

### **“Merthyr Express” 7 January 1961**

Fochriw Y.M.C.A. The first Christmas party was held at headquarters last week. Supper had been prepared by the ladies of the club. Certificates were awarded by the chairman, Mr. Grose, to the two best sportsmen of the year - Mr. Frank Davey, Pentwyn, best footballer, and Mr. Brinley Williams, Fochriw, best table tennis player.

Late Mrs. L. James The funeral took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard of Mrs. Lily James, wife of Mr. T. J. James, 16, Glanynant. Officiating ministers were Rev. David Thomas & Rev. T. J. James. The bearers were Messrs. Gwilym Davies, Gordon Lawrence, David Morgan, Ivor Morgan, Willie Morgan, Jack Jones. Mourners were: Tom (husband); Syl (son); Lynn (grandson); John (son-in-law); Will (brother); Will, George (brothers-in-law) Albert, Eddie (uncles). At the house were: Jean (daughter); Gwenfil (daughter-in-law); Bess (sister); Jennie (sister-in-law); Katie (aunt).

### **“Merthyr Express” 14 January 1961**

Fochriw School’s New Headmistress Miss Olive May Payne, for several years deputy headmistress of Bargoed Girls’ Secondary School, commenced duties on Monday as headmistress of the Fochriw’ Infants School. To mark her appointment, she had received a gold watch from the staff of the Girls’ School, the presentation being made by the headmistress, Miss Gwladys Cowles, B.A., who in a meeting of the school governors last month, said that she could not speak too highly of Miss Payne’s efficiency as a teacher, and her loyalty as a colleague. A former student of Barry Training College, Miss Payne taught at Dagenham before joining the staff of Bargoed School, 25 years ago. During her teaching of arts and crafts at Bargoed many pupils gained awards at eisteddfodau and exhibitions for their work. Miss Payne is the daughter of Coun. W.J. Payne, who is a member and former chairman of the Gellygaer Urban Council. She is secretary of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund of the Gellygaer Association of the National Union of Teachers.

Former Matron Dies The funeral took place on Thursday last of Miss Margaret Walters, a former matron of Gwaunfarren Maternity Hospital. She was the sister of Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., organist of Carmel Chapel, and aunt of Miss Margaret Ballard.

Labour Nomination A meeting of the Fochriw Ward Labour Party was held at the New Hall on Thursday. Coun. Payne presided. Coun. Poyntz was nominated for the Urban District Council election in May. Coun. Poyntz gave a report of Council activities during the past month, and with Coun. Payne, replied to questions.

### **“Merthyr Express” 21 January 1961**

Late Mrs. J.A. Jones (nee Jenkins) The death has occurred of Mrs. Judith A. Jones, wife of the Rev. W. Roland Jones, B.A., Cardiff. Before her marriage, Mrs. Jones, then Miss Jenkins, was well known in the village.

Tea and Entertainment The Sunday School children of the Parish Church were entertained to tea at the New Hall on Tuesday week. The Vicar said grace, and afterwards the Mothers’ Union and Ladies Sewing Guild attended at the tables. The Vicar and the Sunday School teachers – Miss Lorna Rees, Miss Betty Fox and Mr. J.B. Palmer - organised games and competitions. Music was supplied by Miss Betty Fox. Each of the children was given a prize. Thanks were accorded all who helped in the evening’s enjoyment.

### **“Merthyr Express” 28 January 1961**

Mrs. J.M. Lawrence The death has occurred of a well-known and respected inhabitant of the village, Mrs. Jessie Maud Lawrence, 20, Brynteg, Fochriw.

Mr. B. Edwards The death has occurred of Mr. Bedford Edwards, formerly of Brook Row, whose home is at Greenfield Avenue, Penydarren. As a young man he was well known in the village.

### **“Merthyr Express” 4 February 1961**

Late Mrs. J. M. Lawrence The death has occurred of Mrs. J.M. Lawrence, wife of Mr. James Lawrence, Brynteg, Fochriw. Mrs. Lawrence, who was 80, had lived in Fochriw since her girlhood. She took an active part in the musical activities of the village and was a keen social worker. She was chairman of the O.A.P. Committee, a collector for the National

Savings Movement, a member of the N.S.P.C.C., and a member of the Queen's Nurses. As their representative, she was presented to the late Queen Mary. The funeral took place on Thursday at Pentwyn Cemetery. The officiating clergy were Rev. E. Sedgemore and Mr. T.J. Jones. Mourners were: Messrs. James Lawrence (husband); Wyndham Lawrence (son); J. Idris Williams (son-in-law); Dr. J. Driscoll (grandson-in-law); Messrs. G. Smith, T.M. Jones, Llew Jones, Lewis Jones, W. Smith, M. Evans (nephews). The bearers were Messrs. W. Lewis, D. Jenkins, J.R. Walters, R. Parry, P. Marshallsea, R. Price, R. Kendrick. At the house were: Mrs. E.M. Williams, Miss A. Lawrence (daughters); Mesdames W.P. Lawrence (daughter-in-law); J. Driscoll (grand-daughter); L. Smith, W. Smith, T.M. Jones (nieces); Miss D.M. Thomas (friend). There were many floral tributes (listed), including ones from the Fochriw O.A.P, the Committee, Deacons and Members of Nazareth Chapel, and the staff of Cwmaber Secondary

**“Merthyr Express” 18 February 1961**

Music Successes In the London College of Music examinations, the following were successful: Preparatory, Step 1, Jane Sedgemore (pass); Junior, Linda Southworth (pass); Olive Titcombe, Allison Davies (1<sup>st</sup> class); Primary, Grade 1, R. Tippett (honours); Senior, Grade 6, Janet Bowen.

Mr. O. Jones The death has occurred after a long illness of Mr. Owen Jones, husband of Mrs. Gwladys Jones, 12, Railway Terrace. He was 53. Cremation took place Glyntaff Crematorium. The Vicar officiated. Mourners: Messrs. Glyn & Alan Jones (sons); Jim & Tom (brothers); Emrys Lewis, Charlie Pugh, John Walters (brothers-in-law); Idwal Walters, Ivor Morgan, Glen Denham (nephews); Glyn Burrows (cousin) Windsor Ballard, Ossie Perry, Cyril Davies, James Davies, Wm. James, David Galliers, Alun Davies, Tom Thomas, David Davies, Tom Walters, Emrys Shankland, David Ballard, Will Lewis. At the house were: Gwladys (wife); Mesdames Esther (sister); J. Jones, C. Pugh (sisters-in-law); I. Morgan (niece); James H. Beddoe, Violet Davies, Valerie Davey.

**“Merthyr Express” 25 February 1961**

Mr. Thomas Harper Price The death has occurred of Mr. T.H. Price of Pontottyn Road. He was 69. Before his retirement, he worked for British Railways as a platelayer. The funeral took place on Thursday last at Pentwyn Churchyard. The Rev. T. Jones, Rhymney, officiated. Mourners were: Messrs. W.E. & T.H. Price (sons); Mrs. B. Cole, Mrs. M. Williams, Miss A.M. Price, Miss M. Price (daughters); Messrs. J. Cole, I. Williams (sons-in-law); C. Price (brother); G. Price, J. Price, J. Chandler (nephews); F. James (brother-in-law); Mrs. F. James, Mrs. V. Price, Mrs. E. Jones (sisters-in-law); Mrs. R. Rogers. There were many floral tributes. (listed)

**“Merthyr Express” 11 March 1961**

Art Success A pupil at Fochriw Infants' School has had a picture, “The Circus,” accepted for hanging in the circular gallery at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. The picture was in a St. David's Day competition organised by the “Western Mail.”

Parish Church On Sunday, the special Lenten preacher was Rev. W.R. Hughes, vicar of Pontlottyn. On Sunday next, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese will hold a confirmation service at St. Peter's Church, Deri.

St. David's Day At the Junior School, Mr. Bryn Davies, headmaster and staff arranged a Welsh programme. At the Infants' School, Miss Olive Payne, headmistress and staff, joined with the children in Welsh songs, plays and other items. At Penybank School, Miss L. Vaughan, headmistress, and staff, also organised a Welsh programme.

Late Mr. D.W. Walters The funeral of Mr. D.W. Walters took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday.

**“Merthyr Express” 25 March 1961**

Parish Church On Sunday morning, the celebrant was the Vicar. At the evening service, the special Lenten preacher was Rev. Roberts, curate of Pontlottyn. The lessons were read by Coun. Payne and the organist was Mr. Frank Jones.

**“Merthyr Express” 1 April 1961**

Gas Explosion At Fochriw Site plans, clothing and building equipment was destroyed when a cylinder of liquid petroleum gas exploded in a fire at a contractor's site office in Pontlottyn Road, on Monday. Debris from the shed was scattered over a wide area. No one was injured. Bargoed and Rhymney Fire Service had the blaze under control in ten minutes.

Gifts Dedicated On Saturday and Palm Sunday, hundreds went to the old church on the hill. St. Andrew's, Pentwyn, to place flowers on the graves. Never has the churchyard looked more beautiful. Repairs are being carried out to the walls, and in a few years it is hoped that all walls and fences will be repaired. On Sunday afternoon, the Vicar conducted the service and preached a sermon. During the service, the vicar dedicated an altar frontal and altar linen, the gifts of the people of Pentwyn and Penybank. The Vicar thanked the givers and the ladies for cleaning the church, and the sexton, Mr. D.R. Tyler, for his care of the churchyard.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 8 April 1961**

Bradley – Neade The wedding took place at the Parish Church on Saturday of Miss Lynda Neade, daughter of Mrs. J. Neade, and the late Mr. A. Neade, and Mr. Alcwyn Bradley, son of Mr. W.J. Bradley. The service was conducted by the Rev. Evan Sedgemore and the organist was Mr. Frank Jones. The bride was given away by her eldest brother, Melwyn. She wore a ballerina-length dress of white figured lace and carried a bouquet of red rose buds. The four bridesmaids, Doris (bride's sister), Audrey (bridegroom's sister), Mary (sister-in-law), and Marilyn (niece), wore pale blue dresses of figured lace and lilac nylon. They carried bouquets of assorted spring flowers. The best man was the bridegroom's eldest brother, Dreslwyn.

Free Church Council Religious meetings were held on Good Friday at Nazareth Chapel. A prayer meeting was held in the morning, and in the evening, the preacher was Mr. T.J. Jones, Noddfa. The president at both meetings was Miss Edna E. Jones, and Mr. W.A. Davies was the organist.

Parish Church The service on Good Friday was conducted by the Vicar. On Easter Day, there was a fine array of Easter lilies on the altar. The morning service, at which the Vicar officiated, was well attended. Sunday School was conducted by Miss Lorna Rees and Miss Betty Fox. The lessons were read by Mr. A.J. Palmer, lay reader, and the organist was Mr. Frank Jones.

Welfare Association The annual meeting was held on Thursday. Mr. T. Powell presided, supported by Coun. W.J. Payne, president, Mr. Cyril Davies, secretary, and Mr. Frank Jenkins, treasurer. The balance sheet showed a good year's working in the indoor and outdoor schemes. Coun. Payne presided in the election of officers and committee. He thanked all for the work done during the last year, much of it voluntary. It was decided to repair and paint the pavilion, repair the fence at the playing field, and renew the lighting system at the new hall. Officers elected were: president, Coun. W.J. Payne; chairman, Mr. J. Jones, vice-chairman, Mr. T. Powell; secretary, Mr. Cyril Davies, treasurer, Mr. F. Jenkins; librarian, Mrs. Lewis; committee, Messrs. Bob Rees, P.C. Southworth, Des Evans, O. Parry, D. Ballard, L. Everett, D. Jones, G. Jenkins, P. Jones, G. Gwynne, G. Davies, C. Jones, G. Grose.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 22 April 1961**

Ward Meeting A Labour Party ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday and was well attended, with representatives from Pantywaun, Deri and Fochriw. Coun. Payne presided. The meeting was called to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Councillor W.E. Davies for the Fochriw Ward. Two names came up for nomination: Mr. Elwyn Davies, Deri, and Mr. Frank Jenkins, Fochriw. Mr. Frank Jenkins obtained a majority vote. The two organisers, Mr. Howard Edwards and Mr. Lyn Williams, addressed the meeting after the voting.

Late Mr. D. Lewis The death has occurred of a well-known inhabitant of the village, Mr. David Lewis, “Bryn Corwen,” Fochriw. He was 63, and had lived in the village all his life. He was a member of Nazareth C.M. Chapel. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday, and was private. The officiating ministers were Rev. Jones, Rev. T.J. Jones, and

Pastor Dd. Thomas. Bearers were: Messrs. Will Davies, Jack Matthews, Harry Mitchell, Will Edwards, Jack Lawrence, Tom Jenkins. Mourners were: Edith (wife); Tom (brother); R. Mary Cumpstone, Catherine Way, Nelly Angell, Elspeth Shankland (sisters); Will Harris, Arthur Rowbotham (cousins); Mr. Dan Lewis, Mr. & Mrs. Will Lewis (uncles & aunt); Bryn, Graham, Gwyn, Tommy, Phyllis, Idris, Emrys, Derlwyn (nephews and niece); Calvin Quick (brother-in-law); Catherine, Bess, Peggy, Sal, Dan, Ben, Shan, Elfed (cousins); M. Clark. At the house were: Mrs. E. Ann Evans (sister); Irene, Amy & Florrie, Teg, Thelma (nieces); Totts & Nel (sisters-in-law); Susie Clark (cousin); Joyce (niece); representing the Austin Motor Co.: Mr. Tom Samuel, Albert Turner and staff; workmates.

Easter Vestry The annual Easter Vestry of the Parish of Fochriw and Deri took place at the Parish Church on Wednesday evening. The Rev. Evan Sedgemore presided, supported by Coun. W.J. Payne, churchwarden, and Mr. J.B. Palmer, parochial secretary. The vicar opened the meeting with prayer, and then thanked all for their wonderful help during the year. Mr. J.B. Palmer gave a very detailed report, for which he was widely complimented. The churchwarden gave the statement of accounts, and said that the church had been beautified by the addition of new carpets, curtains, stained glass window and altar linen. At Pentwyn, walls of church and churchyard had been repaired, and the ladies of the church had presented an altar frontal to the church. Officers elected were: people's warden, Coun. W.J. Payne; vicar's warden, Mr. John Owen; parochial secretary, Mr. J.B. Palmer; auditors, Miss R. Davies and Miss Lorna Rees; organists, Mr. Frank Jones and Mr. N. Palmer; parochial council, Mrs. S. Davies, Miss O.M. Payne, Miss Betty Fox, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. R. Davies, Messrs. Jack Lawrence, Bryn Rees, D. Jenkins, J. Palmer, M. Hughes, W. Gambling, H. Skrymne; parochial authority, Mrs. Pullen, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Gillard, P.C. Southworth, Tudor Evans, J. Davies. Sidesmen were re-elected with the addition of Mr. T.E. Davies.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 6 May 1961**

Road Repairs Merthyr Public Works Committee have been informed that the N.C.B. are to pay 75% of the cost of road repairs to the Dowlais Top to Fochriw road. The Borough Engineer was congratulated for his services in the matter.

Jumble Sale On Saturday at the New Hall, a jumble sale was held by the members of the Mothers' Union and Sewing Guild of the parish.

Football Presentation At the Y.M.C.A. Headquarters on Thursday, a presentation of certificates was made to the under 16 football team, the runners-up to Bargoed Y.M.C.A. in the recent cup final at St. Athan. The presentation was made to each player by Coun. W.J. Payne. Also present was the club leader, Mr. Glyn Jenkins. The players were: R. Dummett, D. Chapman, C. Gittoes, D. Pearce, N. Jones, R. Williams, R. Morgan, R. Brown, H. Watkins, L. Morgan, S. Perkins. The two reserves were P. Gittings and B. Williams.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 13 May 1961**

Sunday School Festival There was a capacity congregation at the Parish Church on Monday evening, when the Sunday School Children's Association Festival for the northern part of the Caerphilly Deanery was held. Children from the Fochriw and Deri, Pontlottyn and Bargoed parishes attended with their teachers. The Rev. Eryl Thomas, Dean of Llandaff, preached the sermon.

Late Mrs. Ada Jones The funeral of Mrs. Ada Jones, 10, Martin Street, took place last Wednesday at Pentwyn Churchyard. She was one of the oldest inhabitants of the village, and was a faithful member of Noddfa Baptist Chapel. Officiating were Rev. G. Hughes, Rhymney, Rev. I. T. Jones, and Rev. E. Sedgemore. Mourners were: Thomas John & Evan William (sons); Jim, Idris (sons-in-law); Evan, Douglas, David John Morgan Herbert, Donald, Brian, David (grandsons); Crad, Robert, Egryn Thomas, John Evans, Tom Davey (nephews); Gwylfa, Henry, W. A. Davies, Tom Morris, Richard Price, Syl James, Emlyn Morgan, Emlyn Evans, Ronald Llewellyn, W. Pearce, A. Kent, Reggie Gittoes. At the house were: Mary Jane, Elizabeth, Mwynwen (daughters); Doris, Enid, Irene (daughters-in-law).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 20 May 1961**

Parish Church On Ascension Day, the Rev. E. Sedgemore conducted the service and preached the sermon. A large number of school children with their teachers were present. The organist was Mrs. Gwynne.

Late Mrs. M.M. Thomas The death has occurred of Mrs. Margaret Maud Thomas, 19, Dynevor Street. Mrs. Thomas, who was 61, had spent her life in the village. She was a member of Nazareth Chapel. The funeral took place on Monday at Pentwyn Churchyard. The officiating ministers were the Rev. Ieuan Tegfan Jones, Rev. Evan Sedgemore and Rev. Thomas John Jones. The bearers were Messrs. Watkin Mosley, Alan Davies, Roy Shankland, Noel Williams, Rufus Dummett, W. Ross. At the house were: Mr. D.M. Thomas (husband); Mrs. & Mr. A.M. Holifield (daughter & son-in-law); Marilyn Holifield (grand-daughter); Miss B.M. Jones, Mrs. J. Cleeves (sisters); Mr. W. Cleeves, Mr. T. Thomas (brothers-in-law); Mrs. D. Jones, Mrs. K. & G. Walters, Mrs. J. Jones, Mrs. G. Baker, Mr. S. Jones (cousins); Messrs. S. Cleeves, D. Baker, H. Bates, C. Jones, E. Jones (nephews); Mrs. M.M. Holifield, Mrs. O. Thomas. There were a number of floral tributes. (listed)

Late Mrs. J. Morris The death has occurred of Mrs. Jane Morris, 19, Martin-street. Mrs. Morris was born at Trawsfynydd. She had lived in Fochriw for over 50 years. She was 83. She was a member of Nazareth Chapel, where her husband, Mr. Wm., Morris, was deacon and precentor for many years before his death. The funeral took place on Friday at Pentwyn Churchyard. The Rev. T.J. Jones officiated. Mourners were: Messrs. Griff & Evan (sons); John, Melvyn (sons-in-law); John, Melvyn, Malcolm, Lynn, Nigel, Kevin (grandsons); Myrade, Yorwerth (nephews); Mr. Serrano, R. Wilson, A. Rowbotham, W. Angell, D. Gulliver, G. Smith. Bearers were Messrs. A. Sharp, P. Iles, L. Coggan, G. Lloyd. At the house were: Nell, Hilda, Beryl (daughters); Anne (gradn daughter); Olwen & Betty (nieces); Mrs. Marshallsea, Mrs. Iles, Liz, Dilys, Edna, Bessie, Nell, Cassie, Mrs. Lil Evans, Mrs. Mary Gulliver, Mrs. Angell, Janice Wilson, Cassie Williams.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 27 May 1961**

Parish Church Whit Sunday services were well attended. On Tuesday afternoon, the annual Sunday School tea was held. A procession of witness marched through the streets, headed by the Vicar, churchwarden, lay reader, Sunday school teachers – Miss Lorna Rees, Miss Betty Fox, Miss Janice Lawrence and Mr. John Palmer. Tea was served at the Welfare Hall by the Mothers’ Union and Ladies Sewing Guild. After tea music and games were enjoyed with Miss Lorna Rees as master of games.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 3 June 1961**

Carmel On Sunday, the preacher was the Rev. W. Rowland Jones, B.A., Cardiff. The organist was Mr. Tom Walters.

St. Andrews At St. Andrews Church, Pentwyn, the Vicar conducted the service and celebrated Holy Communion.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 10 June 1961**

Film Show On Tuesday evening at the New Hall, members of the Mothers’ Union and Sewing Guild were entertained to a film show. Producers were Miss Eliza Evans and Miss Lorna Jenkins. They were thanked by the Vicar and churchwarden.

Outing The combined churches off the village had their outing to Barry Island on Saturday.

Late Kenneth Jones The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard last week of Master Kenneth Jones, 2. Moore’s Row, younger son of Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Jones. Rev. T.J. Jones officiated, assisted by Pastor David Thomas and Rev. E. Sedgemore. The mourners were: Brian (brother); Ronald, Cyril, Walter, Idwal (uncles); Desmond (brother-in-law); Jeffrey, Desmond, Meirion, Graham, Malcolm (cousins); Bryn, Ritchie, Bryn, Billy, Selwyn, Dennis, Edryd, Fred, Jack, Rod, Will, Desmond, Lewis, Lyn, Will, Tom, Tom Jenkins (cousins and uncles). At the house were: Leslie (father); Ceridwen (mother); Annette (sister); E. Rees (grand mother); Eunice, Edith, Rhoda, Sybil (aunts); Keniah, Jane, Mildred, Joan, Nancy, Ruth, Ann, Cassie & M. Parry. There were numerous floral tributes (listed), including ones from Fochriw Infants’ School, Fochriw Primary School, Pontlottyn Secondary Modern School, Noddfa Sunday School, Fochriw Labour Club, and Fochriw Y.M.C.A.

**“Merthyr Express” 17 June 1961**

Late Mr. K. Sharp Mr. Arthur Sharpe (cousin) was amongst the mourners at the funeral of Kenneth Jones, reported last week.

Ward Meeting Fochriw Labour Party met last Thursday, Coun. Payne in the chair. Reports of Council activities were given by Coun. Poynts and Coun. Payne.

**“Merthyr Express” 24 June 1961**

Noddfa Sisterhood On Saturday, members made a coach trip to Hereford and Symond's Yat.  
Mothers' Union and Sewing Guild Trip The above journeyed by coach to Evesham, Broadway and Elmley Castle on Saturday.

St. Andrew's Church On Sunday morning, the Vicar conducted a service and celebrated Holy Communion. The service was well attended. At the Parish Church on Sunday evening, Coun. W.J. Payne was the preacher, and Mr. Frank Jones, Pontlottyn, was the organist.

**“Merthyr Express” 1 July 1961**

Sewing Class Outing The Sewing Class with their instructor, Mrs. Florrie Evans, had their annual outing by motor coach to Evesham and Worcester. In glorious weather, and enjoyable time was spent.

Welfare A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday evening, Mr. Tom Powell presiding. It was decided to carry out repairs to the pavilion on the playing field.

New Councillor Mr. Frank Jenkins, 16, Brynteg Terrace, was the only nominee when nominations were received for the by-election for the Fochriw ward, caused by the resignation of Mr. Wm. Ewart Davies. Mr. Jenkins has associated himself with many movements for the good of the village. He is a teacher at the Fochriw School, and a former president of the Gellygaer Association of the National Union of Teachers.

**“Merthyr Express” 8 July 1961**

Pensioners' Outing The annual outing took place on Tuesday organised by the Ladies' Support Committee. The place selected was Porthcawl, and a very enjoyable day was spent.

British Legion A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday evening, with the object of re-forming the Fochriw Branch. At one time the branch was a power in the village, with flourishing men's and women's sections. The chairman for the evening was Councillor Harry Jones, county treasurer, Pontlottyn branch, who made an appeal to re-form the branch. Speakers from Fochriw were Coun. W. J. Payne, Rev. Evan Sedgemore, Mr. Frank Jenkins and Mr. Eddie Jones. It was decided to start a sub-branch of Pontlottyn for a six month period, and then to review the position. An appeal was made to all Ex-Servicemen to join and share the advantages of being a member of the British Legion. Officers elected were: president, Rev. Evan Sedgemore; vice-presidents, Coun. W. J. Payne and Mr. John Lloyd Jones; chairman, Coun. Frank Jenkins; secretary, Mr. Eddie Jones. After the meeting, the ladies of the Pontlottyn section provided a very fine tea for the visitors and others present.

**“Merthyr Express” 15 July 1961**

Carmel The annual services were held on Sunday, and were well attended. The special preacher was the Rev. J. T. Hughes, Troedyrhiw. The organist was Mr. T. Walters.

St. Andrew's, Pentwyn The Vicar conducted a service at the old Church on Sunday morning, and celebrated Holy Communion. On Sunday evening at the parish church, the preacher was Mr. John Palmer.

Mile of Pennies The Ladies' Supporters' Committee organised a “Mile of Pennies” on Friday in aid of the Fochriw and District Old Age Pensioners. It realised £34 4s 8½d. The ladies wish to thank all who assisted.

Late Mr. J. Bond The death has occurred at Tregfan, Aberdare, of Mr. Jacob Bond, formerly of Glanynant, Fochriw. A native of Pontlottyn, Mr. Bond had been a miner, but had spent a considerable amount of time in hospital in recent years. The funeral took place at Pengam Cemetery. Those present were: Mrs. Alma Victoria Bond (wife); Tommy (son); Beatrice Cribb (daughter); Tyron Bond (grandson); Gilbert Cribb (son-in-law); Eileen Bond (daughter-in-law).

Wedding: Powell-Lewis The marriage took place on Saturday at St. Mary's Church of Mr. Gilbert Charles Powell, son of Mrs. L. Powell, 18, Glanynant, to Miss Pamela Lewis, daughter of Mrs. D. M. Lewis, 20, Glanynant. The Vicar officiated. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. D. E. Lewis. She wore a ballerina-length gown of satin, covered with French lace. Her head-dress was a coronet of pearls, holding a short veil. She carried a prayer book with a spray of red carnations. The bridesmaids were Miss Valerie Davey and Miss Sheila Lewis, who wore ballerina-length dresses of satin covered in lilac figured lace. They carried sprays of sweet peas. The flower girl, Miss Kay Stephens, wore a dress of white tulips with lilac buds. She carried a posy of sweet peas. The best man was Mr. Percy Morgan. Goomsman were Mr. J. Barnard and Mr. J. Powell. After the reception at the New Hall, the couple left for a honeymoon in Jersey. To travel the bride wore a green costume with white accessories.

Motor Cyclist Hurt Motor cyclist, William Morgan, aged 17, of Penybank Farm, was injured when his machine was in collision with a lorry on Rhymney Common on Monday morning. He was taken to St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr, and then transferred to St. Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 29 July 1961**

Miners Holiday Many miners and their families are on holiday at Porthcawl, Swansea and Barry. There are also daily coach trips from the village.

In Hospital Mr. Samuel Lewis, J.P., is in hospital at Abertysswg, while his wife, Mrs. M.A. Lewis is in hospital at Merthyr.

Mining Success Mr. Islwyn Shankland, Plantation Terrace, has been successful in obtaining his M.E. in mining. He is 24 years of age.

Late Mrs. Marshallsea The funeral of the late Mrs. Margaret Marshallsea, 1, William's Row, took place at Pant Cemetery, Dowlais. Officiating at the house were Pastor David Thomas, Rev. Selwyn Hughes and Rev. Sedgemore, and at the graveside, Pastor Thomas, Pastor Griffiths, Penybank, and Thomas John James. Mourners were: Albert (husband); Percy, Ernie, Reggie, Ron (sons); Fred Hancock (brother-in-law) David Thomas, Will Davies, Wyndham Hughes (sons-in-law); Glammore Thomas, Selwyn Huges, Maldwyn Marshallsea, Willie Davies, Brian Marshallsea, Norman Thomas, Carey Morse, Gerald Reynolds (grandsons); Jack Davies, Willie Marshallsea, Thomas John James, Eddie Barton (nephews). Bearers were Messrs. David Cecil Jones, Mansel Thomas, John Matthew, Islwyn Jones, Tom Yeoman, Tom Jenkins, John Ballard. Among friends present were Harry Hughes, David Price, Cliff Golden William Lewis, Frank Wilton, Dewi Morgan, James Davies, John Dyer, Islwyn Price, Idwal Price, Michael Evans, Vernon Coggan, Roger Edwards. Loyal Evans, Jimmy Davies, Idris and Roy Shankland. At the house were Mabel, Lily (daughters); Hannah Hancock (sister); Irene, Hilda, Mona, Betty, Joyce (daughters-in-law); Mattie, Enid, Elsie, Pamela, Rena (grand daughters); Valmie, Lena, Mrs. Price and Mrs. Sedgemore. There were numerous floral tributes. (listed) The funeral directors were Cumpstone and Sons.

Marshallsea – Coggan The wedding took recently at St. Mary's Church of Mr. Colin Marshallsea, only son of Mr. & Mrs. P.G. Marshallsea, 21, Brynteg Terrace, and Miss Betty Coggan, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. V.G. Coggan, 8, Stoney Houses, Penybank. Rev. Evan Sedgemore officiated. Mr. Frank Jones was the organist. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a ballerina length dress of white lace. Her short bouffant veil was held in place by a tiara of diamante and pearls. She carried a white prayer book and red roses. Her bridesmaid was Miss Sandra Marshallsea, sister of the bridegroom, who wore a ballerina length dress of orchid pink-embossed nylon. She wore a single rose head-dress, and carried a white prayer book with lily of the valley. The best man was Mr. Idwal Price, and the groomsmen were Mr. John Coggan and Mr. Brian Hooper. The reception was held at the New Hall, after which the couple left for London. The bride travelled in a pale pink jersey wool suit with white accessories.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 5 August 1961**

Carmel The preacher at Carmel on Sunday evening was Mr. Gwyn Phillips, Ystrad Mynach. Mr. T. Walters was the organist.

Piano Successes At the recent examinations of the London College of Music, held at Cardiff, the following were successful: Higher Junior, Ruth Browning, Pontlottyn, 1<sup>st</sup> Class; Junior, Robert Carl Blunt, The Villas, 1<sup>st</sup> Class; Higher Junior, Gary Kent, Council Houses, 1<sup>st</sup> Class; Grade 2, Susan Thomas, Brook Row, Honours.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 12 August 1961**

Fochriw Y.M.C.A. On Saturday, members of the Club had a most enjoyable trip to Barry Island by motor coach. The weather was fine and splendid arrangements were made by the secretary, Mr. Shankland, and the treasurer, Mr. Hann.

Carmel On Sunday the services were taken by Nurse Ballard Davies with Mr. T. Walters at the organ.

Old Inhabitant The death has occurred at West-street, Bargoed, where he lived with his daughter, of Mr. Benjamin Williams, a native of Pentwyn, where he lived for many years.

Soccer Trial The Fochriw Y.M.C.A. held their first trial on Saturday. There was a good muster, and the boys played well. The Y.M.C.A. are also hoping to join the under 16 table tennis league.

Parish Church The preacher and celebrant on Sunday was the Rev. J.G. Williams of the Children's Society. The Sunday School service was taken by Mrs. E. Fox.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 2 September 1961**

Local Man Dies The death has occurred of a well-known local resident, Mr. Jenkin Williams, Glen View, Pentwyn, after a long illness.

Return To U.S.A. Mrs. Marion Clayton, wife of Mr. LeRoy Clayton, and daughter of Mr. Tom Sullivan, Aelybryn, returned to her Kentucky home on Saturday. Mrs. Clayton and her youngest son Mark were on a visit to her parents. She has lived for the past fifteen years in Newport, Kentucky. She travelled home by jet via New York.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 September 1961**

Death of Fochriw Farmer: Mr. G. Llewellyn The death has occurred at Tredegar General Hospital of Mr. Gwilym Llewellyn, aged 76, of 3, Rees Row, Pentwyn. Mr. Llewellyn came from a family with long local connections, and had, until his retirement six years ago, lived at Ffynonau Duon Farm, Pentwyn. He supported all farming activities, and was a founder member of the Pentwyn Sheep Sale and Shearing Society. Entering the coal trade in 1926, he was on his retirement, one of the longest established small mine owners in South Wales. He was also a founder member of the South Wales Small Mines Association. He was a keen supporter of all local sport and village life and activities. He was a member of St. Mary's Church. He leaves seven sons and two daughters. The funeral was on Wednesday at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery leaving from the home of his son, Mr. John Llewellyn, 11, Glen View, Pentwyn. Rev. E. Sedgemore officiated at the house and graveside. Mourners were: Messrs. John Pellard, Alvin Graige, Ronald Evan, Robert James, Hugh Watkin, Gwilym Cuthbert and Cecil Alexander Llewellyn (sons); Ivor Davies, Leslie Bengough (sons-in-law); Bernard, David, Lyn, Cecil & Gary Llewellyn, Glenville Bengough, Bryn Davies, Brain Tew (grandsons); Thomas Llewellyn (brother); Hopkin, John, Wm. John, Vernon, Stewart, Edward & Elwyn Llewellyn (nephews); Attwell Woods, Crad Skyme, Bob Slimmons, Joe Pullen, David & Ieuan Llewellyn, Jack Lloyd, Godfrey Woods (cousins); John William and David Pullen. Others among the large gathering of friends present were Mr. Lewis Edwards, J.P., Rev. Vernon Payne, R.L. Thomas (Small Mines Assoc.), C. Prosser (Rhymney Valley Building Co. Ltd.), representatives of Ffynonau Duon, Caerglas, Tyladu, Hafodarthfen and Pontgarreg Levels, also farmers and trade representatives. Bearers were Messrs. Morgan & Elwyn Kinsey, John Walter Morris, Ernest Morgan, Bertie Howells, David Taylor (representing the Farmers and Small Mines Employees). At the house were Mesdames Jessie Elizabeth and Doris Gwendoline (daughters); Edith Maud, Beryl, Tydwen, Hetty, Mar & Clare Llewellyn (daughters-in-law); Jessie Maud, Valmai, Lorraine (grand daughters); Elsie

and Ellen Ann (sisters-in-law); Sarah Jane, Elizabeth, Fanny, Barbara, Catherine (nieces); Lucy and Mrs. Sedgemore. There were numerous floral tributes. (listed)

Ward Meeting The Labour party held a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday evening. Mr. B. Brown of Deri presided. Council reports were given by Coun. Poyntz and Coun. F. Jenkins. Discussions took place on many subjects including open cast mining and council loans.

O.A.P. Singing Festival A combined meeting attended by representatives of all the churches of Fochriw and Penybank was held at St. Mary's Church on Thursday. The Vicar presided. The object was the holding of a community singing festival in aid of the Old Age Pensioners of the district. It was agreed to hold the event on Sunday evening, October 1, 1961, at 7.45 p.m. The chairman will be the Vicar, and the conductor, Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., and the organist Mr. Frank Jones. A silver collection will be taken. All are welcome.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 September 1961**

“Galley Slave” Complaint A reference to school canteens made by the Gelligaer Council's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. Bowen Owen, in his annual report, prompted the Caerphilly and Gelligaer Education Executive on Monday to call for a report on canteen conditions. Dr. Owen said that in all but seven of the 23 school kitchens in the area, rooms formerly used as classrooms were now being used as kitchens. This often led to cramped and overcrowded conditions, he said. At one school kitchen, with a floor area of 14ft x 13ft, three people catered for 150. The room was so overcrowded that some equipment had to be stored in an adjoining classroom, said Dr. Bowen Owen. The report stressed the actual work of the canteen staff and the hygienic conditions of the canteens. He also said the staffs provided appetising meals. Coun. W.J. Payne said the kitchen referred to was probably at Fochriw. “The women there are working in conditions like galley slaves,” he said. “Something must be done about it.” Coun. K.G. Turner said the county should be urged to spend more money to bring canteens throughout the area up to standard. “In the Bargoed area some children have left the canteen and go to local cafes.” he said. Mr. D.W. Davies, the Executive officer, advised the committee to let him prepare a report on the division's canteens before making any “sweeping statement” to the county about the conditions. There were several first-class canteens in the division; 75 per cent were perfectly reasonable, and the only bad ones were a few here and there, and the Executive had been pressing for improvements. At Fochriw, a scheme had been approved.

Harvest Festival Services were held at St. David's, Patywaun, on Sunday and Monday. The church had been decorated with fruit, flowers and vegetables, and a new altar frontal. The preacher on Sunday afternoon was the Rev. E. Sedgemore, and in the evening, Coun. W.J. Payne. The Vicar preached again on Monday evening. The organist was Miss Maureen Jones.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 30 September 1961**

Late Mr. Edgar Pritchard The death has occurred of Mr. Edgar T. Pritchard, late of the Rising Sun Inn. A churchman and communicant, his presence will be sadly missed.

Mission Hall The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Convention was held on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, and was well attended. The special speakers were the Rev. T.S. Davies, Oakdale, and Pastor W.R. Morgan, Woodfieldside. Mrs. Davies, wife of the Rev. Davies, sang.

Harvest Festival Services were held at the Parish Church on Sunday and Monday, when the church was decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. The celebrant and preacher was the Vicar. At the children's service in the afternoon, the gifts of fruit and flowers were received by the Vicar. Others taking part in the service were Miss Lorna Rees and Miss Betty Fox. John Moore read the lesson and the collection was taken by Mary Sedgemore and Stuart Llewellyn. The special preacher on Sunday evening was the Rev. Eryl S. Thomas, Dean of Llandaff. The lessons were read by Coun. W.J. Payne, and the organist was Mr. Frank Jones. The preacher on Monday was the Rev. J. Evans, Vicar of Aberpergwm, the service being conducted by the Vicar and lay reader, Mr. J.B. Palmer.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 7 October 1961**

Y.M.C.A. Mr. Norman Withers presided over a meeting at the headquarters on Thursday, and welcomed a number of officers and members of the Bargoed Y.M.C.A. Mr. Michael Shankland's resignation as secretary was received, and he was thanked for his past services to the club. Arrangements were made for the appointment of a secretary and a club leader. Several members discussed the proposed new building, including Mr. Menking and Mr. Bryn Roberts of Bargoed "Y.M." It is hoped in the near future to proceed with the scheme. The president, Coun. W.J. Payne, thanked Mr. Menking and the Bargoed Y.M.C.A. for the great assistance they had given in the formation of the Fochriw Branch. The Vicar opened and closed the meeting in prayer.

Community Hymn Singing The Parish Church was full on Sunday evening after Evensong, when all the churches joined together for hymn singing. A collection taken in aid of the old age pensioners realised £5 4s 1d, plus £1 donation from Penybank Chapel. The Vicar conducted the service, with Mr. T. Walters as conductor. Nurse Mimi Lewis was the soloist. Others taking part were Pastor W. Griffiths, Penybank Chapel; Rev. Tegfan Jones, Nazareth; Pastor David Thomas, The Mission Hall; Rev. T.J. Jones, Noddfa. The collection was taken by Mr. Haydn Jones and Coun. W.J. Payne.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 14 October 1961**

United Free Church The United Free Church Council met at Nazareth on Monday and Tuesday evenings last week. On Monday evening, thanks were given through prayer. The preacher on Tuesday evening was the Rev. T.J. Jones, minister of Nazareth. The president at both meetings was Mr. T.J. Jones, and Mr. W.A. Davies was the organist.

Children's Gifts A harvest festival service was held at Fochriw Infants' School on Wednesday afternoon last week. The children had brought gifts of fruit, flowers and vegetables, which were later taken to Ystrad Mynach Hospital. The matron, Mrs. Baker, expressed her thanks. The headteacher, Miss Olive Payne, and teachers, Mrs. F. Gwynne, Miss I. Morris and Miss A.P. Jones, had prepared the service. Taking part were: Jacqueline Millward, Ann Davies, Jean Kewiecinski, Kasewierz Chetnik, Janet Hann, Elizabeth Meade, A. Watkins, P. Evans, K. Games, G. Morgan, Hilary Moore, Geraint Evans, Dilys Lanford, Terance Scanlon, Mervyn Thomas, Stephen Edwards, Mary Sedgemore, Mark Scanlon, Gary Watson. After the service, the children sat down to a harvest tea. The accompanist was Mrs. F. Gwynne, who took the gifts by car to the Hospital.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 21 October 1961**

Relay Run Runners from the parish of Fochriw and Deri took part in a relay run to Llandaff Cathedral on Saturday for the Diocesan Youth Service. The run started from the ancient site of Capel Brithdir, Bargoed, at 10 a.m., and the final runner reached Llandaff Cathedral at 2 p.m. The runners were from the Caerphilly Deanery. The Vicar was in charge of the Fochriw and Deri runners. Miss Betty Fox, Fochriw, carried the Caerphilly Deanery banner, and Mr. Howard Davies of Fochriw carried the hand-cross used by the relay runners of the Caerphilly Deanery into the Cathedral. The service was conducted by the Dean of Llandaff, the Very Reverend Eryl S. Thomas. The Rev. Dr. Moelwyn Merchant preached the sermon and the blessing was given by the Bishop of Llandaff, Dr. Glyn Simon. Runners on the relay run from the parish of Fochriw and Deri were; June Sedgemore, Ann Sedgemore, Mary Sedgemore, Margaret Mantle, Malcolm Mantle, Howard Davies, Allison Watkins, Susan Bifle, June Palmer, Avril Morgan, Gwyneira Evans, Paul Hopkins, Myfanwy Evans, Terence Hughes and Desmond Hill.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 28 October 1961**

Moral Welfare The house-to-house collection in aid of the Llandaff Diocesan Moral Welfare Fund realised £15 14s 6d. The collectors were: Mesdames S. Jones, M. Chapman, C. Ballard, E. Thomas, J. Jones, C. Evans, A. Watkins, R. Bills, E. Fox, S. Pullen, I. Morgan, R. Davies, Lorna Rees, L. Lawrence, M. Lawrence, T.E. Davies, W.K. Evans, D.J. Jones, C. Dummett, G. Hughes, G. Hopkins, B. Southwood, C. Jenkins. On Tuesday, the members of the Mothers' Union, with the Vicar and Mrs. Sedgemore, journeyed to Llandaff Cathedral for

the presentation of the gift at a service of thanks. The cheque was presented by Mrs. Lilian Lawrence.

St. Andrew's The Vicar conducted a service on Sunday morning, and celebrated Holy Communion. Thanks to Mr. John Llewellyn, Pentwyn, who has presented a heating system to the church, the building was well warmed.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 4 November 1961**

Fochriw J.Ps. Death: Mr. Samuel Lewis Mr. Samuel Lewis, J.P., a former member, and ex-chairman of the Gellygaer Urban Council, die on Monday, aged 79, at Abertysswg Hospital. He had been in hospital for several months. Mr. Lewis was chairman of the Gellygear Urban Council twelve years ago, and during the period of his membership, had represented the authority on several bodies, including Rhymney Valley Drainage Board, the Caerphilly and Gellygaer Divisional Education Committee, Bargoed Grammar School Governors and Managers of the Elementary School in the Gellygear urban area. He was appointed to the Commission of the Peace for Glamorgan in 1942, and sat on the Bench at Pontlottyn, where he was the deputy chairman until his transfer to the supplemental list on his retirement on reaching the age of 75. He was also prominent among Congregationalists in North Glamorgan, and had filled several offices, including that of treasurer at Carmel Chapel. He is survived by Mrs. Lewis.

Y.M.C.A. A meeting was held last Wednesday, chaired by Mr. Norman Withers, supported by the president, Coun. W.J. Payne, the Vicar, and Mr. Meaking, Bargoed. Discussion took place on the proposed new building.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 11 November 1961**

Mr. Samuel Lewis: Funeral Tribute to Former Magistrate Representatives of the Gellygear Urban Council and the Magistracy were among the gathering at Glyntaff Crematorium on Thursday of last week, for the funeral of Mr. Samuel Jones, J.P., Glyn Terrace, and ex-chairman and member of the Gellygear Urban Council. Mr. Lewis had been a member of the Gellygear Authority for 21 years, and a deacon and treasurer of Carmel Chapel for 40 years. The Rev. Eurof Jones, formerly of Fochriw, officiated, assisted by Revs. Brython Davies, T. Alban Davies, and Evan Sedgemore. Mr. Tom Walters was organist for the service at the Crematorium. Rev. Eurof Jones paid tribute to Mr. Lewis's services for the public good, and emphasised his loyalty to Carmel Chapel and its ministers. Family mourners were: Mrs. M.A. Lewis (wife); Mr. Fred Paske, Mr. & Mrs. Enoch Lewis, Mr. & Mrs. J. Paske Lewis, the Rev. & Mrs. Brython Davies, Mr. & Mrs. Wyndham Hughes, Mrs. F. Trotman, Mr. Roy Trotman, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Lamb, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sullivan, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jones, Mrs. Dilys Edwards and Messrs. Willie Edwards, Phil Mantle, Dan Williams, Con Edwards and Bedwyn Davies (nephews and cousins); Mesdames Tudor Evans, Mary Evans, Elsie Rees and T.A. Davies. Bearers were Messrs. Dan Jenkins, W.A. Davies, David Jones, Cyril Cook, Jack Lawrence, Tudor Evans, Coun. F. Jenkins and Ewart Davies. Gellygear Urban Council was represented by Councillors W. Poynz, J.P., chairman; W.J. Payne, D.B. Cooke and John Haydn Jones; Mr. D.W.C. Moran, clerk; Dr. W.B. Owen, J.P., (M.O.H.); Messrs. W.T. Luke (engineer and surveyor), Walter Hicks (treasurer), Jonah Rees (deputy treasurer), Rees Williams (former treasurer). Representing magistrates of the Caerphilly Higher Division of Glamorgan – Mr. Lewis was a member of the Pontlottyn Branch for over 20 years – were Councillor George Richards, chairman, Messrs. I.G. Garbett, deputy chairman, and P.H. Ford. Mr. W.D. Gardiner represented Mr. D.W. Davies, divisional education officer. Among others present were Messrs. D. Evans, L. Evans, I. Evans, W. Lewis, M. Evans, J. Walters, S. Ballard, D.J. Old, D. Old, W.A. Jones, R. Rees, G. Lawrence, W. Davies, R. Price, A. Jenkins, Bert Evans, T.J. James, N. Cumpstone.

O.A.P. Supporters The Fochriw Ladies O.A.P. Supporters Committee celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this week. The Committee is now busy preparing Christmas gifts for the old people. The committee chairman is Mrs. M.A. Lewis; secretary, Mrs. Joan Owen; treasurer, Miss Cassie Shankland.

Nazareth Wedding The wedding recently took place at Nazareth Chapel of Mr. John Desmond Davies, only son of Mr. & Mrs. Idris C. Davies, Mozart Cottages, Pontlottyn, and Miss Mary Jane Morris, niece of Mrs. L.A. Hewitt, Dynevor-street, youngest daughter of Mr. David Morris and the late Mrs. J.M. Morris, 16. Martin-street. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a short, white-silver, shreaded lace dress over a satin underskirt. Her coronet was of pearls and diamantes. She wore a waist length veil. The bridesmaid, Miss Fay Davies, sister of the bridegroom, wore a pink flock nylon dress, over a pink satin underskirt, with pink flowered head-dress and gloves to match. The bride carried a bouquet of pink carnations, roses and ferns, and the bridesmaid carried a posy of freesias. The bride was presented with a rolling pin by her nephew, David Thomas. The best man was Mr. John Coonick and the groomsman was Mr. Ieuan Tuck. The officiating minister was Rev. Ieuan T. Jones, minister of Nazareth Chapel, and the organist was Mr. W.F. Davies, cousin of the bride. The reception was held at the New Hall. The couple left later for a honeymoon in London. To travel the bride wore a royal blue coat with a lavender dress and accessories to match.

**“Merthyr Express” 18 November 1961**

Carmel Special services were held at Carmel on Sunday. The preacher was the Rev. E. Jones, B.A., B.D., Seven Sisters. The organist was Mr. Tom Walters.

Parish Church The organist next Sunday evening will be Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, Mus. Bac.

Former President Mr. Benjamin Shankland, who lived at Fochriw for many years before moving to North Wales, has died. The body was brought back to the old homestead, and laid to rest at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday.

Labour Party A ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday. Coun. W.J. Payne presided. At the outset, the chairman referred to the death of Mr. Sam Lewis, J.P., who had served the ward for 21 years, and the meeting stood in silence. The chairman also referred to the severe accident to one of their members, Mr. Bryn Williams, Deri. It was decided to send him wishes for a speedy recovery. Correspondence from Mr. Fred Evans, the organiser, was dealt with, and the nominations for the Council elections were discussed. Some of the Deri members expressed the view that a meeting of the Deri section should be held before nominations were considered. The Ward secretary explained that this was the practice, to appoint to the November ward meeting. The only nomination put forward was that of the existing member, Coun. F.J. Jenkins, which was accepted. A report of Council activities was given by Coun. W.J. Payne, who also answered questions. Also present was Coun. W. Poyntz and Coun. F.J. Jenkins.

**“Merthyr Express” 25 November 1961**

Presentation On Sunday evening, the preacher at the Parish Church was the Vicar. The organist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, Mus. Bac. of Skewen. Mr. Lawrence was organist at the Parish Church before leaving for Skewen some years ago. After the service, a presentation was made to Mr. Lawrence for devoted service to the church as organist. The presentation of a cheque was made by Coun. W.J. Payne, churchwarden. Mr. Lawrence's wife, father and sister were present at the service and presentation. The Vicar thanked Miss Rosie Davies and Mrs. S. Davies, the collectors. Afterwards, Mr. Lawrence played selections on the organ.

Mr. Bernard Shankland Mr. Shankland, who was a popular personality at Fochriw before leaving for North Wales, has died at his home in Maentwrog at the age of 75. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Laurie Ann Shankland. Mr. Shankland was a sidesman and a member of St. Twrog's Parochial Church Council. He had been for years on the staff of the local hydro-electric power station. The interment was at Pentwyn Cemetery. Canon M.J. Daniels, Maentwrog, officiated, assisted by Mr. T.J. Jones. Relatives and friends accompanied the cortege from North Wales. The burial was from 33, Guest Street, the home of Mrs. E. Shankland, his sister-in-law. The mourners were: Emrys & Roy Shankland, Noel & Raymond Williams (nephews); Wm. Angell & T.J. Angell (brothers-in-law); Burk & Will

Griffiths, Burk & Jackie Hiscox, Will Kirby, Evan Humphreys, Morris Owen, Ken Evans (nephews); T.J. James, Coun. Frank Jenkins, Ray Cook, W.A. Davies, D.J. Davies, W.J.A. Davies, Harry Jenkins, Bryn Powell (cousins); Idris Griffiths, Martin Thomas, Evan Morris, Richard Wilson, Jackie Jenkins, Thomas Walters. Also present were friends from Maentwrog. At the house: Mary Jane, Emily, Nell, Blod, Win (sisters-in-law); Annie, Mair, Gwladys, Mavis, Enid, Patty, June (nieces); Bessie, Nellie, Cassie, Lily, May, Lenora, Gwenfil, Annie (cousins); Mrs. Jenkins & Mrs. Fox. There were numerous floral tributes. (listed)

#### **“Merthyr Express” 9 December 1961**

Welfare Association Mr. T. Powell, chairman, presided at the meeting at the New Hall on Tuesday. The correspondence was discussed. The resignation of Mrs. Davies, the caretaker, was accepted, and thanks recorded for the able manner in which she had done her duties. Mrs. Powell was appointed the new caretaker.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 December 1961**

Highest Marks At the examination of the London College of Music held in Cardiff, Miss Susan Thomas, Aelybryn, obtained the highest marks (Honours) at the Centre. The London College of Music has presented her with a book prize for her excellent playing on the pianoforte.

Noddfa On Sunday evening, an ordination service was held, and was conducted by Mr. T.J. Jones. Three new deacons ordained were Miss Edna E. Jones, Mr. Robert Thomas and Mr. Bryn Jones. Miss Rosemary Jones sang. The organist was Mr. William Edwards. Mr. Joshua Evans, senior deacon and secretary, was unable to be present owing to illness.

Associate Mr. Elfed Williams, whose parents reside at Moore’s Row, has been elected an Associate Member of the Materials Handling Institute. He is employed at the Esso Oil Refinery, Milford Haven. Mr. Williams was formerly store-keeper at Tredomen Engineering Works, Ystrad Mynach. Whilst a part time student at the College of Further Education, Ystrad Mynach, he was awarded a Diploma by the Purchasing Officers’ Association.

Fochriw’s Church Sale Realises £110 The annual Fayre and Sale of Work was held last Saturday and £110 was realised. It was organised by the Mothers’ Union and the Sewing Guild, and was held at the New Hall. Mrs. Alan Rees Evans, wife of the manager of Barclays Bank, Bargoed opened the Fayre. A bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Evans by Anne Sedgemore. Stall holders were: Sunday School: Miss E. Fox, L. Rees, R. Davies, J. Palmer, A. Watkins, S. Bills, J. Sedgemore, J. Bebb, E. Palmer, and Mrs. A. James; Cake: Mrs. M. Chapman and E. Thomas; Pound: Miss O.M. Payne, L. Southworth, and Mesdames G. Jones, B. Southworth, A. Watkins; New Products: Mesdames O. Jenkins, A. Gardener, M. Lawrence, S. Lawrence, J. Lawrence; Drapery: Mesdames Sal Davies, Y. Roberts, T.E. davyes & W.K. Evans; Novelties: Mesdames I. Walters, N. Sharpe, Shirley Lawrence; Father Christmas: Howard Davies; Jumble: Mesdames L. Lawrence, E.M. Llewellyn, B.M. Powell, N. Bebb, D. Palmer, K. Lewis, B. Walker, ; Refreshments: Mesdames M.J. Davies, C. Ballard, H. Small, C. Evan, G. Wright; stewards, Messrs. A. Palmer, J. Lawrence, B. Rees, J.B. Palmer, P. Jenkins, P. Hopkins. Gifts and donations were received from The Emporium, Bargoed; F.W. Woolworth, Merthyr; St. Margaret’s, Aberbargoed; Delberry’s. Dowlais; Mr. Stan Williams; Mr. & Mrs. T.R. Simon, Blaengarw; Mrs. M. Eyre, Rhymney; Mrs. S. Chaffey, Bargoed; Rhymney Valley Buildings Supply; Mr. & Mrs. Rees Evans, Bargoed; Mr. & Mrs. A. Llewellyn, Bush Garage, Dowlais. The officers were: president, Mrs. E. Sedgemore; secretary, Mrs. L. Lawrence; treasurer, Mrs. A. Palmer.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 December 1961**

Fochriw Holds United Gymanfa A united gymanfa was held at Nazareth Chapel on Christmas Day. The chapels taking part were Carmel, Noddfa and Nazareth. The conductor was Mr. Thomas Walters, and the organist, Mr. Willie Edwards. At the children’s carol service in the morning, Miss Edna E. Jones presided. The reader was Angela Owen, and Janet Hann led in prayer. Recitations were given by Sonia Dummett and Doris Holifield and Mary Price was the soloist. Nurse Ballard Davies presided in the evening, and also gave a

recitation. Miss Margaret Morris read the Scriptures and Mrs. A.M. Holifield led in prayer. A duet was sung by Nurse Mimi Lewis and Mrs. Dilys Edwards. The gymanfa committee members are: chairman, Miss Edna E. Jones; treasurer, Miss M. Jones; secretary, Mr. Ewart Davies; and Messrs. Bryn Jones, Willie Edwards, W.A. Davies, Thomas Walters, Nurse Lewis, Mrs. A.M. Holifield.

No Storks on Christmas Day There were no babies born on Christmas Day in the maternity unit of the Caerphilly and District Miners' Hospital.

**“Merthyr Express” 30 December 1961**

Fochriw Youths' Bus Fight Women were screaming and huddled in terror as two youths fought in the back seat of a bus in Pontlottyn, magistrates at Pontlottyn Cout were told on Friday. P.Sgt. F .Bright told the Court that on the evening of December 20, a single deck bus was stopped outside the Police Station. The conductor made a complaint and he boarded the bus. The two youths were fighting and the bus was in an uproar. He had forcibly to eject them from the bus. Douglas Bailey, 19, unemployed of 2, Noddfa Ganol, Fochriw, and Sidney James Saunders, 19, unemployed, of 8, Coronation Crescent, Fochriw, were each fined £2 for being drunk and disorderly. In Court, Bailey said he would never touch another drop of beer in his life. Saunders, who was stated to have 17 previous convictions, was also fined £5 for the larceny of a half pint glass measure from the General Picton Hotel, Pontlottyn, and £5 for leaving broken glass on the highway. P.S. Bright said that he was taking the youths into the police station from the bus, Saunders took the glass from his pocket and threw it into the road. Sitting with the chairman, Mrs. G. Davies, was Miss M.E. Edwards.