

TRENTHAM 1939 - Local Controversies

Access to **Trentham** Park

COUNCIL TO APPROACH TRUSTEES ON ALLEGED ENCLOSURE

The alleged enclosure of a portion of **Trentham** Park was referred to by Alderman J. A. Dale at to-day's meeting of the City Council, when it was agreed that the Town Clerk should write to the Trustees of the Estate, pointing out that for many years the park had been open to the public of Stoke-on-Trent.

Alderman Dale said that in 1919 the Corporation decided to promote a Bill to authorise them to acquire **Trentham** Park for use as a public park and other purposes of recreation for the City. The matter went on for some time until, after a communication from the Trustees of the Estate, the Council dropped the matter. The purport of the communication from the Trustees was that they had decided that they wished to keep control of **Trentham** Park in their own hands, but they would not in any way restrict the privileges the public had so long enjoyed. If they desired, in the future, to dispose of the park or any portion of it, they would be glad to give the Corporation the first chance of acquiring it.

The other day (said Alderman Dale) to my horror and amazement I found a great fence of ugly barbed wire and posts

covering many acres which the public and children of this district have previously enjoyed. Apparently this portion is to be separated from the Park and will, I suppose, be included in the gardens. To me, it looks more like a concentration camp than anything.

He continued that he felt the matter of such importance that they ought to make some sort of protest. He could not imagine that the Duke of Sutherland, who had been out of the country for the past month or two, was aware of what had happened in the meantime, and he asked the Town Clerk to communicate with the Trustees and remind them of the undertaking given in 1919, and to impress on them the feelings of the inhabitants of the City that no portion of the Park should be lost to them.

Alderman A. C. Harvey said that four or five years ago, when the swimming pool was opened at **Trentham** the Duke of Sutherland was present and gave the impression that the privileges the public of Stoke-on-Trent had in connection with **Trentham** Park would be continued. He thought the least they could do was to approach the Trustees in the matter, await their reply, and then deal further with the question.

This was agreed to by the Council.

STATE OF FOOTPATHS

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

SIR,—The footpaths at **Trentham** are a disgrace to the district, especially in rainy periods, being just like swimming pools round about the Gardens and on the Whitmore-road.—Yours &c.,
READER.

SCHOOL JOURNEYS

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

SIR,—As a parent and trained A.R.P. man, I endorse "School Manager's" letter.

My daughter, aged 11, has been educated at **Trentham** C. of E. Schools, but when the reopening of schools is announced she has to attend the new school at Oakhill. This will entail half-an-hour's travelling each way.

If an air-raid warning were sounded during the journey, what would happen? Perhaps confusion and panic, whereas by attending the village school, she could be home in a few minutes.

Is it not possible for the Education Authorities to suspend the change-over, and at the same time, cut out the additional cost?—Yours, &c.,
SAFETY FIRST.

PROPOSED NEW SITE FOR SUPER POWER STATION

Between **Trentham** and Longton

AREA KNOWN AS NEWSTEAD

THE AUTHORITY'S PROBLEMS

A NEW SITE IS PROPOSED FOR THE SUPER POWER STATION TO SUPPLY THE POTTERIES AREA AND THE GRID SYSTEM.

It is known as Newstead, and is to the right of the main road from **Trentham** to Longton.

Following the rejection by the Electricity Commissioners of the proposal to erect a power station at Barlaston, the North West Midlands Joint Electricity Authority are undertaking a comprehensive survey, to discover a site which would not be subject to mining subsidence, where water would be available, and which would be within the area of supply of the North Staffordshire Coal Sales Committee, so that the fuel would be supplied by North Staffordshire collieries.

The site near the Michellin Works, between Stoke and Hanford, has been shown to be unsuitable, as subsidence is taking place there and as the surface will not be settled for some years.

The Joint Electricity Authority are now considering a site known as Newstead, which is on the right hand side of the main road from **Trentham** to Longton, some 200 yards past the Trentham railway bridge, and opposite the Hem Heath Colliery of the Stafford Coal and Iron Co., Ltd.

THE ONLY SITE

OUR READERS' VIEWS

Power Station

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

EXCEPT for the fact that Sir Francis Joseph appears to have something to say on

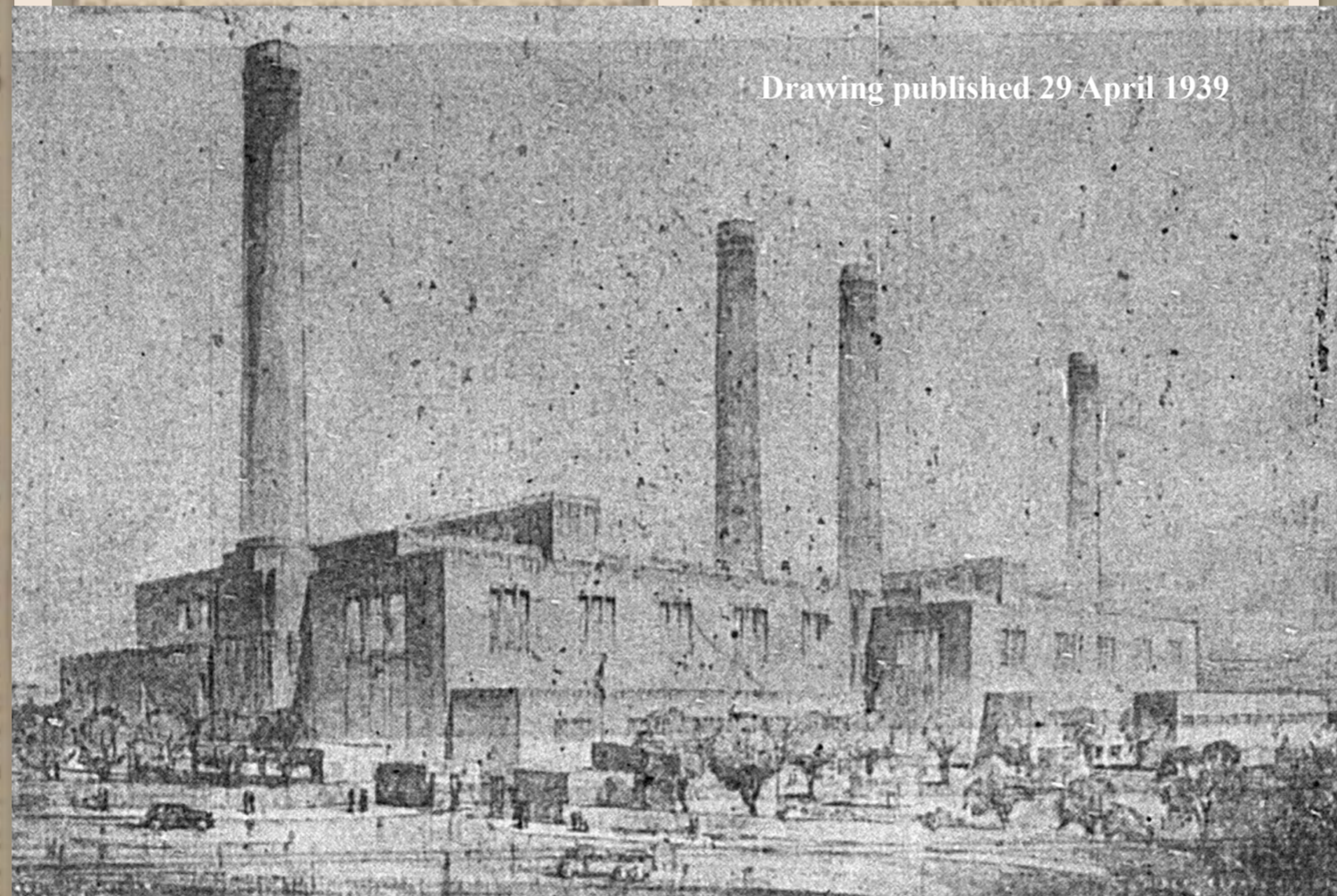
POWER STATION SITE

Protest From Trentham

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

SIR,—It is surprising to find that it is proposed to erect the power station within 200 yards of the railway bridge at Trentham.

To do so, following the inquiry held at Stoke by Sir Cyril W. Hurcomb, K.C.B., Chairman of the Electricity Commission, and Mr. Kennedy, and the judgment given at the inquiry, suggests an action equivalent to contempt of court. To place the power station



Drawing published 29 April 1939

erected at Barlaston, would mean so much more employment for miners. Surely, wherever the station is erected within North Staffordshire, the same result would apply.

As to the inference that all possible nuisances caused by the working of the station would be eliminated by modern methods, Sir Francis should know that such a thing is not yet possible. His thanks to science in this connection are certainly premature.

No amount of specious argument can dispose of the facts, and it was a relief to turn to Sir Joseph Lamb's dignified and comprehensive questions upon this matter which, appropriately enough appeared above the letter from Sir Francis in your edition of Friday last.—Yours faithfully,
GEORGE E. HARDING.

Barlaston Old-road,
May 22nd, 1939.

referred to above is taken as a convenient distance only. The equivalent distance taken at the Barlaston inquiry was a mile and a third.

In conclusion, to place in its proper perspective the statement that no other site than Newstead is suitable, may I refer to the words of Mr. Craig Henderson, at the inquiry as to the Barlaston site, as reported in the Sentinel of June 6th last, when he stated, "The site was the only suitable one the Authority had been able to find . . . The Barlaston site was the result of an intense survey.—Yours faithfully,
JOHN MOXON.

The Spartans, Blurton, Stoke-on-Trent. August 22nd, 1939.

POWER STATION SCHEME

NEWSTEAD AND BARLASTON SITES

A COMPARISON

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

SIR,—Re the proposed power station. The recent correspondence in your columns and Observer's remarks cause some danger of confusing the real issue. The general question as to whether or not a power station is desirable in North Staffordshire is very different from the particular question as to whether it is desirable to place such a power station at Newstead.

As to the particular question, may I point out certain material facts which are apparent from the Ordnance Survey map:—

1. The Newstead site is under a mile from the Barlaston site.
2. A large number of those affected by the Barlaston scheme are affected as much, if not more, by the Newstead scheme than by the Barlaston scheme, e.g.—

1. The whole of **Trentham** Golf Course is within a mile of the Newstead site, whereas only part is within that distance of the Barlaston site.

2. A considerable part of **Trentham** Gardens is within a mile of the Newstead site, whereas only part is beyond this distance from the Barlaston site.

3. The rateable value of the properties within a mile radius of the Newstead site, which will be detrimentally affected, is substantially greater than those within a similar distance of the Barlaston site.