

The Teesdale Mercury
 BARNARD CASTLE, NOVEMBER 22ND, 1916.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
 Near the Rise of the Tees.—Next week. It should be stated that our regular Teesdale correspondent has nothing material to do with the controversy.

A HUMAN MONSTER.

YESTERDAY afternoon, in the House of Commons, Lord R. Cecil said the officer responsible for the deportation of Belgians from Belgium is the same officer who is accountable for the execution of Miss Cavell. It is as well to remember this fact in view of the reckoning day which must come.

YESTERDAY'S KNACK WEDDING AT STARTFORTH.

Major Benger and Miss D. L. Manby. Yesterday afternoon, at a quarter-past two o'clock, a military wedding, in which much interest was centered, took place in the church of the Holy Trinity, Startforth. Owing to the fact that the bridegroom has been doing service abroad, and the possibility of leave being withdrawn as a matter of urgency, the marriage was solemnized two days previous to the date originally fixed, and thus numerous friends, who had signified their intention of being present, were unable to come. Nevertheless, the neat church of the hamlet was quite filled with interested spectators to witness the uniting in holy matrimony of Alfred Benger, a major in the 11th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, and Dorothy Lewis Manby, second daughter of the Rev. A. L. Manby, Vicar of Startforth, and Mrs. Manby. The bride, needless to say, well known throughout the entire neighbourhood, and much esteemed. The bridegroom, who has been at the front since last March, was, while in training, encamped at Desbrett with the 10th Leicesters. The celebration, yesterday, was very quiet, and the weather, fortunately, favoured the happy event. Major Benger was in officer's uniform, and the bride looked extremely pretty in a white net dress, with an overdress of white tulle, and a court train of the same material. The also wore a long net veil, with pearl ornaments, and a wreath of orange blossom, and carried a lovely bouquet, composed of Blis, white heather and white carnations. As she entered the church, leaning on the arm of her father, the organist, Mr. E. Hardy, of Scarborough, played as a solo a selection of "Festival March." The hymn, "The church's one foundation," was then sung. Canon E. Spencer Gough, Rector of Barmingham and Rural Dean, was the only officiating clergyman. After the ceremony the congregation again sang, the hymn being, "Thine for ever, God of love," and Canon Gough briefly addressed the newly-wedded pair in choice sentences. He prayed that God's blessing might be upon them as they begin their wedded day, and said they would, perhaps, like a few words from the clergyman officiating which they could take to their new home. The last occasion on which he took part at a wedding in that church was that of the bride's beloved sister, whose husband now bore the marks of patriotism to his country, and of loyalty to his King. They, too, must bear their share of loyalty to their country. He wished from the bottom of his heart that God would endow them with His richest blessing, and that they would help each other to be happy in their future life.—After the register had been signed and the happy couple were leaving the church, Mr. Hardy played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and the bells were afterwards tolled. Major and Mrs. Benger motored later to Darlington, en route for York and London. The bridegroom will have again shortly for France.

Rokeya Coursing Meeting.

Yesterday the above coursing took place in ideal weather, supported by a good attendance of lovers of the sport. Haras were numerous, and some capital sport was witnessed. Messrs G. D. Mulcaster and Wright discharged the office of judge and slipper respectively, and the secretarial duties were ably carried out by Mr. O. Hedley, of Barnard Castle. The results were in favour of the Rokeya Cup. The appended are the results.—In Great Bridge stakes for seven all-ages, at 23.0s. each, the winner receiving 21s. and second, 25s.—Mr. W. Rhodes' bridled dog, Mad Mullah II., by Daning Devilish—Nameless Chamo, divided with Mr. J. J. Bell-irving's bridled bitch Upper Orele, by Barleton—Cyole. In the Rokeya stakes for eight puppies, at 23.10s. each, the winner receiving 21s. and second, 27s.—Mr. J. Bell-irving giving a cup to the tenant claiming the winner. Mr. Watson nominated Mr. G. Thompson's bridled dog, Rokeya Cup, by Mandate—Forest Lassie which divided with Mr. H. Downson's nominaled Mr. R. Forrester's black dog, Flight Command, by Postage Paid—Frier Hill. In the Bridgal stakes for eight all-ages greyhounds that had not won more than two courses in one stake, at 23.10s. each, the winner receiving 21s. and second, 27s.—Mr. J. Bell-irving presenting a cup to the tenant nominating the winner of the stakes.—Mr. J. Longstaffe nominated Mr. G. Rapley's two black, Whitmoor Olive, by Daning Olive—Niall which divided with Mrs. Jackson's nominaled Mr. J. J. Bell-irving's bridled dog, Bale Up, by Mandate—Fortuna II. In the Thorpe stakes for eight puppies which had not won more than one course in any stake, at 23. each, the winner receiving 21s. and second, 26s.—Mr. E. Skelton's red or fawn dog, Silent Shell, by Beaded Brow—Standing Stone, divided with Mr. C. Brown's fawn dog, Bold Bandit, by Daning Derivah—Perfect Wilch. In the Egglestone Abbey stakes for eight puppies which had not won more than one course in any stake, at 23. each, the winner receiving 21s. and second, 26s.—Mr. H. Skelton's red or fawn bitch, Sweet Cynthia, by Beaded Brow—Standing Stone, divided with Mr. D. Graham's black bitch, Green Seal, by Mandate—Meadow Lark. In the match, Miss Annie Hawley's white dog, Sarcostic Crusader, by Sarcostic—Cynical, beat Miss Bell-irving's blue dog, Horse Marine, by Hill Nelson—Oryon.

Magnesia Helps Dyspeptics.

Patent Foods and Medicines no Longer Necessary. Many dyspeptics have now discontinued the use of expensive patent foods, harmful drugs, medicines and artificial stimulants, and instead, following the advice often given in these columns, they just take half-teaspoonful of pure bisulphated magnesia a little while more than once in every 24 hours. Not only save money, but enjoy much better health. Those who have once tried bisulphated magnesia never dread the approach of meal times, because they know that this wonderful alkali and food corrective, which can readily be obtained locally from the under-mentioned chemists, and most other high-class chemists everywhere, will instantly neutralise acidity and prevent all possibility of food fermenting in the stomach. Try this plan yourself, but mind you get the pure bisulphated magnesia, as other forms are unsuitable.

GENUINE BISULPHATED MAGNESIA can now be obtained locally from Mr. G. Clarkson Harker, The Salter Pharmacy; Mr. E. Holdsworth, 8, Horse-market; Mr. T. B. Hiley, Market-place, Barnard Castle; and Mr. R. W. Rainie, Market-place, Middleton-in-Teesdale. Powder Form costs 1/9 & 2/9 per bottle. Tablet Form costs 1/1 & 2/1 per bottle.

LOCAL AND OTHER NOTES.

Mrs J. J. Bell-irving's nephew (Lieutenant Vivian Ptery) has been wounded in France. He has a month's leave of absence, and, with Viscountess Maitland, who is calling at Rokeya on her way south, will take part in the coming great military concert at Barnard Castle.

Mr. S. H. C. Jackson, who has been for fourteen years connected with the London Joint Stock Bank in Whitch (which before it merged in that company was known as the York City and County Bank), has been appointed manager of the branch bank at Barnard Castle.

The three sons of Mr James Howard, of "The Limes," Otherton, are serving with the colours. Mr James Howard, jun., is with the Royal Naval Air Service, London. Mr William Howard is also in London, serving with the Honourable Artillery Company, and Mr Norman Howard, who was for some time with the Seaford Highlanders in Scotland, has been transferred to the machine gun section in the Midlands. They are all married men, and have left good positions and home comforts.

Lieutenant J. E. Green, son of Mr Green, of Wollegham, who was formerly in Messrs Backhouse's bank at Barnard Castle, and then became manager of Messrs Barclay's branch at Monkwearmouth, has been reported missing or killed. His father resigned his bank managership.

Lieutenant Roy H. Helmer, of Romaldkirk, of the signalling section, left Barnard Castle on Saturday morning for the front, he having been on short leave of absence.

Lieutenant B. N. Wells, late of the Manor House, Startforth, is the President of the Durham and Yorkshire Law Society for 1915-16.

Mr Walter Seal, son-in-law of the Rector of Romaldkirk, of the Cavendish House, has been granted a commission.

Mr Arthur Pope, of Otherton, who was the second assistant-engineer to Mr P. Williams in the construction of the Grasmere reservoir, joined the Royal Engineers, and is on active service.

Information has been received at Barnard Castle that Private John Hall, Galgate, of the Durham Light Infantry, has been killed in action. He enlisted on November 5th, 1915, and went to France last June. Previous to joining the army he was employed by the well-known Motherwell firm of bridge builders at the Tees viaduct.

Private Waide Emerson, Durham Light Infantry, son of Mr William Emerson, of the Durham Light Infantry, has been posted in the fighting line, has been through several serious engagements.

There are four cases set down for hearing at the Greata Bridge Police Court this morning—two for driving without lights, one riding a bicycle without a rear red light, and one for keeping a dog without a license.

Mrs Lax, of Stockton-on-Tees, late of Galgate, Darlington, has delivered a son, but her father, Private M. Wright, of Yorkshire Regiment, who was employed at the Bridge-end Flax Mills, is a prisoner of war at Klespsangengen, in Germany.

The name of Sergeant H. T. Barzill, of the Durham Light Infantry, the son-in-law of Mrs Henry Brown, No. 1, Queen-street, Barnard Castle, should have been included in the Roll of Honour published last week. He was killed on the 25th of September, 1915, at the Battle of Mons. Mr Brown has one son in the army, and two sons in the navy.

The Newcastle Free Church Council has secured the Rev. W. Callender Wake to conduct an intercessory service for the war, at Heaton Road Congregational Church, Newcastle, on Sunday evening, December 31st.

We are asked to notify that a great kindness in a shop of obvious serious accident in the London, there to undergo an eye operation. He had been in England for many years in the Durham County Constabulary, and was stationed at Hartlepool and Murton. He was well known and highly respected in these districts, and also at Sunderland, where he has been residing since his retirement. He was a familiar figure at Middleton, where he spent his summer holidays for the last twelve years. He leaves a widow, two sons, and two daughters to mourn his loss. One son is in the army, and the other is in the navy. The interment took place on Saturday at Sunderland.

Middleton Wesleyans are to be favoured with a visit next Monday from the Rev. J. T. Wardle-Staford, D.D., who is to preach in the afternoon, and lecture at night.

Middleton Band of Hope temperance week-end celebrations were held last week. On Saturday evening a concert was given in the Primitive Methodist school-room by the Primitive Methodist choir from Cockfield. Mr James Watson presided. In spite of the inclement weather the school-room was well filled. The following programme was rendered: Piano-forte solo—Cavalry march—Mr Hammond; chorus—How excellent—oh! solo—When the boys come home—Mr G. Dickenson; recitation—Oh! dinner mat gam o' me—Miss Graham; solo—A Friend for little children—Misses Wallace and Walker (duo); solo—Roses underneath the snow—Miss Armstrong; chorus—Rejoice, daughter of Zion—oh!; solo—Excelsior, Miss Rowlock and Mr Dickenson; solo—Long long trail—Mr Stevens; recitation—By Sally—Miss Graham (duo); chorus—Anchored—oh!; solo—Dinah—Mr Dickenson; singing sketch—Suffragettes—Misses Rowlock, Armstrong, R. Brown, and Graham; chorus—Love an' true—oh!; Mr Patterson, of the North of England Temperance League, Newcastle, preached on Sunday morning and evening, and presided over a sacred concert given in the afternoon by the choir, which was highly appreciated. Mr Dickenson was the leader, and Mr Hammond and Misses Wallace and Walker were soloists. Mr Patterson gave a most interesting lecture on "The great European war," illustrated by lantern slides, on Monday night. Good companies were present at all the gatherings.

Staff-Sergeant E. W. Allison, armament artificer, section of ordnance corps, son of Mr Jacob Allison, Victoria-terrace, Middleton, has been at home on short leave of absence.

Private T. Brown, Thornegate, Barnard Castle, of the Durham Light Infantry, who has been wounded, is spending a short furlough at home.

Gunner Arthur Haigh, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, son of Mr Wilson Haigh, of Lartington, after spending a short furlough at home, left Lartington on Saturday morning to return to the front. Gunner Haigh, who has lately been engaged as dispatch rider to his battery, has been all through the Somme offensive, and speaks of the supremacy the British has gained in heavy guns. As they pass through each succeeding captured village the destruction caused by the big guns is very evident, and almost everything is blown to pieces. He also pays an eloquent tribute to the invaluable work of our aerial observers, who cross the enemy's lines practically as they please, whilst the German airman seldom get beyond their front line trenches.

A women's meeting was held last Monday in Otherton Temperance Hall, and will be continued weekly.

Private R. Chandler, of the Royal Scots Highlanders, is spending a few days' leave at Barnard Castle. His brother, Private T. Chandler, has been invalided home from France, and is in a military hospital in Manchester, suffering from dysentery.

Yesterday, at a special sitting of the Barnard Castle Police Court, before Messrs C. B. Martin and J. G. Hall, a young man, named Isaac William Nicholson (19 next March), who had been arrested the previous night, at the home of his parents, Middleton-in-Teesdale, by Sgt. Bradley, was fined 2s, and remanded to await an escort on a charge of failing to report himself for military service in March last.

The nephew of Mrs Eden, King-street, Corporal J. B. Richardson, of the South African Infantry, is in a London hospital, this being the second time he has been wounded. It will be remembered that he was injured in the foot in Egypt a few months ago, and was afterwards moved to France with his company, and has now been wounded in his right hand, and is now unable to hold his rifle. Driver Edson, Mrs Eden has another son, Pioneer A. Edson, Royal Engineers, serving in France, and four nephews, namely, Sapper A. Price, Royal Engineers; Sergeant R. O. Mumberston, Yorkshire Regiment, now Railway Engineers; and Privates J. Mumberston and F. R. Richardson, Durham Light Infantry. A nephew, R. J. Richardson, is on his Majesty's Ship "Vanguard," and another nephew has just returned to England on Government work after 1 year and 7 months in France.

LIEUTENANT J. H. EMERSON, OF BARNARD CASTLE, KILLED IN ACTION.

WAR EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

The Annual Meeting. The yearly meeting of the local War Emergency Committee was held on Wednesday night, under the presidency of Mr F. J. Wilson, J.P., and there were also present Messrs J. S. Helmer (treasurer), J. I. Dawson (clerk), the Rev. T. Baron, and Messrs Soars, Walton, Ralston, Appleby, Barker, Balbridge, Mrs Whippney, Mrs J. R. Armstrong, Mrs Wilson, and Messrs J. Adams, J. R. Armstrong, J. Quiden, G. Stark, H. Walker, O. Hedley, J. Wiseman and J. E. Dent.

The Clerical Report. The Clerk read his report as follows:—Since the last general meeting, a year ago, subscriptions have been obtained for the various objects in charge of the Committee, and it is as well as the outset to correct a misapprehension which appears to have been current in the town that the weekly collection was for the Belgians only. So far from that, the War Emergency Committee fund is devoted to numerous objects connected with the war, as was thoroughly understood on the formation of the committee. Since the general meeting, held on the 13th of October last, the Committee have had many calls upon their funds. Two soldiers' recreation-rooms were carried on until March, when the Northumberland Fusiliers left. Speaking generally the refreshments paid for themselves, but there were incidental expenses connected with the rooms amounting to about £60. When the 20th Durham and the Northumberland Fusiliers left the town the sum of £40 18s. 3d. was spent in gifts.

Parcels for Men at the Front. The Clerk, continuing, said: A considerable amount of money was spent in sending a parcel to every man on active service from Barnard Castle last Christmas, whether in the army or in the navy, and steps have already been taken again this year to provide parcels in the same way. The kindness extended by the inhabitants of Barnard Castle to this Committee to the soldiers who were billeted here was very highly appreciated, and, from the remarks which have been made by the battalions who have left Barnard Castle to those who were not so fortunate to be stationed here, Barnard Castle is held very dear by the men who were quartered in this town.

Belgian Refugees. There is only one family of Belgian refugees now left in the town, and the various members contributed considerably to the upkeep of the home, but this Committee still make a contribution for the balance necessary to keep the home going. The Committee would like to emphasize the fact that the allowance to the Belgian refugees during the whole year was only about one-fourth of the whole expenditure, amounting to £146 3s., while they themselves, contributed to the fund 223 16s. 9d., redolent the amount paid to them, say, 91s. The holiday home at Startforth, belonging to the Friends at Sunderland, was vacated in June, and the thanks of the Committee were accorded to them for the use of the house rent free.

General Subscriptions. The contributions which have been received are on the whole favourable, though it is to be wished that the weekly collection should keep up to its original amount. The weekly collections realised the sum of £205 18s. 2d. during the last year, but the total for the first three months of 1916 only came to £116 10s. The proceeds of the drive, kindly given by the Post Office staff, realised the handsome sum of £215.

Prisoners of War in Germany. One of the most successful events of the year was the holding of the fête in the Castle Grounds for prisoners of war, which realised £73 15s. 6d., without any expenses, the whole being borne by the committee who got up the fête. The flag-day for the same object realised £37 6s. 10d., and the Buvette Museum Trustees are to be thanked for allowing a collection to be made in the park realising £14 4s. 3d. The proceeds of a concert amounted to £258 10s. 3d. and the total for the year has been £731 10s. 7d., and the Committee earnestly desire that contributions should be kept up to their full extent, as the objects upon which the fund can properly be expended are becoming more numerous as the ravages of the war continue. It is feared that it will not be long before relief will have to be extended on a more generous scale, owing to the cost of living and the absence of bread-winners, as the pinch will be felt in many homes. To this end the Committee hope that the collectors will continue their efforts, and that the contributors will make a good response to their calls.—On the motion of Miss Scarre, seconded by Miss Walton, the report was adopted.

The committee was re-elected, and the Clerk was directed to write to members who had made default in attendance.—Mr Hedley moved, and it was agreed that everyone who had assisted in the good work be thanked, the motion being seconded by Mr Quiden.—The financial statement showed a balance in hand of £104 4s. 9d., and the sub-committee then considered the arrangements for the forthcoming Christmas dance.—The full statement appears in our advertising columns.

All-Night Dance at Egglestone. A grand ball was held in Egglestone school-room last Friday night, the proceeds being for the parcels for soldiers who have gone from the village. The dance was continued on Saturday night from 8 to 11 o'clock. A successful concert of the parish was made previous to the ball, a grand start being given by Mr and Mrs Tucker. The committee feel deeply indebted to the string band, who gave their services gratis; by Messrs J. Balbridge, Ralph Balbridge, H. Watson, J. W. Walker, T. Ioston, Mr and Mrs T. Adams, Mrs J. Kidd and Mrs Butler, who all contributed; to Mr K. Hatohinson, for the use of decorations, which he kindly granted; in addition to his donation; and to all who helped. Great credit is due to Mrs I. Dawson (clerk), H. W. Hedley (clerk representative), and W. Woodhead (clerk to the later). It was agreed to have an official report sent to the attendances made at drill by men who had been ordered to join the Volunteer Training Corps.—The Clerk: You cannot vary a certificate without you have the name here before you.—The Tribunal thought these

Local Tribunals.

BARNARD CASTLE RURAL AREA.

200 CASES TO BE CLEARED OUT BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

A meeting was held at the Board-room of the Teesdale Poor-law Union on Friday, under the presidency of Lord Barnard, when there were present Messrs G. R. Gent, J. W. I. Davidson, J. P., T. Tarr, R. Armstrong, J. P., R. W. Rainie, J. P., W. B. Balbridge (clerk), V. Hodgson (Board of Agriculture and Fisheries), E. S. Hart and J. W. Hartley, J.P. (military representative), and W. Woodhead (clerk to the military).

Barytes Workers. The Clerk said the Minister of Munitions had written on the 26th of October to say that an application for the release of young barytes men by the substitution of older men throughout the country had been approved, and it was hoped to be put into operation shortly.

Revision of Certificates. About twenty cases in which conditional exemption had been granted were revised on the application of the military authorities. Altogether there were 107 of these cases, and the Clerk said that 200 appeals in the aggregate would be cleared out before Christmas.

The Lowest Card Issued by Medical Boards. The case of a Marwood young man of 20 was adjourned till next meeting, and leave to appeal was refused a Stodley youth of 21.—A Deaf Gate farmer's appeal for his man was not entertained, and a similar decision was given in the case of a Marwood agriculturalist who sought the release of his man of 19.—A Stairdrop steam flour mill manager represented a married cartman of 30, and leave to appeal was granted.—A Greystone tenant was given conditional exemption for his man; and Mr Hicks, Kirby Stephen (for Mr J. I. Dawson) pleaded the case of a market gardener and roadman at Gifford, who was granted conditional release.—The Clerk remarked that this man held a C III card from the Medical Board, and a scheme was in contemplation whereby these men would be put into mobilization work, and younger men pushed out. They were not, however, at present calling them up except in very odd cases.

Two Brothers who are Teesdale Quarry Owners. In the case of two Egglestone brothers, who are quarry owners, both married, and the eldest (59) of whom supports his widowed mother, and who was in July given till November 3rd, there were applications for the extension of their certificates. It was contended that, as builders the applicants had a wide connection in the date.—Military Representative: They will be calling them up at 45 soon.—The elder brother was granted conditional exemption, and no release was offered the younger man.

Repairing of Barytes Carts in Teesdale. The proprietor of the only cartwright's shop at Middleton appealed for his man, who was in the ranks of the barytes carters.—Military Representative: One you tell me why the Hedworth Baring Company don't keep a man of their own to repair these carts?—Applicant: You could not get a man for love or money—either a cartwright or blacksmith. They would come into the country.—The Chairman: The question that I put to myself is—when these carts get damaged or worn, how are they going to get them repaired? On the other hand I have great hesitation in giving a young man exemption.—Therefore I am rather evenly balanced.—Mr Rainie: I would suggest that you give him till the 1st of March.—Agreed accordingly.—Military Representative: I must appeal. He is under 30.

The Age Problem Again. The Clerk said the next four or five cases were exactly similar, all married men of the 25th of June, and who were in group 46. It had been decided that such men, on the production of their birth certificates, should be relegated to the reserve.—It was agreed to allow the applications to be withdrawn, with leave to appeal again should the position change.

Military Labour and the Labour Exchanges. A communication of some importance with reference to the substitution of farm labour by the military authorities was laid before the Tribunal by Mr E. Stobart, the military representative. It was made quite manifest that the application for military labour should be made to the Labour Exchange, and not to the military authorities.

More Farming Cases. Mr Hicks appeared for a Rigdale farmer in a review of his certificate, conditional being substituted for absolute exemption.—The certificate of a Hill-terrace dairyman (22), Middleton, was considered, he having had exemption granted till April 1st.—The case came up in March again.—A sexton and gravedigger's absolute ticket was made conditional, and the certificate of a leadminer (35) was withdrawn.—The Military Representative asked for the review of the case of an Ingleton farmer, and the case was adjourned for medical board examination.—The certificate of an Ingleton wheelwright's apprentice (19) was withdrawn, and a similar decision was arrived at in the case of a Barford, Strontlam, farmer, for whom Mr Hicks appeared.—The application as to a Stanhope Gate shepherd (32) was withdrawn, the man having removed to another district.—The case of a Grass Hill, Harwood, farmer, came up for military review, with the result that there was no variation of the certificate. In the case of two brothers, residing respectively at Winston and Marwood Green, the certificate of one was not varied, while that of the other brother was withdrawn.—Mr Hicks appeared in the case of a Roger Moor farm servant (25), and no variation was recorded, but in an application by a father for his son (23), of Woodland, the certificate was withdrawn.—A Marwood agriculturalist had his total exemption taken away, and a conditional certificate granted.—Mr Hicks was the advocate in the case of a Stairdrop butcher (38), who held absolute exemption, which was varied to conditional, the military representative stating that the man had been a convict, and a conditional exemption converted into a conditional exemption, and this included the business.

Urbain Council Tribunal. A meeting was held on Friday night, in the Council chamber, Barnard Castle, under the presidency of Mr O. H. Martin, J.P. There were also present Messrs M. J. Dixon, J.P., Walker Walker, J. S. Helmer, G. L. Gosman, J. I. Dawson (clerk), H. W. Hedley (military representative), and W. Woodhead (clerk to the later).—It was agreed to have an official report sent to the attendances made at drill by men who had been ordered to join the Volunteer Training Corps.—The Clerk: You cannot vary a certificate without you have the name here before you.—The Tribunal thought these

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Military Labour and the Labour Exchanges. A communication of some importance with reference to the substitution of farm labour by the military authorities was laid before the Tribunal by Mr E. Stobart, the military representative. It was made quite manifest that the application for military labour should be made to the Labour Exchange, and not to the military authorities.

More Farming Cases. Mr Hicks appeared for a Rigdale farmer in a review of his certificate, conditional being substituted for absolute exemption.—The certificate of a Hill-terrace dairyman (22), Middleton, was considered, he having had exemption granted till April 1st.—The case came up in March again.—A sexton and gravedigger's absolute ticket was made conditional, and the certificate of a leadminer (35) was withdrawn.—The Military Representative asked for the review of the case of an Ingleton farmer, and the case was adjourned for medical board examination.—The certificate of an Ingleton wheelwright's apprentice (19) was withdrawn, and a similar decision was arrived at in the case of a Barford, Strontlam, farmer, for whom Mr Hicks appeared.—The application as to a Stanhope Gate shepherd (32) was withdrawn, the man having removed to another district.—The case of a Grass Hill, Harwood, farmer, came up for military review, with the result that there was no variation of the certificate. In the case of two brothers, residing respectively at Winston and Marwood Green, the certificate of one was not varied, while that of the other brother was withdrawn.—Mr Hicks appeared in the case of a Roger Moor farm servant (25), and no variation was recorded, but in an application by a father for his son (23), of Woodland, the certificate was withdrawn.—A Marwood agriculturalist had his total exemption taken away, and a conditional certificate granted.—Mr Hicks was the advocate in the case of a Stairdrop butcher (38), who held absolute exemption, which was varied to conditional, the military representative stating that the man had been a convict, and a conditional exemption converted into a conditional exemption, and this included the business.

Urbain Council Tribunal. A meeting was held on Friday night, in the Council chamber, Barnard Castle, under the presidency of Mr O. H. Martin, J.P. There were also present Messrs M. J. Dixon, J.P., Walker Walker, J. S. Helmer, G. L. Gosman, J. I. Dawson (clerk), H. W. Hedley (military representative), and W. Woodhead (clerk to the later).—It was agreed to have an official report sent to the attendances made at drill by men who had been ordered to join the Volunteer Training Corps.—The Clerk: You cannot vary a certificate without you have the name here before you.—The Tribunal thought these

Farmers' Defence: Lord Barnard and Unfair Attacks.

To the Editor of the "Teesdale Mercury." SIR,—I have addressed the following letter to the Editor of the "North Star":—

"COPY." SIR,—I have read with interest the note in your issue to-day, under the heading, "Farmers' Defence." I feel that farmers are being very unfairly attacked by their fellow-countrymen, and that a very strong case can be made out for them generally, but I cannot agree with your friend, the "prominent farmer," that the reason they have to suffer in silence is that "they are without any organisation." I submit that there is plenty of organisation. The trouble is that many farmers will not become members of these organisations, and some of those who do join rarely attend or take any active part in their proceedings. May I urge farmers in South Durham and North Yorkshire to join the local Chambers of Agriculture, and in their own interests, as well as in the interests of their country, take their share of responsibility for formulating a sound agricultural policy, and for instructing and shaping public opinion on the subjects with which they are specially conversant? These local Chambers, it must be remembered, are associated with, and send delegates to the Central Chamber in London, where the views of the agricultural community throughout England and Wales are considered and tested, and which Chamber, for the past fifty years, has not been unsuccessful in influencing the legislature, as well as the administrative departments of Government. It is obvious that the strength and power of the Central Chamber depends mainly on the vitality of local Chambers, and if the latter are not well supported, it is to be expected that farmers must suffer from want of organisation.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

FUNERAL OF MRS EYLES, BARNARD CASTLE.

Memories of Chatsworth. A few weeks ago Mrs Eyles, widow of the late Mr William Eyles, game dealer, Submoor, and fruiterer, Newgate, Barnard Castle, declined business and sold her effects, prior to entering a nursing home at Darlington, under medical direction, and where she died on Thursday last. It was known that Mrs Eyles had been illing for some time. Prior to their marriage the late Mr and Mrs Eyles were fellow-servants at Chatsworth, the property and princely residence of the Duke of Devonshire. The marriage was begun in 1867, and completed in 1706, by William Cavendish, first Duke of Devonshire. One son was born of the marriage of Mr and Mrs Eyles, and, during the Boer War, he died in South Africa, of enteric fever. The interment took place on Saturday afternoon, the Vicar officiating, the deceased lady being a regular attendant at the parish church. Many exquisite wreaths were sent by relatives and friends. The chief mourners were:—Mr George Simmons, Eppling Forest, and Mr Ernest Simmons, Chaplam, London; Mrs E. G. Chapman, London; Mrs J. J. Chapman, Eppling Forest; Mr and Mrs Truman, nephew and niece, and Miss Chapman, niece, Leyburn; and Mr Robinson, nephew, Darlington. Among the general mourners were Mr Baker (representing Messrs Shepherd and Company, wholesale fruiterers, Darlington); Messrs H. York, T. Garbutt, G. Barr, J. M. Watson, Park-terrace; John Robson, Mr and Mrs T. Borrowdale, Newgate; Mrs W. Rainie, Mrs Ryans and many others. The coffin was of plain oak, with brass mountings.

Coming Teesdale Jumble Sale.

A further meeting in connection with the jumble sale to be held in Teesdale for the British Farmers' Red Cross Society was held on Saturday, when replies were received from Eight Force and Lunedale societies, who were willing to join with Middleton.—It was decided to form a society for raising funds.—Mr J. W. Dent was elected chairman; Mr T. Beadle, treasurer; and Mr W. Dent, Nately, auditor.—Another meeting will be held on Saturday.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Birth. ROBINSON.—To Mr and Mrs Amos Robinson, Prince Albert, Canada, on October 26th, a son.

Marriage. BENGOR.—At Holy Trinity Church, Startforth, on November 21st, 1916, by Canon E. Spencer Gough, Major Alfred Horace Benger, 11th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, to Dorothy Lewis, second daughter of the Rev. A. L. Manby and Mrs Manby.

Roll of Honour. SMITH.—Corporal George Henry Smith, late of 238, Bridge-gate, Barnard Castle, of the Durham Light Infantry, who was killed in action on November 16th, 1916, aged 26 years. Somewhere in France our hero sleeps. For his sake on earth no more. Remembered by his English parents weep. For their dear son gone forever.