Harwood District Council.

CHAIRMAN AND TOWN'S AFFAIRS.

An Audit and "Red Tape."

The Housing Question.

STRONG CRITICISMS OF THE GAS.

Mr. Allsopp and "A 1,600 Horse-Power Stink."

The monthly meeting of the Great Harwood District Council was held last night, and several matters of interest came before the meeting. Mr. T. Noble presided, and the other members present were Messrs. J. Westby, R Hartley, W. Pickup, J. E. Allsopp, A. Booth, J. Parker, J. Bentley, A. Slater, and J. S. Haworth.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

At the commencement of the proceedings Mr. Noble said that was the first meeting of the new year, and he would like to take the opportunity of sincerely wishing "a happy and prosperous New Year" to all the councillors and officials, and the inhabitants of the town. Continuing, Mr. Noble observed the health of the town during the past year had been of a satisfactory kind, they had had no serious epidemic to contend with, and the reports from the Medical Officer of Health showed that the town was in a good sanitary condition. The trade of the town, which they knew was practically all cotton, had been throughout the year, except the concluding month, in a prosperous condition. Looms had been kept busy, and work good to obtain. During the latter part of the year the demand for cotton goods, which had been brisk for a considerable time, went quiet, and trade at present was not so good, but he hoped they would soon see a revival. One disappointment during the year was that the King and Queen did not favour Great Harwood with a visit when in the neighbourhood. Another was the failure to establish the garden city scheme through want of support.

The electricity scheme seemed from some cause or other to hang fire. A committee, and a most representative one from Accrington, paid the town a visit, and seemed pleased with all they saw, but whether they could not undertake the supply of electricity, or did not desire to do so, he could not tell. If something was not arranged soon, however, they would have to look elsewhere, or do it themselves. It was to be regretted that no new works of any importance had been established during the past year, but people with money, from some cause or other, would not to any appreciable extent invest in cottage property. Until they had more houses built no inducement was offered for the building of new works, and people who would build works were not keen on building houses for workers as well. The bequest of Miss Mercer to the town had not yet taken definite shape, but he expected that it would soon have the attention of the trustees. During the last month of the year a most important revelation, which he was sure they all sincerely regretted, came to light regarding their late collector and assistant overseer, but as the case was what legal people called sub judice, he would not say anything about the matter. In conclusion, he thanked all the members and officials for the support tendered to him during the past year. (Applause.)

MR. ALLSOPP AND "RED TAPE."

THE AUDITING OF THE BOOKS.

The Chairman was submitting the minutes of a special meeting of the Council and Overseers of the Poor, stating that the District Auditor, Mr. Noel M. Griffiths, had attended and several questions were discussed, when Mr. Allsopp rose and said he would like a word before the minutes were passed. He thought he would be expressing the opinion of a large number of the members of the Council when he said that it came as a great revelation to them to learn that they could not engage outside auditors to audit the Council's books without receiving the sanction of the Local Government Board. They were passing through troublous times, but he regretted the red tape method and ruling. He was given to understand that they could audit one side of the public ledger, but they could not audit the other. "Did anybody ever hear such a silly, idiotic idea!" exclaimed Mr. Allsopp. The public representatives were in the unfortunate position that they could audit the right side of the ledger, but they could not under any circumstances audit the left side of it. Their motives were of the best in wanting a general audit of all the accounts of the Council, not that they thought that there was anything wrong in any other department, but simply and solely so that for once the people of the town would know they started with a clean sheet. They were placed in the position, however, that if they gave instructions for a general audit of the Council's books, and did it on their own account, they were liable to be surcharged. He protested against the Council as a body of publicly-elected representatives being placed in that position. One wanted to be careful when dealing with Local Government Board officials, but so far as he was concerned he would never rest content, and he did say that they, as the members of Harwood Council, ought for at least once to have an independent audit of every account book there was in the office.

Mr. A. Slater, chairman of the Finance Committee, said there was no doubt about it they had a good deal to consider in the near future, both as to their past arrangements in reference to the finances of the Council, and other matters, but he did not think it was desirable to say a good lot about the matter at this juncture. (Hear, hear.) It would be better to get the business they had on hand this week out of the way. He quite agreed with all that had been said regarding the unfortunate position into which they had been placed, and it was desirable that they should make clear their position and the course they had taken in recent events. Personally, he would be prepared to go to the Local Government Board and see what really was the position. He was ready to take a strong hand on the matter when the time came. (Hear, hear.)

THE HOUSING QUESTION.

Mr. J. Parker referred to the following minute in the proceedings of the last meeting of the Finance Committee: "The Clerk reported that no applications had been made for loans under The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act. He said that in his opening remarks the Chairman had referred to the fact of the garden city scheme having been dropped, and in so doing indirectly referred to the shortage of houses in the town. Following the adoption of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, the Council had been advertising their willingness to assist persons desirous of becoming purchasers of their own houses. Under the provisions of the Act they were willing to put down four-fifths of the purchase money, provided the intending purchaser was willing to put down the other fifth. One solitary individual had applied for literature in connection with the Council's offer, but, as stated, no application had been received for loans. He and the Council knew the reason for that very well. That demand had been adequately met by the local Co-operative Society. Mr. Parker said that people could be comfortable, probably well off, prosperous and happy even if they did not own their own houses. They knew as well as he did that there were between 100 and 200 houses badly needed in the town at the present time by people not in a position and not desirous of becoming owners of their own houses. As the Chairman had hinted, the progress of the town had been retarded because people had not been building houses. There were already Acts of Parliament for the purpose of meeting the deficiency in housing, and it was vitally necessary that the Council should put them into operation, and he contended that the members of that Council had not yet entered into the realisation of its responsibility, otherwise they would have taken steps to meet the demand there was for housing.

The minutes were passed without further comment.

MERCER CHARITY.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Ed. Broughton regarding the Mercer charity, stating that the trustees regretted that they were unable to send on the full amount of £25 which had hitherto been provided under that charity. What they had been able to send was the 2½ per cent. interest on the £750 investment, and that amounted to £17 13s. 2d., and together with a sum of £3 5s. 6d. in the form of returned income tax, made up a total of £20 18s. 8d. The letter stated that the trustees of Miss Mercer's estate were not yet in a position to consider adding to the investments so that the full amount of £25 would be realised for distribution, but it would be considered by them in due course. (Hear, hear.) Continuing, Mr. Noble said that in respect of the charity, 105 tickets of the value of 4s. each were given out before Christmas, and that amounted to a total of £21, so that the treasurer was 1s. 4d. out of pocket compared with the amount received.

CRITICS OF THE GAS.

A 1,600 HORSE-POWER "STINK."

The Chairman had announced that that concluded the whole of the public business, when

Mr. Allsopp asked if the Chairman could give them any assurance that the quality of the gas would be improved. He did not blame the Harwood representatives in any shape or form for the quality with which they were being supplied, because he knew that the constitution of the Board was very peculiar, and he had reason to believe the Harwood representatives carried complaints, when any were made to them, to the proper quarter. From a report they had before them he found they were at present being supplied with gas of 16.3 candle power, but surely they ought to have greater power than that with the 1,600 horse-power "stink" of the gas. Whether it was the smell from the coal gas or a cross between a sink and sulphurated hydrogen he did not know, but the people of Great Harwood were rebelling against it. There had been strong complaints from the mill people, and they had every reason to complain.

Mr. Pickup: There is no doubt about the poor quality of the gas we are being supplied with. Its almost as bad as gas can possibly be.

Mr. Allsopp: Is it gas? The gas undertaking was supposed to belong partly to them, partly to somebody else, and yet they could not have the quality of gas they wanted. It seemed rather singular they were making something themselves and yet could not improve it. He would not be surprised if the people in Harwood kicked against it. Had the concern been a private one they would have kicked against it long ago.

The Chairman asked whether the quality had been objectionable during the last fourteen or seventeen days. Gas with an objectionable smell had been sent out from the works previously to that.

Mr. Allsopp: That is the 1,600 horse power "stink."

The Chairman said his wife thought the smell was due to defective drains and went all over the place with carbolic acid trying to remove the smell. When the complaints were made he and others went down to the works and this question was gone into thoroughly. They were assured the gas would be much improved. He was at the works again on the previous Thursday, and in a conversation with the manager he was assured the gas would be much improved and that the improvement would be maintained. There had been something wrong owing to the purifyers being out of order. Mr. Noble added that he had had no complaints at the mill or at his house during the last week, and he thought (himself) the gas was at present fairly satisfactory. Sight was not being lost of the matter and the improvement would be maintained.

Mr. Parker queried whether the smell was not somewhat of a disinfectant and accounted for the healthy nature of the district.

Mr. Allsopp: Well you can have my share of the disinfectant. Mr. Allsopp added that if the Board would get better coal and revert to the old style of purification they would get a much better gas.

The matter then dropped.

GREAT HARWOOD MAN'S CLAIM

Against Gas and Water Board.

At Blackburn County Court, yesterday, James Robert Graham, 3, Barn Meadow-street, Great Harwood, sought to recover compensation from the Accrington and District Gas and Water Board, in respect to an accident sustained while he was following his employment at Great Harwood Gasworks. Mr. Harry Backhouse, Blackburn, appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. F. S. Oppenheim, Manchester, represented respondents.

Plaintiff stated that on March 7th he was filling boxes with oxide in the purifying house when an empty box, which was being hooked to a rope in the room above, fell through a trap-door. The box, which weighed about 28lb. and fell 15ft., struck him on the shoulder, and the side of his head. He was at home for three days, and then returned to do light work, but on May 14th he had to give it up on account of severe pains in the head. He had been unable to resume.

For the defence it was submitted that the box struck applicant on the shoulder, and not on the head, and that the applicant's condition was not due to the accident.

Mr. Oppenheim took as a preliminary objection to applicant obtaining any award that the Workmen's Compensation Act had not been complied with in reference to notice.

His Honour found that applicant had failed to make a claim for compensation within the six months specified by the Act, and gave a verdict for respondent.

WILL OF THE LATE MR. PETER GRIMSHAW, OSWALDTWISTLE.

The late Mr. Peter Grimshaw, 55, Roe Greave-road, Oswaldtwistle, left £3,427. Mr. Grimshaw, who died about Christmas was a director of the Vine Spinning Company, and was well known in Moor End district. For many years he had lived retired, and prior to that was a cotton operative. He was noted for his shrewdness and his appreciation of the value of money, and his fortune was the result of his own efforts. A bachelor, he has left his money, the bulk of which is invested in the Vine Spinning Co., to relatives.

QUEEN'S HALL, CHURCH.

Queen's Hall was packed last night, and the audiences were highly in praise of the set of pictures that were shown. "In the Midst of the Jungle" is a fine animal subject that carried away the audience. Kathleen Williams is a popular favourite and a daring woman. "John Bousell of the Secret Service" is one of the finest dramas produced, while "The Lost Chord" beautifully pourtrayed with appropriate music, held the audience from start to finish. "Shiftless Sam" and "Dupens New Coat" are two fine comic film pictures which created roars of laughter.

ARRANGED HIS OWN FUNERAL.

Mr. Joshua Herbert Maden, son of the late Mr. Henry Maden, mill manager, died at his home, Britannia House, Bacup, on Saturday. Mr. Maden recently returned from a tour in Canada, undertaken in the hope of benefiting his health. He was twenty-five, and had only been married two years. He leaves a widow and child. Shortly before his death Mr. Maden made arrangements for his funeral, giving instructions as to the style of the coffin, the undertaker, the minister, the place of interment, and the list of invitations. His father, who died when Mr. Joshua Maden was a child, also made arrangements for his own funeral.

A 55 YEARS RECORD.

Mr. Thomas Tomlinson, of 1, Gaghills-terrace, Waterfoot, Rossendale, who has just celebrated his golden wedding, has worked at Gaghills Mill, Waterfoot, for fifty-five years. He was employed for twenty-seven years as throstle overlooker for Messrs. Barcroft, and for twenty-eight years under the late Sir Henry Trickett, the "Slipper King."

Aged 95, Mrs. Sarah Cranfield has died at East Donyland, near Colchester, leaving 120 descendants. Her six sons are well known as captains of racing yachts, one of them having navigated Valkyrie in the American Cup contest.

The Board of Trade have informed the London and Suburban Traders' Federation that it is intended to recommend that certain aspects of the question of short weight should be investigated by a select committee of the House of Commons.

ACCRINGTON SCOUTMASTER'S DEATH.

Body to be Carried to the Grave by Scouts.

Mr. Robert Riley Timperley, who has been a Scoutmaster in the Accrington Boy Scouts, died on Friday at his residence, Water-street, aged 32 years. He was employed at Mr. Derbyshire's nursery gardens, Burnley-road, and had rendered good service to the scout movement. At the funeral, which will take place to-day at the cemetery, the body will be conveyed on the scouts' ambulance and the Boy Scouts will walk. No hearse or carriages will be used. Mr. Timperley, who leaves a widow and child, was a worker in connection with Cambridge-street Wesleyan school.

DEATH OF MR. FRANK GREENHALGH.

Member of Well-Known Local Family.

The death occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning at his residence, 67, Market-street, Church, of Mr. Frank Greenhalgh. The deceased, who was in his 60th year, was taken seriously ill on Friday, and his death was due to hæmorrhage. To leaves a widow and four children.

Mr. Greenhalgh was one of the sons of the late Mrs. Hannah Greenhalgh, who for many years carried on an extensive pawnbroking business in Accrington and Church, a business which is still in the control of members of the family. Two of his brothers belong to the medical profession, but the deceased lived the life of a retired gentleman. In his younger days, after being educated at Haywod's academy, he worked at Messrs. Howard and Bullough's as a fitter, and later engaged in an engineering business.

Mr. Greenhalgh was of a genial disposition, good hearted and generous, and was a favourite with a wide circle of friends, by whom his demise is greatly regretted. He took no active part in local affairs, though closely interested therein and ever ready for a chat thereon.

The remains will be interred at Immanuel Church, Oswaldtwistle, on Thursday.

ACCRINGTON MILLS.

The Royal Mill and Wellington Mill, Accrington, belonging to Messrs J. T. Walmsley and Company, restarted yesterday, after being stopped a week owing to trade conditions. Hyndburn Mill has been stopped since Friday owing to a breakdown, but they expect to be ready for starting to-day. Operatives are idle at various mills in the town, and there are many weavers absent through sickness.

TRAMWAY MEN'S SOCIAL.

Some ninety of the Accrington and Haslingden Corporation tramway men foregathered at the convivial gathering which forms an annual event, at the Conservative Club, Accrington. Following tea, for which the catering was discharged by Watson's, an excellent concert, over which Conductor J. Frankland presided, took place. A letter of regret at inability to attend was read from the Chairman of the Tramways Committee, Alderman Higham, and business engagements also prevented the attendance of the general manager, Mr. Pilling. Songs were rendered in good voice by Mr. Milton Whittaker, bass, Mr. Cunningham, tenor, whilst Mr. Yardley was entertaining as a humorist. Gramophone selections by Mr. H. Ashworth were much appreciated. Mr. Simpson supplied the accompaniments and played for the dancing which subsequently took place.

ACCRINGTON STREET ACCIDENT.

Slipping at the junction of Hyndburn-road and King-street, Accrington, on Saturday night, John Thomas Wilkin, of Church Hall, Dill Hall-lane, Church, injured his ankle and had to receive first aid from P.C. Andrew and Corp. Kitchen, of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, before he could be conveyed home by cab.

BLACKBURN PALACE THEATRE.

A Bright Pantomime.

A prettily arranged and bright pantomime is staged at the Palace Blackburn, this week. It is "The Babes in the Wood," and the company is Messrs. E. C. Jazon's and Montgomery's. The principals are good, and the comic element is especially strong, the comedians providing any amount of genuine fun. The pantomime is finely staged, and the specialities add considerably to the merriment of the production. Many up-to-date songs are introduced and acceptably rendered, amongst them being the popular "You made me love you." From the rise of the curtain to the fall the pantomime goes with a swing, and last evening two large audiences frequently showed their appreciation of the efforts of the principals.

Deaths.

GREENHALGH.—On the 18th inst., at 67, Market-street, Church, Frank, the beloved husband of Jannette Greenhalgh, in his sixtieth year. Interment, Immanuel Church, New-lane, Oswaldtwistle, the 22nd inst. Deeply regretted.

THE ARMY CANTEENS CASE.

Sir John Dickinson began at the Bow-street Police Court, London, on Saturday the hearing of the charges of bribery brought by the Crown in connection with army canteen contracts. The sixteen defendants, whose names were now disclosed, are eight present or past quartermasters and sergeants of the army and eight present or past officials and employes of Lipton, Limited. The Crown case was stated in detail, counsel alleging that the army men accused were systematically bribed with the object of procuring or retaining for the firm regimental canteen contracts. The case was adjourned to Saturday next.

£10,000 SAVED BY A P.S.A.

Speaking on Saturday at the twenty second anniversary of the Ashton P.S.A.—one of the pioneers of such societies in the north of England—the president (Mr. A. Park) reported a decline in the membership, but added that since some years ago they inaugurated a savings club as a counterblast to such institutions in public-houses they had been very successful, nearly £10,000 this year being saved through the society. To associate the saving habit with the public-house was a contradiction in terms.

A fierce fight between two bands of gipsies took place in the main-street of Nelson on Sunday.

The body of an unknown man has been found lying on the top of a cliff at Roedean, near Brighton.

Musical instruction for the employes has been started by Little Laundries, Ltd., at their laundry at Wealdstone, Harrow, and the washerwomen have had their first lessons in singing.

Miss Trehawke-Davies, who has made many flights with Hamel, including one trip of upside down flying, is lying seriously ill in London.

A record gathering of the Fleet, it is expected, will be reviewed by the King off Portsmouth about the time of the Cowes week. Probably a French squadron will also be present.

Nineteen members of the Stoke d'Abernon (Surrey) Sparrow and Rat Club have been awarded prizes for killing during the past year 10,067 rats, 3,624 moles, 3,333 sparrows, and 475 stoats.

Many persons were skating on Sunday at the Bois de Boulogne and the Bois de Vincennes, Paris. A number of accidents occurred, and 30 persons who more or less seriously injured.

The full staff of dockers of the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company resumed work yesterday morning, thus ending the strike so far as this company is concerned.

Mr. Richard Green, a well known baritone singer, and a former member of the Gilbert-Sullivan company, has been found killed on the railway at Surbiton.

Helmshore Housebreaking Charge

AN EXCHANGE OF CLOTHING.

Prisoner Committed for Trial.

Yesterday, at the Haslingden Police Court, Henry Darlington, of no fixed abode, was charged with breaking and entering a house in Helmshore, and stealing a jacket, vest, shirt, boots, stockings, cap, metal watch and chain, handkerchief, a shilling, and other small articles, the property of Tom Barlow Hargreaves, of 3, Snig Hole, Helmshore. Prisoner was remanded at an occasional court held on Friday.

The statement of Supt. Fyfe showed that owing to the prompt notification to the local pawnbrokers of details of the theft, information was given to the police of one of the articles having been pledged with a Ramsbottom pawnbroker. The constable who had given the information was acquainted with this, and returning, found prisoner wearing the articles of clothing.

Tom Barlow Hargreaves, a wooldresser, of 3, Snig Hole, Helmshore, said he and his wife left home to go to their work at 5-50 a.m. on the morning of the 15th. The door was locked, and everything was left secure. From something said to him witness returned to his house about eight o'clock. He then found that a pane of glass in the window in the kitchen had been broken, the catch pushed back, and the window opened. On going inside the house he found that both upstairs and downstairs the drawers had been ransacked. Some of them were standing open, and their contents strewn on the floor. He missed the articles mentioned in the charge. He did not miss the handkerchief, brooch and chain, purse, pipe, muffler, and knives and forks until they were shown to him. The whole of the property was worth £2 10s. An old suit of clothes had been left behind in the house.

George Leigh, of 5, Ashworth-street, Accrington, in the employ of Mr. Hodgson, wholesale confectioner, Accrington, said that about 11-30 a.m. on the 15th of this month he was with his horse and cart near the Pack Horse Hotel, Edenfield, when the prisoner came to him and produced half a dozen forks and half a dozen knives, and asked him to buy them. Prisoner asked a shilling and a drink for the articles, which he said he had bought. Witness gave him 1s. 2d. for them. On Friday, the 16th, P.C. Heaton called on him, and he handed over the knives and forks.

John Francis, assistant pawnbroker, of Square-street, Ramsbottom, said that about 4-45 in the afternoon of the 15th inst. prisoner called at the shop and offered the watch and chain in pledge, asking one shilling. Witness had previously received information from the police of the property stolen, and believed the watch and chain were the ones detailed. He sent for the police.

P.C. Whiteside, of Ramsbottom, spoke of going to the pawnshop at about 4-55 on the 15th inst. and apprehending prisoner there. Witness noticed prisoner was wearing the stolen clothing. On searching prisoner at the police station he found in his possession the purse, brooch, case, comb, pipe, knife, and fourpence in copper.

P.C. Heaton deposed that after receiving information of the robbery he made inquiries, and went to Ramsbottom, where he gave a description of the property stolen to the pawnbrokers. He received the prisoner into custody the same night from the Ramsbottom police. At that time prisoner was wearing the clothing. When he charged prisoner he replied, "Were they worth £2 10s.? Have they got them back?"

Prisoner, who questioned none of the witnesses, and had nothing to say, except to point out that prosecutor, in saying a shilling was missing, was a penny short, was committed for trial at Preston.

EMPIRE PICTURE PALACE.

Many interesting pictures go to make up this week's entertainment at the Empire Picture Palace, Accrington. The sensational enters largely into two of the principal films shown in "Convict's Garb" and "John Bonsal of the Secret Service"—both American stories. In the former many thrilling scenes are enacted, not the least in point of interest being the desperate attempt of a convict to escape from a penal settlement, and his pursuit by the armed warders. In the latter a romance is incidental to the clever exposure of the murderer of a diamond smuggler on board an Atlantic liner. "Amidst the Jungle" is a very fine animal picture, self explanatory. A series of beautiful views of the Tiber precede an interesting news picture. Apart from such humorous pictures as "Calino, the Water Diviner" and "The Bather's Predicament," pictures of the week include, "The Anger of Diana," a somewhat stilted spectacular piece, "A Dare Devil Motor Ride," "The Lost Chord," "Dear Old Girl," and last, but by no means least, a representation in colours of the beautiful myth of Psyche and Eros.

CO-OP. EMPLOYES' WAGES.

Recently the employes of eight co-operative societies in the Manchester district applied for an increase in wages to raise the minimum for adult male workers to 26s. a week, for branch managers to 38s., and for manageresses to 23s. These demands were considered at a meeting on Saturday between the Executive Council of the Employes' Union and the Wages Board of the Co-operative Societies. The board decided to recommend the societies to adopt a certain scale with a minimum of 25s.

The question of whether the board's offer should be accepted or whether notices should be handed in will be discussed at a mass meeting of the employes.

THE WORKHOUSE SMOCK.

The recent decision of the Lewes Guardians to supply male inmates of their workhouse with smocks instead of overcoats was objected to on the ground that it would make them conspicuous. Since then a workhouse official spent a day in London wearing one of the smocks, and the only remark he heard was on his arrival at London Bridge, one Billingsgate porter saying to another, "Look what that chap's got on." When returning in the train at night, a companion, mistaking the smock for a leather over-all, asked if he had been motoring. The inmates themselves are pleased with the change made.

HE GOT OUT.

The man got into a tram-car and crowded into a seat next to a sharp-faced woman in the corner. He squeezed her up against the end of the car, took out his newspaper, and shoving it half across her face, began to read. She stood it for about five minutes.

"Excuse me," she said then, "are you a married man?"

He dropped his paper and looked at her.

"Yes," he replied curtly.

"I thought so," she went on. "Isn't your wife a little woman that won't say her soul's her own and lets you impose on her all you want to?"

"I don't impose on her madam," he said stiffly.

"You don't let her impose on you much I expect."

The man tried to read his paper again.

"I suppose she carries in the coals, makes the fire, gets your slippers, does the marketing, mends your clothes, tends to the children, submits like a lamb when you find fault, and is generally an excellent wife, isn't she?"

"Madam ——," he began.

"Don't say a word," she interrupted; "I'm not your wife, am I?"

"No, and I'm——"

"That's all right. And as I am not, I don't propose to have you sitting down on me and crowding me up in this corner till I can't breathe without wheezing like a steam engine. Why don't you get out and walk?"

And the passengers sniggered so that he did.

Polling in the North-west Durham by-election has been fixed for Friday, January 30.

Sir Edward Carson on Saturday reviewed the East Belfast division of the Ulster Volunteer Force. A large number of the men were not on parade.

Mr. Walter Long, speaking at the Holloway Empire, London, on Saturday, indicated the lines on which the Unionist party was ready to deal with the grievances of town tenants, and invited (or "challenged") the Government to introduce and pass a bill on these lines next session as a non-controversial measure.

Birds on Show.

AN ACCRINGTON EXHIBITION.

List of Prizes.

A highly successful members' show, promoted by the Accrington and District Cage Bird Society, was held at the Crown Hotel, Accrington, on Saturday, the numerous exhibits being of good class. They were judged by Mr. Godley, of Rishton, who awarded prizes as follows:—

Yellow or buff cinnamon, cock: 1, J. E. Hartup; 2nd, R. Hartley; 3rd, J. O. Brien.

Yellow or buff, hen: 1 and 2, J. E. Hartup; 3, R. Hartley.

Unflighted bird: 1, R. Hartley; 2 and 3, J. E. Hartup.

Yellow Norwich, cock: 1 and 2, W. Crawshaw; 3, A. Hirst.

Buff, Norwich, cock: 1, A. Hirst; 2, W. Crawshaw; 3, R. Hartley.

Norwich, hen: 1 and 2, W. Crawshaw; 3, A. Hirst.

Unflighted yellow, cock: 1, A. Hirst; 2 and 3, W. Crawshaw.

Unflighted buff, cock: 1 and 3, W. Crawshaw; 2, A. Hirst.

Unflighted, hen: 1, 2, and 3, W. Crawshaw.

Yellow Norwich, cock (novice): 1, A. Whewell; 2, J. Rooney; 3 D. Harwood.

Buff, Norwich, cock: 1, D. Harwood; 2, J. Rooney; 3, A. Whewell.

Norwich, hen: 1 and 2, J. Rooney; 3, W. Parkinson.

Unflighted yellow, cock: 1, J. Rooney; 2, A. Whewell; 3, J. Stuttard.

Unflighted Buff, cock: 1 and 3, J. Rooney; 2, J. Stuttard.

Unflighted buff: hen, 1 and 3, J. Rooney; 2, W. Parkinson.

Yellow Yorkshire, cock, 1, T. Ramsden; 2 and 3, A. Hirst.

Buff, cock: 1, 2, and 3, A. Hirst.

Yorkshire, hen, 1, 2, and 3, A. Hirst.

Unflighted, cock: 1 and 2, A. Hirst, 3, T. Ramsden.

Yellow, novice, Yorkshire: 1, D. Harwood.

Buff, novice, Yorkshire: 1, D. Harwood.

Yorkshire, hen: 1, 2, and 3, D. Harwood.

Unflighted, cock, 1, 2, and 3, D. Harwood.

Selling class, cock, 12s. 6d.: 1, W. Crawshaw; 2, J. E. Hartup; 3, R. Hartley.

Selling class, hen, 10s. 6d.: 1 and 2, A. Hirst; 3, T. Ramsden.

Any other variety, 1, J. E. Hartup; 2 and 3, R. Hartley.

Crest and crest bred: 1, 2, and 3, J. Richardson.

British birds: 1, 2, and 3, W. Patterson.

Foreign birds: 1, W. Paterson; 2 and 3, W. Crawshaw.

The championship cup and Sandiford's medal were won by W. Crawshaw.

The prize for best bird in show was awarded to A. Hirst, and the novice cup was won by J. Rooney.

LOCAL FOOTBALL SUSPENSIONS.

At a meeting of the Lancashire Football Committee at Blackburn, the Discipline Committee dealt with several local cases of infringement of rules, amongst them being:—R. Briggs, Accrington St. Matthew's, suspended until February 16th for kicking; J. Kerr, Antley Wesleyans, until February 16th for kicking; W. Kenyon, Harwood Immanuel, until February 16th for striking; H. Byrom, Harwood Immanuel, until February 2nd for foul language; W. Greenwood, Park-road, cautioned for striking; J. N. Nicholson, Accrington St. Matthew's, until February 2nd for kicking, and A. Heaton, Spread Eagle, was cautioned for a similar offence. All the suspensions to commence from yesterday.

"TERRIERS" v. ST. AUGUSTINE'S.

A KEEN GAME.

A keen game was contested on Saturday, between Huncoat St. Augustine's and the team representing Church Battery R.F.A. Huncoat had advantage of ground, but this did not give them any definite superiority, as the result of the game was a draw. Both sides possessed good records, Huncoat only having been defeated once during the past two years, and the "Terriers" have gone through the present season with exceedingly few adverse results. Goals were plentiful and both sides found the net frequently, but the scoring was so even as to develop the play along most exciting lines, and the last few minutes of the second half were teeming with exciting incidents, but when time was called the scores were returned as 5—5. Being dissatisfied that no definite result had been arrived at St. Augustine's asked that extra time should be played, and to this the R.F.A. agreed. Ten minutes each way was decided upon and during the earlier part St. Augustine's took the lead, but later the "Terriers" equalised once more, the game terminating with a dozen goals having been registered, six going to each team.

STANLEY TEAM.

The Charity Cup.

Accrington Stanley's team chosen to do duty against Barrow at Barrow, on Saturday, is:—Wright; Nuttall and Smith; Yates, Mockett and Hampson; ——, Cunliffe, Goodison, Brogden and Winterburn. The extreme right position is left open. The same team will also play in the final tie for the Charity Cup, against Blackburn Rovers Reserve, at Blackburn, on Monday next. The game is the outcome of the latter stages of the competition being postponed last April, and by arrangement, Blackburn and Burnley, who met yesterday at Turf Moor, played their reserve teams. The game ended in favour of the Rovers Reserve, who won by four goals to two. Stanley, therefore, are to meet the Rovers Reserve at Ewood, the Rovers having won the toss.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME, BURNLEY.

This week's performance at the Palace and Hippodrome, Burnley, derives added interest from the presence of the clever illusionist, David Devant, of the famous firm of Maskelyne and Devant. The performance is as attractive as one has come to expect from an associate of that delightful combination. Amongst the many tricks of Mr. Devant are those of the golliwog ball and its apparently inexplicable movements against the laws of gravitation, the feather necklet, the remarkable chocolate soldier, the production of eggs from most unlikely sources, bogey golf with its inclusion of feats that golfers wot not of, the lifting of the veil of the future, and reversions into the past, the dealings with a disembodied spirit, and many legerdemain feats. In "The Artist's Dream" a fine spectacular simulation is given of the dream of the artist whose picture of a charming woman becomes an animated reality. On Saturday a matinee performance will enable Mr. Devant to show some of the mysteries which have acquired such popularity. The other artistes include Rene Ray, who appears in a series of prettily arranged tableaux; the Rodriquez Brothers, who give a novelty perch act; Sinclair's Three Diamonds, who are highly entertaining as comediennes, skaters, and expert dancers; Fanny Needham, chorus comedienne; and F. V. St. Clair, vocalist. Several films are shown.

TURN ABOUT.

For her he had vowed he would go through the fiery furnace; for her he would willingly brave the fury of demons; for her he would, in short, have done anything.

For these reasons, and also because his socks wanted darning badly, he had taken the plunge and married her.

He was worth at least £10 10s. a week to his employer, but he only got £1 1s., and the first week of their wedded life, full of resolutions, of noble self-sacrifice, he had given her £1, and kept the shilling to pay for taxi-cabs and cigars, and theatre suppers.

The next week there was a slump in self-sacrifice. He gave her the shilling, and kept the golden shilling of shining hope for himself.

"Theophilus," she remarked icily, "will you kindly inform me how you think I'm going to manage for a week on this?"

"Blessed if I know!" he replied. "I had a pretty rotten time myself last week. It's your turn this!"

* * *

At the conclusion of the A. team match at Warrington on Saturday, the spectators were addressed by first team players, who explained their reason for striking.

Continued serious depression in regard to two important branches of the Nottingham lace trade was reported at the annual meeting of operatives on Saturday.

GRAND THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.

"The Easiest Way."

The piece "The Easiest Way," which is shown at the Grand Theatre, Accrington, this week, is of its type, the problem play, distinctly good. It is with the struggles of the heroine, against the temptation to succumb, to enjoy life in the "easiest way" that the story is concerned. With Laura, it is true, there are exceptional circumstances. Having experienced in the past the protection of the millionaire financier, Will Brockton, she is freed from the usual hesitations as to committing herself to a similar course, and as one of the daintiest of the dainty she is able to appreciate at their highest worth all the luxuries and opportunities for culture which the possession of wealth affords. But—and therein lies the crux—she has become devotedly attached to her honest young admirer, John Maddison, who has offered her marriage. Inspired by his enthusiasm, Laura finds little difficulty in breaking with Brockton. The test is not found there, however, but in her incapacity, in the absence of her love to seek fortune for them both—to endure in a squalid New York lodging-house, with the rent in arrears, and no food in prospect, a life of irritating penury. Brockton's offer to receive her back is an open one. Driven by pressure of circumstances she has at last to reconsider the alternative of keeping the promise to the absent Maddison or her choice of "The Easiest Way." The solution is as interesting as the piece throughout.

Miss Elsie Goulding capably sustains the part of Laura Murdock, distracted and torn by conflicted emotions. Mr. Alec Forbes as ably fills the complementary role of Will Brockton, the financier, with the complexities attaching to the personification of that character. Mr. Pringle Roberts naturally has little part other than that of fulcrum in the part of John Madison, but that part he well sustains. As Effie St. Clair, of the demi-mondaine, with her practical nature, Miss Hero Hathaway is successful. The subordinate roles are filled by Mr. Freddie Foster as Jim Weston, a theatrical advance agent, Miss Lilian Belmore as Mrs. Farley, a theatrical landlady, Miss Bessie Frank as Annie, the coloured servant, and Miss Sybil Seymour as Mrs. Williams.

HASLINGDEN GIRL'S TEMPTATION.

Stole to Pay for Lodgings.

At the Haslingden Police Court yestrday, Elsie Wall (19), of Sunnybank-street, Haslingden, was charged with stealing from a house, 39, South Shore-street, a purse and seventeen shillings, the property of Louisa Davies.

Supt. Fyfe briefly narrated the case for the prosecution. The money was missed from the house. Prisoner was the only one who had been in between the times it was seen safe and missed. When interrogated she at first denied, but afterwards admitted, the offence. Supt. Fyfe added that the girl had been unfortunate in losing her mother some years ago. Her father was a very respectable man.

Mrs. Louisa Davies, living at 39, South Shore-street, Haslingden, said that about eight o'clock on the morning of the 14th inst. she left her purse containing 17s. on the mantelpiece. About three o'clock in the afternoon of the same day she missed it. The prisoner had been in the house about ten o'clock that morning and was the only one she had seen in. Witness gave information to P.C. Smith. The purse and money she valued at 17s. 3d. Witness was acquainted with prisoner.

P.C. Smith spoke of calling to see the prisoner in consequence of something said to him by Mrs. Davies. He told her he was making inquiries about the purse and money. At first she denied having seen the purse, but afterwards said: "I took the purse. I threw the purse down a grate and spent threepence halfpenny." She showed witness the grate and on seaching for it witness found it. Prisoner brought 16s. 8½d. from her father's house. When charged at the police station she made no reply. She had since been out on bail.

Prisoner expressed her sorrow and said she did not know why she took the money. She had been living in lodgings. She had been out of work since the New Year and took the money to pay the amount owing for her lodgings.

The father said he had had a little bit of trouble with his daughter, but he thought the case would be a warning to her. She was now living at home.

Supt. Fyfe said he did not wish to press the case. The girl had not had the care of a mother for several years.

The girl was bound over in £5 for twelve months.

HASLINGDEN POLICE COURT.

Yesterday.

Before Mr. T. Whittaker (presiding), Aldermen Warburton and Worsley, Messrs. A. Smethurst and J. C. Dean.

A DEFENDANT'S CONFIDENCE.

MUST HAVE BEEN DRUNK IF CONSTABLE SAID SO.

Thomas Sheridan, living at Green's lodging-house, Haslingden, was summoned for having been drunk and disorderly.

P.C. Smith spoke of finding the defendant in Wilkinson-street at 11.10 on the 10th inst. drunk, shouting and wanting to fight.

In reply to the usual inquiry from the Bench, defendant said he must have been drunk if the constable said so.

Supt. Fyfe stated that that was defendant's first appearance.

A fine of 5s. and costs was imposed, eight days' imprisonment in default.

BAD TEMPER'S EFFECT.

Summoned for use of obscene language in George-street at 9-20 p.m. on Saturday, the 3rd instant, Fred Hopkins, carter, of 19, Back Bank Terrace, Haslingden, was fined 5s. and costs or committed for eight days.

P.C. McCulloch spoke of the language used and defendant philosophically admitted that he might have used the words as he was in a bad temper. His reason for this condition he explained as being that a young man who had a grudge against him followed him into two public houses in succession and caused a disturbance.

FARMER'S COMPLAINT.

For failing to retain control of a horse and cart, Joseph Hamer, farmer, of Farmer's Glory Inn, was mulcted in 2s. 6d. and costs.

The evidence of P.C. Pearson was to the effect that he saw defendant's cart standing outside the Red Lion Hotel, for ten minutes at about seven o'clock on Wednesday, the 7th inst.

Sergeant Walker corroborated.

Defendant said it was a common practice to leave horses unattended, but in reply to a reiterated question by the defendant as to how long one was permitted to leave a horse, Sergt. Walker pointed out that a driver was not supposed to leave his horse unattended for a second.

Defendant: Then there'll have to be a big change in this town.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE, BURNLEY.

"The Girl from Utah."

The latest of musical successes, "The Girl from "Utah," presented at the Victoria Opera House, Burnley, this week, should prove attractive to the lovers of abundant action, witty dialogue, and tuneful music. There is a charming little love story. One of the many attractions of the piece is the dancing. Not to be a dancer of the Tango is to be labelled as old-fashioned and behind the times, but the trouble is that there are so many versions of this fascinating and graceful dance. Everybody claims that theirs is the standard one and the best, but with the Tango, as with everything else, there is only one "best," and the public will have an opportunity of seeing this at the Victoria Opera House. The Tango is danced in the last act at the Arts Ball, in wonderful and gorgeous Eastern costumes.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain left London on Sunday for Cannes.

Dr. Charles Hayward, of Liverpool, has been selected as the prospective Liberal candidate for the Eddisbury division of Cheshire.

A gentleman of independent means has informed the Salvation Army that he is willing to adopt and educate as his own son a poor boy, preferably of good birth, aged six or seven years, whom they may have in their institutions. The offer has been accepted by the Salvation Army.


Mr. Hall, Brighton.

Cured of Bronchial Asthma by Veno's Lightning Cough Cure.

"I used to be choked up every winter with Acute Asthma and Cough, but now I have no fear of the cold weather. I first used Veno's Lightning Cough Cure for a bad cold on my chest, which, with my asthmatical tendency, had choked me up to such a degree that I could hardly get my breath. I coughed night and day till I fairly ached with coughing, and nothing relieved me. Reading about Veno's Lightning Cough Cure I got some, and soon I felt better than I had done for years. Now I wouldn't have anything in place of Veno's. It is a grand medicine—nothing like it, in my opinion."

Mr. Tom Hall, Queensbury Arms, Regency Square, Brighton.

Awarded Grand Prix and Gold Medal, International Health Exhibition, Paris, 1910.

9½d. Per Bottle. *Larger Sizes* 1/1½ & 2/9

For Coughs and Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Influenza, Catarrh, and all Chest and Lung Troubles in old or young. *The surest and speediest remedy known.*

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

DARWEN DIVISION CONSERVATIVES.

Col. Rutherford and the Home Rule Question.

At the annual meeting of the Darwen Division Conservative Association, held at Blackburn on Saturday, Mr. Arthur Longworth was re-elected chairman on the motion of Mr. Henry Lewis, seconded by Mr. H. Watson. Mr. R. H. Baldwin, of Darwen, was, on the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Adam Dugdale, appointed vice-chairman in the place of Mr. Herbert Eccles who wrote regretting that for health reasons he was unable to offer himself for re-election.

Replying to a vote of thanks for his services in Parliament, and an expression of continued support, Colonel Rutherford, M.P. said that the Government had brought in a bill, not to improve the franchise, but to improve their own party position, which laid it down that a voter could only vote in one constituency. If that bill became law he hoped freehold voters and those with more than one vote would remember that they owed some duty to the Unionist party in the Darwen Division, because that Division had kept the Unionist flag flying when many other constituencies in Lancashire had not. But he hoped the bill would not become an Act, because, as he had said before, it was an unfair and unjust bill, unless accompanied by redistribution. But whether the freeholders stuck by them or not, the discredit in which the Government was held was so great that it must fall. The taxes were greater than ever, and yet not sufficient, and the Prime Minister was talking of "revising the income tax upwards and downwards." When the Conservative party got into power it would take them years to bring the national finances into a satisfactory condition.

As to Home Rule, it was not for the Unionist Party to make proposals for settlement. They must come from the Government, and the Unionists would consider them with a real desire for some arrangement which did not involve the honour of the party. They were opposed to Home Rule and declared that it was not right for the Government to pass it into law without consulting the electorate. Next session would be the first under the Parliament Act, but he hoped there would be an appeal to the country before Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment and Plural Voting Bills became Acts of Parliament. He was convinced that the feeling of the country was against the Government, and that in the Darwen Division, at any rate, they would once more return a member to support the Unionist policy.

STOCK AND SHARE MARKETS.

Bank Rate 4½ per cent

Share or Stock.	Description.	Middle Price.
Stock	Consols, 2 per cent	75⅝
	HOME RAILWAYS.	
..	Lancashire and Yorkshire	86
..	London and North-Western	132½
..	Midland Preferred	58⅞
..	Midland Deferred	74½
	BANKS.	
20	Lancashire and Y'kshire, £10 paid	35⅝
20	Manchester and County, £4 paid	11⅝
20	Manchester and Liverpool Dis.	43½
25	Union of Manchester, £11 paid	25¼xd
	INDUSTRIALS.	
1	Blackpool Tower Ord.	28/-
1	Bleachers' Association Ord.	17/7½
1	Do. 5 per cent Pref.	23/1½
1	Bradford Dyers' Ord.	21/1½
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	20/6
5	British Cotton and Wool Dyers	4/-
1	Calico Printers' Ord.	10/4½
1	Calico Printers' 5 p.c. C. Pref	16/10½
Stock	Do. 4 p.c. Debentures	86½
10	Crossley Bros. Ordinary	5⅞
1	English Sewing Cotton	36/10½
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	22/9
1	Fine Cotton Spinners' Asso.	29/10½
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	22/3
1	Furness, W'thy, and Co., Ord.	27/1½
1	Meters, Ltd., Ordinary	22/-
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	21/-
5	North of Ireland Paper	8⅞
1	United Alkali Ordinary	10/9
1	United Indigo Ord.	2/1½
1	Do. 5 p.c. Pref	8/6
1	Wall Paper Manufac. Ord.	14/3
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	16/9
	LOCAL.	
10	Accrington Cotton Spinning	10—½
1	Accrington Gas Annuities	26—6½
1	Collison Ltd., 7 p.c. Cum Pref.	20/-20/6
1	Collison Ltd., Ordinary	1¼—½
5	Hippings Vale Spinning	5—5½
1	Howard and Bullough's Ord.	46/- 46/6
1	Do. 6 p.c. Pref.	12¼—⅝xd
Stock	Do. 4 p.c. Debentures	95½ 96½xd
1	Imperial Mill, 10s. paid	10/- 10/3
10	Lang Bridge Ordinary	11—½
10	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	10—10½
5	Oswaldtwistle Col'ries, £3 paid	5½—¾
5	A. M. Peebles, 5 p.c. Cum Pref.	2¾—3¼
1	Riley, E. J., 5 p.c. Cum Pref	20/-20/6
10	Steiner, F., and Co., Ordinary	7¾—8¼
10	Do. 5 p.c. Cum Pref	8⁷⁄₁₆, ⅞xd
Stock	Do. 4 p.c. Debentures	87—88
1	Yates and Thom. 5½ p.c. C. Pref.	17/ 17/6
	MINES.	
1	British South Africa	18/7½
1	Consolidated Goldfields	2¼
1	Henderson's Transvaal States	3/7½
1	Johannesburg Co. Investment	19/7½
1	Oceana Consolidated	5/4½
1	East Rand Proprietary	2 3/32
1	Randfontein Estate	24/6

At a conference of the North-western Section of the Independent Labour party in Manchester on Sunday resolutions were adopted in favour of women's suffrage and of an inquiry into the "world-wide activities and influence of the armaments ring."

A serious railway accident has been averted near Berlin by the courage and coolness of a stoker. The engine-driver of a train was attacked by sudden frenzy, and, disregarding the signals, drove at full speed. After a severe struggle the stoker succeeded in mastering the madman, and the train was pulled up a few yards from a goods train.