

### **“Merthyr Express” 4 January 1930**

Our Fochriw Correspondent is Mr. W. J. Payne, 1, Glyn-terrace. Sales Agent: Mr. D. Lewis.

Watch-Night A very impressive watch-night service was held at St. Mary's, the Vicar giving the address. Mr. O. Richards presided at the organ.

Billiards The finalists of the young men's Christmas handicap at the Library Hut were Messrs. E. G. Price and Gomer Davies. After a very exciting final, the former was the winner.

Hospital Mrs. Annie Morgan, Penybank; Mrs. Barlow, Guest-street; Miss Maggie H. Williams, Dynevor-street; Mr. Edward Williams and Master David D. Davies are patients at Merthyr Hospital. Their many friends wish them a speedy recovery.

St. Mary's Church Services were held on Christmas Day, the preacher being the vicar. There was a children's carol service in the afternoon. Mr. O. Richards was at the organ, and Mr. B. Angell conducted the singing.

Gymanfa Ganu At Noddfa Chapel on Christmas Day, the United choirs of Nazareth and Noddfa held their annual festival of praise, and as in past years, the singing again attained its usual high standard. The conductor was Mr. William Morris. The morning session was presided over by Mr. Willie Adams Jones, the afternoon session by Mr. John Jones, and the evening session by the Rev. Richard Evans. The accompanists were Messrs. Wyndham Lawrence and David Joshua Thomas.

Wedding: Morris-Williams A pretty wedding was solemnised at Soar Baptist Chapel on Boxing Day, the contracting parties being Mr. Thomas James Morris, Pontlottyn, and Miss Eirwen Williams, School House, Fochriw. The bride, who was attired in a blue georgette frock, over which was wore a fawn chenille coat, with hat and shoes to match, was given away by her father Mr. Mordecai Williams, ex-official of one of the Fochriw collieries. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. Gustav Morris, brother of the bridegroom. The luncheon was prepared at the bride's home.

Obituary The death is recorded of Master Gordon Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cook. The funeral took place on Monday. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Vicar, after which the cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment, the vicar again officiating. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Edgar Cook (father); William Cook (grandfather); Willie Cook, Cyril Cook, Trevor Davies (uncles); William Mantle, Percy Mantle, George Mantle, Albert Mantle, John Mantle, H. J. John, Llewellyn Jenkins, Charles Hollister, Tom Jones, Ernest Jones. Among the floral tributes was one from the headmistress, staff and scholars of the Infants' School.

Singing Festival The annual singing festival in connection with Carmel Chapel was held on Christmas Day. The singing reached a very high standard under the conductorship of Mr. S. Ashton, Aberfan. The training of the choir was under the supervision of Messrs. James John Lewis and Sylvanus Jenkins. The accompanists were Miss Mona Ballard and Mr. Thomas Walters. The morning session was opened by Master John Gwyn Lewis, and was presided over by Mr. David Lewis. The afternoon session was opened by Mr. Leyshon Rowlands, and presided over by Mr. Thomas Ballard. The evening session was opened by Miss Mary Lewis Thomas, and was presided over by the Mr. Evan Morgan Davies. Solos and duets were rendered by Mrs. Trevor Davies, Gretta Thomas, Cissie Thomas and Mr. Septimus Ashton; recitations were given by Nurse Ballard Davies and Master Willie Walters. The chairman of the committee was Mr. David Lewis, the secretary Mr. Bob Rees, and the treasurer Mr. Cyril Cook.

### **“Merthyr Express” 11 January 1930**

Hospital The many friends of Mr. Wyndham Edwards, Brook-row, will regret to know that he is in Rhymney Hospital suffering from injuries received whilst following his employment.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday. The programme for the evening was the ode practice, Brother Thomas Walters being responsible.

British Legion The annual meeting of the Fochriw branch of the British Legion was held on Friday, and was presided over by Mr. Puddle. The following officers were elected for the year: the chairman, Mr T. Puddle; vice-chairman, Mr. D. J. Shankland; treasurer, Mr. J. Williams; secretary, Mr. R. Clark. The secretary gave the financial position for the year, and stated there was a good balance in the bank. Messrs. Clark and Shankland were elected to represent the branch on the area committee. The auditors were: Messrs. T. Shankland and D. J. Shankland.

St. Mary's Hall On Friday, a successful children's concert was held, presided over by the Vicar, and the accompanist was Mr. Eddie Davies. The following contributed to a musical programme: David Howells, David Cole, G. Evans, Freddie Williams, Howell T. Lewis, Douglas Evans, Messrs Goronwy Tyler, Alvin Llewellyn, Rod Jones, George Williams, Jackie Davies, Winnie Evans, Cissie Thomas, Minnie Lewis, Marion Gregory, Gwennie Lewis; duet, Alvin Llewellyn and Goronwy Tyler; solo, Mr David J. Williams. The winners of the singing competition were: 1. Doris Edwards, 2. William J. Jones. The evening concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "The Man from Mars," the following taking part: Messrs. W. J. Payne, D. J. Williams, Eddie Davies, Rod Jones, George Williams, Goronwy Tyler, Vernon Payne, David Strang, C. Tyler, A. Llewellyn.

"The Wishing Cap" Delightful fare was provided at Noddfa Vestry, when the children of the Sunday school produced the cantata "The Wishing Cap," under the able conductorship of Mr. Thomas Evans. There were large appreciative audiences. The principals were in excellent voice, which reflects great credit on the producer, Miss Hilda Phillips, and the conductor. Praise is also due to the accompanist, Mr. David Joshua Thomas, and the scenic artist Mr. Jenkin Thomas. The chief characters were played by: Phyllis Davies, Magdalen Pugh, Bertie Edwards, Marjorie Lewis, David John Parry, Mr. Richard Jones, Minnie Price, Ceinwen Thomas, Mwynwen Jones, Gwenda Thomas, Mrs. Elvira Jenkins, Phyllis Williams, Dilys Evans, Mrs. Edith Thomas, Bethune Gregory, Ray Parry, Iris Evans, Kathleen Williams, and Edna E. Jones.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 18 January 1930**

Operation Mrs. Sarah Ballard, wife of Mr. Thomas Ballard, has undergone an operation at the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff. Her many friends wish her well and a good recovery.

Personal The many friends of Mrs. Edith Davies, wife of Mr. Walter Davies, stationmaster, will regret to know she is at a Cardiff nursing undergoing an operation. We wish her a speedy recovery.

M.P.s Visit Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P., visited the village on Monday evening, and addressed a public meeting at the Library, Mr. Sam Lewis presiding. Mr. Jones was in excellent form, and gave a very exhaustive resume of the work of the present government. He was looking forward to the future with confidence. Questions were asked and satisfactorily answered.

International Order of Grand Templars The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the I.O.G.T. was held at Carmel vestry on Thursday, the chief Templar presiding. A very interesting paper entitled "Poetry" was read by Sister Bessie Ballard.

Prize Distribution On Sunday afternoon at the Parish Church, the distribution of prize books for faithfulness in attendance was performed by the superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. W. J. Payne. Splendid work is carried out by the teachers - Miss Rosie Davies, Mrs. Payne (Vicarage), Mrs. H. Thomas, the vicar, and Mr. W. J. Payne. The special preacher in the evening was the Rev. D. T. Lewis, Trelewis.

St. Mary Hall A very interesting Children's Concert was held at the above Hall on Friday evening last the vicar presiding. The following contributed to a musical programme: Glanmor Kent, Jack Davies, David Cole, E. Lester, F. Williams, G. Price, G. Davies, J. Hiscox, C. Powell, H. Price, M. Gregory, B. Hiscox, D. Morris,. The winners of the singing competition were: F. Williams, Douglas Clark, and G. Kent. The evening concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "All Aboard," the following taking part: W. J. Payne, Rod. Jones, Eddie Davies, Goronwy Tyler, Vernon Payne, A. Llewellyn, Christie Tyler, Lena Rees, Ursula Harris.

Library The annual meeting of the library and institute was held last week, presided over by Mr. Samuel Lewis, chairman, supported by Messrs. W. J. Payne, Tom Jenkins, secretary, and Steve Ballard, treasurer. The chairman stated that the year had proved a very successful one. The institute was free from debt and there was a balance in the bank. They also possessed four of the finest billiard tables in the valley, and these were kept in excellent condition by the caretaker, Mr Evan Jones. Once more, over 2000 books had been taken out of the lending library. The auditors – Messrs. Dan James and Willie Morgan then gave their report. It is proposed, in the future, to consider the advisability of building a more suitable Institute. The officers were re-elected for the coming years. The committee is Messrs. E. J. Williams, C. Edwards, G. Price, T. Baldwin, David Isaac Evans, J. H. Evans, P. Gwynne, T. Shankland, W. Morgan, R. Clarke, T. Lewis, William Griffiths, S. Jenkins & the Rev. J. C. Payne. Mr. David Isaac Evans was re-elected librarian.

**“Merthyr Express” 25 January 1930**

Hospital Mrs. Fred Prosser, Mrs. D. T. Davies, and Master Ronald Walters are patients at Merthyr General Hospital.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday.

Obituary We have to record the death of David D. Davies, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Evan H. Davies, Hill-row, Pentwyn. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Pentwyn Churchyard.

Obituary The death of Mr. Rees Morgan Davies, brother of the late Mr. David Davies (Pencerdd Morganwg), and the late Mr. Samuel Davies, headmaster of Brithdir Schools, took place at Bridgend, where he had been for several months.

St. Mary Hall The Children's Concert was held on Friday presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. The following contributed to a musical programme: Mr. A. Llewellyn, David Howells, Willie Walters, Evan Lewis, Ronald Price, William J. Jones, Freddie Williams, Douglas Clark, R. Price, Albert G. Burrows, Cyril Lewis, Alfred Davies, David Rees Jones, Ernest Lester, D. C. Jones and F. Jones, Gordon Price, Geraint Davies, Harry Evans, Phyllis Barlow, Gwennie Lewis, Doris Edwards, Lilian Cole, Monica Williams, Ieuan Davies, Margaret Rowlands, and Marion Gregory. The whole concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "The Unwelcome Guest."

Obituary The sudden death of Merfina, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Davies, 1, Railway-terrace, is deeply regretted. She was a member of Carmel Sunday School. The funeral took place at Pant Cemetery. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. Richard Evans, the vicar also being present. The bearers were her co-scholars from the Fochriw Council School. The chief mourners were: Messrs. W. A. Davies (father); Richard Evans, Elias Davies (grandfathers); John Davies, Burkley Davies, James Jones, David J. Davies (uncles). Also present, were a large number of great uncles and cousins.

Golden Wedding Mr. and Mrs. Rees Rees, Guest-street, celebrated their golden wedding last Friday, surrounded by some of their children and a host of well-wishers. Mr. and Mrs. Rees are well-known and highly respected in the neighbourhood. Mr. Rees was born in Aberdare 70 years ago, whilst Mrs. Rees was born in Fochriw also 70 years ago. They were married at Merthyr, and have spent the greater part of their lives at Fochriw, with the exception of seventeen years in Australia. They have ten children - seven sons and three daughters. Two sons are in Australia and one in America. They have twenty grand children. Mr. and Mrs. Rees are members of Carmel Congregational Chapel. Mr. Rees is a keen follower of cricket, and a number of his sons are excellent cricketers. Their youngest son, Bob, is a cornet player, and has played solo cornet for several prize bands, including Fochriw, Rhymney and Dowlais. Mr. and Mrs. Rees were the recipients of shoals of good wishes from their many friends. All join in wishing them many further years of wedded bliss.

**“Merthyr Express” 1 February 1930**

Personal Congratulations to Miss Mona Ballard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ballard, Moore's-row, who was successful in passing the Intermediate examination for pianoforte playing, London College of Music.

Public Meeting A public meeting was held at the Old Library on Tuesday evening, addressed by a County Councillor W. H. Hopkins. As he has done on previous occasions, he dealt with many important points in connection with the work of the County Council.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday. The following contributed to the programme: readings, "The Meaning of Philosophy," by Brother David Jones; "Helpfulness," by Brother Samuel Lewis; "The Aged Christian in Heaven," by Brother Payne.

Obituary Mr. William Lewis, Pontlottyn, (late of Fochriw), has passed away after a painful illness, at the age of 59 years. The funeral was a very representative one. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the vicar of Pontlottyn, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to St. Mary's Church, Fochriw, where the vicar of Fochriw and Deri conducted the service. Afterwards the cortege proceeded to the old churchyard of St. Andrews, Pentwyn, where he was laid to rest beneath the shadows of the Old Church, where he had so faithfully laboured as a lay preacher and Sunday School Superintendent for many years. The chief mourners were: Messrs. John Lewis, David Lewis, George Lewis (brothers); Lewis Evans (son-in-law); T. Baldwin, Richard Jenkins, Jenkin Jenkins, Philip Jenkins, Teddy Jenkins (brothers-in-law); George Baldwin, Billy Price, George Lewis, Bryn Lewis, Dan Powell, Ritchie Powell (nephews); Thomas Thomas, Lewis Janes, Edward James, John L. Janes, Ernest Jones, Willie Jones, Kenneth Jones, Windsor Lewis (cousins).

#### **"Merthyr Express" 8 February 1930**

Funeral On Monday, the funeral took place of Mr. Watkin Williams, Hill-row, Pentwyn, at the age of 54 years. He had been associated with the Dramatic Society, and had played prominent parts in several dramas. The service was conducted at the house by the Rev. J. C. Payne. At the graveside, the R.A.O.B. service was conducted by the Rev. Payne, chaplain of the Order. The chief mourners were: William T. Williams (son); J. Pullen (son-in-law); John, William, and David Pullen (grandsons); J. Williams, B. Williams, and D. Williams (brothers); Watkin Williams (uncle); D.J., T., and Gwilym Llewellyn (brothers-in-law); J.L., William, J., H., I., and George Williams, J., A., and W.J. Llewellyn (cousins).

Drama St. Mary's Dramatic Society scored another success on Thursday and Saturday when they produced the drama "The Lucky Horseshoe," under the supervision of Mr. W. J. Payne. The music was supplied by Mr. O. Richards and Mr. T. Horton. The chief characters were sustained by Messrs. J. Lawrence, D. Tyler, T. Jones, W. J. Payne, P. Gwynne, G. Williams, D. J. Williams, E. Davies, G. Tyler, A. Llewellyn, R. Jones, Miss L. Rees, Miss O. M. Payne, B. Watkins, G. Lawrence, W. Rees, Edward G. Price, George Baldwin. The stage-managers were Charles Hollister and Charles Payne. Lighting effects: W. J. Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 15 February 1930**

Hospital On Thursday at the Old Library, a representative gathering met to commence the effort in aid of hospital funds.

I.O.G.T. Gramophone selections were played by Sister B. Ballard.

St. Mary's Hall The usual children's concert was held presided over by the vicar. The following contributed to a musical programme: D. Howells, G. Davies, R. Price, D. Cole, G. Price, E. Lester, W. J. Jones, A. Price, I. Davies, J. Davies, T. Rowlands, D. Edwards, M. Edwards, M. Gregory, B. Morris, G. Lewis. The winner of the singing competition was Gwennie Lewis. The accompanists were Messrs. Eddie Davies and Walter Howells.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 22 February 1930**

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the lodge, Sister Ballard was responsible for the programme

Obituary We regret to record the death of one of the Fochriw's oldest inhabitants in the person of the Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 7, Glyn-terrace, who passed away on Wednesday, in her 84<sup>th</sup> years. Her husband died 32 years ago.

Memorial Service At the Parish Church on Sunday evening, a service in memory of Mr. W. Williams, Pentwyn, was held. Special hymns were sung, under the conductorship of Mr. Berkley Angell, and the organist, Mr. Octavius Richards, played the "Dead March" in "Saul."

Hospital Splendid progress is being made with the ward effort in aid of the Merthyr General Hospital. A number of ladies are busy disposing of stop-watch tickets. The following are the officials: chairman, Mrs. Howell Thomas; treasurer, Mrs. S. J. Jones; secretary, Mrs. W. J. Payne. Fochriw people are greatly indebted to the hospital, where so many local people are patients all the year round.

Children's Concert Held at St. Mary Hall on Friday, presided over by the Vicar. The following contributed: Jackie Davies, Tudor Rowlands, Douglas Clark, Jackie Evans, Robert Watkins, H. Price, David Howells, Ronald Payne, David Rees Jones, Gordon Price, D. Jones, Betty Edwards, Margaret Watkins, Lilian Cole, Monica Williams, Gwen Lewis, Marion Gregory, P. Barlow, R. Angell. The evening concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "Muldoon's Picnic," the following taking part: Miss Helena Rees, Messrs. D. J. Williams, R. Jones, G. Tyler, E. Davies, V. Payne, E. G. Price, C. Tyler.

Pits Idle Both the Ogilvie and Groesfaen Pits were idle once again on Wednesday.

### **"Merthyr Express" 1 March 1930**

Funeral: Mrs. Margaret Lewis, Glyn-terrace, aged 83 The funeral of the late Mrs. Margaret Lewis took place on Saturday amidst manifestations of sorrow. After a short service at the house, the solemn cortege wended its way to Pant Cemetery for interment, the Rev. David Jones officiating. The chief mourners were: Mr. David Phillips, Mr. Sam Lewis (sons-in-law); Messrs. Joseph Jones, Thomas Edwards, Charles Edwards, William H. Edwards, Charlie Edwards, and Lewis Edwards (nephews).

St. Mary's Hall The weekly children's concert took place at the Hall, presided over by the vicar. The following contributed to a musical programme. D. Howells, David Cecil Jones, Tudor Davies, Gordon Price, David Rees Jones, Jack Davies, Tudor Rowlands, David John Williams, Goronwy Tyler, Godfrey Wood, Douglas Clark, Stuart Davies, Leslie Payne, Mary Lewis, Mair Evans, Margaret Edwards, Betty Edwards. The whole concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "Who Died First" played by Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. Rod Jones, Mr. Eddie Davies, and Mr. G. Tyler.

Memorial Service On Sunday evening at Nazareth Chapel, a most impressive service was conducted by the Rev. Richard Evans, in memory of the late Mr. Thomas Roberts, who had been a faithful deacon and treasurer for about 30 years, and whose death has been such a loss to the chapel and neighbourhood in general. Always ready to stand up for his religion, his wise counsel had proved a tower of strength in the Church he served so faithfully. Rev. Evans made touching references to his excellent quality. Suitable hymns were sung under the conductorship of Mr. William Morris. Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was at the organ. All join in tendering sympathy to the bereaved.

Obituary: Mrs. Jane Davies, Brynteg, aged 89 There was laid to rest on Monday, amidst signs of deep sorrow, Fochriw's oldest inhabitant, in the person of Mrs. Jane Davies, wife of Mr. Richard Davis, Brynteg, in her 90th years. Deceased was always of a genial countenance, and will be sadly missed. To the sorrowing husband and family sympathy is extended. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard, the Rev. J. R. Salmon officiating. The chief mourners were: Mr. Richard Davies (husband); Mr. Walter Jones (son-in-law); Richard Jones, Lewis Jones, Glanville Jones (grandsons); James Davies, W. A. Davies, and Edward Davies.

Obituary The sudden death of Mostyn Powell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bryn Powell, (manager of the Co-operative Stores), took place on Tuesday morning. Great sympathy is extended to the sorrowing parents.

Drama On Saturday evening at the Church Hall, a most enjoyable time was spent by the members of the St. Mary's Dramatic Society. Their latest triumph was the production of

the fine drama "The Lucky Horseshoe," to crowded audiences. After the drama, the evening was devoted to singing and dancing, the music being supplied by Mr. Octavius Richards at the piano, and Mr. Tom Horton at the violin. The programme provided a musical treat, the following contributing: Lena Rees, Olive Payne, J. Lawrence, Tom Jones, W. J. Payne, Charles Hollister, D. J. Williams, Rod Jones, G. Tyler, George Williams, D. Tyler, E. G. Price. The tray-holders were Mrs. W. J. Payne, Mrs. Gwynne, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Tyler. The evening was brought to a close by all joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Pits Idle Both pits were idle on Wednesdays.

Noddfa Chapel Special services were held on Sunday, when edifying sermons were preached by Mrs. Glyn Rees, Penydarren. The singing was conducted by Mr. Thomas Evans, and Miss Hilda Phillips presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting was presided over by the chief Templar. The following contributed to the programme: Sister N. Evans, Brothers Walters and B. Davies.

St. Mary's The pulpit was occupied on Sunday by the Vicar who made touching references to the late Mr. Wm. Lewis who was for many years a lay reader. The "Dead March" was played at the close of the service.

### **"Merthyr Express" 8 March 1930**

An Opportunity that only comes once a year is now being offered to the public by Messrs. H. W. Southey & Sons who are selling off their stock of China, Metal Frames, Leather and Fancy Goods, at 25% off marked prices. Sale now proceeding.

Obituary We record the death of Miss Bronwen Francis, Pit-row, after a painful illness. Sympathy is extended to the bereaved.

Omission Rev. J. R. Salmon was omitted in the report of the funeral of the late Mrs. Margaret Lewis at which he officiated.

Broadcasting His fellow townsmen were delighted on Saturday night to hear Mr. Claerwen Davies broadcasting from Cardiff.

Nazareth Chapel St. David's Day was observed by members on Saturday. The tables were presided over by the following: Mesdames S. Slimmonds, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Pugh. The chairman was Mr. W. A. Jones and Mr. W. A. Davies was at the organ.

N.S.P.C.C. A meeting in connection with the above was held at the Old Reading Room on Wednesday evening last, when Mr. Simon Lewis presided. Mr. F. T. Groves of the Central Office, gave an interesting address on the aims of the society, and the work done by it locally and nationally during the past years. The local committee was formed two years ago.

Carmel Chapel Nos Gwyl Dewi was celebrated at the Chapel under the chairmanship of the Mr. David Lewis. The following items were produced: "Caneuon Gwerin," by the young and old members; a drama by the young people of the chapel "Unawdau Cymraeg;" and Welsh recitations. The producer was Mr. Syl Jenkins, and the following were the characters: Misses S. Jones, Maggie E. Thomas, Mona Ballard, Teg Evans, Rita Cole, Messrs. M. Shankland, Emrys Davies, John G. Lewis, Tudor Davies, and Vernon Davies.

Noddfa Vestry An enjoyable evening was spent at the above vestry on St. David's night. A fine programme of songs and recitations was contributed to by Misses Katie Thomas, Gwenfil Harris, Winnie Evans, Kathleen Williams, Edna E. Jones, Phyllis Davies, B. Gregory, Iris Evans, Messrs John Rees Walters, Syl Jenkins, David George Parry, Joshua Thomas, and Thomas J. Jones. The accompanists were Miss Hilda Phillips and Mr. Joshua Thomas. The chairman was Mr. Jenkin Thomas, and the adjudicator was ex-Sergeant Williams.

Confirmation At the Parish Church on Tuesday, the Lord Bishop of Llandaff administered the rite of confirmation, when about 50 were confirmed. The choirs of Fochriw and Deri were present, under the conductorship of Mr. Berkley Angell, and Mr. Sydney Williams. Mr. O. Richards was at the organ.

Concert At the Church Hall on Friday, the Vicar presided over a children's entertainment. The following took part: Mary Lewis, Iris Jones, Betty Edwards, D. J.

Williams, G. Tyler, David Howells, David Cole, G. Cumpstone, G. Wood, H. Evans, R. Price, and Doris Morgan. The accompanist was Mr. Eddie Davies. The evening concluded with a sketch - "Black Justice," - the following members of the Dramatic Society taking part: W. J. Payne, D. J. Williams, Rod Jones, Eddie Davies, C. Tyler, J. Tyler.

Pankake Social On Monday at the Church Hall, the annual whist drive and dance in connection with the Mothers' Union was held. The M.C. for whist was Mr. C. Ballard, and for dancing Mr. T Howell Jones. Music was supplied by Mr. Octavius Richards, piano, and Mr. Tom Horton, violin. The winners of the whist were: Ladies: 1. Mrs. Howells, 2. Mrs. Payne; Gents: 1. Mr. David Way, 2. Mr. Tom Horton. Splendid service was rendered by Mr. W. J. Davies and Mr. Frank Way.

Funeral Amidst signs of deep sorrow, Master Mostyn Powell was laid to rest on Saturday, at Pant Cemetery. Deceased was a bright, intelligent boy, and his sudden death came as a shock to a wide circle of friends. A short service was held at the house, conducted by the Vicar, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Pant for interment. A large crowd awaited the cortege on its arrival at Pant. The Vicar again officiated. The chief mourners were: Mr. Bryn Powell, father; Ceiriog Powell, brother; Messrs. E. R. Powell, D. Lewis, grandfathers; E Powell, B. Jones, R. Davies, J. Bratter, A. Lewis, E. Lewis, W. H. Williams, T. Phillips, G. Evans, C. Lewis, J. H. Jones, uncles; Master G. Jones, cousin.

Noddfa Chapel It was a red letter day at Noddfa Welsh Baptist Chapel on Sunday, when ex-Sergeant H. Williams gave the history of the founding of the chapel fifty-five years ago. Several families of the Baptist persuasion had moved to Fochriw in 1874, and at that time there was no place at Fochriw where the Baptists could worship. The nearest place of worship was Brithdir, Penybank, which was about two miles away. They decided to approach the brethren at Brithdir, Dowlais and Rhymney to have a place erected at Fochriw, and it was decided to build a small chapel at a cost of £222. It was opened at the commencement of 1875, the founders being the late Mr. Thomas Bevan, manager of the Fochriw collieries, and father of the present Mr. J. Bevan, M.E.; Mr. Thomas Evans, of Penydarren; Mr. David Thomas, Dowlais; Mr. Thomas Walters and Mr. William Edwards, Rhymney; and Mr. Thomas Evans, Moriah, Dowlais. The secretary was Mr. Thomas Evans, Penydarren, and the treasurer Mr. Thomas Bevan. The little Church prospered, and it soon had a membership of 50. In 1896 they had to build a more, commodious place which cost £440, and again in 1903 they had to rebuild Chapel as it now stands, at a cost of £1,800. Although the founders have passed to the Beyond to receive their crown, the present Church is a fine memorial to their initiatives. The Church has collected for all purposes, from 1875 to 1929, the sum of £8,700.

Railway Trespass William Morgan, aged 22, labourer, Fochriw, did not appear to answer a summons for trespassing on the G.W.R. P.C. Sansom gave evidence and a fine of 5/- was imposed.

### **"Merthyr Express" 15 March 1930**

Lecture At Nazareth Chapel on Monday, a lecture was given by the Rev. Dr. D. M. Phillips, Tylorstown, entitled "The Crown of Creation." The chairman was the Rev. Richard Evans. A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by the Rev. J. C. Payne, seconded by Mr. Moses Williams. Ex-Sergeant Henry Williams and Mr. David Davies also spoke.

Scholastic The many friends of Mr. P. J. Isaac, headmaster of Fochriw Schools, will be pleased to hear of his appointment to the headship of Pontlottyn Boys' School in succession to Mr. D. W. Jones. Mr. Isaac has resided in Fochriw for the last 10 years, and has won the admiration of all. He is a deacon of Nazareth Chapel, and all join in wishing him, Mrs. Isaac and family, a very happy time at Pontlottyn.

Obituary On Saturday last, Miss Bronwen Francis, Pit-row, aged 51, was laid to rest. Miss Francis was well-known and highly respected in the village. The Rev. J. R. Salmon, Pontlottyn and Rev. Williams, Abertysswg, officiated. The chief mourners were: Mr. Thomas Francis (brother); Mr. Wilfred Hollister (nephew); Masters T. H. Evans, Vincent

Hollister; Messrs. D. Rowlands, Charles Hollister (brothers-in-law); John Francis, Richard Evans, David Evans, David Jones, Willie Evans, H. Watkins, Leyshon Rowlands, Tom Rowlands, Danny Rowlands, John Rowlands, Lewis Evans, Willie Davies, W. A. Davies (nephews) Tudor Griffiths, David Francis Edwards, H. Roberts, Willie Garbett, John H. Edmunds, Caradog Jenkins, Johnny Jarman, Willie Jones, Henry Jones (cousins).

**“Merthyr Express” 22 March 1930**

Hospital The many friends of Mr. Ieuan Griffiths will regret to know that he is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital, and wish his speedy recovery.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, the programme for the evening was "Unpunctuated Readings." Sister C. Ballard was responsible.

**“Merthyr Express” 29 March 1930**

Hospital Mr. William Jones, Pit-row, is in hospital at Merthyr, and friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Pits Idle Both pits of Ogilvie and Groesfaen were again idle over the weekend owing to a shortage of wagons.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Thursday. The brothers and sisters gave their different opinions of the order of the lodge, and the very interesting time was spent.

Mothers' Union Special services were conducted on Tuesday with the Mother's Union, and were well attended.

Male Voice The Male Voice Party is again busy getting ready to enter the competitive arena. The annual trip to Llangynider is eagerly looked forward to. The party is now conducted by Mr. Thomas Walters, and the accompanists are Messrs. James Thomas and Wyndham Lawrence. The energetic secretary is Mr. James Gregory, the treasurer, Mr. John Phillips, the chairman, Mr. W. J. Payne, and the vice chairman, Mr. John Lloyd Jones.

Concert On Thursday, under the auspices of the Fochriw Male Voice Party, Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a crowded audience at the Old Library, and a first class concert and go-as-you-please competition was held. The adjudicators were Messrs. John Lloyd Jones and Griffith Jones, who had a very difficult task to perform. The singing and reciting reached a very high standard. The winners of the competitions were Messrs. W. Haydn Davies, Meirion Shankland and W. J. Payne. The programme was contributed to by the following artistes: Messrs. Thomas Walters, David J. Davies, Jack Lawrence; duet, W. H. Davies and M. Shankland; Connie Edwards, W. Haydn Davies, Crad Shankland, Gomer Evans, James Gregory, Mr. Griff Jones, Mr. Tom Lewis, T. J. Evans. The accompanists were Messrs. Thomas Walters and James Thomas.

Hospital As a result of the local effort for the Merthyr General Hospital, over £10 will be handed over to that noble institution as proceeds of the stop-watch competition. The committee desire to thank all who worked so hard in the sale of tickets, and also, those who bought. The stop-watch was wound unseen by the Vicar, and opened, in the presence of the committee, by Police Sergeant William Howells. The winner will be informed, as stipulated, by post. The following were the sellers: Mrs. Tom, Evans, Mrs. David Evans, Mrs. Howell Jones, Mrs. James Gregory, Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Alice Mills, Miss Doris Davies, Mrs. S. J. Jones, Mrs. W. J. Payne, Miss Maggie H. Williams, Miss Gladys Mills, Mrs. Tom Walters.

**“Merthyr Express” 5 April 1930**

Full Mission Hall Special services were held at the Mission Hall on Saturday and Sunday last, when edifying sermons and lectures were given by Mr. and Mrs. Vale on the ways and habits of the people of the Congo.

Personal Miss Annie Griffiths, the brilliant soprano, scored a decided success in the opera "The Bandolero," in aid of the Rhymney Cottage Hospital. She possesses an excellent voice, and an easy grace of manner and deportment, which won her rounds of applause.



I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held at Carmel vestry on Thursday evening last, the chief Templar presiding. The evening was set apart for "Legends," Sister C. Ballard being responsible. Sister Ballard read very interesting English and Welsh legends.

Playing Field An enthusiastic meeting was held at the Library on Thursday, presided over by Mr. E. M. Davis. Mr. W. Angell Davies was appointed secretary in place of Mr. Raymond Clark, who has left the district. A letter was received from the owners of the land, offering a large piece of ground at a very cheap price. This was well received by the members, and ways and means were discussed to provide the village with a suitable playing area. It is sincerely hoped that all will give their united support, so that old and young can have a happy time.

Presentation A very interesting presentation was held at Fochriw School on Friday last, when Miss Davies, headmistress of the Infants' School, was presented with a beautiful mahogany Westminster chime-clock by Miss Thomas on behalf of the staff. Miss Davies has been appointed headmistress of Pontllytyn Infants' School. She has been at the Infant School for ten years.

Presentation Mr. J. P. Isaac, headmaster of Fochriw Council School, was the recipient of a handsome barometer, given by the staff of the school as a token of respect, and to mark the occasion of his departure to become headmaster of Pontllytyn Boys' School. Mr. Isaacs has had charge of Fochriw School for the last 10 years, and by his faithful attendance to his duties has won the respect of all, and his departure will be keenly felt. The presentation was made by Miss John on behalf of the staff.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 12 April 1930**

Pits Idle Both pits were idle on Saturday and Monday.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, the programme was "Ode Practice," Bro. T. Walters being responsible.

Obituary It is our duty to record the sad death of Miss Eva Evans, the Junction, at the early age of 18 years. To the bereaved family, sympathy is extended.

Hospital Next Friday and Saturday, the inhabitants of the village will have an opportunity to show their appreciation of the Merthyr General Hospital, when ladies will be busy selling forget-me-nots.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 19 April 1930**

I.O.G.T. The Star of Fochriw Lodge on Tuesday evening was presided over by the chief Templar. The following contributed to the programme: pianoforte solo, Bro. Walters; solos, Bros. H. Davies, B. Rees, Sister B. Ballard; violin solos, Sister Mary Morgan; recitation, Bro. Walters; story, Br. S. Lewis; duet, Sisters C. & B. Ballard.

Nazareth Chapel A social and concert took place at the chapel on Monday, and was presided over by Mr. Wm. Morris, with Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., at the organ. The following contributed to a musical programme: Mrs. Mattie Lewis, Miss Mary Morgan, Messrs. Willie Adams Jones, Meirion Shankland, William Morgan, Berkley Davies, Willie A. Davies, Willie A. Jones, Misses Adelaide Lawrence, Eiluned Lawrence, Doris Davies, and A. Davies

Obituary The funeral of the late Miss Eva Evans, Junction House, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Evans, took place on Monday. Deceased was only 18 years of age. A service was held at St. Mary's Church conducted by the vicar, and afterwards, the solemn cortege proceeded to Cefn Cemetery for interment, the vicar again officiating.

Drama Carmel Dramatic Society scored a decided success on Thursday and Saturday last, when they produced the Welsh comedy "John a Jams" (Brinley Jones). The chief characters were played by the following: Mr. David Lewis, Mrs. May Davies, Mr. Willie Morgan, Mr. W. Angell Davies, Mr. Willie Angell, Miss B. Ballard, Mr. Daniel Jenkins, Miss Nesta Evans. The producer was Mr. David Lewis, and the stage manager Mr. Tom Lewis. The secretary was Miss S. Jones.

Forget-Me-Not Another effort towards the fete in connection with the Merthyr General Hospital was made in the village on Friday, and a goodly sum was realised. The following ladies disposed of the flowers: Misses Rosie Davies, Maggie Thomas, Phillips,

Edna Morgan, Olwen Morgan, Lizzie Watkins, Lilian Way, Iris Edwards, Olive Payne, Margaret Harris, Maggie Williams, Doreen Weeks, Jessie Thomas, Nesta Evans, Gladys Lewis, Gwenda Thomas, Mwynwen Jones, Ceinwen Thomas.

**“Merthyr Express” 26 April 1930**

Obituary A well-known and highly respected inhabitant of the village was laid to rest at Pentwyn Churchyard on Thursday in the person of Mrs. Margaret Morgan, Abertysswg. The family had formerly resided in the village.

Noddfa Chapel Special services were held on Sunday last, and were well attended. Inspiring sermons were delivered by Principal T. Phillips, Cardiff. The singing was conducted by Mr. Thomas Evans, with Miss Hilda Phillips of the organist.

St. Mary's Impressive services were conducted on Good Friday, and again on Easter Day, when the Church had been nicely decorated with a profusion of spring flowers. The attendances at the early celebrations were very large. Mr. Berkley Angell conducted the singing and Mr. Octavius Richards was the organist. The celebrant and preacher throughout was the vicar.

Drama Noddfa Dramatic Society delighted large audiences on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, when they produced the drama "The Crash." The characters were played by Mr. T. J. Jones, Mr. J. R. Walters, Mr. D. G. Parry, Mr. D. J. Thomas, Mr. R. Jones, Mr. B. J. Thomas, Mrs. E. Phillips, Miss R. Parry, Miss Phyllis Williams, Miss Marjorie Lewis. Miss Hilda Phillips was the producer, and the musical accompanists were Mr. Octavius Richards and Mr. T. J. Horton, Pengam. The stage managers were Mr. Tom Thomas and Mr. R. Thomas, the secretary was Mr. Jenkin Thomas, and Mr. A. Morris was the stage attendant.

Wedding: Morgan-Beddoe The marriage took place at Nazareth chapel on Saturday of Mr. Thomas John Morgan, Plantation-terrace, and Miss Lilian Beddoe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Beddoe, Pontlottyn. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of beige georgette, with shoes and hat to match. The bridesmaids were Miss M. Beddoe, the bride's sister and Miss Mary Morgan, sister of the bridegroom. They wore dresses of powder-blue, with hats to match. Miss Mair Morgan, cousin of the bridegroom, wore a peach dress. Messrs. J. Morgan, H. Beddoe, W. Morgan and H. Harris were present at the wedding. The Rev. J. R. Salmon officiated. The happy pair were the recipients of many useful presents. The honeymoon is being spent at Port Talbot.

The Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes A most enjoyable evening was spent at the lodge room, Mount Pleasant Inn on Saturday evening by the brothers of the Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth Lodge, when a large numbers sat down to an excellent supper, prepared by the genial host, Mr. Llewellyn D. Jones. Afterwards, a first class concert was given. The chair was occupied by Mr. P. Mantle, K.O.M.. The duties of vice-chairman were carried out by Mr. John Phillips. The following were the artistes for the evening: pianist, Mr. David J Davies; Messrs. H. Davies, L. Small, Wm. Pope, H. Barnard, C. Tyler, R. Jones, D. Llewellyn, E. Thomas, J. Jones, W. M. Davies, J. Harrington, T. Jones. The singing of the Welsh National Anthem by Mr. D. J. Davies brought a pleasant evening to a close.

**“Merthyr Express” 3 May 1930**

Hospital The following are patients at Merthyr General Hospital: Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. J. Pullen, Mrs. Harding, Mr. I. Griffiths, Mr. Ernest Prosser. Also at Gellygaer Hospital are the children of Mr. W. Way, Mr. S. Jones and Mr. B. Prize. Their many friends wish them a speedy recovery.

New Headmaster: Mr. Thomas Jones The appointment of Mr. Thomas Jones to the headship of the Fochriw Mixed School in succession to Mr. J. P. Isaac was received with great satisfaction. He has laboured faithfully for years, and his excellent qualities of well-known.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the International Order of Good Templars was held at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday, when Brother Davies presided. The programme was a recitation competition, and the following took part: Sisters Beryl Ballard, Nesta Evans, Bessie Ballard, Mary Morgan, Brothers B. Rees, W. Davies.

Brother Sam Lewis was the adjudicator. Sister Bessie Ballard was the winner, and was invested by Brothers Charles Payne. A vote of thanks was accorded Sister C. Ballard for organising the programme.

Concert A first class concert was held at Noddfa vestry on Thursday under the auspices of the Fochriw Male Voice Party. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. J. Payne. The following artistes took part: Mr. Thomas Walters, Mr. James Thomas, Mr. Haydn Davies, Mr. Griff Jones, Mr. Berkley Davies, Mr. Dan James, Mr. Meirion Shankland, Mr. Crad Shankland, and Mr. R. J. Price. During the evening a go-as-you-please competition was held, which revealed some splendid talents. "The Gallant Twelve," conducted by Mr. David John Davies, sent the large audience into roars of laughter. The adjudicator, Mr. Thomas Walters, complimented the competitors on the excellent standard. He awarded first prize to "The Gallant Twelve," and the second prize to Mr. Haydn Davies. During the evening, the Party rendered selections under their conductor Mr. Thomas Walters. Mr. James Thomas was the accompanist. The energetic secretary is Mr. James Gregory.

Funeral: Mr. Edward Morgan, Glen-view, Pentwyn, aged 77 A highly-respected inhabitant of the village was laid to rest at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday in the person of Mr. Edward Morgan, Glen-view, Pentwyn, at the age of 77 years. Deceased had spent most of his life in the village, and will be missed by a large circle of friends. He had been an official for a number of the years at the Fochriw Collieries, where he was held in high esteem. The funeral was a very large and representative one, including a large number of brethren of the R.A.O.B., of which deceased was a member. A short service held a house, conducted by the Vicar, Rev. J. C. Payne, after which the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn. At the graveside, the R.A.O.B. service was conducted by the chaplain, the Rev. J. C. Payne. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Thomas J. Morgan, Habacuc Morgan (sons); Habacuc Morgan (brother); Benjamin Evans, James Williams, Caradoc Ballard (sons-in-law); Edward M. Jones, Thomas Jones, Roderick Jones, Edward J. Morgan, Alfred Morgan, Wm. T. Morgan, Edward M. Evans, Iorwerth Williams, Glanmor Williams, Habacuc Ballard, John I. Morgan, Ivor Morgan, Aneuryn Morgan, George Mantle, John Jones, Wm. J. Jones, Wm. Gibbons (grandchildren); Edward Lewis, David Griffiths, Evan M. Davies, John Jones (brothers in-law); Richard Thomas, John Jones (great grandsons); Wm. John Jones, Emrys Lewis, John Walters, Edward Davies, Wm. Davies, David Meredith, George Davies, William M. Davies, William Lewis, Edward Morgan, Wm. Morgan, Thomas Davies (nephews).

Appointment Miss Florrie Cole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Cole, Upland Stores, has been appointed school nurse under the Glamorgan County Council. She has a very wide experience in the nursing world.

White Horse Outing Club A large number of members of the White Horse Outing Club journeyed to London on Saturday morning, and returned on Sunday morning after a jolly time.

Omission The name of Miss Katie Beddoe, who presided at the organ of her sister's wedding at Nazareth Chapel recently, was omitted.

### **"Merthyr Express" 10 May 1930**

Mothers' Union A special service in connection with the Mothers' Union was held St. Mary's on Tuesday evening. Several new members were enrolled. An address was given by Mrs. Jukes, Senghenydd.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, when Sister Beryl Ballard, chief templar, presided. Sister Bessie Ballard was responsible for the programme, and read a paper on "Nature."

Obituary: Mr. Richard Bell Mr. Richard Bell, former Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, and M.P. for Derby from 1900-1910, passed away last week. His memory will live long, and his great deeds of kindness will never be forgotten. He was one of the originators of getting Fochriw adopted by Southgate, and was instrumental in getting a large supply of clothing and money to the village.

Vestry At the Church Hall on Wednesday, the annual Easter vestry was held, when the Rev. J. C. Payne, vicar, presided, supported by the Rev. D. J. Griffiths, curate, Messrs. Charles Payne and W. J. Payne, churchwardens, and Mr. Walter Davies, Parochial secretary. The vicar stated that the past year had been a good one, despite the depression. He extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Griffiths. He reminded everyone of the list of things that required urgent attention that he had given a year ago. Much had been accomplished, including the re-roofing of the Parish Church, and St. Peter's Hall would be renovated in a week or so. Before the end of the summer, he hoped Pentwyn Church would be reconstructed. The roof of St. David's, Pantywaun, still required urgent attention. The statement of accounts was read by Mr. W. J. Payne. The Vicar re-appointed Mr. Charles Payne his warden, Coun. J. Edwards, his warden at St. Peter's, and Mr. Arthur Davies warden at St. David's. Mr. W. J. Payne was unanimously re-elected people's warden. The following were elected to the Parochial Council: Messrs. B. Angell, O. Richards, T. Baldwin, T. Jones, H. Thomas, W. Davies, J. Lawrence, F. Way, W. Davies, T. Jones, E. Jones, and T. D. Davies. The sidesman are: Messrs. M. Parry, F. Way, T. Baldwin, G. Evans, H. Thomas, C. Tyler, W. Davies, C. Ballard, C. Hollister, G. Mantle, J. Morris, W. Pope, E. Jones, S. Way, T. Jones, J. Lawrence, W. Davies, D. J. Williams, W. Morris, and Tom Jones. Mr. Walter Davies was appointed parochial secretary, and Miss Rosie Davies auditor. The Rev. D. J. Griffiths thanked all for the welcome extended him.

**“Merthyr Express” 17 May 1930**

Pontlottyn Court Joseph Williams, aged 56, of Fochriw, was summoned for obstructing the police on 6<sup>th</sup> April. P.C. Jones said he was keeping a party of card players under observation on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April. When he was approaching the "school," defendant shouted out twice, "Look out - Jones the policeman is coming," with the result that the card players got away. Defendant: "If you heard me when you were 80 yards away, you had very thin ears." Stipendiary: "You might not have realised that you were committing an offence, but you know now. You will have to pay four shillings costs."

Pontlottyn Court Thomas Lloyd Jones, aged 42, licensed victualler, of the Rising Sun, Fochriw, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquor for off consumption during prohibited hours. Benjamin Thomas, aged 49, collier, Fochriw, was charged with aiding and abetting. P.C. Sansom said that at 11.20p.m. on April 26<sup>th</sup>, he was on duty with Acting-Sergeant Howells near Fochriw Station. They saw Benjamin Prosser and E. Prosser leave the last train. First they went in the direction of their homes, but after going some distance they came back. A short time later, witness and the other officer were patrolling in the lane behind the inn. They went to the kitchen, where they saw the landlord, his wife, Thomas, Prosser, and another man partly employed at the house. When spoken to by the witness, the landlord said, "They have just come in, and I have asked them to go." When Benjamin Thomas stood up, witness saw the top of a bottle under his coat. Police Sergeant Howells took possession of the bottle, and found that it contained stout. The licensee said, "I have taken no money for it now; it was paid for before four o'clock." Defendant further said that he sometimes called in for a bottle of stout on his way home and paid for it earlier in the day. Thomas said he went to order the stout at half time, when he was listening to the broadcast of the Cup final. He rushed back home to hear the wireless again after paying for the stout. The Stipendiary: Why didn't you take it with you; there was no need to make two journeys. Defendant: I was excited over the match. A fine of 20 shillings in each case was imposed.

Pits Idle Both Ogilvie and Groesfaen Pits were idle on Saturday owing to a shortage of wagons.

Male Voice Party The Party is busy preparing for the eisteddfod at Llangynidr on Whit Monday.

I.O.G.T. The following contributed to the weekly programme of the lodge: Brothers B. Davies, Thomas Walters, Samuel Lewis, T. Jones, Charles Payne and W. Davies.

St. Mary's The pulpit was occupied on Sunday by the Vicar, when touching references were made to the late Mr. Edward Morgan, Pentwyn, and to the passing of Mr. Richard Bell, who cared so much for the village during the dark hours of distress. Mr. Octavius

Richards played the Dead March. Touching references were also made to Mr. Richard Bell, at Nazareth, Noddfa and Carmel churches.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 24 May 1930**

Obituary Quite a gloom was cast over the district on Monday night, when it was known that Mrs. Williams, wife of ex-Sergeant Williams, had passed away with the dramatic suddenness. She had attended her Chapel as usual on Sunday night. To the sorrowing family, heartfelt sympathy is extended.

Nazareth Chapel The half yearly meetings in connection with the chapel were held on Sunday, when the preacher was the Rev. Daniel Davies, Newport. The sermons were very edifying, and this singing was of a hearty nature, under the conductorship of Mr. William Morris. The organists were Messrs. W. Lawrence and Willie Angell Davies.

Whist Drive A very successful whist drive was held at the Old Library under the auspices of the local branch of the N.S.P.C.C. and was well attended. The M.C. was Mr. William Howells. Prize winners: Ladies: 1. Mrs. Syl. Jenkins, 2. Miss G. Parry; Gents: 1. Mr. Crad Thomas, 2. Mr. Bertie Cumpstone. The energetic secretary is Miss B. Ballard.

Wedding: Williams-Jenkins A pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Church on Saturday, the contracting parties being Mr. Walter Thomas Williams, Stoney Houses, Penybank, and Miss Elizabeth Ellen Jenkins, Chapel-row, Penybank. The bride looked very charming, and was given away by her brother, Mr. Peter Jenkins. The bridesmaid was Miss Gwenllian E. J. Davies, cousin of the bridegroom. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar. The happy couple were the recipients of many presents.

Wedding: Davies-Davies The wedding of Mr. Trevor Davies, Cilfrew, and Miss Gwyneth Vivia Davies, formerly of 5, Aelybryn, Fochriw, was solemnised at Seion Chapel, Seven Sisters, on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May. The bride was attended by Miss Gwladys Davies, sister of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Nesta Bell, her cousin. The bride was dressed in pale pink georgette, black hat inlaid with cream lace.

Playing Field On Friday evening, a meeting was held at the Old Library, in connection with the proposed playing field. The chairman, Mr. E. M. Davies, gave a brief outline of progress since the last meeting. It is proposed to lay out a football ground, cricket pitch, and tennis courts. The secretary, Mr. W. A. Davies, produced a draft agreement and ground plan. Mr. H. Williams and Sergeant Howells gave a report of the interview with Captain C. S. Mason, organiser of the Welfare Society, who had visited the site. The following have been added to the committee: Rev. J. C. Payne, Coun. A. T. Minhinnick, Messrs. Robert Slimmons, Sam Lewis, Tom Jones (headmaster), Llewellyn Jones.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 31 May 1930**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, when the adult Lodge entertained the Juvenile Lodge to tea. Afterwards, a miscellaneous concert was provided, presided over by Brother Sam Lewis. The following contributed: Sisters S. Lewis, N. Evans, C. Cole, M. Morgan, B. Ballard, C. Walters, Brothers T. Walters, W. Davies, D. Rees, D. Davies, C. Payne, and S. Lewis. Gramophone selections were given at intervals, and the most enjoyable evening was spent.

Funeral: Mrs. M. A. Williams, Brynderwen On Saturday last, at Pentwyn Churchyard, Mrs. Margaret Anne Williams, wife of ex-Sergeant H. Williams, (treasurer of the East Glamorgan Baptist Association), was laid to rest. Deceased had resided in the village for over 40 years. She had attended Noddfa Baptist chapel on Sunday evening, of which place of worship she was a devoted member and Christian worker. Shortly after reaching her home, she was taken ill. The end came peacefully on Monday evening. The profound respect and deep sympathy shown on every hand told how firmly and dearly she had established herself in the hearts of all. She was endowed with a personality that commanded attention and respect. She was never happier than when working for the cause of Christianity. Her passing leaves a gap in the Church, and especially in the home which she loved so dearly and where she was revered so devotedly. She leaves behind memories which will always be rich and fragrant, and which will help all who knew her to do the higher and better things. Left to mourn her are a devoted husband, daughter, three sons, as well as daughters-in-law. At the conclusion of the short service held at the

house, conducted by the Revs. Hughes (Rhondda), Morgan (Skewen), and Williams (Abernant), the coffin was borne from the house to the waiting hearse by members of the Glamorgan Police Division, who acted as bearers. The solemn cortege then wended its way to the Old Church on the hill, all blinds being drawn en route. The procession was headed by Inspectors Evans and Clinch, and twenty members of the Glamorgan Police Force, of which deceased's husband had been a member for over 30 years. The funeral was one of the largest and most representative that has left the village. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Henry Williams (husband); Messrs. Willie J. Williams, Henry Seaborne Williams, Gomer Williams (sons); William H. Williams (grandson); William Price (nephew), and Mr. Richards, Cardiff. At the graveside, the service was most impressive, striking testimonies being paid to deceased's beautiful character by the Rev. Esaiiah Williams, Cardigan (late minister of Noddfa), the Rev. J. Roberts (Abertysswg), Rev. Llew Morris (Pengam), Rev. Davies (Abercynon). Twelve other ministers, including the vicar of Fochriw, were also present. The hymn "Bydd myrdd o ryfeddodau" was sung. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. David Davies and Son.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 7 June 1930**

Hospital The many friends of Mr. Willie Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Evans, who is a patient in Merthyr General Hospital wish him for speedy recovery.

Concert At St. Mary's Church Hall, a tea and entertainment was held, presided over by the Vicar. The first part of the evening was devoted to games, with Mr. W. J. Payne in charge. Afterwards, tea was served. The tray-holders were: Mrs. Payne (Vicarage), Mrs. W. J. Payne, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Gwladys Mills, Miss Annie Mills, Mrs. H. Thomas, Mrs. M. A. Tyler, Miss Wynda Edwards, Miss O. M. Payne, Miss Ethel M. Wilton, Mrs. M. H. Jones. Splendid service was also given five Mr. Frank Way, Mr. Willie Davies, Mr. Tom Jones, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. G. Tyler, and Mr. H. Thomas. The musical programme was contributed to by: Gilmor Isaac, Willie Walters, David Howells, William J. Jones, D. J. Williams, Goronwy Tyler, Mary Lewis, Hannah Mantle, Catherine J. Williams, Mair Evans and Betty Edwards. The accompanist was Mr. Octavius Richards.

Presentation At Nazareth Chapel on Saturday evening, signal honour was paid to Mr. John Lawrence, who has held the position of Church secretary for the last 25 years, and still carries out the duties. His many friends and admirers showed their appreciation of these services by presenting him with a handsome bureau bearing the following inscription: "Presented to John Lawrence by Nazareth Calvinistic Methodist members, for 25 years service as secretary. May, 1930." Mr. Lawrence, whose name is a household word locally, comes of a noted family, his father (Mr. James Lawrence) having been a faithful deacon at Nazareth until his death some years ago. The happy gathering was presided over by the Rev. Richard Evans, who spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Lawrence's work on behalf of the Church. The presentation was made by Miss Katie Davies. Mr. Lawrence, who was received with cheers, said he was deeply grateful for the handsome gift. Mr. Willie Adams Jones, Mr. William Morris, Mr. Thomas Pugh, and Mr. Evan Jones also paid their tributes. A first-class musical programme was contributed to by Messrs. W. A. Davies, Tom Walters, William Morris, and Berkley Davies. The accompanists were Mr. Thomas Walters and Mr. Willie Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 14 June 1930**

Wedding: Gwynne-Walsh A pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Church on Monday, the contracting parties being Miss Myrtle W. B. Gwynne, second daughter of Mrs. Gwynne and the late Mr. W. Gwynne, Hill-row, Pentwyn, and Mr. David Walsh, Newport. The bride, who was charmingly attired, was attended by her sister, Mrs. Sybil Gwynne, and was given away by her brother, Mr. Alfred Gwynne. Mr. Percy Gwynne, Mr. George Mansfield, and several other family members were present. The wedding breakfast was taken at the home of the bride, and the happy couple were the recipients of many presents. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar and beautiful bouquets of flowers were left at the church after the ceremony.

Concert At Carmel Chapel on Sunday evening, a first class concert was given by the Fochriw Male Voice Party, assisted by eminent artistes. The chairman was Mr. W. J. Payne. The Party rendered the test piece for the Llangynidr Eisteddfod, "Tempest and Calm." Other items by the Party were: "The Jolly Roger," "Martyrs of the Arena," and "Llan Baglan." Solos were rendered by the Messrs. Haydn Davies, Griffith Jones, Meirion Shankland, Glyn Burrows, Thomas Walters, and Tom Lewis. The elocutionists were Mr. Morgrugyn Jones, Pontlottyn, and Master Willie Walters. The accompanists were Mr. Wyndham Lawrence and Mr. James Thomas.

Wedding: Lawrence-Lewis The marriage took place on Thursday on Nurse Elizabeth Lawrence, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Lawrence, Martin-street, and Mr. David W. Lewis, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lewis, Caeharris. The ceremony took place at Tabernacle, Merthyr, and was performed by the Rev. T Jones, Moriah, Dowlais. The bride wore a frock of brown lace over georgette, with hat and shoes to tone. The party returned to the bride's home, where a large number sat down to the wedding breakfast. The happy couple left later in the day for Mumbles, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bridesmaid travelled in a West of England tweed costume, with brown hat. They were the recipients of many valuable presents. Nurse Lawrence was nurse at Merthyr General Hospital for three years, before she took the post of staff nurse at Monmouth Hospital.

Male Voice Party Fochriw scored another brilliant success at their Llangynidr Eisteddfod on Monday, thus securing their third successive victory at this important eisteddfod. The choir competed under the conductorship of Mr. Thomas Walters. The test piece was "Tempest and Calm," (B. Gregory Evans). The composer, who was one of the adjudicators, said it was magnificent rendering, and the conductor's conception of the piece was a correct one, for which he and his party were highly complimented. The Party were given a hearty welcome on their return home. Fog signals heralded their approach to the station, and before dispersing they sang a chorus in the Square. The accompanists were Mr. Wyndham Lawrence and Mr. J. Thomas.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, a paper entitled "Civilisation in the Future" was read by Mr. J. P. Isaac, headteacher of Pontlottyn School. He was heartily thanked on a motion of Sister B. Ballard, seconded by Bro. S. Lewis.

Obituary On Friday, at Port Talbot, a well-known and highly respected former inhabitant of Fochriw, in the person of Mrs. Harries, was laid to rest the age of 83. She was the mother of the Rev. W. Ira Brown, vicar of Rishton, Blackburn, and Mrs. Ed. Roberts, Port Talbot, with whom she was residing. She was sister to Mr. Charles Payne.

Carmel Chapel On Saturday and Sunday, the annual meetings were held. The Rev. E. Cadfan Jones, Ebbw Vale, occupied the pulpit. Mr. Thomas Walters presided at the organ, and the singing was conducted by Mr. James J. Lewis.

Outing On Tuesday, members of the local churches journey to Barry Island. About 700 made the journey, and excellent train arrangements had been made by the station master, Mr. Walter Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 28 June 1930**

Obituary Mrs. Sarah Ballard, wife of Mr. Thomas Ballard, Morris-row, passed away on Tuesday morning after a very painful illness.

Hospital The many friends of Mrs. Rees Rees, Guest-street, and Mrs. E. J. Williams, Pentwyn, who are patients at Merthyr General Hospital, join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday, Brother Samuel Lewis presiding. The following contributed to a musical programme: Sisters Jones, Evans and Morgan, Brothers Lewis, Walters, Davies and Jones.

Carmel Chapel On Sunday, a devotional monthly meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Daniel Rowlands. Mr. Jenkin Pugh read a portion of scripture, and Nurse Ballard Davies gave a recitation. Solos were sung by Miss Annie Jones, and Mr. Thomas Walters, and Mr. Daniel James gave a recitation. The organists were Mr. Thomas Walters, and Miss Nesta Evans. The singing was conducted by Mr. James J. Lewis.

Pontlottyn Police Court Iorwerth Phillips, aged 17, a collier from Fochriw, was summoned for driving a motorcycle without a driving licence, and John P. Llewellyn aged 20, of Fochriw, was charged with aiding and abetting. P.C. Sedgewick said that on May 30<sup>th</sup>, he saw defendant drive the motorcycle in Deri. When witness asked for his driving licence, Williams produced one drawn out in the name of J. P. Llewellyn. Llewellyn, who was present, said he lent it to Williams to take particulars from it. They were each fined 10 shillings.

**“Merthyr Express” 5 July 1930**

Scholastic Amongst the honours list at the recent honours examination at Cardiff University is the name of Mr. Lewis Angell, son of Mr. W. J. Angell, and the late Mrs. Gwen Angell. He is an old pupil of the village school, and afterwards Lewis' School, Pengam.

Mothers' Union A special meeting of the Fochriw branch was held at St. Mary's on Tuesday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, Bro. S. Lewis presiding. Sisters C Jones, S J Jones, Brothers T. Walters and Payne contributed to the programme.

Cricket Fochriw Cricket Club travelled to Brecon by train on Saturday to fulfil their fixture with the Brecon Sports Club Second Eleven. Fochriw batted first, and compiled the splendid score of 162 for six. Brecon replied with 99 for 9 wickets.

Obituary On Saturday last, at Pentwyn Churchyard, Mrs. Sarah Ballard, Moore's-row, was laid to rest. There are seven daughters and a husband left to mourn their loss. Four of the daughters are engaged in the scholastic profession, and one in hospital nursing. The deceased was 57 years of age. The family are faithful members of Carmel Chapel, where the deceased will be sadly missed. A service at the house was conducted by the Vicar, and the Reverend J. R. Salmon, Pontlottyn, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Pentwyn, all blinds en route being drawn as a mark of respect to the deceased. At the graveside, the vicar and Rev. Salmon again officiated.

**“Merthyr Express” 12 July 1920**

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, Sister Beryl Ballard gave a reading.

Cricket Fochriw entertained New Tredegar on Saturday last, and a very interesting and keen match resulted in a win for Fochriw.

Ambulance The members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Superintendent John Morgan, journeyed to Troedyrhiw on Saturday for the annual inspection, and looked very smart.

Billiards The many friends of Mr. Tudor Jones, one of the late members of the local billiards team, and now engaged at the Valley of Rocks Hotel, Lynton, North Devon, will be pleased to know that he is still in brilliant form with the cue. At a recent billiards exhibition, his opponent was Mr. A. C. Williams, ex-champion of Birmingham and the Western Counties. Mr. Jones showed great form and won easily.

Summoned David Thomas (20), Bryn Jones (20) and Elwyn Jones (22), colliers, Fochriw, were summoned for trespassing on the G.W.R. at Fochriw. Police Constable Sansom said that on 28<sup>th</sup> May, he saw the defendants walking down the line towards Ogilvie Colliery, and when he spoke to them they said they were going to work. Defendants were fined five shillings each.

**“Merthyr Express” 19 July 1930**

Mothers' Union A large number of members journeyed to Llanishen on Wednesday, and took part in the Ruridecanal Conference.

I.O.G.T. The programme for the evening was "Ode Practice." Bro. T. Walters was responsible.

Appointment Mr. Evan Bryn Sibley, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. George Sibley, will be delighted to know that he has been appointed lecturer in Physical Education at Bangor Normal College.

**“Merthyr Express” 26 July 1930**

Hospital The many friends of Mrs. Gwennie Llewellyn and Masters John Davies, who are patients at Merthyr General Hospital, wish them a speedy recovery.



Mother's Union On Thursday morning last, members of the Mothers' Union and friends, journeyed to London, to the pageant at the Albert Hall. The early part of the day was given to sight seeing. All visited the pageant in the evening. Praise is due to Mr. Walter Davies, stationmaster, who made such excellent train arrangements. The party arrived home about 7:30a.m. on Friday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held at Carmel vestry on Tuesday evening, and was presided over by the chief Templar. Brother and Sister S. Lewis were responsible for the programme. All the officers were re-elected for the coming quarter.

Personal The numerous friends of Mrs. S. J. Evans, (grand-daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Williams, Pentwyn, one of the oldest pioneers of Carmel Chapel, and eldest sister of Mesdames A. Jones, Post Office, and J. M. Lawrence, Emlyn House), join in giving her a hearty welcome back to the "Old Country," after her absence of 30 years in the United States, where she has made her home. She emigrated from Clydach, Rhondda in 1900, to Dubois, Pennsylvania, where she reared a family of eight children who occupy prominent positions in the States. She is at present spending her time with her sisters at Fochriw, but later intends visiting her relations and friends in Swansea and the Rhondda Valleys.

Trespass Thomas James (63), Fochriw, was charged with trespassing on the G.W.R. Defendant was not present. A ganger employed by the railway company said that he saw the defendant crossover the fence and on to the line. There was a notice on the spot where the defendant crossed. Defendant was fined five shillings.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 2 August 1930**

Stop Trucks Owing to depression, the levels of G.K.N. Ltd at Fochriw were idle the latter part of last week, and the first few days of this week. Work resumed on Wednesday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting was held on Tuesday. Bros. T. Walters and W. A. Davies were responsible for the entertainment. The first part of the programme was the story of Mendelssohn, related by Bro. Walters, after which solos were rendered by Bro. W. A. Davies and B. Davies from Mendelssohn's "Elijah."

Presentation A very interesting presentation meeting was held at the Old Reading Room on Monday evening, under the auspices of the Fochriw Cricket Club, when Mr. Harold Harris, the former secretary of the club, was presented with a set of hair brushes in recognition of his faithful services. Mr. John Lloyd Jones presented the gift. P.C. Sanson was appointed chairman in succession to Mr. S. Jenkins who is leaving the district.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 9 August 1930**

Pals Outing Club The members of the Pals Outing Club journeyed at Blackpool on Friday for a week's holiday. This club, which has been in existence for a number of years, is very popular. The energetic secretary is Mr. Tom Idris Evans, with Mr. Willie Davies as treasurer.

British Legion On Monday at the Old Library, a meeting of the local branch was held, presided over by Mr. Ted Puddle. A report of the area council was given by the representative, Mr. John Lloyd Jones. The distribution of unemployment grants was made. The secretary is Mr. D. J. Shankland.

Tea Party On Thursday, the St. David's Church annual party was held at Pantywaun. The tables were nicely arranged and a large numbers sat down to the good for things provided by the members of the Mission Church. A number of friends from St. Mary's were present. It is the intention to carry out very necessary repairs in the near future.

Weddings: Lewis & Jones A pretty wedding took place at Bethania, Bargoed, on Saturday, when Mr. Sidney Lewis, Deri, and Miss Muriel Jones, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Jones, Aelybryn, were joined together in holy matrimony. The bride was given away by her father, and was charmingly attired in a dress of beige and navy silk morocain, with large navy picture hat to match. She carried a bouquet of carnations and sweet peas. Attending her as bridesmaids were Miss Gwynfa French, who was dressed in blue satin, with hat to match. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. Griffith Jones, brother of the bride. Mr. E. J. Jones, Mr. Willie Adams Jones, Mrs. Mattie

Jones, and Miss O. Jones were present at the chapel. The Rev. Richard Evans officiated. The reception was held at the bride's home, to which a large number sat down. They were the recipients of a large number of presents. The honeymoon is being spent in Weston-super-Mare. The bride's going away dress was navy tricaline.

Wedding: Ralph-Kings The Rev. D J Griffiths officiated at the wedding in St. Mary's on Monday of Mr. William John Ralph and Miss Edith Kings, Rhymney Siding, daughter of Mrs. Kings, and the late Mr. Joseph Kings. The bride wore a dress of white satin with hat to match. She was attended by Miss Maud Ralph who was dressed in blue silk with hat to match. Miss Mary Higgs and Miss Gladys Kings acted as flower girls. The wedding breakfast was taken at the bride's home.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 August 1930**

I.O.G.T. Brother B. Davies was responsible for the programme at the weekly meeting of the Lodge. The following contributed: Sisters S. J. Jones, N. Evans, Mary Morgan, Brothers Thomas Walters, W. A. Davis, B. Davies, and C. Payne.

Obituary It is our sad duty this week to record the death of Miss Annie Griffiths, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Griffiths, Aelybryn, who passed away at Cardiff Royal Infirmary where she had gone for an operation. Of a quiet and genial disposition, she will be sadly missed. To the sorrowing family, heartfelt sympathy is extended.

Cricket A local derby took place on Saturday at Fochriw when Jubilee (New Tredegar) were entertained by the home team in a league match. Both teams hold a high position in the league table. After a game of thrills, the visitors won by three runs. Scores: Fochriw 74; Jubilee 77.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 August 1930**

Cricket The team journey down to Crickhowell on Saturday, where they were engaged in a friendly encounter, and a very pleasant game was played. Scores: Crickhowell 96; Fochriw 70.

Male Voice Party The Party are again busy under their conductor Mr. Thomas Walters preparing for the competition at Llangatock. The party, composed chiefly of young choristers, have responded well to their conductor, and their host of admirers wish them further success.

Funeral The funeral of Miss Annie Griffiths, 33, Aelybryn, took place on Wednesday last week. A short service was held at the house, conducted by Rev. J. R. Salmon, after which the cortege proceeded to St. Mary's Church, where an impressive service was conducted by the Rev. D. J. Griffiths. Mr. Octavius Richards played the Dead March, after which the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. Revs. D. J. Griffiths, J. R. Salmon and R. Evans officiated. The mourners were: Messrs. Oliver Griffiths (father); Lewis Griffiths (brother); W. Games (brother-in-law); Daniel Davies (uncle); Evan Davies, David Davies, Ieuan Davies.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 30 August 1930**

Land Marks: Removal of Last Colliery High Stack The last of the prominent landmarks was removed from the village on Friday, when the last high stack of the collieries which are now dismantled, was razed to the ground.

Obituary The sudden death of a very highly respected inhabitant in the person of Mrs. Mary Ann Evans, wife of Mr. Richard Evans, and mother-in-law of Mr. Willie Angell Davies, 1, Railway-terrace, took place on Sunday morning at her home. Sympathy is extended to the family.

I.O.G.T. The weekly Lodge meeting was held at on Tuesday. The chief templar presided. The evening's programme was "Topical Talks," and "Water" was the subject taken, which proved brimful of interest, several members taking part.

Funeral On Saturday, amid signs of deep sorrow, Mr. Baden Benjamin Palmer, Council Houses, aged 25, was laid to rest. He had been ailing for eight months, but bore his sufferings with Christian fortitude. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. J. C. Payne, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Rhymney Cemetery

for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Arthur and William Palmer (brothers); W. T. Pegg (brother-in-law); W. H. Voyce (friend); W. L. Evans (cousin).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 6 September 1930**

Male Voice Fochriw Male Voice Party added another success to their list of victories on Saturday last at the Llangatock Eisteddfod. Under their conductor Mr. Tom Walters, they carried off the first prize out of six choirs that competed. A splendid reception was accorded the victors on their arrival home.

Wedding: Slimmonds-Thomas A pretty wedding was solemnised at Merthyr on Monday, the contracting parties being Mr. John Slimmonds, Fochriw Farm, and Miss Lilian Thomas, Aelybryn. The bride was charmingly attired and was attended by Mrs. Sophie Slimmonds and given away by her father, Mr. David H. Thomas. They were the recipients of many useful presents.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge was held at Carmel vestry on Tuesday, presided over by the chief Templar. Brothers Enoch Lewis and Trevor Lawrence were responsible for the programme. A pianoforte solo was rendered by Brother Thomas Walters; gramophone selections were given, and there was also a comical story competition, the winner being Brother W. Morgan. Brother Sam Lewis proposed, and Brother Thomas Walters seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the brothers for such an excellent programme

Presentation At the Church Hall on Tuesday, a pleasant time was spent when the members of the Fochriw branch of the Mothers' Union met to do honour to their late treasurer, Mrs. J. P. Isaac, who had recently removed to Pontlottyn. The presentation took the form of a beautiful electric lamp stand. The presentation was made by Mrs. Payne, The Vicarage, who spoke of Mrs. Isaacs' faithfulness. Mrs. Wilton and Mrs. Mantle also added their tributes. Afterwards the members sat down to an excellent tea, and an enjoyable evening was spent. The meeting was presided over by the vicar. Mrs. Walter Davies was appointed treasurer.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Ann Evans, Railway-terrace, took place on Thursday. Deceased was held in high esteem. She was the daughter of the late Mr. Evan Evans (checkweigher), who was well known in the district. After a short service at the house conducted by the Rev. Brython Davies, Wrexham, the solemn cortege proceeded to Pant Cemetery for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Richard Evans (husband); Willie A. Davies (son-in-law); Thomas Francis, Daniel Rowlands (uncles); Daniel Evans, John Evans, Walters Thomas (brothers-in-law); John Francis, Leyshon Rowlands, Dan Rowlands, John Rowlands, David Evans, Lewis Evans, W. A. Davies (cousins-in-law); Tom Evans, Emrys Evans, Aneurin Evans, Thomas J. Evans, Sydney Evans, Emrys Evans, Uriah Evans, Crad Thomas, Robert Thomas, Thomas J. Jones, Evan W. Jones, Thomas H. Morgan, Roy Clarke (nephews).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 13 September 1930**

Hospital The many friends of Mrs. Sydney Way who is in hospital, join in wishing her a speedy recovery; also Mr. Idris Parry, who has again returned to hospital.

Welcome Visitor The many friends of Mr. Llewellyn Rees, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rees, were delighted to see him again back in the old country on a visit from Chicago, U.S.A., where he has been for several years as an electric car driver. Before going abroad, he was a fine athlete and a well-known footballer.

Central Welsh Board Examination Congratulations to the following who were successful at the recent examination: School Certificates: Margaret E. Thomas, English, geography, Welsh, mathematics, botany, art; David Emlyn Evans, English, history, geography, Welsh, mathematics, physics, art; John Gwyn Lewis, English, Welsh, art, physics.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday. The programme for the evening was "Magazine Night," and the following contributed: Brothers S. Lewis, David Jones, Sisters C. Jones, Bessie Ballard, and Beryl Ballard.

Presentation A very interesting presentation took place at the Old Reading Room on Wednesday evening, when Mr. Thomas Jenkins, late secretary of the library, was the

recipient of a gold-mounted Onoto fountain pen in recognition of his faithful services as secretary for the last five-and-a-half years, before leaving the district to live at Ystrad Mynach, where he is engaged as a clerk at the Council Offices, Hengoed. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Sam Lewis who spoke of Mr. Jenkins' faithfulness to his duties. Mr. Stephen Ballard, treasurer, and Mr. W. J. Payne, vice-president, also added their tributes. The pen bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. T. Jenkins by the Fochriw Institute, 1930."

Concert At the Church Hall on Thursday evening, a first class musical treat was given under the auspices of the Fochriw Male Voice Party to a large and appreciative audience. The chair was occupied by the Vicar. Both Choir and artistes were in excellent form. They rendered the following choruses: "Crossing the Plain," "The Crusaders," and "Voice of the Torrent." The soloists were Miss Evans, New Tredegar; Miss Jones, Deri; Mr. Haydn Davies, Fochriw. The conductor was Mr. T. Walters, and the accompanist Mr. Wyndham Lawrence. At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, conductor, accompanist and artistes on the motion of ex-Sergeant Williams, seconded by Mr. David J. Davies. The singing off "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau," brought a fine concert to a close.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 20 September 1930**

Show Success Mr. William Lewis and Mr. David Lewis were winners at the Blackwood Show on Saturday last in the timbering competition.

Sale The annual sales of sheep, etc., took place at Pentwyn on Thursday last, and attracted in very large number of buyers and sellers.

St. Andrew's Church Splendid progress has been made with the reconstruction of the Old Church on the hill, which is nearing completion. The old place is very dear to many who have loved ones resting beneath its shadows.

Scholastic The numerous friends of Miss Olive M. Payne, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Payne, who has taken up residence at Barry College, join in wishing her further success.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. Glyn Thomas, Station-terrace, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, who was successful in passing his Central Welsh Board Examinations, obtaining credits in English, Welsh and physics.

Noddfa Chapel The yearly meetings in connection with the chapel took place on Saturday and Sunday, and large congregations were present at each meeting. Stirring sermons were preached by the Rev. Morgan Jones, Whitland, which were much appreciated. The singing was conducted by Mr. Thomas Evans, and Mr. David T. Thomas presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday evening last. An edifying paper was read by Sister M. Williams, Bedlinog, entitled "The Golden Silence." Sister S. J. Jones and Brother Sam Lewis commented on the paper. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the speaker.

Funeral The funeral of Idris J. Parry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Evan J. Parry, Dynevor-street, took place on Tuesday at Pentwyn Churchyard. After a short service at the house, conducted by the Vicar, the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Evan J. Parry (father); David Parry, Thomas James (grandparents); David G. Parry, William H. Parry, Walter Parry, Richard James, William James (uncles); William Cheek, George Dummett (sen), David J. Harris, Edwin Dummett, George Dummett, Percy Dummett, and Joseph T. Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 27 September 1930**

Scholastic The many friends of Miss Adelaide Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence, Pleasant-view, who has taken up residence at Cardiff Domestic College, join in wishing her further success.

Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P. At the Old Library on Monday evening, a public meeting was held, presided over by a Mr. B. Powell. The speaker was Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P., who gave an address dealing with matters in general.

Scholastic Mr. Willie Morgan, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan, Plantation-street, who is leaving to take up his studies at Exeter Training College, was the recipient of a fountain pen as a token of appreciation by the staff of Tiryberth Mixed School.

Lecture A lecture entitled "The Economics of the Daily Newspaper," was given at the Old Library on Tuesday by Mr. Evan Davies, B.A.. Mr. Davies is an old Fochriw boy, son of Mr. Lodwig Davies and the late Mrs. Maud Davies. He had a very successful career at Aberystwyth University.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday, the chief Templar presiding. The programme was in the hands of Sister S. J. Jones and Brother David Jones, who entertained the members in a very pleasing manner.

Scholarships The following have won scholarships at the various schools: County School - Gwyn ....., ..... Thomas (illegible); Bargoed Secondary School - James P. Lewis, E. Burrows, Gwyn Evans, Walter Howells, William J. Llewellyn, Mafanwy Davies. The following have continued their studies at King's College Cardiff: Rita Cole, Cadvan Cumpstone.

Social Under the auspices of the Mothers' Union, a social was held on Monday at St. Mary Hall. The M.C. for whist was Mr. W. J. Payne, and for dancing Mr. T. Howell Jones. Mr. Octavius Richards was the accompanist. Prize winners for whist: Ladies: 1. Miss Megan Morris, 2. Miss Lily Jones; Gents: 1. Mr. A. J. Evans, 2. Mr. Stanley Williams. Musical chair waltzing competition: winners Miss Elsie Wood and Mr. H. Ballard. Guess cake: winner, Miss Phyllis Evans and Mr. Tom Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 4 October 1930**

Male Voice The Male Voice Party, under their conductor Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., competed at the Abertyswg Eisteddfod on Saturday and gave an excellent rendering of "The Crusaders." The accompanist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence.

Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes The children of the brothers of the Cwlwm-y-Brodoriaeth Lodge, were taken by train on Saturday to Talybont-on-Usk, where they spent a most enjoyable day.

St. David's, Pantuwaun Harvest Festival services were conducted on Sunday and Tuesday. The preachers were the Vicar, the Rev. E. J. Owen, and the Rev. D. J. Griffiths. The organist and conductor were Mr. R. Mitchell and Mr. Kings.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday, the chief Templar presiding. The following contributed: pianoforte solo, Brother Walters; violin solo, Sister Mary Morgan; solos, Sisters C. Ballard, Beryl Ballard, M. Barnard, Bessie Ballard, Nesta Evans, Brothers Sam Lewis, Tom Walters, Charles Payne, B. Davies; community singing, Sisters Ballard.

Harvest Festival Harvest Festival services in connection with St. Mary's Church took place on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The Church had been beautifully decorated. The special preacher on Sunday was the Rev. Rees Davies, Rector of Bedwellty; Monday, the Rev. R. L. Rhys, Llanishen; Tuesday, Rev. J. L. White, Gellygaer. The choir, under their conductor Mr. Berkley Angell, sang the anthem, "A Bounteous Harvest," with Mr. W. A. Davies and Mr. Angell as soloists. Mr. Octavius Richards was the organist.

Fatality Mr. Elwyn Davies, eldest son of Nurse Ballard Davies, received terrible injuries at Ogilvie Colliery whilst following his employment. He was hurried to Merthyr General Hospital, and passed away after admission. Deceased, who was 17 years of age, was a bright intelligent young man, and had passed his C.W.B. Examination at Bargoed Secondary School. Sympathy goes out to the widowed mother, who lost the breadwinner twelve years ago, and has struggled hard to educate her three children. The youngest daughter recently won an entrance scholarship to Bargoed Secondary School, and commenced her studies this month. Touching reference was made to the fatality at the harvest festival service on Monday night by the Vicar.

Fochriw Pumping Station At the meeting of the Rhymney Valley Water Board, the engineer reported that the electrical pump which was fixed at Fochriw two years ago continued to give every satisfaction. However, he had had an old oil engine pump overhauled in case of a breakdown in the plant or in the electricity supply.

### **“Merthyr Express” 11 October, 1930**

Omission The name of Mr. Thomas Walters, one of the soloists, was omitted in last week's report of the harvest Festival at St. Mary's.

Bon Voyage Mrs. Evans, who has been on a visit to the old country, sailed from Southampton to America on Saturday. She is sister to Mrs. Aneurin Jones, Mrs. James Lawrence and Mr. Thomas Price. It is 30 years since she left the village for America, and this was her first return visit.

Obituary It is with deep regret that we have to record the sudden death of Mrs. Tydfil Evans, wife of Mr. Thomas Evans, Penybank Hotel, late of Aelybryn, who passed away on Sunday morning. Deceased was well known in the district and held in high esteem. To the bereaved, sympathy is extended in their hour of trial.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday. The evening was set apart for "Recitations," and the following contributed to the programme: Sisters C. Jones, M. Evans, S. Lewis, B. Barnard, Bessie Barnard, Brothers C. Payne and S. Lewis. Sister Mona Ballard thanked the brothers and sisters who had helped to make the evening such a pleasant one.

British Legion Concert Noddfa Vestry was crowded on Monday evening, when a first class concert was given by the "Gallant Twelve," in aid of the funds of the local branch. The "Gallant Twelve," who are a body of voices drawn from the Male Voice Party, excelled themselves under the capable coaching of their musical director, Mr. David John Davies, with Mr. Tom Walters as accompanist, and one of the artistes. Mr. John Lloyd Jones occupied the chair. The party were introduced individually by the musical director in their stage names, and escorted to the places of honour by two burly policeman who were dressed in flowing robes and painted features. Some of the solos were real side-splitters. The singing of the choruses showed careful training - a beautiful blend of voices that would do credit to any stage. The closing item "How can I bear to leave thee?" brought forth rounds of applause, as did "Pull the damper down," and "Dai Bach." The chairman appealed to all ex-Servicemen to join the Legion, giving instances of the benefits accruing from being a member. The energetic secretary is Mr. D. J. Shankland.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. Elwyn Davies took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday. Deceased had met with a fatal accident at Ogilvie Colliery, where he had taken employment before continuing his studies after passing the C. W. B. Examination 12 months ago. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. J. R. Salmon, and Mr. J. J. Davies, headmaster of Bargoed School, bore excellent testimony to the deceased's good character. The solemn cortege then wended its way to Pentwyn, all blinds being drawn en route. Six of the deceased schoolmates acted as bearers: Masters John Gwyn Lewis, Walter Howells, Kenneth Phillips, Emlyn Evans, Vernon Davies, and Willie Howells. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. J. C. Payne, vicar. To the sorrowing widow and family great sympathy is extended. The chief mourners were: Master Gwilym Davies (brother); Messrs William Ballard (grandfather); William J. Thomas, Stephen, Crad, & Arthur Ballard (uncles); Willie, Crad, Ednyfed & H. Barnard, Idris, Nicholas, Bertie, Arthur & Cadvan Cumpstone, Griffith Thomas (cousins).

### **“Merthyr Express” 18 October 1930**

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge, a Harvest Thanksgiving service was held, the following taking part: solos, Sisters C. Jones, Beryl Ballard; duet, Sisters Beryl and Ceinwen Ballard; readings from scripture, Sisters C. Jones and Bessie Ballard. All the members were pleased to see amongst them again Brother Islwyn Davies, who is at present a member of the Metropolitan Police Force. Thanks were proposed by Brother Walters and seconded by Brother Trevor Lawrence to all who contributed

Presentation A very interesting presentation took place on Noddfa Vestry last week to honour Miss Hilda Phillips, who for the last twenty years has been chapel organist, and has also been active in a number of other branches of Church work, including being

producer of Noddfa Dramatic Society. The family has recently moved to Ynys Tawe, near Clydach. Noddfa has lost an excellent band of faithful workers. The meeting was presided over by ex-Sergeant Williams, who spoke very highly of Miss Phillips. Others who bore excellent testimony were Messrs. John Bevan, John Jones, Albert Walters, and Thomas John Jones. The presentation was made by Mr. Thomas Evans, choirmaster, and took the form of a grandmother clock and a beautiful chair. Miss Phillips feelingly responded. A concert was contributed to by the following: Misses Phyllis Williams, Dilys Evans, Iris Evans, and Phyllis Davies. The accompanist was Mr. D. J. Thomas. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to all on the motion of Mr. J. Bevan, seconded by Mr. John Jones.

Carmel Chapel Harvest Thanksgiving services were held at the chapel last week and were continued on Sunday. In the morning, a prayer meeting was held, the organist being Mr. Tom Walters. The afternoon session was opened by Master Tudor Rowlands, who read a portion of scripture, after which the junior scholars, under the supervision of Mrs. Sam Lewis and Miss Maria Jones, with Miss Elsie Griffiths as accompanist, rendered solos, recitations, etc. Solos were rendered by Ernie Davies, Minnie Lewis, Ivor Davies, Gethin Jones, Edred Jones, Evan M. Lewis; dialogue, Hannah Mantle and Minnie Lewis; recitation, Hannah Mantle; dialogue, Minnie Lewis, Ernie Davies, Freda Davies, Hannah Mantle, Phyllis Martin, Jackie Davies, Tudor Rowlands. The evening service was opened by Miss Mary Jones, who also read a portion of scripture, after which solos were rendered by Messrs. Daniel Rowlands and Meirion Shankland. Mr. Daniel Rowlands presided over the meetings. Very encouraging addresses were given during the day by Mrs. Sam Lewis, Messrs. David Lewis and W. M. Williams.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Tydvil Evans, Penybank Hotel, took place on Thursday amidst manifestations of sorrow. Deceased, who had resided in the village practically all her life, will be sadly missed by a large circle of friends. Her sudden death cast quite a gloom over the neighbourhood. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Revs. D. J. Griffiths, Deri, and O. M. Lewis, Ystrad Rhondda, after which the cortege proceeded by road to Gellygaer Churchyard for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Thomas Evans (husband); Willie R. Evans, George Evans (sons); Mrs. Hannah Davies and Mrs. Maggie Angell (daughters); Mrs. W. R. Evans (daughter-in-law); Rev. T. A. Davies, Mr. W. Angell (sons-in-law); Messrs. Llewellyn, Tom, Lewis, Stuart, William, and Tudor and Glyn Jones (nephews); Mrs. J. Lawrence (cousin); Messrs. George Evans, Josiah Evans (brothers-in-law); M. Lewis Pritchard (nephew); Messrs. D. Jones and Wyndham Lawrence.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 25 October 1930**

Stop Trucks The Fochriw levels of Messrs. G.K.N. were again idle on Saturday and Monday.

Hospital The people of Fochriw and district will have an opportunity very soon to show their appreciation of the work done at Merthyr General Hospital, where so many Fochriw people are constantly cared for. A great Christmas draw has been decided upon, with about 50 prizes ranging from vouchers for £5, £4, £3, etc. Fochriw has done well in the past.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday, the vice-templar presiding. The programme was a miscellaneous one, the following contributing: pianoforte solo, Brother Walters; gramophone selections, Brother Islwyn Davies; solos, Sister Ballard.

British Legion The meeting of the Fochriw Branch was held at the Old Reading Room on Monday, when Comrade Henry Thomas presided. It was reported that the finances of the branch had been considerably augmented, due to the splendid efforts of the "Gallant Twelve." Arrangements for Remembrance Day were left in the hands of the secretary to complete, and they include a parade and service at St. Mary's Church, and the co-operation of the organisations in the village will be sought. The selling of poppies will take place on the November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>.

Flower Service At St. Mary's Church on Sunday, a Children's Flower Service was held. Every child and adult brought fruit, eggs, or flowers, which were sent later to the Merthyr General Hospital. The Vicar gave a very inspiring address. Solos were rendered by Masters W. J. Jones, Cyril Lewis, David Mantle, Doris Edwards, Gwennie Lewis, Mervyn Payne, Cuthbert Llewellyn, Betty Edwards, Mrs. M. H. Jones, Mrs. S. Davies, Mr. Angell, Mr. Payne. The accompanists were Mr. Richards, Mrs. H. Thomas, and Master J. V. Payne

Poppy Day In conjunction with the local branch of the British Legion, a meeting was held at the Old Library on Monday. Mrs. S. J. Jones presided. In connection with the selling of poppies for Remembrance Day, Mrs. W. Howells consented to act as treasurer, and Miss Rosie Davies took on the secretarial duties. Mr. D. J. Shankland stated that he had already ordered the necessary poppies, and would be pleased to receive orders for wreaths and sprays which are some of the products made by our disabled ex-servicemen at the poppy factory.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 1 November, 1930**

Light Last week at Penybank, the village was lit up by electricity for the first time in its history, thanks to the Gellygaer Council. Another crying need is a bus service for Fochriw.

Carmel Chapel On Monday evening, one of the most enjoyable social events for a long time took place at the above Chapel. An excellent feast had been prepared by the ladies and all did justice to the good things. Afterwards, a concert was held, which included several competitions in which old and young took part.

Obituary A very old and highly respected person who had resided in the village for many years, before removing to Bedwas, namely Mr. John Williams (late lamp-man), was laid to rest last week amid signs of deep sorrow. On Monday, a married daughter of the deceased was buried. To the sorrowing widow and family, heartfelt sympathy is extended.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday, the chief templar presiding. An interesting paper entitled, "Luther, the man who shook the world," was read by Mr. J. Bevan, Pontlottyn. The following commented on the paper: Sister S. J. Jones, Brothers Charles Payne and T. Jones. Brother Sam Lewis proposed and Sister Bessie Ballard seconded a hearty vote of thanks.

Welfare The meeting of the Committee of the Fochriw Welfare Association was held at the Old Reading Room on Friday, presided over by Mr. Evan M. Davies, chairman, when several important points came up for discussion. Councillor Minhinnick reported on the position of the Ogilvie workmen from Fochriw, Pentwyn and Penybank. He said the position now was that 100 per cent are contributing. He was thanked for his personal interest in the welfare cause. The secretary, Mr. W. Davies, reported that he had received cheques from Ogilvie and Groesfaen workmen. Reports were submitted from workmen of Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, who are prepared to contribute. Collectors were also appointed to go round the townspeople. The scheme for the present, embraces football, a cricket ground, and tennis courts.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 8 November 1930**

Fochriw Levels The levels were idle on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday.

British Legion The local branch has organised a parade and special Armistice Service at St. Mary's Church at 3p.m. on Sunday, when the vicar will address the various bodies present.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the lodge, Mr. Sam Lewis was elected Chief Templar. The programme for the evening was organised by Sister C. Ballard, and proved a most enjoyable one. The Lodge took part in games concerning Shakespeare's plays. Brother Charles Payne, who is the veteran of the Order, and in his 80th year, and rarely misses a Lodge meeting, spoke a few encouraging words to the members.

Mother's Union At the Parish Church on Tuesday, a special service in connection with the Fochriw branch of the Mothers' Union was held, when the service was taken by the



Vicar. The address was given by Miss Weaver, the organiser for rescue work in the Diocese of Llandaff. Mr. O. Richards was the organist.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 15 November, 1930**

Stop Trucks The Fochriw levels were idle again on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday. Brother Sam Lewis was made chief Templar, after which a miscellaneous concert was held.

Ambulance The Fochriw Cadets of the St. John Ambulance Brigade brought credit to the village on Thursday by scoring a brilliant victory at the Central Schools, Dowlais, by defeating Bedlinog in the final for the Cup and medals of the competitions in connection with the Dowlais Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Cadets, who have been brought to their high state of perfection, reflected great credit on their superintendent, Mr. John Morgan. The winning team were: Masters W. J. Gittoes (captain), Windsor Rees, Ivor Morgan, Willie Howell and Walter Howell.

Poppy Day A number of lady sellers were busy on Friday and Saturday disposing of poppies, and splendid results were obtained. To augment funds, the various churches were appealed to for a collection, and each responded. The following were the sellers: Mrs. Howell, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. S. Jones, Mrs. T. Jones, Misses R. Davies, N. Evans, Jessie Thomas, Iris Edwards, Annie Mills, M. Thomas. Including the sale of poppies, wreaths and Church collections, the sum of £8 15s 3d was realised.

Remembrance The Festival of Remembrance was held at St. Mary's Church on Sunday. A parade had been organised by the local branch of the British Legion. The various bodies in the parade were: Police, British Legion, Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes, the Fire Brigade, Ambulance Brigade, Cadets, the Fochriw Male Voice Party, the general public. The service opened with the singing of the National Anthem. The lesson was read by Mr. W. J. Payne, and this was followed by two minutes silence. The Male Voice Party, conducted by Mr. Thomas Walters, and accompanied by Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, sang "Sleep Thy Last Sleep," in memory of the departed. The Vicar then gave a most appropriate address. Wreaths were then placed at the foot of the memorial window in memory of the Glorious Dead, by relatives and friends. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the British Legion by Mr. John Lloyd Jones and Mrs. S. J. Jones; for the Mothers' Union, by Mrs. Way; by Mr. John Phillips, in memory of his son; by Mrs. F. Way, in memory of her son; by Miss Wynnda Edwards, in memory of her father; by Mrs. Edwards, in memory of her son; by Miss M. Pritchard, in memory of her cousin; by Master Douglas Small, in memory of his father; by Miss N. Evans, in memory of her father; by Mr. O. Richards, in memory of his father. Buglar Bob Rees sounded "The Last Post." The choir was conducted by Mr. Berkley Angell, and Mr. Octavius Richards was the organist.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 22 November, 1930**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday, presided over by Brother Sam Lewis. Mr. Evan Davies, B.A., read a very edifying paper. The following commented on the paper: Sister S. J. Jones, Brothers Sam Lewis, Charles Payne and Thomas Walters.

Concert A Children's Concert was held at St. Mary's Hall on Friday, presided over by the Vicar. The following contributed to the programme: Winnie Evans, Maud Jones, Betty Edwards, Gwennie Llewellyn, Pearl White, Lilian Cole, Thelma Thomas, Rennie Angell, C. J. Williams, Mrs. Tyler, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. G. Tyler, Leslie Payne, David Cole, C. Powell, Jackie Davies, David Howell. A laughable sketch entitled "The Lost Jewels" was played by the following: Mr. W. J. Payne, Mr. George Williams, Mr. G. Tyler, Mr. D. J. Williams, Masters J. V. Payne and C. Tyler.

County Council On Tuesday, a meeting was held at the Co-operative Rooms, when the chief speakers were County Councillor W. H. Hopkins, and Mr. John, headmaster, Tiryberth. Mr. Clark was chairman. Mr. Hopkins, who is the present member for the ward, and has again been adopted for the next election, has endeared himself to all in the ward by his straightforward, out-spoken manner. He gave a review all of his stewardship on the council since his last visit. He spoke of the new schools for Deri, Bargoed, and improvements at Penybank School, as well as of other advantages that had been obtained

for the area. With regard to the forthcoming election, if the electorate had any fault with his past service, he was prepared to submit to any fair criticism. Mr. John then spoke in support of Mr. Hopkins, appealing to the people to support him once again.

**“Merthyr Express” 29 November 1930**

Pontlottyn Court Rees Jones, (52), of Fochriw, was ordered to pay four shillings cost for a breach of the Swine Fever Order. P.C. Samson said that on November 7<sup>th</sup>, in company with an inspector from the Ministry of Agriculture, he visited defendant's pigs, and found that the pig was missing. He asked the defendant why it was not in the cot, and the defendant replied that he had been repairing the cot that day, and in so doing, the pigs had escaped. Superintendent Griffiths said that since the escape of the pig, the Order had been cancelled.

Obituary It is our painful duty this week to record the death of Sylvia, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Evans, Aelybryn, who passed away at Gellygaer Hospital after a painful illness. Deceased was a bright, intelligent child, and will be sadly missed. Sympathy is extended to the family, who had another son – Mr. Willie Evans - at Merthyr General Hospital. The funeral took place on Monday at Pentwyn Churchyard, the vicar, and Rev. Richard Evans, officiating. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Bert Evans (father); Tudor Evans (brother); Tom Davies, David J. Davies, Dan Davies, Ben Davies, Syd Davies (uncles); Eddie Jones, William John (cousins).

Church Hall A concert was held at the Church Hall on Friday, presided over by the Vicar, when a fine programme was contributed to by the following: Misses Clarise and Mavis Pritchard; instrumentalists, Mr. Fred Amos and Mr. D. J. Williams; songs and recitations, Mrs. Tyler, Bobby Watkins, Doris Edwards, Betty Edwards, Leslie Payne, Maud Jones, Audrey Price, John Davies, Winnie Evans, Cuthbert Llewellyn, Elvis Price, Teg Jones, Willie Walters, Ceiriog Powell, Mervyn J. Payne, David Pullen, David R. Jones, Megan Pope, Gwenith Watkins, Alice Watkins, Ada Gregory, Ronald Payne, Marion Gregory, David Howell. The evening concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "The Chinese Laundry," the following taking part: Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Edwards, Miss Ivy Tyler.

Presentation A very pleasant time was spent at Nazareth chapel on Tuesday. The tables had been tastefully decorated, and the willing band of workers attended to the wants of a large number present. After the cloths had been removed, a presentation was made to Miss Adelaide Lawrence to mark her departure from Fochriw, where she has been a faithful member of Nazareth, to take up her duties at Cardiff Domestic College. The presentation took the form of a ladies' companion, and was made by Mr. Evan Jones, senior deacon, who wished her well in her new sphere. Mr. William Morris was the chairman. Mr. W. J. Jones spoke of Miss Lawrence's good qualities. The following contributed to the programme: solos Mr. Willie Angell Davies; humorous readings, Mr. Thomas Walters; solo, Mr. Burke Davies; quartet, Messrs. W. A. Davies, T. Walters, B. Davies and Griff Jones; medley of Welsh airs, Mr. Thomas Walters. The evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau."

Concert at Fochriw On Thursday and Saturday, performances of the cantata "The Holiday Concert," were given by the Carmel Operatic Society under the conductorship of Mr. James John Lewis, and great credit is due to him for his careful training of the children. In their various coloured dresses, and with the lighting effects, the children were a pleasing picture. The stage managers was Mr. J. I. Williams and Mr. W. A. Davies; the accompanists, Mr. Tom Walters and Miss Nesta Evans; the lighting effects, Mr. Tom Lewis. The following were the chief characters: Hannah Mantle; Rita Cole; Mimmie Lewis; Tudor Rowlands; Pearl Davies; Jackie Davies; Amelia Evans; Tom Smith; Howell Lewis; Jenny Davies; Erene Davies; Willie Walters; Mr. Tudor Davies; Miss Mary Morgan.

Appointment: Mr. Arthur Ballard Congratulations to move Mr. Arthur Ballard who has been appointed to the headship of Penybank Council School in place of Mr. W. Davies, who has been appointed to Deri School.

Obituary Another old and familiar figure has been removed by the death of Mr. William Davies. For many years, he was an official at the Fochriw Collieries. He was also a faithful deacon of Noddfa Baptist Chapel.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the lodge, the following contributed to the programme: pianoforte solos, Sisters Beryl Ballard, Nesta Evans, Ceinwen Ballard, Mona Ballard, Brothers Charles Payne and B. Rees.

Welfare A meeting of the Welfare Committee was held at the Old Reading Room on Friday, presided over by Mr. E. M. Davies. The lease of the ground has been acquired for a long term, and it is hoped to start levelling the site soon in order to convert it into a playing field. Mr. W. A. Davies also reported several important matters. The workmen of the various collieries are contributing, and the canvas of the public in general has had splendid results. Members present, along with the chairman and secretary, were Mr. W. J. Payne (treasurer), ex-Sergeant Williams, Rev. J. C. Payne, Mr. Sam Lewis, Mr. D. I. Evans, Mr. S. Ballard, Mr. R. Clark.

### **“Merthyr Express” 6 December 1930**

Cinema Van On Saturday evening, under the auspices of the Caerphilly Division of the Conservative and Unionist Association, the cinema van visited Fochriw and a first-class exhibition of pictures, which was enjoyed by the large number attracted. An excellent address was also given by one of the speakers.

I.O.G.T. Brother Sam Lewis presided over the weekly meeting of the lodge on Tuesday, and the programme for the evening was "Unpunctuated Readings." After a very interesting competition, the prize was handed by Brother Charles Payne to Sister Bessie Ballard. Sister Lewis adjudicated.

Concert At Siloh, Penybank, on Monday evening, ex-Sergeant Williams presided over a first class concert, which was well attended. The programme included "The Gallant Twelve," conducted by Mr. D. J. Davies, who as usual, provided a real treat. Other artistes were Mr. James J. Lewis, Mr. David Griffiths, Mr. Meirion Shankland, Miss Mary Lewis and Miss Williams, Bargoed, with Mr. Tom Walters as the accompanist. All the artistes were in excellent form. Votes of thanks brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Entertainment At the Church Hall on Friday, a Children's Concert was held, and a very large number attended. The chair was occupied by the Vicar, and the following contributed to a fine programme: Gwennie Llewellyn, Myrtle White, Maria Evans, Megan Pope, Lilian Cole, Betty Edwards, John Davies, D. J. Williams, Jack Hiscox, W. J. Jones, E. Lester, David Cole, Dennis Harding, David Howell, Winnie Evans, C. J. Williams, A. M. Price, Ada Gregory, Maud Jones, G. Tyler. A laughable sketch entitled "Lazy Polly," was played by the following: Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Pope, Mrs. Tyler, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. Rod Jones, Mr. G. Taylor. The winner of the competition was Master Ernest Lester.

Supper The annual supper in connection with the Mothers' Union took place at the Church Hall on Tuesday evening, when about eighty sat down to a sumptuous feast. The Hall had been gaily decorated for the occasion, and presented a pleasing spectacle. No pains have been spared to make the evening the success it proved to be. The tables were laden with good things, and members of the Mothers' Union attended to the wants of all as tray-holders. Afterwards, a first class entertainment was provided. Games and singing were enjoyed by all. The vicar presided. The following artistes contributed to the programme: Mrs. Jones, Mr. Tom Walters, Mr. W. J. Payne, Mr. G. Tyler, Mrs. Tyler; accompanists, Mr. O. Richards and Mr. T. Walters. The M.C. for games was Mr. W. J. Payne, supported by Mr. Walter Davies.

Funeral The funeral of the late Mr. William Davies, Cwmbargoed, late Guest-street, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday last, and was well attended. The deceased was 75 years of age, and had resided in the village nearly all his life. He was held in high esteem. For many years, he was a highly respected official at the Fochriw Colliery. A faithful member, and a deacon of Noddfa Baptist Chapel, he could be seen wending his way to the chapel, almost until the end. He will be sadly missed by his large circle of friends. To the sorrowing widow and family, great sympathy is extended. After the

service in the house, the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn, the officiating ministers being the Rev. Roberts, Abertysswg, and the Rev. Roberts, Caersalem, Dowlais. The chief mourners were: Messrs. W. H. Davies, Edwin Davies, John Davies, David Davies, Pryce Davies, David William Morris (sons); R. P. Jones, Edward Gettings (sons-in-law); Edward Gettings, Willie Davies, David Davies, Brynley Davies, Vivian Davies, W. T. Jones, Bryn Jones, J. R. Jones, Iorwerh Jones, M. Jones, E. Gettings, D. Gettings, G. Evans, W. H. Edwards (grandchildren); W. J. Mantle, Tom Mantle, David Hopkins (nephews).

Whist Drive At the Church hall on Thursday evening, a very pleasant whist drive was held. The M.C. was Mr. W. J. Payne. The winners were: Ladies: Miss Rosie Davies; Gents: Mr. H. Ballard.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 13 December 1930**

Carmel Chapel Half-yearly meetings in connection with the chapel were held on Saturday & Sunday. The Rev. T. George, Tredegar, preached very edifying sermons. Mr. Thos. Walters presided at the organ, and Mr. J. J. Lewis conducted the singing.

Hospital The following are patients at Merthyr General Hospital, and their many friends wish them a speedy recovery: Mr. David Parry, Willie Evans, Edred Jones, Emrys Evans, Mrs. S. Lee, E. Lester. The following are at Gellygaer: Mr. Idris Morgan, Sarah Davies, M. Way, Miss Sullivan. Mr. Idris Parry is at Pontsarn, and the young child of Mr. T. Lewis at Merthyr.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday. The Juvenile Lodge entertained, and the following contributed to the programme: songs, Jenny Davies, Thelma Thomas, Olga Chapman, Howell J. Lewis, Jacky Davies, Freda Davies, Tom Smith; recitations, Betty Edwards, M. Edwards, Margaret Rowlands, Lilian Cole, Mair Evans, Gertie Adams, Megan Williams, Ewart Davies, Jessie Jones, Minnie Lewis, Doris Edwards, Willie Walters, Evan Lewis and Bertie Hiscox; song, Sailor Boys.

St. Mary's Hall A well attended Children's Concert was held on Friday presided over by the vicar. The following contributed to the programme: Hannah Mantle, Mary L. Lewis, Gwennie Llewelyn, S. Briffett, C. Llewelyn, D. Cole, E. Lester, H. Briffett, D. Harding J. Davies, M. Pope, M. Jones, Ronald Payne, B. Edwards. A very laughable sketch entitled "The Rehearsal," was given by W. J. Payne, Rob Jones, D. J. Williams, Fred Amos, George Williams, D. & G.. Tyler, Miss Tena Harris and Ursula Harris. Mr. Fred Amos gave some very fine conjuring tricks. The programme was brought to a close with a short play entitled "The Doctor's Orders," played by the following: Mrs. Hannah Pope, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. W. H. Edwards, Miss Ivy Tyler, Mr. G. Williams, D. Tyler, R. Jones.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 20 December, 1930**

Billiards Excitement was displayed at the Institute on Saturday, when the final of the Christmas handicap was played between Messrs. Enoch Lewis and Thomas J. Morgan, and a dour struggle was witnessed. Lewis received 13 start in a game of 200. It was a ding-dong struggle to the end, Lewis winning by 30.

Nazareth Chapel The annual meetings in connection with the chapel took place on Sunday, and large congregations attended. The special preacher was the Rev. Eric Williams, Ystrad Mynach. The singing was conducted by Mr. William Morris, and Mr. Wyndham Lawrence presided at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held at Carmel Vestry presided over by Brother Samuel Lewis. The programme for the evening was "Thoughts on Christmas." The following took part: Sisters Bessie, Beryl and Ceinwen Ballard, Brothers Walters and T. Davies.

Concert On Friday evening at the Church Hall, a children's concert was held presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. There was a large attendance, and the following contributed to a fine programme: Mrs. Edwards, G. Archer, G. Llewelyn, D. Tyler, B. Edwards, W. Evans, R. Angell, M. Gittings, D. Edwards, J. D. Davies and party, C. J. Williams, M. Lewis, A. Gregory, D. Mantle, G. Williams, D. Howell, D. Cole, E. Lester, D. Harding, C. Powell, G. Price, M. Pope. The prize for the best recitation was divided between David Mantle and Winnie Evans. The programme was brought to a close with a

laughable sketch - "Swallowing the Rent,"- played by Mrs. H. Pope, Mrs. Harding, and Mrs. W. H. Edwards.

Hospital It is a very pleasant duty to record the splendid success of the ward effort in connection with the Merthyr General Hospital Prize Drawing. As a result of the efforts, the sum of £15 was realised. Great praise is due to the energetic secretary, Mrs. W. J. Payne, and Mrs. Howell Thomas, treasurer. The following were the willing band of sellers: Mesdames M. H. Jones, S. Davies, Gwilym Llewelyn (Pentwyn Farm), V. Wood, Miss May Cook, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Thomas, Miss Iris Edwards, Misses Gladys and Alice Mills, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Lewis, and Councillor Minhinnick.

St. Andrew's Church On Sunday afternoon, the old church on the hill, which is so dear to hundreds who have loved ones resting beneath its shadows, was reopened after being remodelled and rebuilt. The Church, which had fallen into a dilapidated state, now looks a fine edifice. Great credit is due to the vicar who, since his advent to the parish two years ago, with his faithful band of workers, has accomplished great things. The Parish Church has been re-roofed, a beautiful slate roof replacing the pan tile roof. St. Andrews has been rebuilt; the Church hall of St. Peter's rebuilt; and tenders have been received for a new roof at St. David's Church, Pantywaun. The opening ceremony at St. Andrew's was performed by the Venerable Archdeacon of Llandaff, assisted by the Vicar and the Rev. D. J. Griffiths, curate. The Church was crowded, and numbers failed to gain admission. An inspiring address was given by the Archdeacon, who gave the objects for which the Church was intended, as laid down by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. During the morning and evening, the Archdeacon preached at the Parish Church. He dedicated a Litany Desk and a Book of Common Prayer for the reading desk. These were gifts. The Archdeacon also visited St. David's, Pantywaun.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 27 December, 1930**

Omission The names of Mrs. Percy Edwards and Mrs. Ernest Jones were omitted in last week's report of Fochriw wards effort for the Merthyr General Hospital.

Promotion Congratulations to Mr. Brinley Powell, manager of the local branch of the Co-operative shop, who has been appointed to take charge of the Bedlinog branch of the Co-operative Society. He has made himself very popular. All join in wishing him and his family a very happy time in their new sphere. We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Hicks, who has succeeded Mr. Powell at the Fochriw branch.

Presentation As a mark of their appreciation, and on the occasion of his departure to take up the headship of Deri Mixed School, Mr. William Davies, headmaster of Penybank School for the last nine years, was presented with a beautiful dressing case by the staff and scholars of the school. The presentation was made by the oldest teacher, Miss Rosie Davies. Mr. Davies responded very feelingly.

Whist At Penybank School on Wednesday evening, a pleasant time was spent in connection with the evening classes, when a social and whist drive took place. The tables had been nicely laid out, and were presided over by the staff - Miss R. Davies, Miss M. Thomas, Miss C. Thomas and Mr. W. Davies. After tea, the M.C. for whist was Mr. W. Davies, headmaster. The winners were: Ladies - 1. Miss Gwen Davies, 2. Miss Hilda Watkins; Gents: 1. Mr. Charlie Tyler, 2. Mr. D. J. Williams.

Distress Committee Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting of the local Distress Committee. He was supported by Mr. John Edwards (vice-chairman), Mr. Sam Lewis (treasurer), and Mrs. S. J. Jones (secretary). The committee, who have given a great deal of time to the distribution of goods, vouchers, etc., deserve great praise for the splendid work they have done. It was decided to distribute the remaining surplus of money and goods amongst the most deserving cases in the district, after which the final audit will take place.

Concert At the Church Hall on Friday evening, a children's entertainment took place, presided over by the Vicar. In the singing competition - "The First Nowel," the prize was awarded to W. J. Jones, out of 13 competitors. Other prizes were won by Harry Evans and David Cole. The following contributed to an excellent programme: Bobby Watkins, Freddie Williams, Dennis Harding, Harry Evans, David R. Jones, Ernest Lester, Jack

Davies, Ralph Acreman, G. Tyler, Ronald Payne, Mary Lewis, Marion Sullivan, Betty Simpson, Gwennie Llewellyn, Lilian Mills, Maud Jones, Betty Edwards. The programme was brought to a close with a very laughable sketch entitled "Billy the Burglar," played by Mrs. Pope, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Edwards, Alice Watkins and Bobby Watkins.

Wedding: Osbourne-Walters A wedding took place on Saturday at St. David's Parish Church, Rhymney. the bridegroom was Mr. James Osbourne Parry, Brewery Row, Rhymney, and the bride, Miss Rachel A. Walters, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walters, Pleasant-view, Fochriw. The Rev. T. Williams, vicar of Rhymney, officiated. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. D. Wm. Walters, and was attended by Miss Annie M. Roberts, Deri. The best man was Mr. D. J. Parry brother of the bridegroom, and the groomsman was Mr. Octavius Richards, Fochriw. They were the recipients of many useful presents.