MOBBS' OWN.

RE-UNION OF A FAMOUS COMPANY.

MEMORIES OF SEPT. 14, 1914.

The first re-union of the original members of D (Mobbs') Company of the 7th Battalion Northants Regiment was held on Saturday night the fith anniversary of their departure from Northampton for their military training. About 100 sat down to dinner at the Masonic Hall, which re-echoed with anecdotes of training and of "the other side."

The arrangements were made by the following committee: Major Farrer (chairman), Messrs. A. W. Osborn, W. H. Hammond, F. Payne, F. J. Bird, E. V. Mann, and F. W. Bass, with Mr. H. Featherstone (secretary).

Major D. Farrer was in the chair and he was supported by: The Mayor (Councillor J. J. Martin), Lieut.-Colonel Bentinck, Major H. Grierson, Major Guy Paget, Captain R. C. Fowler, Captain C. Martyn, M.C., and Lieut. W. Carter, M.C.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Oliver Mobbs, in reply to the invitation, in which he said: "It is with great regret that I am obliged to say I am not equal to the occasion. Amongst other things I have paralysis of the organs of the throat, which affect my speech. D Company of the 7th Battalion will always be a cherished memory, and I only wish you could know how full my heart is when I recall all the doings of that famous company, and how greatly I appreciate your loyalty and devotion to my dear son. Please convey, may I say, my love, to your assembly."

THE FALLEN.

Proposing the toast of "The late Lieut.-Colonel E. R. Mobbs, D.S.O., and Fallen Comrades," the Chairman said the honour he had in presiding was mixed with sadness when he thought of him who ought to have presided over them. He knew all of them realised how Edgar Mobbs would have enjoyed being there to speak to them.

"He to us, his old comrades of his own Company," proceeded Major Farrer, "must never forget; his example must never die. (Hear, hear.) I got to know him very intimately during the year of training at home, and I think I may say he was, to me, a typical example of what an Englishman should be. From such men comes England's greatness."

"And with our fallen leader we must always remember those excellent fellows who made the supreme sacrifice; those men who came up and chucked up their jobs. They were volunteers in the true sense of the word. 'D' Company is very proud of them, and the old town of Northampton and the county ought to feel proud that such men came forward to back up those grand old battalions, the 48th and 58th."

SEPTEMBER 14, 1914.

Continuing, Major Farrer said that was not a regimental gathering but entirely an old "D" Company affair. The Committee had worked very hard, and they would be glad of the names and addresses of any of the members of "D" Company who left the Barrack Square on September 14, 1914, who had not been invited, as it was to be made an annual gathering. September 14, 1914, would always be a red letter day in the memories of those present.

Who would ever forget the day when Colonel Fawcett marshalled them on the Barrack Square aided by a few N.C.O.'s and local police. (Laughter.) They were not likely to forget that almost triumphal march to the station accompanied by bands and amidst cheering. Then they arrived at Shoreham in the dark and they were met by Major Paget and Sergt.Major Parsons. They almost worked a miracle that night by fetching them all up to the camp without a casualty.

The toast was drunk in silence.

Lieut. Carter (formerly R.S.M. of the Company), submitting "D" Company Comrades' Association, likened the company to a tree which took root on Sept. 14, 1914. Many of the branches had been chopped away during the war, but the gardener, in the person of Major Farrer, and his assistant gardeners, would join up the tree and keep it flourishing for many years to come.

Speaking of the discipline of the Company, Lieut. Carter said an order was given out that there was not to be any smoking on the line of march. Three days after the battle of Loos he was marching along to Vermelles with 33 men he had collected from somewhere. From the rear came a request that the sergeant-major would allow them to smoke. That was quite in keeping with the traditions of the 48th and 58th Battalions. It was the finest piece of discipline he ever wished for.

"A HOLY TERROR."

Some of them might have thought he was the Holy Terror in those days. (A chorus: "We did!") A large number of the Company obtained their commissions, and the discipline they had had instilled in them stood them in very good stead. In conclusion, Lieut. Carter referred to the excellent discipline that was learned by anyone who had been under Col. Pritchard. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. F. W. Bass, in response, thanked all the company for the splendid way they had rallied round the committee and made that gathering such a success. The committee's work had been amply rewarded.

Major H. Grierson proposed "The Visitors" in a humorous speech. The town of Northampton, represented that evening by the Mayor, followed the Company through from the start with feelings of love and of appreciation, and it always displayed great kindness to them. The Company had no better friend in Northampton than Mr. W. H. Holloway, who did more for those taken prisoner than any other single man in the town.

NORTHAMPTON'S PRIDE.

The Mayor, in response, expressed the hope that the gathering would be continued annually so long as one of them lasted. He was not there as a person, but as one who represented some 90,000 inhabitants of the town who had great pride in every man who went from the good old town during the past five years. If they had a warm corner in their hearts for one over another it was for any man who went forth from the town on Sept. 14, 1914, with their deeply-respected and beloved Col. Mobbs. It was to such men as them that the Empire stood in the position it did to-day.

Major Paget also responded. He said when he had raised the Company Colonel Mobbs rang him up and asked whether he would take command of them. He replied that his military knowledge was not sufficient to take command of and accept the responsibility for the lives of all of them. He told him he would be only too proud to serve as second in command, and that was fixed up. Major Paget amused the company with anecdotes of the Shoreham training and of the speedy promotion of the original N.C.O.'s. He asked the men to join the Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Soldiers, who were devising a trust to help all members who took up shares.

Mr. W. H. Holloway also replied.

The health of Major Farrer was drunk upon the proposition of Capt. Ormrod.

Excellent harmony was contributed by Mr. T. Allbright and Mr. W. Line.

NEARLY SIX MILES HIGH.

New York, Sunday.—The aviator Roland Rohlfe, in a biplane, has climbed to the record altitude of 34,000 feet.

THE TAR AND FEATHERS CASE.

The release of Lieut. Wright was conditional on his promise not to leave Cambridge until the decision of the court-martial is made known.

PEACE LOAN FAILURE.

Melbourne, Friday.—The subscriptions to the Peace Loan have been unsatisfactory and compulsion is threatened.

RUSSIAN PROBLEM.

MR. McCURDY ON THE SITUATION.

Mr. C. A. McCurdy, K.C., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, made a powerful speech on the European situation and on domestic politics to a meeting of the members of the Northampton Liberal and Radical Association and the Women's Liberal Association held at the Liberal Club, St. Giles'-street, on Monday night.

Councillor Edward Lewis, J.P., the chairman of the Liberal and Radical Association, presided over a large gathering.

Mr. McCurdy said that was the first night meeting he had addressed since the General Election, because his present work did not leave him very much time for speaking. Some speakers at the Conference held that afternoon seemed to think the work of officials was light, but his working day in normal times was from 9.30 to 11.30 p.m. It was a very strenuous time for everybody concerned with the task of Government because the multifarious duties which the war cast upon all the Governments of the world had by no means come to an end.

The public had an idea that the beginning and end of the Profiteering Act was the setting up of local tribunals to try cases of profiteering occurring with retail traders, whereas, as a matter of fact, that was only a temporary provision. The provisions which would be made permanent when Parliament met again would set up proper machinery for the investigation of operations of trusts and combines, and big businesses, and for dealing with profiteering in wholesale businesses, which would be dealt with long after the war had been forgotten. From his point of view those were the essential parts of the Bill, and that was the view of the Bill he placed before the House of Commons, and which very much altered the reception of the Bill received at the hands of the House.

The "Times" had said that Mr. McCurdy did not know what the Bill meant, that it would have been quite a nice Bill if it had meant what he told the House it meant. "As Chairman of the Central Committee I shall have to decide what it does mean," Mr. McCurdy added, "and if I don't know what it means it is going to mean what I mean it to mean, so that is settled." (Applause and laughter.)

Mr. McCurdy pointed out that for fifteen months a committee over which he presided considered how the public could be protected against trusts and combines. It was a democratic committee in its composition, and it came to a unanimous conclusion as to the measures necessary. The committee's recommendations were inserted in the Profiteering Bill and made law within four months of the report being made. The Act was a far bigger thing than merely dealing with the retail trader, a sound and democratic measure, and so far as he was concerned he would undertake, in the administration of the Central Tribunal at any rate, that the Act was not going to be used as a means of harrassing honest traders or hindering legitimate trade. They were going to deal with the big people and the big offenders, and he thought the hands of the Tribunal would be pretty full with that programme during the short period for which the Act had been brought into existence.

RUSSIA.

Mr. McCurdy went on to speak of the general political situation. His view's he said, were derived from reading a great many confidential reports with regard to the condition of things all over Europe, and from conversation with men who had first-hand knowledge. The impression he had derived of the general political situation, not merely in this country, but in the world at large, as that it was very much more serious than the people in this country imagined.

If people heard, as he had, from the lips of men who had come straight from Poland and those parts of Russia from which the Bolshevists had retreated, men who had visited Hungary and Czecho-Slovakia, who had been all over the Central and Eastern States of Europe, and had their impressions at first-hand, they would be astonished to realise what was going on to-day. If it were not that America had in the last twelve months given something like £200,000,000 worth of foodstuffs to the population of Europe, Europe would be one cemetery to-day. The peoples of Europe were not producing enough wealth to maintain life.

President Wilson said the treatment of Russia by the Western nations of Europe was the test of our sincerity to the principles of democracy. Our attitude to-day was, "Am I my brother's keeper?" He did not say it was wrong. He was working fourteen hours a day on food and profiteering, and things of that sort, and had not time to consider which was right or which was wrong; he merely pointed out the facts. The Russian population was dying daily by thousands, under a cruel and brutal tyranny that was non-Russian, and the answer of the Western peoples now was, "We are sick of the war, we can do no more, call back our men. 'Am I my brother's keeper?' What is it to us whether the people of Russia are butchered or not?"

It was very horrible and distressing. And it was not merely Russia. The democracies of Europe were so sick of war that they were clearing out of Armenia and leaving the Armenians to be butchered by the Turks.

WAGES AND PRODUCTION.

Touching on domestic politics, Mr. McCurdy said he held no brief for the present Government, but their bitterest opponent must admit they had turned out more first-class legislation in six months than any Parliament in our lifetime ever did. If only we could get together and start to work to make the Housing Act a reality, to build all the houses that are wanted, and to make the transport schemes of the Government a reality, we could have an industrial community in every village and the crowding into the towns would be ended. People only crowded into the towns because the gas, the electricity, and the railways necessary for industry were to be found in the towns.

The reorganisation of industry so as to increase production was a paramount necessity. We had started by agreeing to pay wages which in nearly all cases were double, and in some cases treble, the wages paid before the war. People did not yet understand that money was only a counter, that the only wealth of a country consisted in the things people eat, and wear, and the things they want for their pleasure or ornament, or instruction, or recreation, things that had to be made by the brains and hands of men. It was only laughing at a man to give him £2 wages instead of £1 unless he could get two pairs of boots instead of one, two suits of clothes instead of one, two pints of beer instead of one. That was the only increase of wages that was any good. The only result of raising wages without increasing production was that the wage-earner went with his extra £1 into a world that was short of boots, and clothes, and beer, and as the result of his wanting more, prices went up still further and he was no better off.

Discussion followed, in which Mr. J. Prentice, Mr. Emery, Councillor J. Jackson, Sir Ryland Adkins, M.P., and Mr. W. G. Garratt spoke in the order named. Practically all the speakers complained of the lack of information as to the Russian situation.

Sir Ryland Adkins said it was the supreme duty of the Government to tell the country much more than it ever had. If it was true, as some of them believed, that we were protecting genuine Russia against an Alien and devilish tyranny, that should not only be known to us, but rubbed into the public consciousness, that they might understand that the future of Russia was something which would inevitably affect the rest of the world and ourselves.

Register now for Butter with James Bros.

LOCAL WEDDING.

CAPT. CYRIL YARDE—MISS SISSY BROWN.

There was a large gathering at the church of All Saints, Wellingborough, on Tuesday afternoon, at the marriage of Captain Cyril Yarde, son of Mrs. Yarde and the late Alderman S. Yarde, Billing-road, Northampton, and Miss Sissy Brown, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Brown, of Eagle House, Wellingborough. The decorations at the church were carried out by Messrs. Martin and Son, Wellingborough.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired. Her dress was of ivory satin charmeuse and georgette, beautifully embroidered with pearls and mother of pearl trimming. The full court train of silver tissue, bordered with charmeuse, and lined with pink silk, was trimmed with true lover's knots of mother of pearls and horse-shoes of orange blossoms. Her hand-embroidered veil was tastefully arranged and trimmed with orange blossom and mother of pearl.

The bride carried a lovely bouquet of red roses and white heather, and wore a solitaire diamond ring, both the gifts of the bridegroom. There were three bridesmaids—Miss Joan Hall Yates (cousin of the bride), Miss Thelma Webb and Miss Mary Chambers (nieces of the bride). They wore dresses of pale blue crepe-de-chine trimmed with pink and pale blue roses. Their silver hair bands, trimmed with pink roses, held in place their long pink tulle veils, and they also were necklaces of seed pearls, the gifts of the bridegroom. Each carried a basket of pink sweet peas. Four little nephews of the bride, Masters Teddy and John Day, Campbell Chambers and Norman Webb, in white sailor suits were the pages, and little Miss Jean Day, dressed like the bridesmaids, strewed rose petals in the path of the bridal party.

Mr. T. Cogging, a friend of the bridegroom, was the best man.

Whilst the wedding party and the congregation were assembling the organist, Mr. C. J. Wood, played appropriate festal music, and during the service which was conducted by the Rev. W. E. Terry (vicar), the hymns "Lead us Heavenly Father," and "The voice that breathed o'er Eden," were sung. Wedding marches were also played whilst the register was being signed and as the bridal party left the church.

The lady employees of Messrs. Yarde and Co., of Northampton, formed an archway of flags beneath which the bridal party passed as they left the church. Merry peals were rung on the bells of the Parish Church during the afternoon.

BOOT REPAIRING.

PROPOSED WAGES AND MINIMUM PRICES.

The quarterly meeting of the Northamptonshire Council of the Boot and Shoe Repairers and Retailers' Association was held at the Granville Hotel, Wellingborough, on Thursday week. The President, Mr W. Clayson, of Wellingborough, was in the chair, and there was a full attendance of delegates from Northampton, Wellingborough, Kettering, Oundle, Thrapston, Higham Ferrers, Rushden and Wolverton.

The chairman, on behalf of the Wellingborough Association, welcomed the delegates and visitors, and Mr. E. Leakes, Thrapston, moved a vote of congratulation to Mr. W. Saddington, J.P., C.C., on being made a magistrate for the county. Mr. F. J. Hull, Kettering, seconded, and the resolution was carried with applause.

Mr. A. Adcock, Northampton, was elected the Northamptonshire representative on the Central Council Committee.

A resolution in favour of placing boot and shoe repairers under the Shop Act was carried unanimously.

A proposal that a uniform price list for repairs for the county be established led to a long and interesting discussion. Ultimately a resolution was carried to the effect that the Trade Board itself should impose a schedule of minimum prices for repairs binding upon all boot and shoe repairers.

A Wellingborough resolution respecting the wages proposed by the Trade Board was proposed by Mr. Saddington and seconded by Mr. G. Rixon, Wellingborough. It was met by an amendment from Wolverton expressing hearty approval of the wages proposed by the Trade Board—65s. per week of 48 hours—on condition that the same wages should be made applicable to all repairers and all bespoke boot makers wherever such operations are carried on.

Another unanimously adopted resolution was in favour of the registration of all boot and shoe repairers, whether employers or single-handed men.

Some discussion took place on a Wellingborough resolution respecting the classes of workers to whom the Trade Board's proposed wages are intended to apply. Eventually a resolution, emanating from Northampton, was carried, asking that the workers should be defined as those employed "in the repairing, wherever carried on, of all boots, shoes, slippers and all kinds of leather footwear, including the making of all kinds of bespoke leather footwear and uppers."

INFLUENZA'S LEGACY.

How a Northampton Girl Disposed of It.

Influenza, which in itself is a distressing malady, more often than not leaves in its wake a train of bodily and nervous weaknesses which render life hardly worth living to the sufferer. After the epidemic of this disease in the Spring of this year, there must be an incalculable number of people who are striving to do their daily work fighting all the time against this weakness of body, blood, and nerves, the dread legacy of influenza. These people would value health and vigour as they never did before, and it was for their benefit that Miss Gladys Knight, 115, St. Leonard's-road, Far Cotton, Northampton, gladly related to a representative the story of her restoration to health.

Miss Knight, who is in her 21st year, is employed as a dressmaker in one of Northampton's big drapery houses.

"I fell ill with influenza in September last," she said, "and had a very severe attack. I was away from business for seven weeks, and shortly after I went back I had a relapse and was very ill again. The pains in my head were terrible; I completely lost my appetite, and from being plump I became thin and wasted. Every vestige of colour left my cheeks, and I was exceedingly nervous and depressed. I worried too about my hair, which came off in handfuls until the front of my head was bald.

"Every one was very anxious about me, and I began to be frightened myself. The doctor said I was suffering from anæmia and nervous debility, but though I tried various remedies I did not get any better, and I was unable to go to work, or to do anything at all for months.

"Then someone recommended me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and almost in desperation I gave them a trial. With the first box my appetite returned, and my head ceased to ache and throb. I began to sleep well again after many months of bad nights, and it was the greatest joy to feel my strength coming back to me. And then, to my great satisfaction, my hair began to grow again. (Miss Knight has now a crop of dark curls all over the front of her head).

"After three or four boxes I was well and fit to return to business, though I continued taking the pills. I alone know what I owe to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I mean to recommend them to my friends. Already several of the girls I work with are benefitting from them."

Now is the time to begin Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Get a supply from any dealer, say you must have Dr. Williams'.

A free book of health will be sent to any reader who sends a postcard to Book Dept., 36, Fitzroy-square, London, W.1.

MUSICAL SOCIETY.

CARRYING-ON UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

MR. GERVASE ELWES' TRIBUTE

The members of the Northampton Musical Society assembled in strong force at the special general meeting held in the Northampton Gas Co.'s Large Hall, Wellington-street, on Monday evening, to consider the future of the society.

Mr. Gervase Elwes, J.P., the popular President of the Society, was in the chair, and was supported by Mr. C. J. King (the Hon. Conductor) and Mr F. Cook (Hon. Secretary). Apologies were read from Sir Henry Randall, J.P., Miss Julia Bradford, Mr and Mrs. Frank Mills, Mr. T. F. Gilkes, Mr. A. R. Hodson, Miss Turner, Mrs. Brentnall, Dr. A. C. Tysoe, and Mr. A. J. Parkinson.

The Chairman said he was very pleased indeed to find himself at a gathering of the members of the Northampton Musical Society, and to see such a large attendance. That was a rather important moment in the life of the society. We had just succeeded in getting through the dreadful time of the war fortunately without having to give up our efforts in the cause of music. Some people, he thought, were in favour of closing down for the period of the war, and this was a very natural feeling; indeed, there was, perhaps, every reason except one why they should do so. As they knew, however, Mr. King, Mr. Cook, and the other officers of the society decided to keep pegging away, and, personally, he was very pleased that decision was come to.

JUSTIFIED BY RESULTS.

It meant a very great deal from several points of view to have kept going on: it showed fine courage, and an appreciation of the great moral value of music, and the decision had been thoroughly justified by the results. (Cheers.) He could not leave that subject without congratulating the ladies of the society upon the way they had come to the rescue—as ladies had in various ways all over the country during the war (cheers)—and upon the splendid help they had rendered. The society and the musical public generally owed them a big debt of gratitude for "keeping the home fires burning." (Cheers.)

It was a mistaken idea that art had no no place in keeping up the spirits of the people. From his own experience he had found again and again that the moral value of music was untold, and helped in all sorts of ways. He had received many letters from men at the front saying how much music had done for them in those dreadful and trying days; and his experience in this matter was shared by many others. It had been beneficial to carry on as they had done because they must realise how very difficult it was to re-start a society when it had been allowed to drop. The outlook, as they knew, was not altogether rosy, but there was one great asset, and that was the splendid keenness of the members, for with that he believed they would be able to surmount all their difficulties. (Cheers.)

LOOKING AHEAD.

Mr. King, after pointing out that the modest work with which the members had had to content themselves during the war had not been without its value, said the enthusiasm shown in the past would have to be maintained and intensified in the future if the society was to achieve the success they all desired. He hoped whatever was decided upon that evening—if it was not exactly what some of them would wish—the members would stick to the society, and continue to persevere until the glorious time should come when they would have a commodious and comfortable hall such as they had in Leicester. (Laughter and cheers.) Until that time came they should keep going on as best they could, and derive as much enjoyment as possible from the practices.

With regard to performances in the immediate future, the only thing that seemed possible was to make use of one of the places of worship in the town, as they did when they gave an excellent rendering of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" at St. Matthew's. It was recommended by the committee that that work should be repeated in All Saints' Church on October 5th and that afterwards another work, Spohr's "Last Judgment," should be given at St. Matthew's early in December. He had received a letter from Mr. C. Hancock (conductor of the Leicester Musical Society) expressing the hope that it might be possible for the members of the Northampton Society to join them in the performance of the "Elijah" at Leicester on December 27 (cheers), and Gounod's "Redemption" about Easter. He (Mr. King) hoped it would be possible for their own society to give Bach's "St. Matthew's Passion" before Easter.

A QUESTION OF EXPENSE.

Mr. A. E. Hodge suggested that an attempt should be made to give another performance of "The Dream of Gerontius."

Mr. King said nothing would give him greater pleasure than to have such a performance, but he did not think it would be a success if attempted with only the organ and stringed instruments. Then there was the question of expense. The last performance cost something like £130. When "The Hymn of Praise" was given at St. Matthew's the offertory realised only £11, and it was difficult to see where the difference was to come from.

The Chairman suggested that an endeavour should be made to get a number of lovers of music to form a guarantee fund to safeguard the society against loss.

Mr. King said that upon the last occasion this course was followed with success, but he did not know whether it could be done again.

The Chairman said he could not express to them how greatly he enjoyed the last performance, and he should be delighted to associate himself with a repetition of the work and do what he could to make it a success. (Cheers.)

Mr. King thanked the Chairman, and stated amid cheers that Mr. Elwes had generously offered to provide without cost to the society the whole of the artistes necessary.

In the course of further conversation it was suggested that as a charge could not be made if the work were given in a place of worship, an endeavour should be made to secure the New Theatre.

It was eventually agreed to adopt this suggestion, and that in the event of its not being successful the recommendations of the committee as outlined by Mr. King be carried out.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the meeting proceeded to the filling of the vacancies on the committee for the ensuing year, and the following were elected: Miss Faulkner, Miss Rands, Mrs. Brentnall, Mrs. A. C. Abbey, Mrs. Montague Brown, Mrs. W. R. White, Dr. A. C. Tysoe, Dr. Hichen, Mr. Herbert Kimbell, Mr. A. J. Redhead, Mr. W. H. Orton, and Mr. E. J. Tebbutt.

Hearty thanks were accorded the Northampton Gas Co. for the gratuitous use of the hall, to the retiring members of the committee, and to the chairman; and Mr. Elwes' reply concluded a very enthusiastic meeting.

AUSTRALIAN MINERS' DISPUTE.

Melbourne, Friday.—A round table conference has been convened to settle disputes among the miners, who allege that the coalowners are not carrying out the agreement.

SOLDIERS' BOUNTY DEMANDS.

Wellington, Friday.—Two thousand returned soldiers yesterday interviewed the Premier and Parliamentary leaders demanding £150 gratuity for each two years' service abroad. The Premier promised generous consideration.

A DREADNOUGHT REFLOATED.

Toronto, Sunday.—The Dreadnought Leonardo da Vinci, sunk as the result of an explosion in August, 1916, has been refloated.

A NEW MINISTER.

RECOGNITION SERVICE AT HARLESTON ROAD CHURCH.

The Rev. P. Heppenstall (newly appointed Superintendent of the Northampton Third Circuit of Primitive Methodists) received a hearty welcome to his new sphere of labour, at a recognition service held in the Harleston-road Church on Thursday week.

Mr. W. G. Seckington, who presided, and was supported by the Rev. Harryman Taylor (Grove-road), the Rev. J. R. McPhail (Doddridge Memorial Congregational Church), the Rev. G. W. G. Heaps (Hon. Sec. of the Northampton Free Church Council), Mr. F. Butterfield, Mr. G. Clarke. Apologies were read from the Rev. W. T. Healey (Superintendent Minister of the First Circuit) and Mr. T. Warwick (Nether Heyford).

In his opening remarks, the chairman said all hoped that Mr. Heppenstall's ministry at Northampton would be the most successful he had ever had. Mr. Seckington referred with gratification to the cordial relations existing between the Church of England and Nonconformity in St. James', and said the Vicar, Rev. A. P. Shepherd had sent his hearty greetings to the new minister.

The Rev. J. Harryman Taylor said it was highly creditable to the Harleston-road Church that they had done such excellent work under exceptionally difficult circumstances, and expressed the hope that, under the new regime, continued and increasing prosperity would attend their efforts. If this was to be the case there must be the utmost friendliness and co-operation between the pulpit and the pew. He wished for Mr. Heppenstall a long, happy and fruitful ministry.

After the greeting of the circuit had been given by Mr. F. Butterfield, who promised the hearty support of the members and officers, the Rev. W. G. Heaps extended a warm welcome to Mr. Heppenstall from the Northampton Free Church Council and the Sunday School Union.

Mr. G. Clarke voiced the good wishes of the Sunday School, and the Rev. J. R. McPhail expressed his gratification at the measure of unity existing between the various denominations at St. James'.

The Rev. R. Heppenstall in an appropriate reply said he hoped to fulfil all the anticipations of his friends. His primary duty was to preach the gospel, and he hoped the message delivered from the pulpit would be helpful to those who heard it.

Prior to the meeting there was a public tea in the schoolroom, the catering arrangements for which were carried out by the ladies of the church and congregation.

NORTHAMPTON DIVISIONAL PETTY SESSIONS.

Saturday.—Before Mr. C. Smyth (in the chair), Major C. A. Markham, Mr. A. O. Geldart, Mr. Gervase Elwes, and Mr. J. Adams.

A STRAYING MARE.

George Malin, dealer, of Flore, was summoned for allowing a mare to stray on the highway at Flore on September 4.

P.C. Freeman, Flore, said about 9 a.m. on the day in question he was on duty on the Brockhall-road near Flore when he saw the mare. He watched her for three-quarters of an hour, but no one came, and he afterwards drove her into the village and told the defendant. He had previously cautioned defendant, and had had to speak to him since.

Defendant said it was impossible to get a field to put the mare in.

Defendant was fined 5s. and 5d. costs.

AFTER THE APPLES.

Arthur Gasson (aged 13), Arthur Wade (aged 15), Fred Weston (aged 15), and Ernest Conroy (aged 16), all of Northampton, were summoned for wilful damage to growing apple trees to the amount of 5s., the property of Thomas Manning, at Dallington, on August 15.

William Fisher Checkley, gardener to Mr. T. Manning, at Dallington, said he saw five boys climbing over the fence out of the garden at 3.30 in the afternoon. The four defendants were of the number. Each boy threw apples away as witness ran after them. At least 5s. worth of damage had been done to the apple trees.

Defendants admitted taking the apples but denied having done any damage to the trees.

P.C. Collier, Dallington, said he saw the gardener and Wade in the afternoon. Wade said he had been getting some apples.

Supt. Butlin said there had been three previous convictions of stealing against Wade.

Gasson, Weston and Conday were fined 5s. including costs, and Wade, 7s. 6d., including costs.

RANSOMED FROM BANDITS.

El Paso, Sunday.—Dr. Smith, an American, was ransomed on Saturday for 5,000 dollars from Mexican bandits.

Register now for Bacon with James Bros.

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