



The Military Representative said it looked to him s though one of the men ought to go. In comparison with other farmers he seemed well staffed.

A member said the applicant had a milk round in Harrogate an could not work the farm with less men than he had.

The Applicant was called into the room and said he only had three men and he generally had five.

The Military Representative: Have you tried to get a man?

Applicant: You can't get a man for love nor money.

Have you tried? – Yes.

10 His daughters served the calves and poultry. He had two pairs of horses and delivered between 40 and 50 gallons of milk a day. He bought a gallon or two to make out.

The Military Representative: You could get a lad for the milk round if you tried very hard.

Applicant: You can't get a lad at all.

You can work well? - I do 16 hours every day.

The case of the shepherd was adjourned for a month and the other two men were exempted.

**15.03.1916**

**KNARESBOROUGH HORTICULTURISTS  
AND BOY LABOUR.**

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**IS TOMATO GROWING FARMING?**

The Board of Education having sanctioned the employment of boys of twelve years of age on farm work, the Knaresborough Education Committee at their monthly meeting last week were in a dilemma when an application was made by a firm of nurserymen extensively engaged in tomato growing in the neighbourhood, and who applied for two exemption certificates for lads to replace their men who have been called up with the Forces.

30 Ultimately the Clerk was instructed to write to the West Riding Education Committee for their ruling, and the latter have advised certificates being granted for this occupation .

**12.04.1916**

## KNARESBORO' WAR WEDDING.

The marriage was solemnised at the Primitive Methodist Church, Knaresborough, on Monday, by the Rev. A. Goodacre, between Private Robert Ewan (5<sup>th</sup> West Yorks), of Bradford, and Mary, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs. James Brazier, Fern Dene, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough.

The bride was given away by her father, and Mr A Brazier (brother) officiated as best man. Previous to the war Private Ewan was employed as clerk at Messrs. Morrisons, linen merchants, Knaresborough. He was in the trenches during the German gas attack on December 19<sup>th</sup> at Ypres.

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26.04.1916

## MEMORIAL TO KNARESBOROUGH MIDSHIPMAN.

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A touching memorial in the form of a marble tablet has been affixed in St Oswald's Church, Farnham, near Knaresborough, by Mrs Slingsby, of Farnham Lodge. The tablet is surmounted by a Union Jack, under which is a sculptured model in relief of H.M.S. Formidable. The inscription reads: In loving memory of Midshipman John Slingsby, born July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1898, youngest son of the Rev. Charles and Susan A. Slingsby. He lost his life on H.M.S. Formidable in the war against German on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1915; also his great friend, Geoffrey Ernest Cadle, born March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1898. They both went through the rough sea together to another land. Remember, O Lord, the souls of the faithful, departed.

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"All that life contains of torture, toil  
and treason,  
Shame, dishonour, death to them  
were but a name;  
Here as boys they dwelt through all  
the singing season,  
And ere the day of sorrow departed  
as they came."

17.05.1916

The Knaresborough Rural Tribunal the other week had a case where two brothers claimed exemption, and it was decided that one must join the Army. There was some doubt as to which should go, but at a Tribunal the other day a couple in similar circumstances quickly came to a decision by tossing up a coin, and the matter was settled before the Chairman had fairly time to express his disapproval of the prompt but undignified procedure.

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**24.05.1916**

An important decision was come to at the Knaresborough Urban Tribunal on Monday, when the first batch of twenty seven married men's appeals was dealt with. In every instance exemptions were allowed, but they were made conditional on the applicants joining the National Volunteer Training Corps.

**07.06.1916**

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**KNARESBOLROUGH SOLDIER  
WANTS SHAVING OUTFIT.**

Private P. Corker writes:-

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Dear Mr Breare – Just a few lines from an old Knaresborough boy. We are having glorious weather here just now. We are out for a rest at present, but by the time you get these few lines we shall have gone back to our happy little homes in the trenches. Things will be looking up a bit, I guess from now onwards. The Hun will be getting such a pasting soon that he will be only too glad to beg for peace. I read about poor old Ben Dobson going under. I think the old borough has taken a good share of it. There is one thing I would like to ask you, and that is could you get me a shaving outfit, as I am very badly off for one. If you could oblige me I should be very thankful for it. It is a better game is this than playing goal for Scriven and Knaresboro', although I hope the time will soon come again when we shall be able to have a few more games. Wishing your valuable paper every success.

**LOCAL GENTLEMAN HONOURED.**

KNIGHTHOOD FOR MR. E. C. GEDDES OF SCRIVEN HALL

Sir, E. C. Geddes, whose name appeared in the list of knights created on His Majesty's birthday, has resided at Scriven Hall for several years and previously was at Harrogate. He is the deputy general manager of the North Eastern Railway, and was temporarily released by the company from his duties in June of last year to enable him to take up the appointment of Deputy Director General to the Ministry of Munitions. He was born in Scotland, but when quite young he went with his parents to the United States. Twenty four years ago he started work as a station clerk, switchman, and general handyman at a small station on the Baltimore and Ohio Railway. Subsequently he became a wagon agent and checker for a Pittsburgh lumber company. Then he went out to India to manage a forty miles steam tramway running north from Shabjahanpur, with the additional charge of the development of a large tract of forest and cultivable land through which the tramway is laid.

When this Powayan steam tramway was taken over for working by the Lucknow-Bareilly State Railway, Mr Geddes was appointed traffic manager, or superintendent of the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway system, including the Lucknow-Bareilly State Railway and branches. This post he held until October, 1904, when he came to England and joined the North Eastern Railway as claims agent, and subsequently commercial agent, an embryo office of American origin which he introduced to British railway working. Its duties are the watching of trade movements affecting the interests of railway companies, and suggesting means of encouraging and developing new sources of traffic, including the location of new works and industries in particular districts served by the railway company.

As a means to this end Mr Geddes secured the cooperation of the Tyne Improvement Committee, The Tees Conservancy Commission, the Darlington Corporation, the Darlington Corporation, and other municipal and local bodies in tabulating the advantages offered by available sites in their respective districts to firms moving or establishing new works, and as a result the industrial prosperity of the North East Coast has been added to by the introduction of several new industries.

In 1906 he was appointed chief goods manager of the North Eastern Railway, and several years later he was promoted to his present post of deputy general manager.

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14.06.1916

#### **HARROGATE AND KNARESBORO' VOLUNTEERS' FIELD DAY.**

The 15<sup>th</sup> West Riding Battalion National Volunteers, which includes the Harrogate, Knaresborough, Boroughbridge, Green Hammerton, Whixley, and Farnham Companies, had an interesting and instructive field day on Whit Monday in the vicinity of Knaresborough. Two opposing forces representing white and brown armies were engaged, the objectives being the retention and the capture of Coneythorpe village. Manoeuvres were conducted in the neighbourhood for several hours, and concluded towards evening. The white army was under command of Captain Tennant, and Lieutenant P. Slingsby, and the brown army under Captain Elliott and Lieutenants Dr Steele and Dr Shaw. Sir J. P. Redcliffe, Dr Benson, Rev. B. R. Keir Moilliet, and Mr Wilmot Smith acted as umpires.

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An amazing incident occurred during the sham fight. A youthful scout was captured by the invaders, politely informed he was hors de combat, in other words he was supposedly shot. "But you can't have me killed," he replied. "How is that?" asked one of the captors. "Because I've been killed twice already," he naively retorted.

**21.06.1916**

### **KNARESBOROUGH MILITARY WEDDING**

10 The marriage was solemnised at the Parish Church, Knaresborough, on Saturday, by the Rev. Canon Hancock, between Private James Ellis Wood, 3-5<sup>th</sup> West Yorks, only son of Mr J. E. Wood, Woodcliffe, Boroughbridge Road, and grandson of Mr Ellis Wood, of Knaresborough and Miss Hartley, eldest daughter of Mr T. Hartley, Wentworth House, Park Avenue, New Scriven. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a costume of tussau silk with hat to match, and was attended by two bridesmaids – Miss Alma Hartley (sister) and Miss Lily Wood (sister of the bridegroom) – whose dresses were of flowered voile. Sergeant Bell acted as best man, Mr Ellis Wood, the grandfather of the bridegroom, who is ninety two years of age, attended the ceremony.

**02.08.1916**

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Information is desired by Mr R. Longfellow, Alexandra Place, Knaresborough, respecting his son, Drive H. R. Longfellow, N.E.R. Pioneer Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers, from whom no correspondence has been received for two months past.

**09.08.1916**

# **PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD**

## **LOCAL CASUALTIES IN THE GREAT ADVANCE**

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6 photographs including:

SERGT. H. E. ARMSTRONG

(Knaresborough) (Missing)

16.08.1916

Mrs. Rd. Thompson, York Place, Knaresborough, whose son, Private PI Thompson (West Yorks), was killed in action on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, has received the following letter:-

7/8/16

10 Dear Mrs Thompson - I am afraid you will have heard how your son fell in action on July 23<sup>rd</sup> during an attack on some German trenches. I know you must feel his loss keenly, but he has given his life for his country. What could be better than that? With the deepest sympathy of all the officers and men of his company.

I remain, yours truly -T. E. Dunbar (Captain)

Private Thompson was previously in the employ of Mr Mitchell, painter and decorator, Knaresborough and Scriven Football Clubs.

23.08.1916

# Munitions of War.

20

# WOMEN WORKERS REQUIRED

From Knaresborough, Harrogate, Starbeck, Spofforth, Wetherby, and Tadcaster districts for National Shell Filling Factory.

**Pay 6d. Per hour.**  
**Three Shifts of 8 hours.**

Good canteen.

Special Trains at Special Fares.

The work is suitable for domestic servants and needlewomen.

No person on munition work or under the age of 18 years can be engaged.

Apply personally, Lady Superintendent, Registration Offices,

**10 Princes Square,**  
**Harrogate.**

10

**TO-DAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST, and following days,**

From 11am to 4pm

6.30pm to 9.30pm

**04.09.1916**

**ROLL OF HONOUR**

Mr Wm. Armstrong, Brooklyn, Scriven, has received official information from the War Office that his son, Sergeant Ernest Armstrong, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, previously reported missing, was killed on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

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**04.10.1916**

**IN THE WAKE OF THE "TANK"**

Private B. Corker, who lies wounded at the Bagthorpe Military Hospital, Nottingham, writing to Mr W. H. Breare, gives an interesting account of a surprise attack on the Somme. He says:-

Just a few lines to let you know I have managed to get to "Blighty", but not one that I would have wished for. I got a nasty dose of shrapnel in my left hip a week last Friday, but I am going on as well as I can expect. I had the X-rays on yesterday, and I believe it is all out. We attacked, as you will know by now, at 6.20am., and it was "some" advance I can tell you. What with our artillery and the "Tanks" preparing a way for us, we had a fairly easy task to take his first line. There was a bit of a hot time in clearing him out though with the bayonet. One or two stood up to it, but on the whole they dread cold steel. I got one of them in this way. We had got fairly into the thick of it when I found myself up against one of them. To have stopped would have let him get me, so I went for him. I don't mind telling you I was  
10 mad, but he only coughed once, I was there before him. After that I was feeling elated and quite happy, and when we got to his second line things were looking very rosy for me. We gave a few bombs to share between them, and there wasn't half some "Mercy", Kamerade" from them. Then I felt as though a house end had hit me. What it really was, a shell burst on our left, and I had got part of it in my hips, so I had to retire. It was a struggle getting back for the air was thick with shells and bullets, but I thought to myself this means "Blighty", so I got through. But oh, Mr Breare, those "Tanks!" What a mess they put Fritz in. They looked in the light of dawn a cross between a hippopotamus with his back up and a drunken elephant. What a sight! We lost sight of them one minute in a shell hole, and next minute saw them wallowing gaily along as though they liked it. They did fearful damage; the one  
20 with us planted itself astride a trench and enfiladed Fritz. It was a nightmare to him. They threw bombs at it and then threw up their hands. Well, I think it was the biggest beating the Germans have had from us, and certainly the biggest surprise attack. I am glad to be out of it a bit, it is like heaven after the Somme. I think that is all this time. Wishing your valuable paper continued success.

**11.10.1916**

#### **SOLDIER'S JUMP INTO THE RIVER AT KANRESBOROUGH.**

On Sunday night a soldier supposed to be Private W. H. Minns, of the Suffolk Regiment, of a  
30 local camp, was seen to mount the parapet at High Bridge, Knaresborough, and jump into the river Nidd, a drop of about twenty feet. The occurrence was witnessed by Pte. Thomas Smith, of Fisher Gardens, who is over at Knaresborough on leave, and he promptly ran to Blenkhorn's landing stage and procured a punt, from which he rescued to man in a state of unconsciousness. Minns was conveyed to the local infirmary, where he remains suffering from immersion and shock. From a note in his pocket the soldier is believed to have been wounded at the Front some months back and has been depressed in consequence.

**18.10.1916**

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#### **KNARESBOROUGH POLICE COURT.**

## **SOLDIER'S ATTEMPTED SUICIDE**

Private W. H Minns (Suffolk Regt.) was charged with attempting to commit suicide by jumping into the river Nidd at Knaresborough on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Supt. Fearnside, in relating the facts of the case, said the accused was an old soldier, had done service in the Boer War, and was wounded in France eighteen months ago. He appeared lately to have become depressed. Having given a promise not to do anything of the kind again, he asked that he be discharged and handed over to an escort.

10 William Johnson, a boy of 15 stated that he was an errand boy and resided with his parents at Starbeck. On Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, just after six o'clock in the evening, he was on the High Bridge at Knaresborough, saw accused take off his tunic and cap, place them on the bridge, and then mount the parapet and drop off the bridge into the river. Looking over the bridge witness saw the man struggling in the water.

The Chairman: Did you think he was trying to swim ashore? – No, sir.

Arthur Smith, linen yarn sizer, of Knaresborough, stated he was going over the High Bridge in company with his brother, Pte. Thos. Smith, on Sunday last. Witness heard some children shouting there was someone in the river. He looked over and saw a man's face in the water. The two of them went down to the riverside, got a punt, and brought him to the side. He was unconscious and on applying artificial respiration he recovered to a certain extent. Witness remained till the arrival for the police.

20 P.C. Carlyle stated than in consequence of information given to him on Sunday night previous he went to Blenkhorn's landing stage and found the accused laid unconscious. Witness removed him on an ambulance to the Workhouse Infirmary. Whilst on the landing stage witness searched defendant's cap and found a note attached. At 9.30 on the 14<sup>th</sup> he charged accused with attempting to commit suicide, and he replied, "I don't remember anything about it."

Defendant, who pleaded guilty, said he had been thoroughly run down owing to the conditions of the camp. He was found medically unfit for duty and was put on light duty, which was very heavy work, and in consequence he had become dispirited.

30 The Chairman said it was very sad indeed to see an old service man in such a position. The note left in the cap showed that it was no rash act, but one of premeditated suicide. He hoped that would be a lesson to him and the Bench were taking a lenient view of the case in handing him over to an escort.

Private Norman Bradley, son of Mr and Mrs J. Bradley, Bar House, Knaresborough, who is in the Leicester Regiment, has been wounded in the head and is in hospital. He took part in suppressing the Sinn Fein rebellion.

40 Villages and hamlets in this district have somehow gathered the impression that they are not bound to obscure lights. I therefore take the opportunity of intimating that, so far as this district is concerned, the police have instructions to enforce the obscuring of lights in all the villages and hamlets of the Ripon Division. It is most important that the regulations governing towns should be observed even in the case of isolated houses in lonely country.

**01.11.1916**

**KNARESBOROUGH PETTY SESSIONS**

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Seven residents of Knaresborough, Follifoot and Pannal were charged by the police with allowing bright lights to shine from their houses, the accused being Thos. Townsend, mason, Follifoot; Ellen Smith, Follifoot; Arthur A. Gibson, architect, Knaresborough; Wm. Wilkinson, retired farmer, Knaresborough; Sydney Roper, gentleman, Pannal Ash; Adeline May Fyson, Pannal.

All the defendants were fined 10s, including costs.

**15.11.1916**

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**ARRIVAL OF WOUNDED HEROES.**

On Thursday the first party of wounded heroes, some twenty in number, arrived at Knaresborough railway station for the local auxiliary military hospital. The Borough Ambulance Company, under Mr T. White, were in attendance, and the four stretcher cases were carefully dealt with. There were five others on crutches, and the party were quickly got away to their destination with the aid of a motor ambulance driven by Mrs Titley, of Harrogate. The men were received at the hospital by Mrs Hamilton, commandant of the Knaresborough Volunteer Ambulance Detachment, and several other lady members, and promptly made as comfortable as possible, a good tea being provided as soon as they were fixed up in their quarters.

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Complaints have been made from time to time to the Knaresborough Rural Tribunal about the Medical Board's examinations at York. In the circumstances it would be as well if arrangements could be made, as in other places, for members to witness how the medical examinations were conducted. When a fit man is found wearing a double truss and another inserting condensed milk in his ear to indicate a discharge thus wasting the time of some half

dozen medical men, one can hardly wonder if at times the doctors got irritated, and perhaps do not give the necessary attention to certain cases.

Official information has been received from the War Office of Private J. Steel (East Yorks), of High Street, Knaresborough, being reported missing since September 16<sup>th</sup>. He joined the Forces about a year ago, and was previously in the employ of Messrs. Taylor Bros, game and poultry dealers, of Harrogate and Knaresborough.

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### **06.12.1916**

News has been received of the death of Trooper D. R. Eastwood, of the Yorks. Hussars, which occurred in France, as the result of a rifle accident, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1916. The deceased, who was 35 years of age, was the second son of the late Mr Charles Eastwood, Scotton Grange, Knaresborough, and of Mrs Eastwood, Park Avenue, Knaresborough. He had seen considerable service both in the old Volunteer regiment and also with the Yorkshire Hussars Yeomanry. Shortly after the outbreak of war he rejoined the colours and went out to France in April 1915. In a letter conveying the sad news to his mother, Regimental Sergt. Major Parkins says: "you may rest assured that while we stay here his grave will be well and carefully tended by his chums, with whom he was so very popular, and by whom his loss is felt far more keenly than I can express." The photograph in another part of this issue was taken whilst Trooper Eastwood was on short leave from the Front in June last. He will be much missed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the Knaresborough district.

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### **20 December 1916**

#### **KNARESBOROUGH WAR WEDDING**

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Photos

**GEO. W. MILNE**

**MISS S. MOODY**

Royal Flying Corps

The marriage took place on Thursday last between Geo. W. Milne, Royal Flying Corps, son of Rev. G. W. Milne, late of St Mark's Glasgow, and Miss Sarah Moody, daughter of the late Mr J. W. Moody, of Leeds and Knaresborough.