sorrow. The deceased was 72 years of age. The funeral, which was for gentleman only, took place at Pant Cemetery. A short service was held at the house by the Rev. Esaiiah Williams. The cortege then left by special train for Pant. The chief mourners were: Benjamin and Gwilym Thomas, sons; John Jones, Tom Walters, John Bevan, and William Owen.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 16 September, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening week. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the members sat down to a fruit banquet, after which the following contributed to the programme: pianoforte solos - Brother Thomas Walters, Brother David Thomas; readings - Brothers H. Thomas, Sam Lewis; recitation - Brother Thomas H. Jones; numerous dialogue - Brothers H. Thomas, D. Thomas, and T. J. James; guessing competition - Sister M. Tyler. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Military Mrs. Evan Evans, Brook-row, has received information that her husband, Private Evan Evans, Cardiff City Battalion, is lying dangerously ill in hospital in France. The following are home on short leave, looking in the best of health: D. J. Shankland, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Shankland, Aelybryn, and Seaman-Gunner David Davies, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Davies, Guest-street.

Died of Wounds Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Martin-street, have received information that their son, Private J. H. Evans, D.C.L.I., died of wounds on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 1916. Before enlisting, two years ago, he was employed as engine driver at the Fochriw colliery. He was only 21 years of age. Great sympathy is extended to the family in their bereavement.

Successes Congratulations to the following, who have been successful in passing the following examinations: Higher Certificate: Thomas John Jones; Senior: Thomas H. Jones, Katie Davies, Annie Evans, Tegwen Jenkins; Supplementary: Edith M. Thomas; Junior: Silvanus Jenkins (distinction in scripture), Lewis Jones (distinction in scripture), Vincent Sibley (scripture and drawing), Willie Davies, Frances M. Jones, Elizabeth Ballard, Ceridwen Thomas.

Wedding: Angell-Griffiths A very pretty wedding was solemnised at Nazareth Chapel, Pontlottyn, last Saturday, the contracting parties being Nurse Angell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Angell, Dynevor-street, and Mr. John Griffiths, Brynteg. The bride, who looked charming in a brown costume, with a nigger brown velour hat to match, was given away by her father, and was attended by two bridesmaids, Miss J. A. Angell, sister, and Miss Maggie Evans. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. W. J. Thomas, cousin of the bridegroom. The following were also present: Messrs. Walter Angell, Richard D. Davies and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jenkins. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Rhys Jenkins, uncle of the bride, and the Rev. J. R. Salmon. The party returned to the home of the bride's parents, where the wedding breakfast was served, to which a large number of relatives and friends sat down. The happy couple were the recipients of many presents, and left by the noon train for Aberystwyth, where the honeymoon is being spent.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 September, 1916**

Military Information has been received by Mrs. Evan Evans, Brook-row, that her husband Private Evan Evans has died in hospital in France, on September 10<sup>th</sup>, from wounds received in action. Before enlisting he had been a collier at the Fochriw collieries. He has been in France for 11 months. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Evans, Aelybryn. He was 25 years of age. He leaves a widow and three little children.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 30 September, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening last. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the Pride of Tredegar Lodge entertained. Brother Parsons presided.

Killed in Action Information has been received by Mrs. Margaret Jones, Pit-row, that her husband Private Richard Jones, Welsh Regiment, has been killed in action on September 8<sup>th</sup>, in France. Before enlisting, he was employed at the Fochriw collieries as a haulier. He leaves a widow and seven children, to whom great sympathy is extended. This is the third Fochriw boy who has given his life for King and country during the last few weeks.

Unveiling Ceremony A very interesting meeting was held at the Fochriw Library on Tuesday evening, on the occasion of the unveiling of a painted portrait of the late Reverend James Jones, who was minister of Carmel Congregational Church for over 21 years. The life-size portrait was the gift of Mrs. E. Cole Jones, head teacher of the Fochriw Infant' school, and widow of the late Reverend Jones. Mr. William Ballard, senior deacon of Carmel Chapel, was asked to unveil the portrait. The Reverend Jones and the late Dr. Eleazer Davies were pioneers in the founding of the library, and they had not spared themselves to make it a success. Mrs. Cole Jones presented the portrait to the Library. She said that some months ago, at the time of the presentation of the late Dr. Davies's portrait, it was suggested to her that it would be fitting if a portrait of her late husband also adorned the walls of the Institution. Dr. Davies and her husband were public men and bosom friends, and it pleased her greatly to see both portraits hang side by side.

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Jones, wife of Reverend J. M. Jones, Ivor House, Fochriw, who passed away very suddenly on Friday night last week.

**“Merthyr Express” 7 October 1916**

Wounded The many friends of Private David Lewis, D.C.L.I., will be glad to know that he is home for a few days from hospital after being wounded in France. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a paper was read by the chief templar on "The Works of a Good Templars Lodge." The following commented on the paper: Brothers H. Thomas, W. Griffiths, T. Mitchell, H. Jones, and Charles Payne. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Jones, wife of the Reverend J. M. Jones, took place on Wednesday week at Pentwyn Churchyard. Deceased had only resided in the village for a short time, but was well respected. She was a native of the Llangan, Carmarthenshire, and married the Reverend Jones when he was a minister in Flintshire. There are four children: Mr. J. M. Jones, is a doctor at Pontlottyn, Rhymney and Fochriw; one son is serving his country in France; another lives at Fort William, Ontario, Canada; and the only daughter is married to Mr. J. A. Jones, B.A., county school teacher. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the Rev. R. D. Jenkins, and Rev. D Hughes Jones, after which the body was taken to Carmel Chapel for a service. The "Dead March" was played by Mr. Thomas Walters. The cortege then wended its way to the churchyard, where Reverend Jenkins and Reverend D. Adams, Dowlais, officiated. Great sympathy is extended to the family in their sad bereavement.

A Paper From Home 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 from home. It must be the "MERTHYR EXPRESS." Send him a copy each week, or let us do it for you.

**“Merthyr Express” 14 October 1916**

I.O.G.T. The Morning Star Juvenile Temple held its first session of the season. Brother Thomas Lewis addressed the children. The Star of Fochriw Lodge also met on the same day. Two new members were initiated, and three transferred from the juvenile temple. A prize was given for the best essay entitled "Ideal Temperance Worker," the prize being awarded to Brother Thomas H Jones.

Storm During the storm last weekend, the waiting room on the Brecon and Merthyr station, which is in course of erection, was blown down.

**“Merthyr Express” 21 October 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was as Ode Practice.

Nazareth Chapel The annual meetings in connection with the chapel were held on Sunday and Monday. The preacher was the Rev. William Thomas, Maesteg. The singing was under the able conductorship of Mr. William Morris, with Miss Katie Jones Davies and Mr. Willie Davies presiding at the organ.

**“Merthyr Express” 28 October, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the juveniles entertained.

Wounded Private Howell Jones, R.W.F., arrived home this weekend from a London hospital where he has been for the last few months, suffering from wounds received in action. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Jones, Station-terrace. Before joining the Colours, he was a student at Aberystwyth University.

**“Merthyr Express” 4 November, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a presentation was made by Brother Henry Thomas, on behalf of the members of the lodge, to Sister Ambrose Jones, Glyn-terrace, on the occasion of her marriage. Afterwards, the

following programme was contributed to by the following: pianoforte solo, Brother Thomas Walters; solos, Sisters Ruth Griffiths, Ceridwen Thomas, and Brother Sam Lewis; mouth organ selection, Brother Tom Mitchell. Brothers Sam Lewis and William Jones read suitable verses of their own composition. Addresses were also given by Brothers Thomas Lewis and Moses Williams. A vote of condolence was passed with Brother Dean on his bereavement. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Harvest Festival Harvest Thanksgiving services were held at St. Mary's Church on Thursday and Sunday last. Through the kindness of a number of the members and friends, the Church had been beautifully decorated. The festival commenced with Holy Communion on Thursday morning, the vicar officiating. In the evening, the pulpit was occupied by Mr. J. C. Payne, who preached a very powerful sermon on "Thanksgiving" to a crowded congregation. On Sunday at 11a.m., the preacher was the Reverend Gilbert Williams, Vicar, who preached an eloquent sermon, and at 2.30 and 6p.m., the Rev. H. J. Millard, Abertysswg, delivered a highly instructive sermon in connection with the National Mission of Repentance and Hope. There were large congregations throughout. The conductor of singing was Mr. B. Angell. Mr. Octavius Richards presided at the organ. The offertories throughout were towards the Llandaff Church Extension Society. The fruit was afterwards sent to the Caerphilly Red Cross Hospital.

Wedding: Evans-Thomas A very pretty wedding was solemnised at Gellygaer Church on Monday last, the contracting parties being Mr. Thomas Francis Evans, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Evans, Pleasant View, Fochriw, and Miss Margaret Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, Dowlais. The bride, who looked charming in a saxe blue coline dress, with black picture hat, was given away by Mr. W. J. James, her brother-in-law, Picton Hotel, Pontlottyn. She was attended by Miss Lydia May Evans, sister of the bridegroom, who was dressed in a navy blue costume with pale blue hat. The best man was Mr. Willie Evans, brother of the bridegroom. Mr. Alfred Evans, father, was also at the ceremony. The Reverend W. J. James officiated. The wedding party returned to the Junction Hotel, Bargoed, for the wedding breakfast, and afterwards left for Cardiff for the day. They were the recipients of many presents.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 11 November, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme for the evening was "Enlist Recruits." All the new members who joined during the last quarter were fully initiated. The ceremony was very impressive and instructive. The Juvenile Temple Lodge was entertained on Thursday week by members of the adult Lodge.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 18 November, 1916**

Obituary On Thursday morning, John Henry Sherwood, collier, employed at Fochriw Pit, died at Merthyr General Hospital from lockjaw. Recently, he scratched his hand, and blood poisoning followed. Although he received the best medical treatment, lockjaw set in.

Summons David Lewis, Williams-row, was fined 20 shillings and costs for using threatening language at Dowlais Top Station, to the annoyance of passengers. Mr. S. Roberts prosecuted, and pointed out that the offence was all the more serious as the station was in such an outlandish spot.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme was "Paper Cuttings," to which a very large number responded. It was one of the best evenings ever spent at the lodge. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Entertainment A very successful entertainment was held at St. Mary Hall on Tuesday evening, presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. The programme was contributed to by the following: solos - Blodwen Watkins, Enid Evans, Jane Seaborne, Addie Baldwin, Glynwen Evans, Harold Harris; violin selections - Frances Wilton; duets - Laura and Betty Harris, Maggie S. Martin and L. M. Martin, Addie Baldwin and Annie Mills; chorus - Miss Z. Davies and party; recitations - Harold Harris, Trevor Lawrence, W. T. Williams, Edna Edwards, Ben Davies; dialogue - Mildred Hughes and Ivy Curtis. Open singing competition, "Meet Me at the Fountain" 1. Enid Evans; 2. Benjamin Davis. The adjudicator was Mr. B.

Angell. The concert concluded with a sketch entitled "A Midnight Visitor," those taking part being Messrs. W. J. Payne, William Thomas and Willie Hughes.

Military Jottings We will all glad to see Private Fred Williams, Royal Welch Fusiliers, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Williams, Brynawel, home from hospital for a few days. He was severely wounded in Mametz Wood, after which he was brought to a hospital at Stratford-upon-Avon, and later another hospital in Warwickshire, before coming home. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Private A. F. Gwynne, R.A.M.C., is home on short leave. He has been in France for nearly 20 months. Information has been received by Mr. and Mrs. John Jones, Pit-row, that their son Private David Jones, Welsh Regiment, has been killed in action. Before enlisting at the outbreak of war, he was employed as a haulier at the Fochriw colliery. Great sympathy is felt for the family.

Chairing Ceremony The chairing ceremony of the Reverend Isaac Roderick took place at Nazareth Chapel, Fochriw, on Friday evening week. Councillor John Jones presided, and the bards of Fochriw and district were present in large numbers. Reverend Roderick won the chair at an Eisteddfod held a few months ago at Fochriw. The bardic chair did not reach the Eisteddfod in time, and thus, the ceremony was postponed until last week. The subject on which the Rev. Roderick wrote was "A poem in memory of the late Dr. Davies, J.P., Fochriw." There were eight competitors. The chair, given by Dr. Davies's widow, was of solid oak, beautifully carved with the design of the dragon on the back, and decorated with margarite work. The president said he was glad that his own minister had won this distinction for the first time at Fochriw. Miss Katie Jones Davies was the organist, and gave an organ solo after the president's address. The Rev. D. R. Beynon, Pontlottyn, delivered a speech, and Mr. William Morris sang "Baner ein Gwlad" in fine style. Reverend D. Hughes Jones conducted the chairing ceremony. All the bards were called to the platform, and when the winner's name was announced he was led to the platform by two other bards, and the organist played "See the Conquering Hero Comes" as he was marching forward. Mrs. Dr. Davies invested the winner with a rosette. Congratulatory verses were given by the following bards: the Revs. D. H. Jones, J. M. Jones, R. D. Jenkins, D. R. Beynon; Messrs William Jones, James Williams and Sam Lewis. The Chairing Song was rendered by Mr. William Morris. The meeting concluded with the singing off "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau ." Congratulatory verses were also sent to the meeting by the Rev. R. W. Dell, and Mr. D. W. Davies, Rhymney, and these were read by the Rev. D. H. Jones.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 25 November, 1916**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, the programme was "Guess Night." The Sisters of the lodge provided fruit etc., after which the following programme was contributed to as follows: readings - Sisters A. G. Thomas, C. Jones, and Edith Thomas; solo - Sister Ceridwen Thomas. The guessing competition was won by Brother Charles Payne and Sister Maggie Lewis. Brother William Griffiths presided.

Interesting Presentation A very pleasant evening was spent at Carmel Vestry on Wednesday week, when the younger members of the Star of Fochriw, I.O.G.T., presented Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davies with a teapot, stand, and hot water jug on the occasion of their marriage. The Rev. D Hughes Jones was chairman. Speeches were given by Rev. D Hughes Jones, Messrs. Moses Williams, T. Howell Jones, and Myfanwy Cole; pianoforte solos, Miss Annie Evans and Mr. W. A. Davies; duet, Misses Nan Angell and Ruth Griffiths; solo, Misses Ruth Griffiths, M. Tyler, Hilda Davies, Mattie Jones; mouth organ selections, Mr. Tom Mitchell; recitation, Miss L. M. Lawrence and Mr. T. H. Jones; Children's Choir, under the conductorship of Miss M. Davis. Miss Myfanwy Cole made the presentation on behalf of the young members.

Military We are glad to see Edward Thomas, Royal Engineers, Aelybryn, home on short leave from France. He was accorded an enthusiastic welcome home, the Fochriw Brass Band playing appropriate music as the train arrived at the station. The streets were gaily decorated with flags. Private David Lewis, D.C.L.I., is home on short leave looking in the best of health.

### **“Merthyr Express” 2 December 1916**

Money Club On Saturday evening last, a very pleasant time was spent at the Rising Sun Inn, when a repast was provided for the members of the Money Club by Mr. and Mrs. Morgan. An excellent programme of music was contributed to by Messrs. Howell Thomas, J. Evans, W. Francis and others, who sang solos. Mr. J. Evans presided at the piano. Hearty votes of thanks to the host and hostess and artistes brought the meeting to a close. Mr. D. R. Jones presided.

Obituary We regret to record the death on Sunday last of Mrs. S. J. Hollister, wife of Mr. Charles Hollister, Pit-row.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge 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, Brother Charles Payne, H. Thomas, Sister A. G. Thomas, D. Thomas, Selina Burrows; solos, Sister Ceridwen Thomas, Brothers Thomas J. James and William Griffiths; pianoforte solo, Brother Thomas Walters; addresses Brothers T. Lewis and C. Payne. Brother Charles Payne presided.

Entertainment An entertainment was held at St. Mary Hall on Tuesday evening, and was presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. An interesting programme of music etc. was contributed to by Misses Blodwen Watkins, Amy James, Myrtle Harris, Elsie Lewis, Addie Baldwin, Mildred Hughes, Ivy Curtis, Lena Way, Phyllis Williams, Lena Harris, Olive May Payne, Phoebe Jones, Willie Robert, Harold Harris, Dan Davies, Ivor Phillips; violin selections, Master Francis Wilson; singing competition, prize divided between Addie Baldwin and Jane Seaborne; duet competition Dan Jones and Phyllis Williams. The adjudicator was Mr. B. Angell. The programme concluded with the amusing sketch entitled "Wireless Telegraphy." The following took part: W. J. Payne, William Thomas, W. Hughes, W. Curtis. Charles Chaplin competition: divided between J. Cole and E. Jones.

### **“Merthyr Express” 9 December, 1916**

Obituary We have to record the death of Mrs. Rees Jones, Brook-row, after a painful illness.

Sale of Property Messrs Phillips and Jones, auctioneers, Bargoed, held a property sale at the Rising Sun, Fochriw, on Thursday, when four substantially built leasehold cottages and premises, 3-6 Williams-row, let at 14 shillings each per month, and held for a term of 99 years from 1897, were sold to Mr. T. Jones, Brynteg, Bargoed, for the sum of £280.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a very interesting paper was read by the Rev. J. M. Jones on "Irish Wits." The following commented: Brothers William Jones, Thomas Walters, Thomas Lewis. A vote of condolence was passed with Sister Annie Hollister in her bereavement. Brother Sam Lewis presided.

Ministerial The Reverend and Mrs J. Francis made their advent to the parish on Tuesday. The reverend gentleman commenced his duties on Sunday last, when he occupied the pulpit of St. Mary's Church, and preached powerful and edifying sermons, which were much appreciated by large congregations. Formerly, Rev. Francis was curate at St. Mary's, Aberavon, where his departure was keenly felt. The Connexional District of Fochriw was offered to Mr. Francis by the Lord Bishop of Llandaff. The district is composed of Fochriw, Pentwyn, Pantywaun and Deri.

Wedding: Payne-Payne A very pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Michael's Church, Creech, Somerset, on Wednesday, the contracting parties being Mr. J. C. Payne, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Payne, Glyn-terace, Fochriw, and Miss F. A. Payne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Payne, Creech. The bride looked charming in a saxe blue silk taffetta dress with hat to match, and was attended by Miss Ivy Hawkins, who looked charming in a grey costume with black velvet hat. The bride was given away by her father. The best man was Mr. W. J. Payne, brother of the bridegroom. Mr. Charles Payne, father of the bridegroom, was also present, as were Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lawrence, Mrs W. J. Payne, Olive May Payne, Gordon Lawrence, Willie Bailey, and Annie Mitchell. The happy couple left for Bristol, whether the honeymoon is being spent. They were the recipients of many congratulatory



messages and numerous valuable presents. The Reverend John Philip Dalton, the vicar, officiated.

Entertainment An interesting entertainment took place at St. Mary's Hall on Monday, presided over by the Reverend John Francis, who gave an address. The programme was contributed to by the following: Ivor Phillips, Trevor Lawrence, Enid Evans, Phyllis Williams, Mildred Hughes, Ivy Curtis, Addie Baldwin, Olive May Payne, Lena Reece, Blodwen Watkins, Catherine Watkins, Enid Evans and party; competition, Psalm 23, prize divided between Glynwen Edwards and Jennie M Davis. The adjudicator was the Reverend Francis. The concert concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "Painless Extraction," the characters being Messrs. W. Payne, W. Thomas, W. Hughes, W. Curtis, and C. J. Lawrence.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mrs. Hollister, Pit-row, took place on Thursday week, amidst manifestations of great sorrow. The funeral was public and there was a large attendance, the interment being at Pentwyn Churchyard. The deceased was well respected in the village, and will be greatly missed by her relatives and large circle of friends. She was 47 years of age. The Rev. D. Hughes Jones, Esaiiah Williams, and Rhys Jenkins, officiated at the house and graveside. The chief mourners were: Mr. Charles Hollister, husband; Wilfred, Annie, Morfydd and Rhoda Hollister, children; Messrs. Thomas and Henry Francis, brothers; Miss Bronwen Francis, sister; Mr. and Mrs. Rowlands, sister; Mr. and Mrs. W. Hollister, Sergeant John Francis, Leyshon Rowlands, Tom Rowlands, Daniel Rowlands, Bronwen Francis, Blodwen and May Rowlands, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Evans, Annie Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Thomas, Mrs. Martin, Miss L. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Garbett, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar, Willie and Cyril Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Davies, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Leyshon Jenkins, Mrs. Cole, Mr. Harry Jones and Mrs. Tom Jenkins.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 16 December 1916**

On Leave We were pleased to see Private Caradoc Ballard, R.A.M.C. and Pte. George Smith, A.S.C., home on short leave from France, both looking well.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a very interesting paper was read by Brother D. J. James, after which a "Spelling Bee" was held, Brother T. H. Jones conducting. Brother W. Jones presided.

Smoker A very pleasant evening was spent at the Workmen's Club on Saturday last, when the first of the series of concerts was held, and a welcome home accorded to Lance-Corporal David Lloyd. There was a large number present, the chairman being Mr. Harry Wilcox.

Entertainment An entertainment was held at St. Mary's Hall on Tuesday evening, presided over by the Rev. J. Francis. The following contributed to the programme: Blodwen Watkins, Ivy Baldwin, Muriel Baldwin, Dulcie Turner, Gwladys Shankland, Glynwen Edwards, Francis Wilton, Johnny Edgar, W. D. Jones, Peter Griffiths, Zenith Davies and party. Open recitation competition, 1. Blodwen Watkins, 2. divided between Lucy Turner and Eileen Morgan. In a laughable sketch entitled "The Haunted House," the characters were Messrs. W. J. Payne, W. Thomas, W. Hughes, and W. Curtis.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. James Jenkins, Nantyffin, Fochriw, took place on Tuesday evening amidst manifestations of deep sorrow, the place of interment being Pentwyn Churchyard. Deceased, who had been confined to the house for the last six years, was an old and respected inhabitant of the village, where he will be missed by a large circle of friends. The officiating ministers were the Rev. D. Hughes Jones and Rhys Jenkins. The funeral was public, and there was a large attendance. The deceased leaves a wife and several children. Mourners: Mr. Evan Jenkins, Mrs. James Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jenkins, Miss Lucy Jenkins, Mr. James Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Garbett, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. P. C. Jones, Mr. D. Davies, Mr. L. Davies, Mr. Lewis Davies, Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Davies, Messrs. Henry Francis, Thomas Francis, Miss Bronwen Francis, Miss Watkin Williams, Bronwen Jenkins, Evan Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. D. Rowlands, Mr. Leyshon Rowlands, Mrs. R. Evans, Mr. Charles Hollister, Wilfred, Annie, Morfydd and Rhoda Hollister, Mrs. Evan Davies, Mrs. Blodwen Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 23 December, 1916**

On Leave Sapper John Williams, Royal Engineers, Plantation-street, is home on short leave from France, and is looking in the best of health.

Obituary We have to record the death of Mr. Josiah Richards, Llwynceilyn Cottage, Brook-row, who passed away on Wednesday after a long and painful illness. Deceased, who was 57 years of age, was an old and respected inhabitant of the village, having been born in the house in which he died.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the "Star of Fochriw" Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday evening. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, a miscellaneous programme was gone through, the following contributing: pianoforte solo, Sister Katie Davies, Brother Aneurin Thomas; Mr Bailis, Cwmbargoed, recited verses of his own composition, entitled "Tit-bits on Fochriw;" recitations: Sisters Avonwy Price, Irllys Jenkins, Lalla Cole, Brother Edmund Davies; solos, Sister Maggie Davies; duet, Sisters A. Jenkins, and Jesse M. Davies; stump speech, Mr. Bailis.

Entertainment A very successful entertainment was held at St. Mary's Hall on Tuesday evening last, presided over by the Rev. J. Francis. The following contributed to the programme: Blodwen Watkins, Mary Morgan, Ivy Curtis, Mrs Morgan, Ivor Phillips, Thomas J. Evans, Johnny Edgar, Willie Jones, Harold Harris, Charlie Edwards, Muriel Baldwin, Elizabeth Laurence; open singing competition, the prize was awarded to Zenith Davies. The adjudicator was Mr. B. Angell.

Gellygaer Tribunal: Is Fochriw Unpatriotic? A meeting of the Gellygaer Military Tribunal was held at Hengoed on Thursday. Mr. Ben Hughes was in the chair, pending the arrival of Mr. E. Richards, J.P.. Present: Councillor Jenkins Edwards, Councillor Edmund Jones, Councillor W. J. Giles, and later, Mr. E. Richards, when he took the chair; Mr. Rowland Thomas, military representative, and Mr. C. J. Samuel, clerk, and Mr. Goshen Evans, assistant military representative.

J.B.B. (41), auctioneer, of B., produced his birth certificate, showing that he had passed his 41<sup>st</sup> year. Applicant said that if he had to go to the Army, his business would have to close. Granted six months exemption.

A.E.G., grocer, of P., whose case had been adjourned for him to go before the Medical Board, stated that he had passed in Class A. He said that his application for exemption was based upon a Government circular urging Tribunals to give careful consideration to all one-man businesses. An exemption to the end of December only was granted.

L.M.J. of R., in charge of the inn kept by his father, said that his elder brother had gone to the Army, and another who was due to go. Councillor Jenkins Edwards said that two men had already gone to the army, and the applicant would make the third. He then said, there were many homes in Fochriw from which four sons were available, and he regarded Fochriw as the most unpatriotic district in the parish. Chairman: We have had more conscientious objectors from Bedlinog. Mr. J Edwards: We have had one from Fochriw too. Exemption to December 31<sup>st</sup> was granted.

F.J., a foreman carpenter of G. was appealed for by his employer, who said it was impossible to get men to do the work and complete the contracts in hand. Three months exemption was granted.

J.P.J. of G., a grocer's haulier. This case had been previously dealt with, and conditional exemption was granted, and the Military Representative now asked that the decision should be reviewed. Mr. Trevor Griffiths appeared for the applicant, and admitted that in February the retail trade was a certified occupation, but this had been amended. Two months exemption was granted, and J. P. J. was told to go before the Medical Board in that time. It was said that the applicant was the only one left to do the general haulage

H.J.P., fish merchant of P., who would have been 41 years of age in May next year, was granted three months exemption.

D.J.P., assistant grocer, of Y.M., produced a certificate showing him to have passed his 41<sup>st</sup> year, and that he considered his work as a foreman carpenter at the colliery to be of national importance. Applicant, who was passed as Class L, was granted three months exemption.

T.E.W., 30 years of age, insurance agent, of B., said he had been engaged in a colliery previous to being an insurance agent. Mr. J. Evans appeared for the applicant. This was the

third exemption applied for in five months. Business and domestic reasons were advanced as the cause, and he expressed his willingness to go back to work underground. The application was refused.

J.P., boot-shop manager, of B. Applicant had been before the Medical Board, and placed in class C III. Exempted for three months.

O.W., aged 28, single, colliery surface man, of B. The grounds of the application were that he was serving his country better in his own employment, and also that he had to undergo an operation. Applicant read the circumstances of his case, and stated that he was the only son of aged parents, his father being a cripple. He had offered himself three times and been rejected. Applicant described the nature of the operation, and said that his physical history had been left at the Bargoed Recruiting Office at the time. The case was adjourned for the applicant to go before the Medical Board.

T.R., coal merchant, aged 29, married, of Y.M., was granted three months exemption with the right to appeal again.

### **“Merthyr Express” 30 December 1916**

On Leave Private Stephen Ballard is home on short leave from France.

St. Mary's Church Christmas Day was observed at St. Mary's Church with services throughout the day - Holy Communion at 7a.m. and 11a.m., evensong and sermon at 6p.m. All the services were well attended, especially the early celebration. The Rev. John Francis, vicar, officiated, preaching edifying sermons. The singing was conducted by Mr. B. Angell.

Entertainment A very pleasant evening was spent at St. Mary's Hall on Friday evening last, when an entertainment and distribution of prizes for Sunday school scholars was held. The Reverend John Francis presided, and distributed about 150 books to the scholars. Mr. W. J. Payne, Sunday school superintendent, also addressed the scholars. Several contributed to the programme. Votes of thanks to Miss J. A. Angell, secretary, and others, brought a pleasant evening to a close.

R.A.O.B. A smoker was held at the Mount Pleasant Inn on Wednesday week. The chair was taken by Brother W. Price. The following brothers and gentlemen assisted: Brothers Howell Thomas, Morgan Jones, P. Vines, Tom Rees, D. C. Jones, J. Evans, and H. Wilcox. The accompanists were Brothers D. Cole Jones and J. Evans. Two brothers of the Gwent Trio Company, of Bargoed, entertained to the great delight of the audience.

Wedding: Curtis-Hughes At St. Tyfaelog's Parish Church, Pontlottyn, on Tuesday, Miss Violet E Curtis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J Curtis, Pit-row, was married to Mr. Willie N. Hughes, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Hughes, Martin-street. The bride, who looked charming in a pale blue silk dress, was given away by her father, and accompanied by Miss Ivy Curtis, Miss Mary Tyler, and Miss Olwen Hughes, as bridesmaids. Mr. John Hughes, father of the bridegroom, and Mr. Willie Curtis, brother, were also present. Mr. Henry Hughes, brother of the bridegroom, was best man, and the Reverend Gilbert Williams, vicar, officiated. The happy pair were the recipients of many expensive presents. The wedding breakfast was taken at the house of the bride's parents.

Carmel Chapel A singing festival was held at Carmel on Christmas Day. The Rev. D. Hughes Jones presided at the morning service. The conductor was Mr. William Hughes, Dowlais; Messrs. Thomas Walters, John E. Davis, David Thomas, and Willie Angell were the accompanists. The morning service was introduced by a recitation of a chapter by Miss Delcie Turner. The following tunes were rendered in the morning service: "Y Gwanwyn Ddaeth;" " Mae Arnaf Eisieu'r Iesu;" " Mor Hyfryd yw Gweled y Plant yn Gytun;" "Cysegrwn ein Horiau;" "Pantywaun;" "Ireiddiol;" "Byddin Dirwest;" anthem, "Tr Brenin Iesu Seiniwn." Solos were rendered by the Miss Mary Jane Cole and Miss Mary Jones.

In the afternoon, Mr. William Ballard presided, when the following tunes were rendered: "Dowlais;" "Pastor Bonus;" "Dymuniad;" "Ceridwen;" "Lincoln;" " Carmel;" Bryngwyn;" "Dies Irae;" anthems, "Duw sydd Noddfa" and "Duw oedd y Gair." A solo was rendered by Miss E. M. Sibley.

At the evening service, Mr. David Lewis presided, and the Reverend Bell introduced the service, after which the following tunes were sung: "Pembroke;" "Bryn Moriah;" "Irfona;" "Phillippi;" "Amman;" "Eden;" chorus, "Be Not Afraid." The hymn entitled "Aelybryn" was

sung in memory of the late Dr. Eleazer Davis, and was composed by Mr. David Davies, (Pencerdd Morganwg). It was sung with much feeling. A solo was also rendered by Mrs. H. Davies.

Drama On Thursday and Friday evenings last week, the people of Fochriw were entertained to a fine treat, when the members of the Carmel Dramatic Society gave a fine production of the Welsh drama "Ar y Groesffordd," at the Council School to a very large audience. The acting of the various parts was all that could be desired. The following took part: Mr. James Williams, Mr. James Jones, Mr. Samuel Lewis, Mr. Thomas Walters, Mr. T. H. Jones, Mr. Evan Williams, Mr. T. R. Evans, Miss Mary A. Walters, Miss Mary MacArthur. The duties of stage manager were ably carried out by Mr. T. Jones, assisted by Mr. D. Harris.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mr. Josiah Richards took place on Saturday afternoon at Pentwyn Churchyard. The deceased was an old and respected inhabitant of the village, and will be greatly missed by his many friends. He was 57 years of age, and leaves a widow and a son, who is the present organist at St. Mary's Church. Mr. Richards had been ailing for a number of years. He was a staunch churchman. He could always be found in his usual place at St. Mary's Church, until illness prevented him attending. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the Reverend John Francis. The chief mourners were: Octavius Richards, son; Mr. David Evans, brother-in-law; Messrs. W. J. Barry and William Richards, nephews; Messrs. William Williams, Jesse Williams, Richard Davis, Johnny Williams, cousins. The Vicar and the Reverend R. D. Jenkins officiated at the graveside.

Noddfa Chapel A very successful Eisteddfod was held at the above place by the members during the afternoon and evening of Christmas Day. The adjudicators were: singing – Mr. Morris Llewellyn, Rhymney; recitation - Rev. G. Williams, Rhymney; chairman - Reverend Esaiiah Williams. The accompanist was Miss Hilda Phillips. The chief awards were : solo "Dad o'r Nef" - Gwenda Thomas; solo "O, am ras i Garu'r Iesu" - 1. Enid Evans, 2. Phyllis Watkins; solo "Eto mae lle" - divided between Dilys Evans and E. Matthews; solo "Robin Goch" - 1. Enid Evans, 2. D. J. Evans; hen don, Thomas Evans; bass solo "Yr Eryr Mawr" - divided between Thomas Evans and Albert Walters; tenor solo "Hiraeth" - Robert Thomas; contralto solo "Dacw'r Gwanwyn yn y Gofwg" - Enid Evans; soprano solo "Cartref" - Enid Evans; champion solo "Y Banerwr" - Johnny Williams; recitation, Psalm 104 - Thomas Evans; open recitation - Rees Thomas; children's party, not over 16 years "Bydd Canu yn y Nefoedd" - divided between Mrs. Tom Evans's party and Mr. Tom Evans's party; barddoniaeth, dau bennill i'r "Gyfeillach" - Mr. David Thomas, junior. The secretarial duties were ably carried out by Mr. David Thomas, Plantation-street, whilst Mr. Robert Thomas, Dynevor-street, carried out the duties of treasurer.

Nazareth Chapel A splendid singing festival was held at the above Chapel on Christmas Day in the afternoon and evening. Mr. James Lawrence presided at the afternoon meeting. Mr. Griffith Pugh introduced the service. The conductor of the singing was Mr. William Morris. Miss Katie Jones-Davies and Mr. Willie A. Davies were the accompanists. The following tunes were rendered at the afternoon service: "Banerau Dirwest;" "Unwaith am Byth;" "Yn y Man;" "Llef y Cenhadon;" "Wrth y Groes;" "Cartref yn y Nef;" "Mae'r Iesu yn Derbyn Plant;" "Mordaith Bywyd." Recitations were given by Eluned Lawrence and Gwynfor Morris. The Reverend Isaac Roderick delivered a very interesting speech. Mr. G. Pugh presided at the evening meeting, when Mr. James Lawrence introduced the service, and the following tunes were rendered very effectively: "St. Saviour;" "Havilah;" "Elijah;" "Stepney;" Trefderyn;" "Rhosbeirio;" "Cefn-bedd Llewelyn;" "Y Jerusalem Nefol;" "Commonwealth;" "Gethsemane;" "Gnoll Avenue;" "Duffryn Baca." Nellie Morris gave a recitation. Rev. Isaac Roderick addressed the meeting. A solo entitled "Paham y sefi draw?" was rendered by Miss Mattie Jones. Councillor John Jones gave an excellent address on "The Art of Singing," and said that he had never enjoyed the singing more than this year.