SHEARD, BINNINGTON'S

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EVERYBODY'S BUYING-TIME

It is amazing when you come to think of it, but the fact remains that during the Sale Period, Reduced Prices affect over Seventy Bedroom Suites and more than a Hundred Bedsteads. A substantial saving is offered on every piece of Furniture within the Warehouse—on every Carpet and Rug, on all Linen Goods—ON EVERYTHING! We leave it to your good judgment to make the most of this opportunity.

OAK BEDROOM SUITE with 4ft. Wardrobe, Dressing Chest with long Mirror and Drawers, complete with Low Chest. Regular Price £19/5/0. **Reduced to £17/0/0 Sale Price.**

BEDSTEAD BARGAINS. 4ft. 6in. Reproduction Oak Bedstead, beautifully made, and Usually £11/10/0. **Offered for £8/17/6.** Also a full panelled 4ft. 6in. Mahogany Bedstead to be cleared at the **Bargain Price 82/-.**

OAK BEDROOM SUITE (4ft.), with large Wardrobe, full Dressing Chest, Low Chest, and 2 Chairs. Regular Price £21/10/0. **Reduced to £18/5/0.**

OAK BEDROOM SUITE (5ft. 6in.), nicely finished and well-constructed, Dressing Table with the new frameless Mirrors, Low Chest. Usually £21/0/0. **Sale Price £17/15/0**

MAHOGANY BEDROOM SUITE (4ft.), with 4ft. Wardrobe which has double Mirrored Doors, full Dressing Chest and Low Chest of Drawers. A rare **Bargain at £26/15/0**

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SHEETS. Horrockses, Osman and other standard makes are all marked down for clearance, and the Bargains include many hundreds of pairs in Twill and Plain Cotton, and also Hemstitched.

Usually:
12/9, 15/9 18/6, 21/6 pair.

SALE PRICE:
10/9, 12/9, 15/6, 17/6 pair.

Higher Qualities:
23/9, 25/9, 27/6, 31/6 pair.

SALE PRICED AT
19/6, 21/9, 23/6, 27/6 pair.

PILLOW CASES. 60 dozen Horrockses Cases, buttoned ends, full size. Usually 1/6 each. **Reduced to 1/3.** 50 dozen Osman Pillow Cases. Usually 1/4 each. **Reduced to 1/- each.**

BATH TOWELS. Christy's, Osman and first-class makes in White, Brown and Coloured Turk Towels are all marked down. Striped Towels at 1/-, 1/4, 1/9, 1/11, 2/3 to 11/9 each. White Turks to 1/3, 1/6, 1/11, 2/6, 2/11, 3/3 to 17/6 each.

DAMASK CLOTHS. Real Irish Linen Table Cloths, in sizes from 1½ to 4 yards long, are all to be offered at definitely reduced prices.

Usual Prices.
10/9, 12/9, 15/9, 21/9.

SALE PRICES.
8/11, 10/6, 13/6 17/6.

Larger Sizes.
25/9, 29/6, 33/- to 112/-.

SALE PRICED AT
21/- 25/- 27/6 to 95/-.

SPECIAL OFFER of 25 dozen Table Napkins. Usually 1/4 each, to clear at 1/- each; and the 1/6 quality to clear at 1/3 each.

SPECIAL

BEDSPREADS. 250 Beautiful Bedspreads with Applique work on Fawn and Coloured Grounds. Usually 14/9, 17/6, 21/6, 25/9 to 59/6. **Reduced to 11/9, 14/6, 17/6, 21/6 to 45/9 each.**

COTTON TABLE CLOTHS. all White, or with coloured borders, are to be cleared at **2/6, 2/11, 3/6, 4/6, 4/11 to 10/9 each. Sale Price.** Very useful for Kitchen or Breakfast use.

SALE OF CARPETS

SEAMLESS SQUARES in a wide range of colour and design suitable for Lounge, Dining-room and Bedroom. All of finest quality and full value for the usual price.

Size 3 x 2½ yards	Original Price £5 2s.	0d.,	**Sale Price £4 10s. 0d.**
Size 3½ x 2½ yards	Original Price £5 13s.	6d.,	**Sale Price £5 5s. 0d.**
Size 3 x 3 yards	Original Price £6 2s.	6d.,	**Sale Price £5 15s. 0d.**
Size 3½ x 3 yards	Original Price £7 2s.	6d.,	**Sale Price £6 8s. 0d.**
Size 3 x 4 yards	Original Price £8 2s.	6d.,	**Sale Price £7 5s. 0d.**
Size 3½ x 4 yards	Original Price £9 9s.	0d.,	**Sale Price £8 10s. 0d.**

RUGS. A large assortment of Axminster and Wilton Rugs in artistic colourings at very heavily reduced prices.

Axminster Rugs ...	Size 6' 2" x 4' 7"	...	**Reduced from 39/6 to 32/6**
Axminster Rugs ...	Size 6' 3" x 3' 9"	...	**Reduced from 52/6 to 45/-**
Fine Wilton Rugs ...	Size 6' 6" x 4'	...	**Reduced from 84/- to 69/6**
Fine Wilton Rugs ...	Size 6' 6" x 4'	...	**Reduced from 95/- to 79/6**
Axminster Rugs ...	Size 6' x 3'	...	**Reduced from 27/6 to 24/6**
Hair Cord Rugs ...	Size 7' x 4'	...	**Reduced from 33/9 to 25/-**
Hair Cord Rugs ...	Size 6' x 3'	...	**Reduced from 19/6 to 15/-**
Hair Cord Rugs ...	Size 4' 3" x 2' 1"	...	**Reduced from 8/11 to 7/6**

FREE STORAGE
Any Goods bought during the Sale and not immediately required will be stored free of charge until we receive instructions to deliver wherever we choose. Our own Motor Vans deliver to most of those places from which our Customers come in by Motor 'Bus.

CASH PRICES
Sale Prices are Cash Prices, and the substantial reductions of this period would be impossible upon any other terms. It always pays to buy for Cash, but at Sale-time the advantage is greater than ever.

SHEARD, BINNINGTON & Co.

Complete House Furnishers,

High St. and Printing Office St.
DONCASTER.

ANCIENT WOMBWELL

Gleanings from Parish Accounts.

VANISHED LANDMARKS

To many of the present generation living in this important village towards Greenline Wath well it may be interesting to glance back a few centuries in an attempt to depict some ancient features of their one-time peaceful village. The march of industry has, alas, caused the destruction of what few building remnants existed of its mediæval days—the Chanel of Saint Mary in which in 1507 Roger Wombwell founded a chantry for the benefit of within our own time—its hallowed stones now adorn various backyard rockeries, and indeed some of them have disappeared in the hearths of nearby residences. Of the once imposing manor house of the Squires of Wombwell, which stood on the site of the present Wombwell Hall, and which the illustration depicts in its latter state of decay, only a minute portion remains in some of the outbuildings. From shortly after the Norman Conquest and for many generations afterwards, the whole of the village belonged to the family of Wombwell, their estate reaching to Blacker, Stairfoot, Darfield, and into West Melton, for a Wath deed of 1507 refers to some land in Winterwell adjoining that of John Wombwell, of Wombwell. Six hundred years ago Robert de Wombwell held the lordship, and about 1450 his great-grandson, Thomas Wombwell, being desirous of "improving" his estate, was allowed to enclose a certain part of the King's Highway "from the Green Lane in Wombwell towards the south as far as Tunstall Cross." Green Lane was later known as Well Lane, and is present-day Station Road. So we may assume his home park stretched between the present Town Hall and Tunstall Cross, and extended from Broomhill to Low Valley and to the foot of Darfield Hill. It is interesting to note that even in these far-off days permission had to be obtained for such enclosures—doubtless somewhat easier than would be the case today. Anyhow, we now know the cause of the narrowness of Park Street!

Imagine, then, dense woodlands reaching from Summer Lane to Blacker Hill and to Ardsley, with open farm lands from Honeyfield towards Brampton; indeed, here is a list of tenants who farmed hereabouts 347 years ago—

"A List of the tythe hay money as it was gathered in ye year 1582 from Heminglische."

	s.	d.
John Kettlewell	0	7
Wm. Beamond	1	6
Richd. Scales	0	7
Wm. Johnson	0	7
Thos. Popplewell	0	7

evidently a much better hay crop than our farming neighbours expect to get this year!

It was the second son of Squire Wm. Wombwell, the Rev. Thomas Wombwell, M.A., who was appointed Vicar of Wath in 1652, but for some reason—probably he wanted Darfield Rectory—he at first refused the appointment and was actually ejected from a Fellowship of his College for so doing. He, however, shortly afterwards accepted the living, was reinstated to his Fellowship, and died in 1681. This reverend gentleman evidently had no great opinion of the Wath folk, for in his will demising them £30 to build a school he stated:

"I have observed a negligence among the people of Wath and there backwardness in public concernment."

And not being certain that even the lure of the £30 would produce the school he provided an alternative—not for Wath, mind you, but for his native place:—

"If so be that the inhabitants of the parish of Wath doe not take the advantage of this my charitable intention within the space of three years after my death that then the said summe of thirty pounds shall be layd out for the relieffe of the needful poore of the chappelry of Wombwell for ever."

But the Wath people were not quite seeing this £30 go to Wombwell, so they built the school, and evidently made a good job of it, for a portion still remains intact.

In the ancient documents preserved in the Wath Museum are the accounts of the Squires Wombwell by the Constables of Wath and Brampton, showing they were magistrates and dispensed justice. It is thus presumed that the dungeon known to have existed under the Hall was used as a lock-up for offenders.

	s.	d.
1680—"For myselfe and John Shepperd going to ye Justice Wombwell about ye child that was lost at Wombwell	2	0
"pd. for ale when we went about ye abyssed child	1	4
1711—"For going twice with John Holland to see Mr. Wombwell ...	1	0
"pd. to Richard Beaulds for charges about ye thiefe that was taken before Mr. Wombwell	5	0

As Mr. William Heald kept a public house on the way to Wombwell we presume liquid refreshment would enter into this transaction.

	s.	d.
1713—"Pd. in charges at Wombwell ye 13 August for ye jury at ye death of Will Sandall, Carpyr, he being slain at Wombwell	7	0
"pd. for Thos. Bramum before Mr. Wombwell	1	0
"pd. for Thos. Bramum and ye witnesses against him at Wombels ...	3	6
1715—"Thomas Wombwell and myselfe goiing to Justice Wombwells with Widdow Hartley	1	0

The last of the family of Wombwell resident at the Hall (William Wombwell, died 1733) has been described as "a wealthy rough country squire who kept much shooting company and lived in baronial splendour. Had a pack of hounds, deer in his park, fine gardens attached to the Hall, with fishponds beyond. A vast retinue of servants surrounded him, and he maintained the authority of feudal times."

These fishponds would be connected with the River Dove, which joined the Dearne in his park—we must, of course, remember that neither canal nor railway intersected the property in those days.

The old records show that although the local authorities looked well after their own poor people they were keen to see that no strange vagabonds or cripples planted themselves in their respective townships, lest perchance they became chargeable to the rates, and indeed there is ample proof that a Wath and Brampton the constables made a practice of driving such unfortunates across Wombwell's border! Let this official regulation speak for itself:

1680—"That ye Constables shall when any stranger come unto them . . shall get them away as sharpe as they can. Ye Constables shall have for carying a cripple on horseback to Wombwell or Hemingfield for every horse or time ... ... | 1 | 6 |
and if in a cart or waine ... ... | 1 | 6 |

Joseph Halmshaw was Constable of Brampton and Melton in 1680, and his accounts show:

	s.	d.
"For carrying a cripple on horse backe to Wombwell	1	0
Gave him and three of his companions	0	2
"For carying one cripple in a waine to Wombwell and ye waine and him	2	0
"For relieife and lodging three strangers all night and carrying them all away on horseback to Wombwell	1	1

surely a pretty hefty load for the poor horse's back!

Tradition states that the Wombwell Constable being quite alive to this dumping game, duly transferred all the rogues across to Barnsley, and unkind people have said they all remained there.

Here is an interesting document:—

1712—"From the Chief Constable to the Constable of Wombwell."

I require of you to give notis to ye collector of ye land tax with in ye tow'nship that the assesment will be lessn and determined at Rotherham on Friday ye sixth of this instant, and at Doncaster on Saturday of ye day following by 12 of ye clocke in ye afternoon of sch day—Given under my hand at Nuhall ye 9 of May, 1712.

WILL. MARSDEN.

There were 15 of these Chief Constables throughout the West Riding, and Mr. William Marsden, resided at New Hall, Darfield.

These old village Constables had quite a variety of duties to perform, for, in addition to Land Tax, Window and Hearth Tax (Pipe taxing household light and heat!), and tythe appurtenment, they made payments of relief to wounded soldiers, kept in good order the lock-ups, pinfolds, stocks, etc., saw to the repair of the town's gates and fences—say they were even responsible for cleaning out the ditches and dykes, and for the maintenance of bridges and culverts.

Here is a Constable's item concerning the Knoll Beck Bridge at the boundary of Wombwell and Darfield:—

	£	s.	d.
1729—"Paid for Knobeck Bridge mending	2	9	0
"pd. for ale when stones was led for same	0	3	6

Even working in a stream seems to have been a thirsty job.

Well, their ghosts may now be thanking goodness that in addition to all this they hadn't present-time Saturday night's traffic to control at the bottom of Church Street.

We come to a later period, and find that in the year 1822 Wombwell had a population of 811, and that Mr. John Garland, of Wood Hall, was the chief resident—this house was later known as Netherwood Hall. He married Miss Bertha Birks, daughter of that much respected solicitor and man of affairs, Mr. John Birks, of Hemingfield. The Garlands were an old county family, and it is of interest to note that the daughter of an earlier generation, Miss Elizabeth Garland, was a Maid of Honour at the English Royal Court, and became the friend and companion of Queen Charlotte, wife of George III. We can we at this juncture resist a peep into the Garland private household book, for it gives us some idea of her parents' costly preparation for their only daughter's entry into London Society:—

	£	s.	d.
1693—"Spent when at London for Betty, and her coach hire forward and backwards	61	10	0
1701—For Betty Garland and her maid going to London	3	0	0
1704—"pd Lady Frenchville for bord for Betty Garland and her maid	125	0	0
"and to her Ladyship for several things disburst for Betty	100	12	5
"pd. for setting ye diamond buckle	2	5	0
1705—"pd. Mr. Edernington for Betty's gold watch	23	0	0

and throughout the varied items of expenditure pertaining to the domestic matters of their estate, one is glad to observe the frequent repetition of such charitable entries as this:—

	s.	d.
1698—"Gave away to severall poore people	10	0

Miss Garland was doubtless as winsome a Yorkshire maiden as ever graced the Royal Court of England.

How one longs for the return of such food prices as these—which also are extracts from the records in this local household book:—

	s.	d.
1697—"For a leg of mutton and a couple of rabbits	2	1
A Chicken	1	6
18 Pigeons	1	6
For a couple of ducks	1	6
25 Partridges at 6d. each	12	4

One hundred years ago the tradesmen were as follow:

Wm. Alldis, Wheelwright.
Matthew Belk, Maltster.
John Bramer, Stonemason.
John Chapman, Mcer.
Thos. Thomas, Maltster.
John Smith, Victualler and Veterinary Surgeon, at the "Three Horse Shoes" Inn.

This latter still exists—remodelled, of course—as "The Horse Shoe Hotel."

The Wombwell Council have appropriately adopted the arms and motto of their ancient Squire. May one suggest that a picture of the old Manor House hung on the walls of their excellent Council chamber would serve as an interesting memento of Wombwell's feudal days?

In addition to original details obtained from the Wath Museum, the writer acknowledges certain information and the view of the old house from Wilkinson's "Worthies of Barnsley and District," published about 60 years ago. F.P.

CO-OPERATIVE GALA.

Wath School Wins Country Dance.

In connection with the demonstrations held at Barnsley last week-end, under the auspices of the Barnsley Co-operative Society, a series of attractions was arranged in Locke Park. The programme included glee singing by the Co-operative Junior Choir, a fancy dress parade, and a children's dance contest. The adjudicator in the country dance section was Mr. A. H. Whitehead. The first prizes in the first and second classes respectively were won by Silkstone Common Council School and Wath Park Road Council School. Awards:

Fancy Dress Parade: 1 Sylvia Steele, 10, Tinker Lane, Hoyland Common; 2 Ella Cowen Bell, Peckett Square, Mapplewell; 3 Mary Harrison. Boys: 1 James Cooper, 15, Blenheim Avenue, Barnsley; 2 Henry Gold, 3, Upper Sheffield Road, Barnsley; 3, John Hall, 15, Sheffield Road, Barnsley; 4 Roy Armitage, Church Hill, Royston.

Country Dance Contest.—Class 1 (children under 12), "Enterprise" 88; 2, "The Black Nag", 1, Silkstone Common Council School (Miss C. M. Crownshaw), 90; 2, Blacker Council School (Miss Egerton), 88; 3, Wath Park Road Council School (Miss Hammond), 86; 4, Kersdorth Road Council School, Barnsley (Miss Jackson), 85. Class 2 (children over 12), "Christchurch Bells" and "Scotch Cap". 1, Wath Park Road Council School (Miss Garratt), 92; 2 and 3, Kersdorth Road Council School (Miss Jackson) and Blacker Council School (Miss Egerton) 90 each; 4, John Street Council School, Wombwell (Miss E. Hatfield), 86; 5, Silkstone Common Council School (Miss C. M. Crownshaw), 85.

A REMARKABLE GIFT OFFER BY WELL-KNOWN TAILORS.

This is the time of year when most men indulge in a new suit for the holiday season, and the vagaries of the English climate are such that a new raincoat is an indispensable necessity, too. Not often does one have an opportunity of obtaining both a suit and a raincoat for the price of the suit only. This is, however, the genuine offer now being made by Messrs. Alexandre's, the well-known tailors. Every Gent's order over £6 for "Alexandre" or "Alexa" Serge made-to-measure suits at the ordinary prices of 50s. or 63s. respectively will be presented with a smart new raincoat in his own size, entirely free of charge. This, very unusual and generous offer on the part of Messrs. Alexandre deserves a ready response, and is sure to be widely appreciated

previous resolution to fix the date at 31st July, and that the Clerk and Accountant be instructed to interview the Secretary of the Association for the purpose of explaining the Council's position, and to express the Council's wish that where the tenants pay their rents and proportion of rates punctually, the property owners generally should allow the tenants a proportion of the allowances.

A LOST FRAGMENT OF WOMBWELL.

A SKETCH of Wombwell Hall, as it stood in 1820, reproduced from Wilkinson's Worthies of Barnsley. See article on Ancient Wombwell, on this page.

WOMBWELL U.D.C.

The Conference Question Again.

MONEY WELL SPENT.

A Meeting of the Wombwell Urban Council was held on Tuesday, Mr. J. A. Hall (Chairman), presiding.

CONFERENCES.

On the Highways Committee minutes being submitted for confirmation, Mr. V. Burrows referred to the recommendation to send the Chairman of the Committee (Mr. J. Belshaw) and the Surveyor as delegates to the Public Works Congress at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, in November. Mr. Burrows enquired what the cost would be and added "Having regard to the times through which we are passing, I suggest this is one of the conferences we might cut out."

The Chairman said there was a limit to the amount to which delegates could go.

Mr. Burrows: Can you give me an estimate of the cost ?

The Chairman: At a rough estimate I should say £20; the Chairman of that committee has, I believe, given up one Conference he certainly should have gone to knowing full that this conference was going to be held, the Surveyor should be there because of the new developments with regard to roads.

Mr. F. Collinridge said that the conference mentioned was the most important within the range of that committee. Important papers would be delivered and the information would be of great benefit to heads of departments and to the Council. He was in favour of the head of the department going but, having regard to the fact that the responsibility for decisions rested with the Council, it was essential that some members of the Council should attend. The value of conferences was proved when they were negotiating with local colliery companies for a supply of coke oven gas. One firm quoted 1/- per unit and two others 9d. Through attending conferences they learned what others were paying and ultimately they came to terms on the basis of 7d. Moreover, it appeared as though the Council would have to bear the cost of the main. That expense was eventually passed on and something like £3,000 was saved, not mention the continuous saving, he was as much in favour of economy as anyone, and on that ground his own committee had so far not been represented at a conference this year. At the same time, he hoped no hard and fast rule regarding conferences was to be made.

Mr. R. Preston supported the recommendation. He said the conference occurred only once in two years. "I claim," said Mr. Preston, "that I have as much right as any official to see the things we are going to buy. Mr. Burrows would never think of buying a 'bus without seeing it."

Mr. J. W. Mellor said that a conference like that was no "joy ride." A councillor could only claim reasonable expenses. "I think it is money well spent."

Mr. Burrows said his question was merely as to what the expense would be.

The Committee's recommendations was approved.

INCREASES OF SALARY.

A sub-committee had had under consideration application for increases in salary by the collector (Mr. T. Turnbull) and his assistants (Messrs Pearson and Sievill), also by two assistants in the collector's department (Messrs. Hill and Jones).

The following increases were recommended and approved; Mr. Tom Turnbull £50, rising with two annual increments of £25 each up to a maximum of £400 per annum, the Council to grant Mr. Turnbull the sum of £50 for extra services rendered since 1926 to date. Messrs. Pearson, Hill and Jones £13 each, rising with two annual increments of £6 10s. 0d. each, up to a maximum of £200 per annum. Mr. H. Shevill £13, rising with two annual increments of £6 10s. 0d each, up to a maximum of £195 per annum.

NORTH WARD RECREATION GROUND.

At a Meeting of the Highways and Buildings Committee a letter was submitted from the Wombwell Parks Welfare Committee, stating that provided the Council purchase a recreation ground for the North Ward, the Committee will be prepared to recommend to the South Yorkshire District Committee the expenditure of £200 in equipment.

IMPROVEMENT.

The Clerk was instructed again to apply to the Ministry of Transport for a grant toward the cost of the proposed improvement in Roebuck Hill Jump, and to endeavour to arrange an interview between the Ministry and representatives of the Council on the subject.

The wages of the park keeper, Mr. G. Dowson were increased by 1/- per week.

BROOMHILL RECREATION GROUND.

The Surveyor (Mr. Q. Quest), submitted a report on the takings at the Broomhill recreation ground and it was decided, in view of the adverse nature of the report, that the increased charges be cancelled on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in each week.

DEALING OUT WORK.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee had received a deputation from the Wombwell Branch of the British Legion requesting the Council to give consideration to ex-service men in filling any vacancies for workmen. The Committee recommended that the officials be instructed to give consideration to all unemployed workmen, including ex-service men, when filling vacancies.

RATE REBATES.

A letter was submitted from the Wombwell and District Property Owners' Association, requesting the Council to extend the period of payment of rates by owners to qualify for the allowance to August 31st. The Council decided to adhere to their

(Continued in Preceding Column).

CONISBORO' U.D.C.

Increased Rents : Colliery Company's Explanation.

DISTRESS FUND CRITICS

PIT-HEAD BATHS.

Mr. A. Roberts presided at the monthly meeting of the Conisboro' Urban District Council on Wednesday.

RENTS OF COLLIERY HOUSES.

Mr. G. Brocklesby (Accountant) gave a report of an appeal by the Denaby and Cadeby Main Collieries in the matter of the rents of the company's houses.

The report stated that the rents of these houses had been increased for one or more of the following reasons: (a) Reduced compounding allowances; (b) increase of rateable value, and (c) percentage of the cost of privy and coal house conversions. In many of the cases the increase of net rates amounted to 4d. or 6d. per week, and the increase in respect of conversions 6d. or 7d. per week.

The Colliery Company have appealed against practically all their cottage property assessments and were awaiting the decision. If any reduction was made the tenants would get the benefit.

Only the net increase had been added, the tenants getting the full benefit of the compounding allowance. It was pointed out that in order to secure this the Colliery Company had to find the money before the end of June and risk whether they received the amount from the tenants. The Colliery Company got no benefit from this, but lost interest on the money advanced. The Company had spent about £18,368 on conversions and had endeavoured to obtain an allowance for this amount as extra maintenance expenditure by appealing to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, but were unsuccessful. If they had been allowed this, it would have been possible to avoid increasing the rents, but their only alternative was to recoup themselves as provided under the Rent Restriction Acts.

The increases were due to factors over which the Colliery Company and the Council had no control: (a) Reduced compounding allowance under the Rating and Valuation Act; (b) increased assessments under the Rating and Valuation Act, due to the scale adopted by the Assessment Committee; (c) expenditure necessary on account of the improvements in respect of privy conversions; (d) failure of the Council's officials to obtain an allowance in respect of this expenditure as maintenance costs.

Mr. Brocklesby said the conversions were an important item, and the Company was entitled to charge 8 per cent. under the Rent Restriction Act. This was equal to from 6d. to 7d. per week on the houses.

Mr. G. Chadfield said as far as he could see the Council had been helping to raise assessments.

The Chairman: Can anything be done even if the houses are assessed at the old rate?

The Accountant: No. Some of the houses which were assessed at £7 before (probably that was adequate), have gone up to £8, and there is a reduction on the compounding allowance of 10 per cent.

Mr. J. T. E. Collins said the point of view of the tenants was that while the houses had deteriorated the rents had gone up. The rents should go down rather. Naturally, people wanted to pay as little rent as possible. For the conversions the people were paying twice. He hoped that something could be done. Some pressure should be brought on the people who had increased the rents. The higher rented houses had increases in assessment, and the lower had increased.

The Accountant: I believe the Committee have honestly endeavoured to make a uniform assessment.

He added that only houses which had privy conversions would be affected by this particular increase.

Mr. Collins said there was confusion at Conanby regarding re-assessment.

The Accountant said the Assessment Committee thought the houses at Conanby had paid too much in the past, so there was a general reduction there of 10 per cent.

Mr. Wells: Has this been handed on to the tenants?

The Accountant: Yes.

WATER FOR PIT-HEAD BATHS.

The Sanitary and Highways Committee recommended that a supply of pit-head baths should be obtained from the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board, and the Surveyor's estimate was that they should obtain pumping plant for the waste water was adopted.

WAGES INCREASED.

It was recommended that the following increased wages be paid: Housing foreman's labourers, 1/2 per hour; plumbers' mate 1/3; sewage disposal works workmen, 1/3 per hour; labourers on roads and general works and gardener, 1/3; scavengers, 1/3; road sweepers 1/11 (no increase); several individuals, 1/3, 1/6 per hour, and 6/8 per day.

SCAVENGING.

For the scavenging of the district eight tenders were received, of which six were for the whole of the district. It was recommended that Mr. H. W. Buckley, who had done the work last year, should again be given the contract for the whole district at £1855.

Coun. J. Webster asked who was to pay for the baths?

The Surveyor (Mr. H. Thirlwall) said they would be paid for out of the Miners' Welfare Fund. The pumping plant would probably be £600 or £700. It was advisable to take the water from the Joint Water Board, whose pipe was within 50 feet of the place. The Council had no interest in it, but the Board could not supply water in the district without an agreement. The orders for the pit-head baths would be supplied by the Council at the same rate as the Council paid for their supply in bulk. It would cost the Council about £25 for the right to take water out of the main. The terms were perfectly fair.

Coun. I. Webster said the lowest tender for scavenging should have been taken. The saving would have almost paid the inspector's salary. There was a difference of £155.

Referring to the decrease of workmen's wages, Coun. J. T. E. Collins said he hoped they would be pleased that some consideration had been given them. They had not arrived at the stage when every employee could have 1/6 per hour.

Coun. J. Webster said he would not vote for the minute regarding scavenging because the lowest tender was not accepted.

(Continued in Next Column)

KILLED BY HAULAGE

Unexplained Accident at Kilnhurst

FOUND UNDER "TUB."

How James Preston (24), haulage hand, of 7, Charles Street, Kilnhurst, met his death in the Thrybergh Hall Colliery last Thursday, was the subject of an inquiry by Mr. J. Kenyon Parker on Saturday. Mr. Kenyon Parker was assisted by a jury, and there were also present Mr. H. Humphreys, H.M. Inspector of Mines, Mr. W. Barr, manager, and Mr. W. Hewitson, secretary of the Kilnhurst branch of the Y.M.A.

As far as witnesses knew, he was the last person to see Preston alive. That was at 8-15 a.m., when Preston went to his job in the Hooton Level. That morning witness was driving a compressed air engine, and about 8-30 he lowered a train of 13 empty tubs and two "skellies" filled with timber. When they were half-way down the plane, witness felt the weight go off the rope. The tubs had been going down steadily, and immediately he noticed the tension go off he stopped his engine and went to find out what was wrong. "I reached the bottom of the tubs, but could not get through to the front because the road was too narrow. I went back to the engine house, passing a boy named Liccone on the way, and about five minutes later I got a signal to "pull back," which I obeyed. I drove the train up to its starting point, and then went back to where they had first stopped, and there Preston lying in the road."

In answer to the Coroner, Taylor said he could not say how the accident happened. The time would be about 8-45.

The Coroner: Don't you know what happened to the man—No, sir.

Were you told that he was found under a tub?—Yes, sir.

Mr. Humphreys: When you were lowering this set, was there anything to make it go off the road?—No. We were going down gently.

Did you notice anything about the rope?—Yes, after a stopped it was tight. I thought something was off the road.

Mr. Barr: How many trains had you lowered that morning?—Three before this one.

In answer to Mr. Hewitson, Taylor said that that was Preston's first train that morning. He had only just gone to the job, but had had a great amount of experience in the work.

Fred Bramall, deputy, 16, Stuart Road, Rawmarsh, said he had worked 36 years in collieries, and had been in charge of the Hooton district for Thrybergh Hall Colliery for 10 years. He saw Preston about 9 minutes before the accident, when he sent Preston on the haulage in Hooton plane. About 8-45 witness went to the place where the accident occurred to enquire why the run was late. Nearing the place, he saw Preston's lamp alight, and shouted to Preston. He spoke clearly, and he received no answer to his call. Passing the lamp, he came on the tubs, and found Preston underneath the second one. None of the tubs were off the rails, and the one on Preston contained timber. Witness was practically out of sight under the tub with the axle of the tub on the back of his neck. Some of the weight of the run would be on him." They dislodged Preston within three minutes, but found he was dead.

"No one saw the accident," added Bramall, "and the only opinion I can give is that one of the tubs came off the road and he was lifting it back when the others came down and pulled him under." The chain was in good order and free from obstruction. Witness had known Preston since he started at the colliery, and had found him to be one of the best, honest lads working there.

The Coroner: Is there anyone to throw more light on this accident than Taylor and you?—No, sir, and I cannot say how long he had been there.

Mr. Humphreys: Assuming your theory of how the accident happened is correct, it was the second time for the tub to throw tubs back on the road?—Yes, sir.

In the ordinary way there is no danger when throwing the tubs back?—No, sir.

Mr. Hewitson: Do you think he was overeager?—Yes, sir.

Taylor was recalled and asked if he received any signals after starting until he came to the "pull back"?—Yes, and answered.

P.c. Watson said he examined Preston and found that a hip was dislocated, and that there was a fracture at the base of the skull.

The Coroner said there was no evidence to show how Preston met his death, and added that the verdict was "Found accidentally killed with no evidence to show how or by what it happened." The jury found a verdict in accordance.

(Continued from Preceding Column).

He could not see why one man should be given the whole job. Eight people had been deprived. He moved the reference back. This was seconded.

Coun. Gomersall defended the giving of the contract to Mr. Buckley on the ground that he was the original man, and had done the work, and it was done well last year.

DISTRESS FUND.

The Chairman said on Monday he attended a meeting of the Wombwell Area Distress Committee. There was yet much money for distribution. At that meeting there was a Government official, who found fault with the Committee had done. He (Mr. Roberts) was satisfied that it was that district was concerned they had tried to carry out the spirit of the scheme. He was suggested that a better way would be if a family was in acute distress, to give £5 if necessary and get rid of them. That would be all right if there was plenty of money. To carry out that suggestion there would have to be a change in the rules. These cities. As public men they have to take a community view, but critics took little individual views. He was satisfied that the Committee had sought the greatest good for the greatest number. He was not prepared to recommend that any alteration in the procedure should be adopted. He thought the doctor should send in sufficient cases because he would be the best judge of cases. The grants were limited to 10s. per week and not more than £5 in any case.

Coun. Gomersall said some areas spent £2000 or £3000 had been distributed, and more freely than was the case in Conisboro'.

MINES DRAINAGE.

The Chairman said he was on three deputations on Tuesday in London on the Drainage of Mines question, seeing the Drainage Bill was being considered. Some were affected, others, and a good deal of information came to light. Even if their object was not achieved they had done good. In Prescot the point. On two occasions Bills on the subject had been defeated, and now a Bill was applied for and made. The new Order of the Mines Department suggested that there should be given a little time to study the matter, and that a few of the representatives should assist him particularly because they represented coalfields and sanitary authorities responsible for the health of the people. It was still possible that the Bill would be defeated, and steps taken to protect the health of the people.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Council decided that additional uniforms, boots, hose and fittings, etc., required by the Fire Brigade should be purchased at the estimated cost of £129.

The Surveyor reported upon an inspection of allotments and stated that the allotments were found to be in a generally satisfactory condition.

Mr. H. Shacklock, Mr. J. Walgate, Mr. A. Roberts, Mr. Gomersall, Coun. G. Chadfield and Coun. H. Gomersall had been appointed as a sub-committee to deal with the question of prizes for the best-kept Council allotment. Other allotments are not in the competition.

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