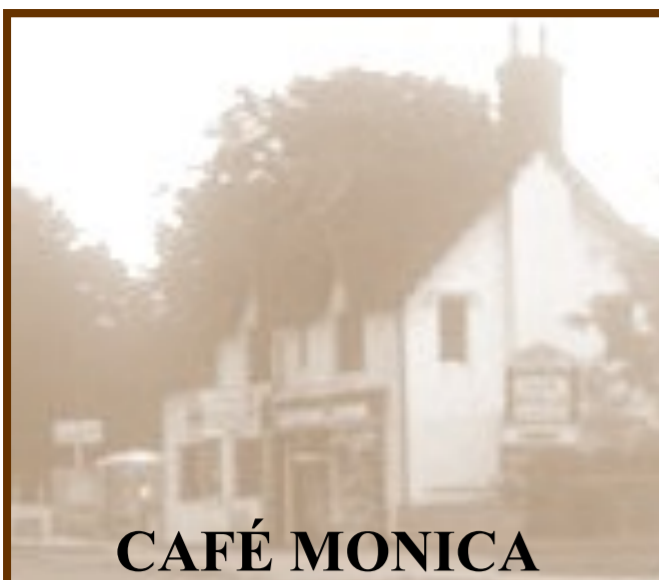


TRENTHAM 1939 - miscellaneous items



CAFÉ MONICA

OFFENCES

CAFE EMPLOYEES' SUNDAY WORK

COMPENSATORY HOLIDAYS

Fines and costs, totalling £12 0s. 6d., for 13 offences under the Shops Acts, were imposed at Stoke Stipendiary Court to-day on Mrs. Beatrice May Shenton, trading as Shenton Brothers, at the Cafe Monica, **Trentham**.

Mr. A. W. Butlin (Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Staffordshire County Council), prosecuted, and defendant was represented by Mr. John Moxon.

The first three summonses related to the failure to give three employees a whole week-day holiday after they had worked more than four hours on the Sunday; and the next three summonses were for employing the same three people on more than two other Sundays in the same month.

In the first three cases, fines of £2 each were imposed, and there was a fine of £1 in each of the next three.

Mrs. Shenton was fined 10s. for failing to keep records of her employees' Sunday work; 10s. for failing to affix an early closing day notice in the shop; 10s. for not closing at 1 p.m. on the weekly half-day; and 5s. for failing to notify the assistants of seats provided.

The remaining three offences were all for failing to display notices, as required by the Acts, and defendant was ordered to pay 4s. costs on each. In addition, there were 13s. 6d. costs in the first case.

SUNDAY EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Butlin said Mrs. Shenton's premises were a shop and cafe, the main business of the shop being the sale of sweets and tobacco. Three adult female assistants were employed full-time.

He referred to "cautions, warnings and visits" to defendant, to whose notice it was clearly brought that certain notices must be exhibited, records kept, and that assistants must be given compensatory holidays. The three assistants had been working four Sundays a month, instead of a maximum of three, and had received no compensatory holidays. It was a serious matter. When asked by an inspector for an explanation, defendant first gave none, and then said she had been negligent.

With regard to the Sunday work, said Mr. Butlin, the employees had worked 10-11 hours instead of four.

Evidence was given by Arthur Edward Mackay, Inspector under the Shops Acts for the Staffordshire County Council.

NO HARDSHIP

Mr. Moxon, who admitted the offences on Mrs. Shenton's behalf, said that before the war, the bulk of the shop's business had been at the week-ends, but the type of trade had changed since. Defendant was in the habit of giving her staff time off when business was slack, and they were paid a set wage, whether they worked or not. There had been no hardship to the staff, and no complaints from them. There were abundant seats on the premises, and the assistants could and did use them. Mrs. Shenton greatly regretted the offences, and was making sure that they did not occur again.

Shop assistants must be protected from being employed lengthy hours, and without really being in a position to complain (said the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. R. MacGregor Clarkson). The Acts were passed for their protection, and must be observed.

He added that had there been only one or two charges, the penalties would have been higher.

CHIEF CONSTABLE AS WITNESS IN "HALT" SIGN CASE

Thomas Walter Ainsworth, of The Garage, Hem Heath, **Trentham** was fined 20s. for failing to conform with a "Halt" sign when driving a motor-car. He pleaded Not Guilty, and was represented by Mr. F. A. Barnes.

Police-constable Fawcett said he was driving with the Chief Constable along the **Trentham-road** when defendant's car turned out of Barlaston Old-road, towards Blurton.

The Chief Constable (Mr. F. L. Bunn) gave similar evidence.

Mr. Barnes said defendant turned round by the entrance to **Trentham** Golf Club, picked up a passenger, drove to the end of the road, and stopped before turning into the main road. He suggested the police saw the car immediately after it had started for the second time. Defendant gave evidence to this effect.

Dramatic Court Story of Midnight Chase

STOLEN CAR CRASHES INTO POLICE PATROL

Fines and Imprisonment

A remarkable story of a chase of a stolen car, by two officers in a police patrol car, was related at Stoke Police Court to-day, when two men appeared before the magistrates. One was fined and sent to prison and the other was fined.

The officers told how they tried every means of stopping the other car, which often drove on its wrong side and narrowly avoided collisions with other vehicles. The two cars passed and repassed each other, and at a **Trentham** roundabout the fugitive vehicle eluded the patrol car by rounding the island on the wrong side.

The patrol car eventually overtook, and stopped on Strongford Bridge in such a manner that the other car could not pass. One officer actually stayed in the car, in order to hold an illuminated sign to the window, and "steered himself for the impact which he knew was coming."

TRENTHAM MOTHERS' UNION FESTIVAL

The **Trentham** Deanery Mothers' Union annual festival was held in the delightful surroundings of **Trentham** Park yesterday, when more than 480 members attended.

A special train was run from Aston-by-Stone to pick up members from the Stone district.

A service in **Trentham** Church was conducted by the Rev. A. E. Grimes (Vicar of **Trentham**) and the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Stoke-on-Trent (the Ven. Percy Hartill) after which tea was taken in the gardens.

The 13 branches were all represented, and the arrangements were made by the Presiding Member (Lady Johnson) and the enrolling members.

COLDEST NIGHT FOR TEN YEARS

Some parts of North Staffordshire resembled winter sports resorts yesterday. **Trentham** golf course was a popular rendezvous, and during the afternoon about 50 or 60 people—some of them in winter sports costume—found the course an ideal run for toboggans. Ski-ing was in progress at Barlaston.

The light nights have persuaded some of the more hardy to indulge in moonlight toboggan parties and these are becoming increasingly popular.

Design for window at New Park

Stained Glass at R.A.—

Designs for stained glass windows are rarely seen in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, but this year there has been accepted for the Architectural Section the design for the stained glass window executed by Miss Moira Forsyth, A.R.C.A., for Mr. and Mrs. J. Tellwright, New Park, **Trentham**.



MARRIED FIFTY YEARS



Mr. and Mrs. T. Holmes, of **Trentham** who are to-day celebrating their golden wedding.

Celebration of Golden Wedding

MR. AND MRS. T. HOLMES, OF TRENTHAM

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Holmes, of 6, Ivy-grove, **Trentham**, whose associations with the Potteries go back for many years, to-day are celebrating their golden wedding.

For over 30 years, Mr. Holmes was Postmaster at the London-road sub-post office, Stoke. Both he and Mrs. Holmes have been lifelong Methodists, their chief interest having been centred in the Lonsdale-street Church, Stoke, where Mr. Holmes has held practically every office, and Mrs. Holmes has been a Vice-President of the Women's Bright Hour.

They were married at Trent Vale Methodist Church—the first couple to be married there, and, to mark the occasion, they were presented with a Bible and a hymn book.

Mr. Holmes' first job after he left school was in a newsagent's shop at Fenton, and about the same time he became a member of the Dresden United Football Club and was one of their most enthusiastic players. He worked for some time with a pottery firm, and afterwards took a small hardware shop in London-road.

Then he was appointed to take charge of the London-road Post Office, retiring in 1927. He was mainly responsible for the formation of the district branch of the Sub-Postmasters' Federation, which was started 26 years ago with 12 members. There is now a membership of 300. For many years, he was organising Secretary of the branch, but some time ago he was appointed a Vice-President, and represented the branch at the annual conference in 1929.

WELLKNOWN BOWLER

Mr. Holmes' sporting activities did not cease when he stopped playing football, for he was a keen member of the old Stoke Parks Bowling Club, now known as the Boothon Bowling Club, and in 1936 he won the Watkin Cup.

Both he and his two daughters were members of the Stoke-on-Trent Choral Society, and he has been choir-master at Lonsdale-street Methodist Church.

There are two married daughters, Mrs. Minnie Davies, who lives in London, and Mrs. Barber, who lives in Scotland. Their only son is the Rev. Percy Holmes, Minister of Worcester Park Methodist Church, London. He preached at Lonsdale-street Church a short time ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmes will receive the congratulations of a wide circle of friends throughout the district.

THATCHED COTTAGE FIRE

OUTBREAK AT TRENTHAM

ROOF DESTROYED

One of a row of picturesque thatched cottages at Ash Green, **Trentham**, was badly damaged by fire yesterday, and its seven occupants have had to find other accommodation.

The fire broke out in the cottage nearest Ash Green corner, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Grocott and their five children. An adjoining cottage was also slightly affected, and the outbreak has marred a series of buildings which for many years has been one of the most admired features of **Trentham**.

BRIGADE'S TASK

Although the outbreak was more of the smouldering type than a fierce blaze, it caused the Longton Fire Brigade some trouble and lasted for about two hours.

The fire was first noticed in the thatching and the Brigade was immediately called. The flames spread rapidly to all parts of the roof, and considerable damage was inevitably done to furniture in the house, owing to the large quantity of water which had to be used.

Before the outbreak was completely extinguished, the roof was completely destroyed, and that of the adjoining house, tenanted by Mr. J. Mountford, was slightly damaged.

