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No. 267. WEEKLY. (Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.) FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1916. ONE HALF-PENNY

URBAN TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Chester-le-Street Urban Military Tribunal was held on Tuesday night. Mr. J. Y. Robson, in the chair. Messrs. T. Darby, Rev. A. B. de Moleyns, J. Russell, J. B. Turnbull, and J. Wilson, together with Mr. R. E. Hale, military representative; Mr. J. Wade, agricultural representative, and Mr. F. J. Gray, clerk.

George Edward Maddison, 36, of Front Street, Chester-le-Street, a chemist and dispenser, in business at Pelton Fell, appealed on business grounds and on the grounds of ill-health, and the fact that he is in a certified trade. It was stated that his name is included in a letter from the Durham County Insurance Committee as one of their dispensers.

It was decided to grant conditional exemption without the applicant appearing.

Mr. Wm. Syson, boot repairer, appealed on behalf of Thomas Thompson, 22, single, a boot repairer, of 16 Pine Street. He stated he only had two men left, one of whom was called up. He was personally unable to do any heavy work owing to ill-health. He was in Class W., Army Reserve.

It was decide to allow him to remain in his present employment until he is called up.

James Wm. Patterson, 37, a married man, of 9 Ernest Terrace, draper's assistant, employed in Newcastle, under the C.W.S., appealed on his own behalf, on domestic, health, and financial grounds. His employers did not make any allowance. He stated he had been before the Medical Board that day, and had offered his services for munition work. He was advised to inform the recruiting officer at Chester-le-Street. He had done so, and now appealed to have his case withdrawn, to enable him to undertake munition work. He thought he would be more use to the country in that way than as a soldier.

The case was dismissed on this understanding.

Ernest James Wears, 29, single, County View, Hett Hills, Pelton Fell, a horseman and market gardener, appealed on his own behalf on the grounds of indispensability. He had two acres of land.

Postponed to end of month for information.

An application was made by his employers on behalf of Cyril G. Ephgrave, 36 married, 14 Lancaster Terrace, a draper's manager, on the ground that he was indispensable to control the staff of 40 persons. Mr. Harle appeared. Seven men had gone to the war, and there was only a youth left. Postponed to 20th November.

An appeal was made on behalf of Jonathan Hardy, 30, married, fruit hawker, of 23 Bede Terrace. The father made the appeal, and stated if his son was called up he would be under the necessity of taking his son out of the munition works to look after the pony and cart. He was passed for sedentary work at home. Mr. Hardy, the father, appeared, and said he had a third son who was 21 years of age, and single, who was employed as a putter at South Pelaw. Postponed until the end of Oct.

John Nicholson, 31, married, 78 Front Street, painter and decorator, appealed on his own behalf. He stated that the business belonged to himself and two brothers who are in the army. He had been passed for sedentary work at home. He was given conditional exemption without being called before the Tribunal.

Mr. Morgan, High Chare, appealed on behalf of his son, John Wm. Morgan, 21, single, motor driver and engineer, employed to run passengers for hire. His fourth son, who had been in France a year, was only 19, went in place of his brother, who was not strong. One son had been killed, and another had been wounded and was now in Mesapotamia. He was rejected as being under height. He was postponed until the end of Oct., and in the meantime Mr. Hale will endeavour to obtain him national work.

Thomas Nixon, 37, single, builder's labourer, 13 Lambton Terrace, appealed on his own behalf. He stated that at the beginning of the war his three brother decided to join the army, and leave him at home to look after his mother, as he suffered from rheumatism. One of his brothers had since died in the army. Mr. Norman had always kept his job open when he was off ill, and he did not like to leave him in the lurch. He would be willing to undertake munition work if called upon. Applicant said another of his brothers was ill, at Salonika, and the third was undergoing operations. He was given conditional exemption while he remains in his present employment.

(CONCLUDED ON PAGE 3).

LOCAL HEROES.



Pte. J. Chambers, Kimblesworth. Killed.



Pte. T. E. McCann, Chester-le-Street. Killed.



Pte. R. Dawson, Edmondsley. Killed.



L.-Corp. T. Hutler, Pelton Fell. Killed.



Pte. A. Kennedy, Grange Villa. Died of wounds



Pte. J. Howey, Pelton Fell. Killed.



Pte. J. Sterling, Chester-le-Street. Killed.



Pte. J. Middleton, Pelton. Killed.



Pte. J. E. Belliss, Craghead. Wounded.



Pte. R. Lingo, Witton Gilbert. Missing.



Pte. Fred Nicholson, Harraton. Wounded.



Pte. G. Grieves, Fence Houses Wounded.



Pte. J. Errington, Lumley. Killed.



Sergt. O. Lathan, Craghead. Killed



Pte. W. Turnbull, Waldridge Fell. Wounded.



Pte. Hope, Chester-le-Street. Killed.



Pte. T. Batey, Waldridge Fell. Wounded.



Pte. W. Thompson, Waldridge Fell. Wounded.

BUS FATALITY.

DRIVER EXONERATED.

Mr. R. A. Shepherd, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the Police Court, Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday afternoon, concerning the death of John Barron, 29, a miner, of 35 Wark Street, Chester-le-Street, who was killed on Sunday night by being run over by a motor bus.

John Barron, said he was father of the deceased. He was a miner, and lived at 35 Wark Street. His son had lived with him. On Sunday night, about 6-30 his son left the house, and the next witness heard of him was after ten o'clock and that he had been knocked down and killed. His son did take "a drop of drink," and had some before 2-30 that day, but he was quite sober when he left home.

Cecil Green, 22, bus driver, 2 Clifford Terrace, Chester-le-Street, said on Sunday night, about 9-50 he left Chester-le-Street for Durham. It was a black dark night, and there was a good many people about. He went very carefully and sounded his horn all the way up. When he reached the top of Ropery Lane he noticed a white cycle light facing him. It was impossible to see beyond that. He slowed up and sounded his horn, and then saw four or five men standing on the road. He applied hand and foot brake and pulled up the bus in its own length. He felt a jerk. He went round the back of the bus and found P.C. Robson examining two men who were lying on the ground. One was dead and the other he heard had been injured about the head and hand. He did everything possible to avoid an accident. He had been driving 18 months and this was his first accident.

Wm. Ward, 17, munition worker, 52 Morris Street, Birtley, said on Sunday he was in Chester-le-Street, and at 10 o'clock he was standing at the top of the Ropery Lane. He heard the horn of a motor bus, and thinking it might be going to Birtley, ran to the Front Street, but saw it was going in the opposite direction. He saw four or five men standing in Front Street, in the middle of the road, and the bus was five or six yards from them. Some of the men took notice of the horn of the bus, but two men appeared to be bamboozled. Some women screamed and he shouted. The bus struck them. It was fairly well lighted, and was going steadily. He did not think the driver could have avoided the accident, as the men scattered both to the right and left. The driver pulled up very quickly. He had not noticed the light of a bicycle before the accident, but afterwards the cyclist turned his light on to the men while they were on the ground.

Joseph Kipling, Pity Me, said he was a passenger by this bus, and he sat beside the driver. The horn was sounded all the way up the street. When they reached the top of Ropery Lane, he noticed a dark object in front of the bus, and there was a jerk. The bus was pulled up very quickly, and he found two had been knocked down. He did not think the driver was to blame in any way for the accident.

P.C. Robson said on Sunday night he boarded this car. It was going very steadily. The horn was being sounded as they went up the street. At the top of the Ropery Lane the car was pulled up and there were two distinct jerks. A man named Henry Atkin had sustained a cut on the head and another on the hand, in addition to Barron, who was killed instantly. Both offside wheels had gone over the latter, and was just lying behind the bus when it drew up. The injured man and the three companions of the deceased were all very much under the influence of drink, and none of them could give any reliable story.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and found that the driver was in no way to blame. He had taken every care for the general safety of the public.

WAR SAVINGS.

Excellent progress is being made in the matter of war savings in Chester-le-Street. The original organisation has been formed into a local central committee, the function of which is to form local associations. This is being carried out, with the result that three other subsidiary associations have been formed this week. One is associated with the South Pelaw Colliery, one with Messrs. G. W. Horner & Co.'s. works, and the third amongst the employees of the Co-operative Society. Efforts are to be made immediately to endeavour to induce other organisations to follow these excellent examples.

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