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GRINTON FEAST SPORTS.

MIDDLETON HORSE THROWS RIDER, BOLTS THROUGH ENTRANCE GATE, GALLOPS THROUGH FREMINGTON AND REETH.

CAUGHT ON THE ARKENGARTHDALE ROAD.

Fine weather brought a large crowd to the Park field, Grinton, on Saturday, where in this beautiful setting Grinton Feast Sports were held. Entries were good, although of the ten entrants for the 1/2 mile trotting handicap, only four ran, and of the 13 entrants for the 1/4 mile hurdle handicap, only three ran. Excitement was caused in the hurdle handicap when Harvest Lady, of Middleton, threw her rider and bolted. Crashing through the entrance gate it galloped through Fremington and Reeth and was caught on the Arkengethdale road. Middleton was in attendance. Refreshments were served by the ladies. Mr A. A. Starr was president of the event, with Mr F. G. Burkas chairman. Mr F. G. Burkas acted as hon. secretary, and Mr A. A. Starr hon. treasurer, along with a strong committee. Results—

50 yards flat race for girls 10 years and under—1, Margaret Dunsdale; 2, Elsie Coates; 3, Ella Poulter. 50 yards flat race for boys 10 years and under—1, Norman Brown; 2, A. Leadbeater; 3, Roland Woodward. 80 yards flat race for boys 16 years and under—1, George Ellis; 2, David Woodward; 3, James Meynell. 100 yards foot handicap (open)—1, W. Dowson, Masham; 2, F. Dowson, Leyburn; 3, A. Willis, Preston-under-Scar. 220 yards foot handicap (open)—1, A. D. Percival, Shildon; 2, C. G. Mason, Haxby; 3, F. Dowson, Leyburn. Mile foot handicap (open)—1, J. R. Meynell; 2, R. H. Bainbridge; 3, J. R. Metcalfe, Barnburgh. Tug-of-war (teams of eight)—1, Grinton; 2, Arkengethdale. Pillow fight—1, Hunter, Bedmar; 2, S. Templeton, Low Row. All-weight wrestling, Cumberland and Westmorland style—1, J. Sowerby, Huddswell; 2, A. Raw, Grinton; 3, J. Davy, Grinton.

Horse Events.

Potato race—1, J. R. Kettlewell, Leeming Bar; 2, S. Bainbridge, Murrick Abbey; 3, A. Dods, Musical chairs—1, J. R. Kettlewell; 2, S. Bainbridge; 3, A. Dods. 1/2 mile trotting handicap—1, W. Coates, Brompton-on-Swale; "Minto Lad"; 2, T. T. Bainbridge, East Layton; "Jenny"; 3, P. Burn, Barton. "School Boy." 1/4 mile hurdle handicap—1, W. Chappell, Clifton Dykes; Penrith; "Rushmore"; 2, J. R. Kettlewell, Leeming Bar; Mile gallop handicap—1, W. Colman's "Flea"; 2, G. Gieves and Jewitt's "Harvest Lady"; 3, R. H. Bainbridge, Leeming Bar. A well attended dance was afterwards held in the Constitutional Club room, Reeth. Mr E. R. Hunt, Mr R. Bainbridge and Mr J. Peacock were M.C.s.

COVERDALE FARMER DRAGGED TO DEATH BY HORSE.

TRAGEDY RECONSTRUCTED AT INQUEST.

A rotten piece of a gate and some rotten pieces of saddlery were exhibited at Bridge End Farm, Woodale in Coverdale on Saturday at the inquest upon Mr Thomas Hammond, 75, who was known farmer, who was born in the hamlet and dragged to his death on Friday morning by his favourite mare, a quiet 13 year-old animal, which had never before done anything of the kind. Dr. F. R. Edmondson, Coroner for the North-Western division of the North Riding of Yorkshire, conducted the inquest.

Mr Thomas Hammond, a son of the deceased, employed on the farm, stated that at 10.15 a.m. on Friday he told his father he was going to Low Fence Close, a hayfield some distance from the farm, and that his father would follow on the black mare. Witness geared the animal with blinkers, neck collar, harness, chain tracings and backband, in preparation for taking the mare to a heath rack at the hayfield. Witness said his father would travel about quarter of a mile on the roadway and should have entered the hayfield by a gate, at which the accident seemingly began, but witness did not see it. About 10.45 a.m. Mr Peter Clarke, a neighbouring farmer called to him and he saw his father some 200 yards away from the gate, lying unconscious on the roadway, he was much bruised and had severe injuries. He died within a few minutes. In reply to Police Inspector Thomas of Leyburn witness stated that his father had often ridden the mare both with and without a saddle and that the animal was very quiet; his father had been in good health and he thought it probable that the mare was balanced when endeavouring to open the gate to the hayfield.

Mr Peter Robert Clarke, farmer of Woodale, recalled seeing his father riding the mare along the road and noticed that his legs were then clear of the chain traces; a short time afterwards he heard a horse galloping towards Bridge End Farm, he tried to stop the mare, but the chain traces were then trailing on the road and occasionally hitting the mare which further frightened her. He went in search of Mr Hammond and found his stick and hat 20 yards away from the gate he had intended to enter; deceased was on the road 200 yards away. He was very seriously injured and unconscious. He did not recover and died shortly afterwards. His coat had been pulled tightly around his head. Witness shouted for Mr T. H. Hammond, who was making his some distance away.

Police Sergeant Frank Ackroyd of Leyburn, who reconstructed the tragedy, found a piece of rotten wood about six inches in length, the top of a particular bar of the gate deceased had tried to pull open. As this piece of gate broke the Sergeant thought deceased would be pulled over the gate and pulled away; as he did the somewhat rotten band might have broken it was produced at the inquest in two pieces and it seemed probable that deceased slipped off the animal's back. Dr. G. Cockcroft said he had known deceased for 40 years, in his opinion he died from violence applied to the vertex of the skull the wounds were consistent with deceased being dragged along a wall and roadway—abrasion on ankle suggested he might have had a leg caught in the harness. The Coroner returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

CHILDREN'S SPORTS.

Coun. G. A. Carter presided at a meeting of the Whitsuntide Meet Committee at Barnard Castle on Tuesday evening, when it was unanimously agreed to entertain all the children of Barnard Castle and Startforth to sports on the football field on August 27th. The bulk of the events will be for children of from 7 to 14 and will include flat races, three-legged races, an obstacle race, wheelbarrow race, and a skipping competition. There will be high jumps for boys and girls from 14 to 16, a quarter-mile and half-mile, at which the age limit will be 14, and a mile race for boys who have not attained the age of 17, at which vouchers for £1, 15s. and 10s. will be given. There will be a novel race for errand boys on cycles. Entries will be taken on the field. The Lady President, Mrs G. A. Carter, will present the prizes. She will generously give ice cream to the children. It is hoped to provide the children with light refreshments, and in view of the raffleing, gifts of sandwiches, cakes and biscuits will be welcomed. They should be left with Mrs Jones, 16, Thorgate; Mrs Oliver, c/o Mr Jackson, grocer, Market Place; Mrs E. Raine, c/o White Swan Hotel, Startforth.

A REETH DISTURBANCE.

DARLINGTON MAN BEFORE GILLING WEST MAGISTRATES.

At Gilling West Magistrates Court, Richmond, on Saturday, John Norman Blair, taxi proprietor, of 36, Fawcett Street, Darlington, was summoned for being in charge of a motor vehicle whilst under the influence of drink. He pleaded not guilty.

Supt. Thompson said on receipt of August 3rd at 9.35 p.m., Sgt. Wright, of Reeth, was called to a disturbance outside the Black Bull Hotel, Reeth, and found that Blake had been ejected from the bar. He was told to go away quietly, and said he had a car and was alone and that he was going to drive back to Darlington. The Sergeant warned him that he was not in a fit condition to do so and was restrained by the sergeant.

Harry Stott, of the Hotel, said Blake was there at 6.30 p.m. and asked to have the use of a bathroom. He was in a dirty condition with his hands, etc., and was told guests were using the place and it could not be done. At 9.30 p.m. witness was in the bar when his attention was called to a man standing who was arguing with men playing dominos, and wanted to gamble, and was told it was not allowed. It was alleged that Blake attempted to strike an old man and wanted to fight and was eventually ejected.

Sergt. Wright gave evidence, also Dr. Speirs, who said he examined Blake and concluded he was not in a fit condition to have control of the car. He said that Blake said he had been to Gomerside and called at the hotel and had two drinks and got another and was not allowed to drink it. He alleged he was seized by the hand and pushed through the door. When he got outside he called the police sergeant and complained to him about being put out of the hotel. He said he did not make for home, as stated by the sergeant. He agreed he was annoyed and said it was ridiculous to say that he wanted to fight.

Mr D. Waite, defending, said Blake never attempted to get into his car but it was defendant's word against that of the sergeant. There was no independent evidence.

Major G. H. Cradock, Chairman, said the magistrates concluded that a charge against the defendant had been rightly framed and in dismissing the case Blake was told he was very lucky to get off. It was entirely on a question of a legal point.

A RESTFUL HOLIDAY

My advice for the jaded worker is to have a restful holiday rather than a round of sight-seeing. You will get no real rest by visiting the endless succession of museums, picture galleries, cathedrals, and tombs. My advice to you is to get into the common or garden cow. The cow spends much time in eating and sleeping and lying about in the fresh air. The cow does not quarrel or wrangle, or talk unkind words about her neighbours. She does not vie with her friends in wearing showy clothes; the cow is natural in nature by painting herself in different colours. Really, young ladies, I am sometimes shocked in my old age to watch you on the airplane with a complexion that does not owe its colour to healthy sunbath. Do be a little more natural. Believe me, you will look just as pretty. My strict orders, then, is a simple, natural holiday spent in the open air and in the water, and resting on your back.

ADVANCING AGE.

Just a kind, tactful and friendly word to those who are beginning to grow old and do not like it, and ask the doctor to make them young again. Clever as I am, I cannot stop the march of time. The indignation of men of forty-five, fifty and fifty-five who find their hair turning grey, their eyes dim, their bodies younger is pathetic; it is also futile. People exclaim, almost about as they say: "But I never had a thing to do with it, either you or I have explained to them that they have some change in their systems that is due to advancing years. They might as well complain, when a hair turns grey, that they never had grey hair before in all their lives. Or they may shout at me, when they reach the age of sixty, that they have never been sixty before in all their lives, which is perfectly true.

HINTS FOR BATHING.

Before you go into the water to bathe at the seaside you should have the wax syringe out of your ears. I have treated every young people who come to me suffering from deafness after bathing; they generally think that some water has got into the ears and that the water in the ear, when it is hard dry wax has become swollen up by the action of the water to twice its size, and forced right down to the drum of the ear by the action of the water when drying. It gives a most uncomfortable sensation of deafness or dizziness, and the treatment is to have the wax syringed out. You can never do too much of a thing to get rid of it, either you do not syringe hard enough, or you do it too hard and injure the drum; it is far safer to have it done by an experienced doctor. Above all, do not put anything into your ears with tooth-picks, hairpins and other instruments of torture: it is most dangerous, and many a drum has been permanently injured by such foolish things. If you are deaf in one ear, or have noises in the head, the probable cause is wax in the ear. Warm a little almond oil or medicinal paraffin—just pour a little into a teaspoon and then rub the flame of a candle for a second or so—be very careful not to let it become too hot—and pour it into the ear at bedtime. Do this for three or four nights before you have the ear syringed.

WARNING AGAINST OVERWORK.

There are some who think they can best serve their home or their country by taxing their strength beyond its powers. Work has to be done, the sick one has to be nursed, rent has to be paid, and most of us have to work hard. But I have to lodge a protest against the voluntary assumption of tasks which the body is not able to cope with. A wise man knows the limit of his physical resources, and keeps within it. Here am I having to treat many who are suffering from exhaustion and there is nothing for it but to order rest to prevent a more serious breakdown. The man who works steadily and reasonably for six months, taking care of himself, has done far more for his home and country than the man who works with feverish energy for three months and then collapses. If you want to get the best out of yourself, take time off to recuperate, and cultivate some hobby which will take your mind off your work when you do get away from it.

ALL ABOUT THE "FUNNY BONE."

It is interesting to recall what a complicated thing the apparently simple movement of a finger is. Every finger contains a skeleton of bone. To the bone is attached a tendon or chord, which is made up of bundles of muscle and a rock. The other end of the tendon is attached firmly to a muscle which can contract and lengthen at will. The will is carried to the muscle by the nerve. You may know that a nerve is sensitive by remembering that time you struck your "funny-bone." At the back of the elbow is a large nerve run over the bone, and when the nerve is pinched between the hard bone and the edge of the kitchen dresser sends a shock up the arm. But the nerve does not end there; the every one who has had to be written before we understand the true mechanism of a movement of the finger. The nerve comes from the spinal cord, which is tucked safely away inside the bony column that runs down the back. Look at the next skeleton you see in a museum. This spinal cord is, of course, a very important structure. If it is cut we may not live, but we are paralysed in every part below the injury.

BARNARD CASTLE WEDDING.

HARVARD-METCALFE AT TRINITY CHURCH

A pretty wedding was celebrated at the Barnard Castle Trinity Methodist Church on Saturday, between Mr and Mrs Norman Harvard, only son of Mr and Mrs Harvard, 85, Merivale Road, Gloucester, and Miss Christina Marjorie Metcalfe, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. A. Metcalfe, of 3, Kirk View, Barnard Castle. The bridegroom a native of the Bay, Welsh Fishery, is about to resume his duties as language master at Warrington Boys' School. The bride has been a member of the staff of the Barnard Castle branch of the Yorkshire Penny Bank, and is both a well-known and popular figure in the town.

The bride who was on the arm of her father, wore a bridal dress of white French cloque with veil surmounted by white tulle. She carried a bouquet of white carnations and white heather. The bridesmaid were Miss Margaret Metcalfe, (Darlington), cousin of the bride, and Miss Margaret E. Brown (a friend). They wore full length green crepe dresses with headpieces of gold and green leaves and flowers, and carried bouquets of tea roses. They wore silver bracelets, presents of the bridegroom. Mr Eddie Stirling was the best man, and the Rev. J. D. Coates, officiated. The reception was held at the Black Horse Hotel, and the honeymoon is being spent in the South. The bride travelled in an olive green and tan tweed suit with accessories to match.

STAINDROP BRIDE.

APPLETON-LILLEY AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

A very pretty wedding of local interest took place at the St. Mary's Parish Church, Staindrop, on Saturday, uniting in marriage, Mr Raymond George Appleton, son of Mr George Appleton, Justice Terrace, Topcliffe, and Miss Beatrice A. Lilley, daughter of Mrs R. Lilley, of Staindrop. The bride, who was on the arm of her uncle, Mr H. Lilley, wore a bridal dress of heavy pearl satin trimmed with silver lace, with veil of old Brussels lace, and head-dress of orange blossom with seed pearls, and white Indian sandals. Her bouquet was of dark red carnations and fern, with a spray of shamrock sent to the bride from Ireland.

The bridesmaids were Miss Doris Lilley (sister of the bride); Cpl. Doreen Underwood of the A.T.S. (a friend of the bride); Miss M. Lord, niece of the bridegroom; and the maid of honour, Mrs C. Lord (bride's sister). There were also two small attendants, Miss Fay Jackson and Master Derek Lund (bride's nephews).

Miss Lilley wore a dress of turquoise blue satin with lace; Cpl. Underwood, a dress of ice blue taffeta; Miss Mona Lord, ice blue taffeta; Mrs C. Lund, shell pink; Master Derek Lund wore a heavy white satin suit; and Miss Fay Jackson a long white crepe dress.

The duties of best man were carried out by Mr C. Lund (the bride's brother-in-law), and the groomsmen were Mr Russell Lilley, L.Cpl. Eric Lilley (bride's brother), and Mr Leslie Pearce, friend of the bridegroom.

The ceremony was at St. Mary's Parish Church, the Rev. Thompson, Cockfield, officiating. As the happy couple left the church the bride was presented with lucky horseshoes by the small attendants and the bridegroom's sister. A reception was held at West End, Staindrop, and later the couple departed on their honeymoon which is being spent at Steton, near Leeds. The bride's trousseau consisted of a brown checked costume with matching accessories.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MIDDLETON LABOUR PARTY MEETING. A REPLY.

(To the Editor of the Teesdale Mercury.)

Sir,—A public demonstration of the unpopularity of the Conservative Party held on Saturday, 17th August, which was sparsely attended, Mr R. Ewart, the M.P. for South Durham, spoke and made certain assertions in his speech which I think need clarifying.

Mr Ewart in his speech stated:—"In June, 1945, the Labour Party was determined to make a fundamental change, and to do this it must have complete control of the economic forces of the country... The idea is to effect the change, and then examine the results."

I submit that here we have a Socialist member of Parliament publicly stating that this country must submit to a Dictatorship, for indeed, which even the Socialists are not certain all too hypothetical, and if we may judge the results to-day, show that the principles of Government on which they are working are all complete failures.

Finally, Mr Ewart alleged:—"That the Conservative Government did not take the opportunity of putting into practice the Beveridge Plan. Probably they had never any intention of doing so after the election."

May I answer this false allegation with some facts, which will speak for themselves. A Conservative majority in 1944 introduced the enlarged and unified scheme of National Insurance, which covers the whole population. The Ministry of National Insurance Act, 1944, was the first of a number of measures to implement the plan, and this was followed by the introduction of many previous Acts passed by Conservative majorities.

There can never be any doubt that had a Conservative Government been in power now, that they would have put into practice the National Insurance Scheme for which they had so long worked.

I feel the public should know the facts of the case, and I feel the need of facts to bolster up their fast declining morale.

Yours faithfully,
A. HILLS.
15, Horthmarket, Barnard Castle.
19th August, 1946.

Junior Training Corps Camp.

Following the C.L.B. camp, the members of the J.T.C. went on Saturday, August 10th, to Hexham to join with the rest of the 2nd Durham Battalion in camp. The camp was commanded by Major M. Aulard. In spite of the rain at the beginning of the week, a good time was had by all members present. The football and cricket cups were won by Sunnybrow, and the sports cup by Bishop Auckland. On Thursday, August 15th, the camp was inspected by Capt. Berriman, who took the salute at a march past and also watched a display of P.T. The camp also had three visiting companies in camp with them—Blaydon, South Shields, and Helton. The Barnard Castle Company were in charge of Major Aulard, the Rev. Banks, and C.Q.M.S. M. Woodhams.

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(Continued at foot of next column.)

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