Gloucester City.

A FATAL FRACTURE.

INQUEST AT THE INFIRMARY.

An inquiry into the circumstances of the death of George Couldrey (86), of 83 Rose-green-avenue, Gloucester, a retired deal porter, was held by the Deputy Coroner (Dr. J. A. Bell) on Wednesday afternoon at the Royal Infirmary.

Hannah Maria Couldrey, the widow, said her husband's general health had been good, but in latter years his mind had been failing, and she had had to keep a close watch upon him. On May 19th, whilst she was upstairs she heard him cry out, and, running downstairs, found him lying on his side in the back garden. With the assistance of a man she had called, she was taken into the house. When she asked him what had happened he could only say, "This is the greatest pain I have ever had."

Norman James Urquhart Mather, resident surgeon at the Infirmary, said when Couldrey was brought in he was suffering from a fractured right femur. Witness had been unable to set it owing to his condition. He gradually became weaker, and his mind was unbalanced, and he eventually died at 2.45 p.m. on Monday, May 28th, nine days after his admission. The cause of death was congestion of the lungs following a fractured femur.

The Coroner recorded a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and expressed sympathy with the relatives, and the son expressed his thanks to the Coroner's Officer (Mr. Wickham) for the kindly way in which he had made his enquiries.

TYPEWRITER AGENT'S FAILURE.

LOSSES BY BETTING ON HORSES.

The first meeting was held on Wednesday, in the offices of the Birmingham Official Receiver, of the creditors of Sidney Cyril Tomlinson, of 25 Lansdowne-road, Erdington, and previously residing in Tuffley-avenue, Gloucester, manager of a typewriter agency.

The summary of the debtor's statement of affairs showed assets estimated to produce £25 16s. 10d., and a deficiency of £71 11s.

The receiving order was made on the debtor's petition. The Official Receiver observed that the debtor, who is 29 years of age, was employed with an insurance company at Stafford from 1915 until 1917, when he joined the Army and served until September, 1919, receiving a war gratuity of £14 and a gratuity of £10 for the Distinguished Conduct Medal. He resumed his former employment, and in June, 1920, was transferred to Gloucester. He was subsequently appointed clerk in charge of this office at a salary of £210, rising by annual increments of £15. He married in November, 1920, and in March, 1924, owing to increasing household expenses, his liabilities amounted to upwards of £100. Having no means to pay his creditors he resorted to betting on horse racing in the hope of raising money. This resulted in heavy losses, and in June, 1924; he was discharged from his situation, since when he admitted knowledge of insolvency. In November, 1924, he secured an appointment as a traveller on a wage and commission, and in September, 1927, obtained his present employment as manager of a typewriting agency in Birmingham.

The matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

SPORTS AT HARTPURY FETE.

The following were the results of the sports competitions held in connection with the recent garden fete at Hartpury House, organised by the Forest of Dean Conservative and Unionist Association:—

Bowls.—1 Mr. Healey (Huntley), 2 Major Abbot (Bradley Court).

Golf.—1 Mrs. Forster (Cheltenham), 2 Colonel Davis (Brockworth).

Croquet.—1 Mr. H. E. Keene (Gloucester), 2 Mr. L. G. Pearce (Hartpury).

Tennis.—1 Mr. F. Fowler (Hartpury), 2 Mr. P. G. Highfield (Bradley Court).

Hockey.—1 Mr. P. G. Highfield, 2 Major Abbot.

Cricket.—1 Mr. A. Ayland (Westbury-on-Severn), 2 Mr. M. F. Banks (Hartpury).

The sports championship cup for the best aggregate score in the above events was won by Major Abbot.

SUDDEN DEATHS.

The Gloucester City Coroner (Mr. G. Trevor Wellington) has been informed of the death of Thomas Andrews (72), carpenter and joiner, of 15 Victoria-street. Mr. Andrews had always enjoyed good health until January, when he was attended by Dr. Graham, for acute bronchitis and heart trouble, which seriously affected his health. On Friday last he went to bed at 10.30 with his wife, and in the course of the night complained of difficulty in breathing. Dr. Graham was summoned, but before his arrival Mr. Andrews had passed away. The Coroner has dispensed with an inquest.

The death occurred suddenly on Sunday afternoon of Harry Davis (65), of 11a London-road, Gloucester, a retired railway goods guard. Ten years ago he had an attack of rheumatic fever, which left him with heart trouble, and he had a serious attack in May, 1926, which resulted in his becoming practically an invalid. On Sunday afternoon he went by motor-bus to Maisemore to visit a daughter, who lived at Overton Cottage. The effects of the walk and the heat of the bus proved to be too much for him, and upon arrival at the house complained of feeling unwell, and was placed on a couch, and Dr. Johnson, of Corse, was summoned. Mr. Davis, however, passed away, and his body was removed to the city mortuary by the ambulance, where it was received by P.S. Thompson and the Coroner's Officer (Warrant Officer S. W. Wickham).

LOCAL ACCIDENTS.

Selina Cox (21), of 10 Collingwood-road, Coventry, was admitted to the Royal Infirmary on Saturday evening suffering from a badly lacerated leg, believed to have been caused whilst riding as a pillion passenger upon a motor-cycle when a collision occurred with another machine.

It is understood that a similar accident befel Mrs. Lily Watham (37), of 64 Indian-road, Gloucester, who was admitted to the Infirmary with a fractured leg on Sunday afternoon.

A schoolboy named Jack Hill (15), of 17 Hartpury-road, Gloucester, was admitted with concussion and injuries to his head, and was unable to state what had happened to him.

Late on Sunday evening the City Ambulance were summoned to Cross Keys, Barnwood, where a collision had occurred between a motor-cyclist and a horse. It appears that the motor-cyclist, Charles Harding (34), of Moreton Valence, who was carrying as a pillion passenger William Francis Smith (34), of 44 Newmarket, Tetbury, had collided with a horse led by Ernest Brassington, of Nukend, Gloucestershire, along the grass verge at the side of the road. When the Ambulance arrived, however, Harding, who had received injuries to the head, face, and hands, and had also fractured his nose, had been conveyed to the Royal Infirmary in a private car.

GLOUCESTRIAN'S MUSICAL SUCCESS.

Mr. Wallace Arnold Lewis, a son of Mrs. E. Arnold Lewis, 126 Oxford-road, Gloucester, a former pupil at Sir Thomas Beecham's School, achieved several successes at the recent musical festival at Winnipeg, Manitoba. He obtained first prize in every class in which he entered, viz., contralto and baritone duet, tenor and baritone duet, male voice trio, male voice quartette, operatic solo (male), and baritone solo (grade A). He was also awarded the rose-bowl trophy, equivalent to the championship of the grade A solo classes, and a special prize of $25 for winning the baritone solo on three occasions.

At the final concert at the Winnipeg Rink, seating about 4,000 persons, Mr. Lewis won great appreciation for his singing of "Silent Noon" and "The Rondside Fire," both by Vaughan-Williams, the Gloucestershire composer.

GLOUCESTER ASSIZES: CIVIL CASES.

The following is the list of the civil cases entered for hearing at the Gloucestershire Summer Assizes, which commence at the Shire Hall, Gloucester, on Wednesday next: Evans v. Nash and wife. Alleged slander; common jury. Plaintiff's solicitor, Mr. F. W. Harvey, Lydney; defendant's solicitors, Messrs. Doyle, Devonshire, and Co., London. —Harris v. Kellett. In respect of an alleged contract; common jury. Plaintiff's solicitor, Mr. C. Granville Clutterbuck, Gloucester; defendant's solicitors, Messrs. Stone, Davis and Co.—Godfrey v. Franklin. Rent claim. Before the Judge. Plaintiff's solicitors, Messrs. Talbots; defendant's solicitors, Messrs. Evershed and Tomkinson. —John v. Kipping. Alleged slander. Special jury. Plaintiff's solicitors, Messrs. St. Laurence, Smallwood, and West, Reading; defendant's solicitor, Mr. E. D. Berry, Reading.

The Avon Valley.

TWO MOTOR-CYCLISTS INJURED.

EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT.

An extraordinary accident at Wyre, near Pershore, resulted in injuries to Albert Boulter and William Attwood, two local youths.

Attwood was driving a motor-cycle, with Boulter as pillion passenger, and apparently he ran into a bridge crossing the railway. A local resident, Mr. F. Horton, returning home shortly after midnight, found Boulter lying unconscious on the grass verge by the bridge. The motor-cycle was half way through a fence. A few minutes later Mr. Horton discovered Attwood lying across the railway lines 30 feet below. He had apparently rolled down the embankment after colliding with the fence. A few minutes after Attwood had been removed a goods train passed the spot.

It is believed that the youths had been lying unconscious for half-an-hour. Attwood sustained a fractured pelvis, and it is feared that Boulter may have suffered internal injury.

KNOCKED DOWN BY MOTOR-CYCLE.

CARAVAN DWELLER KILLED.

As a result of an accident in Boston-lane, Charlton, near Evesham, a man named Draper, aged about 69, a caravan dweller in the vicinity, died in Evesham Infirmary on Sunday. Draper was walking along Boston-lane with some companions late on Saturday when he was knocked down by a motor-cycle ridden by Robert George Cooper (20), of White House Cottages, Charlton. Draper sustained injuries to the left leg, and Cooper injuries to the head. Both men were removed in an ambulance to Evesham Infirmary, where Draper died as stated.

RAN IN FRONT OF A CAR.

The five-year-old son of the Rev. Harry Ewart Bennett, of Blackpool, lies in a serious condition in Evesham Hospital, as the result of an accident at Waterside, Evesham. The boy, who was with a party in a car which had stopped at the side of the road, ran in front of a taxi-cab and was injured about the head.

FELL INTO A WELL.

London Woman's Tragic End at Upleadon.

The Coroner for the Forest of Dean Division (Mr. M. F. Carter) held an inquest at Upleadon School on Tuesday morning on Mrs. Eva Williams (56), of 184 Cornwall-road, Ladbroke Grove, London, a visitor to Upleadon, who fell down a well on Saturday morning.

Hugh Williams, cowman, deceased's husband, said his wife had been in good health until about three months ago, when she had a nervous breakdown and was medically attended.

Mrs. Florence Lane, of Lawlands, Redmarley, a sister-in-law of deceased, said Mrs. Williams stayed with her for a week, and seemed to be cheerful, but did not sleep well and seemed nervous.

Mrs. Florence Mortimer, of Upleadon, stated that on May 22nd Mrs. Williams came to visit her. She was very restless at night, but otherwise appeared to be in good health. On Saturday morning she heard a crash, and, going into the garden, saw that the well cover had been opened. Witness called deceased, and, looking down the well, she saw something black in it. She fetched her husband and neighbours. The surroundings of the well were very dangerous in the dark, and slippery at times.

P.S. Alfred Durrant, stationed at Newent, said the well was 36ft. deep, and there was over 10ft. of water in it.

Dr. Joseph Morris, of Newent, who made an examination of the body, said he found a deep incised wound on the right side of the skull. His opinion was that deceased's death was caused by shock and asphyxia from drowning.

The Coroner said he was bound to negative any question of accident. He found that deceased threw herself down the well whilst of unsound mind.

Ulster Unionists on Wednesday decided to erect a bronze statue of Lord Carson in front of the new Parliament Buildings at Stormount, Belfast.

Manchester is taking the lead in constructing a radio studio with special provision for the public. One of three new studios to be erected in that city will contain a gallery for an audience.

Flight-Lieut. William Longstaffe Fenwick, of the Armoured Car Wing, and Flying Officer Edward Beresford Forster, attached to No. 84 Squadron, both of whom were recently engaged in the Southern Frontier operations, were killed on Saturday night in a motor accident at Baghdad, when two cars came into collision head on. Both officers were well-known athletes, and were popular in Baghdad.

Mr. Thomas Fenner, of Chichester, was 101 on Saturday, and Mr. Joseph Moore, of East Dulwich, celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr. Moore was so delicate as a child that a doctor declared that he would not live long.

Hotel-Keeper's Failure.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION IN CHELTENHAM.

The Cost of Treating Customers.

At the Cheltenham Bankruptcy Court, on Thursday, Bertram Glendower Evans (52), of the Albion Vaults, Sherborne-place, Cheltenham, hotel manager, lately of the Star Hotel, Regent-street, Cheltenham, appeared for his public examination, having been adjudged bankrupt on his own petition.

Debtor's deficiency had been stated at £593 4s. 9d.; and the causes of failure alleged were "Loss on business; and household and personal expenses exceeding my income."

The "first meeting" of the creditors had been summoned to take place immediately before the examination. The only creditor present was Mr. George Pearce, of the York Hotel. Debtor was represented by Mr. Lionel Lane.

In answer to the Assistant Official Receiver (Mr. W. Ormiston), Mr. Pearce said he was given three cheques by debtor to the total amount of £45. He had, however, never presented the cheques for payment, as he had been told not to do so.

The following list of proofs were read:—Wm. Sawyer, £22 7s.; S. Townsend, £19 9s. 6d.; Tarr and Son, £8 15s. 8d.; George Pearce, £45; L. M. Pearman, £7 9s. 9d.

The Official Receiver is ex officio trustee of the estate; but the Assistant Receiver remarked that with assets of only about £5, and a deficiency of £593 4s. 9d., things did not look very hopeful for the creditors.

At the examination, before the Registrar (Mr. O. J. Williams, LL.B.), Mr. Theo L. Thompson, solicitor, appeared for Joseph Burton and Sons, Ltd., grocers, whose bill was for £36 5s. 5d., but who had not proved. Mr. Davey (Haddock and Pruen) represented Mr. W. Sawyer, a creditor.

Debtor, first questioned by Mr. Ormiston as to his trading before coming to Cheltenham, confirmed the information in the Official Receiver's "remarks" already published. For the last seven years or so, whilst at the Star Hotel, his salary as manager was £7 a week with 15s. allowance for keep. As to the carrying on of the catering at the Star, which, in 1922, he took over from the Brewery Company, debtor said this was managed for him by his mother, whom he paid £1 to 30s. a week and about 2½ per cent as commision. The takings were from £30 to £40 per week at one time, but they fell off. He did not supervise the catering business but left it entirely in the hands of his mother as manageress, she running a separate banking account for it. She showed him her books every week, and he ran through them. His mother, now 78 years of age, deposited a life policy for £100 with the bank as security for an overdraft, and the policy had been realised by the bank. The weekly wages bill at the Star was about £4, there being a housekeeper, two maids, a cook, a kitchen hand, and an extra charwoman for busy times. The wages bill did not include his mother. This expense was not all for catering; but it did not include the baths. As manager of the Albion Vaults he was receiving £4 per week.

Debtor was questioned as to the recent sale of furniture for £12 to a dealer at Gloucester. The £12 was paid to his solicitor. He, at the time, owed £26 to the Cheltenham Licensed Victuallers' Association for which he was treasurer, and on behalf of which he had been receiving moneys. The £12 went towards discharging this, and other moneys were collected on his behalf to discharge the liability. The debt was now liquidated.

That was really trust money?—Yes.

Mr. Ormiston pointed out to debtor that he had been exceeding his income by £130 a year, and asked him what justification he could show for thus living beyond his earnings. The reply was, "Bar expenses. I expect."

You were treating and lending money?—Yes.

"I put it to you that one of the causes of your failure was unjustifiable extravagance in living" said Mr. Ormiston.

Debtor replied: "The benefit of the trade in the bar went to the Brewery, not to me. I treated and lent money to hold the business together."

The Registrar: The Brewery did not allow you anything for entertaining your friends?—No, they were the Brewery's friends, not mine.

You were not allowed anything for it like a Lord Mayor?—No.

Mr. Davey: How much do you suggest you spent in treating?—£4 to £5 a week easily sometimes, but the average would not run to that."

Are you serious?—Quite serious.

Why did you do it?—To keep the business of the Company.

You were really giving money away?—I don't say that; I was keeping my position as manager of the hotel.

What would have happened had you not done this treating?—It is very necessary to spend money; without being in the business you would not understand it.

The Registrar: I thought the etiquette of the trade was to treat the landlord.

Debtor: They get tired of that; you can't always do that.

Asked by Mr. Thompson how long treating had been costing him £3 or £4 a week, debtor said, "For three or four years"; and to the queries following as to how he managed to trade before, and why it was necessary to start treating, debtor said the trade had suffered from a big depression. When such was the case breweries expected managers to hold trade up or they "wanted to know why."

As to a number of small loans, totalling about £50 to £60, not in the statement of affairs, they were to customers in Cheltenham and to travellers, and were only "word of mouth" loans. Mr. Thompson asked whether they were not recoverable, the Registrar told him that from his experience in the Court he would not give a half-crown for the lot.

Mr. Ormiston questioned debtor about his betting, and debtor said he used to bet heavily, but it was not for himself, but for other people. His betting for himself was in five or ten shillings at a time. Asked if his transactions were successful, he replied ruefully, "Not by a long way."

Mr. Lionel Lane: There are still bookmakers in Cheltenham.

His losses in betting, said debtor, helped towards the general loss, but not to any great extent; "To say betting was my downfall would be ridiculous, but it contributed to it."

By Mr. Lionel Lane: You used to oblige customers by cashing their cheques, and sometimes they were returned "n.s.g."—Yes. I have cashed for you yourself sometimes.

Mr. Lane: Those were all right (laughter).

The examination was closed subject to the signing of the notes.

The Magistrates at Ellesmere Port (Cheshire) on Wednesday stopped a case in which Mr. John Kerfoot Roberts, a Holywell solicitor, was accused of being drunk in charge of a motor-car, and awarded him £10 10s. costs against the police. This was after Dr. Gerrard, the police surgeon, had stated in evidence that Mr. Roberts was perfectly sober, passing through a test "very satisfactorily."

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STROUD & DISTRICT.

NOBODY TO BLAME.

MINCHINHAMPTON COMMON MOTORING FATALITY.

At Minchinhampton on Thursday afternoon the Coroner for the Stroud Division (Col. Morton Ball) held an inquiry into the circumstances of the death of Robert Francis Aitken, aged 23 years, who was in the employ of Messrs. Ryland and Co., land agents, Dyer-street, Cirencester, and who was killed in a motoring accident on Minchinhampton Common on Friday night.

Deceased was motoring across the common in the direction of Cirencester, and just after passing Tom Long's Post he came into collision with an approaching car, driven by Capt. T. B. Brown, of Houndscroft, Rodborough. The running boards of the cars were ripped off, and the car the deceased was driving turned over on its side, pinning him underneath.

The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death," and attributed no blame to anyone.

THE LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

OPENING OF NEW TEA ROOM.

There was a large gathering at the Stroud Lawn Tennis Club on Saturday afternoon when the new tea room which has been erected was formally opened by Lady Nelson. The Club, which was formed in 1922, has made splendid progress, and to-day possesses six of what is claimed to be the best hard courts in the county and even farther afield. The pavilion, with the ladies' and gentlemen's changing rooms, has from the start been excellent, but a tea room had been lacking until this year, when the committee set to work to remedy this, and they have succeeded beyond all expectations. Large and commodious, the room, attractively decorated, brings the club accommodation up to an imposing range of buildings, which command a fine view of the whole of the courts, and the club is to be congratulated upon the success of their efforts. To inaugurate the new room and its use, an American tournament was arranged for Saturday, and this was participated in by over 30 couples, and although rain somewhat interfered with play a very enjoyable afternoon and evening was spent.

Prior to the commencement of play Lady Nelson was called upon to open the tea room, and this she did in the presence of an interested company.

Mr. Fredk. Steel presided, and in introducing Lady Nelson, referred briefly to the history of the Club, and said he thought they could claim now to have not only the best courts in the county, but also the best tea room for such a club (applause).

Lady Nelson then unlocked the door to the tea room, and said it was a very great pleasure to her to perform that ceremony. The Club was second to none in the county, and as they had led the way in many other directions they led the way when they started that club in 1922. She wished the club every success in the future (applause).

DANGEROUS MOTOR-CYCLING.

£10 FINE AT STONEHOUSE.

At Stonehouse Police-court on Thursday, before Sir Percival Marling, Bart., V.C. C.B. (in the chair), and other magistrates, John Spargo, of 109 Bloomfield-road, Brislington, Bristol, was summoned for having driven a motor-cycle in a manner dangerous to the public on April 22nd.—Mr. H. Langley-Smith represented defendant, and pleaded not guilty, and Supt. J. W. P. Goulder prosecuted.

James Porter, a fitter, of Nupend, Eastington, stated that at about 6.15 p.m. on the date in question he was walking in the direction of Bristol on the Gloucester-Bristol-road, and when about 100 yards beyond the Stroud Canal Bridge, and as close to the side of the road as he could get, he was struck on the arm and turned a complete somersault. The defendant was in the road and was cut, and the motor-cycle, which had struck him, was also on the ground. At the time he was struck a motor-van was passing him in the other direction. He thought it was a pure accident, and felt sorry for the defendant, and did not want to be mixed up in the case.

Stephen Coates, a disabled ex-serviceman, of Nupend, who was with the last witness at the time of the occurrence, and his wife Grace Coates, gave corroborative evidence, the latter observing that when the motor-cycle passed her before the accident she considered it was going too fast.

Albion Victor Osmond, an auctioneer, of 4 Upper Belgrade-road, Bristol, said he was driving his Sunbeam car to Bristol when defendant passed him, and just afterwards he noticed that an accident had occurred. He inquired if any one was hurt and found each had escaped, and suggested that they should exchange names. Neither seemed inclined to do so, and witness wrote down an address which defendant gave him. Defendant denied that the accident was his fault, observing that he sounded a horn and that the people ought to have got out of the way. Witness replied a motorist had no right to sound his horn and then drive on, and defendant became mildly abusive, snatched the paper on which witness was writing and tore it up into little pieces. On witness's advice the facts were reported to the police.—In reply to the Chairman, witness said defendant passed him at a speed of about 40 miles an hour, but he might have slowed down before the collision, which he did not see.

P.C. Barnfield said the road was 18ft. wide where the accident occurred.

This concluded the case for the prosecution, and defendant, in the witness box, said he had been driving motor-vehicles for seven years and had never before had an accident. On the date in question he was passing some pedestrians when a trailer, which was attached to the furniture van, swung out and caused witness to swerve, with the result that his handlebars struck Mr. Porter and he (witness) was thrown off the machine.

The Chairman said the Bench considered it was a very bad case, and the defendant was extremely lucky not to be before them on a charge of manslaughter. Pedestrians had an equal right to the road, and defendant would be fined £10 (including costs). His license would not be endorsed.

Local Wills.

COLONEL G. HARLAND BOWDEN,

FORMERLY OF GLOUCESTER.

Lieut.-Colonel George Harland Bowden, M.I.M.E., M.I.E.E., of Rodney, Belmont Hill, St. Albans, electrical engineer, formerly maintaining offices in Cardiff and Newport, and connected with the development of electric plant in various collieries in South Wales and the Midlands, Unionist M.P. for North-East Derbyshire, 1914-18, and formerly a member of the Gloucester City Council, who died on October 10, aged 54 years, left estate of the gross value of £1,301, with net personalty £201. Probate of his will, dated July 19, 1926, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Catherine Sarah Bowden, of Bennett's Cottage, Harpenden, Herts. He left £50 to Miss Lizzie Davies, "my wife's companion and indispensable and loyal friend to my wife, my children, and myself," adding that he deeply regretted that circumstances prevented the amount of this bequest being larger. He directed that if possible his remains should be buried in the churchyard at Dockington, Derbyshire: "I would be amongst a people I have lived and worked for, and I think there are some thousands who will regard this last wish as a proof of my remembrance of their love and loyalty given to me in many years of active political work." Subject to a number of specific bequests, he left the bulk of his property to his wife.

REV. A. H. SQUIRE, QUENINGTON.

The Rev. Arthur Harold Squire, of Quenington Rectory, Fairford, who died on the 20th March last, left gross estate of the value of £8,352 11s. 7d., with net personalty £3,197 10s. 11d. Miss Mary Edith Bamforth, of 18 Elmside, Exeter, is the executrix. The will is dated 19th January, 1917. Testator left his household effects and £500 absolutely and the income from his residuary estate to Mary Edith Bamforth for life, and subject to her interest the ultimate residue of his property to his niece Dorothy Jeannette Squire, and his nephew Captain Giles Frederick Squire in equal shares.

Football.

N.G. LEAGUE MEETING.

PRESENTATION TO A SECRETARY.

The annual general meeting of the Management Committee of the North Gloucestershire League was held at Gloucester, Mr. S. W. Smith presiding.

During the evening a gold albert was selected for presentation to Mr. L. G. Robinson, who has relinquished the post of Hon. Registration Secretary on leaving the district, after being connected with the League during the whole of its 21 years of existence.

In his review of the past season, the Chairman congratulated the League on a successful year, and spoke of the excellent performances of Cinderford Corinthians (champions of the Second Division), Longney (Third Division), and Tuffley Juniors (Junior Division), remarking that they had played good football and that their success was deserved.

The election of officials resulted as follows:—President, Mr. C. Lee Williams; vice-presidents, Dr. E. de Carl Trout, Messrs. D. Rowles and A. F. Watts, the Rev. A. H. Cheesman, Lieut.-Col. J. N. Horlick, M.P., Messrs. O. Lee Williams and M. Beaumont, the Rev. A. T. Ward, and Mr. L. C. Hobbs; chairman, Mr. S. W. Smith; vice-chairman, Mr. W. B. Fream; hon. secretary, Mr. G. A. Jones; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. W. Williams; hon. registration secretary and insurance secretary, Mr. L. G. Hart. Mr. L. G. Robinson was added to the list of life members, and Messrs. Hart and F. C. Ballinger were appointed as representatives on the Senior League.

THE WORKLESS ARMY.

A Decrease of 17,390

The Secretary to the Ministry of Labour announces that on May 21 the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,101,000. This was 17,390 less than a week before, but 122,824 more than a year ago.

The German unemployment returns for the first fortnight of May show a further decrease of 106,600, or roughly 12 per cent. In the number of registered unemployed, from 891,700 to 785,100. The number of persons in receipt of insurance relief decreased from 729,300 to 642,200, and the number of those in receipt of extended benefits fell from 162,400 to 142,900.

When it was stated at the Thames Police Court that a casual ward inmate refused to chop wood as the work was too hard, the magistrate (Mr. Cairns) said, "I do that as a recreation."

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