RUGELEY TIMES

COLTON VILLAGE In the NEWS

Press Cuttings Volume III

1960 onwards

NO 2.

SCRAP

Book.

COLTON

PRODUCE GUILD.—At the April meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room — the Chairman (Mr. T. Preston) presiding — Mrs. M. S. Toy (on behalf of the Square Dancing Committee) presented a thermos coffee urn and a saucepan to Mr. J. C. Price, Chairman of the Reading Room Management Committee. Mrs. Toy explained that proceeds of the first session of square dancing had gone outside the parish (to the R.C.C.). With the proceeds of the last session of square dancing the Committee felt they would like to give something to benefit the local community. Bearing in mind that several times during the past year it had been necessary to hire a thermos urn for coffee, they decided to purchase one (and the saucepan) to be used as an amenity of the Reading Room. Mr. G. W. Arnold (Chairman of Abbots Bromley Guild) gave a helpful talk on the growing of early chrysanthemums and gave names of varieties which he has found good. He was thanked by Mr. L. Devall. The competition for a small arrangement of spring flowers, judged by Mr. Arnold, was won by Mrs. I. Preston. The raffle for a bottle of home-made damson wine, given by Mrs. E. Preston, went to Mrs. Toy. Refreshments were provided and served by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Preston and the Misses Mary and Susan Preston.

Public footpath at Colton may be changed

Until five years ago a public footpath led from the postbox at the top of Colton village to join a network of paths at Little Hay Manor Farm, but there has been much development on the field where it began. Now the parish council are being asked for their views on an Extinguishment Order and for some diversion of the path.

At their meeting last week the parish councillors discussed at length the possible extinguishment and diversion of "footpath No. 28" and finally decided to ask for a meeting with the county surveyor before discussing the matter further.

A plan of the proposed diversion by the brook bridge was inspected, and interested members will be arranging a meeting on the site with the landowner, Mr. J. C. Price. Further discussion was deferred until next month's meeting.

After it had been reported that the public seat in the Pinfold had not been repaired, Councillor F. Hardcastle offered to take it away and get it repaired. His offer was accepted.

The chairman, Councillor L. Mellor, complained about the lack of a light in the telephone kiosk in the village, and a letter is being sent to the Area Telephone Manager.

Plans for Remembrance Sunday at Colton had to be changed because of the bad weather. As usual it was planned to hold a service at the War Memorial, but it was held instead in St. Mary's Church.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S.

PRODUCE GUILD: Presiding at the April meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room, the chairman, Mr. T. Preston opened the meeting by calling on Mrs. M. S. Toy, on behalf of the square dancing committee, to present a coffee urn and milk saucepan to Mr. J. C. Price, chairman of the Reading Room management committee. Mrs. Toy explained that with the first square dancing session the proceeds had gone outside the parish to the Rural Community Council. With proceeds from the last session the committee felt they would like to give something that would benefit the local community. Bearing in mind that on several occasions during the past year it had been necessary to hire an urn, the committee had decided to buy one, and a saucepan to be used as an amenity in the Reading Room. Mr. Price considered it a wonderful gesture. Minutes of the March meeting were read and confirmed and the chairman announced the names of officers elected for the current term apart from himself: Vice-chairman, Mr. Leslie Devall; secretary, Miss D. M. Jones; treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. He went on to welcome back as a member Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and new member, Mrs. Joan E. Wright. Letters were read from Mrs. E. Bettson and Mrs. M. G. Bennett thanking the Guild for flowers and "get-well" cards. Names were taken of members wishing to attend the county annual meeting at Rodbaston Farm Institute on April 25. It was reported that following suggestions regarding outings, arrangements have been made to visit Kew Gardens on Sunday, June 7. Mr. Preston then introduced Mr. G. W. Arnold, chairman of the Abbots Bromley Guild who spoke on the growing of early chrysanthemums and gave names of varieties which he recommended. A vote of thanks was given by Mr. L. Devall. A competition for a small arrangement of Spring flowers judged by Mr. Arnold was won by Mrs. I. Preston. Following a request it was agreed to hold a flower arrangement competition at the May meeting. A raffle for a bottle of home-made damson wine given by Mrs. E. Preston was won by Mrs. Toy. Refreshments were provided and served by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Preston and the Misses Mary and Susan Preston.

CONSERVATIVES: The annual meeting of the Colton branch of the Lichfield and Tamworth Conservative and Unionist Association was held at Colton Lodge. Mr. J. C. Price was re-elected chairman, Mr. Ian W. Bigham, vice-chairman; and Mr. Fred Hardcastle, treasurer. Mrs. Bigham did not seek re-election as secretary and Mrs. Susan J. Ball agreed to take over. The remainder of the committee were re-elected. The chairman and vice-chairman agreed to represent the branch at meetings of the Rugeley branch. A meeting has been arranged to take place at Newlands Grange, the home of Mr. A. P. Ball, on May 2, when farmers are to be invited to meet Mr. Kenneth Dunkley, the prospective candidate. The chairman will be Mr. Pri

Colton Village Produce Guild

Presiding at the April meeting in the Reading Room, of Colton Village Produce Guild, the Chairman, Mr. T. Preston, asked Mrs. M. S. Toy (on behalf of the Square Dancing Committee) to present a Thermos Coffee Urn and a saucepan to Mr. J. C. Price, Chairman of the Reading Room Management Committee.

Mrs. Toy explained that with the first session of Square dancing the proceeds had gone outside the parish (to the R.C.C.). With the proceeds of the last session of Square dancing the committee felt that they would like to give something that would benefit the local community.

The Chairman announced the officers for the year were: Vice-chairman, Mr. Leslie Devall; hon. Secretary, Miss D. M. Jones; hon. Treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Letters were read from Mrs. E. Bettson and Mrs. M. G. Bennett, thanking the Guild for flowers and "get well" cards. Names were taken of members wishing to attend the County A.G.M. at the Farm Institute, Rodbaston on April 25.

Mr. G. W. Arnold (Chairman of the Abbots Bromley Guild) spoke on the growing of early Chrysanthemums, and gave names of varieties which he had found to be good. He was thanked by Mr. L. Devall.

The competition for an arrangement of Spring flowers, judged by Mr. Arnold, was won by Mrs. I. Preston.

The raffle for a bottle of home-made Damson wine, given by Mrs. E. Preston, went to Mrs. Toy. Refreshments were provided and served by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Preston, and the Misses Mary and Susan Preston.

COLTON

MOTHERS UNION.—For their April meeting Colton St. Mary's Mothers Union met in Church where a short service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev A. S. Tovlson with Mrs G. Finnemore as organist. Collections were taken by Miss Ellen Rotchell. After the service, members went to the Rectory and before tea an election for officers was held with the Rector as teller. Mrs P. B. Best was elected as enrolling member, Mrs N. Westhorpe, secretary and Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft treasurer. It was agreed to organise a bring and buy sale at this month's meeting to aid branch funds.

GOOD DEED.—The recent house to house collection for Dr. Barnardo's Homes organised by Miss Rotchell and Mrs. P. B. Best as a Mothers' Union 'Good Deed' has resulted in £8 18s. 6d. being forwarded to headquarters. Collectors were Miss Rotchell, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. N. Westhorpe, Mrs. G. E. Finnemore and Mrs. C. M. Sanders.

COLTON

W.I.:—Presiding at the April meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, the president Mrs. I. Preston welcomed Mrs. Bettson back to the meeting after recent operation and Mrs. M. Taylor, who attended the previous meeting as a visitor, as a new member. Minutes of the March meeting were read and confirmed and a letter was read from Mrs. M. G. Bennett thanking members for flowers and "get well" card. Mrs. N. Jones, deputised for Miss D. M. Jones, the Spring Council meeting held Stafford, gave her report on meeting and was thanked by Mrs. M. S. Toy. The guest speaker Mrs. G. D. Spiller, wife of the Spiller of Armitage, who spoke her work with a trade magazine vote of thanks on behalf of bers was proposed by Mrs. M. Waters. A competition for a arrangement of flowers was won Mrs. B. Barham, and the myst parcel went to Mrs. C. M. Sand Tea hostesses were Mrs. Pr Miss E. Rotchell, and Mrs. B. Ravenscroft.

FUNDS WHIST:— The Co committee of the Conservative A ciation held a whist drive in Reading Room to aid Party fu Mr. P. W. Westhorpe was the and prizes were presented by D. Harley of Abbots Bromley Mrs. L. Wilson, Mrs. Pitts, D. Rowe, Mr. J. Shipley, Mrs. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. F. Hardc Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. Ha Mrs. Deacon, Mr. A. N. Pe Mrs. W. J. Jones, and Mr. G. non. The raffle for a bottle of was won by Mr. J. Shipley. and refreshments were given by mittee members.

PARISH COUNCIL:— All bers of the parish council att meeting in the Reading Ro letter was read from the C Council concerning the school pointing out that the council most anxious to start work school, but that they had been to come to any agreement landowner. Regarding the meeting to be held next week this matter, it was agreed to county council to send an It was also decided that should be sent round the asking interested people to Councillor L. Mellor, chairm reed to fill the vacancy on ish lands trust. The council send a letter to the roads and department complaining of drain in the High Street. It cided that Colton should be in the "Best-Kept" village co tion on the recommendation annual parish assembly. thought that another litter would be useful, and this asked for. Regarding the Kept" village competition, Kept" village competition, M lor said he was considering another cup for competition the bounds of the area. will be discussed at a later





Mr. Rodney J. N. Williams and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft after their wedding at Colton, near Rugeley.

Williams—Ravenscroft

The wedding took place on Saturday, at St. Mary's Church, Colton, near Rugeley, of Mr. Rodney John Nelson Williams, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Williams, of 36, Douglas-road West, Stafford, and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, 45, High-street, Colton. The Rev. A. S. Towlson officiated.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a full-length white figured velvet dress, a crystal tiara, and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley, freesias and carnations.

She was attended by Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft (sister) and Miss Sharn Charles. They both wore French-blue dresses, white fur headbands and white fur muffs.

Best man was Mr. Allan Charles.

A reception was held at 51, High-street, Colton, after which the couple left for a touring honeymoon. The bride wore a going-away suit in black and white tweed, with a white fur hat and black accessories.

The bride is secretary of the youth section of the Friends of Cannock Chase and a voluntary warden. Both bride and groom are members of Colton Village Produce Guild.

Colleague becomes his bride



Two employees of the Britannia Assurance Company, Stafford, both members of the Colton Village Produce Guild, were married at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Saturday. The Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, officiated at the service.

They were Mr. Rodney John Williams, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Williams, of 36, Douglas Road West, Stafford, and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, High Street, Colton.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of white figured velvet with a short veil and tiara. The bridesmaids, Miss Gwendoline N. Ravenscroft (bride's sister), and Miss Sharn L. Charles (friend of the bride), wore dresses of French blue velvet, with white fur head-dresses and muffs.

The best man was Mr. Allan J. Charles, a friend of the bridegroom.

HOW parish council business is conducted in various villages is a revelation. In some, every councillor talks at once; in others they wander from the agenda at will; in a few they keep strictly to an agenda and only talk when they have a useful contribution to make. And in some villages there seems to be so little business that meetings are either over in a few minutes or are delayed for months until there is sufficient work to warrant calling councillors together. 5/3/66.

It is to ensure that no village stagnates that Local Government Acts decree that there must be at least four meetings a year, and that the first shall be on May 20 or within 14 days thereafter.

I notice that Colton just scraped in last year by holding their annual meeting on June 3, and that they did not meet again until last Friday. This means that they have to get in two more meetings before May! The chairman said they had not met because there had been so little business to transact.

This may not be the best outlook for parish councillors, though

COLTON GUILD HEARS TALK OF COUNTY PRODUCE RALLY

Mercury 1968

AT the ninth annual meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild suggestions were put forward for a possible county rally and for the entertainment at the annual harvest supper.

Mr T. Preston, chairman for the past three years, thanked fellow officers, committee and members, for their help during the year and was in turn thanked by secretary Miss D. M. Jones who gave a report of the year's work and events.

The treasurer's report presented by Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft showed a slight excess of expenditure over income and it was decided to arrange more money making efforts including a jumble sale on April 16.

It was also agreed to increase the adult yearly subscription from 1s to 2s, leaving schoolchildren's subscriptions at 1s.

Mr D. L. Ferguson was teller for the election of the new committee who are: Mr J. Brown, Mr J. Meddings, Mr T. Preston, Mr J. H. Toy, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs J. Garwood, Mrs L. Jackson, Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs J. E. Wright.

Mr Brown was elected chairman and other officers will be chosen at the next committee meeting. Show committee representatives are Mr Brown, Mr D. W. Garwood Mr Meddings, Mr Preston and Mr Toy, while quiz team members will be Mr Preston, Mr Meddings, and Mr Brown. The first round will be at Slitting Mill on April 1.

A letter was read from Mr and Mrs R. J. N. Williams thanking members for the wedding gift presented by the guild, and Mrs E. Atkin sent thanks for the good wishes and flowers she had received while in hospital.

Speaker for the evening was Mr Ernest Broughton of Walton-on-the-Hill whose topic was "Unusual annuals". He was thanked by Mr R. J. N. Williams. Mr and Mrs Broughton judged the competition for a bowl of bulbs and awarded the prize to Keith Williscroft for his blue hyacinths. The competition for gladioli corms was won by Mr Broughton.

Tea hostesses were Mrs Garwood and Mrs Wright.

school

6/8/66

MORE than 200 signatures have been received for a petition to the Minister of Education pressing for an early start on the modernisation and enlargement of Colton Church School, the chairman of Colton Parish Council, Councillor F. Hardcastle, told the "Times" this week.

As this was 50 per cent. of the electorate, which included young unmarried voters, he thought it a good response.

Councillors toured the parish collecting signatures after their meeting a fortnight ago when it was decided to raise a petition in an effort to prevent any further delay in the start of the project.

Modernisation should have started in February, 1964, but it was found that purchase of the necessary adjoining land had not been completed. This resulted in a compulsory purchase order being sought and granted, an appeal, and subsequent modifications being considered.

Colton Parish Council held a special meeting on Monday to draft a letter to the Minister of Education Mr. Anthony Crosland, enclosing the petition. They are asking the Minister to expedite the signing of the compulsory purchase order so that work on the school can commence in the very near future.

Copies have been sent to the Under-Secretary of State, Education and Science (Legal Branch); Mr. Julian Snow, M.P.,; Alderman A. G. Ward (chairman of Staffordshire Education Committee); Mr. J. H. P. Ospring (director of education); Mr. N. Barton (clerk to Lichfield Rural Council) and to the chairman of the school managers.

An audience of around 200 watched the ever popular county Flower Arrangement Contest for the Miss Harrison Trophy, held in the canteen of Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford, on Thursday last week.

Mr. J. D. Lewis welcomed the gathering, Mr. F. W. Farrer was the M.C. and Mr. J. W. Jones was timekeeper. Judges were Mrs. Black of Stafford and Mrs. Catlin of Standon, who were impressed by the "even higher" standard of entries.

Winners of individual prizes for highest points were Mrs. Bourne of Penkridge, and Mr. W. Butters of Maer. The team to win the trophy was Penkridge, with 85 points, followed by Lichfield just one point behind.

The Lichfield team was Mrs. Ivison, Miss Potts, Mr. Beattie and Mrs Smith. Seventh was a team from Slitting Mill — Mrs. King, Mrs. M. Hill, Messrs H. A. Walker and Morgan — and eighth was Colton — Mrs. C. Bannister, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, aged 15. Messrs R. J. N. Williams and Leslie Devall.

The draw, organised by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. Walker,

MOTHERS' UNION.—Colton Mothers' Union held their monthly meeting at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by kind invitation of their Enrolling Member (Mrs. Best). A short service was conducted by the Rev. Frank Best (who has a parish in Leicestershire), who also showed a film of the 1964 Remembrance Day service at Colton taken by his father (the late Captain J. A. Best). Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft spoke about her recent visit to Paris. Silent tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mrs. May Cooper.

well-attended June meeting of the Colton Village Produce Guild, the Chairman (Mr. Jack Brown) presented Miss Mary Preston with a gardening fork as a gift from the Guild to mark her forthcoming wedding. The guest speaker, Mr. D. W. Pinches, of the Lichfield Guild, gave an interesting and enlightening talk on "Fuchias." Mr. N. Bruce expressed the thanks of the members to Mr. Pinches for sharing his knowledge with them. The competition



Mrs. M. S. Toy, of Colton's square dancing group, presents Mr. J. C. Price with a coffee urn for use in the Reading Room, at a Village Produce Guild meeting attended by representatives of other village organisations, all of whom are knit together by the R.C.C.

TIMES 11/4/64

Colton dancers put profit to good use

[illegible] the activities which brought the Rural Community [illegible] in very close touch with the people — even with [illegible] of Rugeley — was the recent session of square [illegible] at Colton. The proceeds of the first session were [illegible] R.C.C. but last session's profit has been used to [illegible] badly needed in the Reading Room.

[illegible] meeting of the [illegible] Guild, Mr. T. [illegible] opened the [illegible] on Mrs. M. S. [illegible] on behalf of the [illegible] committee, a [illegible] and a milk [illegible] J. C. Price, chair- [illegible] Reading Room Man- [illegible]

[illegible] that several [illegible] year they had [illegible] and so they [illegible] to present the [illegible] as an added [illegible] Reading Room.

[illegible] thought as a [illegible] Mr. Price [illegible] mattered a [illegible] would be even [illegible] time went on. [illegible] a useful asset to [illegible]

[illegible] the other [illegible] Vice-chair- [illegible] secretary, Miss [illegible] Mrs. B. M. [illegible] welcomed Mrs. [illegible] as a member [illegible] Wright as a new [illegible]

[illegible] E. Bettson and [illegible] thanked the [illegible] varieties which he could recommend. He was thanked by Mr. L. Devall.

The competition for a small arrangement of spring flowers, judged by Mr. Arnold, was won by Mrs. I. Preston. Following a request, it was decided to have a flower arrangement competition at the May meeting.

The raffle for a bottle of home made damson wine, given by Mrs. E. Preston, was won by Mrs. Toy.

Refreshments were served by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Preston and the Misses Mary and Susan Preston.

IF the deadlock over the purchase of extension land for the modernisation of Colton Church School persists much longer, a completely new school may be built instead, using land near the 13th century village church and part of the adjoining land earmarked for burial ground extension. TIMES

This outcome of a private meeting between all parties concerned, held a few days before Easter, has now been made public by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

Original plans were for the children to be moved to Colwich School for the summer months while the existing school was extended and modernised. All was ready for the move to commence in mid-February when it was discovered that an all-important signature was missing.

It was that of the owner of a portion of land at the rear, the acquisition of which was vital to the extensions.

When it was realised that a compulsory purchase order may have to be enforced the Education Committee decided to apply for sufficient additional land to include playing fields, to obviate the necessity of children having to cross the road, as they would have to do in order to reach the site which was being made available by the church authorities.

The director of education, in an effort to end the deadlock, proposed the joint meeting, which was attended by the owner of the land required, in an effort to avoid the use of compulsory powers, which could involve a further two year delay. 11/4/64

When it became clear at the meeting that the problem which had confronted the school management for six years was no nearer solution they held a further managers' meeting the following day to consider an alternative proposal that had been made — the provision of a replacement school.

On Lady Day, then, the unanimously proposed the provision of a replacement St. Mary's School to be built on the opposite side of the road, adjoining the church and rectory — on land already in church ownership.

The statement issued by the rector explains that land previously designated as churchyard extension would be used as the school playing field and suggests that the existing school buildings could later become subject to the agreement of all concerned, a church hall or village hall.

Should the proposals succeed, Says the Rector, adequate alternative proposals can be put forward to preserve the burial rights of the parish (there is room for only five more graves in the existing cemetery extension).



The bridesmaids were the Misses Wendy, Judith and Brenda Norman (bride's sisters) and Susan Hibb (bridegroom's sister). They wore full-length blue satin dresses with bell-shaped skirts, trimmed with Dior bows in matching chiffon, and chiffon, and matching head-dress

for Colton aged

TIMES 16/11/68

A rummage sale organised by Colton Youth Club was not as successful as club leader Mr. D. E. Waters had hoped, but £1 was raised to provide bags of coal at Christmas for the old people

Mad Bug

[illegible] pressing for a compulsory purchase order was carried so decisively and was seconded by one of the School Managers.

I now put my faith in the County Council seeking a compulsory purchase with inadequate fresh air and lavatory facilities makes one think of things which are too frightening to put down in writing. Anyone who counsels further delay should examine his conscience first.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. EVERALL.
71 High Street,
Colton, Rugeley.

[illegible] neighbored on Christson of [illegible], of 18. [illegible] ra Joan Mr. and of 16.





In the group above are some of the players at the Colton Conservative whist drive, and "Christmas cheer" appears to have been a popular choice for prizes.

Warming thought for Colton old folk

AFTER a whist drive organised by the local Conservative branch in the Reading Room, Colton, on Friday evening, the proceeds of £11 13s. 6d. were handed to Mr. D. E. Waters for the youth club's fund to buy coal for elderly people in the parish. Mr. Kenneth Dunkley, prospective parliamentary candidate, made the presentation.

Mr. Dunkley, who was accompanied by his wife, was introduced by the branch chairman, Mr. J. C. Price. It was Mr. and Mrs. Dunkley's second visit to Colton and arrangements had been made by the local branch for them to visit homes in the parish on Saturday. They were escorted by Mr. L. Kendrick, Mr. I. W. Bigham and Mr. F. Hardcastle.

Also present at the whist drive were Mr. Peter Brown (divisional chairman), Mr. Norman Slipper (divisional agent), County Councillor J. E. Riley and Mr. W. J. Jones (branch president).

Mr. P. W. Westhorpe was M.C., and Mrs. Dunkley presented the prizes which had been given by committee members. Winners were: — Mrs. W. M. Jones, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. K. M. Smithers, Mrs. E. E. Meddings, Mrs. J. E. Wright Mr. T. Potts, Miss D. Rowe, Mrs H. C. G. Smithers, Mrs. J. Fowell Miss Mason, Miss Ruth Ravens croft, Mrs. E. Preston; miniature: Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs nsley; lowest scores, Mrs. N. B A. Martin and Mr. S. Hall.

The raffle for a turkey was wo by Mr. Potts and the brace o heasants by Tony Wright.



Mr. D. E. Waters, Colton youth club leader, receives the proceeds from the whist drive from the prospective parliamentary candidate, Mr. K. Dunkley. On the right of the picture are seen Mrs. Dunkley, Mr. Peter Brown (divisional chairman) and Mr. Norman Slipper (divisional agent). The branch chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, is on Mr. Waters's right.

Helping with refreshments, whic had also been given by committe members, were Mrs. W. J. Jones Mr. I. W. Bigham and the Misse [illegible] and K. Norman.

Produce Guilds pay tribute to late president

TIMES 14/12/64

Colton Women's Institute held their November meeting in the Reading Room. Mrs. I. Preston presiding, an invitation was received from the Village Produce Guild to join the guild for a "Brains Trust" at their December meeting.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft gave her report of the autumn Council meeting and a talk and demonstration on domestic ware was given by Mrs. J. Beck and Mrs. Savage.

The competition for "My favourite ornament and why" was won by Mrs. C. Barham. Mrs. J. Meddings took charge of the stall.

Members were urged to support the Christmas stall at the December meeting, and as this will be the neares: meeting to Christmas and

PROCEEDS of a coffee evening and concert held in Colton School on Friday brought to a target total of £2,500 the restoration fund of St. Mary's Church, the Rector, the Rev. S. Towlson, announced during an interval. TIMES 24/12/64

Children of the church choir and pupils from Rugeley Studio of Dancing, trained by Mrs. V. M. Towlson, contributed to the programme, the commere being Mrs. Alexander.

Junior students performed "Al in Wonderland", this being fo lowed by tableaux and carols junior members of the choir. Ne came a medley by the choir: "Thr little Fishes" sung by Christi Peake, Pamela Jones and Kathlee Norman; "Little Donkey" by Gwe doline Ravenscroft; and "Bless th house" by Melvyn Collins, Stephe Hibbs, Keith Williscroft and To Wright.

The Highland Fling was dance by Ann Madders and the "Legen of the Christmas Rose" was mime by the junior students. At the piano were the rector and Mrs. G E. Finnemore, and a pianoforte so was given by Michele Pomlett.

Refreshments were served b Mrs. M. Williscroft and helpers and the bring-and-buy stall was staffed by Mrs. R. Grimley an Mrs. T. Jones.

The rector said the evening event had been the idea of the l Mrs. J. L. Taylor, and he asked th company to stand in a silent tri ute to her memory.

The raffle Mrs. Taylor promote had been carried on by her son. a the winners were: Mr. J. H. Wrig (turkey); Miss C. Chilton (whisky Mr. Bettson, Kingstone (port); M

MOTHERS' UNION. — Colton Mothers' Union held their December meeting in the North Room at the school, and it was taken by Mr. D. E. Waters, lay reader and headmaster of the school. Tribute was paid to the late Mrs. I. L. Taylor, enrolling member of the branch. After a short service, Mr. Waters played records, including 'Oh rest in the Lord'; parts from the 'Messiah', and a few carols. Thanks to him were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Opening the executive meeting the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds in the Education Offices, Stafford, on Saturday, the county chairman, Mr. D. Lewis, of Colwich, paid tribute to the late Miss J. E. L. Garrison, of Maer Hall, who was many years president of the Association.

One of her last gestures was the



...pedigree Aberdeen Angus steer weighing 8½ cwt., ...ed the "Rugeley Times" Cup for champion beast ...fatstock show and sale at Rugeley Old Smith... ...Messrs. J. L. and E. Mellor, at Little Hay Manor ...realised £12 per cwt. and was sold to Mr. H. ...butcher. Standing at the head of the champion ...Luke and Mr. George Mellor.

...TON W.I.

...TRIBUTE

...FOUNDER

20/12/64

...of Colto... ...vice-president ...L. Taylor, who w... ...was paid at th... ...by the presider... ...A. stood in silen...

...welcomed member... ...it was announce... ...and been re... ...Hall's New Yea...

...of Rodbasto... ...give a demonstra... ...and judged ...made pies, whic... ...Preston. A vote o... ...Chairman was pro... ...C. M. Sanders. ...was in th... ...pies and Mis... ...hostesses wer... ...Mrs. E. M. San... ...S. Toy. ...and cake, given ...won by Mrs ...a game of craz... ...Toy as M.C., ...Mesdames J. ...Bancroft, R. O. ...E. E. Bennett, ...P. M. Buckley

...neral

...place at ...Church, on ...of Mrs. ...aged 70 ...Albert Devall). ...Colton. The ...Towson, con... ...and Mrs. G. ...at the organ. ...Eric Devall ...(sister); ...J. Cooper. Mr. ...brothers ...Mrs. G. ...and Mrs. C. ...); Mr. and

TIMES 16/12/64

At the November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room, with Mr. T. Preston, chairman, presiding, a film of his stay in Rhodesia was given by Mr. Peter Dean, deputy secretary to the Rural Community Council.

A letter from Abbots Bromley guild, stated that as Colton guild seemed to have a full programme at present, Abbots Bromley would delay their return quiz until the spring.

The chairman asked for questions for the December meeting, when a panel of experts will form a Brains Trust. They will be Mr. R. K. Mowforth (horticulture), and Mr. J. C. Matthews (agriculture), and Miss Cherry (dom. science), all of Rodbaston Farm Institute; and a doctor of entomology.

Nominations received for the 1964 show committee were: Messrs. J. H. Toy, T. Preston, L. Devall, W. C. Preston, P. Tabernor, D. W. Garwood and J. Meddings, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. L. Jackson.

The competition for an arrangement from a hedgerow was judged by Mrs. Dean, who awarded prizes to Mrs. M. S. Toy, Mrs. I. Preston and Mr. J. Brown.

Colton.—The May meeting was an open one the President (Mrs. I. Preston) presiding. Resolutions for the National Federation's annual meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, London on June 2nd and 3rd, were discussed and the delegate instructed as to voting. Mrs. Rodgers, from the Cannock Technical College, gave a helpful talk on hairdressing with Miss Judith Preston as her model. Thanks to Mrs. Rodgers were voiced on the members' behalf by Mrs. V. Pratt. The stallholder was Mrs. L. Jackson, and the raffle for a chocolate cake was w... by

Colton Produce Guild

MERCURY

Presiding at the December meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room, the chairman, Mr. T. Preston, welcomed members of Colwich Guild, and Colton members and friends. 13/12/64

He referred to the loss to the County Association in the recent death of the President, Miss Harrison, and to Colton Guild in the deaths of committee member Mr. G. E. D. Atkin, and of Mrs. J. L. Taylor. All stood in a silent tribute.

An invitation was received from Abbots Bromley Guild to their social evening and arrangements are in hand for Colton Guild's social evening on January 2.

The chairman welcomed the 'Brains Trust' team from Rodbaston Farm Institute, Mr. J. C. Matthews (agriculture), Mr. R. K. Mowforth (horticulture) and Mr. Fain (science master). The question master was Mr. J. H. Toy, and a wide variety of questions were answered.

Competitions were won by:- A hanging Christmas decoration, Mrs. T. Preston; mince pies, Mrs. Preston and brussels sprouts, Mr. Toy. The competition for home-made wine was won by Mrs. E. Preston; biscuits, Mrs. L. Jackson and Christmas pudding, Mr. Jack Brown. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Toy.

THANKSGIVING prayers for "hitting the target" were said in St. Mary's, Colton on Sunday evening. The five-year plan for raising £2,500 for the church restoration and improvement of the surroundings reached this figure with a coffee evening and concert held on Friday. On Sunday the Rev. A. S. Towlson, gave the congregation an outline of how the money had been spent.

COLTON

PARISH COUNCIL.—Colton Council held a meeting in the School last week, when all members were present. The chairman, Councillor Luke Mellor, was in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was stated that the blocked drainage in the High Street had been attended to and was a big improvement. The chairman, speaking about the challenge cup he had suggested giving in the "Best-kept Garden" competition, said his brother, Mr. George Mellor, wished to be associated with it. They proposed to donate such a cup to be known as the "Little Hay" Cup, in memory of their mother, Mrs. Julia L. Taylor, for annual competition for the most attractive flower garden in Colton village. One of his mother's greatest pleasures, said Councillor Mellor, was to see beautiful flower gardens. It was agreed that the recommendation made at

Colton Conservative

Mercury whist 13/12/64

At a whist drive in the Reading Room, Colton, organised by the Colton branch of the Conservative Association, the proceeds of £11/13/6 were handed to Mr. D. E. Waters by the Prospective Parliamentary candidate, Mr. Ken Dunkley, to go towards the Youth Club fund to buy coal for the elderly people of the parish.

Mr. Dunkley who was accompanied by his wife was introduced by the branch chairman, Mr. J. C. Price. Mr. P. W. Westhorpe was the M.C. and prizes were presented by Mrs. Dunkley to Mrs. W. M. Jones, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. K. M. Smithers, Mrs. C. E. Meddings, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mr. T. Potts, Miss D. Rowe, Mr. H. C. G. Smithers, Mrs. J. Fowell, Miss Mason, Miss Ruth Ravenscroft, Mrs. E. Preston; miniature, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. Insley; lowest scores, Mrs. N. B. A. Martin and Mr. S. Hall. Competition for turkey was won by Mr. Potts and pheasants by Tony Wright.

Also 'looking in' on the gathering were Mr. Peter Brown, Divisional Chairman; Mr. Norman Slipper, Divisional Agent; Mr. J. E. Riley, County Councillor, and Mr. W. J. Jones, Branch President.

Prizes and refreshments had been given by Committee members. Helping with refreshments were Mrs. W. J. Jones, Mr. I. W. Bigham and the Misses E. and K. Norman.

TIMES 14/12/64

PRESIDING at the December meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room, Mr. T. Preston welcomed members of Colwich Guild, Colton members and friends, and the "Brains Trust" team from Rodbaston Farm Institute.

Mr. Preston mentioned the loss caused to the county association by the death of their president, Miss Harrison, and also the loss to Colton Guild by the death of committee member Mr. G. E. D. Atkin and Mrs. J. L. Taylor. All stood in silence at a tribute.

An invitation was received from Abbots Bromley Guild to attend their social evening on January 2.

The Brains Trust team from Rodbaston consisted of Mr. J. C. Matthews (agriculture), Mr. R. K. Mowforth (horticulture) and Mr. Fain (science). The fourth member of the team, Miss Cherry (domestic science), being unable to attend, the men also had to deal with cookery questions!

The question-master was Mr. J. H. Toy, who proposed a vote of thanks to the team.

A competition for a hanging Christmas decoration was won by Mrs. T. Preston, who also won the competition for six mince pies. Mr. Toy won the competition for brussels sprouts.

A bottle of home-made wine was won by Mrs. W. Preston, a tin of biscuits by Mrs. L. Jackson, and a Christmas pudding by Mr. Jack Brown.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Toy.

Colton Village Produce Guild held their May meeting in the Reading Room, Mr. T. Preston, Chairman, presiding, when the visit to Kew Gardens on June 7, was discussed.

Names were taken of members willing to take part in the County Floral Arrangement contest for the "Miss Harrison" trophy. The Chairman welcomed and introduced Mr. L. Leech, the visiting speaker, who spoke on "How should I live," dealing with bees and nature in general. He



SENTINEL. 11-5-64

At the annual meeting of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds, held at the County Institute, Rodbaston, on Saturday.

COLTON W.I.

The May meeting of Colton W.I. was an open one, with the President, Mrs. I. Preston, presiding. Following a letter from the Village Hall Entertainment Committee asking for help at the Traction Engine Rally in July, it was agreed to stage a stall for home made cakes. The resolutions for the A.G.M. in London, were discussed.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Rodgers, from the Cannock Technical College, who talked on hairdressing, with Miss Judith Preston as her model. Thanks to Mrs. Rodgers were voiced by Mrs. V. Pratt. The stall was in the charge of Mrs. L. Jackson, and the raffle for a cake was won by Mrs. P. Taylor.

Hostesses for the evening were: Mrs. M. L. Waters, Mrs. H. A. Williscroft and Miss C. N. L. Williscroft. The month's competition for the most articles beginning with 'P' in a matchbox, was won by Mrs. N. Jones and Mrs. L. Jackson.



In the centre of this group, pictured at the ... meeting of the Staffordshire ... Produce Guilds, is the new Pre... Principal of the Staffords... Rodbaston. To the right is th...

GUILDS HELP

18/6/64

THE Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds is out to help new home buyers.

It has sent a resolution to the National Federation of Village Produce Associations. It reads:

"That pressure be brought to bear upon builders to leave gardens of new houses in a state suitable for proper cultivation by removing all builders' rubble, and leaving at least 12 inches of top soil on the surface".

The county association also suggests that people buying new houses on estates should be given a choice of a large or small garden.

"get over" to people that they wanted to help them — both nationally and locally, particularly if they already have small gardens and would like larger ones.

Mr. J. D. Lewis, chairman of Colwich Guild, was re-elected association chairman, and Mr. J. W. Jones, of Maer Guild, vice-chairman for the third successive year. Co-opted members re-elected were: Mrs. L. Cowdill, Staffordshire Federation of Women's Institutes; Mrs. D. Bullock, Maer; Mr. F. W. Farrer and Mr. C. F. Horton, Lichfield; and Mr. R. K. Mowforth, Staffordshire Farm Institute.

It was reported that with the

COLTON

THE FUNERAL took place at Colton St. Mary's Church, Colton of Mrs. Annie Louisa Devall, aged 70, the widow of Mr. Albert Devall, of School Cottages, Colton. The Rector (the Rev. A. S. Towlson) conducted the service and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore was at the organ. Mourners were: Mr. Eric Devall (son), Mrs. L. Watts (sister), Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Cooper (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mrs. G. Baker (sister), Mr. and Mrs. C. Devall, Mr. and Mrs. F. Watts and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. R. Goodall, Mr. and Mrs. R. Machin and Mrs. D. Wood. Also present were: Mrs. N. Devall, Mrs. P. B. Best, Mrs. E. Griffin, Miss Ellen Rotchell, Mrs. L. K. Parr, Mrs. A. Meddings, Miss D. M. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. A. I. D. Collins, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Miss C.

Despite the claims m... about processed peas ... television commer... there was nothing like ... grown vegetables, Staf... shire gardeners were tol... Saturday.

"I don't think people ... shelling peas to-day, I t... it is a lost art," said ... F. J. Reed, Mana... Director of a St. Albans ... firm.

Speaking at the an... meeting of the Staffords... Association of Village ... duce Guilds at the Rodba... Farm Institute, Penkri... he said he did not t... there was the same fla... in vegetables nowadays.

"A lot of the lettuce ... have to-day tastes ... blotting paper," he m... tained.

INSECTICIDES WARN...

Mr. Reed also wa... against the indiscrim... use of insecticides. "We ... get to a stage where we ... breeding insects resista... insecticides," he stresse...

Mr. C. R. Horton, C...

18 PRODUCE GUILDS IN COUNTY

5/6/64

Mr. J. D. Lewis, Chair
Colwich Guild
Mr. J. W. Jones, [illegible]
were re-elected
and Vice-Chair-
respectively for the
at the bi-monthly
of the Executive
of the Stafford-
Association of Village
Guilds

Mr. A. Dean (deputy
[illegible] expressed the
[illegible] Mr. D. M.
[illegible] and himself
and Mrs. Lewis for
[illegible] they gave to
[illegible] effort by visiting
[illegible] funds.

Mr. Lewis extended a
to Mr. J. J. Nock,
representative for
[illegible] Guild.

[illegible] of the co-
[illegible] was agreed.

Mrs. L. Cowcill
[illegible] presentation of
[illegible] Mrs. D.
[illegible] Mr. F. W.
Mrs. C. F. Horton
[illegible] and Mr. R. K.
[illegible] Stubbs. Farm

[illegible] that a guild
[illegible] formed at Forton,
[illegible] making the
[illegible] in the County

[illegible] regarding the
[illegible] of pot plants at
[illegible] Open Day on
[illegible] were agreed. Mr.
[illegible] of Standon
[illegible] Mrs. Nora Titten-
[illegible] will be responsible for
[illegible] but plants will be
[illegible] Guilds.

[illegible] were dealt with
[illegible] flower arrange-
[illegible] for the Miss
[illegible] trophy at the
[illegible] of the Universal
[illegible] Co. on July

A RESOLUTION

[illegible] the recent con-
[illegible] for members and
[illegible] of [illegible] it was
[illegible] Staffordshire
[illegible] forward a
[illegible] to the annual
[illegible] of the National
[illegible] of Village Produce
[illegible] to take place
[illegible] at Keele University,
[illegible] that pressure be
[illegible] on builders
[illegible] owners of new
[illegible] a site suitable for
[illegible] cultivation by remov-
[illegible] all builders' rubble and
[illegible] at least 12 inches of
[illegible] the surface. It will
[illegible] suggested that people
[illegible] houses on new estates
[illegible] given a choice of
[illegible] house with a large
[illegible] or a small one.

[illegible] also agreed that a
[illegible] be forwarded to
[illegible] asking
[illegible] meeting of the Colton
[illegible] Parent Teacher Associa-
[illegible] tion and the Chairman (Best
[illegible] the School, the guest
[illegible] Mr R. G. Bushall, Kept Village); and Cllr. F. Hard-
[illegible] County Remedial Officer, who castle (snow clearing).
[illegible] introduced by Mr. D. E.
[illegible] Chairman, and gave an At a rummage sale organise
[illegible] talk on the specialby Colton Show Committee fo
[illegible] on the training of theshow funds held in the Readin
[illegible] deaf and physi-Room on Saturday, Miss D. J
[illegible] cally handicapped Jones was in charge of the doo
[illegible] He announced thatand at the stalls were—Mrs. I
[illegible] centre of the County Preston, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs.

GUILD.—Mr T. Preston presided at the May meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild when details of a proposed trip to Kew Gardens were discussed. Members were asked to help at a rummage sale to be held later this month, the proceeds from which will boost show funds. Members were also told of the arrangements for the July meeting when the annual rose show is to be held. This year it is hoped members of the Colwich and Slitting will attend. One of the classes at this show will be open to visitors. Names were taken of members willing to take part in the county floral arrangement competition for the Miss Harrison' trophy. The chairman then welcomed Mr L. Leech, the visiting speaker who lectured on 'How I should live' which dealt with bees. He was thanked on behalf of members by Mr Jack Brown. The contest for an arrangement of flowers was well supported and Mr Leech awarded prizes to Mrs W. C. Preston and Mr T. Preston and Mrs J. E. Wright as runners up. The raffle for shortbread was won by Mrs Wright. Tea hostesses were Mrs H. M. Felton and Miss E. Rotchell.

P.T.A.—At a meeting of Colton Parent Teachers Association, the guest speaker was Mr R G. Bushall, the county remedial officer. He was welcomed by the chairman, Mr D. E. Waters and spoke on the work of special schools for the training of the partially blind, deaf, physically and mentally handicapped children. He was thanked by Mr Waters, seconded by Mr M. Pomlett. Arrangements were made for an evening outing in June. The chairman announced that representatives of county architects department had inspected the school toilets and had made a suggestion that chemical toilets should be installed. Strong opinions were voiced on this matter and the Rector, the Rev A. S. Towlson agreed to put the various ideas suggested before the school managers. Refreshments were provided by Mrs E. Cooper and Mrs Dawson.

New Chairman for Colton Council

5/6/64

A new Chairman was elected at the first meeting of the Colton Parish Council on Friday. Cllr. Luke Mellor said that he no longer wished to be Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. G. F. Upton, was elected as his successor.

Cllr. Upton then welcomed the new members—Cllrs. A. V. Hardcastle, J. C. Price, B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. M. S. Toy. He said that he hoped they would be able to work together in the best interests of the community. Cllr. J. C. Price was appointed Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. F. Hardcastle proposed that a letter be sent expressing the Council's appreciation to the former Council members, Mr. Bernard Bettson (thirty years service), Mr. A. N. Felton and Mr. Richard Morrall, for their many faithful years of service

It was decided to hold a special meeting on June 9 for the purpose of discussing, among other things, the possibility of giving cash prizes in the Best Kept Gardens competition.

Cllr. Mellor, for the past six years the representative on the school managers, said he did not want to continue this year and Cllr. F. Hardcastle was appointed.

Other representatives appointed were:- Cllrs. A. V. Hardcastle, F. Hardcastle and G. F. Upton (Reading Room management); Mrs. Price, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and the Chairman (Best Kept Village); and Cllr. F. Hardcastle (snow clearing).

Colton Rummage Sale

At a rummage sale organise by Colton Show Committee fo show funds held in the Readin Room on Saturday, Miss D. J Jones was in charge of the doo and at the stalls were—Mrs. I Preston, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs.

CHAIRMAN elected IN COLTON

5/6/64

Last year's Vice-Chairman, Mr. G. F. Upton, was elected Chairman at the first meeting since the elections of Colton Parish Council, held in the Reading Room.

He extended a welcome to the new members—Mr. A. V. Hardcastle, Mr. J. C. Price, Mrs. B M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. M. S. Toy, and it was agreed to send letters expressing appreciation of their services on the council to former members Mr. Bernard Bettson, who had been a member for nearly 30 years, Mr. A. N. Felton and Mr. Richard Morrall.

Mr. J. C. Price was elected Vice-Chairman and Mr. F. Hardcastle was elected to represent the council on the School Managers.

EXTRA LIGHT

Mr. A. V. Hardcastle, Mr. F. Hardcastle and Mr. G. F. Upton will be council representatives on the Reading Room Managemen Committee and representatives on the Best Kept Village Committee will be Mr. Price, Mrs. Ravenscroft and the Chairman. Mr. F. Hardcastle will be responsible for snow clearance.

Mr. F. Hardcastle asked if a further light could be installed at the top of the village and it was agreed that the Rural Council be requested to supply one.

Mrs. Toy asked if the footpath along the brook side could be mown and Mr. Price said this would be attended to.

Regarding the "Best kept garden" competition organised by the council, it was decided to have a special meeting on June 9th to go into details. Mr. L. Mellor said the trophy he and his brother proposed to donate would be a silver rose bowl, and added that he would like to see cash prizes given in both this section and in the Contest for the Parish Council's silver cup. This was agreed and the question of prize money will be dealt with at the special meeting.

COLTON

W.I. — Colton Women's Institute met for their June meeting, in the reading room when Mrs. Ivy Preston presided. New members were: Mrs. Margery E. Mellor, Mrs. Margaret E. Everall, Mrs. Janice Charles, Mrs. Sylvia E. Jackson, and Mrs. Susan Doughty. A letter from the parish council was read, asking if two members would attend a Best Kept Village competition committee meeting. Mrs. Mary Taylor and Mrs. Lily Jackson agreed to represent the W.I. at this meeting. The speaker was Mr. David M Gibb, organising secretary to the Staffordshire Rural Community Council. Mr. Gibb spoke on the work and aims of the R.C.C. and of social welfare work. Mr. Gibb judged the competition. An advertisement on a postcard for a husband. He awarded the prize to Mrs. Taylor, who also won the mystery prize of the evening. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, the delegate from Colton and Blithfield who went to the National Federation annual meeting in London gave her report of the two day meeting. Tea hostesses were: Mrs. D. M Atkin, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and

Colton Village Produce Guild organised a coach outing to Kew Gardens on Sunday, in place of the normal June meeting. The out

Colton Mothers' Union

At the June meeting of Colton Mothers' Union, held in the Reading Room, the enrolling member Mrs. P. B. Best, welcomed the Rev. P. G. Clarke, vicar of Brereton. It was his first visit to Colton, and he conducted a short service. The topic of the visitor's talk concerned an aspect of The Church of England not widely known; The Community of the Resurrection. He illustrated his talk with film slides, showing some of the monks of the community at their duties at Mirfield, in Yorkshire. Mrs. I. V. Collins thanked the Rev. Clarke for his interesting talk. Arrangements were discussed regarding the Deanery Festival to be held this year at Bridgetown, Cannock.

Produce Guilds meeting

At a conference of officers and members of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds held at Eaton Lodge, Rugeley, the County Chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis (Chairman of Colwich Guild) was supported by the Chairman of the National Federation, Mr. C. F. Horton, of Lichfield, and Mrs. D. Fitzherbert, Secretary of the National Federation, of South Collingham, Newark, Notts, who was the guest speaker.

Mrs. Fitzherbert gave many hints on the running of guilds and of programme planning, and invited questions. Mr. T. Preston (Colton) thanked her.

BLITHFIELD

MEETING.—The June meeting of Blithfield Mothers Union was held in Newtown Village Hall when Mrs C. Kent introduced the speaker, Mrs Croft of Cannock. Mrs Kent gave a talk on 'The Christian Name.'

W.I.—The monthly meeting was held in Newton Hall, Miss Nellie Lane, president presiding. The correspondence was read and discussed. Suggestions and ideas for competitions were given to the delegate Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft of Colton, delegate to the A.G.M. in London gave a report on the meeting, and was thanked by Mrs E. Barton, seconded by Miss M. Hampson. The monthly competition for a flower arrangement in an egg cup was judged by Mrs Ravenscroft and the prizes was won by Mrs E. Barton. Miss E. R. H. Rees was in charge of the roll call, where would you go for your dream holiday? most members choosing foreign countries. The social time was organised by Miss Rees, tele-

THKS 2/6/64

Seven new members — a record number — were announced at Colton, Women's Institute's June meeting by the president, Mrs. I. Preston. Those, welcomed were Mesdames M. E. Mellor, M. E. Everall, J. Charles, S. E. Jackson and S. Doughty, but the other two, Mrs. J. Pomlett and Mrs. I. V. Collins, were unable to attend.

Guest speaker was Mr. D. M. Gibb, organising secretary to the Staffordshire Rural Community Council. Although well known to many Colton people, he was making his first visit to the Women's Institute.

Mr. Gibb, who interested members with a description of the general work and aims of the Rural Community Council and of social welfare work, was thanked by Miss N. Jones.

Mr. Gibb also judged the month's competition, which was "An advertisement on a postcard for a husband." After reading out the humorous "advertisements", he awarded the prize to Mrs. Taylor, who also won the mystery prize.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, delegate for Colton and Blithfield to the National Federation's annual meeting at the Royal Albert Hall, London, reported on the meeting, and was thanked by Mrs. Preston and Mr. Gibb.

Mrs. M. Taylor and Mrs. L.



NOWADAYS people do not seem to bother about growing vegetables; they go in for "deep-freeze" and tinned goods instead, said Mrs. D. Fitzherbert, secretary of the National Federation of Village Produce Associations, at Eaton Lodge, Rugeley, on Wednesday. She was addressing a county conference of village produce guilds.

But Councillor A. L. Rowley, present as chairman of Slitting Mill Village Produce Guild, came to the defence of the garden-minded members of the public, saying that in many cases, where people had gardens, they made the most of them.

Mr. P. Tabernor, representing Colton and Colwich Guilds, said: "It might be that people who move into new homes find the gardens left in such a state by the builders that they have no heart to bother with them."

Mr. A. H. Walker (Slitting Mill) moved a resolution to the effect that this real problem should be dealt with at national level, and he received the support of the conference.

Councillor Rowley said he had tried to impress on his council that contractors should not be permited to leave building rubbish on garden sites, and good progress was being made in this direction in the Rugeley area.

One member said he thought that good top-soil shoud be preserved and replaced on the gardens. He hoped this would be discussed at the next executive committee meeting.

Mr. D. M. Gibb (county secretary) said the aim of the Guild's association was to build up and help community life.

Mr. J. D. Lewis (Colwich), the county chairman, welcomed a good gath... C. ... tion

bert.

He extended a special welcome to representatives of the newer guilds, all of which had "got off to a good start". He also welcomed Mrs. Fitzherbert, who after many years faithful work would he said, soon be retiring from her position as national secretary.

Mrs. Fitzherbert praised the beauty of Staffordshire and spoke of the training of guilds and o... programme planning.

She was thanked by Mr. T... Preston (Colton).

A talk on special schools for training partially deaf and partially blind, and physically and mentally handicapped, was given to Colton Parent-Teacher Association by the County Remedial Officer, Mr. R. G. Bushall, on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Bushall was thanked by the chairman, Mr. D. E. Waters, and Mr. M. Pomlett.

The treasurer, Mrs. G. R. Shaw, announced that the recent rummage sale raised £34. Arrangements are to be made for an evening outing on June 12.

Mr. Waters reported that a representatives of the County Architect's Department had suggested Elsan toilets for the schools.

After discussion, the Rev. A. S. Towlson agreed to put various proposals before the school managers.

Colton.—The June meeting was held in the Reading Room. The President (Mrs. Ivy Preston) presided and welcomed as new members, Mrs. Margery E. Mellor, Mrs. Margaret E. Everall, Mrs. Janice Charles, Mrs. Sylvia E. Jackson and Mrs. Susan Doughty; two more new members unable to attend are Mrs. Ja... Pomlett and Mrs. I. Vera Collins. The guest speaker was Mr. David M. Gibb (Organising Secretary to the Staffordshire Rural Community Council), who is well known to many Colton people. Mr. Gigg kept members interested with his excellent talk on the general work and aims of the R.C.C. and of Social Welfare work. Miss Jones extended the members' thanks. Mr. Gibb also judged the month's competition for an advertisement on a postcard for a husband which produced some humorous entries. The prize was awarded to Mrs. Taylor, who also won the mystery prize. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, the delegate for Colton and Blithfield to the National Federation annual meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, London, gave her report. The tea hostesses were Mrs. D. M. Atkin, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Mrs. E. Bettson. The social time was run by Mrs. Preston, the winners being Mrs. I. R. Brown and Miss Jones.



COLTON ST. MARY'S Church choirboys of ... Arthur Wood, Jack Wright and Frank William...

At a meeting on Monday of t... executive committee of t... Staffs. Association of Villa... Produce Guilds, Mr. C. F. Hort... of Lichfield, a co-opted memb... was re-elected. HERCUR...

Mr. J. D. Lewis (chairman Colwich Guild) was re-elect... chairman; and Mr. J. W. Jo... (of Maer Guild) vice-chairma... both for the third year of offi...

It was stated that a Guild h... been formed at Forton, near Ne... port, bringing the total numb... of guilds in the county up to ...

Following on the recent co... ference for officers and membe... of guilds, it was agreed, that t... Staffordshire Association shou... forward a resolution to t... National Federation of V.P.A... A.G.M. 29/5/64

The resolution was moved ... Mr. H. A. Walker, of Slitting Mi... and was:— "That pressure ... brought to bear upon builders ... leave gardens of new houses ... a state suitable for proper cul... vation by removing all builder... rubble, and leaving at le... twelve inches of top soil on th... surface. It was suggested th... people taking houses on ne... estates should be given a choi... of having a house with a lar... garden if they wished or a ve... small one.

"It is further felt that ... should try to get over to peop... that we want to help them, be... nationally and locally, partic... larly if they already have sm... gardens and would like lar... ones."

There was also a second pr... posal:— "That a resolution ... forwarded to the County Coun... through our President, Mr. H. ... Wells (President of Rodbast... Farm Institute) asking for ad... tional staff for the Institute, ... enable them to continue to pr... vide speakers for Guilds, wh... has been such a help in the pa...

At the monthly meeting of Bli... field W.I., held in Newton Ha... and presided over by Miss N. La... Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, of Col... W.I., joint delegate to the an... W.I. meeting in London, atte... to give her report of the mee... and was thanked by Mrs. E. Ba... and Miss M. Hampson.

The competition for a flo... arrangement in an egg cup ... judged by Mrs. Ravenscroft, ... awarded the prize to Mrs. Bar...

Miss E. R. H. Rees was ... charge of the roll call: "Whe... would you go for your dre... holiday?" Many members favo... going abroad.

The social time was organised ... Miss Rees. Mrs. M. E. Woodco... correctly guessed the names ... television personalities and gai... the prize

Members decided to hold ... series of whist drives in the autu... to help raise funds for the inter... decoration of Newton Hall. It ... suggested that an outing to Str... ford-upon-Avon and Evesham ... held in July. Tea hostesses w... Mrs. J. O'Neill and Mrs. M. ... Woodcock.

TIMES 4/6/64

Chairman of Colton Parish C... cil, Councillor L. Mellor, and ... brother, Mr. G. Mellor, pro... give another cup for the w... best-kept garden competition.

Councillor Mellor announced ... at Monday's meeting of the p... council. He said the challenge ... would be known as the "Little H... Cup, in memory of their mo... Mrs. Julia L. Taylor, and wou... presented for the most attra... flower garden in the village.

One of his mother's gre... pleasure was to see bea... gardens, said Councillor Mell...

Councillors agreed that ... recommendation, made at a p... meeting last week, the C...

ROSE BOWL REWARD FOR BEST KEPT COLTON GARDEN

The Rugeley Times, Saturday, June 6, 1964.

COLTON Parish Council decided on Friday to hold a special meeting on June 9 to settle details of the parish's Best Kept Garden competition, which they are organising. Councillor Mellor said that he and his brother were giving a silver ros[e bowl].

[...] would like to [...] this sec- [...] test for the [...] up. This was [...] decided that [...] raising a fund [...] be dealt [...] meeting.

[...] man of the [...] declined [...] and Coun- [...] vice- [...] his suc- [...]

[...] Price [...] one of the [...] ted vice [...]

[...] ed the [...] e able [...] best [...] and [...] members. [...] castle, [...] and Mrs. [...]

[...] Council- [...] decided [...] for [...] to the [...] retired [...] years [...] Felton [...]

[...] was [...] on the [...] Church [...] ing [...] years' [...]

[...] Reading [...] F. [...] Kept [...] J. [...] croft [...] earance: [...] [...] the [...] could [...] Price [...] further [...] ce, said [...] was [...] ncil [...] ne.

14/6/64

[...] of Colton [...] Conserva- [...] Association took [...] Lodge on Tues- [...] was re-elected [...] B. Bigham vice- [...] Fred Hardcastle [...]

[...] reasons, the [...] said she [...] nation for [...] S. J. Ball [...] The rest of [...] re-elected. [...] vice-chairman [...] the branch at [...]

...ul meeting

[...] met for [...] the Reading [...] P. B. Best the [...] ber welcomed [...] Peters Parish [...] ected a short [...] a talk on "The [...]

COLTON TORIES GIVE FILM SHOW

TIMES 2/6/64

Colton Conservatives provided a social event for the village by giving a film show in the Reading Room on Friday. The films, illustrating car and motor-cycle racing and a journey across Australia with cattle carters, were shown by Mr. I. W. Bigham and Mr. J. C. Price.

Mr. Kenneth Dunkley (prospective parliamentary candidate) and Mrs. Dunkley, joined the company for a time, and refreshments were served by Mesdames S. J. Ball, F. Hardcastle and B. M. Ravenscroft.

The recent house-to-house collection for Dr. Barnardo's Homes, organised by Miss E. Rotchell and Mrs. P. B. Best, of Colton Mothers Union, yielded £8 18s. 6d., which has been forwarded to headquarters.

Collectors were Miss Rotchell, and Mesdames B. M. Ravenscroft, N. Westhorpe, G. E. Finnemore and C. M. Sanders.

TIMES 16/5/64

Colton Village Produce Guild held their May meeting in the Reading Room, with Mr. T. Preston (chairman) presiding. Detailed arrangements were discussed for a visit to Kew Gardens on June 7.

Members were asked to help with a rummage sale and bring-and-buy stall on May 23, in aid of the village show funds.

Arrangements for the July meeting, which will include a rose show, were also discussed. It was hoped that Co.wich and Slitting Mill members would attend and that one class would be open to visitors.

Names were taken of members willing to enter the county floral arrangement contest for the Miss Harrison trophy.

The chairman introduced Mr. L. C. Leech, who spoke on the theme "How should I live?" He dealt with nature in general, and bees in particular, and was afterwards thanked by Mr. Jack Brown.

The competition for an arrangement of flowers attracted a colourful array, and Mr. Leech awarded the prize to Mrs. W. C. Preston, with Mr. T. Preston and Mrs. J. E. Wright runners-up.

A raffle was won by Mrs. Wright. Tea hostesses were Mrs. H. M. Felton and Miss E. Rotchell.

No musical politics

WITH no thought of financial gain, a group of Colton people have decided to put on a musical evening in the Reading Room on July 3 and if it interests the community sufficiently, a series of similar evenings may be arranged in the village.

The scheme is being sponsored by individuals who happen to be members of the village branch of the Conservative Association, but there, I am told, the political aspect ends. Mr. J. C. Price and one other music lovers are

M.U. service

TIMES 25/4/64

Before their April meeting members of Colton St. Mary's Mothers' Union met in church for a short service, which was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson. Mrs. G. E. Finnemore played the organ. The collections was taken by Miss E. Rotchell.

After the service, members went to the Rectory for tea and for the election of officers, which resulted as follows:- Enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best; secretary, Mrs. N. Westhorpe; treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

It was decided to stage a bring-and-buy stall for branch funds at the May meeting.

TIMES 2/6/64

Colton Mothers' Union, meeting in the Reading Room, welcomed the Vicar of Brereton, the Rev. P. G Clarke, on his first visit to the parish. Mr. Clarke conducted a short service and described the work of the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield, illustrating his talk with slides showing the monks at their duties.

Mrs. I. V. Collins expressed thanks to Mr. Clarke.

Arrangements were discussed regarding the deanery festival to be held at Bridgtown.

COLTON

Colton W.I. met for their June meeting in the Reading Room where the President, Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed as new members, Mrs. Margery E. Mellor, Mrs. Margaret E. Everall, Mrs. Janice Charles, Mrs. Sylvia E. Jackson and Mrs. Susan Doughty. A letter from the Parish Council asked if two members would attend a 'Best Kept Village' Competition committee meeting and Mrs. Mary Taylor and Mrs. Lily Jackson agreed. 19/6/64

The speaker was Mr. David M. Gibb, Organising Secretary to the Staffordshire Rural Community Council, who gave an excellent talk on the general work and aims of the R.C.C. and of Social Welfare Work. Miss Jones thanked him.

Mr. Gibb judged the competition, which was "An advertisement on a postcard for a husband," and was won by Mrs. Taylor, who also won the mystery prize. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, the delegate for Colton and Blithfield to the A.G.M. in London, gave her report of the two day meeting.

The evening tea hostesses were Mrs. D. M. Atkin, Mrs. M. G. Bennett, and Mrs. E. Bettson and the social time run by Mrs. Preston, was won by Mrs. I. R. Brown and Miss Jones. MERCURY

TIDY GRAVES APPEAL

18/7/64

Colton Best Kept Village Com[mittee]

A MEMBER of Slitting Mill Village Produce Guild, Mr. H A. Walker was thinking particularly of house-owners on new estates when, at the executive's bi-monthly meeting on Monday, he moved a resolution that pressure be brought to bear on builders to leave gardens in a state suitable for cultivation by removing all rubble and leaving at least twelve inches of top soil.

It was agreed that Mr. Walker's resolution, which arose out of a recent conference of officers and members of guilds at Rugeley, should be forwarded for consideration at the National Federation of Village Produce Guilds' annual meeting.

Regarding the size of gardens generally, Mr. Walker suggested that people taking houses on new estates should be given a choice of having a house with a large garden, or a very small one. He felt that they should try and get over to people, both nationally and locally, that the Produce Guilds wanted to help them, particularly if they already had small gardens and would like larger ones. TIMES 30/5/64

The executive committee meeting was held in the Education Offices committee room, Stafford. Mr. J. D. Lewis (chairman of Colwich Guild) was re-elected chairman, and Mr. J. W. Jones (Mansfield Guild) vice-chairman, both for their third year of office.

Mr Lewis thanked members for their continued confidence in him. Mr. P. A. Dean (deputy secretary) expressed the thanks of both Mr. D. M. Gibb (secretary) and himself to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis for the great help they gave to the county office by paying regular visits to the various guilds.

Mr Lewis said they very much enjoyed doing this, and extended a welcome to Mr. J. J. Nock, the new representative from Tittensor Guild.

The co-opted members were re-elected as follows:— Mrs. L. Cowcill (Staffordshire Federation of Women's Institutes), Mr. D. Bullock (Maer), Mr. F. W. Farrer and Mr. C. F. Horton (Lichfield) and Mr. R. K. Mowforth (Staffordshire Farm Institute).

It was announced that the formation of a new guild at Forton near Newport, had brought the total of guilds in the county to 18.

Details of the exhibition of pot plants at the Rodbaston Open Day on June 13 were received. Mr F W Elliott (Standon) and Mr Nock (Tittensor) will be responsible for the staging of the exhibition, but plants will be welcome from all guilds Preliminary arrangements were made for the flower arrangement contest for the "Miss Harrison" trophy in the Universal Grinding Wheel Company's canteen, Stafford, on July 15.

A second resolution from the meeting was that their president Mr. H. E. Wells (Principal of the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston), ask the County Council for additional staff at the Institute to enable it to continue providing speakers for the guilds, this having been a great help in the past.

in flower competition

TIMES 25/7/64

SLITTING MILL, jointly with Tittensor, were third in the Staffordshire Association Village Produce Guild's annual flower arrangement contest for the "Miss Harrison" trophy held in the canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Co. Stafford.

Winners of the trophy were last year, Hanchurch, with Maer second place. Colwich were fourth with Penkridge, and Colton were joint fifth with Ashley.

Slitting Mill's team comprised Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. King, Mr. Binfield and Mrs. M. Hill.

The contest attracted a record attendance of nearly 200 and the year eight guilds competed in teams of four.

The county chairman, Mr. J. Lewis, welcomed the guilds, and the judges were Mrs. Black, of Stafford and Mrs. Fecher, of Brocton. The awards were presented by Mrs. H. E. Wells, wife of the president

Colton Village Produce Guild

The July meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room, was the occasion of the annual rose show, which was well supported. Mr. T. Preston, Chairman, welcomed everyone, and a letter from the "Best Kept Village" Competition Committee thanked those members who had co-operated in the best kept village effort, by painting the railings round the War Memorial and planting the flower border.

The County Floral Arrangement competition was discussed, and members agreeing to compete were Messrs. Jack Brown and T. Preston, Mrs. L. Jackson and Mrs. J. E. Wright. One or two members agreed to take charge of the Tombola stall at the Traction Engine Rally in Bellamour Park.

The Chairman introduced Mr. C. L. Dempster, Lecturer in Horticulture at Wolverhampton Technical College, the guest speaker and judge of the rose show. Mr. Dempster explained the whole life of the rose bush —budding, preparing the ground, planting, pruning, and the treatment of various pests, etc, concluding by showing some colour film slides. Mr. Jack Brown thanked Mr. Dempster, who awarded prizes in the rose show to:— H.T.'s: 1, Mr. M. Garwood; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, Mrs. C. M. Amyes. Floribundas: 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, Mr. T. Preston; 3, Mr. Brown. Specimen Rose, open to other guilds: 1, Miss J. Mason (Colwich); 2, Mr. R. Binfield (Slitting Mill); 3, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant (Colton). Stewards in charge were Messrs. Jack Meddings and M. Garwood.

The raffle, in the charge of the Misses Ruth and Gwendoline Ravenscroft, for a specimen rose vase (given by Colwich Guild) was won by Mrs. W. Allsopp (Colwich). Refreshments were in the charge of Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. H. Taylor and Miss D. M. Jones.

Judging has taken place in the Colton "Best kept garden" competition. In the section for the Parish Council Challenge Cup winners were: 1, Mrs. S. E. Jones, Stockwell Heath (as in the two previous years); 2, Mr. S. Jones, Hollow Lane and 3, Mr. Charles Bannister, 84, High Stree

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COLTON

W.I. — Colton Women's Institute met in the Reading Room for their July meeting. Mrs. Joan Pomlett and Mrs. I. Vera Collins were welcomed to their first meeting by the president, Mrs. I. Preston. The pianist for the meeting was Mrs M. Taylor. Arrangements for a stall at the traction engine rally were dealt with and Mrs. I. R. Brown and Mrs. H. A. Williscroft agreed to take in cakes etc., if these were left at their homes. Mrs. Preston gave details of the autumn group meeting to be held at Stowe-by-Chartley. There was no guest speaker and members discussed plans for the entertainment which the W.I.'s are to include in autumn group meetings. Hostesses were Mrs. C. M. Aymes, Mrs. B. Barham, and Mrs. Brown. Miss E. Rotchell was in charge of the bi-monthly stall, Mrs. D. M. Atkin won the mystery prize and a competition for an article of brass, copper or pewter judged by Mrs. M. E. Everall, Mrs Pomlett, and Mrs. S. E. Jackson was won by Miss Rotchell. 16/7/64



Pictured above are officials and exhibitors at Colton Rose Show on Thursday of last week.

A STALL FOR ENGINE RALLY

Colton Women's Institute met in the Reading Room for their July meeting, Mrs. I. Preston presiding. Mrs. Joan Pomlett and Mrs. I. Vera Collins were welcomed to their first meeting as members.

Arrangements for the stall at the traction engine rally today (Saturday) were dealt with, Mrs. I. R. Brown and Mrs. H. A. Williscroft agreeing to take care of cakes and other goods if left at their homes, and members' names being recorded for duty turns at the stall.

Mrs. Preston gave details of the autumn group meeting to be held at Stowe-by-Chartley.

There being no guest speaker, some time was spent in planning the 10 to 15 minutes entertainment which W.I.'s are to include in the autumn group meeting.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. C. M. Aymes, Mrs. B. Barham and Mrs. Brown, and Miss E. Rotchell was in charge of the bi-monthly stall.

Mrs. D. M. Atkin won the mystery prize, and the competition for an article of brass, copper or pewter, judged by Mesdames M. E. Everall, S. E. Jackson and Pomlett, was won by Miss Rotchell.

COMPETITION

TIMES 13/7/64

At a special meeting of Colton Parish Council on Tuesday, held to discuss arrangements for the best-kept garden competition, it was decided that there should be two sections this years.

The Parish Council's challenge cup will be awarded for the best garden in the parish, and a new trophy will be offered for the most attractive flower garden in the village area as defined for the best-kept village competition.

This new trophy, the Little Hay rose bowl, has been given by Councillor L. Mellor and Mr. G. Mellor in memory of their mother, the late Councillor Mrs. J. L. Taylor.

COLTON GROWER DISPLAY ROSES

WHEN Colton Village duce Guild held annual rose show on Thu of last week, member Colwich and Slitting guilds also attended to he talk given by Mr. C Dempster, lecturer in hor ture at Wolverhampton T nical College, and to exhib the open class.

Mr. Dempster, who was duced by the chairman, Mr. Preston, said the enormous of rose bushes in recent proved the rose to be the popular flower.

He explained the whole li the rose bush—budding, prep the ground, planting, pruning treatment against different He concluded by showing colour slides, and he was tha by Mr Jack Brown.

The show was well suppor though the floribunda attracted the least entries. Dempster awarded prizes follows — Hybrid teas: 1, Mr. Garwood; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, C. M. Amyes. Floribunda: 1, Jackson; 2, Mr. T. Preston; 3, Brown. Open class for speci rose: 1, Miss J. Mason (Colwi 2, Mr. R. Binfield (Slitting Mill Mrs. E. M. Sargeant (Colton).

Stewards for the show were J. Meddings and Mr. M. Garwo A raffle for a specimen rose v arranged by the Misses R. and Ravenscroft, was won by Mrs. Allsopp (Colwich).

A welcome was extended by chairman to the visiting guilds, also to Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Gi of the county association.

A letter from the Best K Village Committee exressed tha to members who had co-opera in the village effort by painting war memorial railings and plant the flower border.

The county floral arrangem competition was discussed, and following members agreed to co pete:—Mr. J. Brown, Mr. Preston, Mrs. L. Jackson and M J. E. Wright.

Refreshments were served Mesdames I. Preston, M. E. Hibb Jackson, M. Taylor, and Miss D. Jones.

CANNOCK CHASE

On Saturday, the Youth tion of the 'Friends of Cann Chase' spent an enjoyable a noon at the Forestry C mission's Fire Tower at P ridge Bank. A party of arc twenty, led by Mr. Denis Che (hon. Secretary), arrived at Tower where they were met two representatives of the For try Commission, and had privilege of mounting the 8 iron tower.

Although it was not a perfe day for viewing, the view very impressive, the Peaks Derbyshire could be seen. Th object of the tower is to look f fires and provides an excelle view of the surrounding forest

Guild

Mercury 10/7/64

The July meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room, was the occasion of the annual rose show, which was well supported. Mr. T. Preston, Chairman, welcomed everyone, and a letter from the "Best Kept Village" Competition Committee thanked those members who had co-operated in the best kept village effort, by painting the railings round the War Memorial and planting the flower border.

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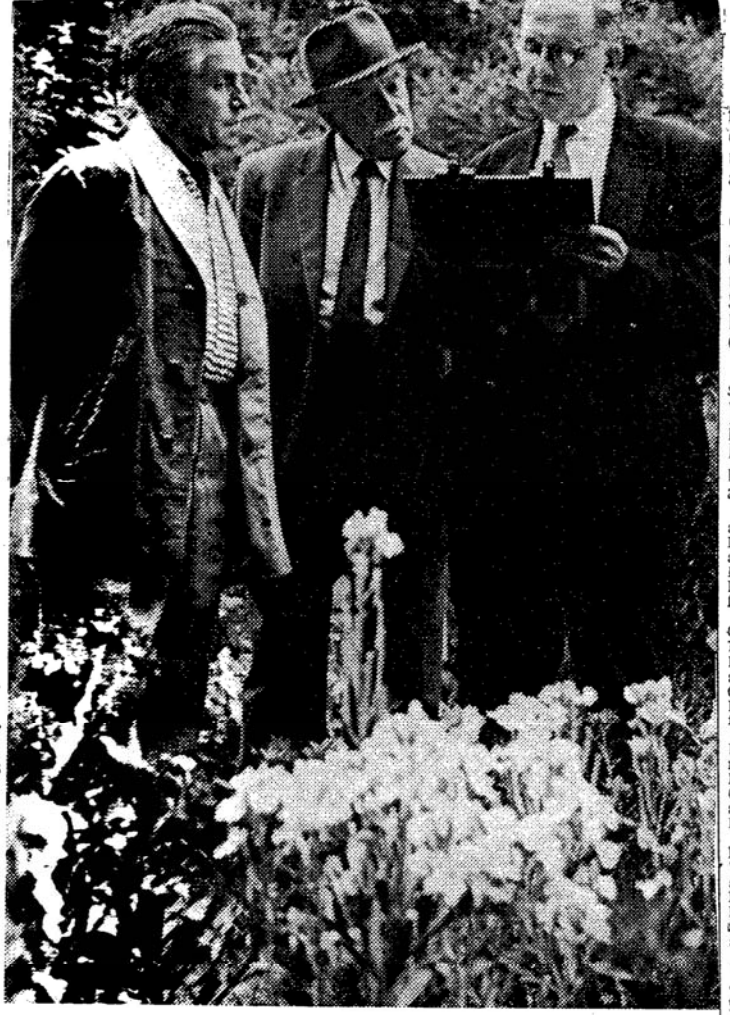


Comparing notes in one of the gardens at Colton are judges, Mr. B. Spink, Mr. J. Spink and Mr. G. Allsopp.

TIMES 1/8/64

HER GARDEN WINS CHALLENGE CUP FOR SECOND YEAR

JUDGING in the Colton "best kept garden" competition took place on Saturday afternoon, and for the third year in succession the winner of the Parish Council Challenge Cup was Mrs. S. E. Jones, of Stockwell Heath.

Second in line for the cup was Mr. S. Jones, of Hollow Lane, and third Mr. Charles Bannister, of 184, High Street.

A new section this year was for the most attractive flower garden for the Little Hey rose bowl given by Messrs. George and Luke Mellor in memory of their mother, Mrs. Jane L. Taylor. This section was open to the village of Colton only, and the winner was Mr. D. W. Garwood, of 5, Manor Way, with Mr. Bannister second, and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sargeant, of Forge, High Street, third.

In judging the gardens were Messrs. B. and J. Spink, of Ingestre, and Mr. G. Allsopp. They were assisted round the gardens by the chairman of the parish council, Coun. G. F. Upton.

The awards to the prizewinners are to be presented at a public [illegible] which has yet to be

Plan Day Safety

Colleagues married

Sentinel 31/7/64

The marriage took place at St. Bartholomew's Church, Penn, Wolverhampton on Saturday, of Miss Eva G. Cooper, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cooper, of Eva's Cottages, 49, High-street, Colton and Mr. Stanley Cooper, of Bunkers Hill-lane, Bilston. The service which was choral, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Gaskell).

Both the bride and bridegroom are employed by the Union Steel Manufacturing Co., Wolverhampton.

Given away by her brother (Mr. R. C. Cooper) the bride wore a dress and coat of pale blue silver pattern brocade with matching hat. She had a spray of pink roses, and carried a white prayer book. Miss Christine Cooper (bride's niece) attended as bridesmaid in a lemon brocade dress and lemon rose headdress

THE usual end-of-term activities at St. Mary's Church School, Colton, included an open day, a school-leaver's service and the annual sports day.

A large number of parents and friends attended the school for open day and were able to examine the children's books. Needlework and handwork were also displayed.

The school-leavers' service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, in St. Mary's Church, the lesson being read by the headmaster, Mr. D. E. Waters. Special hymns were sung and collections were taken by Neville Cooper and Philip Deacon.

Good weather favoured the sports day on Monday when Mr. Waters was the starter, and the judges were Mrs. G. R. Shaw and Mrs. M. S. Toy. Recorder of the points was Mrs. M. L. Walters, and winners were as follows.

Flat races, boys. Aged 11, Brian Hart and Anthony Wright; aged 10, Dennis Norman; aged nine, Michael Preston; aged eight, Brian Norman and Alan Bennett; aged seven, Christopher Grimley; aged six, Ronnie Barker; aged five, John Deacon.

Flat races, girls. Aged 11, Kathleen Corden; aged 10, Susan Vernon and Michele Pomlett; aged nine, Delia Knight; aged eight, Maxine Whitehurst and Glenis Jones; aged seven, Dorothy Curtis and Lesley Taylor; aged six, Dawn Phillips and Sandra Gamble; aged five, Gail Bennett.

Obstacle races, boys. Aged 11, Ian Myatt; aged 10, Roger Bannister; aged nine, Alec Wright; aged eight, Alan Bennett. Bunny hop, boys. Aged seven, Christopher Grimley and Neil Peake; aged six, Ronnie Barker and Peter Richardson; aged five, John Deacon.

Potato race, girls. Aged 11, Marlene Davies; aged 10, Susan Vernon and Wendy Evans; aged nine, Delia Knight; aged eight, Marion Norman and Judy Evans; aged seven, Lesley Taylor, Brenda Norman and Carol Phillimore; aged six, Sandra Gamble and Margaret Phillimore; aged five, Alison Sanders.

Skipping races, girls. Aged 11, Philippa Upton; aged 10, Michele Pomlett and Joy Upton; aged nine, Lynne Peake; aged eight, Ruth Ballard; aged seven, Ann Haynes and Karen Upton; aged six, Rachel Brown and Dawn Phillips. Donkey races, boys. Aged 11, Anthony Wright; aged 10, Dennis Norman; aged eight, Michael Preston; aged six, Peter Richardson.

Toddlers' race, Paul Derall. Mothers' race, Mrs. J. Pomlett. Tug of war, Mr. Toy's team.

Refreshments were served during the sports by the school caretaker, Mr. P. L. Bannister and the school staff, Mrs. H. A. Wilkinson, Nellie Derall, Mrs. P. M. Bagley, Mrs. R. O. Derall.

THERE was a lot of "hot air" in Colton on Friday morning over a radio broadcast that never was. All the villagers listened in with interest for scheduled interview between Phil Drabble and one of the traction engine drivers due to attend the week-end rally at Bellamour, but nothing was heard.

After frantic telephone calls, rally committee member Mr. M. Pomlett managed to contact the producer of "Regional Extra," which follows the B.B.C. Midland's "Today" programme, only to be told that the broadcast would be made on Monday morning—as it was. But this defeated Mr. Pomlett's purpose. As publicity officer for the rally he had several publicity stunts "up his sleeve" for the two-day event but all these ideas he put to one side when he realised how much publicity could be given by a radio broadcast to coincide with the event.

In no uncertain terms, Mr. Pomlett has rightfully complained to the producer about the waste of money and time both of his committee and himself in trying to arrange for the broadcast. A typical traction engine owner—Mr. Jim Dakin of Goostrey, Cheshire—was coaxed into making the journey to Rugeley on Wednesday evening last week to speak to Mr. Drabble, and an hour and a half was spent by volunteers "getting up steam" on his traction engine, Winnie, for sound effects on the recording.

COLTON

Advertiser 4/7/64

COOPER : COOPER.—The marriage took place at St. Bartholomew's Church, Penn, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, of Miss Eva G. Cooper, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles W. Cooper, Evas Cottages, 49 High Street, Colton, to Mr Stanley Cooper, of Bunkers Hill Lane, Bilston. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the vicar, the Rev. A. Gaskell. The bride, given away by her brother, Mr R. C. Cooper, wore a dress and coat of pale blue silver pattern brocade, with matching hat. She wore a spray of pink roses and carried a white prayer book. Miss Christine Cooper, bride's niece, the bridesmaid, wore a lemon brocade dress, lemon rose headdress, and carried a white prayer book with a spray of lemon roses. The best man was Mr Gordon Burns. A family reception was held at the Bradmore Hotel, Merry Hill, and the couple later left for Margate. On return Mr and Mrs Cooper will live at "Ivanhoe", Bunkers Hill



TIMES. 1/8/64

THE marriage took place at St. Bartholomew's Church, Penn, on Saturday of Miss Eva G. Cooper, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cooper, of Evas Cottages, High Street, Colton, and Mr. Stanley Cooper, of Bunkers Hill Lane, Bilston.

Miss Christine Cooper (bride's niece) was the bridesmaid and she wore a lemon brocade dress and lemon rose headdress. She carried a white prayer book with a spray of lemon roses.

The best man was Mr. Gordon Burns (bridegroom's nephew).

The Rugeley Times, Saturday, July 25, 1964.



BIG
TO
F

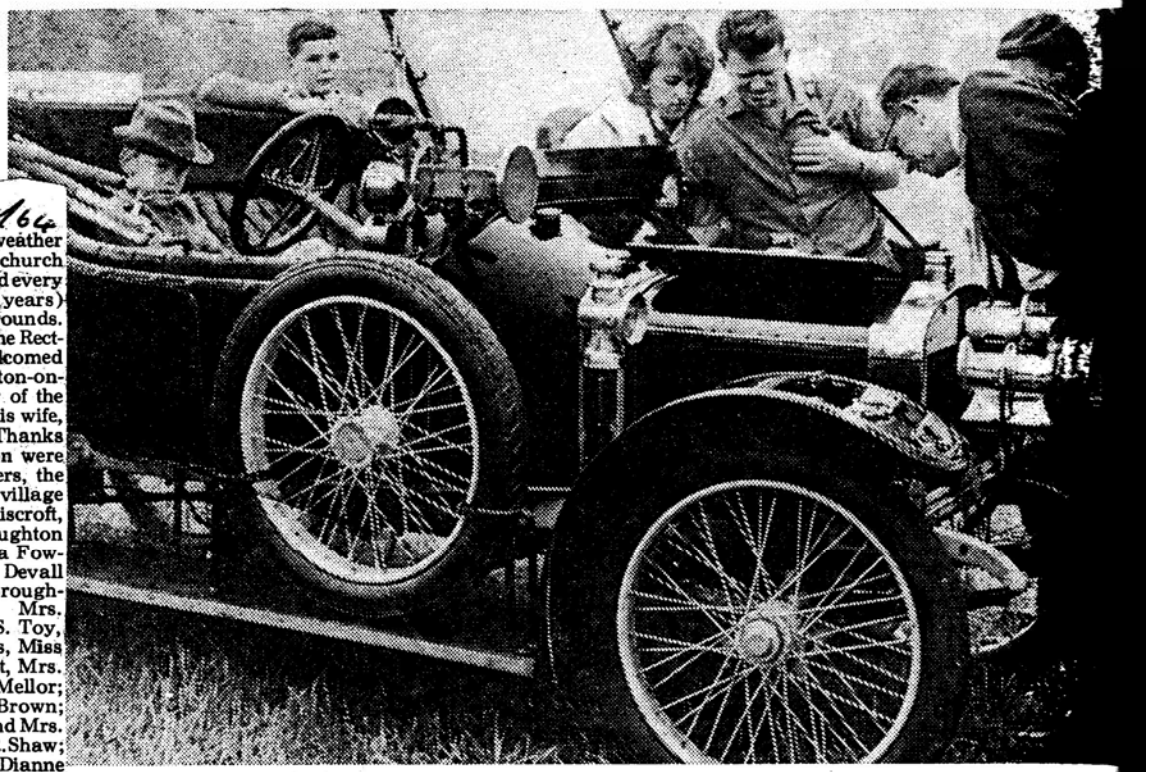
WITH takings d of last wee vintage vehicles at mittee and North Club, have good r second venture.

Chairman of Colto Committee, Mr. M. the "Times" that event had been financially and social

Although heavy r day morning threate afternoon's enterta weather cleared a muddy field dried Saturday afternoon. weather was perfect number of visitors taken at the gate.

On the two days

s to the rally were able spect the traction engines ose range as they waited in paddock for their events. A 1912 Turner light car, cellent condition, was one veteran cars in the caval- f transport. It is owned by rn and Wedge Ltd. and rner Manufacturing Co. of Wolverhampton.



COLTON

ADVERTISER 12/8/64

Garden Party:— In ideal weather the annual garden party for church expenses (which has been held every year without a break for 22 years) took place in the rectory grounds. A profit of £108 the result. The Rector Rev. A.S. Towlson, welcomed Mr. Ernest Broughton, Walton-on-the-Hill, (former headmaster of the Colton village school), and his wife, who declared the fete open. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Broughton were expressed by Mr. D.E.Waters, the present headmaster of the village school, and Mr. Maurice Williscroft, people's warden. Mrs. Broughton received a bouquet from Nita Fowell, and four-year-old Paul Devall handed a buttonhole to Mr. Broughton. Stall-holders: Cakes, Mrs. Nancy Westhorpe, Mrs. M. S. Toy, and Mrs. Ivy James; various, Miss Ellen Rotchell, Mrs. P.B.Best, Mrs. E.M. Sargeant, and Mrs. G. Mellor; sweets, Mr., and Mrs. Jack Brown; tombola, (school stall) Mr. and Mrs. D.E.Waters, and Mrs. D.R.Shaw; hoopla, Mrs. F. and Miss Dianne Grimley, and Mrs. G.E. Finnemore; roll-penny, Miss A.L.I. Hoare; "ring a-bell", Mr. W. Yeomans; lucky dip, buttonholes and lavender bags, Misses Ruth and Gwendoline Ravenscroft, Gillian Sharratt, and Judith Hodgkiss; clock golf, Miss D.M. Jones, Mrs. B. Hill and Mrs. E. Jones; bowls, Mr. Ben Jackson and Mr. W.A. Norman. Mr. D.L. Fergguson was gate attendant, and teas were in the charge of Mrs. H. A. Williscroft, Mrs. E. Bettson, Mrs. Ivy Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. Dora Deacon, Mrs. R.O. Devall, Mrs. P.L. Bannister, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Mrs. E. Griffin, Mrs. May Cooper, Mrs. O.M. Ballard, and Miss Jill Boston. Competition winners included Mr. G. Goring, Mrs. Vera Collins, Mr. E. Howitt, Mrs. M. Barham, Mr. R. Ball, Mr. Towlson, Mrs. Zena Rowe, Mr. George Amyes, Mrs. Susan Doughty, Jane Grimley. The event was filmed by Mr. J. A. Best.





G CROWD
) COLTON
RALLY

gs doubling last year's figure, the joint organisers weekend's traction engine rally and cavalcade of es at Bellamour Park, Colton Village Hall Com- orth Staffordshire and Cheshire Traction Engine od reason to be pleased with the result of their e.

Colton Villa Hall M. Pomlet told that the two-day n excellent both ocially.

vy rain on Satur- eatened to mar the ntertainment, the d and a eighth dried out during oon. Sunday's rfect for the large ors and £77 was e.

days about 15,000





visitors inspected the traction engines and veteran and vintage cars and watched events in the arena. There were also numerous side-shows and exhibitions by North Staffordshire Society of Model Engineers, who gave rides on a miniature railway.

Takings on the two days totalled £1,620. Sunday accounting for £1,100. Most of the visitors arrived by car, and on both days 35 Colton men were kept extremely busy as stewards of the car parks. On Sunday an additional field had to be brought into use for parking.

PARADE

Saturday's programme began with an official opening by the chairman of North Staffordshire and Cheshire Traction Engine Club, Mr. R. D. Howle, followed by a parade of steam powered vehicles and a cavalcade of vintage cars. Re-opening the show on Sunday, Mr. David Scott-Moncrieff, of Leek gave an interesting commentary when the vintage cars paraded once again. Mr. Scott-Moncrieff is a well-known author of books on veteran cars.

The afternoon's events, with intervals for water re-fuelling of the engines, concluded with another form of "letting off steam"—dancing in a marquee to the music of the local "Alpha Beats."

On Sunday morning a religious service was conducted by the Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and in the afternoon there were more events for the traction engines. One of the highlights in the arena was provided when the vicar of Rugeley, the Rev. N. R. Torrington, accepted a challenge from enthusiast the Rev. "Teddy" Boston, of Cadby, near Market Bosworth, to a traction engine race. Mr. Torrington did not know at the time that he had accepted a challenge from a person who has in his garden a steam locomotive of two foot gauge and who is quite an expert on a traction engine. Winner of the race was naturally enough, Mr. Boston.

TROPHIES PRESENTED

At the conclusion of the second day's events, cups and prizes were presented by Mr. J. C. Price, on whose land the event was held.

Mr. Jim Dakin, of Goostrey, Cheshire — owner of Foster Double-Crank Compound General Purpose Engine "Winnie" — was winner of two trophies, the William Foden Challenge Cup for a privately owned and restored traction engine or tractor, restoration of which was considered most merit worthy, and the Jack Sandham trophy for the best privately owned and restored engine belonging to a member of North Staffs. and Cheshire Traction Engine Club.

The Model Engineer trophy for the best turned out steam roller was awarded to S. J. and G. Minshull, of Bridgnorth, with their Clayton and Shuttleworth steam roller. The Wedgwood trophy for the owner of the engine making the longest journey to the rally under its own power was presented to J. J. Wooliscroft and Mrs. P. Wooliscroft, who journeyed from Buxton, Derbyshire, on their Fowler single cylinder traction engine.

An additional award this year was the Colton Challenge cup for the engine taking the longest time to travel from one end of the arena to the other. This was won by J. C. Dale, of Congleton, with his Cheshire's Burrell single-crank compound, "Little Mac." Driver of the engine was Mr. M. A. Stubbs, with Messrs. E. Davenport, Meakin, and A. Stubbs as crew.

The Verbeck Fairground Organ (above) provided music dur two days and was a fascinating attraction. The power was pr by the Burrell Showman's Road Locomotive "Rajah". The below shows drivers and steersmen attending to last details before the grand parade.





Nursery of the F

f the members of the Colwich of their members visited the nursery on n the various stages in the growth of a also saw the deer museum.

ich of the Conser

on organised a coffee, punch sherry evening on Friday, this g held at Bellamour Lodge. ie of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Price. Price is chairman. Among the ors was County Councillor . Riley.

rs. Price and her helpers nded to coffee. Mr. Price ed the punch and Mr. I. W. ham (vice-chairman) the sherry. e divisional chairman. Mr. Peter wn, thanked Mr. and Mrs. ce for their kindness and hospi- ity.

The bring-and-buy stall was nned by Mrs. S. J. Ball (secre- y). Mrs. F. Hardcastle and ssrs. Roy and Duncan Ball, and s Bigham was in charge of the bola. Mr. Fred Hardcastle

E. Waters and Mrs. D. R. Shaw. Hoopla, Mrs. F. and Miss Dianne Grimley and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore. Roll-penny, Miss A. L. I. Hoare. Ring-a-bell, Mr. Y. Yeomans. Lucky dip, buttonholes and lavender bags, Misses Ruth and Gwendoline Ravenscroft, Gillian Sharratt and Judith Hodgkiss. Clock golf, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. B. Hill and Mrs. E. Jones (winners, Mr. J. A. Best and Mr. Brown, (tie) and the Rector; ladies, Miss Kathleen Norman). Bowls, Mr. Ben Jackson and Mr. W. A. Norman (winners, Mr. Gordon Goring, ladies, Mrs. I. Vera Collins, Mr. Ernest Hewitt, Mr. M. Barham and Mr. Robin Ball. Schola was won by the Rector. Mr. D. L. Fergguson was the gate attendant.

In charge of teas were: Mrs. H. A. Williscroft, Mrs. E. Bettson, Mrs. Ivy Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. Dora Deacon, Mrs. R. O. Devall, Mrs. P. L.



N the recommendation of the County Education Committee it was decided at the quarterly meeting of the Stafford- County Council on Saturday that a compulsory purchase r should be made on an acre of land at Colton to provide he extension of the school buildings, and the provision of a ing field. The order is to be made, subject to the approval the Department of Education and Science.

he education committee orted that meetings had taken e with the owner, Mr. S. Hand- , and the Rev. A. S. Towlson tor of Colton and chairman of school managers) in relation to ossible purchase of the 1.3 required for the school ex- s and the provision of a playing field, or half an acre ately adjacent the school for ons only. Mr. Handford refused to sell any of the less he could be provided e opportunity to purchase tes in Colton, in the owner- various village trusts, but ariety of reasons none of ites were available for sale any case the county council standing in such an arrange- d it been possible.

MORE COSTLY

ommittee also referred to a which was held at Colton il 22 as a result of local or urgent improvement of ol when the Director of n gave a full report of the to resolve the position proposal to bring the to standard was first 1959. Mr. Handford, who present at the meeting, d to sell and the feeling eting, and of the parish that the acquisition of acres by compulsory proceeded with as a ency.

on of a replacement u of extension of the remises had received nsideration, but it had that this would involve nal cost of rebuilding

TIMES 1/8/64

the entire school as against extending the existing buildings, the committee reported. Such a project would require consideration for a major building programme because the total cost would be considerably more than the £25,000 limit for a minor project.

Also the major building programme had been approved by the Ministry up to 1968 so that replacement was certainly not a practicable proposition in terms of urgent action. There were other financial problems which would make it difficult for the Church authorities to proceed with an entirely new school.

Concerning the question of which piece of land could be acquired, the committee thought the 1.3 acres would provide land for both the extension of the buildings and the provision of a playing field, which the school lacked at present.

The possibility of managing with half an acre for building extensions and providing a detached playing field on Church-owned land opposite the school had been considered but there was a high cost of accommodation works, the unwillingness of the trustees to do other than lease the land, and the need to cross the road. To have detached playing fields was, therefore, not an impossible proposal, but certainly less desirable.

when he took it over and re was an unharvested potato p on part of it. "Their farm- was not good, but on the other nd I would not like to criticise

tombola, (school... D.E.Waters, and Mrs. hoopla, Mrs. F. and M Grimley, and Mrs. G.E. roll-penny, Miss A.L.I. a-bell", Mr. W. Yeoman buttonholes and lavend ses Ruth and Gwendol croft, Gillian Sharratt, Hodgkiss; clock golf, Jones, Mrs. B. Hill a Jones; bowls, Mr. Ben Mr. W.A. Norman. M gguson was gate attend were in the charge of Williscroft, Mrs. E. B Ivy Preston, Mrs. B. croft, Mrs. Dora Deaco Devall, Mrs. P.L. Bar M. E. Hibbs, Mrs. E. May Cooper, Mrs. O and Miss Jill Boston. winners included Mr. Mrs. Vera Collins, M Mrs. M. Barham, Mr. Towlson, Mrs. Zena George Amyes, Mrs. S ty, Jane Grimley. Tl filmed by Mr. J. A. Be

Pictured above is Mrs. J. A. Best making the presentation to Mr. G. White in the presence of members of Rugeley Field Club and "Friends."

FAREWELL GIFTS FOR 'FRIENDS' PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT and former chairman of Rugeley and District Field Club, Mr. G. White, is leaving the district to take up a new lecturing appointment in Northumberland, and on Saturday evening a presentation was made to him on behalf of the Field Club and the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase.

The presentation was made at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by the wife of the Friends' secretary, Captain J. A. Best, before a gathering of members of the Field Club and the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase. She handed Mr. White a table lamp made in Staffordshire stone, a cheque, and a bound volume of members' names which had been prepared by the Friends' chairman, Mr. S. G. Brown.

In a farewell message to the clubs, Mr. White said that close liaison between the Friends and the Field Club, the two Naturalist societies principally concerned with Cannock Chase could greatly help to preserve its beauty and scientific interest.

Telling members they must "stick together" and be quite firm on how the Chase was to be used and left for the future, Mr. White said he was glad he was leaving behind an "increasingly knowledgeable" junior section in the Field Club.

The presentation to Mr. White followed a plant listing expedition and tea at Captain Best's home.

Colton M.U. have alfresco tea

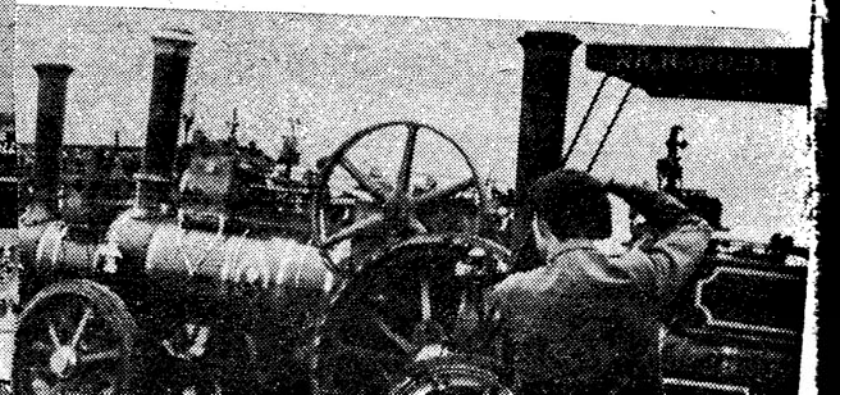
For their July meeting members of Colton Mothers' Union spent the afternoon at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, home of their enrolling member, Mrs. J. A. Best.

Tea on the canal-side lawn and a boat trip were enjoyed.

Members agreed to support the church garden party in the Rectory grounds on Wednesday next, August 5

...rally at Bellamour Hall, Colton





ormer 'head' opens church fete at Colton

HEADMASTER of Colton Church School until five years ago, Mr. Ernest Broughton (of Walton-on-the-Hill, Stafford), returned to the village on Wednesday afternoon to open the 22nd annual garden fete, a money-raiser for St. Mary's Church.

Mr. Broughton, who was accompanied by his wife, was welcomed by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

The fete was again held on the grounds of the Rectory, and Mr. Towlson told the visitors he thought they had the best afternoon in the whole series of garden fetes; he certainly knew this to be one of the last eight events.

Proceeds were in aid of church funds and amounted to £106.

Appealing to the visitors to give generously, Mr. Broughton—who was headmaster at Colton for 30 years — remarked: "Overseas visitors, especially Americans, always admire our lovely villages with the Parish Church in the centre, standing in a place of peace, quiet and comfort, but all these churches need support—generous financial support."

He hoped they would give generously to help support the very ancient church of Colton, which was 800 years old.

Mr. Broughton referred to improvements which had been at St. Mary's Church and mentioned in particular the installation of electric heating. "Previous to this, worshippers sat shivering, watching their breath turn almost into icicles," he recalled.

A vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Broughton was proposed by the deputy rector's warden and present headmaster of Colton school, Mr. D. E. Waters, and seconded by the people's warden, Mr. M. Williscroft.

A buttonhole was handed to Mr. Broughton by four years-old Paul Devalle, and a bouquet was presented to Mrs. Broughton by Nina Fowell.

FILM RECORD

There were stalls, sideshows and competitions to attract the visitors and teas were served in a marquee. Among those at the fete were Nancy Lady Bagot and daughter Cara, and filming yet another of Colton's summer events for showing in the winter was Capt. J. Best.

Stallholders were:—Cakes, Mrs. N. Westhorpe, Mrs. I. James and Mrs. M. S. Toy; groceries, Mrs. A. Best, Mrs. G. Mellor, Mrs. E. Sargeant and Miss M. Roche; sweets and toys, Mr. and Mrs. Brown; tombola, Mrs. D. E. Waters and Mrs. D. R. Shaw (Colton School); hoop-la, Mrs. E. Finnemore, Mrs. F. Grimley and Miss D. Grimley; take-your-pick, Miss E. Norman and Miss M. Howdle; skittles, Mr. B. Jackson and Mr. W. Norman; roll-a-penny, Miss B. Hoare; ring-a-bell, Mr. W. Yeomans; lucky dip, buttonholes and lavender bags, the Misses Ruth and Gwen Ravenscroft, Miss Judith Hodgkinson and Miss Gillian Sharratt; gate, Mr. D. L. Fergusson.

Teas and refreshments were served by Mrs. E. Bettson, Mrs. H. A. Williscroft, Mrs. J. Devalle, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. D. Deacon, Mrs. R. O. Devalle, Mrs. P. L. Bannister, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Mrs. E. Griffin, Mrs. M. Cooper, Mrs. O. M. Ballard and Miss J. Boston.

Mr. G. Goring won the bottle of whisky for bowling, and Mrs. I. Collins won the ladies' prize. Another bowling contest was won by Mr. E. Ewitt, Mrs. M. Barham and Mr. R. Ball. There was a tie for first place in a clock-golf game, between Capt. J. A. Best and Mr. Jack Brown, second being the Rev. A. S. Towlson, who also won at





Pictured after the opening of the fete are (left to right) Mrs. M. Williscroft, Mr. M. Williscroft, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, Mrs. Broughton, Mr. E. Broughton, Mrs. Towlson, Mr. D. E. Waters and Mrs. Waters.

CONSERVATIVES:— The committee of Colton branch of the Conservative Association organised a most successful coffee, punch and sherry evening on Friday, by invitation of their chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, and his wife, at Bellamour Lodge. Mrs. Price and her helpers attended to the coffee, Mr. Price to the punch, and Mr. I. W. Bigham (vice-chairman) the sherry. Mr. Fred Hardcastle (treasurer) was the door attendant. Stallholders: bring and buy, Mrs. S. J. Ball (secretary), Mrs. F. Hardcastle, Mr. R. Ball, Mr. D. Ball; tombola, Mrs. Bigham, raffle, Mrs. B. M. and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. Prizewinners: Mrs. Price, Mrs. M. S. Toy, Mr. Duncan Moore, Miss D. Landor. Mr. Peter Brown (divisional chairman) thanked Mr. and Mrs. Price for their kindness and hospitality, and the committee for their hard work. ADVERTISER

Colton Headmaster leaving

MERCURY 28/8/64

The Chairman (Rev. A. S. Towlson, Rector) of the managers of St. Mary's Church School, Colton, has announced "with mixed feelings" that the managers (at their recent meeting) received the resignation of the Headmaster Mr. Donald Edward Waters.

The Rector went on to explain when he used the words "mixed feelings" he meant that it was with great regret that they accepted the resignation, but they were pleased that in going as Headmaster of a school at Barton, near Preston, Lancs., he would be bettering himself.

Mr. Waters, who came to Colton from Wombwell, near Barnsley, Yorks, in September, 1959, will not be leaving Colton until after Christmas, which means that he will be able to steer this year's pupils to sit their 11-plus examinations.

Mr. Waters has been a valuable asset to the community. Being a licensed lay reader, he has often taken the church services both at Colton and Blithfield. For the past few years he has been deputy Rector's warden, and it was on his proposal that the "Free Will Offering" envelope scheme came into operation.

For several years Mr. Waters has been leader of the Village Youth Club. At present he is secretary of the Rugeley Association of the National Union of Teachers. Mr. Waters, his wife and 7-year-old son Kevin will be much missed in Colton and Blith-

Samuel 11/9/64

appointment

The Rev. A. S. Towlson, as Chairman of the Managers of St. Mary's Church School

In ideal weather annual garden party church expenses — h every year without a br for 22 years—took place the Rectory Grounds, Col over £108 clear profit be the result. Samuel

The Rector (the Rev. A Towlson) welcomed Ernest Broughton, who r lives at Walton-on-the-H but who, until five years a was Headmaster of Col village school for 32 years

Mr. Broughton, who w accompanied by his w declared the fete "ope and urged visitors to g generously to help supp the ancient church of Mary's, Colton, Mr. Brou ton referred to the vario church improvements, in p ticular the installation electric heating, a remarked: "Overseas visito especially Americans, alwa admire our lovely villag with their parish church, b all churches need genero financial support."

A vote of thanks to Mr. a Mrs. Broughton was accord by Mr. D. E. Waters (Depu Rector's Warden, Lay Read and the present Headmast of the village school). Th was seconded by Mr. Martin Williscroft (Rector's Warden Mrs. [illegible]

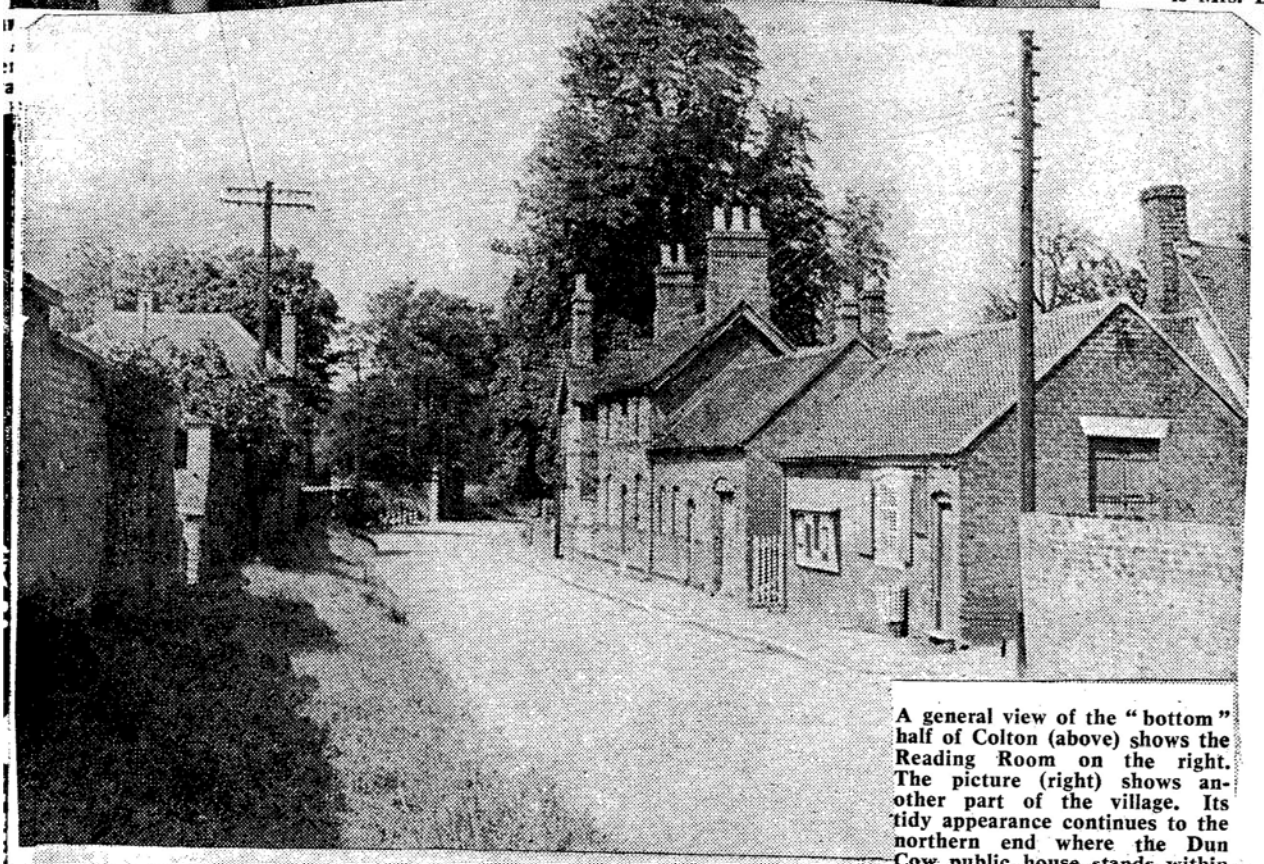
Covets trophy

HAUGHTON, winner of th small villages section of thi year's best-kept village competi tion, are going to be given "a r for their money" next year. Colt which has a very determined a active competition committee, h come high in the awards list several years, and next year th are going to make an all-o attempt to bring the A. G. Owen trophy to Colton, says t committee chairman, Mr. J. Price.

An added incentive to villag to play their part in achiev this ambition is the rose bo which Parish Councillor L. Mell has provided for annual compe tion for the most attractive flo garden.



Mr. J. C. Price (second from right), chairman, pictured with fellow members of Colton Best Kept Village Competition committee — Miss D. A. Cooper, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. M. Taylor (secretary), Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mr. G. F. Upton. Also on the committee is Mrs. L. Jackson.



A general view of the "bottom" half of Colton (above) shows the Reading Room on the right. The picture (right) shows another part of the village. Its tidy appearance continues to the northern end where the Dun Cow public house stands within the new development.



THE headmaster of C Church of England will be leaving to take up post in Lancashire at the December.

He is Mr. Donald Edw ters, who is married, has year-old son, Kevin, and at Colton since September.

And last week a tribute Waters was paid by the R Colton, the Rev. A. S. T who is also chairman of the managers.

Mr. Towlson said Mr. had been a valuable me

... Colton the committee is active as a body and is assisted by other societies in the village.

RURAL CHARM

Colton retains its rural charm, despite modern development in the northern area beyond High Street. A village possessing several historic features it is mentioned in the Domesday Book as being in 1085, in the possession of a Saxon lord named Azeline. It is supposed to derive its name from Col, a Celtic word signifying "holy" and the fact that in the Domesday Book the word "Presbyter" is attached to Colton shows that in those early days the Saxons possessed a church in the village.

St. Mary's Church is one of the oldest in the vicinity of Rugeley. When it was built is uncertain, but repeated restorations indicate that many centuries have elapsed since it was built. Its attractive appearance has helped Colton in the best-kept village competition, but the condition of the cemetery opposite presents a problem which is to be tackled for next year's competition. After a recent appeal, it was noted that a few more graves had received attention.

Chairman of the parish council, Councillor G. F. Upton, who is also a member of the competition committee, said he thought parishioners should realise that the burial ground concerned all and should not be left entirely to the Parochial Church Council. The P.C.C. some years ago offered £10 to get the cemetery improved, but their offer was in vain.

What is needed is for "gangs" of parishioners to help tidy the cemetery for next year's competition. In the first year of the competition, members of the Village Produce Guild did a good job by cutting down saplings growing inside the railings, and Mr. J. C. Price, chairman of the competition committee, has recently been uprooting nettles and horse-radish. The church verger, Mr. I. Collins, voluntarily keeps the church grounds in order and also mows the lawns at the old people's homes.

Efforts by the Produce Guild this year have included the painting of the railings round the war memorial and planting the flower borders there...

Litter is, of course, the main bugbear with both villages. No matter how often litter is picked up and put into the nearest litter basket by competition-conscious villagers it still re-appears, and in Colton there have been complaints of "hooligans" tipping up the already full waste paper baskets.

...to manage magazine

A... conference of the National Federation of Village Produce Associations, held at the University of Keele, Mr. J. D. Lewis ... chairman of the ... Association) ... of business ... association's ... Lichfield. ... for a ... the ... year, for ... in ... in- ... life." ... sub- ... Mrs. B...

TIMES, 29/9/64

At a meeting of Colton Parish Council on Monday it was unanimously decided to form a Colton Old People's Welfare Council on which various sections of the community will be represented. The aim is to have on hand a group of people who know the needs of the old people and are able to contact the correct body to render assistance.

Te decision is the outcome of a conference called by Lichfield Rural Council to consider the welfare of old people. Councillor F. Hardcastle reported to the parish council on the conference, saying that it had been recommended that all parish councils should form an old people's welfare council by co-ordination with other organisations.

Councillor Hardcastle said he would be pleased if Colton could be the first parish council to adopt the proposal and he moved a resolution, which was seconded by Councillor J. C. Price, that such action be taken.

It was decided that the parish council chairman be an ex-officio member of the new body, with Councillors Hardcastle and Mrs. M. S. Toy as parish council representatives. The clerk, Mrs. P. M. Buckley, was asked to write to the various organisations inviting them to appoint representatives to serve on it.

Councillor G. F. Upton (chairman) presided at the meeting, which did not finish until 11 p.m., the last item being discussed "in committee."

VILLAGE CONTEST

Councillor Price reported on the activities of the Best Kept Village Competition Committee and the chairman reported on the judging of the best kept garden competition. He announced arrangements made with Mr. T. Preston (Show Committee chairman) for the presentation of awards to be made at the annual show on September 5.

Councillor Hardcastle told the parish council that the proposed light at the top end of the village was in hand. Requests for lights near the Reading Room and in Blithbury Road were discussed but it was decided to leave the matter for a later meeting, when the whole lighting system—and black spots—could be reviewed.

It was decided to send a letter to Mr. D. E. Waters expressing regret that he was leaving Colton School and wishing him success in his new appointment.

COMPLAINT

A complaint having been made about a "revolting smell" coming from a poultry farm, Councillor Hardcastle agreed to take up the matter with the public health department of Lichfield Rural Council.

The council were informed that no major repairs to highway footpaths would be carried out until the sewerage system was completed. Because of danger through children walking in the road to avoid a pool created by a blocked drain near new development in High Street, it was decided that urgent action should be requested in this instance.

COLTON W.I.

MERCURY

Presiding at the September meeting of Colton W.I. held in the Reading Room, the President, Mrs. I. Preston, welcomed a few members of Slitting Mill W.I., and Mrs. Olive G. Upton and Mrs. M. Daw, as new members of Colton W.I.

The speaker was Mrs. Whittingham, of the M.E.B., who gave a demonstration on "supper snacks" cheese straws, and a Swiss roll. Mrs. Whittingham judged the competition for a "Cornish Pastie," awarding the prize to Mrs. M. G. Bennett. Thanks to Mrs. Whittingham were tendered by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The tempting fare made by Mrs. Whittingham was won in the raffle by Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. M. Taylor and Mrs. M. E. Everall.

Business dealt with included an invitation from the Village Produce Guild for their Harvest Supper on October 1, and a letter from the Parish Council asking for a representative on the Old Peoples Welfare Council, which was left over until the October meeting.

Names were taken of members going to Walsall next month for a demonstration by the Milk Marketing Board.

Mrs. Norah Jones was congratulated on winning a certificate for drawn thread embroidery.

President of Colton Womens Institute welcomed new members from Slitting Mill at their September meeting in the reading room at Colton last week. TIMES

Guest speaker was Mrs. J. Whittingham, of the M.E.B., who ...

COUNTRY people from all parts of England will be converging on Staffordshire during September for the annual conference of the National Federation of Village Produce Associations. This conference which is held each September, and which incorporates the annual meeting of the National Federation, is a grand get-together for all British village produce associations.

Annual conferences have been held for some years at Roehampton in south-west London, but it is now the Federation's policy "to show the flag" in different parts of the country. First step out from London, and southern England, is to the University of Keele in Staffordshire. The conference opens on Friday, September 11, when delegates assemble during the afternoon and evening. During the next day, the Federation's annual general meeting is held, which takes up the Saturday morning. In the afternoon, finals of the inter-county quiz are held between contestants from West Sussex and Dorset, and the evening is taken up with horticultural talks and discussions, which continue over to the Sunday.

Topics covered this year include "Making a New Garden," "New Roses for Amateurs," and "House Plants," and a special feature contributed by Gloucestershire, a county which has long supported V.P.A. activities, is "The Botanical Gardens of Australia."

Village Produce Associations in Staffordshire and neighbouring counties will welcome the National Federation to the West Midlands, and look for an added interest in local activities due to the privilege of making their fellow V.P.A. members welcome in the area.

MERCURY

chairman again

Mr. C. F. Horton, of "La Colne," Charnwood Close, Lichfield, has been re-elected (for the third year in succession) as Chairman of the National Conference of Village Produce Associations.

The conference was held at Keele University, where Mr. J. D. Lewis of Colwich (Chairman of ...

AT a meeting of Colton Parish Council held in the Reading Room, with Mr. G. F. Upton presiding, Cllr. Hardcastle reported on a conference he had attended at Lichfield, on the Welfare of Old People. MERCURY

He said it had been suggested that all Parish Councils form Old People's Welfare Councils in co-ordination with other organisations. Following the distressing cases brought to light at the Conference a local Welfare Council, represented by the various sections of the community, who know the needs of their old people and be able to contact the correct body to render assistance.

Mr. Hardcastle went on to say he would be pleased if Colton could be the first Parish Council to adopt this, therefore he moved a resolution, which Cllr. J. Price seconded, that the idea of a Colton Old People's Welfare Council be accepted.

This was passed unanimously.

It was agreed the P.C. Chairman be an ex-officio of the Welfare council, with Cllrs. F. Hardcastle and Mrs. M. S. Toy as Parish Council representatives. The Clerk, Mrs. P. M. Buckley was instructed to write to various organisations asking that they appoint a representative to serve on the Old People's Welfare Council.

Cllr. Price reported on the activities of the "Best Kept Village" Committee, and the Chairman on the judging in the "Best Kept Garden" Competition. Arrangements have been made with the Chairman of the Show Committee (Mr. T. Preston) regarding the presentation of the awards at the annual show on September ...

Cllr. Hardcastle reported the proposed light at the top of the village was in hand. Request for a light near the Reading Room, and one in Blithbury Road was discussed, but it was decided to leave the matter to a later meeting when the lighting system and black spots would be reviewed.

It was agreed a letter be sent to Mr. D. E. Waters (headmaster of the school) expressing the Council's regret that he is leaving Colton, and wishing him every success in his new appointment.

A complaint was made about alleged "revolting smell" from the Malt House Poultry Farm. After discussion, Mr. Hardcastle agreed to take the matter up with Lichfield R.D.C.

It was stated that any major repairs to Highway and footpaths would not be undertaken till the sewage system was completed, but it was decided to bring the matter of a blocked drain in the new development in High Street to the notice of the Surveyor. Cllr. Mrs. Toy considered this could be dangerous as the road narrows and is ... end, and children when trying to avoid walking through the "pool" (this blocked drain result) could step into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

Colton M.U.

Colton Mothers' Union met in the Reading Room for their September meeting, when attendance was good. The Enrolling Member, Mrs. P. B. Best, welcomed Mrs. Mary Arnold of Brocton (former Deanery Presiding member), who conducted the service. Her inspiring talk was on "The Church." Members' thanks to Mrs. Arnold were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

COLTON

MOTHERS' UNION

Colton Mothers' Union met in the reading room for their September meeting. There was a good attendance. Mrs. P. B. Best enrolling member welcomed Mrs. Mary Arnold, of Brocton (former deanery presiding member) ...

COLTON SHOW AGAIN A SUCCESS

In spite of its being held in the evening on rather a smaller scale, Colton village produce guild and Women's Institute annual show, was without doubt a success.

The show was held in the reading room on Saturday; Mr. Peter Dean and Mr. Christopher Gibb representing the rural community council, "looked in" during the afternoon, judges were

Mr. Harold Birch of Brereton, and Mr. H. Lycett of Rugeley, in the horticultural section; Mrs. Whittingham, Midlands Electricity Board, cookery classes, and Mrs. J. G. Salter of Abbots Bromley, flower arrangement, handicraft, wine and children's classes. This year the challenge trophies were not competed for.

Prize winners were:-

Special class introduced this year, arranged by Mr. W. C. Preston, for highest yield from one potato (these were dug up and weighed by Mr. Leslie Devall and Mr. D. W. Garwood, committee members), 1, (10½ lb), Mrs. H. Baker; 2, equal, Mr. P. Tabernor and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant; 3, Mr. Ernest Myatt; potatoes, any variety, 1, L. Devall; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, T. Preston; onions from seed, 1, T. Preston; 2, Mrs. Preston; onions from sets, 1, A. N. Felton; 2, Miss D. M. Jones; 3, L. Devall; shallots, 1, Miss Jones, 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, T. Preston; beetroot, 1, Mrs. M. G. Bennett, 2, C. J. Ravenscroft; 3, Mrs. Jackson; runner beans, 1, Mrs. Bennett, 2, Mrs. J. A. Best; 3, Mrs. P. M. Buckley; peas, 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, T. Preston; cauliflower, A. N. Felton; marrow, Mrs. Tabernor; eating apples, 1, Mrs. Baker; 2, Jack Brown; 3, T. Preston; cooking apples, 1, Jack Brown; 2, L. Devall; 3, Mrs. Baker.

Gladioli, 1, Mrs. Joan E. Wright; 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. Tabernor; decorative dahlias, 1, A. N. Felton; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, T. Preston; cactus dahlias, 1, A. N. Felton; 2, T. Preston; pom-pom dahlias, 1, T. Preston; 2, L. Devall; 3, Mrs. C. M. Amyes; vase of mixed annuals, 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Buckley, 3, Mrs. Wright; roses, 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Garwood; asters, 1, L. Devall; 2, Mrs. Wright; 3, Mrs. Garwood; pansies, 1, Mrs. Tabernor; 2, Mrs. Garwood; 3, Mrs. Best; house plant in flower, 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Garwood; 3, Mrs. C. M. Sanders; house plant in foliage, 1, Mrs. Garwood; 2, Mrs. Sanders; 3, A. N. Felton; floral arrangement, 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Wright.

Strawberry jam, 1, Mrs. I. V. Collins; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Jackson; three-fruit Marmalade, 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Miss Jones; 3, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Lemon curd, 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. D. M. Atkin; 3, Mrs. Preston; jelly to eat with meat, 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Best; 3, Mrs. Jackson; chutney, 1, Mrs Jackson; 2 Mrs. Collins, 3, Miss Jones; cheese straws, 1, Mrs. Collins; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Wright; swiss roll, 1, Jack Brown; 2, Mrs. Buckley; 3, Mrs. Sargeant; baked egg custard, 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Sargeant; madeira cake, 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Jack Brown; 3. Mrs. Bennett, home-made wine, 1, Mrs. Tabernor; 2, Mrs. Preston ladies knitted hat, 1, Mrs. Buckley 2 Mrs. Sanders; brown eggs, 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. Atkin; white eggs, 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, Mrs. Atkin; 3, Mrs. Preston.

Children's classes (open to any child) 11 to 15: picture of "harvest scene", 1, Halina Szu 2, Gwendoline Ravenscroft; Philippa Upton; 5 to 10, mi ture garden on a dinner pl (age taken into consideration Rachel Brown; 2, Lynn Pe 3, Glenys Jones and Bre Norman; The other junior exh tors received consolation pr and highly commended ca they were — Dorothy Cu Marilyn Collins, Karen Up Enid Fowell, Marion Nor and Joy Upton. The class (w looked most attractive) provi keen interest. Mr. J. H. Toy a lot of the produce for the s funds.

An added interest during evening was the presentation the trophies and awards in "best kept garden" competit Show chairman Mr. T. Pre introduced the chairman of parish council, Mr. G. F. Up who thanked the show comm for giving the council the privil of making the presentations a show. He also thanked l trades people who had don cash towards the prize money each section of £3, £2 and He called on Mr. Luke M to present the "Little Hay" bowl and £3 to Mr. David G wood, of 5, Manor Way; £2 Mr. Charles Bannister of F Winds, High Street, and £1 Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sarge of Yorick, High Street. Mr. Me and his elder brother Mr. Geo Mellor have given the rose b in memory of their mother, late Mrs. Julia L. Taylor. Upton presented the part council cup and £3 to Mr. Jones of Stockwell Heath, for mother Mrs. S. E. Jones; £2 Mr. S. Jones of Hollow Lane £1 to Mr. C. Bannister.

Refreshments were attended by Miss Jones and Mrs. Jack Competition prizewinners Mrs. Preston (show treasurer Mrs. R. O. Devall, and Mrs. M. Ravenscroft (show secretary

W.I. MEETING:— Presiding at the September meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the reading room, the president, Mrs. I. Freston, welcomed a few members of Slitting Mill W. I. and Mrs. Olive G. Upton, and Mrs. M. Daw, as new members of Colton W.I. Guest speaker Mrs. Whittingham of the M.E.B. gave a demonstration on "supper snacks" cheese straws, and a swiss roll. She also gave hints on exhibits at shows and the correct way to present them. She judged a competition for a cornish pastie, awarding the prize to Mrs. M.G. Bennett. Mrs. Whittingham was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The tempting fare made by Mrs. Whittingham was won by Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. M. Taylor and Mrs. M.E. Everall. Business dealt with included an invitation from the village produce guild for their harvest supper on October 1. A letter from the parish council asking that the W.I. appoint a representative to serve on the old people's welfare council, was read, but this matter was left over till the October meeting. Names were taken of those members interested in going to Walsall next month, to a demonstration arranged by the Milk Marketing Board. Mrs. Norah Jones was congratulated on winning a certificate for drawn thread embroidery, and her work was on show. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Dora Deacon, Mrs. H. M. Felton, and Mrs. M. C. Harvey. The social time was arranged by Miss Jones, and won by Mrs. Daw.

Colton.—Presidng at the September meeting held in the Reading Room, the President (Mrs. I. Preston) welcomed several members of Slitting Mill W.I. and Mrs. Olive G. Upton and Mrs. M. Daw as new members of Colton W.I. The guest speaker was Mrs. Whittingham, of the M.E.B., who gave a demonstration on supper snacks cheese straws, and Swiss roll She also judged the competition for a Cornish pastie awarding the prize to Mrs M. G. Bennett. Thanks to Mrs Whittingham were tendered by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The tempting fare made by Mrs. Whittingham was won in the raffle by Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. M. Taylor, and Mrs. M. E. Everall, Mrs. Norah Jones was congratulated on

Prize winners were Special class introduced this year and arranged by Mr. W. C. Preston for the highest yield from one potato, 1, (10½ lbs.) Mrs. H. Baker, 2, Mr. P. Tabernor and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, 3, Mr. Ernest Myatt, Potatoes any variety 1, L. Devall, 2, Mrs. Jackson, 3, T. Preston; Onions from seed, 1, T. Preston, 2, Mrs. Preston; Onions from sets, 1, A. N. Felton, 2, Miss D. M. Jones 3, L. Devall; Shallots, 1, Miss Jones, 2, Mrs. Preston, 3, T. Preston; Beetroot, 1, Mrs. M. G. Bennett 2, C. J. Ravenscroft, 3, Mrs. Jackson.

Runner Beans, 1, Mrs. Bennett, 2, Mrs. J. A. Best, 3, Mrs. P. M. Buckley; Peas, 1, Mrs. Sargeant, 2, T. Preston; Cauliflower, A. N. Felton; Marrow, Mrs. Tabernor; Eating Apples, 1, Mrs. Baker, 2, Jack Brown, 3, T. Preston; Cooking Apples 1, Jack Brown, 2, L. Devall, 3, Mrs. Baker.

Gladioli, 1, Mrs. Joan E. Wright, 2, T. Preston, 3, Mrs. Tabernor; Decorative Dahlias, 1, A. N. Felton, 2, Mrs. Preston, 3, T. Preston; Cactus Dahlias 1, A. N. Felton, 2, T. Preston; Pom-Pom Dahlias, 1, T. Preston, 2, L. Devall, 3 Mrs. C. M. Amyes. Vase of mixed annuals, 1, Mrs. Preston, 2, Mrs. Buckley, 3, Mrs. Wright. Roses, 1, Mrs. Jackson 2, Mrs. Preston, 3 Mrs. Joan Garwood; Asters, 1, L. Devall, 2, Mrs. Wright, 3, Mrs. Garwood; Pansies, 1, Mrs. Tabernor, 2, Mrs. Garwood, 3 Mrs. Best.

House plant in flower, 1, Mrs. Preston, 2, Mrs. Garwood, 3, Mrs. C. M. Sanders; House plant in foliage, 1, Mrs. Garwood, 2, Mrs. Sanders, 3, A. N. Felton; Floral Arrangement, 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Mrs. Preston, 3 Mrs. Wright; Strawberry Jam 1, Mrs. I. V. Collins, 2, Mrs. Preston, 3, Mrs. Jackson.

Three fruit Marmalade, 1, Mrs. Preston, 2, Miss Jones, 3 Mr. B. M. Ravenscroft. Lemon curd, 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Mrs. D. Atkin, 3, Mrs. Preston. Jelly to eat with meat, 1, Mrs. Preston, 2, Mrs. Best, 3, Mrs. Jackson.

Chutney 1, Mrs. Jackson, 2, Mrs. Collins, 3 Miss Jones. Cheese Straws, 1, Mrs. Collins, 2, Mrs. Preston, 3, Mrs. Wright; Swiss roll, 1, Jack Brown, 2, Mrs. Buckley, 3, Mrs. Sargeant; Baked Egg Custard, 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Mrs. Bennett, 3 Mrs. Sargeant; Maderia Cake 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Jack Brown, 3, Mrs. Bennett.

Home made wine, 1, Mrs. Tabernor, 2, Mrs. Preston, Ladies Knitted Hat, 1, Mrs. Buckley, 2, Mrs. Sanders; Brown Eggs 1, Mrs. Preston, 2, T. Preston, 3, Mrs. Atkin. White eggs, 1, Mrs. Sargeant, 2, Mrs. Atkin, 3, Mrs. Preston.

The Children's classes 11 to 15 age group winners were: 1, Halina Szutka, 2, Gwendoline

COLTON

Presiding at the October meeting, Mrs. I. Preston extended a warm welcome to guests Mrs. B. Bowen and her son, Craig, who gave demonstrations on a tape recorder and then organised a quiz.

Mrs. Preston also welcomed a founder member, Mrs. I. James, who had not attended meetings for some years, and also two new members, Mrs. Hibbs and Mrs. Wright.

Invitations to parties at Slitting Mill and Hixon were accepted, and Mrs. Ravenscroft agreed to attend the first meeting of the Old People's Welfare Committee, as a representative of the W.I. A guest from Rodbaston will be present at the next meeting to give a demonstration of cake decorating.

Competitions were won by Mesdames Daw, Doughty, Sanders, Atkin, Brown and Bettson. In charge of stalls were Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Meddings, and refreshments were served by Mesdames J... and Miss Jones...

COLTON

M.U. :— For their October meeting, Colton Mother's Union were joined by Blithfield members. The meeting took the form of a corporate service of holy communion in St. Mary's Church, conducted by the Rector, the Reverend A. S. Towlson. The organist was Mrs. G. E. Finnemore. Collections which will

CORPORATE SERV... FOR COLTON M...

The October meeting ... Colton Mothers' Union t... form of a Corporate serv... Holy Communion.

For this meeting they ... joined by members of the ... field group. The service ... conducted by the Rev. ... Towlson, and the organi... Mrs. G. Finnemore.

Collections were taken ... E. Rotchell and Mrs. B. ... croft, the amount of whi... be donated to the S.P.G. ... Missions.

Tea was afterwards se... the Rectory, and the Re... Mrs. Towlson were than... Mrs. G. Vernon, of Blithf...

Colton school whi...

This year's annual whi... organised by the staff ... Village School at Colton, ... of Christmas party funds ... school, proved most succes...

The M.C. was Mr. P. We... and the presentation of ... was made by Mrs. G. ... Prizewinners were:— Mrs. ... Mr. Knight, Mrs. Dawso... Buckley, Mrs. Fowell, Mrs. ... Mrs. Toy, Mrs. Knigh... Knight, Mrs. Hooley, Mr... thorpe, Mrs. Hampson, Mr... er, Mr. Hurley, Miss Mas...

leners and stage top

ow

nen's Institute in the Reading ion of having a ttracted many

the highest yield These were dug two committee Devall and Mr. D. . H. Baker won P. Tabenor and it coming second third.

a six years-old rded the "Popu- junior gardener "garden on a

money in and £1. e Mellor lay" rose avid Gar- ay; £2 to of Four d £1 to Sargeant, r. Mellor r. George ose bowl ther, the lor. Mr. parish Mr. T. , for his s; £2 to Lane and

ended to ackson. s were asurer), Mrs. B. retary).

ERVICE M.U.

ng of the n took the service of

they were the Blith- rvice was Rev. A. S. ganist was

en by Miss B. Ravens- which will G. Medical

served at Rev. and hanked by thfield.

whist

whist drive aff of the ton, in aid nds for the ccessful. Westhorpe of prizes G. Cooper Mrs. Lakin wson, Mrs. Mrs. Kent night, Mr. Mrs. Wes- Mr. Coop- Mason, Mrs. Miss Lane



In the picture above are seen some of the entries in the child section for gardens on plates at Colton Show held on Satu The exhibits were generally admired, and not least by the chi themselves.

Prizes and variety: 1, L. Devall; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, T. Preston. Onions (three kinds): 1, T. Preston; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Tabernor. Dahlias (three sets): 1, A. N. Felton; 2, Mrs. D. M. Jones; 3, L. Devall. Shallots: 1, Miss Jones; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, T. Preston.

Beetroot: 1, Mrs. M. G. Bennett; 2, C. F. Ravenscroft; 3, Mrs. Jackson. Runner beans: 1, Mrs. Bennett; 2, Mrs. J. A. Bowen; 3, Mrs. P. M. Buckley. Peas: 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, T. Preston. Cauliflower: 1, A. N. Felton.

Marrow: 1, Mrs. E. Tabernor. Apples (dessert): 1, Mrs. Baker; 2, Jack Brown; 3, T. Preston. Apples (culinary): 1, Jack Brown; 2, L. Devall; 3, Mrs. Baker.

Gladioli: 1, Mrs J. E. Wright; 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. Tabernor. Dahlias (decorative): 1, A. N. Felton; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, T. Preston. Dahlias (cactus): 1, A. N. Felton; 2, T. Preston. Dahlias (pon): 1, T. Preston; 2, L. Devall; 3, Mrs. C. M. Aymes.

Vase of mixed annuals: 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Buckley; 3, Mrs. Wright. Roses: 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Garwood. Asters: 1, L. Devall; 2, Mrs. Wright; 3, Mrs. Garwood. Pansies: 1, Mrs. Tabernor; 2, Mrs. Garwood; 3, Mrs. Best. House plant flower: 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Garwood; 3, Mrs. C. M. Sanders. House plant foliage: 1, Mrs. Garwood; 2, Mrs. Sanders; 3, A. N. Felton. Floral arrangement: 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Wright.

Strawberry jam: 1, Mrs. I. V. Colley; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Jackson. Three fruit marmalade: 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Miss Jones; 3, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Lemon curd: 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. D. M. Atkin; 3, Mrs. Preston. Jelly (to eat with meat): 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Best; 3, Mrs. Jackson. Chutney: 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, Mrs. Collins; 3, Miss Jones.

Cheese straws: 1, Mrs. Collins; Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Wright.

Swiss roll: 1, Jack Brown; 2, Mrs. Buckley; 3, Mrs. Sargeant. Baked custard: 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Sargeant. Madeira cake: 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Jack Brown; Mrs. Bennett. Home made wine: 1, Mrs. Tabenor; 2, Mrs. Preston.

Lady's knitted hat. 1, Mrs. Buckley; 2, Mrs. Sanders.

Brown eggs: 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. Atkin. White eggs: 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, Mrs. Atkin; 3, T. Preston.

Children's classes—Picture of harvest scene (11-15 years): 1, Halina Szu; 2, Gwendoline Ravenscroft; 3, Phillip Upton. Miniature garden on a dinner plate (5-10 years): 1, Rachel Brown; 2, Lynn Peake; 3, Glenys Jones and Brenda Norman.

Consolation prizes and highly commended cards were awarded to the remainder of entries in the junior classes: Dorothy Curtis, Marilyn Colley, Karen Upton, Enid Fowell, Marion Norman and Joy Upton.

GARDENING GUILD MEMBERS NOW TOP THE 90 MARK

MR. F. W. Farrer, county vice-chairman, Stafford V.P.A has been engaged to speak at the general meeting Lichfield Gardening Guild on October 29.

This was announced by Guild secretary, Mrs. S. E. Sayer at this month's committee meeting. Mr. Farrer will talk on gardening topics applicable to the present period of the year.

There will also be a harvest festival embracing all types of gardening produce, either vegetables or flowering plants. The committee hopes that everyone will co-operate by taking a gift, however modest to make the show a success.

Everything will be sold during the meeting—which starts at 7-45 p.m. and NOT 8 p.m. as previously —after which the proceeds will be handed over to a local charitable organisation.

The raffle will take place as previously, and an unusual prize is to be given by committee member Mr. A. Dawson.

Treasurer, Mr. E. J. Crom said that the financial positio the Guild was in a healthy dition and revealed that mem ship had now passed the 90 m

This is a compliment, not to the committee who are d all in their power to plan inte ing and instructive meetings, also to Mrs. B. M. Ravenscro the Staffordshire Association, the Editor of the "Mercury," co-operate by publishing ments of current Guild activi

The chairman, Mr. J. Iv extended sympathy on beha Guild members to Mr. and C. F. Horton who were re involved in a car accident, wishes for a speedy recovery.



Mr. D. Garwood receives the Little Hay rose bowl as winner of Colton's best-kept garden competition, from Mr. Luke Mellor. Holding the parish council cup, won by Mrs. S. E. Jones, is her son, Mr. T. Jones. The presentations were made during Saturday's show. Also in the picture are Councillor C. F. Upton (parish council chairman) and Mr. T. Perkins (right), the show committee chairman.



Lichfield Mercury 19/9/64



In Colton, as in all villages at this season of the year, there has been the customary harvest observances. In the picture (above) villagers are seen at the harvest supper arranged by the Village Produce Guild.

HARVEST SUPPER. — Colton village produce guild held their annual harvest supper in the reading room. Members of the Women's Institute had been invited and other guests were: Mr J. D. Lewis, county chairman and Mrs Lewis of Colwich, Mr J. W. Jones, county vice chairman and Mrs Jones of Maer, Mr A. L. Rowley, chairman of Slitting Mill guild and Mrs Rowley, Mrs. H. A. Walker, secretary of Slitting Mill Guild, and Mrs. Walker. Mr. T. Preston, chairman, welcomed the gathering to the well stocked tables. The toast to the Queen was proposed by Mr. Lewis, and the chairman proposed the toast to the county association and guests. Following the meal, Mr Jack Brown was the M.C. for the dancing and games! 'Posting' game winners were 1 Miss Ruth Ravenscroft, 2 Mrs J. E. Wright, Mr T. Preston and Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, Stephen Hibbs, Keith Williscroft and Mrs M. E. Hibbs, consolation, Tony Wright. The raffle winners were Mr Percy Tabernor, Mrs Lewis, Mrs I. V. Collins and Mrs E. Atkin. A most enjoyable evening ended with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

GUILD HAD W.I. GUESTS AT HARVEST SUPPER

COLTON Village Produce Guild held their annual harvest supper in the Reading Room on Thursday of last week, when guests included members of the local Women's Institute, Mr. J. D. Lewis (Produce Guild county chairman) and Mrs. Lewis, of Colwich; Mr. J. W. Jones (county vice-chairman) and Mrs. Jones, of Maer; Councillor A. L. Rowley (chairman, Slitting Mill) and Mrs. Rowley; and Mr. H. A. Walker (secretary, Slitting Mill) and Mrs. Walker.

Mr. T. Preston (chairman) welcomed the guests and Mr. Lewis proposed the loyal toast. Mr. Preston also proposed toasts to the county association and the guests.

Mr. Jack Brown was M.C. for dancing and games which followed the meet. "Posting" winners were: 1, Miss Ruth Ravenscroft 2, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mr. T. Preston and Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft; 3, Stephen Hibbs, Keith Williscroft and Mrs. M. E. Hibbs consolation, Tony Wright.

Raffle winners were Mr. P. Tabernor, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. I. V. Collins and Mrs. E. Atkin.

The Rugeley Times, Saturday, October 10, 1964



COLTON

HARVEST SERVICES. — Harvest festival services at Colton commenced with the school pupils service, which was very well attended by parents and friends as well as children. The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev A. S. Towlson, who received the children's gifts at the altar. The Lesson was read by the headmaster, Mr D. E. Waters. Organist was Mrs D. R. Shaw, and collections were taken by Kevin Waters and Maxwell Cooper. Sunday's services were sung eucharist in the morning and the very well attended evening service, followed by holy communion. Both services were conducted by the Rector, with Mrs G. E. Finnemore at the organ. At evening service the lesson was read by Mr J. C. Price, and the address was given by Mr D. E. Waters. Collections were for the church expenses account. The church was very beautiful with decorations of corn, flowers, fruit and veg-

HARVEST festival services at Colton last weekend commenced on Friday with the school service, conducted by the Rev. A. S. Towlson (rector), who received the children's gifts at the altar.

Many parents and friends attended the service, at which the lesson was read by the headmaster, Mr. D. E. Waters and the organ played by one of the teachers, Mrs. D. R. Shaw. Two pupils, Kevin Waters and Maxwell Cooper, took the collection.

Sunday services began with a sung Eucharist and continued with a well-attended evening service followed by Holy Communion. The rector conducted the servic... Mrs. G. E. Finnemore pla... organ. The lesson at the ... service was read by Mr... Price and the address w... by Mr. Waters. Collectio... for the church expenses f... gifts were sent to the ... afterwards.

STAFFORDSHIRE Association of Village Produce Guilds held their annual harvest supper at the works canteen of Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford, when well over 200 people attended.

The president, Mr. H. E. Wells, principal of Staffordshire Farm Institute, proposed a toast to the Queen.

The county chairman, Mr. J. O. Lewis, of Colwich, proposed a toast to new guilds, mentioning that out of seven new guilds, six were in Staffordshire.

This, coupled with the ... the guild's magazine, retained for Staffordshire the Mabella shield, a national award.

Mr. Lewis told of the first dinner of the county association when about a dozen people got together in a "pub" in North Staffordshire.

A reply to the new guilds' toast was given by Councillor A. L. Rowley, chairman of Slitting Mill guild.

Mr. Rowley thanked Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. D. M. Gibbs, secretary of Staffordshire Rural Community Council, for the help they gave to guilds in ...

Entertainment after the meal was by Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchinson, of Uttoxeter, and their "Lucky Seven" band, with a programme of dancing and singing by the local branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Colton Village Produce G... held its annual harvest su... in the Reading Room. Mem... of the Women's Institute ... been invited, and other gu... were, Mr. J. D. Lewis (co... chairman) and Mrs. Lewis ... Colwich); Mr. J. W. J...



...ual harvest supper organised by the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds. It was held at Stafford ...r. H. E. Wells) is in the centre with Mrs. Wells, Mr. J. D. Lewis (Chairman) and Mr. C. F. Horton (Chairman of the National Federation of Village Produce Associations).



Members of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds p... annual harvest supper at Stafford.

DINNER DATE RECORD SET BY THE GUILD MEMBERS

Mercury 30/11/64

OVER 200 people — the highest number ever known — attended the annual county harvest supper of Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds. It was held in the works canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford.

Grace was said by the Chairman of the National Federation, Mr. C. F. Horton of Lichfield, and the loyal toast was proposed by the County Association President, Mr. H. E. Wells, principal of Staffordshire Farm Institute.

The County Chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis of Colwich, in proposing a toast to new Guilds, mentioned that six of the seven new Guilds are in Staffordshire and this, coupled with increased sales of the magazine "Village Life" had retained for Staffordshire the 'Mabella' Shield.

Mr. Lewis commented that Mr. Horton recalled the first dinner of the County Association when about a dozen people met in a North Staffordshire pub.

A reply to the toast to new Guilds was made by Councillor A. L. Rowley, Chairman of Slitting Mill Guild. He said he was a "townie" living in Rugeley, but, nevertheless, he had a very great interest in village life and considered the Guilds were a wonderful organisation.

He went on to thank Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Mr. D. M. Gibb and his staff at the Staffordshire Rural Community Council for the great help they had given Guilds in Staffordshire

Entertainment, which followed the meal, was organised by Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchinson of Uttoxeter and their 'Lucky Seven' band. The president proposed a vote of thanks to the Universal Grinding Wheel Company for the use of the hall and all concerned with the success of the evening. Among those present were members from Colton, Colwich, Slitting Mill and Abbots Bromley.

guilds celebrate

Newsletter 30/10/64

There was a record attendance of over 200 at the annual harvest supper of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds, held in the works' canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Company at Stafford.

Grace was said by the Chairman of the National Federation, Mr. C. F. Horton, of Lichfield; and the loyal toast was submitted by the Principal of the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Mr. H. E. Wells.

A toast to new Guilds was proposed by the County Chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Colwich, who mentioned that out of seven new Guilds, six were in Staffordshire, and this, coupled with increased sales of "Village Life," had retained the Mabella Shield.

Produce Guilds' harvest supper

Sentinel 30/10/64

The annual harvest supper of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds was one of the largest gatherings of such Guilds ever known, well over 200 members attending.

This highly-successful event was held in the works canteen of Universal Grinding Wheel Co., Stafford. Grace was said by the Chairman of the National Federation, Mr. C. F. Horton, of Lichfield and the County Association President. Mr. H. E. Wells (Principal of the County Farm Institute) proposed the Loyal toast.

The County Chairman Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Colwich, in proposing a toast to new Guilds, mentioned that out of seven new Guilds six are in Staffordshire. This coupled with increased sales of "Village Life," had retained for Staffordshire the Mabella Shield.

Mr. A. L. Rowley (Chairman, Slitting Mill Guild) thanked Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Mr. D. M. Gibb and his staff at the Rural Community Council, for the great help they give to Guilds in Staffordshire.

Entertainment following the excellent meal was in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. J. Hutchinson of Uttoxeter and their Lucky Seven band. the programme of dancing and singing being much enjoyed.

THE Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds held their annual county harvest supper in the canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford, on Friday. More than 200 members were present, which made it the best attended function of its kind held so far. TIMES

The chairman of the National Federation, Mr. C. F. Horton of Lichfield, said grace and the Loyal toast was proposed by the president of the association, Mr. H. E. Wells (prinoipal of the County Farm Institute, Rodbaston).

The association chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Colwich, said that of the seven new guilds formed, six were in the county. This, coupled with increasing sales of "Village Life", had retained for Staffordshire the Mabella Shield.

Councillor A. L. Rowley, chair-

AT COLTON MEETINGS

Renewal 6/11/64

... a poor attendance at the ... association ... was held in ... recently.

... Dr. Wither, ... County Medical Officer ... to attend because of ... but a health visitor ... Boyd, made an ...

... history of the school ... and this was ... colour slides. The ... Mr. D. Waters, ... this was ...

Colton Best-Kept Village committee held a meeting at Bellamour Lodge, the home of the chairman, Mr. J. C. Price.

Mr. Price has given a selection of shrubs and Mr. T. Preston about 100 daffodil bulbs which are to be planted on a piece of waste ground adjoining the council houses in High Street.

Members of the committee expressed concern at the painting of political slogans around the village, particularly on Brook Bridge, and it was decided to write to the ... of the party concerned asking

Colton. — The November meeting was held in the Reading Room, Mrs. I. Preston (President) presiding over a good attendance. Mr. Jones showed films from Sound Services — "Do it yourself." "House warming" and "Voices of Spring" — and was thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown. Mrs. N. Jones organised a surprise competition for the best telegram from the words "Our President" and a good number of excellent ones were thought out. The hostesses were Mrs. June Meddings, Mrs. J. E. Norman and Mrs Preston.

MOTHERS UNION. — Colton Mothers Union held its December meeting in the school. Mr D. E. Waters conducted the service and played records, including carols. Mrs P. B. Best enrolling member, thanked Mr Waters. Mrs E. Bettson agreed to read the M.U. lesson at a carol service, and Mrs M. L.

Colton W.I. at Group Meeting at Stowe by Cha



...ing held in the Reading Room, Mrs. I. Preston (President) presided and expressed the pleasure it gave the Institute to welcome Mrs. Ivy James, a founder member (who, after a lapse of some years, had rejoined the Institute) and Mrs. M. E. Hibbs and Mrs. J. E. Wright as new members. Members were reminded that cake-icing classes will begin on November 9th. Mrs. B. Bowen and Craig, of Colton, gave demonstrations with their tape recorder, and staged a "quiz," the winners being Mrs. M. M. Daw, Mrs. S. J. Doughty and Mrs. C. M. Sanders. Mrs. D. M. Atkin proposed the vote of thanks. The tea hostesses were Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. N. Jones and Miss D. M. Jones. The competition for a limerick on young people was won by Mrs. I. R. Brown. In charge of the stall were Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Mrs. June Meddings. The mystery prize went to Mrs. E. Bettson. A concise report of the autumn Council meeting was given by Mrs. Sanders, the delegate. Members are busy rehearsing for the "act" they are staging at the autumn Group meeting at Stowe-by-Chartley. Those taking part are: Mrs. Ivy Preston (Producer), Mrs. Carol Sanders, Mrs. Dorothy Atkin, Mrs. Betty Barham, Mrs. Norah Jones, Mrs. Joan Poinlett, Mrs. Margaret Everall, Mrs. Mary Taylor and Mrs. Vera Collins, with Miss Dorothy Jones at the piano.

CHURCH TALK ON BARNARDO'S HOMES

At the Sunday morning service at Colton Parish Church Mr. Greenwood spoke of the work of Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

The lesson was read by Mr. C. M. Boycott.

The proceeds of the collection were given to Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

The Colton branch of the Conservative Association are going ahead with their plans for another musical evening. Since the conditions in the Reading Room are not ideal for such a function, the chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, has offered the use of his home, Bellamour Lodge. TIMES

The date has been fixed as November 12, and Mr. Price has extended a welcome to anyone wishing to attend, although invitations will not be issued.

A whist drive has also been planned for December 4 proceeds of which will be used to provide Christmas gifts for the elderly.

COLTON

PARENT TEACHER. — At a meeting of Colton School Parent Teacher association a health visitor Miss O. Boyd, spoke on the history of school health services illustrating the talk with film slide The chairman Mr D. E. Waters accorded a vote of thanks to Miss Boyd, this being seconded by the Rector, the Rev A. S. Towlson. Refreshments were served by Mrs H. M. Goring, Mrs M. G. Bennett and Mrs C. M. Sanders. A bring and buy stall for Christmas party funds was in charge of Mrs G. R. Shaw. A raffle was won by the Rector.

Social Evening for Traction Rally helpe

Colton Village Hall En... ment Committee organ... social evening for the he... the Traction Engine Rally... was held in July.

The music, provided by ... was in the charge of ... Price, and the wall comp... was arranged by Mr. M. P... This was won by the Misse... more.

Refreshments were serv... Mesdames F. Hardcastle, P... nister, P. Buckley and M... Cooper.



"Rugeley Mercury" 6/11/64

PLANS IN MIND FOR SHOW NEXT YEAR ?

LICHFIELD City Gardening Guild, which was established in August, now has over a hundred members and, if things continue to go well, it will hold a fruit, flower and vegetable show next year.

On Thursday evening the Guild had a harvest display in the Guildroom, Lichfield, with produce grown by the members.

age amateur gardener in Lichfield really needs, I think that the gardening guild associations in this county are about the most progressive in the country."

Hockey-playing lady members of the Colton branch of the Conservative Association, with reinforcements from other local branches, played a match against the Stafford and Stone branch at Wilmour Farm, Colton. on Wednesday afternoon.

Colton. who were one player short, lost 3-2.

The referee was Mrs. Duncan Moore and the Colton team was as

The funeral took place Mary's Church, Colton, on of Mr. Harold Yates, of 6, way, Colton, who died in District Hospital. He was

The service was conduc... the rector, the Rev. A. S. T... and family mourners were Emily Yates (widow); Harold, William, Douglas and Gerald Yates (sons); Mrs. S. Bufton, Mr. and Probyn, Mr. and Mrs. D...



Lectures are all part of the training in the A.T.C., and in the picture above Flying Officer Donald Macpherson, of Etching Hill, is explaining a weather chart to members at their meeting at the Civil



Mr. A. Cresswell and M[illegible] Macpherson, the office[illegible] charge of Rugeley A.T.C., tak[illegible] classes a week, on Monday [illegible] Fridays.

PLAGUE OF RATS MAKES LAND HEAVE, COLTON MAN SAYS

TIMES 5/12/64

LICHFIELD Rural Council's chief public health inspector has been asked to become a "Pied Piper" to Colton and remove rats which are alleged to be causing a nuisance on a poultry farm.

Colton Parish Council decided to press for action following a complaint by Mr. J. F. Peet about "appalling stench" said to be coming from the farm. In a letter to the council he said a pithole was "absolutely over-run" with rats and the ground "literally heaves," such are the numbers of rats. He claimed that they feed on dead hens which they drag from an old petrol drum used as a makeshift method of disposal.

Mrs. P. M. Buckley (clerk) said that one had only to walk along the public footpath to recognise this nuisance.

Councillor L. Mellor said he was noticed the unpleasant smell during the previous few days.

Councillor F. Hardcastle promised to see the health inspector the following morning.

Mr. [illegible] Preston, presided at the November meeting, which was well attended. Suggestions for the December meeting — a social evening—were asked for. Films from Sound Services on "Do-it-Yourself", "House-warming" and "Voices of Spring" were shown by Mr. Jones, who was thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown.

Instead of the usual form of

NURSERYMAN TALKS TO COLTON GUILD

TIMES 14/11/64

Clashing with "Bonfire night", the November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was sparsely attended.

Mr. T. Preston (chairman) presided and a report on the County Executive meeting was given by Mr. B. M. Ravenscroft.

The Parish Council wrote inviting the Guild to appoint a representative on the proposed Old People's Welfare Council.

Mrs. J. E. Wright offered to attend meetings and to report back to the guild.

Mr. G. S. Flint, of Wood Shoot Nurseries, King's Bromley, gave a talk on the growing of soft fruit and invited members to visit his nurseries next summer.

Mr. J. H. Toy thanked the speaker.

The Autumn Meeting of the Parkside Group took place at Stowe-by-Chartley, the convener being Mrs. B. Bowen, of Colwich. The Chairman, Mrs. L. R. Earp, President of Stowe W.I. welcomed a good gathering of members from Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Colton, Colwich, Hixon and Stowe.

The guest speaker was Mr. Kenneth Bird, the B.B.C. Midland Region Information Officer, who gave a delightful talk. He told amusing stories of people who really seemed to believe the

PRESIDING at a meeting of Colton Parochial Church Council on Friday, the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, welcomed Mr. Bernard Bettson on his return as a member of the council. Mr. Bettson is the P.C.C.'s representative on the board of school managers. Newquay.

Mr. P. W. Sharp, a new resident in Colton, was also welcomed to the P.C.C., and members agreed that the two should be co-opted.

It was announced that Mr. C. M. Boycott has offered to continue the work on the "Free Will Envelope" scheme, at present done by Mr. D. E. Waters, who will be leaving the area in the near future. 20/11/64

A matter which took up some time — and over which no agreement was reached — concerned the serious question of the cemetery. The Rector reported there was only space left for two new graves, but there would be room for many more cremated remains.

Views were expressed that the question of the burial ground was a problem in which all should be involved—not only the P.C.C., who, in any case, had no funds for any large scale development.

A resolution was passed that the Parish Council should be asked to co-operate by calling a public emergency meeting as soon as possible. The date set for this is to-night (Friday) in the

THERE is now only one grave space left in Colton cemetery, and on Tuesday an emergency meeting of Colton Parochial Church Council discussed the recommendation of a parish meeting that the new burial ground should be brought into use as soon as possible rather than that the existing cemtery should be extended. TIMES 5/12/64

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, said that following the recommendation passed at the public meeting there appeared to be little or no support regarding the proposed building of a retaining wall to prolong the life of the cemetery.

There was, however, apparent support for the new burial ground extension near the church, but he was still firm that nothing must be done until a decision on the compulsory purchase order on the school ground was known.

It was decided to get two loads of soil and build up part of the cemetery without a retaining wall, as a second-best solution to the emergency for the time being.

Mr. B. Bettson and Mr. M. Williscroft expressed the opinion that there was room for a few graves to the right, just inside the gate, and then the path could be used if needed. "We cannot get along against the wishes of the public," commented Mr. Williscroft.

Film show for Colton W.I.

President of Colton W.I., Mrs. [illegible] Preston, presided at the November meeting, which was well attended. Suggestions for the December meeting — a social evening—were asked for. Films from Sound Services on "Do-it-Yourself", "House-warming" and "Voices of Spring" were shown by Mr. Jones, who was thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown.

Instead of the usual form of

Colton news of family's escape from Congo rebels

NEWS reached Colton on Thursday that the Rev. and Mrs. John Gration, cousins of the Upton family and of Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft, had managed to make their escape from Stanleyville — but with only a few days to spare. They wrote on Saturday to say they had got into Kenya.

The couple, who have three children, came from New Jersey on a visit to Colton in 1962. They have completed only one of the five years in their present tour of duty as missionaries attached to the Africa Inland Mission.

Mr. Gration is a grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Upton, of High House, Colton, and has many cousins in the village.

Mrs. Ravenscroft told the "Times" that the letter says the family had to flee for their lives and left without any possessions — typewriter, sewing machine and similar things had to be left behind in their hurry — and their house has since been burnt down.

FOR the third time, Mr and Mrs John Gration have had to make a hurried escape from the trouble-torn Congo.

Mr and Mrs Gration are American missionaries who are serving in the Congo and who in summer 1962 visited Colton, the birthplace of Mr Gration's mother.

At the time Mr Gration and his wife, Dorothy, together with their three children were visiting their relatives at Colton. They told the Advertiser at that time that twice they had had to evacuate the Congo due to local troubles, and on one occasion they had been arrested by Congolese soldiers.

Now again the Grations have made a hairs-breadth escape from the Congo.

In an article in the Africa Inland Mission's magazine, Inland Africa, Mr Gration describes how it took 27 hours for the family to get across the Congolese border while the rebels were drawing nearer all the time. They finally got over the border only a few days before the rebels arrived.

One of Mr Gration's cousins, Mr C. J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, 43 High Street, Colton, told the Advertiser this week that the family is now safe in Kenya. Mr Gration has two other cousins at Colton, Mr E. C. Upton and Mr A. E. Upton, Mr S. E. Ravenscroft at Rugeley, and several others in the area.

The Friends of Cannock Chase

The 16th annual meeting of the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase was held at St. Luke's Hall, Cannock, on Friday.

In his remarks, the Chairman, Mr. S. G. Brown) expressed concern over the many applications to the Town and Country Planning Committee for development which would involve further encroachments upon the land within the Cannock Chase area. The Chairman proposed that the Association seek legal advice over matters which may arise out of these applications, and the motion was endorsed by Mrs. M. Castellan.

Mr. Brown also mentioned he was pleased to see a Land Committee had been set up by the new Government, of which Miss Jennie Lee, M.P., was Secretary. He hoped this would help to further their work.

The Chairman reported a profit on sales of the Association's booklet, "A glimpse of Cannock Chase," and already a reprint has been ordered. He also thanked the Committee for their support, particularly the Secretary (Captain J. A. Best), the Vice-Chairman (Mrs. M. Jones) and the retiring Youth Section Secretary (Mr. Denis Cheney).

The Committee was re-elected en bloc.

Refreshements were organised by Mrs. M. Jones, and served by Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. P. Best, Miss Ruth Ravenscroft and Mrs. N. Wagg, after which Mr. C. O. L. Finlow, a Commitee member, and past Chairman, gave an interesting talk. illustratrated by colour slides of his recent world tour. He was thanked by Mr. Brown.

TO SUCCEED MR. WATERS

Mr. Alexander William McDowall, of Mickleover, Derby, is to become headmaster of Colton School. He is at present tutor organiser at Foston Hall Detention Centre, near Derby.

There were 75 applications for the Colton post, vacated by Mr. Waters who has spent five and a half years at Colton, and who is moving to Barton, near Preston.

Mr. McDowall is 51 years of age and like Mr. Waters, is a qualified diocesan reader.

COLTON MOVE TO PROMOTE CARE OF AGED

COLTON Parish Council decided, on Thursday of last to call a public meeting in the New Year to consid formation of a local Old People's Welfare Council. Inform about these bodies and an offer of help in forming on been received from Mr. D. M. Gibb, secretary of Staffo Rural Community Council.

It was suggested that Lichfield Rural Council's medical officer of health and a representative of the South Staffordshire Council of Social Service should also be invited to the meeting.

A vacancy on Colton Parish Lands Trust was discussed at length and Councillor J. C. Price was eventually appointed as the parish council's second representative, on the proposition of Councillors Mrs. M. S. Toy and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The Land Trust accounts were passed round for inspection.

A letter received regarding Councillor L. Mellor's application for diversion of a footpath, which present leads through his garden at Little Hay, suggested that it should commence south of the "Long Stile," where it would link with the existing path and emerge into Newlands Lane at the same point. The council accepted this proposal.

Reports from the best-kept village competition committee and the reading room management committee were presented by Councillors Price and A. V. Hardcastle respectively.

A letter was received from Mr. B. Warren concerning the telephone manager's proposal to transfer the telephone kiosk fro Valley Station to a point i ley.

Members agreed that th removing an essential servi parishioners living in the Valley area and it was that a letter be sent to th council asking them to pr if the kiosk is removed should replace it.

Councillor F. Hardcastle to call at all houses in th without a private teleph obtain occupiers' views.

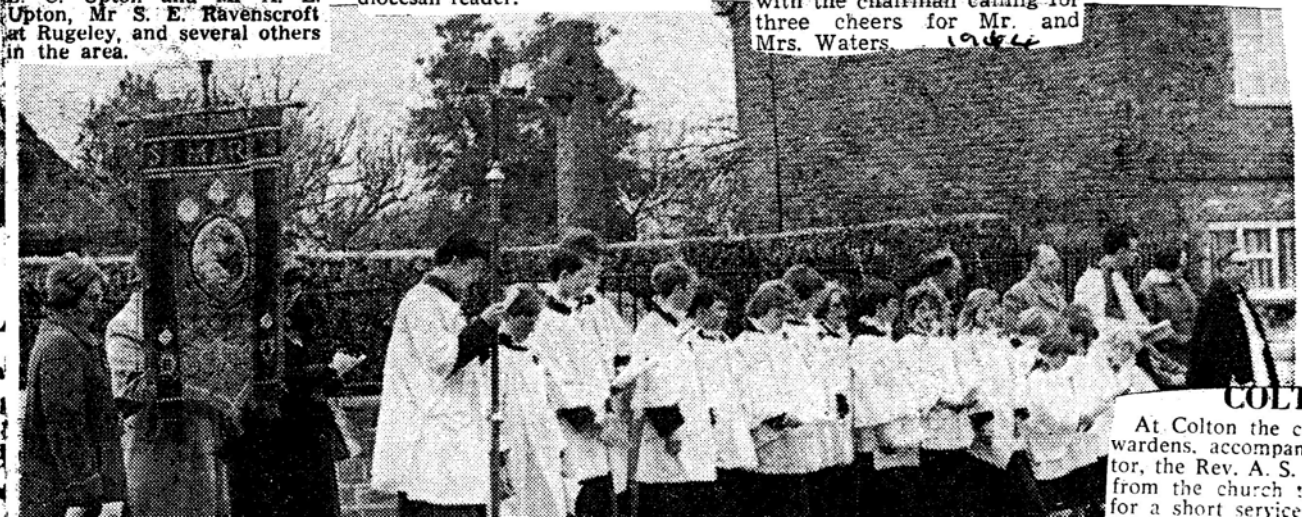
ANOTHER public mee to be held at Col this time to conside boundary proposals ma Rugeley Urban Counc Thursday of last week Parish Council decided, porposition of Councillo Price and A. V. Har that the public sho enlightened on the nature" of the matter, was bound to cause an i in rates and rents in the

At the previous parish meeting it had been una agreed that a strong pr sent to Lichfield Rural against the Rugeley (Rugeley is asking for a land between the Trent Colton road in the railwa area.) TIMES 5/12

It was decided last the clerk, treasurer and to the rural council s invited to attend the me explain the facts to the

GIFTS from the staff and pupils of Colton School were presented to Mr. D. E. Waters (Headmaster there for the past 5½ years) before he left to take up a new post near Preston, Lancs. In the actual presentation ceremony the staff took no part. The pupils did this on their own, with William Haynes acting as chairman. Delia Knight (one of the first children admitted by Mr. Waters in 1959) presented an electric clock; Neil Peakes presented a Reader's scarf for the Diocese of Blackburn and a case for Mr. Waters's robes; Kevin Upton presented Mrs. Waters (School Secretary) with a bouquet. The ceremony ended with the chairman calling for three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Waters. 19/12/64

At the annual carol s St. Mary's, Colton, on Lessons were read by Co Hardcastle, Mrs. B. Betts cillor G. F. Upton (chair parish council), Miss Norman, Mr. C. M. Boyc Waters and Mr. D. E. W service was conducted Rector, the Rev. A. S. T



COLTO

At Colton the church wardens, accompanied tor, the Rev. A. S. T from the church to t for a short service.

TO GIVE 'FUNDS' HELP FOR CHURCHYARD SCHEME

But on condition its not the P.C.C. plan !

Reprinted Mercury 24/1/64

VILLAGERS at a parish meeting at Colton on Friday decided they would help the rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and the Parochial Church Council with funds for burial ground extensions if they agreed to start work on the site by the church . . . but not if they went ahead with their plan to extend the existing cemetery !

Mr. Towlson suggested to the meeting that if a retaining wall was built on the western boundary of the cemetery, and the land was backfilled to the level of the remainder of the cemetery, it would safeguard the burial rights for several years to come.

The Parochial Church Council ...olved this alternative burial ...ound proposal to tide the vil... over for about eight years ..., as it was felt the question ... one in which all should be ...olved and the P.C.C. did not ...e sufficient funds to undertake ... large scale development, they ...ed the Parish Council to call ...ublic meeting.

...r. Towlson told the meeting ... their cemetery was "almost ...71" There were in fact only ... grave spaces left. He thought ... problem ought to be looked at ... rational light, and as there ... a problem of raising a cer... £40 amount of money he thought ... pedient that as many people ... possible should "have a say" ... the start.

"But the first thing we ought ... decide as a parish is whether ... or not we want a burial ... ground in Colton," said Mr. ...illswlson. He put this question ... the meeting and received a ... unanimous decision that the ... burial ground should be re... used.

Stormy discussion

The Rector's second question ... concerned the responsibility for ... any expense which would be in... curred in connection with the ... burial ground, but it was a ques... tion which remained unanswered.

Instead there followed a stormy discussion in opposition to the Parochial Church Council's plan to extend the present cemetery.

It was the general feeling of the meeting that money should not be spent on extending the cemetery but that the site origi... ally earmarked for a burial ground extension — near to the church—should be tidied up and consecrated, and used for the purpose for which it was intend...

Mr. Towlson was ruled "out of order" by Parish Councillor ... Hardcastle when he began to talk to the meeting about the plans for a new church school. He said the extension of the land earmarked for a burial ground had not been proceeded with because of what he thought to be a more press... ing problem, that of a new or ... unfurnished school.

The school managers had put forward proposals that, in the event of a compulsory purchase order on land by the existing school not being confirmed, the churchyard extension should be used for a new school and play... ing field.

"If a decision is to be taken at high level as to whether we have a school or a burial ground, I think most people, especially the parents of young children, would make the choice of a school," commented Mr. Towlson.

He added that he would only be too pleased to see the land used for a burial ground exten... sion, but the children came first in his opinion.

Councillor Hardcastle said the compulsory purchase order was proceeding slowly and there was no doubt that it would have a successful conclusion. "My sug... gestion is to get the land by the church consecrated as soon as possible and utilise it for the purpose it was given," he said.

He added that he was convinced Mr. Towlson was relying on wishful thinking as far as the order was concerned. He should let local government take its course.

'Bomb site'

Mrs. J. H. Toy asked: "If the cemetery is extended will we have to put up with the "bomb site" across the road for another five or six years?"

Mr. Towlson told the meeting that the land by the church had not been tidied up before because they did not have the funds, to which Mr. T. Preston replied: "Get on with it now, the funds will have to come from somewhere and the public will help."

Councillor Hardcastle said they should recommend the P.C.C. to take steps to have the piece of land by the church consecrated at the earliest possible moment, and to make arrangements for an extension to the existing cemetery to provide additional graves until the new burial ground is completed.

The meeting agreed with his proposition, but Mr. Towlson pointed out that there were still no concrete proposals as to where the money was coming from. Mr. J. C. Price then proposed that if the P.C.C. decided to start on the new burial ground "we will pay," but if they decided to fill the present cemetery to capacity they could provide the funds themselves.

Colton Mothers' Union met in the Reading Room on Tuesday after... ... meeting of 1965. The ... was lower than ... dress and the ... Mrs P. B. Best. ... present.

... Colton the Rev. ... conducting a ... the speaker. Mrs. ...

MOTHER'S UNION. — Colton Mother's Union met in the Reading Room for their first meeting of 1965. The attendance was somewhat lower than usual due to illness. The enrolling member, Mrs P. B. Best, was one member unable to be present. The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, conducted a



December 1964

Books were given as Christmas presents to all the children attending Colton Church School, during the school party on Tuesday afternoon. Invited to the party, as usual, were children under the age of five who will be starting school during the following year. The picture (above) shows these children receiving books, with the Rev. A. S. Towlson and Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Waters. The school children took part in biblical ... day.

COLTON 1965

THE staff stood back and the children took over at Colton school just before they broke up for their Christmas holidays. The occasion was a presentation to Mr. D E Waters, headmaster at the school for the past five years, who has taken a post near Preston.

The children, under the chairmanship of one of their number, William Haynes, presented parting gifts to Mr. Waters. William opened by saying: "We don't want Mr. Waters to go without some gift of appreciation for all he has done for the school during his stay as headmaster."

He then introduced Delia Knight, one of the first children to enter the school after Mr. Waters took over, who presented him with an electric clock, and then Neil Peake, who presented a reader's scarf for the diocese of Blackburn and a case for Mr. Water's robe.

Kevin Upton presented Mrs. Waters with a bouquet.

William ended the ceremony by calling for three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Waters.

COLTON W.I. members enjoyed a social evening last week, following the business of the December meeting. Mrs. I. Preston (president) presided.

Mrs. Preston gave a potted plant to Mrs. M. L. Waters, a member, who is soon to leave the district. Mrs. Preston wished Mrs. Waters well, and added that the institute would miss her very much.

Mrs. Waters thanked the members for making her stay in the village a pleasure. She added that she intends to join the W.I. in Barton when she has settled in.

The institute accepted an invitation to Blithfield Christmas party and Colwich party.

During the evening a wall competition was arranged by Mrs. M. R. Taylor and was won by Mrs. I. R. Brown. A game of crazy whist was arranged by Mrs. M. S. Toy. The winners being Mr. I. R. Brown and Mrs. D. M. Preston.

A competition for a Christmas ... arranged by Mrs. ... won by ...

GUILD SOCIAL.—Colton Village Produce Guild held their New Year social in the Reading Room, the Chairman (Mr. T. Preston) welcoming a good attendance of members and guests, including members of the Abbots Bromley, Colwich and Slitting Mill Guilds. The highlight of the evening was a fancy dress parade judged by visitors from the Abbots Bromley and Slitting Mill Guilds. The awards were: Girls, Helen Myatt (Oxo), Gwendoline Ravenscroft (Hula Girl), Diane Peet (Little Old Lady). Boys, Tony Wright (Scarecrow), Keith Willlscroft (Indian Rajah), Vernon Norman (Chimney sweep). Ladies, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs (Departed spirits), Mrs. I. V. Collins and Mrs. J. E. Wright (the Ugly Sisters), Miss Christine Leeke (Historical Lady). Gents, Mr. Jack Brown (Gipsy), Mr. G. Hancocks (Jimmy Savile) and Mr. Leslie Devall (Pirate). Games and dancing were enjoyed to music by Messrs. Tom Done and Ben Jackson. A wall puzzle (jumbled rose names) arranged by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, was won by Mrs. A. Starbuck (48 names out of a possible 48), Mrs. Gregory being second. Refreshments were arranged by Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. Hibbs, Mrs. J. Garwood and Mrs. Wright.

MOTHERS' UNION.—Colton Mothers' Union met for their January meeting in the Reading Room. The attendance was somewhat lower than usual due to illness, the Enrolling Member (Mrs. P. B. Best) being among those unable to be present. The Rector (the Rev. A. S. Towlson) conducted the short service and also officiated at the piano. Mrs. L. R. Earp, of Grindley, held the ...

Rugeley Times, Saturday, November 28, 1964.

COLTON PRESSURE FOR NEW BURIAL GROUND

A W Neals Report

COLTON Cemetery, with only two more grave spaces left, could have its life extended by about eight years if the Parochial Church Council received financial help from the villagers in raising about £200 for the building of a retaining wall. This was the message given to an emergency parish meeting by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, on Friday.

But the villagers disagreed and pressed the rector to go ahead immediately with the original plan for creating a new burial ground on the land near the Rectory.

The opinion was repeatedly expressed that the rector was being unduly pessimistic about the outcome of a compulsory purchase order for land needed for the modernisation of the church school. He was proposing that the burial ground site be kept vacant pending this decision, in case an alternative scheme for a new school had to be resorted to, using the burial ground site.

Councillor G. F. Upton, chairman of Colton Parish Council, presided at the meeting, but pointed out that the parish council were present only as "interested parishioners."

Mr. Towlson explained that on the western boundary of the cemetery, parallel with a brook, was a path which could be used for further burials if the level was raised to that of the remainder of the cemetery and a retaining wall built.

"The first thing that needs deciding is, do we need a burial ground in Colton or is this something which we take for granted, but are not prepared to pay for?" asked the rector.

PEOPLE'S RIGHT

It was generally agreed that there was a need for the retention of facilities for burial in the village as it was a right of the people to be buried where they wished.

Capt. J. A. Best, former secretary of the P.C.C., pointed out that if the original proposal had been allowed to proceed several years ago the problem of "propping up" the present cemetery would never have arisen. The field near the rectory had been bought specifically for the purpose, he claimed, being exchanged for another field adjoining the cemetery which the P.C.C. had in the past considered unsuitable.

Councillor F. Hardcastle asked the rector why this new proposal had been suddenly brought forward as an emergency, when the burial position had been known for several years. "Why come to the village now? The initiative should have been taken earlier," he said.

When the rector began to reply by explaining the P.C.C.'s concern for safeguarding the church school's future by holding on a little longer to the site near to the Rectory, Councillor Hardcastle claimed that he was out of order in bringing school matters into the discussion.

Feelings ran high from this point onwards to the end of the two-hour meeting. The rector, who was eventually allowed to continue his explanation, reviewed the school modernisation scheme and pointed out that as a precautionary measure the P.C.C. had decided that they ought to retain the field in question in case the compulsory purchase order failed. They could then build a new school there.

He said they might have to choose between a new school or a burial ground and he thought that most people, especially parents, would rather have the school.

Mr. R. Morrall said it would be foolish to pay £150 or more for a wall for the old cemetery when they had a site for a new burial ground.

Miss D. Cooper (P.C.C. secretary) said the shortage of burial space had been noted in the P.C.C. minutes in 1952 and the field in front of the Rectory was suggested for this purpose in 1956, when it was exchanged for the field in Boughey Hall Lane.

Councillor Hardcastle returned to the fray, saying that the school question was proceeding normally and he saw no likelihood of a hitch in the granting of the compulsory purchase order "You have got the ground, get it consecrated quickly," he told the rector.

The point was made by one speaker that it was not necessary for the church to retain a school in Colton, and that if they had no site for one the County Council would build a county primary school instead.

The rector and others disagreed saying that the county council were not likely to replace a small aided school but would transport the children by bus to a school elsewhere.

"BOMB SITE"

Mrs. J. H. Toy asked if extension of the existing cemetery would mean they would have to suffer the "bomb site" near the church for another five or six years.

Mr. J. C. Price thought that burials in an extension to the cemetery would not comply with the regulations, as from outside the proposed wall the graves would be only three feet deep. If the graves were dug deeper they would be in water, he pointed out.

Pressed for an explanation of the delay in preparing the field as a burial ground, the rector said money had not been forthcoming for continuing the work. (The ground had been levelled, a road cut through and some trees removed several years ago).

Mr. T. Preston said funds would be forthcoming if the rector now proceeded with the work, which involves construction of a retaining wall to tone with the church. "You have got the public behind you if you carry on with this ground," he said.

Mr. J. H. Toy thought that 99 per cent. of the people did not want a new school "across the road" but preferred to have the old one modernised. "So get on with the new burial ground," he said.

After a long discussion the parishioners accepted a resolution by Councillor Hardcastle that the parish desired the P.C.C. to take steps at their next meeting for the consecration of the new burial ground at the earliest possible moment, and to make provision in the existing cemetery only for sufficient further burial space to last until the consecration of the new ground was completed.

The rector was repeatedly assured that if the new scheme was approved by the P.C.C., the village would be behind him and the money forthcoming.

Mr. Towlson said there was after all, a great measure of agreement between them, because this meant that his original hope of a new ground would be fulfilled.

The meeting carried a further resolution, proposed by Mr. Price that if the P.C.C. decide to extend the existing cemetery they should pay for it, but if they decide to use the new ground the villagers would "back them to the full."



A group of dancers in a set at the Square Dance held in Rugeley Town Hall on Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Ken Alexander

MEMBERS of the A... Bromley, Colwich ... Slitting Mill Village Pr... Guilds joined the C... Guild for its annual New ... social evening held at ... Reading Room.

They, and other guests, ... welcomed by the Colton ... chairman, Mr. T. Preston.

Highlight of the evenin... a fancy dress parade judg... visitors from Abbots B... and Slitting Mill, and prize... to Helen Myatt (Oxo); G... line Ravenscroft (Hula ... Dianne Peet (Little Old ... Tony Wright (Scarecrow); ... Williscroft (Rajah); Verno... man (Chimney sweep); ... E. Hibbs (Departed spirit... I. V. Collins and Mrs. ... Wright (Ugly Sisters); ... Christine Leek (Historical ... Jack Brown (gipsy); Mr. ... cocks (Jimmy Saville); ... lie Devall (Pirate).

Music for games and ... was supplied by Tom D... Ben Jackson, and a wal... —jumbled roses — arra... Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, ... by Mrs. A. Starbuck, w... Gregory runner-up.

Refreshments were arra... Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. ... son, Mrs. Hibbs, Mrs. J. ... and Mrs. Wright. Mr. ... thanked the Colton Guild ... enjoyable evening, and ... Lang Syne" brought the ... close.

highlight ... Colton par...

1965

When Colton Village ... Guild held their New Ye... evening in the Reading Roo... chairman, Mr. T. Preston ... comed among other guests ... from Abbots Bromley, Col... Slitting Mill guilds.

Highlight of the evening ... fancy dress parade, judged b... bers of the visiting guild... parade attracted some outs... costumes and the following ... were made:- Girls: Helen ... (Oxo), Gwendoline Rave... (hula girl), Diane Peet (Lit... Lady). Boys: Tony Wright ... crow), Keith Williscroft ... rajah), Vernon Norman (c... sweep.) Ladies: Mrs. M. E. ... (departed spirits), Mrs. I. ... lins and Mrs. J. E. Wright ... Sisters), Miss Christine Lee... torical lady). Men: Mr. Jack ... (gipsy), Mr. G. Hancocks ... Savile), Mr. Leslie Devall (...

Games and dancing were e... the music being supplied b... Done and Ben Jackson. ... puzzle of jumbled rose... arranged by Mrs. B. M. Rave... was won by Mrs. A. Starbuc... a maximum of 48 names.

Mrs. Gregory came secon...

Refreshments were arra... Miss D. M. Jones and Mr... L. Jackson, Hibbs, J. Garwo... Wright. Thanks to Colton m... were expressed by Mr. Hanc... behalf of the visitors.

3,700 inn name... were recorde...

1965

The January meeting of C... Women's Institute was held i... Reading Room. The pres... Mrs. I. Preston, welcomed M... G. Tubb, of Etching Hill, ... gave a talk on "Inn Signs". ... trated by film slides.

Mr. Tubb told members ho... and his family started their co... tion of inn names when ... daughter was about 10 years o...



[illegible] of delay in settlement of a site for Colton School extension, [illegible] Church Council are reserving the plot of land near [illegible] Church (left of the picture), earmarked for a burial ground, [illegible] new school has to be built. Alternative plans for extending [illegible] cemetery were discussed last night (Friday) at a parish [illegible] meeting, as only two grave spaces remain in the cemetery.

'Grave' problem is facing Colton emergency meeting

A MATTER of life and death confronting Colton needs to be [illegible] very soon — before three more villagers die, in fact. For unless they are cremated, there will be nowhere in the [illegible] where the third can be buried.

[illegible] Friday's meeting of [illegible] Parochial Church Council [illegible] was drawn to the [illegible] situation by the [illegible] Rev. A. S. Towlson. [illegible] was only room [illegible] two new [illegible] there would be [illegible] more cremated [illegible]

[illegible] was expressed that the [illegible] a parish burial ground [illegible] which all should be [illegible] only the P.C.C., [illegible] had not sufficient [illegible] undertake any large-[illegible]

[illegible] had to carry out [illegible] would mean the [illegible] bearing the burden.

[illegible] discussion was [illegible] that the Parish Council [illegible] a public emergency [illegible] as possible.

[illegible] a site near [illegible] earmarked for [illegible] but this [illegible] proceeded with [illegible] and even more [illegible] the need for a [illegible] school.

[illegible] held up owing [illegible] obtaining land [illegible] extension of the [illegible] The site is now the [illegible] compulsory purchase [illegible] a parish meeting [illegible] and attended [illegible] of education, Mr. [illegible]

Mr. Towlson went on to explain that the P.C.C. had therefore evolved an alternative burial ground proposal which would tide them over about eight years, and this was to be the subject of the public meeting.

If a retaining wall were built on the western boundary, where the ground falls away, and the land was backfilled up to the level of the remainder of the cemetery, there would be room for 30 to 40 more graves, he explained. Alternatively, if a strip of adjoining land were bought, the wall could be erected still further back, allowing grave space for many more years.

"I feel that as the issue is between live children and dead bodies we must come down on the side of the children and retain the possible school site until the outcome of the negotiations by the county council. This is one of the [illegible]

PARTY. — The New Year party of Colton Women's Institute was very well attended by members and guests. The president, Mrs Ivy Preston, welcomed the company, which included representatives of Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Etching Hill, Slitting Mill and Stowe by Chartley W.I.s and a special welcome was accorded a visitor, Mrs Boult from a W.I. in Somerset. After an excellent meal entertainment was in the hands of Mr C. Barham and music for dancing was supplied by Messrs Tom Done and Ben Jackson. A par-

W.I. — The first 1965 meeting of Colton Women's Institute took place in the Reading Room, attendance being fair. The president, Mrs I. Preston took the chair. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Other business included arrangements for a New Year Party. The president welcomed Mr C. E. Tubb, of Etching Hill, who gave a talk on inn signs. His talk was illustrated with coloured film slides. Mr Tubb told members that he and his family started making lists of inn signs when his daughter was ten years old to keep her interested whilst travelling. In the first seven months, the list reached 400 names and the present figure is 3,700. The competition for the evening — a hat to represent an inn sign — this was won by Mrs P. M. Buckley whose hat represented the Star and Garter. Tea hostesses were: Mrs M. R. Taylor, Mrs M. S. Toy and Mrs J. E. Wright. The mystery prize went to Mrs I. R. Brown. Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft gave the vote of thanks.

Colton. — The President (Mrs. I. Preston) presided at the January meeting held in the Reading Room. Mr. Tubb, of Etching Hill, Rugeley, gave an interesting talk on "Inn Signs" illustrated with film slides. He told members how he and his family started their list of inn names when his daughter was about ten years of age, to keep her occupied when travelling. In about seven months they had collected 400; the list was [illegible]

Colton. — The annual New Year party, held in the Reading Room, was very well attended by members and guests. The President (Mrs. Ivy Preston) warmly welcomed the company, which included representatives of Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Etching Hill, Hixon, Slitting Mill and Stowe-by-Chartley W.I.s A special welcome was accorded a visitor, Mrs. Boult, from a W.I. in Somerset. Following the excellent meal entertainment was in the hands of Mr. Cliff Barham, and music for dancing was supplied by Messrs. Tom Done and Ben Jackson. A parade of fancy hats to represent inn signs (this was a follow up of the successful competition at the last meeting) was judged by the visitors who, by vote, awarded prizes to: Miss D. M. Jones (The Swan with Two

INN SIGNS INSPIRED W.I. HAT DESIGNS

A parade of fancy hats representing inn signs—a follow-up [illegible] a competition at the previous meeting—was a feature of the annual New Year party organised by Colton W.I.

Mrs. I. Preston (president) welcomed the company, which included representatives from Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Etching Hill, Slitting Mill, Stowe-by-Chartley and Hixon W.I.s. She gave a special welcome to Mrs. Boult, a W.I. visitor from Somerset.

Entertainment after the meal was supervised by Mr. C. Barham, and music for dancing was by Tom Done and Ben Jackson.

The visitors acted as judges for the inn signs competition and awarded prizes to Miss D. M. Jones (The Swan With Two Necks), Mrs. I. Preston (The Windmill) and Mrs. J. E. Wright (The Headless Woman).

Mrs. Boult expressed the thanks of all the visitors to the Colton members.

COLTON W.I.

Colton Women's Institute met for their first meeting of 1965 in the Reading Room, the President, Mrs. I. Preston, presiding. Arrangements were discussed in connection with the New Year party. The President welcomed Mr. Tubb of Etching Hill, who gave an interesting talk on 'Inn Signs,' illustrated with film slides. He told members how he and his family started their list of Inn names when his daughter was about ten years of age, to keep her occupied when travelling. In about seven months they had collected 400, and now the list was around 3,700.

Members' thanks to Mr. Tubb were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Mr. Tubb also judged the competition of the evening, which was 'a hat to represent an Inn Sign.' He awarded the prize to Mrs. P. M. Buckley; her hat represented 'The Star and Garter.' There were some interesting 'models' in this competition. Tea hostesses were Mrs. M. R. Taylor, Mrs. M. S. Toy and Mrs. J. E. Wright, and the mystery prize went to Mrs. I. R. Brown.

Colton idea

The need for an Old People's Welfare Council in Colton was urged at a public meeting in the School arranged by the Parish Council.

The Chairman of the council (Mr. G. F. Upton) presided and welcomed the two speakers on welfare work for the aged. Dr. C. E. Jamison, Area Medical Officer of Health for Lichfield Rural Council, and Mr. D. M. Gibb, Secretary of Staffordshire Rural Community Council.

Mr. Fred Hardcastle whose idea it was originally that an Old People's Welfare Council be formed—asked the public to support the Parish Council whole-heartedly in the scheme.

The Rector, (the Rev. A. S. Towlson), however, said he did not think there was any need for "yet another committee" in Colton. Things were already being done for the aged.

dance at the November meeting of Colton village produce guild was somewhat poor. Mr. T. Preston, chairman, presided. A report of the county executive meeting was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. A letter was read from the Parish council asking that the guild appoint a representative on the proposed ol' people's welfare council. Mrs. J. E. Wright offered to attend any meeting called and report back to the guild. The hon. secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, drew members' attention to the new rota for refreshments, which now needed to be filled in. The chairman introduced Mr. G. S. Flint, of a King's Bromley nurseries, who talked on the growing of various varieties of soft fruit, and extended an invitation to members to visit his nurseries next summer. Mr. Flint who was thanked by Mr. J. H. Toy. The competition for the evening was an "arrangement from the hedgerow". The exhibits were really outstanding. Mr. Flint, awarded the prize to Mrs. I. Preston. The raffle for soft fruit bushes given by Mr. Flint was won by Miss Ruth Ravenscroft, Mr. Toy and the chairman. Attending to tea and biscuits were Miss Jones, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Wright.

REMEMBRANCE:— Remembrance service at Colton, took the usual form, the Rector the Rev. A. S. Towlson, church wardens, lay reader and choir walking in procession from the church to the war memorial. The Rector conducted the service and the silence was observed. The chairman of the parish council Mr. G. F. Upton, laid the parish councillors' wreath on the memorial. After this the procession formed up again, followed by the Mother's Union banner carried by Mrs. E. Bettson, with Mrs. I. Preston and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft as escorts. A good number of the congregation also followed on foot to church for the parish communion service.

PARISH COUNCIL. — All members of Colton Parish Council were present at a meeting held in the reading room last week, the chairman, Councillor G. F. Upton, presiding. Regarding the proposed formation of an old people's welfare council, a letter from Mr D. M. Gibb, offered any help needed. Councillor Fred Hardcastle suggested it might be a good thing if a public meeting were held, perhaps early in the new year, when Mr Gibb could explain various matters, with the support of the medical officer of the rural council and, if possible, a representative of South Staffordshire Council of Social Service A letter was read regarding Councillor Luke Mellor's application for diversion of the footpath which (in its present position) leads through his garden at Little Hey. Mr Mellor's suggestion it start some yards to the south of the long stile was accepted by the council. A vacancy on Colton parish lands trust was discussed at length. Councillor J. C. Price was appointed the parish council's second representative on this body. Arising from the minutes was the question of the boundary review. At the last meeting, parish councillors had unanimously passed a resolution that a strong protest go to Lichfield Rural Council, against the demands of Rugeley Urban Council to extend their boundary taking in part of Colton parish. Councillors Price proposed and A. V. Hardcastle seconded, that a public meeting be called soon as possible, so that the public could be enlightened and made aware of the serious nature of this matter. Councillor F. Hardcastle proposed that Mr N. Barton, clerk to the R.D.C., Mr W. H. Arnold, treasurer, Mr J. G. Rimand, surveyor and County Councillor J. E. Riley, be asked to attend and explain these facts to public. A letter was read from Mr Bert Warren, regarding the proposal of the telephone manager to transfer

advice on pot plants

1964

The December meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild took place in the Reading Room, Mr. T. Preston (chairman) presiding.

An invitation to their annual party was accepted from Abbots Bromley Guild, and a letter was read from the Parochial Church Council's secretary, asking if the guild would appoint a member to read a lesson at the Carol service. It was agreed that Mr. C. M. Boycott be asked to undertake this.

Arrangements for the annual New Year social evening were announced. Ideas for the entertainment were invited, and members were urged to go in fancy dress if possible.

A letter from the Parish Council gave notice of a public meeting to be held in the schoolroom, on December 18, to discuss proposed changes in parish boundaries.

The chairman introduced Mr. J. Ivison, chairman of the newly-formed Lichfield Gardening Guild, who gave a talk on pot plants, and answered numerous questions.

Thanks to Mr. Ivison were voiced by Mr. Percy Tabernor. Mr. Ivison also judged the competition for a pot plant, and awarded the prize to Mrs. I. Preston.

The Guild competition was won by Mrs. C. M. Sanders (bottle of sherry given by Mrs. I. V. Collins) and Mrs. J. Garwood and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (apples given by Mr. Preston). Hostesses were Mrs. M. E. Hibbs and Mrs. J. E. Wright.

Public Health gives Colton farm a 'clean bill'

AFTER inspecting a pithole at a Colton poultry farm alleged to be infested with rats which fed on dead hens, a field Rural Council public health inspector has stated that no ground for complaint now exists.

A letter from a parishioner, Mr. J. F. Peet, to Colton Parish Council complained of stench and nuisance. It was corroborated at the meeting by the clerk and a member and this led to the parish council asking for an immediate inspection of the premises.

After the report of the public health inspector was received, Councillor F. Hardcastle (rural councillor for the parish) and Councillor J. C. Price (vice-chairman of the parish council) inspected the site.

On Tuesday Councillor G. F. Upton (chairman of the parish council) issued a statement to the "Times" revealing that no grounds or complaint existed now. "Poultry carcases were being destroyed effectively and the rat infestation was of a minor nature," he statement said.

In a letter to the "Times," Mr. F. Peet, of Cedar Cottage, Colton, states:

"On October 1 1964, I wrote to the parish council complaining of certain conditions then existing at the poultry farm.

"This letter was considered by the parish council at their meeting last week and resulted in certain recommendations being made to the Rural Council in Lichfield. Officers of the R.D.C. visited the farm with the most commendable promptitude and reported back that there was then nothing existing which merited complaint.

"This was reported to the Parish Council representative, Mr. F. Hardcastle, both verbally and in writing, and on Sunday, December 6, Mr. Hardcastle and Mr. J. C. Price visited the farm to confirm for themselves the accuracy of the R.D.C. report. Later that day they asked me to accompany them so that I could see for myself that there was no cause for complaint. I did so any was agreeably surprised to find conditions greatly improved.

"Arising out of all this and from comments made I am with justification brought to the conclusion that it is felt that made a frivolous and quite groundless complaint. On this issue I would like to point out the only valid facts of the matter: (1) my letter was written on October 1 and related to conditions then and immediately previously existing; (2) it was considered and acted upon during the week beginning November 30 when conditions then were found to be acceptable.

"It would, therefore, seem that congratulations are due to the parish council for contacting the rural council so quickly; to the R.D.C. for their own prompt action, and to the owner for having so adequately put right the conditions which caused me in the first place to put pen to paper.

"To conclude, I will say that I never have and do not intend ever seeking daily reports on how the farm is run."

COLTON

CHURCH COUNCIL:— A emergency meeting of Co parochial church council to de what was the best action to with regard to the cemetery. Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towl said that following the recom dation passed at the recent p meeting, there appeared to be or no support regarding proposed building of a retai wall to prolong the use of cemetery. There was, how apparent support for the burial ground extension nea church, but he remained firm nothing could be done on ground till the result of the c pulsory purchase order on needed for the school was kno It was agreed to get two loads soil and build up part of the space left in the cemetery wit a retaining wall, as a tempor solution until something is d There is only space now for more grave.

HOCKEY:— In a ladies key match at Wilmour Farm, ton, Colton and other bran of the Lichfield and Tamw Conservative Association pl a Stafford and Stone team. "home" team played with member short, their players be Mrs. I. W. Bigham, Miss Par Mrs. Cartmail, Mrs. Ben Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. J. Titte Mrs. Munro, Miss Janet Brod Mrs. P. W. Sharp, and Mrs. H ley. They lost 3-2, to the St and Stone team which inc Mrs. G. Wells-Bowen, Mrs. Wildblood, Mrs. D. John Mrs. H. Davis, Mrs. H. Bark Mrs. C. Phillips, Mrs. D. Carr Mrs. R. Wheeler, Miss S. lock, Mrs. E. Boulton, and B. Chambers. The referee Mrs. Duncan Moore.

PRODUCE GUILD:— December meeting of Co Village Produce Guild took p in the Reading Room, Mr. Preston Chairman presiding. invitation to their annual p was accepted by the Abbots Br ley guild, and a letter from Parochial Church Council, a if the guild would appoint a m ber to read a lesson at a c service. It was agreed that C. M. Boycott to do this. Arra ments for the New Year so were announced and memb were urged to go in fancy d if possible. A letter was from if possible. A letter from the pa council said that public me fixed for December 18, in school would discuss the bo dary review. The chair introduced Mr. J. Ivison, ch man of the newly formed L field Gardening Guild, who g a talk on pot plants, and a wered questions. Thanks to Ivison were expressed by Percy Tabernor. The g speaker also judged the co petition for a pot plant, and a ded the prize to Mrs. I. Pres A raffle was won by Mrs. C. Sanders, Mrs. J. Garwood, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. H tesses were Mrs. M. E. H and Mrs. J. E. Wright.

WHIST:— A whist drive ganised by the committee of C ton Conservative branch place in the Reading Room, P. W. Westhorpe being M. The prizes were presented by Westhorpe to Mrs. B.

TORY HOCKEY K.O. FOR VILLAGERS

MERCURY

A HOCKEY match between ladies of the Colton and other branches of the Conservative Association and a team of Stafford and Stone players resulted in a three—two win for the latter team.

The Colton side, who were one member short, were Mesdames Bigham, Cartmail, Bennett, Higgins, Tittensor, Munro, Sharp and Hindley, and the Misses Parrott and Brookes.

The combined Stafford and Stone team was Mesdames Wells-Bowen, Wildblood, Johnson, Davis, Barkley, Phillips, Carryer, Wheeler, Boulton, Chambers and Miss Bullock. The referee was Mrs. Duncan Moore.

Colton Village Produce Guild 13/12/64

Attendance at the November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was somewhat poor, due to it coming on the 5th! Mr. T. Preston, chairman, presided, and a report of the County Executive meeting was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

A letter was read from the Parish Council asking that the Guild appoint a representative on the proposed Old People's Welfare Council. Mrs. J. E. Wright offered to attend any meeting called and report back to the Guild. The secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, drew members' attention to the new rota for refreshments, which now needs to be filled in.

The chairman introduced Mr. G. S. Flint, of Wood Shoot Nurseries, Kings Bromley, who talked on the growing of various varieties of soft fruit, and extended an invitation to members to visit his nurseries next summer. Members' thanks to Mr. Flint were accorded by Mr. J. H. Toy.

The competition for the evening was an "arrangement from the hedgerow"; the exhibits were really outstanding, showing what

COLTON CAROLLERS

Lessons during the annual carol service held at St. Mary's, Colton,

W.I. MEETING. — When Colton Women's Institute met for their October meeting in the Reading Room, Mrs I. Preston, president presiding, welcomed the guest speaker Mrs B. Bowen of Colwich, and Mrs Ivy James, who after a break of some years, has rejoined the Institute. She was a founder member. Two new members welcomed are Mrs M. E. Hibbs and Mrs Joan E. Wright. Business dealt with included a request from the Parish Council for a representative to serve on the old peoples welfare council. No volunteer coming forward. The president asked Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft if she would attend the first meeting and report back. Arrangements were made regarding transport to the Milk Marketing Board [illegible] at Walsall and for the [illegible] to Colwich W.I. Invitations to [illegible] and Slitting Mill parties were accepted and arrangements made in connection with the autumn group meeting at [illegible] Chartley on Monday. Members taking part in the entertainment to be staged at this are Mrs Ivy Preston, producer, Mrs Carol Sanders, Mrs Dorothy Atkin, Mrs Betty Barham, Mrs Norah Jones, Mrs Joan Pamlett, Mrs Margaret Evans, Mrs Mary Tayler and Mrs Vera Collins. Miss Dorothy Jones will be at the piano. It was announced that cake icing classes will commence on November [illegible]. Mrs Bowen and her son Craig gave demonstrations with their [illegible] recorder and organised a quiz, winners being Mrs M. M. Dale, Mrs S. J. Doughty, and Mrs C. M. Sanders. A vote of thanks to Mrs Bowen and her son was proposed by Mrs D. M. Atkin. A report of the autumn council meeting was given by Mrs Sanders, the delegate, the visitor being Mrs E. M. Sargeant. Tea hostesses were Mrs L. Jackson, Mrs Jones and Miss Jones. The stall was in the charge of Mrs M. G. Bennett and Mrs June Meddings. The mystery prize went to Mrs F. Benson and the competition [illegible] on young people was won by Mrs I. R. Brown.

GUEST SPEAKER FO[R] COLTON GUILD

THE guest speaker at th[e] monthly meeting of th[e] Colton Village Produce Guil[d] was Mr. J. Ivison, who is chairman of the newly formed Lichfield Gardening Guild.

Mr Ivison gave an interestin[g] talk on pot plants and answere[d] numerous questions. He als[o] judged the competition for a po[t] plant and awarded the prize t[o] Mrs. I Preston. Thanks wer[e] given to Mr. Ivison by Mr. F Taberner.

An invitation from the Abbot[s] Bromley Guild for Colton to g[o] to their party was accepted an[d] arrangements were made for th[e] annual social in January. It wa[s] agreed that Mr. C. M. Boycot[t] was to undertake the job of read[-]ing a lesson at the carol service.

FAREWELL' GIFTS TO HEADMASTER FROM HIS PUPILS

Before "breaking up" for their Christmas holidays, pupils at Colton school had one more task to do—hand over gifts to their headmaster, Mr. D. E. Waters, who has now left Colton for a new appointment near Preston.

The gifts—an electric clock, a lay reader's scarf for the Diocese of Blackburn and a case for his robes—had come from both staff and children, but the staff took no part in the ceremony for which William Haynes was appointed chairman.

He said: "We don't want Mr. Waters to go without some gift of appreciation for all he has

COLTON

COFFEE EVENING. — A coffee evening held in the village school raised £47 clear profit for church funds. The door attendant was Mr C. M. Boycott. At the bring and buy stall were Mrs G. E. Finnemore, Mrs J. Fowell and Mrs D. M. Atkin. Refreshments were in the hands of Mothers Union members Mrs P. B. Best Mrs H. A. Williscroft, Mrs E. Bettson, Miss E. Rotchell, Mrs M. L. Waters, Mrs N. Westhorpe, Mrs E. Griffin, Mrs May Cooper, Mrs E. M. Sargeant, Mrs I. Preston, Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs Sheila Deacon. Entertainment items were given by the school pupils, one item being illustrated. The Rector, the Rev A. S. Towlson, thanked the headmaster and staff for this with film slides. A draw promoted by Mr J. Tittensor, rector's warden, was won by V. Eden, P. W. Sharp, E. Jones, Mr Andrews, H. Collier, Elaine Leeke A. Gregory, M. Slyn, Mrs Riding, Southport, Joanna Mellor, R. H. Bannister, Mrs A. Alcock, Mr D. E. Waters who is leaving Colton after five and a half years as headmaster of the school, was thanked by the rector for all the work he has done in school and village. Mr Towlson went on to say there had been 75 (short listed to 6) applications for the post of headmaster and on Thursday last the managers had appointed Mr Alexander William McDowall, of Mickleover, Derby.

W.I. — Business was cut to the minimum to allow for social activities at the December meeting of Colton W.I. Mrs I. Preston presented a pot plant to Mrs M. L. Waters, who was leaving the village for Barton near Preston. Mrs Waters said she had enjoyed being a W.I. member at Colton and hoped to join the W.I. in her new home. An invitation to Blithfield Christmas party was accepted by Mrs D. Deacon, and Mrs. I James, and an invitation to a Colwich party by Mrs N. Jones and Mrs V. Pratt. A wall competition, arranged by Mrs M. R. Taylor, was won by Mrs I. R. Brown. A game of crazy whist was organised by Mrs M. S. Toy. Winners bein[g] Mrs D. M. Preston and Mrs Brown. A competition for a Christmas table centre arrangement was won by Mrs B. Barham, who also won a cake given by Mrs Jones. A chicken given by the president was raffled by Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft, and won by Mrs N. Westhorpe. The proceeds from this £2 11s. 6d. are to go towards the old people's fund. Mrs Taylor played the piano for carol singing. Hostesses were Mrs Pratt, Mrs James, Mrs C. M. Sanders and Mrs E. M. Sargeant. A Christmas stall was in charge of Mrs E. Bettson, Mrs D. M. Atkin, Mrs H. A. Williscroft.

... public meeting

A PUBLIC meeting, arranged by Colton parish council to discuss the formation of an Old People's Welfare Council, was held in the schools.

The Area Medical Officer of Health, Dr. C. E. Jamison, and the secretary of the Staffordshire Rural Community Council, Mr. D. M. Gibb, were present at the meeting.

Cllr. F. Hardcastle, who suggested that a council should be formed, asked the public for support in this scheme, which would be an asset to the parish. The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, said that he did not think there

Emergency meeting call over the cemetery

AN emergency meeting of the Colton Parochial Church Council was called last week to discuss what action should be taken with regard to the cemetery.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, said that there appeared to be little or no support to his proposals to build a retaining wall to prolong the use of the cemetery.

There was, he said, no apparent support for the new extension near the church, but nothing could be done about this until the result of a compulsory land order is known.

It was agreed that soil should be built up on the part of the spare space left in the cemetery which is without a retaining wall.

COLTON

GUILD: The February meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room. The chairman, Mr. T. Preston, presided and welcomed the guest speaker, Mr. Gilman, from Edingale, who showed film slides taken in gardens in various parts of the world. Mr. Gilman was thanked by Mrs. C. M. Sanders. A bulb competition, judged by Mr. Gilman, was won by Mrs. L. Jackson, with a bowl of blue hyacinths. Business items included a report by Mrs. J. E. Wright of the public meeting regarding the formation of an old people's welfare council, and a report by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft on the bi-monthly meeting of the county executive members. A letter was read from the appeals committee for donations to the Rural Community Council, and following a proposal from Mrs. Sanders a collection was taken for this purpose. The secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, drew attention to the list of names for nomination to committee at the March meeting which is the a. g. m. A small rose bush was won by Mrs. Wright. Attending to refreshments were Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Miss Jones. Names were taken of members wishing to attend the county bulb show.

Colton M.U. plan summer outing

The Rev. B. Matthews, vicar of Colwich, and Mrs. Matthews, were present at Colton Mothers' Union meeting. Mr. Matthews conducted the service and gave a talk on St. Paul, and was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

It was decided to have an outing in the summer instead of a Shrovetide party this year.

An invitation was accepted from Abbot[s] ... at the

GUILD: The February meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room. The chairman, Mr. T. Preston, presided and welcomed the guest speaker, Mr. Gilman, from Edingale, who showed film slides taken in gardens in various parts of the world. Mr. Gilman was thanked by Mrs. C. M. Sanders. A bulb competition, judged by Mr. Gilman, was won by Mrs. L. Jackson, with a bowl of blue hyacinths. Business items included a report by Mrs. J. E. Wright of the public meeting regarding the formation of an old people's welfare council, and a report by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft on the bi-monthly meeting of the county executive members. A letter was read from the appeals committee for donations to the Rural Community Council, and following a proposal from Mrs. Sanders a collection was taken for this purpose. The secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, drew attention

SOMERSET GUEST AT THEIR PARTY

A representative of a Somerset Women's Institute, Mrs. Boult, was a guest at the New Year party of the Colton Women's Institute held in the Reading Room.

The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed guests from neighbouring villages, but was sorry to learn that Colwich could not attend.

Entertainment was provided by Mr. Cliff Barham, and music by Mr. Tom Done and Mr. Ben Jackson.

A parade of fancy hats to represent inn signs, were judged by the visitors. Miss D. M. Jones' "Swan with two necks," was awarded first prize; Mrs. I. Preston's, "The Windmill," second; and Mrs. J. Wright's "The Headless Woman," third.

Mrs. Boult, on behalf of the visitors, thanked the Colton W.I. for the enjoyable evening.

REPRESENTING COLTON W.I. AT PALACE

At the February meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, the president, Mrs. I. Preston, welcomed Mr. George Hunt who gave a talk on the care of animals. He was thanked by Mrs. N. Jones.

Mr. Hunt also judged the competition for the best animal photograph and awarded the prize to Mrs. M. R. Taylor for a photograph of her dog.

A draw was made to decide who should attend the Royal garden party at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the Women's Institute Jubilee, and the winner was Mrs. H. R. Williscroft.

Mrs. Taylor was appointed delegate to attend the Spring council meeting.

A report on the public meeting to form an old people's welfare committee was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Janice Charles, Mrs. Sylvia Jackson and Mrs. Joan Pomlett. Mrs. Pomlett won the mystery parcel.

COLTON

PRODUCE GUILD. — The February meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room, the Chairman (Mr. T. Preston) presiding. Mr. Gilman, from Edingale, gave a delightful show of film slides taken in gardens in various parts of the world. He was accorded a vote of thanks by Mrs. C. M. Sanders. The competition for a bowl of bulbs was judged by Mr. Gilman who awarded the prize to Mrs. L. Jackson for her bowl of blue hyacinths. The raffle for a small rose bush was won by Mrs. Wright. Attending to refreshments were Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Miss Jones.

[illegible] Ravenscroft reported on the bi-monthly meeting of the county executive members.

A letter was read from the appeals committee for donations to the Rural Community Council, and following a proposal by Mrs. Sanders, a collection was taken for this purpose.

Names were taken of members wishing to go to the county bulb show at Rodbaston.

It was decided that members



TIMES. December 10 64

At the Colton coffee evening a token presentation was made by Nancy Lady Bagot to Mr. D. E. Waters to mark his departure from the village for another headship. The gift, an electric fire, did not arrive in time for the presentation. Mr. and Mrs. Waters are seen on the left of the group, with Mr. F. Hardcastle, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, Mr. B. Bettson and Lady Bagot.

AT COLTON CRITICISED

COLTON parish assembly decided on Wednesday that if there is no move regarding the church school modernisation within six weeks a further public meeting should be called with the director of education.

It is now two years since all was set for the scheme to start, down to a contractor's hut being installed on the site. But land negotiations were not completed and these resulted in a compulsory purchase order which, now modified, awaits the Minister's ratification.

Mrs. P. M. Buckley (clerk) told the assembly that she had received a message from Stafford stating that the new plan defined a clear passage of 15 feet on the eastern side of the field, as an access road.

"I was told that final approval has yet to be sought from the Minister of Education and this is in process of being obtained, but no definite date for a start can be given," she said.

Mr. J. F. Peet said he could see no good reason for the landowner retaining an access as he had got one through Boughey Hall Farm.

IMMATERIAL

Councillor J. C. Price said it was immaterial to the village where the boundary was so long as they got the right acreage for the school.

Councillor G. F. Upton (chairman) said their only concern should be to get the school modernisation going forward. "There is a limit to how long we can be patient," said Councillor L. Mellor. He thought there should be another public meeting as soon as the new M.P. was Parents were more concern because there were rumo their children might be Hixon.

A recommendation by that if negotiations coul completed by June 1, the be asked to accept the o purchase order on the boundaries was not vote Councillor Mellor framed commendation calling for public meeting if there no move in six weeks.

"Someone must do so the parents must if th council cannot," said C Mellor.

construction work o canal bridge at Station Ro Rugeley to Colton "lifeli causing considerable incon to Colton people, said Mr Ballard on Wednesday. H Colton Parish Assembly that line traffic had been oper five months and the work nearly finished yet".

"For people living country transport betwee and country is most import said.

Councillor G. F. Upton out that the bridge was out jurisdiction of the parish.

Mr. R. Morrall said th largely depended on Ru its living and the bridge a great inconvenience. A using it four times a day minutes of his day gone for the lights to change.

THE next phase in the i ments to Colton Villa (formerly known as the room) must be the appear the main room, said Co J. C. Price (Village Hall Com chairman) at Colton Pari sembly on Wednesday. He s room was very shabby but being redecorated a damp must be put in.

He reported that the and new entrance would b pleted at an early date a new lighting had been fit Mr. F. G. Ballard.

The land project at the re going forward smoothly an were looking into the ques

Welfare o Colton age discussed

Following Councillor Fred H castle's suggestion that an people's welfare council shoul formed in Colton, the parish c cil called a public meeting Tuesday evening to discuss possibility.

Speakers at the meeting Dr. C. E. Jamison, Medical O of Health for Lichfield Council, and Mr. D. M. C secretary of the Staffordshire Community Council.

Councillor Hardcastle said a body of people with local nections would know the nee the elderly better than an else and would constitute a committee on which to base council.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. T son, said he did not think was any need for yet another mittee in the village, as things already being done for the of the village. He pointed that in the Odhams Cottages flats had been modernised in re years.

Mr. Gibb said that if a committee were formed it probably "snowball."

No definite decision res from the meeting.

Colton post office change

1965

Colton Post Office has moved, after 38 years at 1, Martlin Cottages.

Removal, to Cottage Stores, was necessitated by the retirement of Mrs. Constance A. Deacon, who was appointed sub-postmistress on the death of her husband and has attended to village postal duties for 26 years.

With the removal of the postal business to Cottage Stores, Mr. Jack Brown has become sub-postmaster.

At a meeting of Colton Parish Council which followed the parish assembly, a letter from the head postmaster, Stafford, was dis-

FARMERS MEET CANDIDATE AND AGENT

Miss K. Z. Hill, the new Conservative agent in succession to Mr. N. Slipper, went to a Colton branch (Conservative Association) meeting on Tuesday. It was her first engagement in the constituency. The meeting was held at Hamley House Farm by invitation of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Chilton.

7/1/65

Its purpose was to give farmers a chance to meet the new prospective Parliamentary candidate, Mr. Bruce Webb, and to discuss problems with him. Mr. J. C. Price (chairman of Colton branch) presided.

Mr. Webb said he was keen to learn all he could from farmers in his constituency so that he

COLTON

NEW CANDIDATE.—Farmers met their new prospective Conservative candidate, Mr. Bruce Webb, and discuss various problems with him at a meeting held by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Chilton, at Hamley House Farm, Colton. The Chairman of the Colton Branch (Mr. J. C. Price) presided. Miss K. Hill, the new Agent, attended.

JULIA TAYLOR

1965

Mrs. Julia Lizzie Taylor, of

A LETTER of protest against the filling-in of an attractive pool in Colton with surplus gravel from the sewerage construction was received at Colton Parish Assembly on Wednesday. It came from Mr. J. F. Peet who said the village would lose an amenity and the filling-in of the pool, obviously a seepage point, might cause the water table to rise and flood adjoining land which the Village Hall Committee were purchasing.

Councillor J. C. Price asked if the parish council would inquire whether planning permission was necessary and if so, if it had been granted.

Councillor L. Mellor thought the owner of the pool was accommodating the contractors who were desperate for sites for their spoil. If they had to transport surplus spoil a distance it would retard the work.

Mr. Peet replied that if that were so the contractors could have got rid of all their spoil by dumping it in the marlpit belonging to the Lands Trust. Alternatively, the owner of the pool had another drained pool. which was more central and had a reasonable access road.

The meeting decided to ask the parish council to write to Lichfield Rural Council for an investigation.

AT the annual assembly of the parish meeting at Colton on Thursday of last week, it was decided that Mr. Julian Snow, M.P., should be asked to press at Ministry level for a speeding up of the machinery effecting a compulsory purchase order on land needed for the modernisation of Colton Church School.

1965

It was also decided that the Education Committee should be asked to speed the application of the order.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, had informed the assembly that as an objection to the compulsory purchase order had been lodged, a local inquiry would be the next step.

Councillor L. Mellor had asked for pressure to be brought on the authorities, saying that it was a disgusting state of affairs that the school should still be as it was 40 years ago.

Councillor F. Hardcastle proposed that they should seek the help of Mr. Snow.

Councillor J. C. Price reported that planning permission had been granted for a new access to land down the Moreton Brook and this should be completed by the middle of summer. He assured Mr. G. Mellor that the new access would not create a danger.

It was decided that the village should again be entered in the Best Kept Village competition and a recommendation was made that the parish council join the "Keep Britain Tidy" scheme.

As chairman of the Reading Room Management Committee, Councillor Price reported on the details of improvements that were being planned, commencing with a kitchen improvement.

He said that in three years the Entertainments Committee with the full co-operation of the villagers, had raised more than £2,000 for the improvement of the room.

It was recommended that the parish council continue to press for some positive road improvement near the railway wall at Trent Valley.

Councillor Mellor suggested that a strongly worded letter be sent to Lichfield Rural Council expressing disgust at the delay in starting the sewerage scheme, after Councillor Hardcastle had reported that this was now out to tender.

An allegation made by Councillor Mellor that certain business carried through at meetings of a parish trust was not in order was referred to the parish council for investigation.

Mr. J. H. Toy, of Hamley Fields, sought support for a claim that he was making, that rainwater drainage affecting a field in his ownership was from the highway. He said the County Road and Bridges Committee were asking for a substantial contribution towards the cost of remedial works, as they were advised that they were only partially concerned.

Councillor L. Mellor contended that Mr. Toy should seek the usual contribution towards drainage works available for owners and occupiers of agricultural land.

The chairman, Councillor G. F. Upton, said it was difficult to give an opinion and the matter would be considered by the parish council after members had visited the site.

COLTON

24/4/65

W.I. — At the April meeting of Colton Women's Institute, president, Mrs. I. Preston, welcomed Mrs. Jean Fowell, a new member. Mrs. Preston was nominated as delegate to the annual meeting of the national federation in the Royal Albert Hall, London. The president introduced Mr. Baker, who gave a display of hand knitted garments. The following members acted as models for the garments: Mesdames I. R. Brown M. M. Daw, B. Barham, J. E. Wright, D. M Atkin, C. M. Sanders, M. R. Taylor, M. E. Hibbs, L. Jackson and N. Jones. Tea hostesses were Mesdames C. M. Amyes, D. M. Atkin, and B. Barham.

Colton. — The monthly meeting was also the annual meeting. Mrs. Norah Jones (a Vice-President) presided, and extended a welcome to Mrs. Emmenson, V.C.O., of Trysall, who gave a talk on the W.I. movement and its future; this was most enlightening to new members. Mrs. Carol M. Sanders (Hon Secretary) gave the annual report, and Mrs. Irene R. Brown (Hon. Treasurer) presented the financial statement The chairman accorded sincere thanks to Miss Ellen Rotchell (a founder member, and a Committee member of long standing, and who is retiring from the Committee) for all the hard work she has done for the W.I. over the years. No election was needed for Committee, the correct number having been nominated. The Committee for year will be:—Mesdames, I. R. Brown, L. Jackson, N. Jones, June Meddings, Joan E. Norman, I. Preston, B. M. Ravenscroft, C. M. Sanders, E. M. Sargeant, and Mary R. Taylor and Miss D. M. Jones, The President will again be Mrs. Ivy Preston. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Susan J. Doughty, Margaret E. [illegible] and Margery E. Mellor. The stall was in charge of Mrs. Ravenscroft. The mystery prize went to Mrs. Betty Barham.

Mrs. Norah Jones (vice-president) presided at the annual meeting of Colton W.I. in the absence of Mrs. I. Preston and welcomed Mrs. Emmerson, of Trysull, who gave a talk on the W.I. movement and its future.

Mrs. Jones expressed thanks for years of service by Miss E. Rotchell, a founder-member who was not seeking re-election to the committee.

Mrs. C. M. Sanders (secretary) presented the annual report and Mrs. I. R. Brown gave the financial report. Miss D. M. Jones agreed to attend the agenda conference at Stafford. 1965

There was no contest of committee appointments, and the meeting elected Mesdames I. R. Brown, L. Jackson, N. Jones, J. Meddings, J. E. Norman, I. Preston, B. M. Ravenscroft, C. M. Sanders, E. M. Sargeant and M. R. Taylor, and Miss D. M. Jones. The waiting tellers who were not needed, were Mr. M. Williscroft and Mr. D. L. Ferguson.

Mrs. Preston was re-elected president.

Mrs. Emmerson was thanked by Mrs. Brown. Tea hostesses were Mesdames S. J. Doughty, M. E. Evans and M. E. Mellor. The stall was in the charge of Mrs. Ravenscroft, and the mystery prize was won by Mrs. B. Barham.

Church affairs at Colton

At the annual church meeting of St. Mary's, Colton, the Rector (the Rev. A. S. Towlson), who presided, elected Mr. J. Tittensor as his warden for a further year, and Mr. P. W. Shaw agreed to accept office as People's Warden. April 1965

Sidesmen, besides Wardens and the Clerk (Mr. A. I. D. Collins) will be:—Messrs. C. M. Boycott, B. Bettson, A. N. Felton and M. Williscroft, lady collectors, Mesdames P. B. Best, B. M. Ravenscroft and H. A. Williscroft, and Miss Ellen Rotchell. Parochial Church Council members, with the Wardens, are, Miss D. A. Cooper (Secretary), Mr. Bettson, Mrs. G. E. Finnemore, Mr. J. C. Price, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (Diocesan representative), Mrs. V. M. Towlson and Mr. Williscroft.

The Secretary announced that there were 247 names on the church Electoral Roll.

COLTON

1965

MEETING:— At the annual parochial meeting of St. Mary's Church, Colton, the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson presiding expressed regret at the small attendance. The Rector appointed Mr. J. Tittensor as his warden. Mr. Maurice Williscroft, who for a number of years has been people's warden, said he did not intend to stand for re-election, and Mr. P. W. Sharp, agreed to fill the office for as long as he remained in Colton. Mr. W. A. Norman, accepted office as deputy. Sidesmen, besides wardens and the clerk, Mr. A. I. D. Collins, will be Messrs. C. M. Boycott, B. Bettson, A. N. Felton and M. Williscroft; collectors, Mesdames P. B. Best, B. M. Ravenscroft and H. A. Williscroft, and Miss Ellen Rotchell. The parochial church council members with the wardens are Miss D. S. Cooper, secretary, Mr. Bettson, Mrs. G. E. Finnemore, Mr. J. C. Price, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, diocesan representative, Mrs. V. M. Towlson, Mr. Williscroft, and it was suggested that Mrs. Enid Knight be invited to join. The secretary announced that at the moment there were 247 names on the church electoral roll and the Rector thanked Miss Cooper for keeping the roll up to date. the Rector said it would be wise to keep an eye on the church roof which was waterproof at the present but which showed signs of wear. The floor of the Nave would also need attention soon. It was agreed that as the council must Budget for expenses involved in churchyard extension, to levy a coluntary church rate, the amount suggested being 6d per week per adult person in the parish. It was pointed out that all parishioners, irrespective of creed or belief could demand the right to burial in the churchyard (or cemetery) and consequently should be given the opportunity to pay their fair share of the expenses involved. Mrs. M. Upton of Chase View, Heathway, having applied for the job as church cleaner was accepted.

Blithfield and Colton Mothers' Union members attended a service of Holy Communion in St. Leonard's Church, Blithfield, which was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson. 1965

Afterwards, tea was taken in the dining room of Blithfield Hall by invitation of Nancy, Lady Bagot.

Mrs. Preston, on behalf of Colton members, thanked Lady Bagot for her hospitality, and the Blithfield members and Rector for inviting them to join in their service.

... Council are to levy a voluntary ... eek on each adult in the parish, in ... ard extension. 1965

This proposal gained approval at the annual vestry and parochial church meeting on Thursday of last week, when it was pointed out that it should be realised that all parishioners, irrespective of creed or belief, may demand the right of burial in the churchyard or cemetery. Consequently they should be given the opportunity of paying their fair share of the expenses involved. This was what the church rate was designed to do.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, nominated Mr. J. Tittensor as his warden for a further year, but left over the appointment of a deputy rector's warden.

Mr. M. Williscroft, people's warden for several years, stated that he did not wish to stand for re-election, and promised to help his successor as much as possible. The office proved difficult to fill but eventually Mr. P. W. Sharp

... I. ... fol- ... B. ... llis- ... ors ... M. ... and ... vith ... Mr. ... ore, ... ens- ... ve), ... M. ... hat ... to ... the ... W. ... der, ... of ... that ... on ... was

Miss Cooper announced that there were now 247 names on the electoral roll. She

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The annual meeting of Colton Produce Guild, which had to be postponed because of weather in March, was held in the Reading Room.

Before the meeting began, members stood in silence as a tribute to the late Mr W. C. Preston, who had been a member of the Guild for many years.

Miss D. M. Jones, secretary, and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, treasurer, gave their reports. The chairman, Mr. T. Preston, was re-elected and so were the committee. Other officers are to be elected at a later meeting.

A former chairman of the Friends of Cannock Chase, Mr. C. O. L. Finlow, gave a film show of his world tour. He also showed souvenirs which he had brought from the countries he visited. Mrs. Ruth Ravenscroft

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INSTITUTE MEMBERS BECAME 'MODELS'

Members of Colton Women's Institute became "models" at their last meeting, when, after a talk by Mr. Baker, of Ro... Wools, they displayed hand knitted garments.

Models were Mesdames I.



COLTON

W.I.— At the December meeting of the Women's Institute, there was a good attendance of members and visitors. The president, Mrs. I. Preston, presided. An invitation to Colwich party was accepted by Mesdames M. M. Daw and S. J. Doughty. The speaker was Miss D. M. Jones on her recent visit to the U.S.A. by air, via Iceland and she passed round photographs. She was thanked by Mrs. N. Jones. The Christmas stallholders were: Mesdames L. Jackson, M. R. Taylor and B. M. Ravenscroft. The competition for a home-made cracker was won by Mrs. Taylor, and the raffle was won by Mesdames Preston and E. E. Bennett. Tea hostesses were: Mrs. and Miss Jones and Mrs. June Meddings. The evening concluded with carol-singing, Miss Jones at the piano. 23/12/65

CAROL SERVICE.— Christmas services at Colton Church began with a carol service for the school pupils, at which they were joined by parents, friends and members of the mothers' Union. The annual carol service was held, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore was at the organ. Lessons were read by representatives of various village organisations: Miss D. K. Cooper, entertainments committee; Mrs. B. Bettson, Mothers' Union; Mrs. M. S. Toy, parish council; Miss Kathleen Norman, youth club; Mr. R. J. N. Williams, Village Produce Guild; Mrs. M. M. Daw, W.I., and the Christmas gospel by the Rector. Collections were for church expenses.

CHRISTMAS DINNER.— Old age pensioners of Colton had a christmas dinner in the reading room. This was made possible by members of the village hall entertainment committee. Carving the turkeys was Mrs. J. H. Toy and helpers were Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs Mrs. M. R. Taylor, Mrs. E. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hardcastle, Mrs. P. L. Bannister, Mrs. R. O. Devall, Mrs. L. Curtis, Mrs. J. Garwood, Mrs. C. M. Aymes, Mrs. Vera Collins, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, and Messrs. P. J Everall and W. Yates. Transport was provided to take guests to and from the party and dinners were taken out to those unable to attend. Following the meal a film show was given by Mr. J. C. Price. The evening concluded with

A return quiz is arranged

13/11/65

ONE main feature of Colton Village Produce Guild's November meeting was a quiz with Slitting Mill guild members. Colton winning by two points.

Question master was Miss D. M. Jones (Colton secretary) and scorers were Councillor A. L. Rowley (Slitting Mill chairman) and Mr. I. H. Toy (Colton vice-chairman). Mrs. Toy (county treasurer) was timekeeper.

The winning team comprised Messrs. T. Preston, J. Meddings, J. Brown and Mrs. Preston. Slitting Mill's team were Mr. H. A. Walker, Mr. J. Binfield, Mrs. M. Hill and Mrs. L. J. Holford.

Mr. Preston welcomed the visitors and Slitting Mill guild thanks were expressed by Councillor Rowley, who invited Colton to their social evening on December 17. A return quiz was arranged for November 19.

An arrangement of autumn leaves and fruits, the competition, was judged by the votes of Slitting Mill members and Mr. Jack Brown was declared the winner.

The raffle organised by Mrs. I. E. Wright was won by Miss Susan Preston, Mrs. Hill and Mr. L. Evans. An invitation was accepted for Abbots Bromley guild's party.

COLTON were beaten in the finals of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guild's county quiz which was held on Saturday.

The Colton team, winners in the southern area, were beaten by Tittensor, who now go forward to the national quiz in September. Question-master was Mr. F. Farrer and judges were Mr. Mowforth and Miss Cherry. Mrs. D. Bullock was score keeper. 30/5/65

The quiz was held at the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston, after the annual meeting of the association. Chairman, Mr.

COLTON

MEETING: The Colton Mother's Union held the September meeting in the Reading Room, when the enrolling member Mrs. P. B. Best welcomed Mrs. P. G. Clarke, wife of the Vicar of Brereton, who conducted a short service. Mrs. Clarke talked on the importance of setting good examples to children. She was thanked by Mrs. Hilda Willscroft. Attending to tea were Miss Ellen Ratchell and Mesdames E. Griffin and E. M. Sargeant.

Death of Mrs. Cooper

9/10/65

Well known in the village for her associations with the Mothers' Union, Women's Institute and Village Produce Guild, Mrs. Alice Maud Cooper, of 49, High Street, Colton, died in Rugeley hospital last week-end. She was 74.

Mrs. Cooper was the wife of Mr. Charles William Cooper and the couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in June, 1962. She also leaves two daughters.

For many years Mrs. Cooper was a member of the Colton Mothers' Union until ill health prevented her attendance at meetings.

The funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Colton was followed by cremation.

Colton.—Names for the Paris visit next May were taken at the September meeting after members had been given further details of the trip. There was a double task for Mr. Pearce, of Rodbaston Farm Institute, who was welcomed by the President (Mrs. I. Preston). He gave a demonstration of poultry dressing and judged the cake competition, awarding first prize to Mrs. M. G. Bennett and second to Mrs. L. Jackson. He was thanked by Mrs. A. McDowall. The President agreed to attend the autumn Council meeting. Mrs. June Meddings carried out the "Pennies for Friendship" collection, Mrs. F. M. Sargeant was in charge of the stall, and Mrs. E. Bettson won the mystery prize. Tea hostesses: Mrs. D. Deacon, Mrs. S. J. Doughty and Mrs. M. E. Everall. Members were invited to attend the Village Produce Guild harvest supper on October 7th.

COLTON

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at Colton Parish Church began with the carol service for the scholars of the local school, who were joined by parents, friends and members of the Mothers' Union. The annual carol service in the church was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. S. Towlson) and

COLTON

SUMMER FAIR. — The Women's Institute summer fair, held in the Reading Room, raised about £16 for the W.I. funds. Helpers included Miss Ellen Rotchell, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. N. Jones, Mrs. I. R. Brown, Mrs. M. C. Harvey, Mrs. P. L. Bannister, Mrs. June Meddings, Mrs. E.

M.U. tribu... Colton fun...

Representatives ... Colton branch of the ... Union—of which ... member—formed a ... honour at the funer... Alice Maud Cooper, ... of Mr. C. W. Coope... High-street, Colton.

Mrs. Cooper and ... band celebrated their ... wedding in June, 19...

Cremation at Staf... Friday was preceded ... service at St. Mary's C... Colton, conducted ... Rector (the Rev. ... Towlson), with Mrs. ... Finnemore at the organ.

Mourners were: Mr. ... Cooper (widower), Mr. ... Reginald Cooper (son and ... ter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. ... Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. ... Machin (sons-in-law and ... ters), Mr. and Mrs. ... Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. ... Marshall (brothers and ... law), Mrs. L. Watts, Mrs. G. ... (sisters-in-law), Mr. and ... Ronald Ash, Mr. and Mrs. ... Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. ... Alderson, and Mr. John ... (grandchildren), Mrs. ... Cooper (sister-in-law), ... Devall, Mrs. D. and Mr. ... man (niece and great n... Mr. Philip Smith, Mr. an... Ernest Myatt, Mrs. Walter ... Mrs. Ravenscroft (also rep... ing Mr. C. J. and Mr. ... S. E. Ravenscroft), Mrs. ... (also representing Mr. ... Upton), Mrs. Best (... Member of Colton ... Union), Miss Ellen Rotche... T. Preston, Mrs. W. J. P... G. Willscroft, Mrs. E. M. S... and Mrs. Collins (also rep... ing Mr. Irvine Collins ... and Mrs. W. J. Myatt).

Bearers were, Messrs. ... Willscroft, Claud Upton, ... Hewitt and Charles Shelley.

MRS. A. M. CO...

Mrs. Alice Maud Coo... 74, wife of Mr. C. W. ... 49, High Street, Colton, ... cently in Rugeley Dis...

The sun graces Colton wedding

12/6/65



MR. JOHN FINNEMORE, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Finnemore, of Hurst Wood Farm, Blithbury Road, Rugeley, was married on Saturday to Miss Janet Ann Rowley, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Rowley, of Elm View, 3, Brereton Hill Lane, near Rugeley.

The ceremony took place at St. Mary's, Colton, and the Rev. A. S. [illegible] (rector) officiated.

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COLTON FETE REALISES £125 TARGET

The target of £125 was realised at Colton Church fete despite intermittent showers Held in the grounds of the Rectory, the fete was opened by Mrs. P. G. Clarke, wife of the Vicar of Brereton, who was also present.

Mrs. Clarke said she hoped visitors would do all they could to help the organisers in their effort to restore a beautiful old church.

She was presented with a bouquet by Marion Norman, and the Rev. P. G. Clarke was given a buttonhole by Peter Norman.

Stalls and sideshows included:—Produce and general stall, Miss [illegible] Mrs. E. M. [illegible], Mrs. D. M. Atkin, and Mrs. G. [illegible] Tombola, Mr. A. W. [illegible] and Mrs. Enid [illegible] Cake stall, Mrs. N. [illegible], Mrs. M. S. Toy, and Mrs. [illegible] Choir stall, Mrs. [illegible] and the Misses [illegible] and Linda Opie. [illegible] G. E. Finnemore and the Misses Diane Grimley and [illegible] Bran tub, guessing [illegible] won by Mrs. A. [illegible] and raffle for bottle of sherry Mrs. Vera Colli.

Cards [illegible] Miss D. M. Jones; [illegible] W. A. Norman; bowling through holes, the Misses [illegible] and Gwendoline [illegible] guessing number of [illegible] Mrs. Williscroft, Stephen [illegible], Norman and [illegible] won by Roger [illegible] pull-penny, &c., Miss A. [illegible] Beech and Mr. W. [illegible].

Teas were served by Mesdames [illegible] E. Bettson, E. [illegible], B. Ravenscroft, [illegible] P. L. Bannister, R. O. [illegible] and McDowall. Mr. [illegible] Waring was gate [illegible].

[illegible]: — Boy's [illegible]

SERVICE FOR M.U. BY VICAR'S WIFE

Colton Mothers' Union met in the Reading Room on Tuesday for their September meeting. Mrs. P. B. Best (enrolling member) welcomed Mrs. P. G. Clarke. (wife of the Vicar of Brereton) who conducted a short service and gave a talk on setting good examples to children. She was thanked by Mrs. H. A. Williscroft.

Miss E. Rotchell, Mrs. E. Griffin, and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant served tea.

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business
or and

Colton rose show winners

The annual rose show of Colton Village Produce Guild attracted members of guilds from Abbots Bromley, Colwich and Slitting Mill.

The colourful display was judged by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Broughton, of Walton-on-the-Hill. Mr. Broughton, a former Headmaster of Colton School, also gave a demonstration on the budding of roses.

Awards were:—

Four hybrid tea roses:—Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. E. Jackson, and Mr. B. Jackson.

Three sprays of Floribunda roses: Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Brown, and Mr. T. Preston.

Single rose (open to any guild): Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Roek (Abbots Bromley) and Mr. G. Hancocks (Colwich).

A competition for a pot plant, organised and given by Mrs. C. M. Sanders, was won by Mr. Jackson.

GUILDS MEET AT RODBASTON

1/5/65

Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Colwich (county chairman), said at the annual meeting of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds, held at Rodbaston Farm Institute on Saturday, that the membership in the county was now almost 1,500.

Mrs. M. S. Toy (Colton) was re-elected treasurer. Other local guild representatives appointed to serve on the Executive Committee, with their deputies, were as follows: Abbots Bromley, Mr.

FLORAL ART CONTEST

7/8/65

Local village produce guilds were low in points at the flower arrangement competition staged at the Universal canteen, Stafford, by Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds. Maer were the winners of the Miss Harrison Trophy with 83 points.

Penkridge came second (82 pts.) followed by Tittensor (73), Lichfield (68), Ashley and Colwich (67), Colton (66) and Slitting Mill (64). The standard of exhibits was considered very high.

The awards were presented by Mr. J. H. Cooke, Maer Guild chairman, who was congratulated by Mr. J. D. Lewis (county chairman) of Colwich, on being awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. Judges were Mrs. Joyce Heywood and Mrs. Catlin.

Colwich had some success, however. In the raffle organised by Mrs. L. Cowcill and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft three of their members won prizes: Mrs. A. Starbuck, Mrs. J. Hollins and Mrs. S. Mort.

ONE of Rugeley's best-known characters, Captain John Arrowsmith Best, died at Rugeley Hospital on Saturday. He was cremated at Stafford on Thursday. Captain Best, who lived at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, was 80 and leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter. 12/6/65

Golf, cricket, shooting, motoring, motor-cycling, photography, mountaineering, rock - climbing, geology, gardening and the making of relief maps were among his many hobbies. A keen nature-lover, he was an honorary life member of Rugeley Field Club, a member and past secretary of the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase, and a committee member of the Stafford branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. He was also a member of the Rugeley Landor Society, a trustee of the Colton Parish Lands Trust, secretary of Colton Parochial Church Council and a member of Colton Village Produce Guild.

Captain Best joined the Army Service Corps as a Territorial in 1909, serving through World War I in France and Belgium, and was

Colton. — A savings fun has been launched for mem bers planning to visit Par in the spring — a two-da visit in May next year at cost of about 17 guinea President Mrs. Ivy Preston who presided at the Jul meeting, announced that th committee had agreed to thi and that Treasurer Mrs Irene R. Brown would accep any amounts offered Deposits of £2 per membe travelling would have to b paid by February. Mrs Preston gave details of th autumn meeting of the Par side Group, to be held a Blithfield on October 25th Members intending to tak part in the outing to Tatt Park, Knutsford, on Augus 11th, were asked to notif the Secretary, Mrs. Carol M Sanders, as soon as possible Tea hostesses were Mrs Janice Charles, Mrs. Vera Collins and Mrs. Mary Daw Judges for the apron com petition, Mrs. Preston, Mrs Brown and Mrs. Sander awarded the prize to Mrs Norah Jones. The myster prize was won by Mrs Sanders. Because the planned speaker did n arrive, business occupied whole of the evening.

LIKE so many other areas the country, the Rugeley di trict had its share of flooding la week, centred mainly around th low-lying Trent Valley.

Colton was cut off from Rug ley on Thursday evening last, an on Friday only high-built vehicl could get through. Residents Colton working in Rugeley ha to go home through Armitage—a extra six miles' journey.

Mr. George Atkin, of The Lour Farm, Colton, said that all h low-lying meadow ground wa flooded to a depth of two fee "I managed to get around th farm on a tractor," he added.

The cellar of Wilf and Rosa Tavern, Colton Road, was floode on Friday last, and Rugeley Fi were called to pump out th water. 8/12/6

Despite these conditions, hov ever, the water did not cause an serious inconvenience and on Colton resident told the "Times" "We have got used to it now.

On the other side of Rugele there was some flooding at Longdo where the Red Lion cellar wa

NEW MEMBERS FOR GUILD

TWO new members, Mr. and Mrs. D. Pitts, were welcomed by chairman, Mr. T. Preston at the May meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild.

Mr. Myatt, of the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston, gave a talk on trees and shrubs, illustrated with film slides. He was thanked by Mr. L. Devall.

The committee has organised an outing to the dressed wells at Tissington on June 1.

The evening's competitions for an arrangement of spring flowers, and an iced Victoria sandwich, were won by Mr. I. Preston and Miss Jones respectively. Tea

COLTON Village Produce Guild held their rose show at the July meeting. Mr. and Mr. Broughton, a former on-the-Hill were the judges and Mr . Broughon, a former Colton headmaster, gave a demonstration of the budding of roses.

Winners were: Hybrid tea roses, 1, Mrs. E. Preston; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, Mr. B. Jackson. Floribunda roses, 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, Mr. Brown; 3, Mr. T. Preston. Single rose, open to any guild member, 1, Mrs. E. Preston; 2, Mrs. Rock, Abbots Bromley; 3, Mr. G. Hancocks, Colwich.

A dahlia and chrysanthemum show is to take the place of the September meeting and the County Flower Arranging competition on July 21 is to be entered by Mr. J. Brown, Miss R. Ravenscroft, Mrs. H. Baker, and Mr. T. Preston.

The competition for a pot plant, organised by Mrs. C. M. Sanders, was won by Mr. Jackson. Members of the guild had visited the Kings Bromley nursery, owned by Mr. G. S. Flint, before the meeting and after the meeting 24 members visited the gardens of Dr. and Mrs. J. G. Salter at Abbots Bromley.

The outing was arranged by Mrs. J. E. Wright and Mr. Preston and Miss Jones thanked Dr. and Mrs. Salter for their

A programme of slides prepared by Staffordshire best-kept village competition committee was given in Colton Reading Room on Friday evening.

The chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, introduced Mr. P. A. Dean, of Staffordshire Rural Community Council, who showed the film, which was followed by a few of Captain J. A. Best's films of local scenes and events, the commentary being given by Miss D. M. Jones.

Mr. Price urged members of the audience to give what support they could to the best-kept village competition.

A competition organised by Mrs. M. R. Taylor in aid of the Churchill memorial appeal was won by Mrs. I. W. Bigham, Mrs. L. Upton, Mr. J. H. Toy and Alison Wright.

Hostesses were Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Miss Jones.

On Saturday, a rummage sale held in the reading room raised about £12 for Guild funds. Mrs. C. M. Amyes was door attendant, and Mrs. E. M. Sargent and Mrs. M. E. Hibbs were in charge of refreshments

At the stalls were Mrs. I. Preston, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, Mrs. N. G. Bennett, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mrs. I. V. Collins and Mr. D. S. Garwood.

Competitions were won by Mrs. Wright (hanging basket), and Mrs. Bennett (gladioli corms).

raised.

PRODUCE GUILD.— The December meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild took place in the reading room, when the main feature was a show of coloured slides by Miss Rees, with a commentary by Miss Divine. They were welcomed by the chairman, Mr. T. Preston. The topic was the Isles of Scilly, and covered holidays by the two ladies in this part of the world. Members thanks for the evening were given by Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. Business items attended to were arrangements in connection with the new year social on January 6 and an invitation from Marchington Guild to their party was accepted. A letter from the parochial church council secretary, invited the Guild to appoint a member to read a lesson at the carol service. Mr. R. J. N. Williams agreed to this.

WHIST DRIVE.— Colton Conservative Association branch organised a whist drive in the reading room, the proceeds of which will go to the old peoples welfare fund. The M.C. was Mr. Percy Westhorpe, and the branch vice-chairman, Mrs. J. M. Chilton, presented prizes to Mrs. Westhorpe, Mr. N. Bruce, Mrs. R. O. Devall, Mrs. A. W. McDowall, Mrs. F. Hardcastle, Mrs. P. M. Buckley, Mrs. S. J. Doughty, Mrs. Jean Fowell. Miniatures, Mrs. M. Fowell and Mr. Bruce. The raffle for an iced Christmas cake was won by Mr Bruce. The chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, thanked all helpers and the treasurer, Mr. Fred Hardcastle, an-

COFFEE EVENING:— The committee of the Colton branch of the Conservative Association arranged a coffee evening at Bellamour Lodge at the invitation of their chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, and Mrs. Price. Object of the evening was to give the new prospective Parliamentary candidate of the Lichfield and Tamworth Division, Mr. Bruce Webb, and his wife, the opportunity to meet local electors. Mr. Norman Slipper, Agent, and his wife were present.

MR. ALFRED COOPER:— The death occurred on Sunday morning at his home, 4 Old Lains Cottages, Colton, of Mr. Alfred Leonard Cooper. Mr. Cooper was for many years licensee of "The Greyhound" in Colton.

DEATH — Captain John Arrowsmith Best, of Wharf Cottage Bellamour, Colton, died in Rugeley Hospital aged 80. He was cremated at Stafford. Captain Best, who leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter, came to Colton, in 1939 from the Birmingham area. For many years a member of Colton Parochial Church Council he had been a sidesman, a former secretary to the council. A member of Colton Village Produce Guild, Capt. Best was a keen gardener. He was a trustee on the Colton Parish Lands Trust until ill health forced his retirement a few months ago. For some years Capt. Best had been secretary to the Friends of Cannock Chase. He had been a mountaineer, a golfer and keen photographer.

COUNCIL.— At a meeting of Colton Parish Council, held in the school, Councillor G. F. Upton, was re-elected chairman, and Councillor J. C. Price, vice-chairman.

MEETING.— By invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown, the June meeting of the Colton Village Produce Guild, was held at The Cottage Stores and Post Office. The business part of the meeting took place in the garden. Chairman, Mr. T. Preston, presided and welcomed new members, and Mr. and Mrs. N. Bruce, Miss H. Bruce, and Mrs. K. M. Smithers.

Elsmore.

PRODUCE GUILD.— The main feature of the November meeting of Colton Village Prouce Guild was a quiz with Slitting Mill guild members. Miss D. M. Jones, secretary to Colton guild, was question master. Scorers were Councillor A. L. Rowley, chairman of Slitting Mill guild and Mr. J. H. Toy, Colton's vice-chairman time keeper was Mrs. Toy, treasurer to the county association. Colton's team were Mr. T. Preston, Mr. J. Meddings, Mrs. Preston, and Mr. Jack Brown. The Slitting Mill team included Mr. H. A. Walker, Mr. Binfield, Mrs. M. Hill, and the mother of Mrs. L. Evans of Slitting Mill post office. Colton won by two points and a return match is planned at Slitting Mill. Slitting Mill team was well supported by fellow members and were welcomed by chairman Mr. T. Preston. Colton guild was thanked by Councillor Rowley and he invited members to their social evening in December. The evening's competition was an arrangement of autumn leaves and fruits, judged by votes of Slitting Mill members, and the winner was Mr. Jack Brown. The raffle organised by Mrs. J. E. Wright, was won by Miss Susan Preston, Mrs. Hill, and, Mr. L. Evans. An invitation was accepted to Abbots Bromley guild's party, and the chairman asked for help to tidy the surrounds of the War Memorial.



A letter from the villa entertainment committee a help at the Midland Fest Steam in July. It was a man the hoopla stall. A ments in connection guild's annual rose sho July meeting were settled, visit to Mr. Flints nu King's Bromley. A repor recent executive meeting county association was g Mrs. B. M. Ravenscro county flower arrangeme test was discussed, and vo to form a team taking p Brown and Mr. J. H. To to compete. Ladies names ward were: Mrs. Toy a Ruth Ravenscroft, these are to be confirmed meeting. Secretary, Miss Jones was thanked for he organise the outing to the wells at Tissington, Der when guild members were by friends from Rugeley six members from Abbots ley guild. The guest speak Mr. L. G. Morgan, the forester of Cannock Cha gave a talk on the histor work his job entailed. The was thanked by Mr. R. Williams. The competition sticks of rhubarb was Mrs. Vera Collins, with M. Aymes second and M ton third. Helping the te Mrs. Ravenscroft, were, Mrs. Brown, Miss Jon Miss Ravenscroft.

W.I.— At the June me Colton, the president, Mr ton, presided and gave on the second day's meeti National Federation in Albert Hall. After the re confirming of the minutes A. Williscroft, dressed in garden party outfit, told all about her visit to Buck Palace. Mrs. Preston Mrs. L. R. Earp, presi Stowe-by-Chartley W. members about her wor Thanks to the speaker was sed by Mrs. B. N. Rav A competition "A flower ment in a wine glass" was Mrs. Joan E. Wright. A

Acknowledgme

Mr. C. W. Cooper and f tend grateful thanks sages of sympathy, floral tributes and don their bereavement, an also thank doctor and of Rugeley Hospital, M Ravenscroft and Mrs. Upton for help given time of need.

The funeral service Alice Maud Coope of Mr. C .W. Cooper, High Street, Colton, Mary's, Colton, Friday followed by cremati Stafford. The Rector (th A. S. Towlson) officiate members of the M Union formed a gu honour at the church Cooper having been a for many years.

Mourners included Mr. Cooper (husband), Mr. an Reginald Cooper and Mr. S. Cooper (sons and daugh law), Mr. and Mrs. R. (son-in-law and daughter) and Mrs. A. Marshall, M Mrs. H. Marshall, Mrs. L and Mrs. M. Cooper (brot sisters-in-law); Mr. and M Ash, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C Mr. and Mrs. B. Alderson, J. Machin (grandchildren); Devall, Mr. J. Freeman, Smith and Mrs. D. F (nephews and niece).

Mr. and Mrs. E. Myatt, M Nicklin, Mrs. C. J. Rave also representing Mr. C. R croft, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. R croft; Mrs. G. F. Upton, representing M



A corner of the crowded schoo room at Colton during the ha vest supper on Thursday of la

ROSES

FORMER Colton headmaster, Mr. E. Broughton, returned to the village on Thursday of last week, with Mrs. Broughton, to judge a rose show for Colton Village Produce Guild. He also gave a demonstration on the budding of roses.

Mr. T. Preston (chairman) welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Broughton who now live at Walton-on-the-Hill, and also welcomed members of the produce guilds of Abbots Bromley, Colwich and Slitting Mill.

The hybrid tea rose class was won by Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Jackson and Mr. B. Jackson and floribunda sprays winners were Mrs. Jackson, Mr. J. Brown and Mr. T. Preston. The open class for a single rose was won by Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. E. Rock (Abbots Bromley) and Mr. G. Hancocks (Colwich).

Mr. and Mrs. Broughton were thanked by Mr. Brown, and Mr. Broughton offered to give a future talk on unusual annuals. On a previous visit he had demonstrated the grafting of fruit trees and he brought to the show for members' interest a very healthy, small apple tree grafted last year.

It was decided to stage a dahlia and chrysanthemum show in September. Mrs. H. Baker and Mr. T. Preston agreed to take part in the county flower arrangement contest on July 21, with Mr. J. Brown and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft, in place of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy.

The raffle for a pot plant, organised by Mrs. C. M. Saunders, was won by Mrs. Jackson.

SPEAKERS and demonstrators throughout the last year were among guests at Colton Village Produce Guild harvest supper, held in St. Mary's School.

They were Mr. and Mrs. E. Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Flint, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Morgan and Mr. C. O L. Finlow. Members of the Women's Institute were also welcomed by Mr. T. Preston (chairman).

The meal was followed by a bingo session organised by Mrs. Joan Wright assisted by Stephen Hibbs. The winners were Mrs. J. E. Norman, Mr. R. J. N. Williams, Miss Mary Preston, Mrs. Broughton and Mrs. B. Barham.

A few numbers on the guitar, and songs, were given by Mr. Rodney Williams and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. Mr. Jack Brown organised a game and dancing concluded the evening.

The raffle run by Mrs. Wright was won by Mr. M. Beaumont, Mr. S. Peake, Mrs. C. I. Pitts, Mrs. S. Jackson and Mr. Faulkner

She recalls American journey

At the December meeting of Colton W.I. Miss [illegible] Jones, gave a talk about her recent visit to America. Miss Jones is a vice-president of the institute.

She passed around some photographs of her trip and was thanked by Mrs. M. Jones.

One member of the W.I., Mrs. M. M. Daw, will read a lesson at the annual carol service and Mesdames Daw and S. G. Doughty, accepted an invitation to the Colwich W.I. supper.

The Christmas stall was in the charge of Mesdames L. Jackson, M. R. Taylor and B. M. Ravenscroft and the tea hostesses were Mrs. and Miss Jones and Mrs. June Meddings.

The competition for a home-made Christmas cracker was won by Mrs. Taylor, and the raffle by Mesdames Preston and E. E. Bennett.

The evening ended with carol singing with Miss Jones at the piano.

A scheme for restoration work at church

The proceeds of Colton Church fete on Wednesday, August 4, will be devoted to restoration work in the nave, it was decided at a Parochial Church Council meeting. The plan is to treat the nave with a special type of limewash which will make the church look brighter.

The rector, the Rev. A. S. Towison, suggested that some rose bushes be planted near the tower to add colour to the church surroundings.

A tribute was paid to the late Capt. J. A. Best, former member and secretary. New members Mrs. E. Knight, Mr. A. W. McDowall and Mr. J. C. Price were welcomed.

The rector said there was a good response to the "church rate" scheme, and that some convenant forms had been signed. He felt this could be the means of doing away with financial anxiety.

TRIP TO THE DAIRY

Instead of a meeting for June, Colton Mothers' Union friends

Colton Village Produce Guild came first and Colwich second in a Staffordshire south region quiz held at Lichfield on Friday. The final will be fought out next Saturday at the annual meeting at Rodbaston.

At Friday's gathering, Colton, Colwich, Lichfield, Whittington and Lower Penn guild representatives took part, though the latter withdrew from the contest. All were welcomed by Mr. J. D. Lewis

Colton

V.P.G.— Colton Village Produc Guild held their annual "hom grown supper" in the reading roon This was, as usual, a great succes The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown welcomed everyone, and thanked a who gave gifts towards the meal an raffle. He welcomed Mr. J. D Lewis (county chairman) and Mrs Lewis, Mr. J. W. Jones (count vice-chairman) and Mrs. Jones Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Farrer, Mr and Mrs. L. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs W. Hulley, and Mrs. M. E. Mellor Following supper Mr. Brown pre sented a wedding gift to committe member Mr. Leslie Devall and Mrs Brown handed a bouquet to Mrs Devall (they were married in July) Mr. Devall thanked the guild. Th washing up and most of the wait ing on was carried out by the gentle men members. A game of crazy whist was organised by Mrs. I Preston. Winners were: Mr. Hully Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. E Preston and Keith Williscroft. The raffle was in charge of Miss D M. Jones and Mrs. Ruth Williams and was won by Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Hully, Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. Farrer, Mr. Lewis, and Mrs. C. I. Pitts. Dancing, organised by Mr. Brown, brought a pleasant evening to a close. Mr. Lewis thanked Colton guild for the evening.

HARVEST FESTIVAL.— Harvest festival services at St. Mary's Church, Colton, commenced on Friday with the annual service for pupils of the village school. The service was conducted by the Rector of The Ridwares, Rev. D. G. Rogers, with Mrs. Shaw at the organ. Lessons were read by Stephen Perry and Jonathan Everall. On Sunday the 11 a.m. service with communion was conducted by the Rev. Clough a retired clergyman from Rugeley, and the evening service was conducted by Mr. Donald E. Waters former Headmaster of the school now Headmaster at Barton near Preston. This service was well attended.

W.I.— The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, presided over the November meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, and welcomed as the guest speaker, Mrs. Fetcher, of Brocton, who gave a talk and demonstration, on Christmas arrangements for the home. Mrs. I. R. Brown thanked Mrs. Fetcher on members' behalf. The evening's competition, for a Christmas table decoration, was judged by Mrs. Fetcher who awarded the prize to Mrs. M. R. Taylor. Tea hostesses were Mesdames L. Jackson, I. James and C. M. Sanders. Members were asked if they would help with decorations and with making mince-pies for a dinner on December 18 for the over 65's.

MOTHERS' UNION.— At a meeting of Colton Mothers' Union,

Colton.—Presiding at the April meeting the President (Mrs. I. Preston), welcomed a very good attendance of members and friends; also Mrs. Jean Fowell as a new member. Mrs. Preston was nominated as delegate to the annual meeting of the National Federation in the Royal Albert Hall, London, on the second day (Blithfield acting the delegate on the first day) Mr. Baker a representative of a wool manufacturing firm, gave an excellent commentary during a display of hand-knitted garments by the following members who acted as models: Mesdames, I. R. Brown, M. M. Daw, B. Barham, J. E. Wright, D. M. Atkin, C. M. Sanders, M. R. Taylor, M. E. Hibbs, L. Jackson and N. Jones. After seeing these garments all felt eager to get down to doing some knitting for themselves. Thanks hostesses were, Mesdames C. M. Amyes, D. M. Atkin and B. Barham. 1965

HARVEST SUPPER.— An enjoyable evening was spent by Colton Village Produce Guild members and guests, at their harvest supper held in the school. The chairman, Mr. T. Preston, welcomed members, and guests. These included Women's Institute members and speakers and demonstrators during the past year, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Flint, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, and Mr. Finlow. Grace was said by Mr. Broughton. After the meal, a Bingo session organised by Mrs. J. E. Wright, assisted by Stephen Hibbs was held. Winners were: Mrs. J. E. Norman, Mr. R. J. N. Williams, Miss Mary Preston, Mrs. Broughton, and Mrs. B. Barham. Musical items were given by Mr. J. N. Williams (guitar) and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. A raffle, organised by Mrs. Wright, was won by Mr. Beaumont, S. Peake, Mrs. C. I. Pitts, Mrs. Sylvia Jackson and Mr. Faulkner. A game was organised by Mr. Jack Brown, and the evening concluded with dancing.

FUNERAL.— The funeral service took place on Friday at Colton St. Mary's Church, followed by cremation at Stafford, of Mrs. Alice Maud Cooper, wife of Mr. Charles Frederick Cooper, of 49 High Street, Colton. The rector, the Rev. A. S. Towison officiated with Mrs. G. E. Finlow at the organ. Attending were Mr. C. W. Cooper, husband; Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Cooper, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cooper, son-in-law and daughter; Mr. and Mrs. A. Ronald Machin, son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. Marshall, brothers and sisters-in-law; Mrs. L. Watts, sister-in-law; Mrs. G. Baker, sister-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. R. Ash, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. B. Alderson and Mr. J. Machin, grandchildren; Mrs. May Cooper, sister-in-law; Mr. Eric Devall, nephew; Mrs. D. Freeman, niece; Mr. J. Freeman, great-nephew; Mr. Philip Smith, nephew-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Myatt, Mrs. W. Machin; Mrs. Ravenscroft also rep. Mr. C. J. and Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Ravenscroft; Mrs. Upton (also rep. Mr. G. F. Upton); Mrs. Best, standing member of Colton Mothers' Union. Miss Ellen Ratcliff, Mrs. T. Preston; Mrs. W. J. Parr, Mrs. G. Williscroft, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and Mrs. Collins, also rep. Mr. Irvine Collins and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Myatt. Bearers were Messrs. George Williscroft, Claude Upton, Ernest Hewitt and Charles Shelley. Floral tributes were from Charlie, Ray and Anne; Eva and Stan; Muriel and Ron; Val and Ron; Jill, Brian and Andrew; Ron and Rosemary; John and David; Christine and Philip; Roxanne and Jackie; Arthur, Annie and family; Lil, Hal and family; Lizzie and family; [illegible] and family; May, Bernard

ECTED TO LISE £125

t that this year's Colton Church Fete was ıtermittent showers the organisers stand a ealising their objective, £125 for church

d by Mrs. P. he Vicar of ner opening as that a lot the prepara- I wish the ir efforts." ed hopes that e would give restore a h."

Rev. A. S. ned the Rev. ke asked the nore the rain ves at all the competitions. s the refresh- ed by ladies in case of rain or them to be served in the marquee. The ladies who helped in the refreshment tent were Mrs. H. A. Williscroft, Mrs. E. Bettson, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. R. O. Devall, Mrs. C. Griffin, Mrs. A. W. MacDowall, Mrs. D. Deacon and Mrs. L. Bannister.

STALLHOLDERS

The numerous stalls and attractions were also run by members of the church.

They were—Tombola: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. MacDowall and Mrs. E. Knight: cakes: Mrs. N. Westhorpe, Miss I. James and Mrs. M. S. Toy: prize stall: Mrs. N. Bannister, Linda Opie and Hazel Keen: hoop-la: Dianne Grimley and Pamela Jones.

Clock golf: Miss D. M. Jones: bowling alley: Shirley Tittensor and Mr. W. A. Norman; draw tickets for a chicken dinner: Doreen Atkin: guess the number of pebbles: Messrs. V. Norman, S. Hibbs, S. Upton and K. Williscroft; rollapenny: Miss B. Hoare and Mr. W. Yeomans. Mr. G. Waring was on the gate.

Prize winners were as follows:- Bowls: Mr. J. Doughty; ladies' prize, (tie) Mrs. V. Collins, Miss Dianne Grimley. Clock golf: (tie) Mr. J. Brown, Mr. R. Knight; ladies prize: Miss H. Browne; juniors: Gwen Ravenscroft.

Guessing weight of cake: Mrs. A. Toy; number of pebbles in bottle Roger Bannster; Raffles: chicken dinner and bottle of sherry: Miss M. Neighbour also won the bottle of Sherry; cakes; Mrs. I. James





There was plenty to occupy t visitors to Colton Fete seen the top picture. Above: Custor ers at the general stall. Belo

Colton.—The monthly meeting, held in the Reading Room, provided a most pleasant evening. The President (Mrs. I. Preston) presided, and gave a comprehensive report of the second day of the annual meeting of the National Federation held in the Royal Albert Hall. Mrs. H. A. Williscroft dressed in her party outfit, told members all about her visit to the Royal garden party at Buckingham Palace. Mrs. L. R. Earp, President of Stowe-by-Chartley W.I., told members about her world tour; she had them spellbound and envious. Thanks to the speaker were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The competition for a flower arrangement in a wine glass was won by Mrs. Joan E. Wright. Tea hostesses were Mrs. E. own.

WHIST.— A whist drive was organised by members of the village hall entertainment committee to raise money so that elderly people of the parish will be able to receive Christmas gifts. Mr. L. Stretton was M. C. and Mrs. F. Hardcastle presented prizes to Mrs. P. M. Buckley, Mr. J. Shipley, Mrs. N. Vernon, Mr. S. Peake, Mrs. N. Westhorpe, Mrs. L. Curtis, miniatures, Mrs. Vernon and Mr. Peake, lowest scores, Mrs. Joan Wright and Mrs. W. E. Hooley. Raffle prizes of parcels of groceries were won by Mrs. L. Deacon and Mrs. D. M. Preston.

W. I.— The September meeting of Colton Women's Institute was held in the school. Mrs. I. Preston presided over a good attendance. As delegate to the autumn council meeting she gave her report. Mrs. L. Jackson was a visitor to the meeting. Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Jones entertained members with an account of a holiday in Scotland illustrated

COLTON

HARVEST SUPPER.—Colton members of the Village Produce Guild held their annual harvest supper in the School. The Chairman (Mr. T. Preston) welcomed the gathering which included members of the Women's Institute and some of the speakers and demonstrators at the meetings throughout the past year—Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Flint, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Morgan and Mr. C. O. L. Finlow. Following an excellent meal, there was a bingo session organised by Mrs. N. Joan Wright, assisted by Stephen Hibbs, at which the winners were Mrs. Joan E. Norman, Mr. R. J. M. Williams, Miss Mary Preston, Mrs. Broughton and Mrs. B. Barham. A few numbers on the guitar and singing were given by Mr. Rodney Williams and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. Mr. Jack Brown organised a game, and dancing to records concluded a pleasant evening. The raffle was in charge of Mrs. Wright, and the winners were: Mr. M. Beaumont, Mr. S. Peake, Mrs. C. I. Pitts, Mrs. Sylvia Jackson and Mr. Faukner.

Sewing machines were the subject of a talk and demonstration given to Colton W.I. members at their June meeting by two representatives of a sewing machine firm. They were thanked by Mrs. P. M. Buckley.

Tins for the house-to-house collection for the British Empire Cancer Research Campaign were distributed. Mrs. M. E. Hibbs agreed to represent the W.I. on the old people's welfare council being set up in the parish and details of the annual show were discussed.

A report of the national annual

gave a report of the autumn council meeting at Stafford which she and Mrs. L. Jackson atended.

She was thanked by Miss D. M. Jones, who also thanked fellow members for the flowers they sent to greet her on her return from a visit to Kentucky.

Names were taken of those wishing to attend the Parkside Group meeting at Blithfield and an invitation to Slitting Mill was accepted by Mrs. G. M. Bennett and Mrs. C. M. Sanders. Mrs. D. M. Atkin and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant reported an enjoyable time at the Stowe-by-Chartley party.

As the speaker was unable to attend Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Jones stepped into the breach and gave an account of a holiday in Scotland, with colour transparencies of the journey through the Yorkshire Dales to the Isle of Skye.

They were thanked by Mrs. M. R. Taylor. Tea hostesses were Mesdames H. M. Felton M. C. Harvey and M. E. Hibbs.

MOTHERS' UNION—Colton Mothers' Union met in the Reading Room for their monthly meeting, at which Mrs. P. B. Best, the Enrolling Member, welcomed Mrs. P. G. Clarke, wife of the Vicar of

A TALK ON THE ISLES OF SCILLY

At the December Colton Village Produce in the Reading Room, gave a show of colou with a commentary by on the Isles of Scilly. thanks was proposed by Ravenscroft.

Arrangements were m New Year social evening on January 6. An invit Marchington Guild to was accepted.

A letter was received Parochial Church Counc the guild to appoint a read a lesson at the car Mr. R. J. N. Williams do this.

service

The October meeting Mothers' Union took the corporate Holy Communio on Tuesday afternoon. Luke's tide. They were Blithfield members.

The Rev. A. S. Towis celebrated and Mrs. R. played the organ. Collecti taken by Miss E. Rotchell B. M. Ravenscroft for Missions. Tea was afterwa at the rectory.

MAIN FEATURE

December meeting of Village Produce Guild in the Reading Room, delightful show of c slides by Miss Rees, comprehensive com by Miss Divine. The to of the Isles of Scill covered holidays spent two ladies in this lov of the world. M thanks were expres Miss Ruth Ravenscro T Preston (Ch presided.

harvest supper

About 200 produce gui bers attended the annual supper of Staffordshire As of Village Produce G Friday. Secretary of Slitt Guild, Mr. H. A. Walker, the toast to gardening.

The supper was held at teen of the Universal Wheel Company, Staffo chairman, Mr. J. D. Le comed members and pro loyal toast.

The reply to the toast Mr. Walker was made George Astles, of Stafford.

President of the county



Above: Clinging to their baskets of fruit and flowers are the children of Colton Primary S with their mothers. The headmaster of the school, Mr. A. W. MacDowall is seen on the ext left, and the Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson is seen in the centre of the grou the back. Below: The school choir all [illegible] church

COLTON FESTIVAL SERVICE

HARVEST festival services were held at St. Mary's Church, Colton, last weekend, beginning with the village school pupils' service on Friday when the collections taken were for the Hoar Cross Children's Home.

Sunday services — in the morning and evening — were conducted by the rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and the organist was Mrs. G. E. Finnemore. At evensong the lesson was read and an address given by the headmaster of Colton School, Mr. A. W. MacDowall.

Collections on Sunday were for the church expenses.

PRIZEWINNERS

The Colton Village Hall Entertainments Committee organised a whist drive in Colton Reading Room last week. The M.C. was Mrs. N. Westhorpe and prizes were presented by Mrs. H. Bruce to the following:- Mrs. J. Meddings, Mr. J. H. Hooley, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mr. N. Bruce, Mrs. Westhorpe, Mrs. P. L. Bannister, Miss D. M. Jones

[illegible] An open meeting of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds was held at the newly formed Guild and was well attended. Chairman was the vicar, the Rev. J. W Smethurst, with Mr. C. S. Preece secretary. Representatives from Colwich Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lewis, Colton, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Wright. Edingale, Lower Penn, Maer, Slitting Mill and Tittensor Guilds were present. The county chairman, Mr. Lewis spoke of the aims and objects of a guild, remarking that there was the Women's Institute for women, the British Legion for the men, but a Village Produce Guild was a family organisation. The county vice chairman Mr. J. W. Jones of Maer, spoke of the various aspects of guild life. A general discussion followed Mr. D. M. Gibb introducing the various guilds present with a special mention of the large number from Slitting Mill. Councillor Rowley said the reason for coming Slitting Mill in strength was that they had re-

THE June meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held at the Cottage Stores and Post Office, Colton, by invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown. Part of the meeting was held in the garden.

19/6/65

Members decided to man the "hoopla" stall at the Midlands Festival of Steam at Bellamour on July 17, in response to a request for help from the Village Hall Entertainments Committee.

Arrangements were made for the annual rose show at the July meeting and also for a visit to Mr. G. S. Flint's nurseries at King's Bromley.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft gave a report of the recent executive committee meeting of the county association at Stafford, when Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Colwich, was re-elected chairman. The county annual flower arrangement contest was discussed and volunteers invited to take part. Mr. Brown, Mr. J. H. Toy, Mrs. Toy and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft expressed willingness to enter.

A vote of thanks was passed to Miss D. M. Jones (secretary) for organising a trip to the Tissington Well Dressing, when guild members were joined by six Abbots Bromley members and some Rugeley friends.

Mr. Toy proposed an outing to Shrewsbury Flower Show in August, but this was not finally settled.

Guest speaker was Mr. L. G. Morgan, head forester of Cannock Chase for the Forestry Commission, who gave a talk on his job and answered many questions. He was thanked by Mr. R. J. N. Williams.

The competition for six sticks of rhubarb was won by Mrs. I. V. Collins, with Mrs. C. Amyes second and Mr. Preston in third place. Helping the tea hostess (Mrs. Ravenscroft) were Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Miss Jones and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft.

Mr. T. Preston (chairman) welcomed new members, Mr. and Mrs. N. Bruce, Miss H. Bruce and Mrs. K. M. Smithers.

THE March meeting of the Colton Village Produce Guild having been cancelled because of bad weather, the April meeting was the guild's annual one. And at the outset, Mr. T. Preston (chairman) asked members to stand in tribute to Mr. W. C. Preston, a former member.

1965

The secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, reported a varied and interesting year, but Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (treasurer) pointed to the urgent need for money-raising efforts to be made.

Mr. T. Preston was re-elected chairman, but other appointments were deferred to a later committee meeting. The committee is as follows:—Mrs. C. M. Amyes, Mr. J. Brown, Mr. L. Devall, Mr. D. W. Garwood, Mr. M. Garwood, Mrs. J. Garwood, Mrs. L. Jackson, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. I. V. Collins, Mr. J. Meddings, Mr. T. Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mr. J. H. Toy, and Mrs. I. F. Wright.

won by Mr. N. Bruce.

CONSERVATIVES.— A meeting arranged by the committee of Colton branch of the Conservative Association was held in the Reading Room the chairman, Mr. J. C. Price presiding. An address was given by the Prospective Candidate, Mr. Bruce Webb.

SHOW.— For their September meeting, Colton Village Produce Guild staged a dahlia and chrysanthemum show. The judge, Mr. George Astle, of Stafford, was welcomed by Mr. T. Preston, chairman Mr. J. Meddings was steward, and the winners were:- Chrysanthemums: Mrs. C. I. Pitts; cactus dahlias, 1. and 2. Mr. Meddings, 3. Mr. Preston; decorative dahlias, 1. Mr. N. Bruce, 2. and 3. Mr. Preston; pompon, dahlias, 1. Mrs. Joan E. Wright, 2. Tony Wright, 3. Mr. Preston. Instead of giving a talk Mr. Astle conducted a question-and-answer session. Thanks were expressed by Mr. Leslie Devall. The assistant secretary, Mrs. Wright, took the secretary's place, Miss D. M. Jones being on holiday in Kentucky, U.S.A. Members were reminded that if they would like bulbs for the County Bulb show, they should contact Mr. [illegible]

2 TROPHIE FOR COLTO GARDENE

Judging in the an garden competition or ised by Colton Pa Council took place on Sa day. The judges were Me Spinkes, of Ingestre.

The Parish Council's for the best kept garden w to Mr. Charles Bannister Four Winds, 84, High-str Second were Mr. and Mrs. C. Sargeant, of Yorick, High-street, and third Mr Jones, of Hollow-lane.

The Little Hay Rose B for the most attractive flow garden also went to Bannister and second pl to Mr. and Mrs. Sarge with Mr. D. W. Garwood, 5, Manor-way, third. judges commented on high standard of the gard visited.

PARIS IN SPRING?

1965

MRS. I. PRESTON, president Colton W.I., gave a com prehensive report to the institu of the second day's meeting of th national federation at the Albe Hall, and Mrs. H. A. Williscro dressed in the outfit she wore the Royal Garden Party, tol members all about her visit. Sh was accompanied at London b Mrs. J. T. G. Craddock, the Slittin Mill president.

Mrs. Preston welcomed the guest speaker, Mrs. L. R. Earp who spoke of her world tour. She was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

The competition for flower arrangement in a wine glass was won by Mrs. I. F. Wright



Women's Institute members of Parkside Group pictured in Colton School on Monday. Demolition of the school had already started and at the beginning of the meeting the lights failed. A "Times" photographer took this flashlight "shot in the dark" without being able to focus his camera accurately.

W.I. meeting is left in the dark

PARKSIDE Group Women's Institutes meeting on Monday was held at Colton School for the last time in its present setting, for workmen were in, and one classroom was unusable — the school is being modernised.

Just as convenor Mrs. B. Bowen, of Colwich, was explaining about the county quiz, which will commence at the next group meeting in March, the electricity failed!

Mrs. D. Whitfield, a county officer, gave the county news by torchlight and said she was pleased that the group had asked her again as she had been twice before.

Then the main speaker, Mr. G. Wilding, who is curator of the county museum at Shugborough, commented: "This is the first time I have been in the dark with 150 women!"

Mr. Wilding told of the beginnings of the museum and gave some amusing anecdotes on how some of the exhibits were acquired. During his talk an electrician arrived and restored the lights.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. P. M. Phillips, Weston president. Welcoming delegates, Mrs. T. Preston (Colton president) said the modernised school would be an important step in the life of their village.

Delegates were present from Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Colton, Colwich, Hixon, Great Haywood, Stowe-by-Chartley, and Weston.

Mrs. Whitmore and Mr. Wilding judged the competitions. In the cheese scones section Miss Robinson (Stowe) came first and Mrs. Bowen second. Four articles in a box, for an elderly person, costing not more than 5s., provided a first prize for Mrs. Bowen and second was Mrs. M. White, also of Colwich. The judges and V.C.O. were thanked by Mrs. Edwards (Stowe).

After refreshments, Etching Hill Entertainers gave a performance. Mrs. Harrison (Hixon) thanked Colton for acting as hostess institute under difficulties, and Miss Rees (Blithfield) agreed to take the competition boxes to Kent House, Uttoxeter.

It was announced that a special meeting would be held on November 28, to arrange a stall for the

COLTON

W.I.— Colton Women's Institute members met for their February meeting in the Reading Room. Mrs. I. Preston, president, presiding. The speaker was Mr. Clarke, from a local firm of decorators. His talk was illustrated by colour slides. Mrs. I. R. Brown thanked Mr. Clarke. Members agreed to join in with the Village Produce Guild at a small evening show in September. It was announced that passport photographs from members going on the two day visit to Paris, in May will be taken at the March meeting. Tea hostesses were: Mesdames Pratt, Preston and Ravenscroft. The competition, a household hint, was won by Mrs. C. M. Sanders and the mystery prize went to Mrs. Jean Fowell.

MR. A. TOWLSON.— The death occurred last week, after a long illness, of Mr. Arthur Towlson, father of the present Rector of Colton. He was 82, and lived at 92, High Street, Colton. He had lived there for the past seven or eight years before that he came from Beeston, Nottingham. Until he retired Mr. Towlson was an executive with Ericsons Telephones Ltd., of Beeston. He is survived by his wife, who is ill in a Stafford nursing home. The funeral was at St. Mary's Church, Colton, followed by cremation at Stafford. The Rural Dean and vicar of Cannock, the Rev. Townshend, conducted the service and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore played the organ. Mourners were: The Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Towlson, son and daughter-in-law; Mrs. A. Morrison, sister; Mr. and Mrs. G. Morrison, nephew and wife; Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Teet, neice and husband. Also present were Mrs. Whitehead, formerly Nancy Lady Bagot, Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Neil, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tittensor, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. McDonall, Mr. and Mrs. G. Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shipley, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cooper, Mrs. J. A. Best, Messrs. B. Bettson, M. Williscroft, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sanders, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mrs. Enid Knight, Miss E. Ratchell, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. E. Griffins, Mrs. Mary Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Myatt, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and W. A. Norman.

M.U.: Colton Mothers Union had their February meeting at The Malt House Farm at the invitation of Mrs. M. Allerton. Mrs. P. B.

Rugeley Deanery prayer meeting

On Wednesday afternoon more than 100 Mothers' Union members of the Rugeley Deanery gathered in St. Mary's Church, Colton, for a prayer group meeting. They were welcomed by the Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

The service was conducted by Head Deaconess Lambert, and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore was at the organ. The collection taken at church will be for mothers' union work overseas.

Tea was served in the school, the hostesses being Colton and Blithfield members.

FUNERAL: The funeral took place at St. Mary's Church, Colton of Mr. Frank David Nicklin, aged 71, of Hollow Lane Corner, Colton. Mr. Nicklin who died in Staffordshire Infirmary after a short illness, was born in Colton and apart from Army service during the First World War lived the whole of his life there. The Rector the Rev. A. S. Towlson, officiated at the funeral, and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore was at the organ. Mourners were: Mrs. Nicklin, widow Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nicklin, brother and sister-in-law, Mesdames F. Docherty and G. Turton sisters-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. Farrington Mrs. M. Farmer, Mrs. Pearce Mrs. Stubbs and Mr. H. Dockerty, nieces and nephews, Mrs. G. Goodall. Mrs. C. Upton, Mr. Brian Wain, Mrs. B. Gould and Mr. L. Stretton. Also attending were Mrs. J. H. Wright Mr. E. Myatt, Miss D. M. Jones, Miss E. Ratchell Miss C. Burns, Mrs. E. Griffin Mrs. Mary Cooper and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ravenscroft. There were many beautiful floral tributes.

COLTON

V.P.G: The first meeting of the new committee of Colton Village Produce Guild was held at the home of the chairman Mr. Jack Brown. The former chairman Mr. T. Preston, was appointed vice-chairman Miss D. M. Jones who has been secretary for the nine years of the guilds life was re-elected and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft was re-elected treasurer.

Mrs. G. E. Finnemor the organ. Lesson read by representa village organisations D. A. Cooper (Entert Committee); Mrs. B (Mothers' Union); M Toy (Parish Counc Kathleen Norman Club); Mr. R. J. N. (Village Produce Gu M. M. Daw (W.I.) Christmas gospel Rector. The service attended. Collectio for church expense

PENSIONERS'

Old age pensioners enjoyed a good dinner served in th Room. This was ma by members of t Hall Entertainme mittee. Carving th was Mr. J. H. Toy, helpers were Wright, Mrs. M. Mrs. M. R. Taylo Mason, Mr. and Hardcastle, Mrs. P. ter, Mrs. R. O. Dev Curtis, Mrs. J. Gar C. M. Aymes, Collins, Mrs. B. M croft and Messr Everall and W. Ya port was provide guests to and fro and dinners were to those unable Following the me was given by Mr. J. the late Captain B of Colton village was much enjoyed. ing concluded wi nity singing of car songs, with Miss D. at the piano. On be guests, Mr. F. S. expressed thanks had made the even

At the December Colton Village Produ held in the Reading R trees showed coloured commentary was giv Divine. They were we the chairman, Mr. T. F The topic was the cilly, and the slides co days spent there by ladies. Miss Ruth R thanked them for a mo ng evening.

Business items i rrangements for the ocial on January 6. An o Marchington Guild accepted. A letter Parochial Church Co etary invited the Gu oint one member to re t the carol service. M Villiams agreed to do

COLTON were defeated final of the county qu ored by the Staffordshire ciation of Village Produce and held at the Farm Rodbaston, on Saturday.

They lost to Tittensor points to 25 points in Tittensor now go for the next stage of the natio petition.

At the annual meeti Association, held the s the county chairman Mr Lewis, mentioned that ship in Staffordshire was 1,500.

Mr. R. K. Mowfor duced the guest speaker, F. Martyr. principle of shore Institute of Hortic

COLTON PART VISIT THE TUTBURY FESTIV

Several members and fr Colton Mothers' Union jo wich M.U. in a visit Festival of Floral Art in Parish Church last Thur All were impressed



Mr. Rodney J. N. Williams and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft after their wedding at Colton, near Rugeley.

Williams—Ravenscroft

The wedding took place on Saturday at St. Mary's Church, Colton, near Rugeley, of Mr Rodney John Nelson Williams, only son of Mr. and Mrs A R. Williams, of 36, Douglas Road West, Stafford, and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs. C. J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, 45, High Street, Colton. The Rev. A. S. Towlson officiated.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a full-length white figured velvet dress, a crystal tiara, and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley, freesias and carnations.

She was attended by Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft (sister) and Miss Sharn Charles. They both wore French-blue dresses, white fur headbands and white fur muffs.

Best man was Mr. Allan Charles.

A reception was held at 51, High Street, Colton, after which the couple left for a touring honeymoon. The bride wore a going-away suit in black and white tweed, with a white fur hat and black accessories.

The bride is secretary of the youth section of the Friends of Cannock Chase and a voluntary warden. Both bride and groom are members of Colton Village Produce Guild.

Colleague becomes his bride



Two employees of the Britannia Assurance Company, Stafford, both members of the Colton Village Produce Guild, were married at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Saturday. The Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, officiated at the service.

They were Mr. Rodney John Williams, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Williams, of 36, Douglas Road West, Stafford, and Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, High Street, Colton.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of white figured velvet with a short veil and tiara. The bridesmaids, Miss Gwendoline N. Ravenscroft (bride's sister), and Miss Sharn L. Charles (friend of the bride), wore dresses of French blue velvet, with white fur head-dresses and muffs.

The best man was Mr. Allan J. Charles, a friend of the bridegroom.

A service of Holy Communion

How parish council business is conducted in various villages is a revelation. In some, every councillor talks at once; in others they wander from the agenda at will; in a few they keep strictly to an agenda and only talk when they have a useful contribution to make. And in some villages there seems to be so little business that meetings are either over in a few minutes or are delayed for months and there is sufficient work to warrant calling councillors together.

5/3/66.

It is to ensure that no village ignores that Local Government Act decree that there must be at least four meetings a year, and that the first shall be on May 20 or within 14 days thereafter.

The council at Colton just scraped in this year by holding their annual meeting on June 3, and that they did not meet again until last Friday. This means that they have to get a move on to have more meetings before May. The chairman said they had not met before there had been so little business to transact.

This may not be the best outlook for parish councillors, though the local press should have their

COLTON GUILD HEARS TALK OF COUNTY PRODUCE RALLY

AT the ninth annual meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild suggestions were put forward for a possible county rally and for the entertainment at the annual harvest supper.

Mr T. Preston, chairman for the past three years, thanked fellow officers, committee and members, for their help during the year and was in turn thanked by secretary Miss D. M. Jones who gave a report of the year's work and events.

The treasurer's report presented by Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft showed a slight excess of expenditure over income and it was decided to arrange more money-making efforts including a jumble sale on April 16.

It was also agreed to increase the adult yearly subscription from 1s to 2s, leaving schoolchildren's subscriptions at 1s.

Mr D. L. Ferguson was teller for the election of the new committee who are: Mr J. Brown, Mr J. Meddings, Mr T. Preston, Mr J. H. Toy, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs J. Garwood, Mrs L. Jackson, Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs J. E. Wright.

Mr Brown was elected chairman and other officers will be chosen at the next committee meeting. Show committee representatives are Mr Brown, Mr D. W. Garwood Mr Meddings, Mr Preston and Mr Toy, while quiz team members will be Mr Preston, Mr Meddings, and Mr Brown. The first round will be at Slitting Mill on April 1.

A letter was read from Mr and Mrs R. J. N. Williams thanking members for the wedding gift presented by the guild, and Mrs E. Atkin sent thanks for the good wishes and flowers she had received while in hospital.

Speaker for the evening was Mr Ernest Broughton of Walton-on-the-Hill whose topic was "Unusual annuals". He was thanked by Mr R. J. N. Williams. Mr and Mrs Broughton judged the competition for a bowl of bulbs and awarded the prize to Keith Williscroft for his blue hyacinths. The competition for gladioli corms was won by Mr Broughton.

Tea hostesses were Mrs Garwood and Mrs Wright.

School

MORE than 200 signatures have been received for a petition to the Minister of Education pressing for an early start on the modernisation and enlargement of Colton Church School, the chairman of Colton Parish Council, Councillor F. Hardcastle, told the "Times" this week.

As this was 50 per cent. of the electorate, which included young unmarried voters, he thought it a good response.

Councillors toured the parish collecting signatures after their meeting a fortnight ago when it was decided to raise a petition in an effort to prevent any further delay in the start of the project.

Modernisation should have started in February, 1964, but it was found that purchase of the necessary adjoining land had not been completed. This resulted in a compulsory purchase order being sought and granted, an appeal, and subsequent modifications being considered.

Colton Parish Council held a special meeting on Monday to draft a letter to the Minister of Education Mr. Anthony Crosland, enclosing the petition. They are asking the Minister to expedite the signing of the compulsory purchase order so that work on the school can commence in the very near future.

Copies have been sent to the Under-Secretary of State, Education and Science (Legal Branch); Mr. Julian Snow, M.P.,; Alderman A. G. Ward (chairman of Staffordshire Education Committee); Mr. J. H. P. Oxspring (director of education); Mr. N. Barton (clerk to Lichfield Rural Council) and to the chairman of the school managers.

An audience of around 200 watched the ever popular county Flower Arrangement Contest for the Miss Harrison Trophy, held in the canteen of Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford, on Thursday last week.

Mr. J. D. Lewis welcomed the gathering, Mr. F. W. Farrer was the M.C. and Mr. J. W. Jones was timekeeper. Judges were Mrs. Black of Stafford and Mrs. Catlin of Standon, who were impressed by the "even higher" standard of entries.

Winners of individual prizes for highest points were Mrs. Bourne of Penkridge, and Mr. W. Butters of Maer. The team to win the trophy was Penkridge, with 85 points, followed by Lichfield just one point behind.

The Lichfield team was Mrs. Ivison, Miss Potts, Mr. Beattie and Mrs. Smith. Seventh was a team from Slitting Mill—Mrs. King, Mrs. M. Hill, Messrs. H. A. Walker and Morgan—and eighth was Colton—Mrs. C. Bannister, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, aged 15. Messrs R. J. N. Williams and Leslie Devall.

The draw, organised by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Mrs. Walker, assisted by Miss D. M. Jones,

MOTHERS' UNION.—Colton Mothers' Union held their monthly meeting at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by kind invitation of their Enrolling Member (Mrs. Best). A short service was conducted by the Rev. Frank Best (who has a parish in Leicestershire), who also showed a film of the 1964 Remembrance Day service at Colton taken by his father (the late Captain J. A. Best). Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft spoke about her recent visit to Paris. Silent tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mrs. May Cooper.

well-attended June meeting of the Colton Village Produce Guild, the Chairman (Mr. Jack Brown) presented Miss Mary Preston with a gardening fork as a gift from the Guild to mark her forthcoming wedding. The guest speaker, Mr. D. W. Pinches, of the Lichfield Guild, gave an interesting and enlightening talk on "Fuchias." Mr. N. Bruce expressed the thanks of the members to Mr. Pinches for sharing his knowledge with them. The competition

Colleagues married at Colton

Two employees of the Britannic Assurance Co., Stafford, were married at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Saturday.

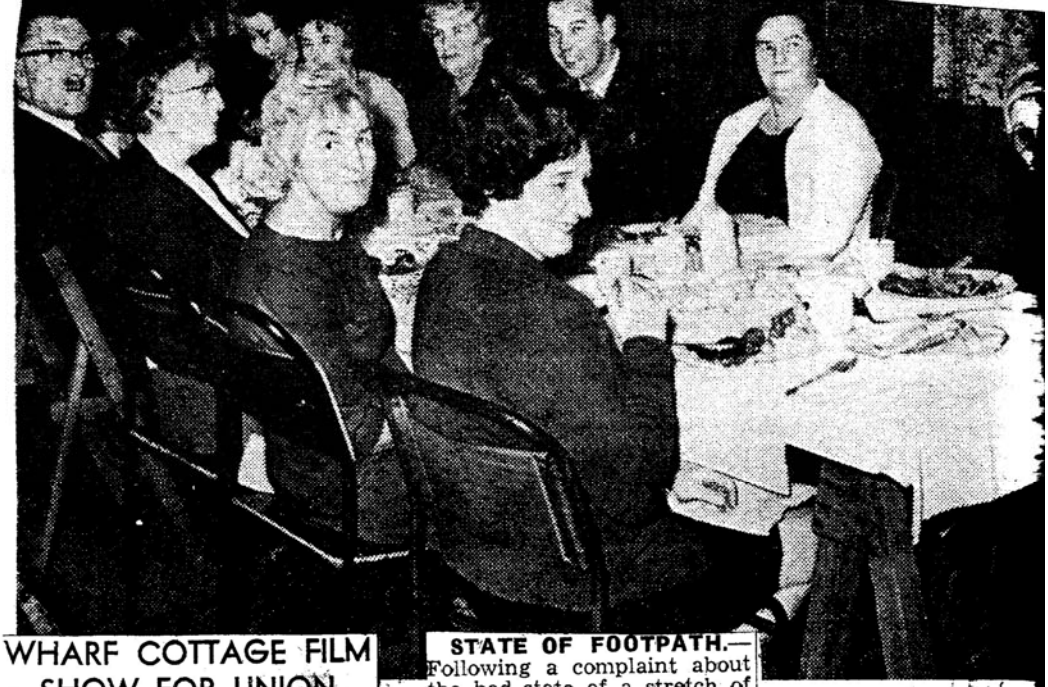
They were: Miss Ruth Blanche Ravenscroft, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ravenscroft, of Holly Cottage, 45, High-street, Colton, and Mr. Rodney John Nelson Williams, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Williams, of 36, Douglas-road West, Stafford.

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, conducted the ceremony and Mrs. Enid Finnemore was the organist.

The bridegroom is an agent of the Brittanic Assurance Co., and the bride the District Office Secretary. Both are members of Colton Village Produce Guild and the bride is Hon. Secretary to the Youth Section of the Friends of Cannock Chase.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a full-length gown of white figured velvet with a short veil and a tiara headdress and carried an all-white bouquet. Bridesmaids were Miss Gwendoline N. Ravenscroft (bride's sister), and little Sharon L. Charles (friend), who wore dresses of French blue velvet with white headbands and carried white muffs. The best man was Mr. Allan J. Charles (friend).

The reception was held at Janal, 51, High-street, Colton following which Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams left on a touring honeymoon.



WHARF COTTAGE FILM SHOW FOR UNION

COLTON Mothers' Union held a meeting at Wharf Cottage, Ballamour, by permission of their enrolling member, Mrs. Best.

The short service was conducted by the Rev. Frank Best, who has a parish in Leicestershire, and he showed a short film taken by his late father, Capt. J. A. Best, of the 1964 Remembrance Day service at Colton.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft gave a talk on her recent visit to Paris and before the meeting ended silent tribute was paid to the memory of Mrs. May Cooper. Several members recently attended the Deanery Festival held at Hednesford.

STATE OF FOOTPATH.—Following a complaint about the bad state of a stretch of the footpath from Pinfold to Trent Valley—one of the most important in the parish—Colton Parish Council, at their annual meeting, decided that three members try to arrange a meeting with the farmer concerned. — The Council accepted the view that progress, if slow, was been made regarding plans for the modernisation of the village School.—Mr. Fred Hardcastle was elected as Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year and Mr. J. C. Price as Vice-Chairman.

PRODUCE GUILD.—At the

Nearly 70 members and attended Colton Women's tute New Year's party on nesday. They inclu member from St. Drew W.I. in Somers was visiting, Mrs. C. S of Rugeley. There we visitors from Colton Produce Guild and the Abbots Bromley, Hixon, Colwich, Etching Hill ting Mill. Mr. Jack Br the dancing which supper and various organised games.

Colton Rector bereaved

Afer a long illness the death occurred in hospital of Mr. Arthur Towlson, of 92, High-street, Colton.

Aged 82, he was the father of the Rector of Colton (the Rev. A. S. Towlson). Coming from Beeston, Nottingham, he had lived in Colton for the past seven or eight years.

Until he retired, Mr. Towlson was an executive with Ericsons Telephones, Ltd., of Beeston. He is survived by his widow, who is ill in a Stafford Nursing Home.

The funeral was at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Wednesday last week, followed by Cremation at Stafford. The Rural Dean and Vicar of Cannock (the Rev. Townshend), officiated, and Mrs. G. E. Finnemore was at the organ.

Mourners were: The Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Towlson (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs. A. Morrison (sister), Mr. and Mrs. G. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Teat (nephews and nieces).

Also attending were Mrs. Whitehead, Major and Mrs. J. O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tittensor, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. McDowall, Mrs. J. A. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shipley, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. G. Vernon, Messrs. B. Bettson and M. Williscroft, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sanders, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mrs. Enid Knight, Miss D. M. Jones, Miss E. Rotchell, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Myatt, Mrs. May Cooper, Mrs. E. Griffin, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mr. W. A. Norman.

UILD RAISES ITS ADULT BSCRIPTION

reasurer Mrs. B. M. scroft had told members that ad overspent during the year, Village Produce Guild de- at their annual meeting to he adult subscription from 2s. They also decided to fund-raising rummage sale ril 16.

the meeting, Mr. Ernest ton, a former headmaster of School, gave a talk on "Un-Annuals." Mr. and Mrs. ton also judged the compe- for a bowl of bulbs, awarding rize to Keith Williscroft for owl of blue hyacinths. Mr. ns thanked Mr. Broughton s talk.

following team was selected e first round of the county competition: Mr. J. Med- Mr. T. Preston and Mr. J. Officers elected were: Mr. wn, Mr. J. Meddings, Mr. T. n, Mr. J. H. Toy, Miss D. M. Mrs. J. Garwood, Mrs. L. n, Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft rs. J. E. Wright.

eshments were served by Garwood and Mrs. Wright.



e River Seine flows through the heart of Paris.

COLTON. — Over 100 members of Rugeley Deanery of the Mothers' Union met for a prayer group meeting at St. Mary's Church, Colton. They were welcomed by the Rector.





FARMER'S DAUGHTER MARRIES

MISS Dorothy Emily Tabernor only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. Tabernor, of Moreton Farm, Wolseley Bridge, was married last week to Mr. Thomas John Wardle, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wardle, of Beacon Bank Farm, Milwich, near Stafford.

The Rev. B. Matthews officiated at the ceremony at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Colwich.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of white crystal satin with cummerbund and train. A satin coronet held her waist-length veil in place. She carried a bouquet of pink roses and lilies of the valley.

Chief bridesmaid was Miss Hazel Bloor, second cousin of the bridegroom) who was accompanied by the Misses Anne Griffiths and Lynn Macpherson (bride's cousins) and Carol Vernon (bridegroom's second cousin and god-daughter).

The bridesmaids wore full-length dresses of kingfisher blue smooth satin and white single flower headdresses. They carried bouquets of pink carnations. The little flower girl wore a short white nylon dress and carried a single rose in a ring.

Mr. George Barker was best man. The ushers were Mr. Trevor Tabernor and Mr. Arthur Elson.

PRODUCE GUILD. — The February meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room, the Chairman (Mr. T. Preston) presiding. It was agreed to stage a show on a small scale at the September meeting. An interesting presentation was made by the Chairman and Hon Secretary (Miss D. M. Jones) of a wedding gift to Miss Ruth Ravenscroft amd Mr. Rodney Williams. Mr. Preston told them they had made history as theirs was the first wedding within the Guild. Mr. Harvey, of a bakery firm, gave a film show "Our daily bread," and was thanked by Mr. Jack Brown. Competitions were

Revised plan for school accepted

THE continued delay in starting the modernisation scheme at Colton Church of England Primary School was criticised by Councillor Mrs. M. S. Toy at Friday's meeting of Colton Parish Council.

She wanted to know why there was "this terrific delay" as nearly six months had passed since a public inquiry into the matter.

"It is unsettling to all concerned including the staff," said Mrs. Toy, who wondered if a letter might be sent to the Member of Parliament asking him to press the Minister to hurry the matter along.

"Big changes are being made in primary schools all around and we are hearing nothing about ours," she said.

The item was adjourned while Councillor A. V. Hardcastle visited his father, Rural Councillor F. Hardcastle, who had sent an apology, to obtain up-to-date information on the subject.

REVISED PLAN

He returned with correspondence which revealed that a revised plan had been prepared. This had been accepted by the landowner's agents and a compulsory purchase order for a revised boundary had been sent to the Minister, whose approval was now awaited.

As this correspondence had taken place within a short time it was felt that things were now moving quickly and it was best to take no separate action.

• It is now two years since modernisation work at the school was sceduled to begin. The children were to have been transported to Colwich School from February 18, 1964, until a stage of the transformation had been completed, but at the last minute it was discovered that negotiations for the land had broken down.

First meeting of new committee

The first meeting of the new committee of the Colton Village Produce Guild was held at the home of the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, on Monday evening. The former chairman, Mr. T. Preston

PRESIDENT Mrs. Ivy Preston presided at the well attended annual meeting of Colton W. I. Mrs. Preston thanked her fellow officers and members for their support during the year, including auditor Mr. C. S. Jones and the tellers, Mr. M. Williscroft and Mr. D. L. Ferguson.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, on behalf of members, proposed a vote of thanks to the president. Mrs. C. M. Sanders, secretary, reported on the year's activities, and the financial statement was given by treasurer Mrs. I. R. Brown. They were thanked by Mrs. M. E. Everall.

Committee members are Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. I. R. Brown, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. N. Jones, Mrs. J. Meddings, Mrs. J. E. Norman, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mrs. C. M. Sanders. Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. M. R. Taylor and Miss D. M. Jones.

Mrs. Preston is again president. Mrs. Jones and Miss Jones vice-presidents, Mrs. Sanders secretary Mrs. Jackson assistant secretary, Mrs. Brown treasurer, Mrs. Sargeant assistant treasurer, Mrs. Ravenscroft press correspondent, and Mrs. Taylor "Home and Country." Show committee members are Mrs. Ravenscroft, Mrs. J. E. Wright, and either Mrs. Preston or Miss Jones.

Names were taken of members wishing to attend the Spring meeting of the Parkside group at Abbots Bromley on March 28, and the presdent agreed to represent Colton and Hamstall Ridware institutes at the National Federation annual meeting in London. It was again agreed to stage a Midsummer fayre on June 15.

During the evening passport photographs were taken for the two day trip to Paris on May 15 and 16, and a reminder was given about the paying up of the balance by next meeting. The cost is £14 15s each, the deposit of £2 each already having been paid.

Tea hostesses were Mesdames Sargeant and Wright and Miss E. Rotchell. Mrs. P. L. Bannister was in charge of the stall.

Wardle—Tabernor

Married last Thursday at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Colwich, near Stafford, were Mr. Thomas John Wardle, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wardle, of Beacon Bank Farm, Milwich and Miss Dorothy Emily Tabernor, only daughter



of Mr. and Mrs. P. Tabernor, of Moreton Farm, Wolseley Bridge, near Stafford. The Rev. B. Mathews officiated.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a full-length dress of white crystal satin, with a satin coronet head-dress and carried a bouquet of pink roses and lilies of the valley.

She was attended by Hazel Bloor, Anne Griffiths and Lynn Macpherson (cousins) and Carol Vernon. The three older bridesmaids wore full-length dresses of kingfisher-blue satin and carried pink carnations, while the smaller girl was dressed in a nylon dress and carried a single rose.

Mr. George Barker was best man and groomsmen were Mr. Trevor Tabernor and Mr. Arthur Fenton.

W.I.: There was a good attendance at the meeting of Colton Women's Institute held in the Reading Room. The President, Mrs. I. Preston, presided. She welcomed new members, Mesdames H. Webb, B. Lloyd and M. Beattie, and visitors, including some from Slitting Mill. W. I. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mrs. June Meddings collected the "Pennies for Friendship". Mrs. M. E. Hibbs reported on the old people's welfare council plans. The President welcomed the guest speaker, Miss P. Cherry, of Rodbaston Farm Institute, whose subject was yeast cookery. Mrs. I. R. Brown thanked her. There were twenty exhibits in the competition for a victoria sandwich, the winner being Mrs. N. Jones; 2, Mrs. L. Jackson. Tea hostesses were Mesdames I. James J. E. Wright and M. E. Hibbs. It was announced that the knitting class at next year's show will be a ladies long-sleeves sweater or jumper, hand-knitted in any wool. Mrs. R. M. Ravenscroft had charge of the stall. A few details were given regarding the Autumn group meeting. Members, with some husbands and friends visited a chocolate factory at Birmingham. Following a tour of the factory tea was enjoyed. Delightful weather made a very pleasant journey.

BARBECUE: The committee of Colton branch of the Conservative Association organised a beer and skittles barbecue at Bellamour Lodge, the home of their chairman, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Price. Skittles were in charge of Messrs. M. E. Wright, L. Stretton, and N. Bruce. Mr. Victor Hardcastle was in charge of the gate, and acted as treasurer. A treasure hunt was organised by Messrs. R. and D. Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Price were responsible for the barbecue cooking, with the assistance of Mrs. Langley. Mrs. S. J. Ball, secretary, served coffee which was made by Mrs. Jackson. The raffle was in charge of the vice-chairman, Mrs. J. M. Chilton, and

MALT HOUSE MEETING FOR MOTHERS' UNION

Colton Mothers' Union held their meeting at Malt House Farm by invitation of Mrs M. Allerton. Enrolling member Mrs P. B. Best welcomed the Rev D. G. Rogers of the Ridwares who conducted the service and gave a talk entitled "Love or Charity". He was thanked by Mrs I. Preston.

Members also attended a service of Holy Communion in St Leonard's Church, Blithfield, conducted by the Rev A. S. Towlson. Members were invited to tea by Mrs G. Vernon at Newton Far

PRESIDENT of Colton W.I., Mrs. Ivy Preston, attended the recent annual meeting of the W.I. Federation in London as delegate for Colton and Hamstall Ridware. She gave a comprehensive report at the June meeting of the Colton Institute held in the Reading Room, and was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Two representatives of a sewing machine firm from Sutton Coldfield gave a talk and demonstration and were thanked by Mrs. P. M. Buckley. Business matters included the distribution of tins for Cancer Campaign house-to-house collection, and show details announced, for which Mesdames C. M. Sanders and M. E. Hibbs offered to be stewards. Mrs. Hibbs also volunteered to be the W.I. representative on the Old People's Welfare Council.

The evening's competition was for a poster to advertise the "Midsummer Fayre" (read on) and was won by Mrs. Mary Taylor. Hostesses were Mesdames L. Bettson, I. R. Brown and P. M. Buckley.

14/6/66

● The "Midsummer Fayre," held in the Reading Room raised well over £20 for the W.I. funds. The event was officially opened by Mrs. Oakley, and members welcomed Mrs. C. H. Mills, who, before leaving the village to live in Devon in May, 1959, had been treasurer of the W.I. for 21 years.

Those members helping at the "Fayre" included: Miss Ellen Rotchell (door keeper); Mrs. Joan Wright (bottle tombola); Mrs. L. Jackson (competition); Ivy Preston, N. Jones, I. R. Brown, C. M. Sanders, E. M. Sargeant, B. M. Ravenscroft, M. G. Bennett, D. M. Atkin, M. M. Daw, P. L. Bannister, M. C. Harvey and Miss Jones (stall-holders); M. E. Everall, June Meddings and Joan E. Norman (refreshments). Competition winners were Mesdames L. Husselbee, I. R. Brown, Bowey, M. A. Westhorpe, P. L. Bannister and Miss D. M. Jones.

AFTER a lapse of a number of years, Colton Village Produce Guild have again organised a best kept garden competition. It was held on Saturday and attracted 14 entries.

Judging the gardens were Mr. F. W. Farrer, Stafford, and Mr. J. W. Jones, Maer, who were taken on a tour of the entries by Mr. J. H. Toy.

The first prize and diploma was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. D. G. W. Pitts, 88, High Street, and second, third and fourth prizes with certificates went to Mr. Charles Bannister, 84, High Street, Mr. T. Preston, No. 7, Holding, Blithbury Road, and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, "Yorick", High Street.

Special effort prizes and certificates were given to Mrs. Edith Preston, 70, Peakes Road, Etching Hill, and Mr. J. James, 6, Oldhams Cottages, who had re-



From Mrs. Lily Jackson, of Martlin Cottages, Colton, comes this memory of schooldays in Colton some 46 years ago. The picture shows a number of the children attending the Church School, on which modernisation work began this week after three years of delays. Front row (left to right): Reg Cooper, Harry Lowndes, Colin Bentley, Ailwyn Grey, Harry Devalle, Tom Hardcastle, Selby Ravenscroft. Second row: Dorothy Baxter, Beatrice Godwin (Mrs. Harvey), —. Grocott, Wi... valle (Mrs. Grimley), Enid Morris (Mrs. ...more), Evelyn Pink, Lily Preston (Mrs. Jackson), Jack Devalle. Third r... Turner, Wilfred Key, David Goodall, ... Griffiths, Jack Grimley, Ivy Bennett (Mrs. Morrall), Bill Preston, Eric Lowndes. ... row: Len Devalle, Arthur Devalle, ... Jones, Harry Robson, Mollie Ha... Hibbs) David Bull, —. Grocott.

The Rev. A. J. Poole, Vicar of Great Haywood, paid his first visit to Colton on Tuesday to give a talk to Colton Mothers' Union. He was introduced by Mrs. N. Westhorpe and thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Mr. Poole's subject was the value of Bible teaching to children.

...mer fair at Coppenh...



The hostess, Mrs. A. N. H... the midsummer fair at Be...

VILLAGERS HELP

Local helpers at Staffordshire Rural Community Council's midsummer special, held at Butterhill House, Stafford, were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lewis, Mrs. K. Horton, and Mr. and Mrs. P. Tabernor, of Colwich: and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy, Miss D. M. Jones, and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, of Col... ton.

...reshments for ... d of Staffords...

21/7/66



MR. Fred Harcas... elected chairm... Mr. J. C. Price re-el... his deputy at the ... meeting of Colton ... council.

A complaint regarding ... condition of a stretch ... footpath from the Pin... Trent Valley was disc... it was agreed that three ... should attempt to ... meeting with the far... cerned. The footpath is ... as one of the most im... the parish.

Councillors agreed that ... was being made — if ... — on plans for the mo...

ANY OLD RAGS AID FUNDS OF THE PRODUCE GUILD

THE June meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room with Mr. Jack Brown in the chair.

Tea shillings made from the sale of old wool and rags was handed to the treasurer, and the chairman reminded members that he would continue to receive such jumble to be sold to aid Guild funds.

Those present were also reminded of the open day at Rodbaston Farm Institute (tomorrow, Saturday) and final details were given of a visit to a cheese farm on June 22. A plea was made for as many members as possible to attend the 'Midsummer Special' to be held at the home of Alderman and Mrs. A. N. Hillier's home in aid of the Staffordshire Rural Community Council's funds.

Too early

It was generally felt that July 11 was too early for the garden competition in Colton, and it was agreed that as Mr. Farrer had the last Saturday in July free, he should be asked to judge the competition with, perhaps, Mr. Jones of Maer. Prize money would be set at £1 10s., £1, 15s., and 10s. plus a merit prize of 10s. The entrance fee would be 1s.

Details of the county flower arrangement competition were discussed and those to represent the Guild will be Mrs. C. Bannister. Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft and Messrs. Leslie Devall and R. J. N. Williams.

Details were also settled for the rose show on July 7 and Mr. Toy suggested a visit to Shrewsbury Flower Show. Mr. Jack Brown then presented a garden fork on behalf of the Guild to Miss Mary Preston who is to be married shortly.

The guest speaker was Mr. D. W. Pinches of the Lichfield Guild who gave an enlightening talk on fuchsias He was thanked by Mr N. Bruce.

The competition for a pot plant was well supported and prizes went to Miss Mary Preston and Mrs. I. Preston. Another competition was won by Mrs. M. S. Toy Mrs. J. E. Wright, Tony Wrigh Messrs. T. Preston, N. Bruce an J. H. Toy. Hostesses were Mr and Miss Hilary Brice assisted Mrs. M. E. Hibbs.

M.U.— At the meeting of Colton Mother's Union members were joined by members of the Blithfield M.U. A service of Holy Corporate took place, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A.S. Towlson. The organist was Mrs. G.E. Finnemore. Collections were taken by Mrs. B. Ravenscroft and Miss E. Rotchwell. Afterwards tea was served in the rectory Mrs. G. Vernon, of Blithfield, thanked the Colton M.U.

W.I.— Colton Women's Institute met in the reading room with Mrs. I.Preston, president, presiding. She welcomed Mrs. M. Bannister and Mrs. Lamb of Rugeley, who became members. She welcomed and introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Garnon-Jones, who gave a talk, illustrated by film slides, on his visit to the U.S.A. Mrs. N. Jones thanked him. A report of the autumn council meeting was given by Mrs. Preston, the delegate. Invitations were accepted to parties at Hixon and Slitting Mill. Final arrangements were made for the group meeting to be held at Colton. Mrs. E.M.Sargeant had charge of the stall and the mystery prize went to Mrs. C.M.Sanders. Tea hostesses were Mesdames S.J. Doughty. M.E. Hibbs, Miss D.M. Jones, assisted by Mrs. M. M. Daw.

COLTON

MOTHERS' UNION.— The October meeting of Colton Mother's Union took the form of Holy Communion. For this they were joined by members of Blithfield Mother's Union. The Rev. A. S. Towlson conducted the service and the organist was Mrs. R. Greaves. Collections were taken by Miss E. Rotchell and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and are to go to medical missions of the church. Tea was served at the rectory.

MR. NORMAN:— The funeral took place at Colton, St. Mary's Church, followed by cremation at Stafford, of Mr. William Elijah Norman, aged 69 of 20 Albion Street, Rugeley. Mr. Norman died in a Stafford hospital after a long illness. He has lived in Rugeley for the past 14 years but was a native of Colton where he was born and had served in St. Mary's Church as a choir boy. He leaves a widow and three sons. The service was conducted by the Rev. A. S. Towlson. Attending the service were Mrs. M. L. Norman, widow, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Norman, son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Norman, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Colin Norman, son and daughter-in-law, Miss Margaret Norman, grand-daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Parr, brother-in-law and sister, Miss W. Parr, niece; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knight, brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Mr. Frank Knight brother-in-law; Mesdames R. W. Parr, and D. Harding, nieces-in-law, Mrs. E. Myatt, also rep. Mr. Myatt,

Colton. — At the well-tended annual meeting, the President (Mrs. Ivy Preston), who presided, thanked fellow officers and all members, for loyal support throughout the year. The Hon. Secretary (Mrs. C. M. Sanders) gave a comprehensive annual report, and the Hon. Treasurer (Mrs. R. R. Brown) gave a detailed and satisfactory financial statement. No election was needed for Committee, therefore the 1966-67 Committee will consist of those who left their names on the list; they are. Mesdames M. G. Bennett, I. R. Brown, L. Jackson, [illegible] Jones, J. Meddings, J. E. Norman, I. Preston, B. M. Ravenscroft, C. M. Sanders, M. Sargeant and M. R. Taylor, and Miss D. M. Jones. Mrs. Preston again accepted the post as President, with Mrs. Jones as first Vice-President, and Miss Jones as second Vice-President. Mrs. Sanders as Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Jackson as Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Brown as Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Sargeant as Assistant Treasurer. [illegible] as Press Correspondent and Mrs. [illegible] and Home and Country Secretary. The President agreed to attend

COLTON W.I. are considering a holiday in the Rhine Valley next year and also a visit to London, but it was decided at their November meeting to delay decisions until after Christmas. They did agree on a visit to a Birmingham pantomime on January 20.

Speaker of the evening was a representative of a firm which makes foundation garments and she was thanked by Mrs. M. M. Daw. Mrs. I. Preston welcomed a visitor, Mrs. Doris Chadwick.

It was decided that Mrs. Preston

VILLAGERS CONCERNED AT DELAY IN SCHOOL MODERNISATION PLAN

ACTION CALL AT COLTON MEETING

THE continued delay in modernising Colton Village School, was the subject for lengthy discussion at the village's annual Parish Assembly last week.

Parish Council Clerk Mrs. P. M. Buckley said she had received a message from Stafford concerning the new plan, which defined a clear passage of fifteen feet on the eastern side of the field as an access road. Final approval was in the process of being obtained from the Minister of Education.

Mr. J. F. Peet said he could see no reason why the owner of the land needed this access, as he already had one through Boughy Hall farmyard.

Mr. Luke Mellor expressed concern both as a parish councillor and a parent. There were rumours that the children might have to attend school at Hixon, and he felt it would be wrong to send small children out of the village when there was already a school there.

"There is a limit to our patience," he said.

A recommendation was made to the Parish Council, calling for another public meeting if the position had not changed during the next six weeks.

It was decided to enter the "Best Kept Village" competition, although several members felt that the work on the new sewerage scheme would have a detrimental effect on the appearance of the village.

The accounts of Colton Parish Lands Trust were again not available for inspection at the meeting, and it was agreed that the council press the Chairman of the Lands Trust to have them available by May 1.

Mr. J. C. Price, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee, said the hall was to be re-decorated after a damp course had been installed. New lighting had been fitted by Mr. G. Ballard, and it was hoped the kitchen and the new entrance would soon be completed.

He reported a balance in hand of £2,140, last year's interest being £90 — as much as the hall used to make in a year!

A letter was received from Mr. J. F. Peet, protesting against the filling-in of a pool at the bottom of the village with surplus gravel from the sewerage construction. He felt that as the pool was obviously a seepage point, the filling in might well cause the water table to rise and flood nearby property.

The assembly recommended that the parish council ask Lichfield Rural Council to investigate the matter.

Mr. Ballard raised the question of inconvenience caused to Colton people by the reconstruction work on the Station Road canal bridge at Rugeley. Cllr. Upton pointed out that this did not concern the parish assembly.

Mr. Morrall said the reconstruction work was a great inconvenience.

VPG.— Presiding at a meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, welcomed two new members, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bannister and Mrs. Janice Charles. A visit to a cheese farm near Market Drayton in June was confirmed and a visit to Bourton-on-the-Water, was suggested for August. Potatoes for the special "Heaviest Yield" class at the show were on sale in charge of Mr. T. Preston. Highlight of the evening was a talk, illustrated with film slides, given by Mr. H. Tooth and Mr. Smith of Lower Penn, entitled "We have stopped smoking". The chairman thanked Mr. Tooth and Mr. Smith for an interesting evening. The competition for an arrangement of spring flowers was won by Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft. A competition for a Simnel cake was won by Mrs. Joan Wright. Refreshments were given and served by Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams. A raffle for rose bushes was won by Mr. C. Bannister.

SALE.— A rummage sale held in the Reading Room for village produce guild funds raised £16. Miss E. Ratchell was doorkeeper. Refreshments were in the charge of Mrs. H. E. Hibbs, Miss M. M. Jones and Mrs. C. M. Sardis, and in charge of stalls were Mesdames E. M. Sargeant, I. and E. Preston, L. Jackson, B. M. Ravenscroft, J. Garwood, C. M. Amyes, J. E. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. R. Williams, and Mr. Jack Brown; raffle, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Christine Bennett.

W.I.— The April meeting of Colton W. I., held in the Reading Room was very well attended. The president, Mrs. I. Preston, presided. It was a very busy evening for the treasurer, Mrs. J. R. Brown, who collected money in connection with next month's Paris visit and members yearly subscription. An enjoy-

A TALK and demonstration on yeast cookery by Miss P. Cherry of Rodbaston Farm Institute was given at the September meeting of Colton W.I., held in the Reading Room. Miss Cherry was thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown.

Mrs. I. Preston, the president, welcomed three new members, Mrs. H. Webb, Mrs. B. Lloyd, and Mrs. M. Beattie, and the visitors among whom were several members from Slitting Mill W.I.

Mrs. June Meddings collected the "pennies for friendship" and a report on the plans of the Old People's Welfare Council was given by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft was in charge of the stall, and there were 20 exhibits in the competition for a Victoria sandwich — won by Mrs. N. Jones, with Mrs. L. Jackson in second place.

It was announced that the knitting class at next year's show would be a lady's long sleeved sweater or jumper, hand-knitted in any wool, and information was given about the Autumn meeting of the Parkside Group which will be held at Colton on October 24.

Tea hostesses were Mesdames I. James, J. Wright, and M. E. Hibbs.

Members of the Institute, with husbands and friends, recently had another visit to Cadbury's chocolate factory at Bournville.

at Colton W. I.

The April meeting of Colton W.I. was held in the Reading Room where Mrs. I. Preston presided. The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, collected the money for the Paris visit and the annual subscriptions.

A high-light of the evening was a demonstration of 'Summer Sweet' by Miss Elliott and Miss C. Doody of the M.E.B. The com-



Helpers at Colton W.I. mid-summer fayre line up for the "Times" before the arrival of customers at their village hall event last week. Mrs. I. Preston (president) is seen second from right.

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W.I. fun

Colton W.I. treasure
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from Dover was welcom
Midsummer fair which r
than £20 for W.I. funds.

The event was declared
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Mesdames I. Preston (
I. R. Brown, C. M. S
Jones, E. M. Sargeant, M
nett, D. M. Atkin, P. L.
B. M. Ravenscroft, M.
M. C. Harvey and Mi
Jones.

Mrs L. Jackson ran
which was won by Mes
Goodall, L. Husselbee, I.
J. Bowey, M. A. Westho
Bannister, Miss D. M. Jo
Pye Green member.

Refreshments were s
Mrs. June Meddings. M

V.P.G.— The March meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was the ninth annual meeting. In that time there have been three chairmen, Mr. R. A. Brundle, Mr. J. H. Toy and Mr. T. Preston has been chairman for the last three years. He thanked the officers, the rest of the committee, and the members for their support throughout the past year. Miss D. M. Jones, secretary, thanked Mr. Preston for his chairmanship, and gave a report of the year's work and events. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, treasurer, gave her report, subject to audit, which showed a slight excess of spending over income. It was agreed to hold a rummage sale on April 16th A discussion on the yearly subscription followed, and it was agreed to increase the adult subscription from 1s. a year to 2s. leaving school children at a 1s. a year. Mr. D. L. Fergusan was the teller for the election of the new committee and the results were: Messrs. J. Brown, J. Meddings, T. Preston and J. H. Toy, Miss D. M. Jones, Mesdames J. Garwood, L. Jackson, B. M. Ravenscroft, J. E. Wright: chairman, Mr. Bworn the rest of the officers to be appointed at the next committee meeting. Appointed to serve on the show committee were Messrs. Brown, D. W. Garwood, Meddings, Preston and Toy. Those who agreed to form the team for the quiz were, Messrs. Preston, Meddings, and Brown, when the first round will be at Slitting Mill on April 1. A letter was read from Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams, thanking members for the wedding gift received from the guild. Mrs. E. Atkin sent thanks for flowers and good wishes sent to her in hospital. Suggestions were asked for regarding a possible county rally, also the form of entertainment at the annual harvest supper. The evening's speaker was Mr. Ernest Broughton of Walton-on-the-Hill, Stafford, and his topic was unusual annuals. Mr. Broughton was thanked by Mr. R. J. N. Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Broughton judged the competition for a bowl of bulbs, and awarded the prize to Keith Williscroft for his blue hyacinths. The raffle for gladioli corms was won by Mr. Broughton. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Wright and Garwood. 18/3/66

W.I.— The March meeting of Colton Women's Institute, was the annual general meeting, and was well attended. The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, presided, and thanked the officers and all members, for their support throughout the year, also Mr. C. S. Jones, for auditing the accounts, and to the tellers, Messrs. M. Williscroft, and D. L. Fergusan. The president was thanked from the Institute by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, gave the annual report, and the treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, gave a satisfactory financial statement. Mrs. M. E. Everall thanked both secretary and treasurer. No election was needed for the committee, they are Mesdames M. G. Bennett, I. R. Brown, L. Jackson, N. Jones, J. Meddings, J. E. Norman, I. Preston, B. M. Ravenscroft, C. M. Sanders, E. M. Sargeant, M. R. Taylor, and Miss D. M. Jones. Mrs. Preston again accepted office as president, with Mrs. Jones and Miss Jones, vice-presidents; Mrs. Sanders, secretary; Mrs. Jackson, assistant secretary; Mrs. Brown, treasurer. Mrs. Sargeant, assistant treasurer; Mrs. Ravenscroft, press; Mrs. Taylor, "Home and Country". Members to serve on the show committee are: Mrs. Ravenscroft, Mrs. J. E. Wright, and either, Mrs. Preston. or Miss Jones. Names were taken of members wishing to attend the spring meeting of the Parkside group at Abbots Bromley on March 28. The president, agreed to attend the National Federation annual

A representative of a bakery firm (Mr. Harvey) addressed the February meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild. He showed a film entitled "Our Daily Bread." It covered bread and biscuit making. A vote of thanks to Mr. Harvey, who remarked that he had never before addressed an organisation, was proposed by Mr. Jack Brown.

An invitation was received from the Colwich guild for two members to attend their dinner in March. A draw was made and the winners were Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy. Members were invited to a Stafford lecture on the culture of dahlias and were also asked to help make up a coach party with the Abbots Bromley guild to the County Bulb Show at Rodbaston Farm Institute. It was decided to hold a show on a small scale during September.

The chairman, Mr. T. Preston, and the secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, presented a wedding gift to two members, Mr. Rodney Williams and Miss Ruth Ravenscroft. Mr. Preston said that it was the first wedding within the guild.

Competitions were for apples, won by Miss Jones, and onions, won by Mrs. C. M. Amyes. The raffle for a box of apples, given by Mr. Preston, was won by Mrs. L. Jackson.

COLTON

GUILD: The June meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the reading room, was well attended, and the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown presided. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Ten shillings from the sale of old wool and rags was handed to the treasurer and the chairman reminded members he would go on receiving any they wished to dispose of to be sold for guild funds. Members were given a reminder of Rodbaston open day and final details were given about the visit to a cheese farm. Members were asked to try and get to the "Midsummer Special" at Alderman and Mrs. A. N. Hillier's home, in aid of R. C. C. funds. It was felt that the suggested date for the garden competition was too early and it was agreed that Mr. Farrer should be asked to judge at a later date and get someone else to assist him. It was suggested that it be Mr. Jones of Maer. Prize money will be £1.10s, £1., 15s., and 10s., plus a further 10s. if any garden merit it. Entrance fee will be 1s. The county flower arrangement competition details were discussed and those who agreed to represent the guild were Mrs. C. Bannister, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft and Messrs. Leslie Devall and R. J. N. Williams. Prizes were promised for the guild's branch draw. Details were settled for the rose show and Mr. Toy suggested a visit to Shrewsbury Flower Show. The chairman presented Miss Mary Preston with a gift from the guild for her coming wedding. Mr. Brown welcomed the guest speaker Mr. D. W. Pinches of the Lichfield guild, who gave a talk on fuchsias. Mr.

Dairy visit. — Instead of their monthly meeting Colton Mothers' Union, joined by friends, visited a dairy at Uttoxeter, arrangements having been made by the secretary, Mrs. M. A. Westhorpe. On behalf of the members, Mrs. I. Preston thanked the guides and the management



Mr. Jack Brown (centre) with some of the exhibitors at C Village Produce Guild rose show which was well attend members from neighbouring guilds. 16/7/

Record entry fo
Colton rose show

A RECORD entry of blooms gladdened members of Village Produce Guild at their annual rose show Members were also present from Abbots Bromley, C Haughton and Slitting Mill guilds.

Mr. F. House of Yoxall had the task of judging, being assisted by Mr. J. Meddings as steward. The 70 people present were welcomed by Mr. Jack Brown (chairman).

Winners of the members' classes were Mrs. E. Preston, Mr. J. Brown and Mrs. L. Jackson (floribunda), Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. E. Preston and Mrs. J. Garwood (hybrid tea).

Winning visiting members were Mr. H. Stockton and Mrs. E. H. Tabernor of Colwich and Mr. R. Binfield of Slitting Mill (floribunda); Mr. Leech of Haughton, Mrs. Tabernor and Mrs. Stockton

prize given by Mr. T. Pre
a single rose exhibited
Colton member.

A vote of thanks to Mr.
was proposed by Mrs.
Ravenscroft.

The company divided i
teams for a general k
quiz, the winning team be
of Mr. Binfield 38
followed by Mr. T. Preston
The teams of Mr. L. Ev
Mr. N. Bruce tied with 31
Question master was
Brown, scorekeeper Miss
Jones, timekeeper Mrs.
croft and adjudicator



Prizewinners and produce guild officials pictured at the Stockwell Heath home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy on Saturday, after the judging of gardens of members of Colton Village Produce Guild.

Colton gardeners praised by judges

AFTER a lapse of a few years Colton Village Produce Guild resumed their best kept garden competition on Saturday, attracting entries from 14 members. High Street gardens were prominent among the winners.

First prize and diploma went to Mr. and Mrs. D. G. W. Pitts, of 88, High Street, Colton. Mr. C. Bannister, of 84, High Street, came second and received a certificate of merit. The certificate for third place was awarded to Mr. T. Preston, of No. 7 Holding, Blithbury Road and the fourth to Mrs. M. Sargeant, of Yorick, High Street.

Special effort prizes were awarded to Mrs. E. Preston, of 70, Peakes Road, Etching Hill, and to Mr. J. James, of 6, Oldham's Cottages, Colton, who had reclaimed an area of waste ground to his great credit in about five months.

Judges were Mr. F. W. Farrer, of Stafford, and Mr. J. W. Jones of Maer. They were escorted round the gardens by Mr. J. H. Toy, and afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Toy provided tea at their home, Hamley Fields, Stockwell Heath, when Mr. D. M. Gibb (county secretary) and Mrs. Gibb joined the party.

Certificates and prize money were afterwards presented by the judges, who made comments on the gardens they had inspected. Mr. Farrer said it had been a difficult task because so many gardens were of a very high standard. They would like to have given at least ten prizes.

Mr. Jack Brown (chairman), thanked the judges for giving up their Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Toy for their hospitality, and others who had contributed towards the success of the event—not forgetting the competitors.

Colton conte... makes comeback

AFTER a lapse of a number of years, Colton Village Produce Guild have again organised a best kept garden competition. It was held on Saturday and attracted 14 entries. 1960

Judging the gardens were Mr. F. W. Farrer, Stafford, and Mr. J. W. Jones, Maer, who were taken on a tour of the entries by Mr. J. H. Toy.

The first prize and diploma was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. D. G. W. Pitts, 88, High Street, and second, third and fourth prizes with certificates went to Mr. Charles Bannister, 84, High Street, Mr. T. Preston, No. 7, Holding, Blithbury Road, and Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, "Yorick", High Street.

Special effort prizes and certificates were given to Mrs. Edith Preston, 70, Peakes Road, Etching Hill, and Mr. J. James, 6, Oldhams Cottages, who had reclaimed waste land and cultivated it in five months.

The prizes were presented at Mr. and Mrs. Toy's home and Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Gibb were present. The judges paid tribute to the high standard of gardening and they were thanked by Mr. J. Brown, who also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Toy.



Mrs. Christine Pitts, whose gar... Colton Village Produce Guild g... ing her garden at 88

At the March meeting of Colton Women's Institute those members who are going on the two-day trip to Paris had passport photographs taken. They were also reminded that they must pay the balance for the trip—£14 15s. each —by the next meeting.

Members decided to hold another mid-summer fayre, on June 15, as last year's event had helped to keep the finances in a healthy state. The president, Mrs. I. Preston, agreed to represent Colton and Hamstall Ridware at the National Federation's annual meeting to be held in London.

Officers elected were: President, Mrs. I. Preston; first vice-president, Mrs. N. Jones; second vice-president, Miss D. M. Jones; secretary, Mrs. L. Jackson; assistant secretary Mrs. I. R. Brown; treasurer, Mrs. F. M. Sargeant; assistant treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; "Home and Country", Mrs. M. R. Taylor.

Committee: Mesdames M. G. Bennett, I. R. Brown, L. Jackson, N. Jones, J. Meddings, J. E. Norman, I. Preston, B. M. Ravenscroft, C. M. Sanders, E. M. Sargeant, M. R. Taylor and Miss D. M. Taylor. Show committee: Mesdames Ravenscroft, J. E. Wright, Mrs. Preston and Miss ...

To boost their funds, Colton Village Produce Guild organised a rummage sale last week, which raised about £13.

Helpers were Mr. J. James, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. Joan Cam... Mrs. ...

ROSE SHOW. — Colton village produce guild held a successful annual rose show. About 70 people were present and there was a record entry of blooms. Mr. F. House, of Yoxall, was the judge and Mr. J. Meddings was the steward. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, welcomed guests and members from a wide area and also Mr. J. James, a new member. Business was kept as brief as possible and Mrs. B. Ravenscroft reported on the recent county executive meeting. Winners in the rose show included: Mesdames F. Preston, L. Jackson, F. Sargeant, J. Garwood, E. Tabernor, Stockton, C. I. Pitts and Messrs. J. Brown H. Stockton, R. Binfield and I. Haughton. Mrs. Ravenscroft thanked Mr. House for judging the rose show, after which the company were grouped into four teams for a general knowledge quiz. Question master was Mr. J. Brown, scor... keeper ...

PRESIDING at the July meeting of Colton Women's Institute, Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed Mrs. C. H. Mills, who was treasurer for 21 years and is now a member of a Women's Institute in Kent. Mrs. Preston also welcomed a new member, Mrs. D. L. Ferguson.

It was announced that the profit from the midsummer fair was about £28. The house-to-house collection for the cancer campaign raised £6 2s.

Names were taken for a visit to a chocolate factory in September, and members were told that schedules for the show on September 3 could be obtained from the show secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

The evening was given up to "our own entertainment." A wall quiz, organised by Mrs. C. M. Sanders, was grouped into four large teams for a general know... edge ...

ROSE SHOW AT COLTON

There was a record number of entries at the annual rose show held by the Colton Village Produce Guild.

Mr. F. House, of Yoxall, was the judge and Mr. J. Medding the steward. The awards were:—

Colton members only: Three sprays of floribundas, Mrs. E. Preston, Mr. J. Brown and Mrs. L. Jackson; four H.T's., Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. E. Preston, and Mrs. J. Garwood. Visiting guild members: Three sprays of floribundas, Mr. H. Stockton (Colwich), Mrs. E. H. Tabernor (Colwich) and Mr. R. Binfield (Slitting Mill); four H.T's., Mr. Leech (Haughton), Mrs. Tabernor (Colwich) and Mrs. Stockton (Colwich). Special class for single rose (prize given by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. T. Preston), Colton members only: Mrs. C. I. Pitts.

25th garden party at ancient Colton Church



Ruth Ballard presents a bouquet to Miss Dorothy Cooper, who opened the 25th Colton garden party on Wednesday. As a little girl, Miss Cooper presented the bouquet at the first garden party. Also pictured (left to right) are the Rev. A. S. Towlson, Mr. D. Bradbury, Mrs. F. Cooper and Mrs. Towlson.

A TEACHER HAS LINK WITH THE FIRST

COLTON Church's 25th annual garden party, held on Wednesday, is expected to realise at least £150 for church funds, in spite of bad weather before the event and blustery, cold conditions throughout most of the afternon and evening. New this year was a barbecue and dance on the lawn.

The event took place in the grounds of the Rectory, by the Domesday Book church, and at night floodlights and fairy lights round the lawn were switched on for dancing.

Welcoming everyone at the opening ceremony, the Rev. A. S. Towlson (rector) said the people's warden, Miss Dorothy Cooper, had been there from the very beginning of the garden parties 25 years ago.

"She was only a little girl then, who did an important job. Through the years she has since done lots of important jobs and she is now people's warden for the parish of Colton," the rector said.

At the first garden party, Miss Cooper, along with Monica Mellor (now Mrs. Fateh) jointly presented the bouquet to the opener.

Miss Cooper said she was a link between the first garden party in 1942 and the latest garden party.

PROFIT from the 25th annual garden party held at Colton Rectory on Saturday is expected to be in the region of £150 — and this is in spite of the bad weather!

The event was opened by people's warden, Miss Dorothy A. Cooper who, as a small girl, presented a bouquet to the opener of Colton's first garden party. She, in turn, received a bouquet from Heather Ballard.

New features were a barn dance, a barbecue and a small model railway exhibition by Stafford Railway Circle. For the children there were pony rides provided by Mrs. Rhona Darlington.

Barbecue organisers were Mr. and Mrs. Price assisted by Mr. J. James. Tea was arranged by Mesdames Ivy Preston, E. Bettson, H. A. Williscroft, B. M. Ravenscroft, E. Griffin, R. O. Devall, P. L. Bannister, and M. E. Hibbs.

People manning stalls and sideshows were: Miss E. Rotchell, Mrs. E. Mason, Mrs. G. Mellor, Mrs. E. Sargeant, Mrs. P. Best, M. Westhorpe, M. Toy, M. Mellor, Ivy James, Mrs. E. Knight, Nigel and Deila Knight, Stephen Hibbs, Vernon Norman, Stephen Upton C. Sanders, M. Bennett, C Ballard, M. Everall, R. Rooke Jean Fowell, Gwendoline Ravens croft, Pearl Haynes, Philip Dea con, Chris Adams, Mrs. G. Finne more.

A treasure hunt, organised by Ann Ballard and Linda Tranter was won by Barry Preston and Mrs. B. Hill, and a clock golf event organised by Miss D. Jones was won by the Rector, the Rev.

A lamb was won by Mr. H. Leeke, a stop-watch competition by Mr. J. C. Price, the treasure hunt by Mr. B. Preston and clock golf by the rector.

Other winners were Mr. P. Westhorpe (whisky), Mrs. I. James (cake), Jeanette Deacon (fruit), Mrs. A. Cooper (sherry), Mrs. F. Grimley (groceries), Mrs. C. M. Sanders (tablecloth).

Stallholders :- Produce: Mrs Mason, Mrs. G. Mellor, Miss E Rotchelle; miscellaneous: Mrs. E M. Sargeant, Mrs. P. Best; tombola Mrs. E. Knight, Nigel and Delia Knight (also rabbit draw); cakes Mesdames N. Westhorpe, M. Mellor, J. Toy, I. James; books Stephen Hibbs, Vernon Norman, Stephen Upton; toilet and cosmetics (made by the blind): Mrs. C. M. Sanders, Mrs. M. J. Bennett; bring and buy: Mesdames M. Everall, I. Rooke, D. Ballard, J. Fowell. Gatekeeper: Mr. J. James.

Balloons: Philip Deacon, Chris. Adams; hoopla and treasure hunt; Mrs. E. Finnemore; bran tub and toys: Linda Tranter, Ann Ballard buttonholes: Gwendoline Ravens croft and Pearl Haynes, Barbecue Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] as is M [illegible]

Presiding at the July meeting of Colton W.I., Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed new member Mrs. D. L. Ferguson, and also Mrs. C. H. Mills, a former Treasurer for 21 years who is now a member in the county of Kent.

Members heard that about £28 profit had been realised from the Mid-Summer Fair. The house-to-house collection for the Cancer Campaign had brought in £6/2/- collectors being Mesdames L. Jackson, M. E. Everall, and Jean Fowell. Names were taken for the visit to Cadbury's in September.

The evening was then devoted to "Our Own Entertainment." A wall game, organised by Mrs. C. M. Sanders, was won by Mrs. M. M. Daw. The President's crazy whist drive was won by Mesdames N. Jones and B. M. Ravenscroft. Then followed a musical quiz, with Miss D. M. Jones at the piano.

COLTON SHOW DATE

The appointed committee for the 1967 Colton Show met at Martlin Cottages on Friday evening, when they elected the officers and generally revised the show schedule.

Mr. T. Preston again accepted the chairmanship. Other officers re-elected were Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (secretary), Mrs. Preston (treasurer), and Mr. J. Meddings (vice-chairman).

Elected members of the committee are Miss D. M. Jones, Mesdames L. Jackson and J. E. Wright and Messrs. D. W. G

COLTON Parish Council are willing to re-open negotiations on the churchyard extension scheme with the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

It is now six years since planning approval for the churchyard scheme was given, subject to there being no development beyond an improvement line. On this line a stone retaining wall was to be built by the church council.

The rector told the "Times" this week that as the land outside the boundary wall would have no use to the church it had been proposed six years ago to dedicate it for road widening. But the parish council of the time objected and the whole scheme was shelved.

The parish council decided on Friday to invite the rector to attend their next meeting to explain his case.

Mr. Towlson had written to say that his Parochial Church Council had unanimously agreed to ask the parish council if they were willing to reopen negotiations.



Helpers at Colton



Visitors listening to [illegible] In the centre

COLTON

PRODUCE GUILD.—A annual meeting of C Village Produce Guild h decided to increase annual subscription for a from 1s. to 2s. and to t the subscription for sc children at 1s. per Voting for the new Comm resulted as follow: Messr Brown, J. Meddings, Preston and J. H. Toy. D. M. Jones and Mesdc J. Garwood, L. Jackson, Ravenscroft, J. E. Wri The Chairman is Mr. Bru the rest of the officers re

COLTON

FOR TURKEY DINN

The Committee of the C Old People's Welfare Co organised a whist drive i Reading Room to pro funds for the turkey di they will give to the eld people. The M.C. was Ma W. Westhorpe and Mr. S. Knight presented prizes Mrs. M. A. Myatt, Mr. Ge Amyes, Mrs. E. E. Mi (2), Mr. F. Allcock, Mrs. A. Curtiss, Mr. G. F. Hi Mr. Amyes, Mrs. Pitts Mr. Leslie Kendrick. raffle in the room was won Mr. Kendrick. Prizes in draw went to Mrs. Ja Charles (top



...or Tabernor, ...rpley Farm, ...on Farm, Wolseley Bridge, Stafford, and his bride Miss Jean Mardling, ...e, pictured in a group after their wedding at Christ Church, Hilderstone

F...MING FAMILIES UNITED

1966

Christ Church, Hilderstone, was well filled for the wedding there on Saturday of Miss Jean Elizabeth Mardling, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Mardling, of Sharpley Heath Farm, Hilderstone, and Mr. Trevor Percy Tabernor, second son of Mr. and Mrs. P Tabernor, of Moreton Farm, Wolsley Bridge, Stafford.

The bride has been employed at the District Bank at Stoke and is being transferred to the Rugeley branch. The bridegroom farms with his father.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a full-length gown of white lace over taffeta and tulle with a boat-shaped neckline and long sleeves. The skirt was cut with a long train falling from a circle of nylon roses, and a crystal and drop pearl coronet secured her short circular veil of plain tulle. She carried a bouquet of yellow tea roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

In attendance were Miss Susan Mardling (bride's sister), Mrs. Dorothy Wardle (bridegroom's sister), Misses Judith Elkin, Clare Knowles and Carol Shenton (bride's cousins) and David Tabenor (bridegroom's nephew).

Miss Mardling and Mrs. Wardle wore full-length dresses of eau-de-nil satin with round necklines and bell-shaped skirts. Judith and Clare wore full-length dresses of primrose satin with full skirts, white lace jackets and white sashes and Carol wore a similarly styled dress of eau-de-nil sa... with a white jacket and sash. ... had white accessories and hea... dresses of circles of organ... roses, and carried bouquets ... white carnations and freesi... The page boy wore eau-de-... satin trousers and a white blou... The senior attendants receiv... compacts and the three sm... attendants had bracelets ... gifts of the bridegroom.

Mr. Brian Murphy was b... man and the groomsmen we... Mr. David Mardling (brid... brother) and Mr. Micha... Tabbernor (bridegroom's brothe... The ceremony was conducted ... the Vicar (the Rev. N. Gledhill...

The reception was held ... Hilderstone Village Hall, so... 130 guests being entertain... Later, the newly-married cou... left for a honeymoon in Jersey...

In the evening friends join... wedding guests at a buffet supp... and dance in the Village Hall.

JUDGING in Colton parish council's 'Best Kept Gardens' competition, took place on Saturday afternoon. Judges, Messrs. R. Alcock, of Great Haywood, and D. J. Williams of Tixall were impressed with the gardens entered in the contest and named the prize winners of the two sections.

In the 'comprehensive garden' section, the first prize of 30/- and the parish council Silver Challenge Cup went to Mr. Charles Bannister of "Four Winds", 84, High Street, second prize of 20/- to Mr. W. C. Sargeant, "Yorick", 53, High Street, and third prize of 10/- to Mrs. H. Bell of Barn Cottage, off the Blithbury Road.

In the 'attractive garden' section, the Little Hay Challenge Rose Bowl and first prize of £1/10/- went to Mr. and Mrs. D. G. W. Pitts, 88, High Street, second prize of £1 to Mr. Leslie Devall and third prize to Mr. Bannister of "Four Winds".

Cllr. Fred Hardcastle thanked the judges and Cllr. Mellor for his work. The presentation of the awards will be at a later date.



Pictured at Colton Parish Council gardens presentation on Saturday are (left to right): Councillor Luke Mellor (organiser), Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bannister, Mr. and Mrs. D. Pitts, Mr. N. Felton, who presented the cups, Councillor F. Hardcastle (chairman) and Mr. ... Preston.

Colton ...ned for rura... ...uch

A DECLARATION that Colton Parish Council intends to try to preserve the rural character of their old-world village as long as possible was made on Saturday by Councillor F. Hardcastle (chairman).

Apparently referring to an impending planning appeal for development on either a 24 acre or a 30 acre site off High Street, he said: "It would be a disaster if we were to allow an intention on the boards at the moment to become a reality."

Councillor Hardcastle was speaking at the Village Produce Guild

Councillor Luke Mellor, organiser of the gardens contest, said the parish council were not in opposition to the produce guild, for they shared a worthwhile and common interest.

Mr. Felton presented the parish council's silver challenge cup to Mr. W. C. Bannister, of Four Winds, High Street, for the best

AT a public meeting at Colto... last week an Old People... Welfare Council was formed, wi... Councillor F. Hardcastle as chai... man. Colton Parish Council h... initiated the meeting.

Speakers were Mr. D. M. Gib... secretary of Staffordshire Ru... Community Council, and M... Tompkinson, of the South Staffo... shire Council of Social Servi... whose work includes the welf... of old people.

Among those who promised ... serve on the committee were M...

COLTON Women's Institute met in the Reading Room for their October meeting, Mrs. I. Preston presiding. She welcomed Mrs. M. Bannister, and also Mrs. Lamb, of Rugeley, who became a new member.

The guest speaker was Mr ...arnon-Jones, who gave a most ...nteresting talk, illustrated by ...lm slides, of his many visits to ...he United States. He supposed ...e had crossed the Atlantic ...bout 52 times, mostly on one ...f the "Queen" liners. He was ...hanked by Mrs. N. Jones.

A concise report of the ...utumn Council meeting was ...iven by delegate Mrs. Preston. ...nvitations were accepted to ...arties at Hixon and Slitting ...ill.

COFFEE EVENING.— A succ... essful coffee evening in support o... Colton Church funds took place in... the School, over £37 being raised. Entertainment was provided by the... church choir, school choir, and the... Rugeley Studio of Dancing, Clarinet... Solo by Ruth Ballard; recitation,... Ursula Hall, Dances by Alison San... ders, Rachel Brown, and Elaine... Leeke. recorder items by Jean Bass... Lynn Sanders and Ruth Ballard. A... Nativity mime was acted. dances... performed by the Studio of danc... ing were: Polish Krakoviak, Judith... Roper, Gillian Cartwright, Karen... Stook and Marguerite Ricketts, high... land fling, Sally Redwood, festival... mazurka the younger junior stud... ents; Russian gopak, Lynda Opie;... do-ray-me, Lynda Tranter and... younger students. Hungarian Czar... das, Rosalind Wilkes, Lynda Opie,... and Sally Redwood, tarentella,... Linda Tranter. Tyrolean mountain... dance, Hazel Keen, pick a pocket... or two, Rosalind Wilkes, with young... ger students; charleston, Lynda Opie... in modern mood, Karen Stook and... Marguerite Ricketts; Spanish bota...

Guild visitors set up a record entry at the village rose show

15-7-66.

THERE was a record entry at Colton Village Produce Guild annual rose show, visited by more than 70 people. Mr. F. House of Yoxall was the judge with Mr. J. Meddings as steward.

Chairman Mr. Jack Brown welcomed the visitors who included members from guilds at Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Haughton, and Slitting Mill, and Mr. J. James, a new member, and Mr. Ernest Myatt who recently re-joined the guild.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft reported on the county executive meeting, and the chairman reminded members about the trip to Cannock Chase on August 11, and the outing to Bourton-on-the-water on August 21.

Winners of the rose show were (Colton members): Mrs. E. Preston, Mr. J. Brown, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. J. Garwood. Visiting guild members: Mr. H. Stockton, Colwich; Mrs. E. H. Taberner, Colwich; Mr. R. Binfield, Slitting Mill; Mr. Leech, Haughton; Mrs. Stockton. Mrs. C. I. Pitts of Colton won the special class for a single rose and was awarded a prize donated by the vice-chairman, Mr. T. Preston.

Mrs. Ravenscroft proposed a vote of thanks to the judge, and Mr. Brown was question-master for a general knowledge quiz in which Mr. T. Preston, Mr. L. Evans, Mr. R. Binfield, and Mr. N. Bruce captained the teams taking part. Miss Jones was score keeper, Mrs. Ravenscroft time-keeper, and Miss Gwendolin Ravenscroft adjudicator.

Mr. Binfield's team were th winners with 38 points. The com petition run by Mrs. J. E. Wrigh was won by Mr. J. H. Toy, M White, Mrs. E. Preston, and M Morgan.

kept garden

Judging in the Colton Parish Council's "Best Kept Garden" Competition, took place on Saturday Afternoon. Councillor Luke Mellor escorted the Judges (Messrs. R. Alcock, of Great Haywood, and Mr. D. J. Williams of Tixall) round the Gardens entered in the contest.

In the "Comprehensive Garden" section, they awarded, first prize of 30s. and the Parish Council Silver Challenge Cup, to Mr. Charles Bannister, "Fourwinds" 84, High-street, 2nd prize of 20s. to Mr. W. C. Sargeant, "Yorick" 53, High-street, and 3rd prize of 10s. to Mrs. H. Bell, of Barn Cottage, off the Blithbury-road.

In the "Attractive Garden" section, the award of first prize of 30s. and the "Little Hay" Silver Challenge Rose Bowl (which was donated by the Mellor Family in memory

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Church effort raises £150 at Colton

The annual garden party held last week in the grounds of Colton Rectory, was the 25th in succession. It is expected that the profit will be at least £150—this in spite of rather wet rough weather. The proceeds are to be devoted to the drainage and heating system of St. Mary's Church, Colton.

The event was opened by Miss Dorothy A. Cooper (the People's Warden) who, as a small girl, presented the bouquet to the opener at the first garden party.

The bouquet to Miss Cooper was presented by Heather Ballard.

New features this year were a barn dance and a barbecue; also a display by Stafford Railway Circle of a small model railway exhibition, and pony rides provided by Mrs. Rhona Darlington, of Hamley Lodge Riding School.

The barbecue was organised by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Price and their children.

The gatekeeper was Mr. J. James and teas were arranged by Mesdames Ivy Preston, E. Bettson, H. A. Williscroft, B. M. Ravenscroft, E. Griffin, R. O. Devall, P. L. Bannister and M. E. Hibbs.

In charge of stalls, &c. were:—Produce, etc., Miss Ellen Rotchell, Mrs. E. Mason and Mrs. G. Mellor. Miscellaneous, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and Mrs. P. B. Best. Cakes, Mesdames. M. A. Westhorpe, M. S. Toy, M. E. Mellor and Ivy James. Tombola. Mrs. Enid Knight, Nigel and Deila Knight. Second-hand books, Stephen Hibbs, Vernon Norman and Stephen Upton. Toilet and cosmetic items made by the blind. Mesdames C. M. Sanders and M. G. Bennett. Bring-and-buy, Mesdames O. M. Ballard, M. E.

by the Rector). Bowling for lamb, Mr. W. A. Norman (won by Mr. Harry Leeke). Bowling through hole. Messrs. Bernard Bettson and Maurice Williscroft.

The stop watch competition was won by Mr. J. C. Price, and raffle winners were: Whisky, Mr. P. W. Westhorpe; cake, Mrs. I. James; fruit, Jeanette Deacon; sherry, Mrs. A. Cooper (Drointon); groceries, Mrs. F. Grimley; table cloth, Mrs. C. M. Sanders.

W.I. and welcomed visitors and a new member Mrs. May Bannister.

An invitation was received from Hamstall Ridware and accepted by Mrs. C. M. Sanders and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. It was announced that members of the Village Produce Guild would be invited to attend the New Year party.

A game organised by Mrs. N. Jones was won by Mrs. M. R. Taylor, and winners of a crazy whist competition, organised by Mrs. Preston, were Mesdames P. McDowall, H. Webb, J. Fowell and J. Meddings, and Miss D. M. Jones. Other prize-winners were: Christmas card competition Mrs. Taylor, and raffle Mrs. Craddock, president of Slitting Mill W.I.

The Christmas stall was in the charge of Mesdames E. M. Sargeant and N. Jones. Tea hostesses were Mesdames B. Barham, June Meddings, J. E. Norman, and B. M. Ravenscroft, and the evening ended with carols

23/12/66

ESTATE WOULD RUIN COLTON'S RURAL BEAUTY SAY VILLAGERS

IF a big housing block was built at Colton it would "tear the heart out of the village," resident Mr. J. Peet at a Lichfield planning inquiry on Wednesday.

Mr. Peet said: "We live there, we like the place. If we preferred a surburban area, obviously we would go and live in a suburban area.

The inquiry was into an appeal against Lichfield Rural Council's refusal, acting on behalf of Staffordshire County Council, of planning permission for residential development of two alternative sites of 24 and 30 acres at Colton.

Lichfield City Laundry Company Ltd. planned the building of about 250 dwellings. Permission had been refused on the grounds that the proposed development would be contrary to the planning proposals for the area, prejudicial to the amenities of the area as it would constitute extension on a scale out of character with the existing village and would detract from the open rural character and appearance of the area

PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was also said that part of the site was required for primary school purposes and that the proposal was objected to by the Ministry of Agriculture as being contrary to agricultural interests.

Two petitions from Colton villagers—signed by a total of 25 people—were handed in to the Ministry inspector conducting the inquiry.

Mr. G. A. Grove, for appellants, said that as the district was in process of getting better amenities, now was the appropriate time for determining the future site of the village.

He said: "There is a terrific demand for these houses. It is a matter about which there can be no argument.

"In view of this I would suggest that this is the time to be looking at this village with very great care to see where a substantial development of this kind can be carried out with no great drain on public services.

"This development would n prominent in the countr owing to the contours of the It would be quite impossible t this development until you got the High Street."

INVALID

Mr. J. D. Tetlow, an arch said it seemed to him that a objections were either invali could be overcome without in ing controlled development rural area.

He said: "It does not follow change must be detrimental. two proposals put forward are piecemeal development."

Mr. Fred Hardcastle, chairm Colton Parish Council, "Colton is unanimous in its port of the rural council. They sider this to be a spread into rural area in a village whic lying in beautiful countryside they consider if this were all it would be a 'white elep behind the walls of an old village."

Mr. M. J. Higson, represe Colton villagers, said: "If you a great 'hump' of develop twice the size of the original vi it will ruin it and destro character."

Mr. Kenneth Nelson, repres the Ministry of Agriculture, the land on which the develop was proposed was good soil. Lo the land, would be a serious locally and to the nation.

Clerk to Lichfield Rural Cou Mr. Norman Barton, said Midlands population problems being dealt with, and there was county council policy to ex Colton on the scale proposed.

The last day of term at Colto St. Mary's School was also th last day for the school as it h stood for a century. After year of negotiation and one fals start, the modernisation an enlargement of the school i now underway and for the nex two terms children will "lodgers" at Colwich scho where there is a vacant clas room available in their ol premises. Colton pupils are see (above) helping to load equip ment fo rtransporting to Colwic on the last day of term





COLTON

SHOW: Colton Village Produce uild and Women's Institute Show is very successful. The number of hibitors was higher than for some ars. Judges were: horticulture asses, Messrs. H. Birch and Brown Brereton; cookery and eggs, Miss B. Elliott and C. Bood of the fidlands Electricity Board; and andicrafts, wine, flower arrangeents and children's classes, Mrs. J. Salter of Abbots Bromley. Prize-inners were: highest yield from one ncut) potato: J. Meddings, Mrs. M. Sargeant, J. H. Toy; potatoes ty variety: Mrs. C. M. Sanders, Bannister, T. Preston; onions from ed: T. Preston, J. Meddings, R. J. J. Williams; onions from sets: C. Bannister, T. Preston, Miss D. M. Jones; shallots: T. Preston, C. Bannister, Jack Brown; beetroot: Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. B. Jackson, J. Meddings; runner-beans: Mrs. Bennett, J. James, C. Bannister; peas: C. Bannister, J. Meddings, Mrs. Sargeant; carrots: Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Sanders, T. Preston; cauli - lowers: Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. C. M. Amyes; marrow: Mrs. J. E. Wright, Tony Wright; cabbage: Mrs. Wrigh Mrs. D. Pitts; lettuce: Mrs. Wright, Tony Wright; apples (eating): J. Brown, C. Bannister, Mrs. Wright; apples (cooking): T. Preston, Miss Jones, Mrs. Edith Preston; gladioli: T. Preston, C. Bannister, Mrs. Wright; decorative dahlias: Mrs. J. H. Toy, T. Preston, J. Meddings; cactus dahlias: T. Preston, Mrs. T. Preston, J. Meddings; pom-pon dahlias: Mrs. Toy, J. H. Toy; vase of mixed annuals: Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mrs. E. Preston; H. T. Roses: Mrs. E. Preston, C. Bannister, Mrs. D. W. Garwood; asters: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Garwood, T. Preston; pansies: Mrs. P. B. Best, T. Preston, Mrs. Garwood; house plant in flower: T. Preston, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs T. Preston; foliage house plant: Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. Garwood; floral arrangement (facing one way in 1 foot of space): Mrs. T. Preston, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft: black-currant jam: Mrs. I. R. Brown; marmalade (three fruit): Mrs. T. Preston; lemon curd, Mrs. T. Preston Mrs. Wright, Miss Jones; jelly to eat with meat: Mrs. E. Preston, Miss Jones; chutney: Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Toy; cheese straws: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. Ruth Williams; sausage rolls: Mrs. Wright, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, Mrs. Toy; baked egg custard: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright; dundee cake: Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Miss Ravenscroft; white loaf: Mrs. T Preston, Jack Brown, Mrs. Toy; bottle wine: Jack Brown, Mrs. T. Preston; cardigan for child: Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright; thrift article: Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. Edith Preston, Mrs. Wright; brown eggs: Mrs Sargeant; white eggs: Mrs Sargeant; children (5 to 10) garden on a plate: Rachael Brown, Lynn Sanders, Paul Devall; 11 to 15 years, picture of some gardening subject: Ian Myatt, Wendy Evans. All the junior exhibitors received 1s with a highly commended prize card: Marion Norman Anne, Ruth and Heather Ballard, Ann, Enid, Julie and Nita Fowell, Marilyn Collins and Maria Greatrix. Raffle in charge of Mrs. Wright, winners were - sherry Mrs. Garwood; home made wine, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs; daffodil bulbs, Mrs. B. Bettyson; show chairman was Mr T. Preston; secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; treasurer, Mrs. T. Preston; rest of committee: J. Meddings, J. H. Toy, D. W. Garwood, Miss D. Jones, Mesdames L. Jackson (in charge of refreshments) and J. E. Wright Stewards on duty were, Mr. Garwood, chief steward; Mesdames C. M. Sanders, M. E. Hibbs and Mr. Michael Garwood. The Silver Rose Bowl for lady with highest points went to Mrs. T. Preston, and Silver Cup for gents, to Mr. T. Preston. They were presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Felton, Miss Jones, Guild secretary, presented Mrs. Felton with a bouquet. Following this the chairman of the parish council, Councillor Fred Hardcastle addressed the company. Mr. and Mrs. Felton, who had presented the council's Silver Cup during the first garden competition, presented the awards this year to:- Mrs. W. C. Bannister, the PC Cup; and Mr and Mrs. David Pitts, the Little Hey Rose Bowl. Other winners were: Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sargeant, Mr. Leslie Devall and Mrs. H. Bell. Councillors Hardcastle and Mellor thanked Mr. and Mrs. Felton.

TWENTY-FOUR old people from Colton parish, some of whom are pictured above, were entertained to tea and a social evening on Saturday by the newly-formed Colton Old People's Welfare Council. Some said it was the first time they had ever been invited to anything and all expressed pleasure at the opportunity to meet [illegible] at the piano.

The old people were welcomed by Councillor F. Hardcastle (chairman). At a subsequent meeting the council decided to hold another get-together on September 17, when there would be a short whist drive before tea.

One of the guests on Saturday, Mr. R. G. Harris, expressed interest in joining the committee and he was co-opted. Mr. F. S. Knight and Mr. E. Beardsmore proposed a vote of thanks to the new council.

HARVEST SUPPER.— Colton village produce guild held their annual harvest supper in the reading room. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown welcomed the company, which included the county chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. E. Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. F. House, Mr. and Mrs. Pinches, Miss E. Rees, and Miss Devine. Members of Colton W.I. were also invited. Hot meat and potato pies, followed by fruit jellies cheese and biscuits, cider, home made wine and soft drinks were served. Those who had prepared the meal were thanked. Following the meal, Mrs. M. S. Toy arranged a crazy whist drive. Winners were Mrs. S. J. Doughty and Tony Wright. Miss D. M. Jones attended to a game of "beetle" for the juniors. Marilyn Collins was winner. A musical chairs game played in pairs was arranged by Mrs. Brown. The prize draw promoted by Mrs. J. E. Wright. Those winning prizes were: Mrs D. Hampton, large suitcase and 100 cigarettes; Mrs. D. R. Shaw, whisky; Mr. H. J. Yates, suitcase; Mrs. M. S. Toy, suitcase; Mrs. G. Nott, sherry; Mr. A. I. D. Collins, chicken; Mrs. Anne Castellan, groceries; Mr. B. T. Jackson, home-made wine; Mr. Johnson, bathroom set; Mr. G. F. Wallace, home-made wine; Miss Jean Sale, chocolates; Karen Allman, fruit; Mr. Astbury, necklace; Mr. T. Preston, necklace; Mrs. H. Bruce, necklace; and Mrs. Joan Garwood, talc and hand cream. Prizes donated by the chairman to the sellers of highest number of tickets were won by Enid Fowell, and Mrs. Talbot. Mr. Lewis expressed the thanks of all the visitors for a good evening.

● A tasty job for judges Miss B. Elliott and Miss C. Bood. With them are, from left: Mr. Garwood (steward and committee member), Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (secretary), and Mrs. B. Jackson and Miss D. Jones (committee members).



AT the November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room, a team from the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston, answered questions on members' problems.

The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, acted as question-master and afterwards proposed a vote of thanks to the team which was composed of Mr. R. K. Mowforth, Mr. D. Myatt and Mr. Simms.

Members accepted an invitation to the Haughton guild's party. Mr. J. Meddings offered plants to put in the borders of the war memorial and several members agreed to put them in.

The following members were elected to the committee for next year's show: Messrs. T. Preston, J. Meddings, D. W. Garwood, L. Devall and J. James and Mesdames L. Jackson and B. M. Ravenscroft.

The competition, for Brussels sprouts and mince pies, were

Show chairman wins troph



A HUSBAND and wife team carried off the two major trophies at Colton's Village Produce Guild and Women's Institute show on Saturday.

Show chairman, Mr. T. Preston, was presented with the Silver Cup for winning the men's section, and his wife, the show treasurer, was awarded the Silver Rose Bowl for gaining the highest number of points in the women's section.

They received their prizes from Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Felton, founder members of the Guild, who will soon be leaving the district. Mr. Felton is a former Guild treasurer, show committee member, parish councillor and past chairman of the council. Mrs. Felton, who was presented with a bouquet by Miss Jones, Guild secretary, has been a member of the W.I. for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Felton were also asked by Cllr. Fred Hardcastle, chairman of the Parish Council, to present the awards to the winners of the best kept garden competition. The cup, which was given by Mr. Felton for the first competition, went to Mrs. W. C. Bannister, and the Little Hay Rose Bowl was won by Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts.

Other garden competition winners were: Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sargeant, Mr. Leslie Devall and Mrs. H. Bell. Mr. and Mrs. Felton were thanked by Cllrs. Hardcastle and Luke Mellor.

MORE ENTRIES

Entries at Saturday's show were higher than for a number of years, and the judges agreed that exhibits were up to their usual high standard. Judging the horticultural section were Messrs. H. Birch and Brown of Brereton; cookery and eggs, Misses B. Elliott and C. Bood of the Midlands Electricity Board; handicrafts, wine, flower arrangements, children's classes, Mrs. J. C. Salter of Abbots Bromley.

The committee who organised the show were: Mr. T. Preston, chairman; Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, secretary; Mrs. T. Preston, treasurer; committee, J. Meddings, J. H. Toy, D. W. Garwood, Miss D. Jones, Mrs. L. Jackson (in charge of refreshments), Mrs. J. E. Wright. Stewards were Mr. Garwood, Mrs. C. M. Sanders and Mrs. M. E. Hibbs.

Full results were:

Marrow: Mrs. J. E. Wright, Tony Wright.
Cabbage: Mrs. Wright, Mrs. D. Pitts.
Lettuce: Mrs. Wright, Tony Wright.
Apples, Eating: J. Brown, C. Bannister, Mrs. Wright. Cooking: T. Preston, Miss Jones, Mrs. E. Preston.

FLOWERS

Gladioli: T. Preston, C. Bannister, Mrs. Wright. Dahlias. Decorative: Mrs. J. H. Toy, T. Preston, J. Meddings. Cactus: T. Preston, Mrs. T. Preston, J. Meddings. Pom-pom: Mrs. Toy, J. H. Toy.
Mixed annuals: Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mrs. E. Preston.
Roses: Mrs. E. Preston, C. Bannister, Mrs. D. W. Garwood.
Asters: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Garwood, T. Preston.
Pansies: Mrs. P. B. Best, T. Preston, Mrs. Garwood.
House plant in flower: T. Preston, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. T. Preston.
Foliage house plant: Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. Garwood.
Floral arrangement: Mrs. T. Preston, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft.

WOMEN'S CLASSES

Blackcurrant jam: Mrs. I. R. Brown. Marmalade: Mrs. T. Preston. Lemon curd: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright, Miss Jones.
Jelly: Mrs. E. Preston, Miss Jones. Chutney: Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Toy. Cheese straws: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. R. Williams.
Sausage rolls: Mrs. Wright, Miss G. Ravenscroft, Mrs. Toy. Baked egg custard: Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright. Dundee cake: Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Miss Ravenscroft. White loaf: Mrs. T. Preston, J. Brown, Mrs. Toy.
Wine: J. Brown, Mrs. T. Preston. Cardigan: Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright. Thrift article: Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Wright. Brown eggs: Mrs. Sargeant. White eggs: Mrs. Sargeant.

CHILDREN

Children's section. 5—10 year-olds garden on a plate: Rachael Brown, Lynn Sanders, Paul Devall. 11—15 year-olds, picture of a gardening subject: Ian Myatt, Wendy Evans. Highly commended certificates in this section went to: Alison Norman, Anne, Ruth and Heather Ballard, Anne, Enid, Julie and Nita Fowell, Marilyn Collins and Maria Greatrix.

A competition, organised by Mrs. Wright, was won by: Mrs. Garwood (sherry), Mrs. M. E. Hibbs (home-made wine), Mrs. B. Bettson (daffo-

rticulture and produce
vith Mr. and Mrs. H. Felton,

ackcurrant jam: Mrs. I. R. Brown. malade (three fruit): Mrs. T. ton. Lemon curd: 1, Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. Wright, 3, Miss Jones. Jelly (to with meat): 1, Mrs. E. Preston, 2, Jones. Chutney: 1, Mrs. E. Preston, Mrs. Toy. Cheese straws: 1, Mrs. T. iton, 2, Mrs. Pitts, 3, Mrs. Ruth iams. Sausage rolls: 1, Mrs. Wright. liss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, 3, Mrs. Baked Egg Custard: 1, Mrs. T. ton, 2, Mrs. Wright. Dundee cake: rs. Sargeant, 2, Mrs. B. M. Ravens- 3, Miss Ravenscroft. White loaf: 1, T. Preston, 2, Jack Brown, 3, Mrs. Bottle of wine: 1, Jack Brown, 2, T. Preston. Cardigan for child: rs. Sanders, 2, Mrs. T. Preston, 3, Wright. Trift article: 1, Mrs. ant, 2, Mrs. Edith Preston, 3, Mrs. t. Brown eggs: Mrs. Sargeant. e eggs: Mrs. Sargeant.

ldren (5 to 10) Garden on a plate: achael Brown; 2, Lynn Sanders, 3, Devall. 11 to 15 years, picture of gardening subject: 1, Ian Myatt. endy Evans.

the junior exhibitors received 1/- a highly commended prize card: on Norman, Anne, Ruth and Heather rd, Anne, Enid, Julie and Nita ll, Marilyn Collins and Maria rix.

GUILDS WILL GET TOGETHER FOR HAUGHTON PARTY

THE November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the reading room, with the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, presiding.

An invitation to Haughton Guild's party was accepted, and Mr J. Meddings offered plants for the borders round the war memorial.

A team from Staffordshire Farm Institute at Rodbaston, Mr R. K. Mowforth ,Mr D. Myatt and Mrs. Simms, were welcomed by the chairman and, with Mr. Brown as question-master ,they answered queries from guild members. Mr. Brown also proposed a vote of thanks.

The visitors judged the competitions, awarding prizes to Mr. Murcott for six Brussels sprouts, and to Mrs. I. Preston for six mince pies.

Members who agreed to serve on the show committee next year are Messrs T. Preston, J. Meddings, D. W. Garwood, L.

HIS WIFE IS ALSO AMONG WINNERS

SHOW chairman Mr. Preston won the C Village Produce Guild cultural cup at Saturday's with 42 points. And Preston with 43 points the produce section cup.

The number of exhibitors higher than for several years the judges said that exhibits up to their usual high standa

Mr. H. Birch and Mr. F. of Brereton Gardeners' Associ judged the horticultural c Miss B. Elliott and Miss C. of the Midlands Electricity the cookery and egg classes. J. G. Salter judged the handic wine, flower arrangements children's

Mr. announced Mr. Mrs. H. Felton, who presente trophies. They were two of oldest members, he said, and spending 30 years in the p were now leaving.

Mr. Felton said they had many friends and had good n bours in Colton, and were sorr be going. Mr. Felton was prese with a bouquet of gladioli by D. M. Jones, and Mr. Felton given bulbs.

The raffle run by Mrs. W was won by Mrs. Gar (sherry), Mrs. M. E. Hibbs (ho made wine). Mrs. B. Bettson (da dil bulbs) and Peter Clews (c

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft was retary, Mrs. T. Preston trea and other committee mem e: Mr. J. Meddings, Mr. J. , Mr. D. W. Garwood, Miss Jones, Mrs. L. Jackson (i charge of refreshments) J. E. Wright. Stewards Garwood, Mr. J. James, Mr. vood, Mrs. C. M. Sanders M. E. Hibbs.

RESULTS

heat ... one ...
): 1, ... Meddings, 2, Mrs. E. nt, 3, ... H. Toy. Potatoes. y: 1, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, 2, ster, 3, T. Preston. Onions 1, T. Preston, 2, J. Meddings N. Williams. Onions from set nnister, 2, T. Preston, 3, Mis nes. Shallots: 1, T. Preston nnister, 3, Jack Brown. Beet . M. G. Bennett, 2, Mrs. B. J . J. Meddings. Runner bean Bennett, 2, J. James, 1 ster. Peas: 1, C. Bannister, 2 gs, 3, Mrs. Sargeant. Carrot Bennett, 2, Mrs. Sanders, 3 n. Cauliflowers: 1, Mrs. Sarg . C. M. Amyes. Marrow: 1 Wright, 2, Tony Wright. Cab Wright, 2, Mrs. D. Pitts. Let Wright, 2, Tony Wright.

es (dessert): 1, J. Brown, 2 ster, 3, Mrs. Wright. Apples re 1, T. Preston, 2, Miss Jones dith Preston.

lioli: 1, T. Preston, 2, C. Banna Wright. Decorative dahlias H. Toy, 2, T. Preston, 3 gs. Cactus dahlias: 1, T. Pre 1. Preston, 3, J. Meddings. ahlias: 1, Mrs. Toy, 2, J. H. f mixed annuals: 1, Mrs. J Mrs. J. E. Wright, 3, Mrs

MUMMERS PLAY AT COLTON





MEMBERS of Colton Village Produce Guild saw a mummers' play, produced by Jack Brown, at their New Year social evening held in the Reading Room on Thursday of last week.

Those taking part were Jim Toy (Enter In), Tom Preston (Bold Guide), Jack Meddings (King George), Jack Brown (Doctor), Cecil Ravenscroft (Black Prince of Paradise), Rodney Williams (Beelzebub).

At the social were visitors from Colwich, Marchington and Slitting Mill guilds. Several games were played, the winners being Mrs. A. R. Williams and Mr. Percy Tabernor.

The mime of the 12 days of Christmas, produced by Dorothy Jones, was performed by Ruth Ravenscroft (Hostess), Cecily Amyes (partridge in a pear tree), Lynn Peake and Glenis Jones (two turtle doves), Lily Jackson (three French hens), Carol Sanders (four calling birds), Keith Williscroft (five gold rings), Margaret Bennett (six geese a-laying), Blanche Ravenscroft (seven swans a-swimming), Joan Garwood (eight maids a-milking), Gwendoline Ravenscroft (nine ladies dancing), Jack Brown (ten lords a-leaping), Stephen Hibbs (eleven pipers piping) and Tony Wright (twelve drummers drumming).

Raffle winners were Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Tabernor, Mrs. Garwood, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Binfield, Mr. H. Walker, Miss B. Daly, Mr. Meddings, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mr. Hancock, Stephen Hibbs, Miss Janice Charles, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. E. H. Tabernor.

Top: A scene from the mummers play performed at the Colton Village Produce Guild's New Year social evening. On the floor is Tom Preston and behind him are Jack Brown and Jim Toy. Bottom picture (left to right): Jim Toy, Jack Meddings, Cecil Ravenscroft and Jack Brown.

THE December meetings of Colton Village Produce Guild was held in the Reading Room with the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, presiding.

Invitations to parties at Abbots Bromley and Slitting Mill were accepted and various details discussed regarding Colton guild's New Year social evening on January 5.

A letter was read from the P.C.C. setting out the urgent work that had to be done to the church, and suggesting the guild send representatives to a public meeting in the New Year, to discuss fund-raising efforts.

After much discussion it was decided that this would not be a concern that all who had the interest of the church at heart should attend, but not as representing the guild.

The evening's guest speaker was Mr. C. C. L. Finlow, of Stafford, who showed coloured slides and spoke of his visit to the Holy Land last year.

Everyone enjoyed this and Mr.

Colton Mothers' Union invited members of the Blithfield branch to attend the March meeting, which took the form of corporate Communion.

The service, at St. Mary's Church, was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and Mrs. Rose Greaves was organist. The collection was taken by Mrs. P. B. Best and Miss Ellen Rotchell.

Tea was served in the Rectory, and Blithfield enrolling member, Mrs. Nancy Vernon, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Towlson and the Colton branch.



Pre-reservoir days at Blithmoor, Blithfield, are recalled by this picture of a foal being petted on land that is now submerged. It was one of many racehorses and hunters bred there by the late Mr. Frank Wint. The picture was taken in 1935 from

Flavour of 'home made' at supper

1966

THERE was a complete change from the usual menu provided at the annual harvest supper of Colton Village Produce Guild. Hot meat and potatoe pie was the main dish and it was accompanied by cider and home-made wine.

County chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis, and Mrs. Lewis, of Colwich, were among the guests welcomed by Mr. Jack Brown (chairman). Others included speakers who had visited the guild during the last year—Mr. and Mrs. E. Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. F. House, Mr. and Mrs. Pinches, Miss E. Rees and Miss Devine. Colton Women's Institute members had also been invited.

Mr. Brown thanked those who had worked to make the supper a success, and explained that the village had been divided—those members living in "upper" Colton assisted in making the pies, and those in "lower" Colton prepared the room and sent jellies and other gifts.

A crazy whist drive organised by Mrs. M. S. Toy, followed the meal. Winners were Mrs. S. J. Doughty and Tony Wright. A game of beetle was arranged for the juniors by Miss D. M. Jones, and Marilyn Collins was the winner.

Prizewinners in a draw promoted by Mrs. J. E. Wright were: Mrs. D. Hampton (suitcase and cigarettes); Mrs. D. R. Shaw (whisky); Mr. H. J. Yates (suitcase); Mrs. M. S. Toy (suitcase); Mrs. G. Nott (sherry); Mr. A. I. D. Collins (chicken); Mrs. A. Castellan (groceries); Mr. B. T. Jackson (home-made wine); Mr. Johnson (bathroom set); Mr. C. F. Wallace (home-made wine); Miss Jean Sale (chocolates); Karen Allman (fruit); Mr. Astbury (necklace); Mr. T. Preston (necklace); Mrs. H. Bruce (necklace); Mrs. J. Garwood (hand cream).

Prizes for selling most tickets went to Enid Fowell and Mrs. Talbot of Abbots Bromley.

Mr. Lewis expressed the thanks of all the visitors—and they came from several neighbouring guilds—for a good evening.



Colton observed Remembrance Sunday with a service at the village memorial, before the morning communion service in St. Mary's Church, conducted by the Rev. A. S. Towlson (rector). The choir walked to the memorial, led by Gwendoline Ravenscroft as cross-bearer. For the return the cross was carried by Keith Williscroft. Mrs. Bettson carried the M.U. banner with Mrs. P. Best and Mrs. E. A. Cooper as escorts.



At Colton's Memorial the Rev. A. S. Towlson and St. Mary's choir lead the singing at the s... Cooper, a churchwarden, is ext...

M.U.— There was a good attendance at the meeting of Colton Mothers Union, held at Colton Lodge, Mrs. Alice Mills, former treasurer, attended. She is on holiday from Dover. The enrolling member Mrs. P. B. Best, welcomed Mrs. Mary Arnold, former deanery presiding member, who conducted the service. A talk was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, on her July holiday, near Innsbruck, Austria. Mrs. A. W. McDowall thanked Mrs. Ravenscroft for her talk. The raffle, given by Mrs. M. Allerton, was won by E. Bettson. Mrs. Mason was thanked by Mrs. M. A. Westhorpe.

PLAY.— The Essex Players of Great Haywood, performed "The Imaginary Invalid" in the grounds of Colton Rectory. The performance was planned to take place in the open but a wet day made a change, and it took place "under canvas". The play was much enjoyed, and the funds of Colton Church restoration committee, will be the better off by a possible £10. Mrs. Anne Clendon was the producer.

The Rev. A. S. Towlson (rector of Colton) announced at a recent restoration committee meeting that the gift day account had been closed at £52 14s., which the committee thought a very good response.

COUNCIL.— The annual meeting of Colton Parish Council took place in the Reading Room, Colton. Two members were absent. The first business was the appointment of chairman, Councillor J. C. Price accepted the office. Vice-chairman is Councillor A. Victor Harcastle; school manager Councillor F. Hardcastle, reading management committee Councillor F. Hardcastle and 2nd. member left over till all members present. snow clearing, Councillor F. Hardcastle. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed and matters arising were discussed. Regarding the long stile footpath, it was agreed that the chairman and vice-chairman, arrange to meet the owner of "Little Hey" with a view to some positive settlement being arrived at. Regarding the defacing etc, of posters, it was agreed that the clerk, Mr. G. F. Horn, go into the matter and find out any steps the council could take. A donation to the community council of Staffordshire was agreed to. Following discussion on the bus service through the village, it was agreed that a letter be sent to the local bus company asking if there is any chance of increased service. Councillor F. Hardcastle reported that the wall round the war memorial seemed to be in need of repair. The chairman and vice-chairman agreed to inspect this. Councillor G. F. Upton reported on his inspection of a blocked drain by the "split level" houses in High Street. He said this was receiving attention. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Lichfield R.D.C. asking for information as to when the sewerage system will be in operation. Councillor Mrs. P. M... organisations be asked for th... views regarding the "best k... village" competition for next ye... Councillor Upton was supported ... his view that in past years too m... work has fallen on too few peopl... It was agreed that a filing cabin... typewriter, and headed note pa... be purchased for the clerk's u...

M.U.— Colton Mothers Uni... met in the reading room, Colto... The enrolling member Mrs. P. ... Best conducted the service. Gu... speaker was Mrs. G. E. Titten... a health visitor, who gave ... account of her work, following ... with f i l m slides. Mrs. B. ... Ravenscroft thanked her. The r... given by Mrs. E. A. Cooper was v... by Mrs. E. Bettson. Members w... reminded that the next meeting ... be at Wharf Cottage. Sev... members attended the dean... festival at Chadsmore, ba... bearer being Mrs. Ravenscr...

Colton.—Presiding at th... monthly meeting, in th... Reading Room, Mrs. Iv... Preston (President) we... comed two visitors, Mrs. V... James and Mrs. G. I. Moores... After considering a reque... from the Village Hall Enter... tainment Committee for he... at the Midland Festival ... Steam, it was decided ... stage a cake and produ... stall and to organise a cak... competition, the entries to b... used towards stocking th... stall. Dr. J. G. Salter, o... Abbots Bromley, gave a talk ... on antiques, with emphasi... on silverwear. He wa... thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown... The competition for "Some... thing antique," judged by ... Dr. Salter, was won by Mr...

YOUNG PEOPLE are urge... section of the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase.

'NEWSLETTER'

Active members of the section are now down to ten and of the 50 members who have paid their subscriptions, the majority are from Cannock, Walsall, Sutton Coldfield and Wolverhampton — very few are from Stafford.

The committee of the section formerly consisted of five members but one has gone to university and another has left to live in Dorset.

Mrs. Ruth Williams, secretary of the section, said they especially need teenagers of 15 and 16. " Most of the members are 23 and 24 and many of us are married. We need younger people," said Mrs. Williams.

regular monthly meetings and there was a good number of us, but now membership has fallen off. I do not know why there is such a lack of interest," said Mrs. Williams.

This is the second appeal for new members this year. Mrs. Williams told us of the shortage of young people in March and following the story in the *Newsletter*, some boys did attend a meeting but under the impression that the section was like an ordinary youth club.

The aim of the Friends of Cannock Chase is to preserve the beauty of the Chase, so activities are centred around barbecues and rambles on the

COLTON 9/3/67

A. G. M. — Colton Village Produce Guild met in the reading room, for their annual general meeting. Mr. Jack Brown, chairman, presided. Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, following which the secretary Miss Dorothy M. Jones gave a report of the past year. The treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft presented the financial statement, which was considered satisfactory. The chairman thanked both for their reports and hard work throughout the year. He went on to give his remarks on the past year. The new committee are:- Mr. Jack Brown, Chairman, Mr. Norman Bruce, Mr. Leslie Devall, Mrs Jones and Mr. Michael Garwood, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mr. J. James, Miss D. M. Jones, Mr. J. Meddings, Mr. T. Preston and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The chairman welcomed the guest speaker, Mr. L. Morgan, of the Forestery Commission, who spoke, with the help of films, on various matters connected with Cannock Chase. He was thanked by Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft. The competition for a bowl of bulbs was won by Mrs. Garwood and Mr. James. The raffle was won by Mr. E. Murcott, Miss Jones, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Jackson, and Mrs. P. B. Best. Hostesses were Mesdames C. L. Pitts and C. M. Sanders, assisted by Mrs. M. G. Bennett. The team to represent Colton in the county quiz, will be Messrs. T. Preston, J. Meddings and J. Brown; reserve J. James. It was announced that Mr. Meddings had offered to grow plants for the War Memorial borders and members' suggestions were asked for. Several ideas were put forward.

GIFT DAY.— A "gift day" took place at Colton St. Mary's Church, when officers of the church were on duty from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to receive gifts. The event raised £39.10s. The Rector A.S. Towlson intends to leave the fund open for a little longer. Mothering Sunday service coincided with the offical start on the restoration fund appeal. The visiting preacher was the Rural Dean, the Rev. H. L. H. Townsend, Vicar of Cannock. The Rector conducted the service. Mr. A. W. McDowall, headmaster of the village school, read the lesson and Mr. Cox, of Lichfield, was the organist. The Rector announced that already more money was to hand for the gift day.

M. U. — When Colton Mother's Union met in the reading room, Colton, the enrolling member Mrs. P. B. Best, welcomed the Rev. P. G. Clarke, Vicar of Brereton, who conducted the service and spoke on "The Church's Year." He was thanked by Mrs. B. Ravenscroft. Mrs. H. Williscroft offered to collect for the Easter lilies and the raffle, given by Mrs. Mason, was won by Mrs. M. Allerton.

YOUTH CLUB. — Colton Youth Club organised a whist drive in the reading room, Colton. The event was held in aid of the church restoration fund and £10 was raised. The M.C. was Mr. P. W. Westhorpe and prizes were presented by Miss Helen Myatt to; Mrs. P. Martin, Mr. G. Aimyes, Mrs. F. Hardcastle, Mr. F. Cope, Mrs. Fery, Mr. F. Hardcastle; miniatures, Mesdames L. Curtis and P. Bannister; lowest scorers, Mrs. P. Buckley and Mr. I. Kendrick; raffle winners, Mrs. J. Wright and Mrs. M. Parr. Mrs. G. Ravenscroft thanked the leader, Mr. D. Jones, for his support and help.

THE WEST INDIES

The Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Upton were welcomed to Colton Mothers' Union meeting by enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best.

Mr. Upton conducted the service, and his wife spoke of Granada and the West Indies, where the couple worked 13 years ago. Mrs. Upton illustrated her talk with her own sketches, and she and Mr. Upton were thanked by Mrs. I Preston.

A letter was read from Mrs. H. Williscroft thanking



AVONDALE HOUSE, Mount Road, Etching Hill, at the time when it was newly-built. In the picture, lent by Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft, of Colton, are Mr. John Upton, who built the cottage, and his wife Harriet. Mr. Upton was clerk to Colton Parish Council, assistant overseer for that parish and as such the collector of rates. He was also bailiff for the one-time Rugeley County Court. When the picture was taken the couple had travelled from Colton in their pony-drawn cart. Etching Hill recreation ground is on the left of the picture and the Uptons are looking towards the hill itself. The iron posts and railings which surrounded the hill can be seen at the foot of the picture, taken while the house was decorated in honour of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.

Colton W.I. re-elected Mrs. Ivy Preston as president at their annual meeting, with Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs. N. Jones as vice-presidents. Teller for the elections was Mr. M. Williscroft.

Mrs. C. M. Sanders was elected secretary, with Mrs. L. Jackson as assistant. Mrs. I. R. Brown was elected treasurer, with Mrs. E. M. Sargeant as assistant.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft was re-elected Press secretary, Mrs. M. R. Taylor "Home and Country". Remaining committee members were Mesdames M. G. Bennett, M. M. Daw and J. Meddings.

Mrs. Preston referred to the death of Mrs. Helen Felton, a former member, and members stood in silent tribute.

Satisfactory reports were given by the secretary and treasurer, who were thanked by the president.

Raffle winners were Mesdames H. E. Everall, Sanders, E. Bettson and Miss Jones. Mrs. Bennett was in charge of the stall and tea hostesses were Mesdames H. A. Williscroft, J. Fowell and M. S. Toy. A beetle drive organised by Miss Jones was won by Mesdames Taylor, Bennett, Ravenscroft and A. Ferguson.

A few days earlier members had been on an outing to the potteries at Barlaston.

Colton

PUBLIC telephones in the Colton area have been out of order for a long while on several occasions this winter, sometimes for as long as a week, and once a man had to cycle into Rugeley to report a fire, Colton Parish Council were told on Friday.

The complaint was raised by Councillor Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Mrs. P. M. Buckley (clerk) said that when there was a chimney fire there was no answer from the kiosk and they were told later that this was because someone had left the receiver off and the operators had temporarily disconnected the kiosk.

COLTON 1967

PRODUCE GUILD. Members of Colton Village Produce Guild have again agreed to organise a "Best-kept Garden" competition, for which, it is hoped, judges will be supplied by Rodbaston County Farm Institute. This was announced at the monthly meeting in the Reading Room, where a welcome to new members, Mrs. J. James and Mr. and Mrs. R. Rooke, was extended by Vice-Chairman Mr. T. Preston. Guest speaker Mr. D. Myatt, of Rodbaston, had an interested audience for his talk on "Rock Gardens," which was followed by film slides. Mr. Myatt later judged the evening's "A Rock Garden on a Dinner Plate" competition, awarding the prize to Mrs. Ivy Preston. Mr. J. James thanked the speaker. A raffle organised by Mrs. J. Garwood was won by Mr. James and Mrs. Rooke. Tea and refreshments were served by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The following evening members and friends paid a visit to the dressed wells at Tissington, Derbyshire.

Colton Mothers' Union invited members of the Blithfield branch to attend the March meeting, which took the form of corporate Communion.

The service, at St. Mary's Church, was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and Mrs. Rose Greaves was organist. The collection was taken by Mrs. P. B. Best and Miss Ellen Rotchell.

Tea was served in the Rectory, and Blithfield enrolling member, Mrs. Nancy Vernon, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Towlson and the Colton branch.

CHESTER ZOO

Colton Village Produce Guild

AT Colton vestry and annual parochial church meeting, Miss D. A. Cooper (last year's people's warden) was appointed rector's warden by the Rev. A. S. Towlson, Mr. W. A. Norman becoming people's warden.

Miss Cooper announced that there were now 235 names on the electoral roll. The rector reported that the church heating and drainage system had proved successful. After his reference to the fall in communcants there was a long discussion.

Consent was given to the loan of communion vessels for exhibition in Goldsmiths Hall, London.

Sidesmen were appointed as follows: Messrs. B. Bettson, C. M. Boycott, D. Bradbury, A. I. D. Collins, J. James, M. Williscroft; lady collectors: Mesdames P. B. Best, B. M. Ravenscroft, H. A. Williscroft, Miss Ellen Rotchell.

The following were elected to the P.C.C.: Messrs. B. Bettson, J. James, J. C. Price, M. Williscroft, Mesdames O. M. Ballard, G. E. Finnemore, W. E. Knight, V. M. Towlson, B. M. Ravenscroft.

NEW YEAR PARTY

Colton Village Produce Guild held its annual New Year Social in the Reading Room last week, attended by members from Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Haughton, Marchington and Slitting Mill Guilds.

Chairman Mr. Jack Brown organised square dances, and various team games were played. A game of 'musical pennies' was won by Mrs. Jean Fowell.

A shadow scene of an operating theatre, produced by Mr. Brown, caused much amusement. Those taking part were: Jack Brown (doctor), Gwendoline Revenscroft (nurse), Joan Wright (patient), Tom Preston and Jack Meddings (assistants).

Draw winners were Mrs. Starbuck, Mr. A. Starbuck, Mr. Berridge, Mrs. June Meddings.

HOLIDAY

AN isolated cottage with few amenities, stranded somewhere on the Morvern peninsula in Argyllshire, Scotland, is not everyone's idea of a holiday week.

But Staffordshire education committee youth service provided just this as a holiday base for 16 young people from all parts of the county.

I was among the party and we set off from Stafford in two land-rovers belonging to the county youth service.

The next day everyone had settled down at the cottage which is at Doirlinn.

Accommodation was provided inside for the girls in the group but the boys had to make do with two-man tents which were erected outside the cottage.

A spirit of adventure was provided by the lack of modern amenities. Hurricane lamps for light, and water fetched from a well outside.

Activities were split up into two groups, the first party of six was led by Mr. Clifford Kershaw, a sailing instructor from Broadacres Secondary School, who owns the cottage and spends most of his own holidays there.

The group completed a thorough study of the natural life within a six mile radius of the cottage.

In the group were: Jennifer Faulkner, from Hixon, Susan Mart, from Stowe-by-Chartley, Helen Myatt, from Colton, Janet Rausch from Hilderstone, Gwendoline Ravenscroft from Colton, and Josephine Salt, from Weston.

Geology was the concern of the rest of the party and this was made more interesting by the means of travel and the samples of rock.

Heading the young geologists were John Moore and Len Westwood, normally employed as a full-time youth leader and a canoe instructor respectively.

With them were Michael Bill and Michael Downton from Wolverhampton, John Bullock, from Walsall, and Edward Daniels, from Biddulph, Peter Kelly from Stafford, William Thomas from Wombourne, Sue Taylor from Quarnford, Sue Facer and Ann Fox from Lichfield, and, of course, myself.

The first of the expeditions was to Ornosay Island and the only otter of the week was spotted during the trip.

A thirteen mile walk was included in the next excursion. This was to Kilchoen and the journey there was easy enough — by land rover. But there were compensations for the walk back because the purpose of the visit to Kilchoen was to hunt for sapphires on the beach there.

No-one made their fortune, and no sapphires were unearthed but at least one semi-precious stone was found, about the size of a large marble.

On a trip by canoe to a vitrified fort we had an audience of a few seals, but by the time we actually arrived at the fort there were about 20 of them playing around the canoes.

Final trip of the week's stay was to a little village called Strontian. Here we went potholing and found quite a few good rock specimens including a lot of small garnets.

Spare time was taken up by fishing with the same boy who found the semi-precious stone landing a two and a half foot long dog fish. Swimming too was high on the list of pastimes though the water was rather chilly.

Everyone who went along on the trip soon found themselves making friends and a reunion has been planned for Christmas.

Man in charge of the Scotland venture was [illegible] Moore and the [illegible] West-[illegible]af-

COLTON

SUPPER. — Colton Village Produce Guild's annual harvest supper held in the Reading Room, Colton was well attended. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, welcomed members and visitors, who were, Mr. and Mrs. David M. Gibb, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan of Slitting Mill, Mr. Finlow of Stafford and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mason. Mr. Brown also thanked all those who had contributed to the meal, there was a choice this year of either hot meat and potato etc pie or cold boiled beef and salad, followed by fruit

a 12-year-old Rugeley schoolgirl who was electrocuted illustrated the great importance of having electrical installations done by fully competent electrical engineers.

So said Mr. K. T. Braine-Hartnell, the Stafford and district coroner, at a Stafford inquest on Tuesday before recording a verdict of "accidental death" on Delia Knight.

Delia was cleaning out a lean-to shed adjoining her home at Crabtree Farm, Colton, when she slipped and grasped hold of a metal rail with her left hand.

"She received a fatal shock. A scorch mark showed on her left palm and she was unable to let go of the rail," said Mr. Braine-Hartnell.

"This is a heartrending case," he continued. The evidence shows that there were no less than three faults in the installation of the wiring in the shed."

CABLE

Part of a cable connected to a lamp in the shed was hanging loosely round the metal bar, the coroner was told.

"The cable was 12 yards long, making its surveillance more difficult," Mr. Braine-Hartnell said.

"This case illustrates the great importance of having electrical installations done by fully competent electrical engineers," he added.

Twelve-year-old Yvonne Dickinson, of 86, Alexandra Road, Swadlincote, a friend of Delia's, told how they had been riding horses before they decided to clean out the shed at 8.30 in the evening.

"I had a brush and Delia had a hosepipe," said Yvonne.

"I touched the galvanised rail fixed to the wall of the shed and I realise now that I had a very slight electric shock. It felt more like a vibration."

"I was wearing wellingtons," Yvonne added.

FALL

About two minutes later Delia seemed to slip, said Yvonne.

"She caught hold of the rail to stop herself and fell down."

Yvonne screamed and her father, Mr. Kenneth Dickinson, picked Delia up and took her into the house.

Delia was wearing leather riding boots.

Mr. Dickinson said that he was in the farmyard when he heard his daughter shouting for help.

"I found Delia more or less on her back," Mr. Dickinson related. "Her left hand was still holding the rail."

"I touched Delia's legs to see if I could pull her clear of the bar, and I received no shock."

"Then I picked her up and carried her into the kitchen. The shed floor was running with water," continued Mr. Dickinson.

The inquest was told how Mr. Dickinson gave Delia artificial respiration for nearly 20 minutes until an ambulance arrived.

Dr. F. J. Pick, consultant pathologist at the Staffordshire General Infirmary, said that death was due to electrocuti

"She died at once, was probably standi on damp ground."

The fixed wiring in not have been carried competent electrical Mr. Gordon Price, a tricity Board comme

Mr. Price said th once to Crabtree Fa found tangled cable c infra-red lamp.

"The cable was in q dition apart from a the sheath had been cu Mr. Price.

"I formed the opinio have been gnawed aw or some other animal."

This naked section accounted for the bar b with electricity.

"I couldn't see any which the bar could ha trically charged," said

For part of the cable loosely around the me the polarity of the circ reversed.

Delia's grandfather, Joseph Smith, of Admaston, said that p kept in the lean-to she was cleaning out.

The family had lived Farm for about 15 years as Mr. Smith knew, wiring had not been cha time.

"I haven't been able who did the wiring," said

MIDLANDS Electricity Board district engineer Mr Price told a coroner on Tuesday of three seri he had found on inspecting the wiring of a farm o where a young girl was accidentally electrocuted las

And Mr. Price said that if only one of the faults had been rectified the danger would have been considerably reduced.

Stafford District coroner. Mr. K. T. Braine-Hartnell, recorded a verdict of "accidental death" at the inquest on 13 years-old Delia Knight of Crabtree Farm, Colton who was found to be dead on arrival at Staffordshire General Infirmary on Wednesday evening of last week.

After hearing from Mr. Price that the wiring of the outbuilding in which the fatality occurred, could not have been done by a competent electrical contractor, Mr. Braine-Hartnell said: "This case illustrates the great importance of having electrical installation done by a fully competent electrical engineer."

On the Wednesday evening Delia, and a girl friend, who had both been riding, went to an outhouse on her mother's farm, now used as breeding and boarding kennels, in which Delia kept puppies of her own.

The girls were cleaning out the building, Delia wearing riding boots, and the other girl, 12 years-old Yvonne Dickinson, wearing wellingtons.

At one end of the building was a galvanised metal bar set in the wall, around which was draped a 12 yard electric extension cable, attached at one end to an infra-red lamp.

FELT A TINGLE

Yvonne told the coroner that she touched the bar and felt a "tingle", but as she did not know she had received an electric shock she did not say anything to Delia.

"About two minutes afterwards Delia seemed to slip, caught hold of the rail I had touched, and fell down. I looked at her and her mouth was slightly twisted with bubbles round it." Yvonne told the coroner.

Mr. Kenneth Warr Dickinson, Yvonne's father, of 86, Alexander Road, Swadlincote, Burton-on-Trent, said he went into the building on hearing Yvonne cry out and found Delia "more or less on her back", with her arm touching the rail.

the wiring, Mr. Price sa most of its length attached to the lamp condition but at one po as though it had been an animal, possibly a d positive wire was bare

The wall switch was wired, so that the swi on the negative wire in positive. This mean socket into which the plugged was constantly the earth wire in the not connected.

Saying that he fo cumstances "heart-brea Braine-Hartnell said i been made by Delia's Mr. Arthur Smith. been able to discover out the wiring. Mr S that it had been don family moved to the

Tyrolean trip described to Colton M.U.

30/9/67

At the September meeting of Colton Mothers' Union, held at Colton Ladge by invitation of Mrs. Ernest Mason, members were visited by Mrs. Alice Mills, a former treasurer, on holiday from Dover.

The enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best, welcomed Mrs. Mary Arnold, former deanery presiding member, who conducted the service.

A talk was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft on her July holiday spent near Innsbruck in the Austrian Tyrol. She spoke of the journey — from London by coach to Southend airport, by air to Basle, then by coach across Switzerland to Zurich, Buchs, Fieldkirch and Blundenz, and over the famous Arlberg pass through St. Anton, Landeck, Imst, Telfs and Zirl.

She also told of a visit to the Passion Play theatre at Oberammergau, and to Linderhof Castle, one of the three "dream castles" built by Ludwig II of Bavaria. An Alpine cable car trip was also described.

Mrs. Ravenscroft was thanked by Mrs. A. W. McDowall.

The raffle prize given by Mrs. M. Allerton, was won by Mrs. E. Bettson. Mrs. Mason was thanked by Mrs. M. A. Westhorpe for being hostess.

By a majority vote on Thursday last week Mr. Gerald Sanders, of 90, High Street, Colton, was co-opted as a parish councillor for Colton in succession to Councillor Luke Mellor, who had resigned.

Councillor Mellor walked out of a council meeting when the rest of the council could not agree to support any application to close the Long Stile footpath, without first knowing the wishes of the

W.I.— Presiding [illegible] of Colton Women's [illegible] in the reading room, the president, Mrs. [illegible] welcomed two former [illegible] McGregor Clarkson, president, who has [illegible] to the village), and [illegible] Mills on holiday [illegible] Minutes of last meeting and confirmed., and [illegible] told that the Autumn Parkside group to be [illegible] by-Chartley, will be on [illegible] of October, not the [illegible] suggestion from co[illegible] agreed to by members [illegible] of a New Year party, a [illegible] should be arranged. [illegible] speaker was Mr. E. Cl[illegible] Haywood and his subject [illegible] ing with oils. He showed [illegible] tures and also made a [illegible] painting a portrait of [illegible] Mrs. I. R. Brown. Mem[illegible] to Mr. Clarke were expres[illegible] B. M. Ravenscroft. Who [illegible] charge of the stall [illegible] was won by — Mrs. D. M[illegible] Mrs. M. E. Everall, [illegible] M. Sargeant. Tea hos[illegible] Mesdames M. G. B[illegible] R. Brown, and L. Jackson.

CLERK.— Colton Pa[illegible] cil have appointed Mrs. Taylor, of 21 High Street, as clerk in place of the Gerald F. Horn.

DANCE.— Colton Foo[illegible] held a dance in the rea[illegible] at the village hall on Friday, totalled £50 [illegible]

club is ing the ms of tion

...outh Club ... was M.C. ...d by Mrs. ... following: ... Amyes, Mr. ... Cope, Mrs. ...tle, Mrs. L. ...nnister, Mrs. ... and Mr. L. ...petition winners ... Wright and Mrs.

...oline Ravenscroft ...ub leader, Mr. D. ...help in making the ...l.

...ublic transport to and from Colton in the ...makes life difficult for those young people who ...s, said Colton Youth Club leader, Mr. D. H. ...k.

...s isolation, mem- ...had not been able ...in a swimming ... by the County

... example of the ... to be aided by ...dised transport," ...he "Times" on

...doing their best to ...of the club and ...hall was extended, ... they would, no ...o make it a real ... of the parish as ...lder people.

...come its isolation ...on club is inviting ...sit the village to ...tions and special

...perience as leader ...youth clubs in the ...l be useful now ...taken the leader- ... struggling village ...nbers. "They are ... so we have the ...lly good club as ..." he commented. ... been closed for ...e are concentrat- ...nment and devel- ...ndation on which ...up a fuller pro- ... Jones.

...TY WORK

...ers have under- ...

tables, which are placed at either end, tops facing inwards to form goals. Teams of four each side then play football—with their hands—and quite proficient they are getting!

"We are making the rules up as we go along. Eventually we hope to get a few other local youth clubs interested so that a competition can be developed," said Mr. Jones.



Colton Youth Club member Miss Gwen Ravenscroft (right) presents a 7 gns. cheque from her club to Miss D. Cooper (rector's warden) for Co... Restoration Fund. They raised the money by a whist drive. Also adult committee members Mrs. R. Bannister (left), Mrs. F. Hardcastle (back row, left to right) Mr. D. H. Jones (leader), Mrs. J. Devalle ... Hardcastle (chairman).

TIMES

6/3





Pearl Haynes puts on another beat rec... background music on a club night at Colton. With her are (le... ...Myatt, Gwen Ravens-croft and ...

... organised a whist drive in aid of St. Mary's Church restoration fund and on Friday last rector's warden, Mr. D. Cooper visited the club to receive a cheque for 7 gns. from Miss Gwen Ravenscroft, spokesman for the other members.

At the handing over of the cheque, Mr. Jones said members were pleased to be able to do something for the village. "We feel it is our duty as a youth club to do something for the community, in return for what is done for us," he said.

Miss Cooper thanked club members for their interest. Also at the presentation were some members of the club's adult committee, which comprises Mr. F. Hardcastle (chairman), and Mrs. Hardcastle, Mr. W. Norman, Mr. G. Sanders, Mrs. J. Devalle and Mrs. R. Bannister.

Colton Mothers' Union, with friends including members from Blithfield, visited Gloudhurst College, Doddington Hall, Cheshire, last week.

After viewing the grounds and a tour of the hall, Mrs. P. B. Best, enrolling member, presented a pot plant to Mrs. Reece, the Principal, and a vote of thanks was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

PHOTO FLASHBACK

MEMORIES OF AN ISLAND IN THE SUN

When members of Colton Mothers' Union met for their April meeting in the Reading Room, the enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best welcomed the Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Upton of Kingstone and Gratwich.

Mr. Upton conducted the service and Mrs. Upton followed this with a talk on Granada (the Spice Island) one of the Windward group in the West Indies. Mr. and Mrs. Upton spent some time working on this island — where the film "Island in the Sun" was filmed — and Mrs. Upton illustrated her talk with drawings done by herself. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Ivy Preston.

A letter was received from Mrs. Hilda Williscroft thanking members for their gift of a house plant and "get well" card on her return from hospital.

The raffle prize, given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, was won by Mrs. M. Allerton. Mrs. Best reminded members about the Deanery Festival on May 17 at Chadsmoor. 24/4/67





May Day was celebrated as the spring festival long before it became the workers' festival. In town and village the maypole was centre of the green and children danced merrily in ancient and intricate patterns. The Rugeley maypole was situated outside Maybank, near the Horse Fair traffic island—hence the name adopted by a former owner of the house. The pictures above show the Colton May Day celebrations in 1892 with Miss H. Mary A. Upton as May Queen, at the age of 13. She subsequently married Mr. Tom Ravenscroft, father of Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft. Mr. Fr of Colton House was instrumental the celebrations in those days, crowning of the queen and the a maypole erected in the plant his house. Mr. Bonney became of Colton Parish Council in 1895. on photography and, as the or autograph on the reverse, it is he took these pictures, which we C. J. Ravenscroft.

PRESIDING at the April meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the reading room, chairman Mr Jack Brown welcomed Mr Maxwell, a visitor from Marchington Guild, and a new junior member, John Norman. 14/4/67

There were offers of help for the rummage sale in aid of guild funds. After the chairman had presented a gift to Mr J. James, who was married recently, Mrs B. M. Ravenscroft reported on the executive meeting of the County Association. She said the editor of "Village Life" proposed to devote the September issue to items of particular interest to Staffordshire, and that guilds were invited to contribute articles about the county.

It was suggested that Cannock Chase would be a suitable subject, and a sub-committee had been formed to deal with the articles: Mr J. D. Lewis, Mr J. J. Nock, and Mr J. W. Jones, with Mrs Ravenscroft as convenor.

Show committee chairman Mr T. Preston said that this year, instead of the "heaviest yeild" potato class, there would be a class for the best bloom grown from gladioli corms.

Mr Brown welcomed Mr Tony Edwards, who showed films and slides of tea planting, and also judged the competition for an arrangement of wild green growth. Winner was Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft, with Mrs I. Preston and Mr Leslie Devall runners-up. Mr Edwards was thanked by Mr Norman Bruce.

Mrs J. E. Wright was in charge of the draw, when winners were Mrs Joan Garwood and Mr James. Tea hostesses were Mrs L. Jackson and Miss D. M. Jones, helped by Mrs M. E. Hibbs

Guild fund booster

Colton Village Produce Guild recently organised a rummage sale in aid of funds, and raised about £13.

Helpers at the door and stalls were: Mr. J. James, Miss D. M. Jones, Mesdames I. Preston, L. Jackson, M. G. Bennett, J. Garwood, B. M. Ravenscroft, J. E. Wright,

COLTON

GUILD.— Colton Village Produce Guild met in the Reading Room, Colton for their meeting. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown presided. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The date of the Guilds "best kept garden" competition is fixed and the judges will be from Rodbaston. Details were given in connection with the annual rose show. A letter was read from the parish council asking for the views of the guild regarding the "best kept" village competition. It was agreed that if the village is entered next year the guild will be willing to co-operate. Following the business part of the meeting a flower arrangement competition was held to be done in ten minutes. Judges were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mason, of Colton Lodge. They awarded the prizes to: Gents; 1, Mr. R. J. N. Williams; joint 2nd Messrs. Jack Brown and T. Preston; ladies: 1. Miss D. M. Jones, 2nd, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Mr. and Mrs. Mason were thanked by Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft. The raffle in charge of Mrs. J. E. Wright was won by Mrs. Ravenscroft and Miss Jones. A social part to the evening was writing down "your pet grumble" (unsigned) and putting it in "the hat". The chairman drew these out at random and read them out. In charge of refreshments were Mr. and Mrs. J. Meddings, assisted by Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Miss Jones.

PRESIDING at the April meeting of Colton W.I. held in the Reading Room, president Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed a new member, Mrs. Jean Bowey, and read thank-you letters for flowers and "get well" messages from Mrs. C. M. Amyes and from Mrs. Hilda Williscroft.

Members discussed the outing to Slimbridge on May 21 and the county rally at Kibblestone Park in June. Miss D. M. Jones reported that the produce guild was planning a visit to the dressed wells at Tissington on the evening of May 5, and would welcome W.I. members on the trip.

Mr. Jones showed films from Clarksons Tours and was

LICHFIELD Rural District Councillors voted 'consciences dictated' when the increase house rents was discussed, Colton's R.D.C. rep said at the annual parish assembly last week.

Cllr. F. Hardcastle, the parish council chairman, said that the statement made by M.P. Mr. Julian Snow, that the increase was a political action, was 'entirely wrong.'

The accounts of Colton Lands Trust, the old people's welfare council and the reading room management committee were presented. The welfare council had received a £20 donation from the trust, and collecting boxes were in local inns. Cllr. G. Upton thanked the council for its work.

The reading room committee has £2,359 in the bank, but progress is slow because the purchase of the land is not yet completed. It was discussed whether it would be better to buy a new hall or improve the old one. Cllr. J. C. Price was thanked for his work.

School progress

Reports on the progress of work on the school and the sewerage scheme and [illegible] were given.

M.U.: Colton Mothers Union met at the Rectory for their meeting. The Rector, Rev. A. S. Towlson conducted the service and talked on certain changes in the Communion Service, which are to be used for an experimental period of four years in the Church of England. Mrs. Monica J. Taylor was welcomed as a prospective new member. The raffle given by Mrs. McDowall was won by Mrs. M. A. Westhorpe.

SHOW COMMITTEE: The Show Committee met at 4 Martlin Cottages, Colton. Officers re-elected were: Chairman, Mr. Thomas Preston, vice-chairman, Mr. J. Meddings, treasurer, Mrs. Preston; secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; Committee, Miss D. M. Jones, Mesdames L. Jackson and J. E. Wright, Messrs

The council agreed into the question viding a suitable football and other

Clerk, Mr. G. F. H the council's financ and said they were for £112 this year.

Cllr. Hardcastle t people who had at meeting — it was number — and as the council would sideration to all cussed.

COLTON resid formed a co work for the resto for St. Mary's C target is £500 to ca most urgent work and other parts.

The Rev. A. S. To tor) presided at the village organisations viduals called by t Church Council last

Elected to the resto mittee, of which the chairman, were Counc Price and L. Mellor men), Miss D. A. Co tary), Mr. M. Willisc Bettson, Councillor F. Mr. J. James, Mrs. T Mrs. B. M. Ravenscro of treasurer was left the time being.

The remainder of and any other intere may be co-opted to the it was decided.

Several suggestions raising efforts were was decided that th be considered at a f ing on Thursday, to other interested people

COLTON PRODUCE GUILD. — The [illegible] Village Produce Guild [illegible] the Reading Room for [illegible] meeting, at which [illegible] Brown (Chairman) presided. The Hon. Secretary [illegible] Dorothy M. Jones) [illegible] a comprehensive report [illegible] past year and the Treasurer (Mrs. B. M. [illegible]) presented the [illegible] statement, which [illegible] considered very satisfac- [illegible] elected to the new [illegible] were: Mr. Jack [illegible] (Chairman for a [illegible] year), Mr. Norman [illegible] Mr. Leslie Devall, [illegible] and Mr. Michael [illegible] Mrs. L. Jackson, [illegible] James, Miss D. M. [illegible] Mr. J Meddings, Mr. [illegible] and Mrs. B. M. [illegible] The guest [illegible] Mr. L. Morgan, of [illegible] Forestry Commission and [illegible] Chairman of Slitting Mill [illegible] gave useful informa- [illegible] with the help of films, [illegible] various matters connected [illegible] Cannock Chase, and was [illegible] thanked for a delightful [illegible] by Miss Gwendoline [illegible]. The competition [illegible] box of bulbs was won [illegible] Garwood with blue [illegible] and Mr. James [illegible] daffodils. The raffle was [illegible] by Mr. E. Murcott, Miss [illegible] Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. [illegible]. The hostesses [illegible] were Mesdames C. I. Pitts [illegible] M. Sanders, assisted [illegible] Mrs. G. Bennett. The [illegible] to represent Colton in [illegible] Produce Quiz (first rounds [illegible] the region at Slit- [illegible] on April 7th) will [illegible] Mrs. T. Preston, J. [illegible] (with J. James as [illegible] and J. Brown.

[illegible]LE: There was a record [illegible] at the annual Colton [illegible], held in the Reading [illegible]. The chairman of the [illegible] was in the chair. [illegible] year's assembly were [illegible] confirmed. The chairman [illegible] managers gave his re- [illegible] good progress on the [illegible] work on the school. [illegible] the sewerage scheme [illegible] satisfactorily, and [illegible] pumping station would soon [illegible]. A report of the old peoples [illegible] council was given by the [illegible]. Money in hand was £44. [illegible] £20 of this had been a [illegible] from the Colton Lands [illegible] Councillor G.F. Upton than- [illegible] the committee for its hard work. [illegible] accounts of the Lands Trust [illegible] presented, and inspected. The [illegible] of the Reading Room com- [illegible]. Councillor J.C. Price, repor- [illegible] that there was £2,359 in th [illegible]. He said there was no apparen [illegible] progress as the purchase of land wa [illegible] not complete yet. The Rector, th [illegible]. A.S. Towlson, paid tribute t [illegible] the hard work and efforts of Mi [illegible] in raising money for the room [illegible] Mr. J.W. Parr also thanke [illegible] Mr. Price. Views were put forwar [illegible] as to whether a new hall would not b [illegible] rather than improvement to the ol [illegible]. Mrs. M.E. Hibbs raised th [illegible] question of a suitable field on which [illegible] the youth of the village could play [illegible] football. The chairman said he [illegible] would personally enquire into this [illegible] matter. Regarding the increase in [illegible] council house rents, the chairman, [illegible] who is also the parish rural district [illegible] councillor, said that statement by [illegible] Mr. Julian Show, that this was a [illegible] political action, was entirely wrong. [illegible] He said that the Lichfield Rural [illegible] Council, in the spirit of democracy, [illegible] voted as each member's conscience [illegible] dictated. The parish council's clerk, [illegible] Mr. G.F. Horn, gave the council's [illegible] financial report and said they were [illegible] precepting this year for £112.

[illegible] M.U. — Colton Mothers Union [illegible] members were joined by members [illegible] of the Blithfield branch for their [illegible] March meeting. The meeting took [illegible] the form of a corporate communion [illegible] service in St. Mary's Church, Col- [illegible] ton, conducted by the Rector, the

MOTHERS' Union members formed a guard of honour at the funeral of Mrs. Gertrude Enid Finnemore, prominent in Colton M.U. and former organist at St. Mary's Parish Church, Colton, who died in hospital last week on her birthday. She was 54.

She is survived by her husband Mr. William Finnemore, of No. 4 Holding, Blithbury Road. Mrs. Finnemore was also a member of the Parochial Church Council.

The funeral service was conducted at St. Mary's by the Rector, Rev. A. S. Towlson, followed by cremation at Stafford.

Mourners were: Mr. W. Finnemore, husband; Mr. and Mrs. John Finnemore, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Alan Gregory, daughter and son-in-law; Miss Muriel Finnemore, daughter, and Mr. Kenneth Done; Mrs. C. Stokes; Mr. and Mrs. T. Morris; Mr. R. Stokes, nephew; Mrs. B. Winzer, niece; Mrs. B. Sale, sister-in-law; Miss Jean Sale, niece; Mr. and Mrs. R. Cowley; Mr. and Mrs. K. Hill; Mr. T. Cutmore; Mr. F. Cutmore; Mr. H. Shaw; Mrs. M. Kent; Mrs. Lucy Cooper; Mr. and Mrs. H. Rowley; Mr. and Mrs. J. Bradshaw; Mrs. J. Edwards; Mrs. D. Gander; Mr. and Mrs. D. Bass; Miss H. Sale; Mrs. Crutchley.

Included in the large congregation were Mr. and Mrs. J. Hoult; Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Harris; Mr. and Mrs. B. Dunkey; Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston; Mr. and Mrs. J. Perry; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hooley; Mr. and Mrs. J. Harvey; Mr. A. N. Felton; Mr. John Sproston; Mr. and Mrs. H. and Mr. R. Rushton; Mrs. Margaret Eastwood; Mrs. H. H. Hutchinson and Mrs. Giles; Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Bettson; Mr. and Mrs. G. Warrilow; Mr. and Mrs. G. Vernon; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cooper; Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rowlands; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bloor; Mrs. G. Shipley; Mrs. J. Sargeant; Mrs. G. Hampson and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy.

Mr. and Mrs. Dawson; Mrs. Parrott; Messrs. George and Luke Mellor; Mrs. E. M. Sargeant; Mrs. D. M. Atkin; Mrs. W. E. Knight; Mr. Fred Hardcastle; Mrs. P. W. Westhorpe; Mr. J and Mr. and Mrs. R. Grimley; Mr. Maurice Williscroft; Miss D. M. Jones; Mrs. E. A. and Miss D. A. Cooper; Mrs. O. M. Ballard; Mrs. Towlson; Miss E. Rotchell; Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; Mr. and Mrs. Irvine Collins; Mrs. L. Jackson; Mrs. E. Griffin; Mr. W. A. Norman; Mrs. R. O. Devall; and the Rev. R. G. Rogers, of the Ridwares.

There were many beautiful floral tributes, including: from The Colton Church Choir; The Parochial Church Council; and The Mothers' Union.

BRERETON VICAR WAS M.U. SPEAKER

Colton Mothers' Union met in the Reading Room on Tuesday afternoon for their February meeting. Mercury 24/2/67

Mrs. P. B. Best, Enrolling member, welcomed the Rev. P. G. Clarke of Brereton, who conducted the service and spoke on "The Churches Year". He was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Mrs. H. A. Williscroft agreed to collect for the Easter Lillies. The draw prize, given by Mrs.

W.I. : The meeting of Colton Women's Institute held in the Reading Room, Colton was the annual general meeting, the president, Mrs. I. Preston, presiding, asked members to stand with her in a silent tribute to Mrs. Helen Felton, a former member for many years. Following the reading and confirming of the minutes of previous meeting, the secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, gave her report on the past year. The treasurer Mrs. I. R. Brown presented a satisfactory financial statement. The president thanked both for their hard work. She also thanked all members for co-operation during the past year. Mr. Maurice Williscroft acted as teller in the voting for officers. Mrs. Ivy Preston again accepted office of president, with Miss D. M. Jones (first) vice-president, (second) vice president Mrs. Norah Jones. secretary Mrs. C. M. Sanders assistant Mrs. Lily Jackson, treasurer Mrs. I. R. Brown. assistant Mrs. E. M. Sargeant. Press Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, "Home and Country", Mrs. M. R. Taylor. The rest of committee were: Mesdames M. G. Bennett, M. M Daw, and June Meddings. Thanks to Mr. Williscroft were expressed by Mrs. Ravenscroft. Members wishing to go to the Spring meeting of the Parkside Group at Hixon gave in their names. Raffle winners were Mrs. M. E. Everall, Mrs. Sanders, Miss Jones and Mrs. E. Bettson. The stall was in charge of Mrs. Bennettand tea hostesses were Mesdames H. A. Williscroft, Jean Fowell and M. S. Toy. Social time took the form of a beetle drive, organised by Miss Jones winners being Mesdames Taylor, Bennett, A. Ferguson and Ravenscroft. A day or two before the meeting a very successful outing was enjoyed when members and friends visited a pottery works at Barlaston.

MEETINGS.— Two meetings took place regarding Colton St. Mary's Parish Church. The first held at the Rectory, was the Church Restoration Committee (the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson in the chair) together with several other parishioners whose main interest is in the flower festival. A further grant of £75 towards restoration has been given by "The Friends of Ancient Staffordshire Churches." A grant of £500 has already been given by the Diocesan Board of Finance. Regarding the wine and cheese party to be held

Very cold weather on the evening of Colton Village Produce Guild's New Year party caused attendance to be below last year's, but members from other guilds were present, including Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Marchington, Haughton and Slitting Mill.

Mr. Jack Brown (chairman) organised square dances and team games were played, musical pennies being won by Mrs. Jean Fowell.

An amusing shadow scene of an operating theatre was performed by Jack Brown (doctor), Gwendoline Ravenscroft (nurse), Joan Wright (patient), and Tom Preston and Jack Meddings (backroom assistants).

22/4/67

Members of Colton Women's Institute were entertained at their April meeting, held in the Reading Room, by two travel films shown by Mr. Jones — "Tulip time in Holland" and "Rhine flight for the wine festival." Mr. Jones was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, welcomed Mrs. Jean Bowey, a new member, and read letters of thanks for flowers and "get-well" cards from two members who were sick — Mrs. C. M. Amyes and Mrs. Hilda Williscroft.

The visit to Slimbridge wildfowl reservoir on May 21 was discussed, as was the visit to the county rally at Kibblestone Park, which will take the place of the June meeting since it falls on the same day as the usual meeting day.

Miss D. M. Jones invited members to join members of Colton Village Produce Guild in a visit to the dressed wells at Tissington on the evening of May 5.

Tea hostesses were Mesdames D. M. Atkin, M. Bannister, E. Bettson and P. M. Buckley. Mrs. M R. Taylor was in charge of the stall

Practice for the county quiz was the main item at Colton Women's Institute first meeting of 1967. Members gaining highest marks in the practice were Mesdames M. E. Everall, Lamb, N. Jones and Miss D. M. Jones.

The first rounds of the county quiz take place at the spring meetings, the Parkside Group's being held at Hixon in March.

The stall, in the charge of Mrs. Jones, raised £1 9s. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Lamb, Preston, C. M. Sanders and Miss E. Rotchell.

A letter of thanks was read from Mrs. H. M. Felton for the gift of two rose bushes when she left the district.

THE September issue of "Village Life," the monthly magazine issued by the National Association of Village Produce Guilds, is to be devoted to mainly Staffordshire items, said county correspondent, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft at Colton Village Produce Guild's April meeting. 15/4/67

She said that all guilds were being invited to write articles connected with the county. It was thought that something dealing with Cannock Chase would be suitable material.

To deal with contributions a subcommittee has been formed consisting of Messrs. J. D. Lewis (county chairman, of Colwich), J. J. Nock, J. W. Jones and Mrs. Ravenscroft (convener).

At the meeting Mr. Jack Brown (chairman) welcomed Mr. Maxwell, a Marchington guild member, and a new junior member, John Norman. He presented a gift to Mr. J. James on his recent wedding. Offers of help were forthcoming for the rummage sale on April 22.

Show committee chairman Mr T. Preston gave details of a new idea to be introduced in this year's show. Instead of the 'heaviest yield' potato class there would be a class for the best bloom from one of the gladioli corms which he had purchased.

Mr. Tony Edwards of Rugeley, who spent some time as a tea planter, gave a talk on tea planting, with slides and films. He was thanked by Mr. Norman Bruce

Mr. Edwards then judged the competition for an arrangement of wild green growth. Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft was the winner, runners-up being Mrs. I. Preston and Mr. L. Devall.

THE February meeting of Colton Women's Institute was held in the Reading Room, with Mrs. I. Preston presiding. She thanked those members who had contributed to the success of the New Year party.

It was agreed to have a house-to-house collection in aid of the Cancer Research Campaign; and an invitation was received from Colwich to an open meeting. Mercury

In the county letter members were asked to attend the annual Parish Assembly as a public duty. Details with regard to the visit to Wedgwood's on March 6 were given, and an outing to Slimbridge in May was discussed.

Guest speakers were Mrs. B. Uppings and Mrs. O. Dawson, representatives of

PARTY WAS THES BREAK WITH TRADITION

BREAKING with tradition after a quarter-century of Wednesday fetes, Colton Church garden fete was held on Saturday, a change brought about by the move of the August Bank Holiday. It raised about £170 which will be used for urgent work on the church.

A welcome to all the visitors to the Rectory, where the fete was held, was given by the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

Nancy Lady Bagot, opening the event, said that as they got older they seemed to look back more and she could now look back on 20 Colton fetes. When she first came to Blithfield the parishes of Blithfield and Colton were not joined, but now she felt she had a second home at Colton, where she had seen so many improvements to the beautiful old church.

She recalled admiring the effort they were making when she opened a previous fete. Now the church restoration committee had set themselves a target, grants would make a generous contribution towards it and she hoped the committee would be encouraged by the success of that fete.

Miss D. A. Cooper (Rector's warden) moved a vote of thanks to Lady Bagot and Mr. W. A. Norman (People's warden) seconded. Lady Bagot received a bouquet from Lynn Fowell and the rector a buttonhole from Susan Atkin.

COMPETITIONS

In a children's fancy dress parade the winners were Tony Wright (Scarecrow), Alec Wright (Tarzan), Dorothy Curtis (Frog) and Lynn Kendrick (White Rabbit).

Lady Bagot won the treasure hunt, Tony Wright the weight-guessing, Miss Cherry Mason the teddy bear. Clock golf winners were Miss Dianne Grimley, Mr. G. Vernon, the Rector, Stephen Hardcastle and John Norman. Bowls winners were Mr. L. Mrs. Collins, Dianne Grim Christopher Grimley.

A barbecue with ch sausage on the menu, w ised by Mr. and Mrs. J. during the evening.

Stallholders were: Nee Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mr Atkins: miscellaneous. P. B. Best, M. Mason, G. Miss E. Rotchell; bring Mrs. V. James: balloons Price: hoopla, Mrs. R. Mrs. J. Finnemore.

Prize draw, Mrs. E. A Miss D. A. Cooper, Mr. bury; teddy bear raffle. vey; clock golf, Miss D. Guess my weight, Doree Anne Fowell; bowls and through hole, Mr. B. Be W. A. Norman. Refr Mesdames I. Preston, E. H. A. Willis croft, E. Gr Devall, P. L. Bannister, ter, B. M. Ravenscroft keeper, Mr. J. James.

Draw winners were Hughes (£5), Mrs. Wri ton (whisky), Mr. E (sherry), Mrs. G. M. U Mrs. C. Bannister f Jeanette Deacon (duck). (tea service), Miss Sp verhampton (cake), H. (towels), Mrs. G. I. M cleaning kit), Mrs. Steve lates), Mr. R. J. N. (travelling clock), Mic (biscuits), Mr. Robinson, (chicken), Mrs. M. Maso Mr. Palmer, Walton fo Mrs. Bradbury (groce Johnson (cigarettes), Mr. (wall rack), Mr. G. K. (purse), Mrs. F. Mellor i Mrs. M. Astbury (secat B. (place mats), Mr. W. (perfume).





Left: Patrons at the stall. Above: Little balloon is Cara, Nancy Lady Bagot, ing ceremony. With Bagot are (left to Rev. A. S. Towlson, Cooper (churchward Bradbury, Cara, and Norman (churchward (right) was one of tions.



A T the last meeting of the present Colton Parish Council, the chairman, Mr. F. Hardcastle, thanked councillors for their support and co-operation during his three-year term of office. Cllr. J. C. Price thanked him for his expert guidance as chairman.

The question of the public footpath known as "Long Stile," was discussed, and Cllr. L. Mellor said he had seen the owner, who agreed to the public having access to it.

It was proposed that the council consider the provision of six extra lights in the village, and it was decided to see if a meeting with the rural council surveyor could be arranged.

The parish assembly was discussed, and Cllr. Price told Cllr. Mrs. M. S. Toy that when the purchase of land at the rear of the reading room was completed, a public meeting would be held, to present plans.

Mrs. Toy also enquired about a tree preservation order in the village, and she was told there was no such order.

Cllr. Hardcastle, referring to a question raised at the assembly, said he thought there had been a settlement in finding somewhere for the youngsters to play football.

THE annual meeting of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds was held at the County Farm Institute, Rodbaston, on Saturday.

Chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis, welcomed the representatives and said he knew of no other county which had such a good attendance. There was a special welcome for a member of the new guild at Barton-under-Needwood.

The meeting decided to send a letter of protest to the County Council, asking that the wide spread destruction of plant life on road-side verges be avoided.

It was also agreed to increase affiliation fees from 6d per member to 1s, with a maximum of £5.

The speaker was Mr. Antony T. Herbert of the Nature Conservancy at Attingham Park, who also showed coloured film slides. He was thanked by Mr. J. J. Nock of Tittensor.

The quiz was held with Maer the winners with 27½ points over Slitting Mill and Aldridge. Question master was Mr. F. W. Farrer; judges, Miss P. M. Cherry and Mr. R. K. Mowforth, Rodbaston; score-keeper, Mrs. M. S. Toy, Colton; and time-keeper, Mr. Jones. Maer will enter the quiz at the national AGM at Pershore in September.

Officers elected were: President, Mr. H. G. Wells; secretary, Mr. D. M. Gibb; treasurer, Mrs. Toy; auditor, Mr. L. Massey; representative to the National Federation, Mr. J. J. Nock.

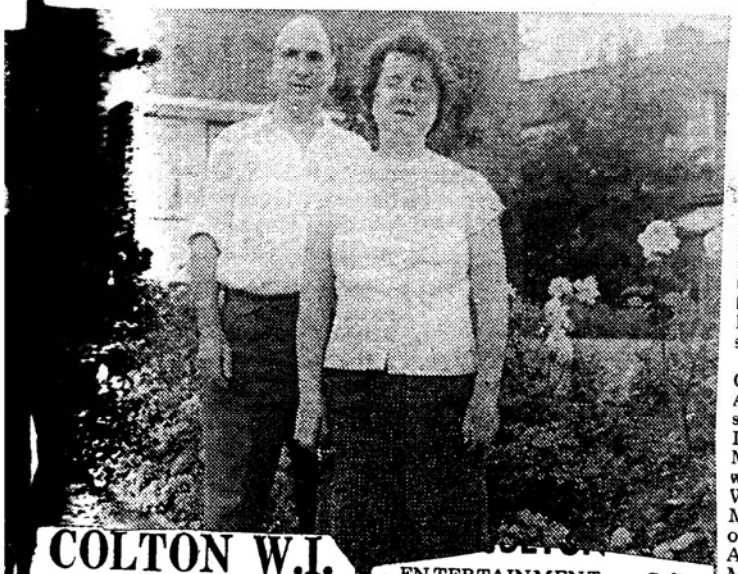
Next weekend a flower festival of church decorations is being held in Colton Church in the hope that many visitors on private excursions or coach outings will call in to see the flowers.

one of the efforts



Times 22/7/67

Some gardens were entered on Wednesday for Colton Village Guild's annual gardens competition, judged by Mr. R. K. Haworth of Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston. First prize went to Mr. C. Bannister, who is pictured (below) with Mrs. Bannister in their garden at 84, High Street. Second prize went a neighbour, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, of Yorick, 535, High Street, and third was shared by Mr. E. H. Murcott and Mrs. H. C. Bell, neighbours at Barn Cottages, Mrs. E. Preston, a member who lives at Blithbury Hill, won fourth prize with her Etching Hill garden and the fifth went to the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, of the Cottage Stores, Colton. The group picture (above) shows the party at Mr. and Mrs. Bannister's home where refreshments were served before the result was declared.



COLTON W.I. EFFORT

The mid-summer fayre organised by the Colton Women's Institute raised well over £20 for W.I. funds.

Mrs. Oakley declared the event open; Miss Ellen Litchwell was the door steward; Mrs. L. Jackson had charge of the raffle; and Mrs. Joan Wright the bottle tombola.

Stallholders were: Mesdames Ivy Preston, I. R. Brown, C. M. Sanders, N. Jones, B. M. Ravenscroft, E. M. Sargeant, M. G. Bennett, D. M. Atkin, J. M. Daw, P. L. Bannister, and M. C. Harvey and Miss O. M. Jones.

Refreshments: Mesdames June Meddings, Joan Norman and M. E. Everall.

Raffle prize winners were: Pye Green member, Mesdames G. Goodall, A. Musselbee, I. R. Brown,

W.I.: There was a good attendance at the meeting of Colton Women's Institute held in the Reading Room. The President, Mrs. I. Preston, presided. She welcomed new members, Mesdames H. Webb, B. Lloyd and M. Beattie, and visitors, including some from Slitting Mill. W. I. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mrs. June Meddings collected the "Pennies for Friendship". Mrs. M E. Hibbs reported on the old people's welfare council plans. The President welcomed the guest speaker, Miss P. Cherry, of Rodbaston Farm Institute, whose subject was yeast cookery. Mrs. I. R. Brown thanked her. There were twenty exhibits in the competition for a victoria sandwich, the winner being Mrs. N. Jones; 2, Mrs. L. Jackson. Tea hostesses were Mesdames I. James J. E. Wright and M. E. Hibbs. It was announced that the knitting class at next year's show will be a ladies long-sleeves sweater or jumper, hand-knitted in any wool Mrs. R. M. Ravenscroft had charge of the stall. A few details were given regarding the Autumn group meeting. Members, with some husbands and friends visited a chocolate factory at Birmingham. Following a tour of the factory tea was enjoyed. Delightful weather made a very pleasant journey.

BARBECUE: The committee of Colton branch of the Conservative Association organised a beer and skittles barbecue at Bellamour Lodge, the home of their chairman, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Price. Skittles were in charge of Messrs. M. E. Wright, L. Stretton, and N. Bruce. Mr. Victor Hardcastle was in charge of the gate, and acted as treasurer. A treasure hunt was organised by Messrs. R. and D. Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Price were responsible for the barbecue cooking, with the assistance of Mrs. Langley. Mrs. S. J. Ball, secretary, served coffee which was made by Mrs. Jackson. The raffle was in charge of the vice-chairman, Mrs. J. M. Chilton, and the beer and sherry bar was looked after by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Miss Janet Jones.

ENTERTAINMENT. — Colton elderly people were entertained by their Welfare Council in the Reading Room, Colton. Six hands of whist were played and small prizes given. Following tea, comic films were shown. The chairman, Mr. Fred Hardcastle, told the 21 people who attended that the council would try to arrange short outings for them as the weather improved. Any ideas as to places they would like to visit would be helpful to the council. Also if a good film came locally it was hoped it would be possible to take them to see it.

GUILD.— At the meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, in the Reading Room, the vice-chairman, Mr. T. Preston presided. He welcomed new members, Mrs. J. James and Mr. and Mrs. R. Rooke. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and letters were read from Mrs. H. A. Williscroft and from the entertainment committee. It was agreed to organise the "best kept garden" competition again and to ask the County Farm Institute at Rodbaston to supply judges. The guest speaker was Mr. D. Myatt, of Rodbaston, and his talk was illustrated by film slides. He also judged the evening's competition and awar-

15/5-/67

At the May meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room, Mr. D. Myatt, of Rodbaston, gave a talk on rock gardens. His talk was followed by film slides.

Mr. Myatt also judged the evening's competition for a rock garden on a plate and awarded the prize to Mrs. Ivy Preston. Members thanks to Mr. Myatt were expressed by Mr. J. James and Mrs. Rooke.

Members thanks to Mr. Myatt were expressed by Mr. J. James and Mrs. Rooke.

Members agreed again to organise the village best-kept garden competition, and to ask the County Farm Institute at Rodbaston to supply judges.

Doctor was judge of antiques

5/6/67

THE speaker at the May meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, was Dr. J. G. Salter, of Abbots Bromley, who spoke on antiques.

Dr. Salter based his talk mainly on silverware, of which he brought along a good selection. He was thanked on the motion of Mrs. I. R. Brown. Dr. Salter also judged the competition for an antique, and awarded the prize to Mrs. M. E. Everall, whose entry was a Bible box.

The Village Hall Entertainments Committee wrote asking for help with the Midlands Festival of Steam and it was agreed again to stage a cake and produce stall, and to organise a cake competition — the cakes entered going towards stocking the stall.

Resolutions for the annual meeting of the National Federation of Women's Institutes were discussed and voted on, and final arrangements were made for a visit to the Wild Fowl Trust at Slimbridge tomorrow (Sunday).

Kitchen items were collected for the stall the Parkside Group are to stage at the county rally at Kibblestone next month.

The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, welcomed two visitors — Mrs. V. James and Mrs. G. I. Moores. Tea hostesses were Mesdames Janice, Dora Deacon and A. M Ferguson and Miss C. N. L. Willis-croft.

COLTON Parish Council's cup for the best comprehensive garden was won on Saturday by Mr. W. C. Bannister, of Four Winds, 84, High Street. The Littlehay rose bowl for the most attractive garden within the village was awarded Mr. Leslie Devall, of Field Cottage.

The council's best-kept garden competition was judged by Mr. H. Edwards and Mrs. M. Jones, of Hixon, who were escorted round the gardens by Councillor L. Mellor (competition organiser) and Councillor J. C. Price (council chairman).

Announcement of the winners was made at Little Hay Manor Farm, where refreshments were provided by Mrs. Mellor.

Second in the comprehensive garden section was Mrs. H. C. Bell, of Barn Cottages, Blithbury Road, and third was Mr. Jack Brown, of

Date fixed for Colton gardens competition

Colton Village Produce Guild fixed at its meeting last week the date for the judging of the best-kept garden competition as July 19. This year's judges will be from the Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rodbaston.

At the meeting members received a letter from Colton Parish Council asking for the guild's views on entering the Community Council of Staffordshire's Best Kept Village Competition. It was agreed that if the village is entered next year the guild would be willing to co-operate.

A flower arrangement competition was held, judged by Mr. and Mrs. E. Mason, of Colton Lodge. They awarded prizes to Mr. R. J. N. Williams, Mr. Jack Brown, Mr. T. Preston, Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

A SUGGESTION that the two rival best kept gardens competitions held annually in Colton should be amalgamated was made by Councillor Luke Mellor on Saturday. He and fellow councillors had gone to the Village Produce Guild show to present cups won in the recent parish council gardens competition.

"I come with a feeling of embarrassment at seeing this now, and I wonder why I have to organise, on behalf of the parish council, a rival competition. I think the time is long past when we should look at this competition together," said Councillor Mellor.

Though this was his personal view, he knew he had the sympathy of the council chairman, he said. Such a move to unite the competitions might be talked about during the coming year, as it could only be beneficial to the competitions and competitors.

Councillor Mellor added that he was disappointed at the response to the parish council competition. They had only the same number of entries as in the previous year, and to stand still in a growing village was to go backwards. "With a united front we could stimulate more interest," he said.

ON THE AGENDA

Councillor J. C. Price, chairman of Colton Parish Council, said he noted the suggestion with interest and it would be put on the council agenda for discussion. He congratulated the village produce guild on their splendid show effort.

Councillor Price took the opportunity, presented by the large audience crowded into the Reading Room, to appeal for support for the county best-kept village competition next year. For this it was hoped to revitalise the local committee, he said.

"Colton is a very old village, a very unspoilt village and I am very proud of belonging to Colton. I have lived [illegible] for 20 y[illegible] I wouldn't like to live in a[illegible] part of the country," he [illegible]

He pleaded for local g[illegible] unite in a new best-ke[illegible] committee. "If thi[illegible] bec[illegible] ton United' we sho[illegible], the Best-Kept Village Co[illegible] said.

The parish council[illegible] garden cup was presente[illegible] W. C. Bannister and the[illegible] rose bowl won by Mr. [illegible] vall was presented to [illegible] Mrs. L. Devall, in his ab[illegible]

Mr. T. Preston, Villa[illegible] Guild chairman, introd[illegible] D. M. Gibb, county secr[illegible] presented the cups and [illegible] J. James received the W[illegible] duce Guild men's cup [illegible] points and Mrs. T. Pr[illegible] year's holder, again re[illegible] ladies' cup for most po[illegible]

Mrs. Preston was a[illegible] National Rose Society[illegible] medal for his winn[illegible] exhibit.

Mr. Gibb congratula[illegible] one on the show exhibi[illegible] he had also been to se[illegible] ning gardens. He was [illegible] gratified to see the youn[illegible] tion taking part in th[illegible] tion.

"This is marvellous. [illegible] other garden guilds h[illegible] has got this progress[illegible] Mr. Gibb.

Judges were Mr. W[illegible] (Maer) and Mr. R. [illegible] (Standon) for horticultu[illegible] Cherry, of Rodbaston [illegible] tute, cookery: Mrs. G. [illegible] (Hanchurch), handicraft[illegible] J. Hayton (Colwich[illegible] arrangements.



Mr. W. C. Bannister (left) winner of Colton Parish Council best kept garden cup, with Mrs. Bannister, and (right) Mrs. L. Devall who received the Littlehay rosebowl won by her son, Mr. Leslie Devall. In the centre are Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Gibb who presented the awards at Colton Produce Guild Show on Saturday.



AWARDS

Tomatoes: 1, J. Meddings; 3, Mrs. H. C. Bell. Potatoes: [illegible] dings; 2, M. Williscroft; 3[illegible] Onions from seed: 1, J. [illegible] C. Bannister; 3, R. Benn[illegible] from sets: 1, J. James; [illegible] Pitts; 3, Mrs. H. Webb [illegible] Mrs. L. Jackson; 2, Mrs [illegible] T. Preston. Beetroot: 1, [illegible] R. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Jack[illegible]

Runner beans: 1, C. J. [illegible] 2, R. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Jac[illegible] W. C. Bannister; 2, Mrs [illegible] 1, Mrs Bell; 2, R. Bennet[illegible] ton. Cauliflower: J. James. [illegible] Mrs. Bell; 2, J. James; [illegible] nister. Cabbage: Stephen [illegible] J. James.

Apples (dessert): 1, [illegible] Mrs. E. Preston; 3, Mrs. [illegible] (culinary): 1, Keith Wil[illegible] Williscroft; 3, T. Presto[illegible] Brown.

Three gladioli: 1, W. [illegible] 2, T. Preston; 3, Miss [illegible] gladiolus (for special aw[illegible] Preston): 1, Miss E. Bruce[illegible] 3, Mrs. J. H Toy.

Dahlias, decorative: 1 [illegible] T. Preston; 3, Mrs. J [illegible] 1, T. Preston; 2 J [illegible] James; pompon: 1, J. Ja[illegible] ton; 3, Mrs Toy.

Vase of annual flowe[illegible] Wright; 2, Mrs. Jackso[illegible] Preston. H.T. roses: 1, [illegible] W. C. Bannister; 3, M[illegible] Carnations: 1, J. James; [illegible] Asters: 1, Keith Williscr[illegible] Preston; 3, J. James. Pa[illegible] Bannister; 2, Mrs. J. Be[illegible] Sweet peas: Mrs. Best.

House plant in flower: [illegible] 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. J. [illegible] plant: 1, Mrs. Bell; 2, [illegible] 3, Mrs. Pitts.

Arrangement in sherry [illegible] E. Bruce; 2 Mrs. J [illegible] Pitts. Arrangement de[illegible] verse: 1, Mrs. T. Presto[illegible] Brown; 3, Mrs. J. James.

Raspberry jam: 1, Mrs [illegible] 2, Mrs. T. Preston. Ma[illegible] D. M. Jones; 2, Mrs. [illegible] Mrs. Wright. Lemon cu[illegible] Meddings; 2, Stephen Up[illegible] Preston. Culinary jelly: [illegible] ton. Chutney: Mrs. T. P[illegible]

Cheese scones: 1, Mrs [illegible] croft; 2, Miss G. Ra[illegible] T. Preston. Savoury [illegible]

TABLES loaded wi[illegible] a room decorated [illegible] colours greeted Co[illegible] Produce Guild me[illegible] attended their annual [illegible] per on Thursday last [illegible] made wines were a fe[illegible] meal, for which there [illegible] of hot meat and potato[illegible] beef and salad.

Guests, who were [illegible] Mr. Jack Brown (ch[illegible] cluded Mr. and Mrs. D[illegible] and Mrs. L. Morgan (S[illegible] Mr. C. O. Jones, Miss

PRODUCE SHOW WAS A WINNER FOR THE GUILD

1964



...Mrs. T. Preston receives her challenge trophy from Mr. ... Below, a group of prizewinners and officials.

MR. D. M. GIBB, secretary of Staffordshire Rural Community Council, presented awards at Colton Village Produce Guild annual show, held in conjunction with the Women's Institute on Saturday.

Show Challenge Cups went to Mr. John James and Mrs. T. Preston, who gained the highest number of points, and miniature cups went to last year's winners, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Preston. Mr. Preston won the Rose Society bronze medal.

Trophies won in the parish council "best kept garden" competition, organised by Mr. Luke Mellor, were also presented on Saturday. Mr. W. C. Bannister gained the Parish Council Cup and cash prize in the comprehensive garden section, with Mrs. H. C. Bell winning the second cash prize, and Mr. Jack Brown third prize.

The Little Hay rose bowl for the most attractive garden within the village, was received by Mrs. Lottie Devall on be-



...charge of Mrs. Joan E. Wright ... won by. Mr. Salt (Newcastle) Terry Martin. Mrs. E. A. Cooper, Mr. Gibb (who gave it back) Mr. J. C. Price, and Mr. Herbert Devall. The sale of produce, concluded the event, Show committee members are: Chairman Mr. Thomas Preston, hon. secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, hon Treasurer, Mrs. Ivy Preston. Miss Dorothy attended to Chart of points. Mrs. L. Jackson, to the refreshments Mr. John James to the Door, rest of Committee Messrs. D. W. Garwood and J. Meddingd Mr. Norman Bruce and Mr. Leslie Devall. Mrs. Carol M. Sanders did duty as steward during the staging.

SOCIAL.— Colton Old Peoples' Welfare Committee organised a social afternoon when about 20 elderly people attended. Several games of bingo were enjoyed. Tea was served by the ladies of the committee, and a few hands of whist played. Following this the chairman, Mr. Fred Hardcastle, advocated a holiday in May 1968. He said they would put a scheme in hand whereby they could save a little each week. If any of them wished they would be able to withdraw this at any time. Nothing was really decided, some feeling it was such a long way in the future. Specially designed cards were distributed, to be put in the windows of any one requiring help.

...or Verse — 1. Mrs. T. Preston, 2. Mrs. Brown, 3. Mrs. J. James. Raspberry Jam, Mrs. Ruth B. Williams, Mrs. T. Preston. Orange Marmalade, 1. Miss D. M. Jones, 2. Mrs. T. Preston, 3. Mrs. Wright, Lemon Curd 1. Mrs. Williams, 2. Stephen Upton, 3. Mrs. T. Preston, Jelly to eat with meat, Mrs. T. Preston, Chutney, Mrs. T. Preston, Cheese Scones Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, 2. Miss Gwendoline N. Ravenscroft, 3. Mrs. T. Preston, Savour Flan, 1. Miss Ravenscroft, 2. Mrs. C. M. Sanders, 3. Mrs. Wright, Lemon Meringue Pie. 1. Miss Ravenscroft, 2. Mrs. Sanders 3. Mrs. Wright, Dundee Cake, 1. Mrs. Wright, 2. Mrs. E. Preston, 3. Miss Ravenscroft. Small White Loaf, 1. Mrs. M. S. Toy, 2. Mrs. M. E. Everall, 3. Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Home-made Wine — 1. Mrs. Everall, 2. Mrs. Wright, 3. Mrs. E. Preston, Ladies Sweater, 1. Mrs. Sanders, 2. Mrs. T. Preston, Ladies Dress 1. Miss Jones, 2. Miss Ravenscroft. Thrift Article, 1. Mrs. Sanders, 2. Miss Ravenscroft, 3. Miss Susan Preston. Childrens' Classes. Garden on a Plate. 1. Rachel Brown 2, Timothy Brown, 3. Alison Saunders, Button Hole, Peter Clews, Lynn Sanders, Maria Greatrix. Enid Fowell and Lynn Peake... Mr. David M. Gibb, (who was accompanied by Mrs. M. Gibb presented the show Challenge Cups to, Mr. John James, and Mrs. T. Preston winners of the highest points, and the miniature cups to last years winners Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Preston, and the Rose Society Bronze Medal to Mr. Preston. The parish council best kept garden trophys were also presented. Councillor Luke Mellor who had organised the Competition, extended the Council's thanks to the Show Committee for the privilege of making the Public Presentation at the show, The Parish Council Cup in Comprehensive Garden section and Cash prize was handed to Mr. W. C. Bannister by Mr. Gibb, 2nd cash prize Mrs. H. C. Bell, 3. Mr. Jack Brown. Little Hay Rose Bowl and Cash prize for most attractive Garden within the Village Mrs. Lottie Devall (received on behalf of her Son Mr. Leslie Devall who is in Spain on Holiday) 2nd cash prize, Mr. C. Bannister and Mr. Brown. A gift of honey was made to Mrs. Gibbs and Hyacinth bulbs to Mr. Gibb, by the show Committee Chairman Mr. T. Preston. Councillor J. C. Price P. C. Chairman endorsed all Councillor Mellors remarks. The raffle in

...annual show of ...duce Guild in con... ...omen's Institute, ...ading room and ... There were 37 ...were - Horticul... ...s J. W. Jones ...Elliott of Standon ...Miss P. Cherry ...Institute, Handi... ...F. Wallace of ...Flower Arrange... ...s Classes. Mrs. ...n. Prize winners ...diolo Classes for ...Elizabeth Bruce, ...ruce, and 3. J. ...1. J. Meddings, ...rs. H. C. Bell. ...eddings, 2. M. ...H. Toy. Onions ...James, 2. C. ...ett. Onions from ...s 2. Mrs. C. I. ...ebb. Shallots — ...kson, 2. Mrs. ...ton, Beetroot — ...Bennett, 3. Mrs. ...ans — 1. C. J. ...ennett, 3. Mrs. ...C. Bannister, ...— 1. Mrs. Bell ...Preston, Cauli... ...eaviest Marrow ...2. J. James, ...bbage, Stephen ...James. Eating ...2. Mrs. Edith ...Bell, Cooking ...lliscroft, 2. M. ...ston, Pears, J. ...Gladioli 1. C. ...ston, 3. Miss ...Dahlias 1. J. ...3. Mrs. Joan ...Dahlias — 1. ...nes, Pom-Pom ...2. T. Preston, ...d Annuals — ...s. Jackson, 3. ...T. Roses, 1. ...ociety Bronze ...C. Bannister, ...arnations, 1. ...on, Asters, 1. ...rs. T. Preston, ...C. Bannister, ...3. J. Brown. ...House Plant ...2. T. Preston, ...ouse Plant in ...2. Mrs. T. ...Pitts. Floral ...erry Glass 1. ...Wright, 3. ...nt in 18 ins.

County Farm Institute (cookery and wine), Mrs. G. F. Wallace of Hanchurch (handicrafts), and Mrs. Hayton of Baswich (flower arrangement and children's classes). Prize winners were:

AWARDS

Special gladioli class for one bloom: 1, Miss Elizabeth Bruce; 2, Mr. Norman Bruce; 3, J. H. Toy.

Tomatoes: 1, Mr. J. Meddings; 2, J. James; 3, Mrs. H. C. Bell. Potatoes: 1, J. Meddings; 2, M. Williscroft; 3, J. H. Toy. Onions from seed: 1, J. James; 2, C. Bannister; 3, R. Bennett. Onions from sets: 1, J. James; 2, Mrs. C. I. Pitts; 3, Mrs. H. Webb. Shallots: 1, Mrs. B. Jackson; 2, Mrs. Bell; 3, Mrs. T. Preston. Beetroot: 1, J. James; 2, R. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Jackson.

Runner beans: 1, C. J. Ravenscroft; 2, R. Bennett; 3, Mrs. Jackson. Peas: 1, C. Bannister; 2, Mrs. Bell. Carrots: 1, Mrs. Bell; 2, R. Bennett; 3, T. Preston. Cauliflower: J. James. Heaviest marrow: 1, Mrs. Bell; 2, J. James; 3, C. Bannister.

CABBAGE

Cabbage: Stephen Upton; leeks: J. James; eating apples: 1, Mrs. Webb; 2, Mrs. Edith Preston; 3, Mrs. Bell. Cooking apples: 1, Keith Williscroft; 2, M. Williscroft; 3, T. Preston. Pears: J. Brown. Three spike gladioli: 1, C. Bannister; 2, T. Preston; 3, Miss Bruce. Decorative dahlias: 1, J. James; 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. Joan E. Wright. Cactus dahlias: 1, T. Preston; 3, J. James. Pom-pom dahlias: 1, J. James; 2, T. Preston; 3, J. H. Toy.

Mixed annuals: 1, Mrs. Wright; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, Mrs. E. ...ses: 1, and ...ety bronze ...n; 2, C. ...E. Preston. ...mes; 2, T. ...illiscroft; 2, ...J. James. ...ster; 2, Mrs. ...rown. Sweet ...use plant in ...itts; 2, T. ...R. Brown. ...ge: 1, Mrs. ...ston; 3, Mrs. ...t in sherry ...ce; 2, Mrs. ...ts. Arrange... ...rhyme, or ...eston; 2, Mrs. ...James. Rasp... ...Ruth B. ...Preston.

...observed at ...way, with the ...S. Towlson.

9/9/67

THE committee of Colton Conservative Branch organised a beer and skittles barbecue at Bellamour Lodge, home of the chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, and Mrs. Price.

Helpers were Mrs. J. M. Chilton, vice-chairman, Mrs. S. J. Ball, secretary, Mr. Fred Hardcastle, treasurer, and Mrs. Hardcastle, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tittensor, Messrs. M. R. and Ducan Ball, Messrs. L. Kendrick, M. E. Knight, and L. Stretton, Mrs. Langley, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft and Miss Janet Jones. Competition winners were Mrs. R. H. Bloor (tea service), Mr. Seldon (coffee service), Miss K. Z. Hill (cut glass vase), Railton, Etching Hill (sherry), Mr. Southwell (towels), Mrs. W. J. Jones (vase), Mrs. Duggins (wine), Mrs. Jean George (wine), Mrs. G. Cooper (talcum powder).

Mr. Hardcastle thanked all the supporters, and Mr. and Mrs. Price for the use of their home, and Miss Hill, Conservative agent, thanked the committee.



After two terms as "t Colwich School, Col children returned "t week to their own building. Some of th are seen outside th showing part of the ing with the old. T school was built me century ago.



Five Colton parish councillors walked the most-used footpath in the parish, from the Trent Valley railway station area to the the village, on Monday, to consider how to tackle obstructions. Seen at a kissing gate which cannot be negotiated because of undergrowth are (left to right) councillors G. F. Upton, Mrs. M. S. Toy, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, F. Hardcastle and J. C. Price (chairman).

Colton concern over state of footpaths

FOOTPATH problems are occupying much of Colton Parish Council's time these days. After devoting half an hour at last week's meeting discussing the 10-years' problem of the Long Stile path, they gave a further half-hour to the Rydal path and decided to walk that one themselves on Monday.

Members' concern about the state of the Rydal path was spurred on by a letter from an elector Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft, who said the public had been forced to abandon one section of this most-used path and create a diversion in ploughing, and mounds of soil left on the path have become concealed in the long grass.

Because of the hazard of walking through this undergrowth the public have made an unauthorised diversion through the cornfield.

made of the path. He assured council that he would deal with matter the following week — a solution would not be easy

find. In the meantime the were being allowed to use the to the house, he said.

Councillor F. Hardcastle that the parish council should something in writing" and that the owner of the hous requested to admit in writing there was a public right of w

It was decided on the c vote of the chairman, that owner be asked to clarify situation and either endeavo obtain a diversion or to re the right of way through garden.

next meeting.

LONG STILE PATH

The problem of the Long Stile path has existed ever since a house was inadvertently built on the route of the little used path 10 years ago, following which the public have been allowed to traverse the drive and garden of the house.

Councillor J. C. Price (chairman) stated on Friday last that the present owner of the house agreed that something should be done to finalise the "unhappy state of affairs." On the path there were stepping stones over a brook, without a handrail, and the path had been closed at the north end because of the house owner's fears for the safety of his small child, he said.

The owner was willing to re-open the path with a diversion and intended contacting his legal adviser and Mr. L. Mellor, said Councillor Price.

Councillor L. Mellor, who spoke only as an interested party, explained that as he felt responsible for the situation he intended doing all that he could to resolve the

AT COLTON

A SALE of ganised by People's Welfare was opened in Col ing room by Mr. F. S. Knight on afternoon.

They were presente bouquet by Enid Fow return for selling the petition tickets, was by Mrs. Knight.

Stallholders were Toy (cakes); Mrs. F. castle (aprons); M Bannister (fancy go R. O. Devall and Mr. castle (Christmas goo E. A. and Miss D. A and Mr. and Mrs. (garden); Mrs. L. (white elephant); M Wright (tombola); M Hibbs and Mrs. E. G freshments).

Grand competition winners were Mr. (two guineas); Mrs. (roses voucher); Mr. (sherry); Mr. Carter Paul Devall (cigar



Colton, about to enter Colton Church with ... for their harvest thanksgiving service.

FOOTPATH ROW ENDS IN 'WALK OUT'

COLTON'S 10-year tussle ... Long Stile footpath ... on Wednesday ... Luke Mellor ... a meeting of ... saying that ... wished to serve ... and would ... to the footpath ... the drive of a ... Councillor Mellor. ... The new owner is ... them to con- ... meeting of the ... Councillor Mellor ... extinguishment order ... Pointing out that ... closed in the ... urged the coun- ... the interests of ... the house, who ... up with people ... his house to get ... path with no pur- ... Councillor Mellor. ... I rate the interests ... those of people ... might not want to ... F. Hardcastle pointed ... was the responsibility ... council to keep ... paths open.

Mrs. M. S. Toy said: "... like the idea of foot- ... closed. The villages ... country are fast disappear- ... becoming dormitories for ... and when we have ... facilities we must do our ... retain them."

The general feeling of the meeting was that the coulncil could not support an application without knowing whether the public wanted the path to stay open.

Councillor Mellor said: "If this council is not prepared to con- ... this people's interests than I

The annual whist drive to provide funds for the school-children's Christmas party was organised by the headmaster and staff of St. Mary's Church School, Colton, and held in the school. But this year the attendance was not up to the usual standard, due to the foot and mouth epidemic.

Mr. P. Westhorpe was M.C. and prizes were presented by Mrs. F. E. Hardcastle to the following: Mrs. A. Nicklin, Mr. A. Perry, Mrs. Westhorpe, Mr. F. S. Knight, Mrs. S Perry, Mr. F. Cope, Mrs. J. Cooper, Mr. G. Amyes; miniatures, Mrs. Mary Brandrick, Mr. A. Perry sealed numbers, Mrs. June Meddings, Mrs. A. W. McDowall.

The raffle for a bottle of wine was won by Mrs. McDowall and Mrs. G. Morrall and winners in the draw were as follows:— Mrs. Janet Perry, Mrs. Hadley, Christopher Grimley, Mrs. Margaret Beattie, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Fred Norman, Mr. Gordon, Mrs. L. Upton, Mr. C. Sargeant, Mrs. C. Phillips, Mrs. V. James, Mrs. H. Clews and Mrs. I. E. Wright.

Colton W.I. has decided to help once again with the house-to-house collection for the Cancer Research Campaign. At its February meeting, members were urged to attend the annual parish assembly as a public duty.

Members were invited to an open meeting at Colwich. An outing to Slimbridge in May was discussed and details given for the March visit to a pottery.

Guest speaker was Mrs. Betty Uppings, who was assisted by Mrs. O. Dawson in giving a demonstration of kitchen ware. They were thanked by Mrs. A. W. McDowall.

Coloured slides of a holiday in Persia

Coloured slides of a family holiday in Persia were shown by Mr. Luke Mellor to members of Colton Village Produce Guild at their December meeting. The slides included scenes of Mr. Mellor's visits to farms, tea plantations and factories.

The guild decided to call off its usual New Year social because of the foot and mouth epidemic. Members will meet instead for a get-together at the home of their chairman, Mr. Jack Brown.

During the business part of the meeting, presided over by Mr. Brown, Mr. C. Bannister agreed to fill the vacant place on the show committee.

The evening's competitions were for mince pies, won by Mrs. J. E. Wright, and brussels sprouts, won by Mr. J. Meddings.

Raffle prizes given by Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft, Mr. J. James and Miss N. Williscroft were won by Tony Wright and Mrs. E. Mason.

Tea hostess was Mrs. C. Bannister assisted by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs.

A whist drive organised by Colton Village Hall Entertainment Committee was held last week to raise funds for a Christmas party for the children of the parish.

Mr. Percy Westhorpe was M.C., and Mrs. Mary R. Taylor presented prizes to the following winners: Mrs. G. Hampson, Mr. D. A. Boden Mrs. P. Martin, Mr. George Hampson, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Vernon Norman, Mrs. J. H. Hooley and Mrs. A. W. McDowall.

Raffle winners were Mrs. G. Shaw and Mrs. J. Meddings.

THE death occurred at Epsom on Thursday last week of Mr. Walter Thomas Farley, a former resident of Colton. He was 92.

Mr. and Mrs. Farley moved to Epsom four or five years ago. Prior to that Mr. Farley was a patient first at Rugeley and District Hospital and afterwards at Fernleigh Hostel for Elderly People at Stafford. During this period he lost one of his legs as a result of gangrene. Soon afterwards his remaining leg was affected and amputation became necessary.

Mr. Farley made a remarkable recovery One of his great regrets while at Fernleigh Hostel was his inability to read his newspapers but after he had moved to Epsom his eyesight improved.

Before the first World War he was butler at the home of the late General Rideout, of Hove, Sussex, and came to Colton with his wife in 1914 to take up the post of butler at Bellamour Hall, then occupied by the late Mrs. Lucy Martha Horsfall and her family.

Mrs. Farley, who is some years younger than her husband, was a member of Colton Women's Institute for several years.

The funeral and cremation took place on Wednesday afternoon.

Members of Colton Mothers' Union, with friends and a few members of Blithfield Mothers' Union had an outing last week to Gloudhurst College, Doddington Hall, between Woore and Nantwich, Cheshire.

They were able to walk around the grounds, and after tea they were shown over the hall by the principal, Mrs. Reece. The enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best, presented Mrs. Reece with a pot plant and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft expressed members' thanks.



at St. Mary's Church, Colton, of Delia Enid Knight, aged 12 years. Delia was the only daughter of Mrs. Enid Knight and the late Mr. Frank Knight, of Crabtree Farm, Stockwell Heath, Colton. The service was conducted by the Rector, Rev. A. Stanley Towlson, assisted by Rev. W. Carrington-Smith (a cousin of Mrs. Knight). Mrs. M. Clendon was organist. Mourners were — Mrs. Enid Knight (Mother), Nigel Knight (brother), Mr. A. J. Smith (grandfather), Mr. F. S. Knight (grandfather), and Mrs Knight, Mr. and Mrs A. A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Evans, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Simpson (uncles and aunts), Miss Rosemary Smith (also representing Miss V. Smith), Messrs Richard and Graham Knight, Ian and Judy Evans (also representing Wendy Evans), (cousins), Miss Marjorie Neighbour, Mr. and Mrs. J. Neighbour, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. J. Davies, Mr and Mrs. C. Horobin. Others in the large congregation were:— Mr and Mrs C. R. Davies, Misses Gwen and Mary Smith, Mrs. Marjorie Smith and Miss M. Smith were represented by the Rev. Carrington-Smith. Sister Berchmans and Sister Angela from Stafford Convent (Delia's School), Mr. and Mrs. A. Knight, Mr and Mrs S. R. Knight, and Colin (also representing Geoffrey), Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Snow, Mrs. Towlson, Mr. and Mrs Dickinson, Miss Petersen, Mr and Mrs E. C. Knight, Mr A. V. Bramon, Mr. and Mrs. H. Whittaker, Mr. Rupert Evans, Mr. and Mrs J. Hollins, Mr. A. K. Cope, Mr and Mrs. P. K. Cotterell, Mr. P. E. Loverock (also representing Mrs. Loverock), Miss Loverock (also representing Mrs Holt, and Mrs. Bailey), Mr. and Mrs. P. Tunnicliff, Mrs. J. O'Neill (also representing Maj O'Neill), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pratt. Mr. H. C. Bennett (also representing Mr. J. H. Kenny (Clerk) Uttoxeter R.D.C., and Mr. D. A. Williams, (Manchester). Mr. and Mrs. Morrisey, Doctor J. G. Salter (also representing Mrs. Salter), Mrs W. Carrington, (also representing Mrs. Carrington senior), Mrs. J. Phillips (also representing Mr. Phillips), Mr. and Mrs. M. Vernon, Mr and Mrs. G. Vernon, Mr. and Mrs S. Woodward, Mrs. G. W. Cooper (also representing Mr. Cooper), Mr. and Mrs. Tipper (Rugeley Motors) Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Westhorpe. Mrs Sheila Westhorpe Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Moore, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Toy, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Mellor (also representing Mr. and Mrs. George Mellor), Mrs. Rhona Darlington (also representing her riding school), Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Chilton, Mrs. J. C. Price (also representing Mr Price), Miss Angela Collins, Mr. and Mrs Gordon Waring, Mr and Mrs J. and Mr. V. J. Charles, Mr. and Mrs Fred Norman, Mrs. Dora Deacon, Mrs. W. J. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hampson, Mrs. J. Sargeant (also representing Mr. Sargeant), Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shipley, Mr. and Mrs A. W. Mc'Dowall, Mrs. J. Mitchell, Mr and Mrs C. R. Ball, Mrs. Giles (senior), Mrs. Giles (junior), Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sargeant, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. D. Atkin, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Bettson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Meakin and daughter Pat, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Brinkler, Mr. W. Brinkler (also representing Mrs. Brinkler and Mrs. Brandrick), Mrs. R. Grimley, Dianne and Trudy (also representing Christopher), Mrs. C. Bannister, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Norman, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Hibbs, Mrs. W. M. Jones, Mrs. O. M. Ballard and Anne, Mrs. M. Willis-Croft (also representing Mr. Willis-croft), Mrs. J. Hunt (also representing Hunt and Sons), Mr. W. S. Goodwin (also representing Mrs. Goodwin and Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin Scarborough Farm), Mrs. W. Leeke (also representing Mr. Leeke), Mr and Mrs. Cecil Deacon, Mr. and Mrs. J. Devall, Mr and Mrs. Irvine Collins and Marilyn, Mrs. J. Meddings, Mrs. L. Curtis, Mrs. K. Martin, Mrs. Zena Rowe, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, Mr. W. A. Norman (people's Church warden), David Clews, Philip Atkinson, Melvyn Collins, senior pupils of Colton School, Jean Bass, Ruth Ballard, Lynn Sanders, Dorothy Curtis, Ann Haynes, Julie Fowell, Gillian Rowe, Dawn Kendrick, Neil Peake and Peter Wright. Bearers were — Messrs. J. Maurice Deacon, Selby Lycett, Reg Fowell, and Dennis Thackam. There

COLTON

SHOW. — The annual rose show of Colton Village Produce Guild took place at the meeting in the Reading Room, Colton. Mr. Jack Brown, chairman, welcomed the company including visitors from Colwich, Haughton. Lichfield, Marchington and Slitting Mill buisness was attended to first, minutes of the previous meeting being read and confirmed. A letter of thanks was received from Mrs. C. I. Pitts for flowers and card sent on the birth of her daughter. Ideas were invited regarding an outing and a visit to Chester Zoo was agreed upon. Only one member being willing to enter the county flower arrangement contest, means that this year for the first time Colton will not be able to send a team. Voting also took place to settle the question as to a hot or a cold meal at the annual harvest supper, and cold won the day. There was a display of Roses, Mr. John James acting as steward. The judge was Mr. J. Snow, of Stowe-by-Chartley, and he awarded prizes to: Mr. J. Meddings in the single rose class (Colton members only) Mr. Tom Preston giving the 10/- prize in this class, 4. H. T. Roses (Colton) 1 Mr. T. Preston, 2. Mrs. Preston, 3. Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, 3 sprays floribundas (Colton) 1. Mrs. Edith Preston, 2. Mr. J. James 3. Mr. J. Brown. In the open classes, 4 H. T. roses, 1. Mr. C. E. Hall (Slitting Mill) 2. Mrs. Stockton, Colwich, 3. Mr. H. Stockton, Colwich, 3 sprays Floribundas, Mr. E. Leech, Haughton, 2. Mr. Stockton and 3. Mrs. Stockton. Following this Mr. Snow demonstrated the making of a hanging basket which he donated for a raffle prize. The Chairman thanked Mr. Snow. A humourous quiz was arranged, Mr. Brown being question master, Miss D. M. Jones scorekeeper. and Mrs. Ravenscroft adjudicator and time-keeper. Teams were - A. team, Captain Mr. R. Binfield, B. Captain, Keith Williscroft. C-Capt. Mr. R. J. N. Williams and D. Team Captain Mr. E. Leech. C team were winners. The raffle in charge of Mrs. Joan E. Wright - was won by Mrs. M. Mason (hanging basket) Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (Cushion) Mrs. P. Evans (Cake) Mr. J. Snow (Stationary) and Mrs. J. Meddings, (Trowel) Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, with various helpers served refreshments.

Committee man donates cup for Colton show

2/12/67

A challenge cup to be competed for in the vegetable section of Colton show has been donated by committee member Mr. J. James. This was announced at a meeting of the show committee on Monday, when August 31 was fixed as the date of next year's show.

Adjustments were made to the show schedule, and it was agreed to re-instate the class for "the heaviest yield" from one potato, this having been dropped last year.

Officers were re-elected as follows:— chairman, Mr. T. Preston; vice-chairman, Mr. J. Meddings; treasurer, Mrs. Preston; secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; committee, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mr. N. Bruce, Mr. L. Devall, Mr. J. James.

A whist drive organised by the committee of Colton O.P.W. Council, was held in the Reading Room, proceeds being for the Fund. Mr. Percy Westhorpe was M.C., and Mrs. J. W. Hooley presented prizes to: Mrs. Bamber, Mr. F. S. Knight, Mrs. Garner, Mr. Fred Hardcastle, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mr. J. Shipley, Mrs. Westhorpe, Mr. George Amyes; miniatures, Mrs.

COUNCIL.— Colton Parish Council met in the Reading Room to elect a councillor to fill the casual vacancy due to the resignation of Mr. Luke Mellor. Applications to fill the vacancy were received from Mr. Frank Graham Ballard, 19, High Street, Mrs. Josephine Margaret Chilton, Hamley House Farm; and Mr. Gerald Sanders, 90 High Street. By majority vote Mr. Sanders was elected. 2/11/67

SALE.— A successful sale of work held in the Reading Room was organised by the Old People's Welfare Council, to support their funds. The event was opened by Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Knight and a bouquet was presented to Mrs. Knight by Enid Fowell who in return for selling the most Draw tickets was presented with a small gift by Mrs. Knight. Stallholders and helpers; cakes and produce, Mrs. M. S. Toy; aprons, Mrs. F. E. Hardcastle, fancy goods, Mrs. P. L. Bannister; Christmas cards and wrapping paper, Mrs. R. O. Devall, and Mr. Fred Hardcastle; garden, Mrs. E. A. and Miss D. A. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Knight; white elephant, Mrs. L. A. Curtis; tombola Mrs. Joan E. Wright; refreshments, Mrs. M. E. Hibbs and Mrs. E. Griffin. Prize winners in the draw; Mr. Alan Law. Mrs. G. Mellor Mr. G. Yates Mr. Carter, Paul Devall, T. Preston, Mrs. Southwell, Mrs. G. Jones, D. Fowell, Mrs. D. R. Shaw, E. Foster, Mrs. Mrs. Herbert, J. Beattie, Miss E. Bruce. An apron competition, judged by Mrs. King, of Rugeley, was won by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant.

COLTON

1967

PRODUCE GUILD. — At the well attended meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, Mr. Luke Mellor showed his coloured slides of the family holiday in Persia. He showed visits to farms, tea plantations and factories. The vice-chairman Mr. T. Preston thanked Mr. Mellor. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, presided and various items of business were attended to. It was decided to put off the usual New Year social, in view of the Foot and Mouth Plague, and to hold a get together at the chairman's home for the January meeting. Mr. C. Bannister agreed to fill the vacant place on the show committee. The evening's competitions — mince pies was won by Mrs. J. E. Wright; brussell sprouts, won by Mr. J. Meddings. The raffle was won by Tony Wright and Mrs. E. Mason. Prizes had been given by Mr. C. J. Ravenscroft, Mr. J. James and Miss N. Williscroft. Tea hostesses was Mrs. C. Bannister assisted by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs.

WHIST DRIVE. — The annual whist drive, organised by the headmaster and Staff of St. Mary's Church School, Colton, took place in the school. The object was to provide 'funds for the pupils' Christmas party. Mr. Percy Westhorpe was the M.C. Mrs. F. E. Hardcastle presented prizes to - Mrs. A. Nicklin, Mr. A. Perry, Mrs. Westhorpe, Mr. F. S. Knight, Mrs. S. Perry, Mr. F. Cope, Mrs. J. Cooper, Mr. G. Amyes; miniatures, Mrs. Mary Brandrick and Mr. Perry; sealed numbers, Mrs. June Meddings and Mrs. A. W. McDowall; grand prize draw, Mrs. Janet Perry, Mrs. Hadley, Christopher Grimley, Mrs. Margaret Beattie, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Fred Norman, Mr. Gordon, Mrs. L. Upton, Mr. Colin Sargeant, Mrs. C. Phillips, Mrs. V. James, Mrs. H. Clews, and Mrs. J. E. Wright; raffle for wine, Mrs. McDowall and Mrs. G. Morrall.

Colton Village Produce Guild

1967

Hints and tips on wine-making were passed on to members of Colton Village Produce Guild at their November meeting when Mr Micheli spoke on home - made wines. He passed around samples among members.

Mr. Micheli was thanked by the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, who also welcomed a new member, Mrs G. Moores.

Invitations were accepted to guild parties at Abbots Bromley and Slitting Mill. The competi

institute

The December meeting of C Women's Institute was a evening, very little business done. It was agreed that invitation to visit a pottery in January be accepted. The C mas stall was in charge mesdames M. G. Bennett, Meddings. A musical parcel was organised by Mrs Taylor, and the winner was P. B. Best.

"Crazy Whist" was org by Mrs. I. Preston, (pres and winners were: Mrs. McConky, Miss E. Rotchell, Pitts (Hamstall Ridware) and Rosemary Collins. There competition for Fancy Hats from a sheet of newspaper strip of crepe paper, winner ing Mrs. S. J. Doughty (ma Mrs. Mary Daw), Mrs. E. Dunky (made by Mrs. M Taylor), and Mrs. Standon (by Mrs. Norah Jones).

The contest for a tin of bi was won by Mrs. Pope. winners in the free competi were—Mrs. Betty Barham, Jean Stevenson, Mrs. Preston Mrs. C. M. Sanders. A pleasant evening was rounde with carol singing, Miss D. Jones being at the piano.

Memory maps w them prizes

1967

At the November meetin Colton Women's Institute, he the Reading Room last we show of slides, with comme depicting Coventry Cathedral presented by Mr. David S of Uttoxeter. He was thanke Mrs. Norah Jones.

The president, Mrs. I. Pre welcomed a new member, Monica J. Taylor, a new re in Colton.

The evening's competition, j by Mr. Steele and arrange Mrs. Preston was for a m the British Isles drawn from ory. Prizes were awarded to D. M. Jones, Mrs. Lamb and B. M. Ravenscroft. The raffl won by Mrs. Barham.

Tea hostesses were Mesda Barham, M. M. Daw, S. J. D and M. E. Everall.

COLTON

28/12

SOCIAL.— The meeting Women's Institute was a soci ing, very little business d It was agreed that an invi visit a pottery be accep Christmas stall was in c Mesdames M. G. Bennett Meddings. A musical par was organised by Mrs. M lor, and the winner was Best. Crazy whist was c by Mrs. I. Preston, the P and winners were — Mrs. Conky, Miss E. Rotchell, M (Hamstall Ridware) and M mary Collins. Fancy hats m a sheet of newspaper and a crepe paper, winners being Doughty (made by Mrs. M Mrs. E. M. Dunky (made Monica Taylor) and Mrs. (made by Mrs. Norah Jo raffle for a tin of biscuits by Mrs. Pope, and winne free raffle were — Mrs. B ham, Mrs. Jean Steve Preston and Mrs. C. M. The evening was rounded carol singing, Miss D. M being at the piano.

DINNER.— The annual for elderly people of Colt was organised by the Welf cil Committee, took place Reading Room, Colton. F people sat down to a full mas dinner, and 13 dinn taken out to the hospital. ceived chocolates or cigar



TIMES 17/2/68



On Sleeper FRONT of Trolley Close up

And there are plenty of sights to see. In Colton our photographer found Mr. Jack Brown burning the trimmings off his hedges, filling the air with the sharp tang of fresh wood smoke, while out at Stockwell Heath a lone walker around the docks presented an opportunity for a picture. We are now well into

Council held a sale of work in aid of their funds on Saturday afternoon, the event being opened by Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Knight.

A bouquet was presented to Mrs. Knight by Enid Fowell. And in return, Miss Fowell received a small prize for having sold the most draw-tickets.

Stallholders were as follows: Cakes and produce, Mrs. M. S. Toy; aprons: Mrs. F. E. Hardcastle; fancy goods, Mrs. P. L. Bannister; Christmas cards and wrapping paper, Mrs. R. O. Devall and Mr. F. Hardcastle; garden, Mrs. E. A. Cooper, Miss D. A. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Knight; white elephant, Mrs. L. A. Curtis; tombola, Mrs. J. E. Wright; refreshments, Mrs. M. E .Hibbs, Mrs. E. Griffin.

An apron competition, judged by Mrs. King of Rugeley, was won by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant. Winners in the grand draw were as follows: Mr. Alan Law (£2 voucher), Mrs. G Mellor (voucher for roses), Mr. G. Yates (sherry), Mr. Carter (hand lotion), Paul Devall (cigarettes), T. Preston (cookery book), Mrs. Southwell (voucher for roses), Mrs. G. Jones (ice box), D. Fowell (plastic door curtain), Mrs. D. R. Shaw (whisky), E. Foster (ice box), Mrs. Herbert (whisky), J. Beattie (sugar basin), Miss E. Bruce (salt and pepper pots).

From Colton

S75/68

COLTON Women's Institute members were transported on a flight of fancy from a very cold evening to warm climes at their February meeting!

The president, Mrs. I. Preston had welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Heber Bullock of Maer, who presented a film-slide show with commentary on Hong Kong and Japan, which they visited during a world tour last year. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Bullock were voiced by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Mrs. Bullock later judged a competition for lemon meringue pie and awarded prizes to Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Joan Norman.

It was agreed that members should undertake a house-to-house collection for the Cancer Research Campaign. Tea hostesses were Mrs. P. L. Bannister, Mrs. P. B. Best, Mrs. Jean Fowell and Mrs. M. C. Harvey.

At the December meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the reading room, President Mrs. I. Preston welcomed several visitors and a new member, Mrs. May Bannister.

Mrs C. M. Sanders and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft accepted an invitation from Hamstall Ridware, and it was announced that the committee had agreed to ask members of the Village Produce Guild to the W.I. New year party The institute has been invited several times to guild harvest suppers

The President said that assistant secretary Mrs. L. Jackson would take the names of members wishing to join the pantomime trip in February and for the visit to Wedgwood Pottery on March 4.

After the business meeting, a game was organised by Mrs. M. Jones and won by Mrs. M. R. Taylor and the winners of the crazy whist arranged by Mrs. Preston were Mrs. P. McDowell, Mrs H Webb, Mrs. J. Fowell, Mrs J. Meddings, and Miss D M Jones. Mrs. Taylor won the home-made Christmas card competition.

President of Slitting Mill W.I. Mrs. Craddock, won the apron competition and the Christmas stall manned by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and Mrs. Jones, was a great success.

The hostesses were Mesdames B. Barham, June Meddings, J. E. Norman, and B. Ravenscroft, and the evening ended with carol singing by Mrs. Jones accompanying at the piano.

Joint communion at Blithfield

Members of Blithfield Mothers Union were joined by members of Colton branch for a communion service at St. Leonard's Church, Blithfield, last week. The service was conducted by the Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and the organist was Mrs. R. Greaves.

Tea was served at Blithfield Hall, at the invitation of Nancy, Lady

Europe trip

1968

COLOUR slides of a round-Europe trip were shown by Miss Hilary Bruce at the November meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, held in the Reading Room

Film slides of scenes in Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, the Rhine valley, Austria, Switzerland, Jugoslavia and Portugal. Miss Bruce concluded with a few English pictures including the dressed wells at Tissington, Derbyshire. She was thanked by vice-chairman Mr. T. Preston.

An invitation to the Slitting Mill Guild's party was accepted and names were taken.

The show committee was reformed for the 1969 show, and show treasurer Mrs. I. Preston gave details of the financial position, considered "healthy." Suggestions were put forward for the show, and these are to be considered by the committee.

A raffle prize given by Mr. and Mrs. C. Bannister was won by Mrs. L. Jackson. Judged by ballot, the autumn arrangement competition was won by Mrs. I. Preston and Mrs. Jackson, and the sprouts competition by Mr. J. James

Serving refreshments were secretary Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs J. E. Wright.

FEWER members than expected were at the annual meeting of Colton W.I. when a letter was received from the clerk to the parish council Mrs. M. R. Taylor, urging members to attend the parish assembly on Wednesday.

Details were given of the Parkside Group spring meeting, to be held at Great Haywood, also on Wednesday, and names of those wishing to attend were taken.

The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, gave the financial statement, and the secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, gave a report of the year's activities. Both were thanked by the president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, who went on to thank all the committee members for their work and members in general for their support throughout the year.

No election was needed for the committee and Mrs. Preston was re-elected president Mrs. Norah Jones, first vice-president, and Miss D. M. Jones, second vice-president.

Other officers elected were as follows: secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders; assistant secretary, Mrs. L. Jackson; treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown; assistant treasurer, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant; Press secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; Home and Country, Mrs. M. R. Taylor. The teller, Mr. Bernard Bettson, was thanked by Mrs. Preston.

The stall was run by Mrs. Ravenscroft and tea hos-

M.U. AT COLTON

The Rev. B. Matthews, vicar of Colwich, conducted a corporate communion service and gave an address to Colton and Blithfield Mothers' Union, at St. Luke's-tide. The Rev. A. S. Towlson (rector) played the organ, and the collection was taken by Mrs. P. B. Best and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

GUILD SOCIAL. — Colton Village Produce Guild held their annual New Year social in the Reading Room. The Chairman (Mr. Jack Brown) welcomed the gathering. The attendance was not as large as was hoped for, due to the very cold weather. Members of other Guilds invited were: Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Haughton, Marchington and Slitting Mill. Mr. Brown organised square dances, and various team games were played, musical pennies being won by Mrs. Jean Fowell. A shadow scene of an "operating theatre" produced by the Chairman, caused much amusement; taking part were: Doctor, Jack Brown; nurse, Gwendoline Ravenscroft; patient, Joan Wright; background assistants, Tom Preston and Jack Meddings. Winners in the raffle were: Mrs. Starbuck, Mr. A. Starbuck, Mr. Berridge. Mrs. June Meddings. Mrs. Berridge, Mrs.

Flashback



TREASURED since 19[illegible] and now the worse for wear, this photograph is of pupils at Admaston School (now closed) with Miss Sammonds on the left and Mr. Scott, the school master (right) — who had just returned from war service.

It has been lent by Mrs. W. Edge, of 59, Armitage Road, Rugeley, who, as Eva Davis, appears near the back.

Front row (left to right): ———, ———, Gladys Smith, ———, Emily Bentley, Ada Bentley, ———, ———, Fred Cope. Second row: John Lamb, Charlie Causer, E. Frost, ———, ———, Charlie Knight, Blanche Bentley (now Mrs. Ravenscroft of Colton).

Third row: [illegible] Natalie Wood, Elsie Kendrick, D. Bentley, May Bentley, Jim Smith, [illegible]. Fourth row: ———, Eva Davie, Violet Causer, Nancy Causer, G. Kendrick, L. Grundy. Back row: Eva Knight, Rosa Stonebridge, a Dutch girl, Frances Smith, G. Cooper, ———.

Colton news in the 'Times'

Sir,—A remark was made at the annual Colton Parish Assembly by Mr. Luke Mellor which, to those people who perhaps only see the "Rugeley Times" occasionally, is most misleading to say the least.

In his account as to his reasons for resigning from the parish council, Mr. Mellor said it was only when there was controversial parish council news (such as when he walked out of the meeting of the parish council in October) which was fully reported in the "Times" reports from the various organisations were so brief, "one required specs" to see them.

This I strongly object to. I think the "Times" serves Colton very well. On several occasions I have heard it said "It is the Colton Times this week."

Following the assembly, I checked the linage in the previous weekend issue. The Show Committee had 25 lines on page 14; the Women's Institute had 49 lines on page 16, and on the back page the football club had 62 lines and a photograph, all this apart from parish council news. What more could any village expect?

I would add a sincere "Thank you" to the "Rugeley Times" for the space they allow us.

Blanche M. Ravenscroft.
(Press representative)
Holly Cottage,
Colton.

Births

WILLIAMS. — To Ruth (née Ravenscroft) and Rodney, of 11, Kennedy Road, Trentham, on May 29, 1968, at Burton House, Stafford, a son (Mark Julian).

MARRIED AT COLTON

MISS JUDITH MARGARET PRESTON, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Preston, of No. 7, holding Old Wood Farm, Blithbury Road, Rugeley, was married on Thursday last to Mr. Alan Bailey, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Bailey, of 5, Stafford Road, Huntington, Cannock.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full length white Swiss treebark satin dress with a deep front pleat and train. She carried a bouquet of pink roses and white carnations, hyacinths and freesias.

Bridesmaids were the Misses Audrey Maltby (friend), Suzanne Bevan (bride's niece), and Maureen Robinson (groom's cousin).



Mr. A. Bailey and the former Miss J. M. Preston.

OF LACE

THE wedding took place at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Saturday of Miss Eileen Mary Norman, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Norman, of 12, Heathway, Colton, and Mr. Roger Arthur Bateman, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Bateman, of 80, Brooklands Parade, Heath Town, Wolverhampton.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length white lace dress with a train. A three-quarter length veil held in place by a crystal coronet. She carried a bouquet of gold rosebuds and white freesias.

Two of the bridesmaids, Kathleen Norman, a sister of the bride, and Susan Bateman, a sister of the bridegroom, wore full - length empire-line dresses of jade green duchesse satin. Three others, Marion Norman and Jean Norman, sisters of the bride, and Christine Taylor, wore full-length empire-line dresses in apricot duchesse satin. Four carried bouquets of



Mr. R. A. Bateman and the former Miss E. M. Norman

COLTON'S TRIBUTE

A party of Colton people travelled to the Derbyshire

No need fo[illegible] an election

AN election for officers committee was not [illegible] ed at Colton Women's stitute's annual meeting, [illegible] was held this month. All re-elected.

Mrs. Ivy Preston was elected president, and th[illegible] for her work by Mrs. R. Ravenscroft. Vice-presi[illegible] are Mrs. Norah Jones and D. M. Jones; secretary, C. M. Sanders; assistant, L. Jackson; treasurer, Mr[illegible] R. Brown; assistant, Mrs. M. Sargeant; Press o[illegible] Mrs. Ravenscroft; 'Home Country', Mrs. M. R. T[illegible] committee, Mrs. M. G. Be[illegible] Mrs. June Meddings and Jean Fowell. The teller Mr. Bernard Bettson.

Mrs. Brown gave financial report, which satisfactory, and Mrs. Sa[illegible] an account of the activities. They, and the mittee, were thanked by president.

A letter was read from Joan Wright, thanking bers for flowers and ca[illegible] ceived while she was i[illegible] pital, and Mrs. M. R. T[illegible] clerk to the parish c[illegible] urged members to atte[illegible] parish assembly. Details given about the Pa[illegible] Group Spring meeting[illegible] names taken of members ing to attend at Great[illegible] wood.

Mrs. Ravenscroft w[illegible] charge of the stall and esses were Mesdames B[illegible] Sargeant and H. Webb[illegible] competition, organised b[illegible] Dora Deacon, was w[illegible] Mrs. Brown, cactus, an[illegible] Ellen Rotchell, cake. W[illegible] of the general knowled[illegible] held by Mrs. Preston, Mrs. M. E. Everall, M[illegible] Jones and Mrs. Lamb, second, and Miss Jones.

COLTON

MEETING.— The ann[illegible] meetings for the parish[illegible] Mary's, Colton, took pl[illegible] School. At the vestry m[illegible] Rector Rev. A. S. Towle[illegible] by thanking the wardens, [illegible] and lady collectors for t[illegible] during the past year. He r[illegible] ted Miss Dorothy A. Co[illegible] warden, and Mr. W. A. [illegible] was re-appointed people[illegible] warden. Sidesmen: Messrs. [illegible] son, C. M. Boycott, Da[illegible] burn, Irvine Collins, J. Jo[illegible] Maurice Williscroft. Le[illegible] tors re-appointed, Mesd[illegible] Best, B. M. Ravenscro[illegible] Williscroft, and Miss Ellen[illegible] The annual parochial m[illegible] lowed, the Rector thank[illegible] Cooper for her work on th[illegible] roll, there being 217 n[illegible] present. The accounts w[illegible] ted and adopted. The ch[illegible] cil members are Rector [illegible] dens: Messrs. Bettson, Ja[illegible] Price, and M. Williscro[illegible] dames, O. M. Ballard, Ra[illegible] and V. M. Towlson, with [illegible] co-opt. Mr. James was th[illegible] keeping the church ground[illegible] a tidy state. In his annual r[illegible] rector said it had been a m[illegible] year for the Church of C[illegible] spoke of the church sch[illegible] pleted during the year. Hi[illegible] to say much work had b[illegible] on the fabric of the ch[illegible] accounts of the restora[illegible] presented, showing a ba[illegible] £100 9s. 9d.; these were[illegible] The next stage of restora[illegible] will be checking of all gut[illegible] downspouting, work on t[illegible] There is also the question[illegible]

A Mediterranean cruise described to Colton guild

13/1/68

Business was cut to a minimum at the January meeting of Colton Produce Guild to enable members to hear a talk from Mrs. J. Brown about her Mediterranean cruise.

Mrs. Brown illustrated her talk with post cards and coloured photographs of her journey from rainy Liverpool, calling at Lisbon, Palma, Corsica, Naples, Pompei, Genoa and back by air to foggy Gatwick. She was thanked for her talk by Mrs. Brown senior.

The guild's host for the evening, chairman Mr. Jack Brown, arranged a game which caused much amusement. Members were asked to guess the correct names of commodities requested by small children in his shop. He gave as examples, "Din a dins" (tin of peas) and "Bewel" (Pal).

Mr. Leslie Devall was congratulated on his engagement. A letter was read from Mrs. C. M. Amyes thanking the guild for the gift of fruit during her illness.



A PICTURE of the first class at Colton School taken in 1908, and loaned to the "Times" by Miss Ellen Rotchell, of Lucy Berry Cottage, Colton.

Seated (left to right) in this picture are: Jane Flint, Florence Devall, Kate Rowley, Nellie Shelley, Millicent Allsopp and Alice Wright.

Standing (middle row): George Mach Arthur Deacon, Victor Bradbury, Hilda Knig Minnie Bannister, Connie Deacon, Ellen Rotch Robert Holt, Frank Day.

Back row: Mr. Ovenden (schoolmaste Donald Ovenden, Harold Curran, Ma Haywood, Charlie Devall, Tom Devall.

A CORPORAL in the W.R.A.C., Miss Christine Elizabeth Upton, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Upton, of Margaret Eva Cottage, Colton, was married at St. Mary's Church, Colton, on Saturday. She met her bridegroom, Ivan Thomas Jones, when they were both serving in Germany a year ago.

8/6/68

Mr. Jones is the youngest son of Mrs. Betty Kassner and stepson of Mr. Martin Kassner, of 41, Trusloe Cottages, Avebury, Wiltshire. After initial training he spent one year in Aden before being posted to Germany. Miss Upton has been in the W.R.A.C. for four and a half years, having spent three years in Germany. She is now serving in London.

The marriage ceremony was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, and was followed by a reception at Paton Lodge Hotel, Rugeley. The couple are spending their honeymoon in Cornwall.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a long dress of white crepe trimmed with guipure lace daisies. Her head-dress was a bonnet of white flower petals and she carried a bouquet of red roses and stephanotis.

Miss Glenys Hughes and Miss Susan Pratt, friends of the bride, were the attendants. They wore hyacith blue dresses of wild silk trimmed with guipure lace with blue flower petal bonnets and carried posies of pink roses and stephanotis.

15/6/68

Guest speaker at the June meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild was Mr. R. Beattie of the Lichfield guild, who gave a talk illustrated with colour slides on the growing and care of chrysanthemums.

Final arrangements were announced for the outing to Kew Gardens, and June 27, was fixed for a tour of Cannock Chase.

Reporting on the activities of the best kept village committee, the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, urged members to do all they could to keep the village tidy. Names were taken of members willing to help with the Midlands Festival of Steam.

The competitions were judged by Mr. Beattie. The prize for a pot

THE chairman of the Lichfield and Tamworth divisional Conservative Association, Mr. Peter Brown, commented on the political situation nationally and within the party at the annual meeting of the Colton branch of the Conservative association.

Mr. Brown congratulated the branch on its financial situation and spoke of the division's new prospective Parliamentary candidate, Major-General J. A. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, whom he hoped would shortly be visiting Colton.

Annual repuorts stated that activities had been curtailed during the year because of foot and mouth disease.

Officers elected were:— Chairman, Mr. J. C. Price; vice-chairman Mrs. J .M. Chilton; secretary Mrs. A. P. Ball; treasurer, Mr Fred Hardcastle; Press officer, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Committee: Mr. and Mrs. J. Tittensor, Mr. N. Bruce, Mr. L. Kendrick, Mr. M. E. Wright, and Mr. L. Stretton. Divisional council representative, Mr. Tittensor; women's advisory committee representatives, Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Chilton.

MRS. I. JAMES

THE funeral of Mrs. Ivy James of Hollow Lane, Colton, was held at St. Mary's Church, Colton, conducted by the Rev. Clough of Rugeley.

Mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. Neville James, son and daughter-in-law; Mrs. Lily James, daughter-in-law; Miss Linda and Master Robert James, grandchildren.

Also attending were, Messrs. Bushnall and Mrs. Bushnall, Mrs. R. Morrall (also representing Mr. Morrall), Mrs. Westhorpe, Mesdames C. and G. F. Upton, M. Deacon and F. Hardcastle (also representing Mr. Hardcastle), Mrs. E. A. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. S. Jones, Mr. W. Causer, Mrs. A. Nicklin, Mrs. J. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston, Miss D. M. Jones, Miss E. Rotchell, Mesdames E. D. Goodall and E. Griffin, Mrs. R. H. Norman, Mrs. W. A. Waring, Mrs. L. Jackson, Mesdames M.

MEMORABLE YEAR FOR THIS VILLAGE CHURCH

Mercury 5/4/68

LAST year was a memorable one for St. Mary's Church Colton, said the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, at the annual P.C.C. meeting.

He said the church school had been completed and much work had been done on the church fabric. The restoration account showed over £100 balance, and work in the next stage would include a check of guttering and downspouting, attention to the tower, floor and stonework.

Gift day, he said, raised £38 10s, and he stressed the value of the free will offering scheme and the covenanted income. The annual garden party will be held on June 8, and the flower festival on August 3 and 4.

He thanked Miss D. A. Coop for her work on the electoral roll, which had 217 names on, and re-appointed her his Warden. Mr. W. A. Norman was re-elected People's Warden.

The Rector thanked the sidesmen and collectors, and Miss James who kept the grounds and the church tidy.

Election: sidesmen, Messrs I. Bettson, C. M. Boycott, D. Bradbury, I. Collins, J. James and M. Williscroft; collectors, Mesdames P. B. Best, B. M. Ravenscroft, H. A. Williscroft and Miss E. Rotchell; P.C.C., Rector and Wardens, Messrs Bettson, James, J. C. Price, M. Williscroft, Mesdames O. M. Ballard, Ravenscroft and V. M. Towlson with power to co-opt.

COLTON

COLTON Mothers Union met on Tuesday afternoon at the home of member Mrs. May Bannister, "Four Winds," 84, High Street. Mrs. P. B. Best, Enrolling member, conducted the short service, and Mrs. Bannister gave a delightful talk on the subject of her writing, which she started as a girl. She read many of her poems, and the story "The Old Oak," which won third prize in a national competition. She was thanked by Mrs. E. Bettson. The competition prize, given by Miss D. M. Jones, was won by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant.

Members of Colton Village Produce Guild were given expert advice on the pruning of roses at their February meeting. The speaker was Mr. F. W. Farrer, of Stafford.

A new resident of the village, Mr. F. Mountford, was welcomed to the meeting as a visitor. Mrs. C. Bannister and Mrs. E. Mason sent their thanks for flowers and get well cards.

Members were reminded about the bulb show at Slitting Mill and ideas for a summer outing were discussed.

The monthly competitions were

on heather

A talk on the heather plant was given to members of Colton Village Produce Guild at their April meeting held in the Reading Room. The speaker was Mr. G. Flint of Woodshoot Nurseries, King's Bromley, who produced samples for inspection. He explained that most of the 500 varieties needed lime free soil.

The competition for six cheese straws was won by Mrs. J. E. Wright and the competition for the most words from "Produce Guild" was won by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft with 218. The raffle winners were Mrs. Wright and Mrs. G. I. Moores.

Mrs. Ravenscroft gave a report



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THE chairman of the Lichfield

COLTON M.U.

Colton Mothers' Union members spent their January meeting planning the year's programme. The enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best, led the short service.

A raffle prize given by the secretary, Mrs. N. Westhorpe, was won by Mrs. J. A. Best.



Homeward-going children walk along Colton's narrow High Street which local residents and the parish council are campaigning to have widened.

ACTION URGED ON HIGHWAY DEATH TRAP

COLTON'S High Street, long and narrow, meanders uphill from the old village centre to newer development at the top, sprouting more new houses on the way. But it has no footpath, no escape to safety for people trapped by traffic between its high banks.

This state of affairs has been suffered in silence by Colton Parish Council for several years, as houses and traffic increased, because a sewerage scheme was expected. Now the village highways have settled down again, the parish council think it high time for action over High Street.

But Staffordshire Roads and Bridges Committee think otherwise, and Mr. F. Jepson (county surveyor) told the parish council that High Street is one of 279 road improvement schemes not yet programmed.

At a parish council meeting on Thursday last week Councillor F. Hardcastle said he would hold the Roads and Bridges Committee chairman responsible should a child be maimed or killed on the road. Councillor Hardcastle said he had pointed out the dangers to the County Road Safety Committee and still nothing had been done.

"This is a very bad business. Owners were willing to dedicate the necessary land yet all the county have done is to remove one it was easy for a child to fall down there. Another letter from Mrs. F. G. Ballard said the banks were a danger as they obscured vision.

Councillor G. Sanders thought the county had their priorities wrong if they were doing outside roads and leaving the village.

County Councillor J. E. Riley, attending the meeting by invitation, said he wished he had known earlier about the state of affairs. He assured the parish council that he would take the matter up immediately and try to arrange a site meeting with the area surveyor and the county committee chairman.

The council passed a resolution pressing for more rapid action regarding High Street, with particular reference to the banks, before anyone is killed or injured there.

● Councillor Riley subsequently informed the "Times" that he had been successful in arranging a site meeting with county officials. It was due to take place yesterday (Friday).

TORY CHIEF A... COLTON BRAN...

Mercury 10/5/68

MR. Peter Brown, Chai... of the Divisional Con... tive Association, spoke on... political situation, natio... and within the Tory party... Colton branch's annual me...

Mr. Brown also comment... his recent conversations... Mr. Heath and members o... shadow cabinet, and ... about Major General J... D'Avigdor-Goldsmid, the ... pective candidate for the ... sion.

Mr. Brown was thanke... re-elected Chairman Mr. ... Price. Other officers el... were: vice-chairman, Mrs. ... Chilton; secretary, Mrs. ... Ball; treasurer, Cllr. F. ... castle; Press officer, Mrs. ... Ravenscroft; committee, ... and Mrs. J. Tittensor, Mr... Bruce, Mr. L. Kendrick, M... E. Wright, Mr. L. Stre... divisional council, Mr. Titte... management committee, ... Price; women's advisory ... mittee, Mesdames Ball and ... on.

A BANK balance of £28 at the end of their 11th year was considered very satisfactory by Colton Village Produce Guild at their annual meeting. The report was presented by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (treasurer).

Members and visitors were welcomed by Mr. Jack Brown (chairman) and Miss D. M. Jones presented the secretary's report which showed a varied and interesting year had just concluded. A most pleasant and satisfactory year, said Mr. Brown, who also spoke of the hard work put in by the show committee.

Officers and committee were re-elected, committee members being Mesdames C. M. Amyes, J. Garwood, L. Jackson, Messrs. C. Bannister, L. Devall, J. James, J. Meddings and T. Preston.

A letter was read from the parish council clerk inviting members to take part in the parish assembly on March 27 and an invitation was accepted for the annual meeting of the Abbots Bromley guild.

Films on compost and the care of lawns were shown. Winners in the bulb show, judged by members' votes, were Mrs. Garwood (daffodils), Mr. M. Williscroft (hyacinths), Mrs. James (crocuses) and Mrs. P. Best (snowdrops).

A raffle given by Mrs. E. Rushton and Miss Jones was won by Mrs. James and Mr. E. Murcott. Tea hostess was Miss Jones, assisted by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs.

GUEST speaker at the meeting of Colton ... Produce Guild was Mr. Sam... whose topic was astronomy.

This was an entirely new ... for the guild, and after ou... the history of astronomy ... Sandbach answered me... questions. He was thanked ... chairman, Mr. Jack Brown.

At the meeting a lette... received from Colton ... Council, asking the guild to ... two representatives to serve ... best kept village committee. ... Brown and Mr. D. A. Bode... elected.

Junior members offered t... with the borders around th... Memorial. It was decid... arrange an outing to Kew G... on June 16.

Miss Gwendoline Rave... was the only exhibitor in th... petition for an arrange... spring flowers. The raffle w... by Mrs. G. I. Moores and ... Bruce. Hostesses were Me... G. I. Fitts and C. M. Sande... Lynn Sanders.

...t Colton

31/5/...

PRESIDING at the ... meeting of Co... Women's Institute, he... the Reading Room, Pre... Mrs. I. Preston wel... Chief Inspector P. ... Sheldon, of Rugeley ... who gave a talk on the ... of various branches ... Police Force.

A vote of thanks ... Chief Inspector was p... by Mrs. B. M. Raven...

Members dealt with ... tions for the annual ... of the National Fed... and the delegate, Mrs. ... Brown, was instructed ... voting. A letter was re... the committee of the ... Festival of Steam, and ... cussion followed on a ... tion from the Village ... Guild for staging a ...

It was thought that ... ties might arise beca... festival would not be ... the village this ye... members agreed to ... proposal for further ... tion.

The competition ... greatest number of ... bearing different ... won by Mrs. L. Jack... the usual competi... pot plant given by ...

Produce Guild and 'Heathers'

1968

A talk on heathers was give to Colton Village Produce Guild by Mr. Flint of Woodshoot Nurseries, Kings Bromley. He was thanked by Mr. T. Preston, Vice-chairman.

A report of the executive meeting of the County Association was given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, and details of the county annual meeting and the visit to Lincolnshire bulb fields were given by Secretary Miss

Impressions of Hong Kong and Japan

MEMBERS of Colton Women's Institute were able to gain their own impressions of Hong Kong and Japan, at their February meeting for the guest speakers were Mr. and Mrs. Heber Bullock of Maer who showed members colour slides of the two places, accompanied by a detailed commentary.

Mr. and Mrs. Bullock went on a world tour a little more than a year ago. They were thanked on behalf of members by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Mrs. Bullock also judged the competition for a lemon meringue pie and awarded prizes to Mes-

ASTRONOMY, a new topic for Colton Village Produce Guild, was the subject of a talk given by Mr. Sandbach at the May meeting. He was thanked by Mr. J. Brown, Chairman.

Mr. Brown welcomed new members Mr. R. Morrall and Mrs. P. Martin, and with Mr. D. A. Boden, was appointed to the parish council's best kept village committee. Young boys agreed to help with the borders around the war memorial.

A letter of thanks for a donation was received from Staffordshire Community Council, and an outing to Kew was arranged for June 16.

Four on a busy line



INTRODUCING four of the five midwives kept busy by Rugeley's baby boom. Between them they have delivered about 5,000 babies in a total of 58 years' service.

Left to right—back: Nurse Millicent MacPherson and Nurse Marjorie Cooper; front: Nurse Monica Connor and Nurse Mary Thacker.

Rugeley's fifth midwife, Nurse Angela Jones was answering a call when this picture was taken.

Often they work as much as 120 hours in a week—for a salary of about £1,175 a year.

One a week

"The number of Birmingham people who have made Rugeley their home has pushed up our work enormously since I came here eight years ago," said Nurse Cooper.

"On an average we get about one birth a week each to deal with—but there is always the ante-natal and post-natal work to cope with as well."

Best known of the midwives is Mrs. Thacker who is 61 and who reckons she has delivered more than 2,000 babies in 39 years' service.

"Officially, I have retired, but I still help out in a part-time capacity," she said.

W.I.— At the meeting of Colton Women's Institute held in the Reading Room, the president, Mrs. Ivy Preston presided and welcomed members. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and an invitation to a party at Blithfield was accepted by Mesdames E. M. Sargeant and B. M. Ravenscroft. A letter from the Parish Council, asked if the W.I. would appoint two representatives to serve on the best kept village committee, and further more would the other members fully support such a committee (if interest shown should warrant one being formed) in its work. Mrs. Preston said she would be a representative and either Miss D. M. Jones or Mrs. C. M. Sanders (secretary) the other. Instead of a mid-summer fair, it was agreed to have a Spring Fair on May 15th. The delegate to the A.G.M. of the National Federation at the Albert Hall, London, will be Mrs. I. R. Brown (treasurer) who was the speaker for the evening's meeting. Her topic was the educational cruise she joined last November. Miss Jones voiced the thanks of members to Mrs. Brown. The evening's competition was for "the most words from Colton Village", and was won by Miss Jones.

raise funds for Colton show

A display of film slides taken by local people was organised in the Reading Room, Colton, last week, by the show committee to raise money for show funds.

Mr. Leslie Devall was projectionist, assisted by Miss M. Moss. Slides covered areas as far apart as Majorca, the Costa Brava, Cornwall, Scotland, Gibraltar, Austria and Ireland and showed other subjects such as Morris dancing and Colton flower festival.

Show chairman Mr. T. Preston thanked Mr. Devall and Miss Moss.

The bring and buy stall was run by Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Jackson, and refreshments were served by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Miss D. M. Jones and helpers. Mrs. J. E. Wright organised a raffle, winners being Mrs. Hibbs, Tony Wright, Mrs. Wright, Mr. C. Bannister, Andy Wright and Mrs. Williscroft.

RUMAGE SALE CASH

Colton Youth Club held a rummage sale in the Reading Room on Saturday, when £9 was raised for funds.

Helping the leader, Mr. D. Jones, were Mesdames F. Hardcastle, P. L. Bannister and R. O. Devall; the Misses D. M. Jones, H. Myatt, G. Ravenscroft, R. Preston, S. Williscroft, P. Haynes, M. Collins, L. Peake, and M. Greatrix; Messrs R. Cadick, W. Haynes, T. Wright, S. Hibbs, A. Wright V. Norman, S. Upton and M. Preston.

Competition winners were K. Williscroft, Mrs. J. Garwood Mrs. Hibbs and Mrs. Collins.

A letter from the parish council was read at this month's meeting of Colton Women's Institute, asking if members would be willing to support a Best Kept Village Committee.

It was decided that if such a committee was formed, Mrs. Preston and either Miss D. M. Jones or Mrs. C. M. Sanders, would represent the institute.

The speaker for the evening, Mrs. I. R. Brown, was appointed delegate to the annual meeting of the National Federation which will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London.

After the business of the meeting, members joined in the usual games and competitions. Miss Jones won the

Meeting ends in uproar

CHAOS descended on a Colton meeting on Wednesday evening, when the annual parish assembly, after rejection of a motion of no confidence in the parish council, became virtually a slanging match as two former councillors hurled allegations at each other.

Banging on the table, the parish council chairman, Councillor J. C. Price eventually brought the meeting to order amid a lot of shouting and fist-shaking and the meeting was closed 15 minutes before midnight.

Apart from a heated discussion on council house rent increases, business was conducted fairly smoothly until Mr. Luke Mellor, who resigned from the parish council last October, spoke about his reasons for resigning.

Mr. Mellor, who resigned following a discussion on the controversial Long Stile footpath, claimed that the footpath issue had not been the reason for his resignation, as had been suggested.

"I had been a member of the parish council for nine and a half years, and had been overwhelmingly elected and consistently supported," he told the 30 parishioners attending the meeting. "I tried to justify with sincerity and integrity the confidence that was placed in me.

"It was with the deepest regret that I had to resign and my regrets were with the people of Colton," he went on. "The footpath did not come into it."

DICTATORSHIP DANGER

Mr. Mellor said he felt that the parish council was not doing its job properly, and he believed this was reflected in the village through unrest among local residents about local government. He claimed it would be easy for the village to unwittingly slip into a dictatorship.

"I resigned from the parish council because of the absence of Christian principles," he said. "Councils in the past have exercised discretion which this council had refused to do."

Councillor F. Hardcastle refuted Mr. Mellor's claim that he did not resign over the Long Stile footpath, and said Mr. Mellor resigned because he was unable to accept the majority decision of the council.

Mr. Mellor proposed a vote of no confidence in the parish council, but although seconded, it received no votes when put to the meeting.

Reiterating his case over the Long Stile footpath — in which a resident's drive has to be used to gain access to the path—Mr. Mellor argued with Mr. R. Morrall, another former councillor.

After this developed into almost a personal argument, Councillor Price closed the meeting.

RALLY.— Last week Colton's elderly people were taken by coach to an old people's rally at Drayton Manor, organised by the welfare committee. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hardcastle, and all enjoyed the outing. On July 13th, they are to be taken to Ludlow.

M. U.— Colton Mothers Union their June meeting in the Reading Room. The Service was conducted by the Rector Rev. A. S. Towlson. A silent Tribute was observed in memory of Mrs. G. Irene Moores. The Rector welcomed and introduced Brother Vincent Cooke of Hawksyard Priory. He spoke about their Order, and his work in general, and he expressed interest in the Mothers Unions own Prayer and this was copied for him. Mrs. I. Preston accorded members' thanks to Brother Vincent. The raffle given by Mrs. E. Griffin and Miss Ellen Rotchell was won by Mrs. E. A. Cooper. It was agreed to join Blithfield Members at a special service at Blithfield on July 2.

GUILD OUTING.— Twenty-two of Colton Village Produce Guild, joined by seven Slitting Mill members went on "Safari" on Cannock Chase, led by Mr. L. Morgan, the Officer in charge of the Forestry Commission. They met at the forestey commission's headquarters in Birches Valley, and looked round the deer museum. Then they went outside to the plantation where rows of young Spruce, Rowan, and Guelder Rose were growing, and moved on through the Chase to a plantation where named trees were growing in groups of four of each kind, to show the various kinds growing on the Chase. "A peep into the past" followed after a ride through beautiful parts of the Forest. Here was seen the spot where years ago Iron Ore was smelted using charcoal made from forest trees. On the slopes of Castle Ring the evening concluded with a picnic at a table provided by the forester-in-charge. The beautiful views were much enjoyed, and a glorious sunset made the "safari" perfect. Mr. Morgan was thanked by Mr. Jack Brown (Chairman), for conducting the party and making the evening so interesting.

pensioners

Colton old age pensioners were taken by coach on Saturday to the village of Ashford Bowdler, near Ludlow, where they had been invited to the home of Canon and Mrs. Allen. The outing had been arranged by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, who, with welfare committee secretary Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mrs. L. Curtis and Mrs. W. A. Norman, accompanied the trippers. Arriving at Ashford Bowdler after a ride over the Clee Hills they were entertained to tea by Mrs. Allen.

Colton

M.U.— Colton Mothers Union met for their November meeting at the home of fellow member, Mrs. May Bannister, of "Four Winds", 84 High Street, Colton. Mrs. P. B. Best, enrolling member, led the short service and thanked Mrs. Bannister for her hospitality. Mrs. Bannister entertained members with a talk on her writings. She said she had had many articles rejected before getting any accepted for publication. She

Joint W.I. visit to Rodbaston

Instead of holding their normal monthly meeting, Colton Women's Institute went by coach together with some members of the Slitting Mill institute to the county farm institute at Rodbaston. There they watched a demonstration by Miss

THE June meeting of Colton Women's Institute was held at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by invitation of Mrs. P. B. Best. 22/6/68

At the request of the president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, members stood in silent tribute to the memory of Mrs. G. Irene Moores, one of the institute's newer members, who had died suddenly that afternoon.

Business matters dealt with included the taking of names of those members willing to assist at the Midlands Festival of Steam, to be held this year at the county showground, Stafford.

The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, reported that the May fair had raised £23 17s. 3d. and members agreed this was a very good effort.

Mrs. Brown, delegate to the national federation's annual meeting held in London, gave a report of the proceedings.

Members expressed opinions about the proposal to increase subscriptions from 5s. to 10s.. and they felt this would result in a drop in membership, and could cause hardship to some founder members who were living on old age pensions.

Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft thanked Mrs. Brown, who in turn thanked members for sending her to represent them.

The competition for a collection of grasses, judged by Mrs. Best, was won by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Monica J. Taylor.

An outdoor fuchsia was presented to Mrs. Best by the president as a token of members' gratitude for her hospitality.

Some members took advantage of a trip on the canal in Mrs. Best's boat, piloted by Mr. Gerald Sanders.

COLTON

V.P.G.— The April meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild took place in the Reading Room, the vice-chairman, Mr. T. Preston presiding. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a report of the recent executive meeting of the county association were given by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. She said new guilds have recently been formed at Keele and Stowe-by-Chartley. Details of the county annual meeting to be held at Rodbaston were given by the hon. secretary, Miss D. M. Jones, also of the county visit to the Lincolnshire bulb fields early in May. The chairman welcomed Mr. Flint of Kings Bromley, who gave a talk on heathers. Mr. Preston thanked Mr. Flint for his interesting talk. A competition for cheese straws was won by Mrs. J. E. Wright and the competition for the most words from "Produce Guild" was won by Mrs. Ravenscroft (218). A raffle was won by Mrs. Wright and Mrs. G. I Moores. Hostesses: Mesdames I. Preston and M. G. Bennett.

SALE.— A rummage sale was held in the Reading Room, organised in aid of youth club for their funds. Helping the leader, Mr. D. Jones, were Mesdames F. Hardcastle, P. L. Bannister, R. O. Devall. Miss D. M. Jones, Helen Myatt, Gwendoline Ravenscroft, Rosemary Preston, Stella Williscroft, Pearl Haynes, Keith Williscroft, Roy Cadick, William Haynes, Tony Wright, Alec Wright, Vernon Norman, Stephen Hibbs, Stephen Upton, Marilyn Collins, Lynn Peake, Maria Greatrix and Michael Preston. Raffle winners: K. Williscroft, Mrs. J. Garwood, Mrs. Hibbs and Mrs. Collins. The event realised about £9.

Colton 29/4/68

M. U. — Members of Colton Mothers' Union with relatives, and friends, visited Twycross Zoo last week. They had a pleasant afternoon and found much to interest them. A detour was made on the return journey to enable a visit to be made to the parish church at Sibson, where the Rev. Frank Best is Rector. He met old friends and conducted a



THIS picture of one of the Miss Horsefalls taken at the beginning of the century gives an idea of the graceful living then enjoyed. Parasol raised in protection from the summer sun, Miss Horsefall poses for her picture amidst the stately flowers growing at Bellamour Hall, Colton.

Bellamour was demolished in the 1920s, though a section of the older hall still remains near the farm. The site was used last year for the festival of steam.

Shortly before the picture was taken there had been a serious fire at the hall, da seven rooms in the left wing of the newer ing, erected by Edward Blount at the be of the 19th century on to the stone hall by his mother in 1796.

Originally a home of the Astons of Bellamour passed to the Blounts, then to O. Oldham before being purchased Horsefalls, great local benefactors. The is now the property of Mr. J. C. Price, w at nearby Bellamour Lodge.

High view

COLTON Village Produce Guild members had a bird's eye view of Cannock Chase last week — from the top of the Forestry Commission's look-out post.

They waited hopefully in their lofty perch, and were eventually rewarded by the sight of two does, and later one handsome stag, crossing the rides.

A picnic on the edge of the forest completed a most enjoyable evening.

FUNERAL.— Last week a small party of Colton people went by mini-bus to the Derbyshire village of Darley Dale, near Matlock. The reason for their visit was for the funeral of Mrs. Gwendoline Irene Moores of 6 Oldhams Cottages, Colton, at the Ancient Parish Church of St. Helens. Those making the journey were, the Rector Rev. A. S. Towlson (also rep. the Harland Trust); Mr. and Mrs. J. James, Mrs. E. M. Challinor, Mrs. E. Griffin, Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. C. Bannister, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, and Mrs. G. Sanders. They took Floral Tributes from, The Old Peoples Welfare Council, Mothers' Union, Women's Institute, and Village Produce Guild. The Rector assisted at the service. Mrs. Moores who was 67, had only lived in Colton about 14 months, but in that short time had endeared herself to many. She had joined in the life of her "adopted" village from the start. She leaves a son living in New Zealand, and a daughter in Rugeley.

BEER AND SKITTLES.— Colton branch of the Conservative Association, are organising their third annual "beer and skittles" barbeque at Bellamour Lodge, the home of their chairman Mr. J. C. Price. They will be joined by the prospective Parliamentary candidate for Lichfield and Tamworth Major-General T. A. Goldsmid, on his first visit to Colton.

A Colton farmer dies in kitchen

10/8/68

THE response by Colton residents to the appeal to the village for the "Best Kept Village" competiti been marvellous, Councillor Gerald Sanders, chairman village's competition committee, said this week.

He told members of Colton Parish Council at their meeting on Monday that there had been a marked improvement on the appearance of the village, particularly with frontages, but the cemetery needed a few more hours spending on it.

Councillor Mrs. M. S. Toy said she hoped that after so much hard work had been put in it would be kept up. She reminded members of the first time the village entered the competition when a lot of work was carried out on the cemetery and pointed out that it had been allowed to slip back into a neglected state.

FOOTPATH PROBLEM

At the meeting members heard that Lichfield Rural Council was to deal with the controversy over the Long Stile footpath, access to which has to be gained by using the drive of a house. A letter was received from the rural council saying that there was no record of any application to rescind the path, and it was reported rural council now said th deal with the matter.

It was decided to ask t surveyor for a site meeti cuss the bridges over Brook, since there seem some confusion over whic the council was complaini

Councillor Sanders whether a notice board provided at the top of t and it was decided to d suitable site could be fou cillor Sanders also asked the but shelter could be and it was agreed to s tions for this.

ALL members of Colton Village Produce Guild have been urged to help in keeping their village tidy — and so aid the 'best-kept' village committee in its work.

The appeal was made by Guild chairman, Mr. Jack Brown at the June meeting.

Guest speaker for the meeting was Mr. R. Beattie of the Lichfield Guild whose illustrated subject was the growing and care of chrysanthemums. He was thanked by Mr. J. James.

Final arrangements were announced for the visit to Kew Gardens — or elsewhere in the London area — on Sunday, and June 27 was agreed as the date for the Guild's tour of the Chase. Names were also taken

GUILD.— Presiding at meeting (the A.G.M.) Village Produce Guild, the Mr. Jack Brown, welc visitors, Mr. and Mrs. and Mrs. D. A. Boden, Fowell. Minutes of the meeting were read and c and a letter from Mrs. Jo was received thanking the flowers and card during h ment in hospital. An invit accepted from Abbots Ba their A.G.M. A letter from R. Taylor, clerk to the par asked members to attend parish assembly. The secret D. M. Jones, gave her re varied and interesting year treasurer, Mrs. B. M. Ra gave the financial statemen it was agreed was satisfacto ing a balance of £28.15.4. thanked by the chairma Brown remarked that the had been satisfactory and and thanked members support, also speaking of work put in by the show co No election was needed for mittee, Mr. Brown was chairman for his third term rest of committee being: Mi Jones (secretary), Mesdam Amyes, Joan Garwood, L and B. M. Ravenscroft (tr Messrs. C. Bannister, Leslie J. James, J. Meddings Preston (vice chairman). T were shown, on compost and of lawns. The bulb show supported some good exhib

KEEPING up a 27 years-old tradition, the weather stayed fine at Colton on Saturday for St. Mary's Church garden fete, held on the lawns at the Rectory. Proceeds were this year for the church restoration fund, and more than £150 was raised.

High spot of the fete was a comic five-a-side football match played between the girls and young men of the village. With players dressed in various garb and taking time off to fool around, referee Mr. Alf Haynes had his work cut out keeping them in order, but the match proved very popular. It is believed to have ended in a draw!

Visitors to the fete were also entertained by a one-act play put on by the Rugeley School of Speech and Drama, and in the evening a barbecue was held. The show eventually closed down at dusk.

IMPORTANCE

The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, in introducing Mrs. Eleanora Fenn of Rugeley who opened the fete, said that he regarded the event as an important social occasion in the life of the church as well as a money-raiser. It was an opportunity for people to get to know each other.

Urging visitors to help boost the church restoration fund, Mrs. Fenn said she knew the building was mentioned in the Domesday Book.

"All the generations since have cared for this church and it is our privilege to be able to do the same thing towards maintaining this heritage," she said.

Mrs. Fenn was thanked by the Rector's warden, Miss Dorothy Cooper.

STALLS

Stallholders were: — Skittles, Mr. B. Bettson; bowling, Mr. B. Jackson, Mr. M. Clendon; clock golf, Miss D. Jones; hoop-la, Mrs. J. Finnemore; bring and buy, Mrs. V. James; cakes, Mrs. M. S. Toy, Mrs. I. James, Mrs. N. Westhorpe; produce, Mrs. M. J. Taylor, Miss E. Rochell, Mrs. P. B. Best; fancy goods, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. D. M. Atkin; tombola, Mrs. J. Wright, Mrs. V. Collins; treasure hunt, Enid Fowell, Joy Upton.



Below: A scene inside the refreshment tent at the fete.

Below: Nancy, Lady Bagot, with her husband, Mr. G. K. Whitehead, and the Rector of Colton, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, trying her hand at clock golf.



At the June meeting of Colton Mothers' Union, held in the Reading Room, the Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson, welcomed Brother Vincent Cooke, of Hawkesyard Priory, who spoke to members about the order and his own work in particular.

He was thanked by Mrs. I. Preston. The raffle prize given by Mrs. E. Griffin and Miss Ellen Rotchell was won by Mrs. E. A. Cooper.

It was agreed to join with Blithfield members for a special service at Blithfield on July 2.

COLTON

W.I.— The March meeting of Colton Women's Institute was the A.G.M. the president, Mrs. Ivy Preston, presided. Minutes of February meeting were read and confirmed and a letter was read from Mrs. Joan Wright thanking members for flowers and card received during her stay in hospital. Also received was a letter from Mrs. M. R. Taylor clerk to the Parish Council, urging members to attend the Parish Assembly. Details of the spring meeting of the Parkside Group to take place at Great Haywood on March 25th, were given and names taken. The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, gave the financial statement, which was satisfactory. Mrs. C.M. Sanders, secretary gave her report, of an interesting year, both were thanked by the president, who went on to thank all committee members for their work and members in general for loyal support throughout the year. The president was thanked for her leadership and guidance by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. No election was needed for committee and Mrs. Preston was re-elected president; Mrs. Norah Jones and Miss D. M. Jones, vice-presidents; Mrs. C. M. Sanders, secretary; Mrs. L. Jackson, assistant secretary; Mrs. I. R. Brown, treasurer; Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, assistant treasurer; Press, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; Home and Country, Mrs. M. R. Taylor, The committee, Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. June Meddings, and Mrs. Jean Fowell. Teller was Mr. Bernard Bettson, who was thanked by Mrs. Preston. The stall looked after by Mrs. Ravenscroft, and hostesses were, Mesdames - Bennett, Sargeant and H. Webb. The raffle in charge of Mrs. Dora Deacon, was won by Mrs. Brown (catcus) and Miss Ellen Rotchell (cake). A general knowledge quiz organised by Mrs. Preston was won by Mrs. M. E. Everall. Mrs. N. Jones and Mrs. Lamb (joint 2nd, and Miss Jones.

SOCIAL.— A social evening was arranged by the committee in the Reading Room, Colton, the aim being to raise money for the Show funds. There was a display of film slides, holiday and other scenes, taken by local people. Mr. Leslie Devall, assisted by Miss M. Moss, was the projectionist. First scenes shown were of Mr. Devall's holiday in Majorca in 1966, then of his 1967 holiday in the Costa Brava. Pictures of Morris dancing, bestkept gardens etc. followed and slides from Mrs. E. Preston depicted scenes in Cornwall and Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. B. Jackson showed slides of their Gibralter holiday and Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscrofts slides of their holiday in Austria; Mrs. H. Webb's of Northern and Southern Ireland; Mrs. C. M. Sanders of Wales and Slimbridge; Miss Jones loaned some of Colton Flower Festival; concluding with some slides of Mr. and Mrs. G. Williscroft's which their daughter (Mrs. J. Cubley) had sent them from South Africa. Mr. T. Preston (show chairman) thanked Mr. Devall and Miss Moss for showing the slides. The Bring and Buy stall was in charge of Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Jackson and refreshments were served by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, Miss D. M. Jones and helpers. Mrs. J. E. Wright organised the raffle, winners being Mrs. Hibbs, Tony Wright, Mrs. Wright, Mr. C. Bannister, Andy Wright and Mrs. Williscroft

talk on cruise

AT the April meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, the speaker was branch treasurer Mrs. I. R. Brown, who described to members the educational cruise she joined last November.

Members thanks to Mrs. Brown were proposed by Miss D. M. Jones.

A letter was received from Colton Parish Council asking the W.I. to appoint two representatives to serve on the proposed best kept village committee, and appealing to members to support the National Federation of Women's Institutes to be held in London. An invitation to a party at Blithfield was accepted by Mrs. E. M. Sargeant and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

The evening's competition, for the most words formed from the

A talk and demonstration on the "kiss of life" method of life-saving was given to members of Colton Women's Institute at their October meeting by Mr. Carr of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Mr. Carr and his assistant were thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

A report of the autumn council meeting of the county federation was given by Mrs. Preston, Colton's delegate. Names were taken of members wishing to attend the autumn meeting of the Parkside

Results announced last week in Colton Parish Council gardens competition show that Mr. T. Preston, of No 7, Holding, Blithbury Road, will hold the cup for the coming year, having been awarded 285 points.

Only one point behind is Mrs. Hilda Bell, of Barn Cottage, Blithbury Road, followed by Mr. W. C. Sargeant, of High Street with 267 points.

The Little Hay rose bowl for the best flower garden will be pre-

A pleasant evening in beautiful weather was enjoyed by 22 members of Colton Village Produce Guild who were joined by seven Slitting Mill members on "safari" on Cannock Chase.

They were led by Mr. L. Morgan of the Forestry Commission, and in Birches Valley they looked round the Deer Museum.

Outside, in the plantation they saw rows of young spruce, rowan and guelder rose about 6in.—8in. high, which had been planted as seeds in April.

Next, the party moved on through the Chase to a plantation where named trees were growing in groups of four of each kind, to show the various kinds growing on the Chase.

"A peep into the past" followed, after a ride through beautiful parts of the forest. Here was seen the spot where years ago iron ore was smelted, with charcoal from forest trees. All came away with pieces of half-smelted iron, as souvenirs.

On the slopes of Castle Ring the evening concluded with a picnic at a table provided by the Forester-in-charge.

Mr. Morgan was thanked by Mr. Jack Brown (chairman) for conducting the party and making the evening so interesting.



MR. Robert William Greatrix, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Greatrix, 8, Heathway, Colton and Miss Dianne Grimley, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Grimley, Bank Top House, Colton, were married by the Rev. S. Towlson at St. Mary's Church, on Monday, last week.

The bride wore an empire line gown of ecru duchesse satin, with a lace coat falling into a train, a French flower pearl and diamond head-veil. She carried fr lilies of the valley.

The best man was Upton, and a receptio at the Country Club.

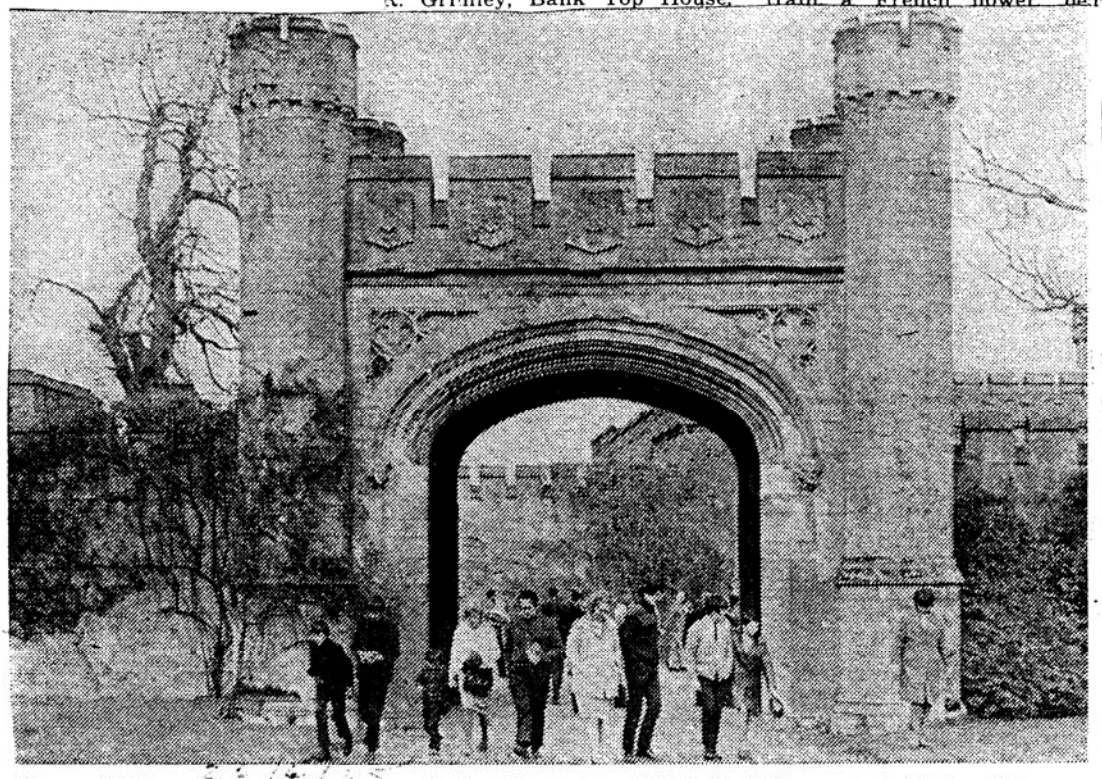
Colton

GUILD.— The June me Colton Village Produce G held in the Reading Room, Brown, chairman presidin arrangements were annou garding the visit to Kew and June the 27, was agre the date for the tour of the The chairman reported activities of the "best kept committee, of which Co Gerald Sanders is chairm Miss D. M. Jones secretary, urged all members to do in keeping the village tidy. members agreed to assist c members. Names were take members willing to help at tival of steam. The chair comed the guest speaker, Beattie of Lichfield Guild a talk, illustrated with fi on the growing and care santhemums. Mr. J. James him. The competitions, ju Mr. Beattie, were won by Preston, for pot plant in fl Mrs. B. Jackson for pot foliage. Raffle winners w Edith Preston, and Mr. T. and Miss Jones attended ments assisted by Mrs. Mrs. E. Preston, and M Wright. Members were about the rose show on J the flower arrangement of association on July 18.

THE funeral took week of Mrs. Lin of 5, Oldhams Cottage one of the village's o dents. Mrs. Upton widow of the late Mr. Upton.

The service was con the Rector (Rev. A. S. and mourners were:— Mrs. A. E. Upton (a daughter-in-law); Mr. E. Edwards and Mr. a Sproston (daughters a in-law); Mr. Colin Spro and Mrs. David Spro Keith Edwards and Mr. Upton (grandsons); Upton and Mr. C. J. Ra (also representing Ravenscroft) nephews.

Mrs. Mary and Mi Bloor, Mrs. E. M. Chall E. Griffin, Miss Elsie Mrs. E. M. Dunkey, Mrs. J. James, Mrs. E. hall, Mrs. Wardle (a senting Mr. Wardle), Ravenscroft, Mrs. C (also representing Mr Upton), Mrs. G. F. Upt representing Mr. Upto A. Leeke Mrs. E. A.



Above: Visitors stream under the ancient archway into Blithfield Hall on sunny Easter Monday, the first weekend of the season that the hall was open to the public. Below, left: Visitors with a keen eye for fine needlework



GUILD COMPETITION.— Colton Village Produce Guild "Best kept garden" competition took place last week. Two members of the staff of the County Farm Institute at Rodbaston, Messrs. D. Myatt and Lloyd acted as judges. Following the judging, members of the guild were entertained to tea and to hear the results at the home of the guild chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown. Mr. Myatt announced the results and said points were very close. Winners were: 1 Mrs. Hilda Bell of Barn Cottages, Blithbury Road; joint second, Mr. C. Bannister, "Four Winds", 84 High Street, 3 T. Preston No 7 Holding, Blithbury Road, 4, Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts, and 5, Mr. John James of 2/4, Oldhams Cottages. Mr. Brown thanked the judges for their afternoon's work. Following this most members went on to visit the first prize garden and spent an hour admiring this. Guild members heard that a fellow member, Mrs. May Bannister of "Four Winds", had won third prize in the national annual competition for The Micklebugh Challenge Cup. This is for an original contribution suitable for publication in "Village Life" and is the second time a Colton Member has won an award in this competition.



Rose show for the Guild

Mercury 12/7/65

COLTON Village Produce Guild was visited by members of Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Haughton and Slitting Mill guilds, for its annual rose show.

Stewards were Mr. and Mrs. J. James and Mr. and Mrs. J. Meddings, and the judge was Mr. W. Hully, of Armitage, assisted by his wife.

Results were:— Colton members only: H.T.s, 1, Mrs. T. Preston; 2, Mr. N. Bruce; 3, Mrs. D. Garwood. Floribundas: 1, 2, Mrs. Preston; 3, Mrs. P. B. Best. Single rose for a prize of 10s., given by Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. C. M. Sanders.

Visitors' class. H.T.s, 1, Mrs. L. Evans; 2, Mr. L. Morgan; 3, Mr. L. Evans, all of Slitting Mill. Floribundas; 1 and 2, Mr. Evans; 3, Mrs. E. H. Tabernor, of Colwich.

A quiz was held, with Mr. Brown as question master; Miss D. M. Jones, scorekeeper; and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, timekeeper. Mr. C. Bannister's team won, and other captains were Mr. Evans, Mr. Morgan and Mrs. Preston.

Letters of thanks were read from Mrs. R. Williams and Mrs. J. Charles; names were taken for the annual garden competition; thanks were given to "best kept" village helpers; a visit to "Belverdere," is planned; the annual show will be on August 31; and it is hoped that a slide show will be given in September.

Colton

THE June meeting of Colton W.I. was held in the delightful surroundings of Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by kind invitation of Mrs. P. B. Best.

The president, Mrs. Ivy Preston started the meeting on a sad note, asking members to stand in silent tribute to Mrs. G. Irene Moores, one of the Institute's newer members who had died that afternoon.

During the business of the meeting names were taken of those members wishing to help at the Festival of Steam. It was reported that letters of thanks had been received for flowers and cards from Mrs. Ivy James, who had been in hospital, and Mrs. Janice Charles on the birth of a daughter.

The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, reported on the May Fair and said the total raised was £23 17s 3d. The delegate to the National Federation AGM in London, Mrs. Brown, gave a comprehensive report of the meeting.

Members discussed the increase in subscriptions from 5s to 10s and felt there would be a decrease in the number of members.

Thanks to Mrs. Brown were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. The competition, judged by Mrs. Best, for a collection of grasses was won by Mrs. Brown with Mrs. Monica J. Taylor second.

An outdoor fuschia was presented to Mrs. Best by the president with the thanks of members for a pleasant evening. Some members took a trip on the canal in Mrs. Best's boat, accompanied by Mr. Gerald Sanders.

The September meeting of Colton Mothers' Union was held at the home of Mrs. T. Preston, No. 7 Holding, Blithbury Road. The service was conducted by Mrs. Mary Arnold of Brocton, and Mrs. Monica Taylor gave a talk on the bee-keeping at Buckfast Abbey, Devon.

Members' thanks to Mrs. Preston for her hospitality and to Mrs.

Colton

The June meeting of Colton Women's Institute took place at Wharf Cottage, Bellamour, by kind invitation of Mrs. P. B. Best. The president, Mrs Ivy Preston, presiding, asked members to stand in silent tribute to Mrs. G. Irene Moores, one of the Institute's newer members, who had passed away suddenly that afternoon. Business matters dealt with, following the reading and confirming of minutes, included taking of names of those members willing to assist at the Midland Festival of Steam. Letters of thanks had been received for flowers and cards from Mrs. Ivy James, who had been in hospital, and Mrs. Janice Charles on the birth of a daughter. The treasurer, Mrs. I. R. Brown, reported on the May Fair, the total sum raised being £23. 17. 3d. The delegate to the National Federation A.G.M. in the Albert Hall, London, Mrs. Brown, gave a comprehensive report. Members expressed opinions with regard to the subscriptions being increased from 5/- to 10/-. They feel there will be a loss of members. Founder members on old age pension, being included; stalls and raffles it was felt would not receive the same support. Thanks to Mrs. Brown were expressed by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft in return

Colton

PARISH COUNCIL.— A meeting of Colton Parish Council took place in the reading room, all members being present. The chairman, Councillor J. C. Price, presided. Following the confirming and signing of minutes several matters were attended to. Regarding bridges over Moreton Brook, the reply from the county roads and bridges department was not satisfactory, and as it would appear that there was some confusion as to which bridges the council had written about, Councillor Fred Hardcastle proposed that a letter be sent asking the county surveyor to agree to a meeting on the site to clarify the position. As to road improvement in the High Street, Councillor Gerald Sanders said there were still bad spots needing filling in. It was agreed to ask that these be attended to. Regarding standing orders, the chairman said that as yet he and the clerk (Mrs. M. R. Taylor) had not had time to investigate the matter. A report from the "best kept" village committee was given by the chairman Councillor Sanders. He said he was delighted at the help received; the response was marvellous particularly on frontages, and there was a definite improvement. He said a few more hours were needed on the cemetery. Regarding the much debated long stile footpath, a letter from Lichfield R.D.C. stated that they had no record of an application to recind this path, and a telephone call to the R.D.C. had been made that morning, which suggested that the matter be left for the R.D.C. to deal with. Councillors agreed to this being done. It was agreed on a proposal from Councillor Mrs. Toy, to give a donation to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. The finance report was accepted. In any other business, Councillor Sanders asked if a notice board could be placed at the top of the village, and said it had been considered before. All agreed with this idea if a suitable site could be available Councillor Sanders agreed to investigate the matter, and also raised the question of some renovation to the bus shelter. It was agreed to get an estimate for this.

OUTING.— Colton old age pensioners enjoyed an outing by coach to the village of Ashford Bowdler near Ludlow. They were invited to the home of Canon and Mrs. Allen and were accompanied by Mrs. M. E. Hibbs, of the welfare committee, Mrs. J. E. Wright, secretary of the committee, Mrs. L. Curtis, and Mrs. Norman (representing Mr. W. A. Norman). After a ride over the Clee Hills, they arrived at Ashford Bowdler and had a walk round the gardens. Then they went into the

GARDENS COMPETITION.— Colton Parish Council's "Best kept garden" competition, took place on Sa... Messrs R. C... Par...

BEST kept garden competitio winners at Colton, with othe members of the Village Produ Guild, in the garden of their chai man, Mr. Jack Brown, on Wedne day after judging had been com pleted by two of the staff of th Staffordshire Farm Institute, Rod baston.

Points were very close, Mrs Hilda Bell (centre), of Barn Cot tage, Blithbury Road, coming first Joint seconds were Mr. C. Ban nister, of 84, High Street, and Mr T. Preston, of No. 7 Holding, Blithbury Road. Fourth were Mr. and Mrs. D. Pitts, of 88, High Street, fifth Mr. J. James, of 2/4, Oldhams Cottages. TIMES

Colton

ROSE SHOW.— As usual the annual rose show of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room, was a successful event. Presiding, the chairman Mr. Jack Brown, welcomed all present, including members of Abbots Bromley, Colwich, Haughton, and Slitting Mill. Stewards were Mr. and Mrs. J. James, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Meddings, and Mr. W. Hully of Armitage (assisted by Mrs. Hully) was the judge. Prizes were awarded to: (Colton members only): 4 H.T.'s Mrs. T. Preston, Mr. N. Bruce, and Mrs. D. Garwood; three sprays floribundaas, Mrs. Preston, 1st. and 2nd. and Mrs. P. B. Best. The prize of 10s. given by Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston, for a single rose went to Mrs. C. M. Sanders. Visitors classes — Four R.I.'s, Mrs. L. Evans, (Slitting Mill). Three sprays floribundas, Mr. Evans 1st. and 2nd. and Mrs. E. H. Tabernor (Colwich). For the social part of the evening (at times humerous) a quiz was organised with Mr. Brown as questionmaster, Miss D. M. Jones, scorekeeper, and Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, timekeeper. Team captains were — A team: Mr. C. Bannister; B. team:- Mr. L. Evans; C team: Mr. L. Morgan; and D team: Mrs. T. Preston. "A" team scored the most points. Mr. Meddings attended to the raffle and winners were: "A" member of Haughton Haughton Guild, Mr. Bannister, Mrs. James, Mrs. Hully, Miss Jones, Mrs. Evans. The minutes were read and confirmed, and letters of thanks for fruit and congratulations cards were read from Mrs. Ruth Williams (on the birth of her son) and Mrs. Janice Charles on the birth of her daughter. Mr. Brown asked members to give in their names to Miss Jones for the annual garden competition to take place on July 17, when he said all members would be welcome to take tea at the Cottage Stores and hear the results. Mr. Brown thanked all those members who have been so active in the "best kept" village com-

COLTON

COLTON Mothers Union were joined by Blithfield members for a St. Luke's tide Corporate Communion service. The vicar of Colwich, the Rev. B. Matthews, conducted the service and the organist was the Rector of Colton and Blithfield, the Rev. A. S. Towlson.

Collections were taken by Mesdames P. B. Best and B. M. Ravenscroft.

Last Friday, prospective Conservative candidate General J. A. Goldsmid was conducted round the parish of Colton by the Colton branch chairman, Mr. J. C. Price, and vice-chairman Mrs. J. M. Chilton.

Presiding at the October meeting of Colton Women's Institute, held in the Reading Room, Mrs. Ivy Preston welcomed a Midlands Electricity Board demonstrator, whose topic was Continental cookery.

Miss Elliott also judged the competition, set by the M.E.B., for a Danish Brunch Pie, awarding prizes to Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Lamb. She was thanked by Mrs. I. R. Brown.

Details were settled in connection with the coffee evening to be held at the home of Mrs. M. Bannister, and members were told that the New Year dinner will be at Barrow Hill, Rocester.

Mrs. N. Jones was in charge of the stall, and tea hostesses were Mesdames M. E. Hibbs, M. R. Taylor, J. E. Wright and Miss D. M. Jones.

MR. W. HULLY of Armitage was judge, with M... Colton Village Produce Guild's annual ro... Thursday last week. Visitors from Abbots Bromle... Haughton and Slitting Mill were welcomed by t... Mr. J. Brown.

Mrs. T. Preston won the class for four hybrid tea roses entered by Colton members, Mr. N. Bruce and Mrs. D. Garwood coming second and third.

Mrs. Preston also obtained first and second in the flo... Mrs. P. B. Best co... prize of 10s. given by ... T. Preston for a sin... to Mrs. C. M. Sande...

Winners in the visi... four H.T.'s were :1, ... 2, Mr. L. Morgan; 3, ... (all of Slitting Mill) ... bunda class. Mr. Ev... and second places, ... Tabenor of Colwich ...

Some of the winners at Colton Rose Show organised by the Village Produce Guild. Left to right: Mrs. W. Hully (judge), Mrs. C. M. Sanders, Mr. W. Hully (judge), Mrs. T. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. L. Evans.



THE best kept village competition develops into a two-month scare, claimed Councillor F. Hardcastle at the Colton Parish Council meeting on Monday. "The County Council men come and people pick up litter, but after the judging nothing further is done and there is now litter all over the village," he declared.

Councillor J. C. Price (chairman) said a means of maintaining a higher standard throughout the winter was being discussed at a further meeting of the best-kept village committee, and Councillor G. Sanders said a meeting was being held in October to consider this.

Councillor Mrs. M. S. Toy hoped that the "two-month scare" would make people realise how much better the village looked.

The parish council have heard that they may contribute towards the maintenance of the village cemetery, provided they first point out to the parochial church coun...

Colton

GUILD. — Colton Village Produce Guild held their September meeting in the reading room, Colton, the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown presiding. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a letter was read from Mrs. Edith Preston, thanking members for "get well" card and pot of honey sent during her spell in hospital. The chairman thanked those who had given their time to help at the festival of steam and announced that the "best kept garden" competition had been a pleasant social event. He thanked the show committee for their hard work, and congratulated Mrs. May Bannister on her success in winning third prize in the "Micklebugh" Cup competition. Details regarding the "home grown" supper of the guild, to be held on October 3rd, were announced and offers of various contributions towards this were promised. Members were reminded of the county dinner and dance in the Universal Works Canteen, Stafford on October 18th. Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams (guild members) gave a display of coloured slides of various Staffordshire views. They also showed slides of this year's ...

The flower arrangement contest of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds, took place in the canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Company. The event was as popular as ever with about 200 people attending.

There were 12 guilds competing, as usual—4 members from each guild prepared their exhibit on the platform in six minutes. Mr. F. W. Farrer was the M.C., Mr. J. W. Jones of Maer, time keeper, and the judges were—Mrs. Davies of Betley and Mrs. Watt of Trentham.

Hanchurch was the guild to win the Miss Harrison Trophy this year, with 92 points. Lower Penn had 91, Aldridge 90, Lichfield and Slitting Mill 85, Denstone 84, Standon 82, Ashley 81, Maer 81, Tittensor 76, Colwich 72, and Derrington 65.

The individual winners were Mrs. Cox of Aldridge, 25 out of 25 and Mr. R. Beattie of Lichfield, 24 out of 25. Raffle raised more than £18. In charge of this were Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft of Colton, Mrs. M. Bradbury of Ashley, Mrs. Furnival and Mr. Kettle of Maer. Winners were — Mrs. Butcher of Lichfield, Miss Jean Sale of Abbots Bromley, Mrs. N. Bradbury of Ashley, and Mr. Kettle of Maer.

A vote of thanks to all concerned in the success of the evening was proposed by Mr. J. H. Cooke, chairman of Maer Guild.

Colton

W.I.:- Presiding at the November meeting of Colton Women's Institue held in the Reading Room, Mrs I. Preston President welcomed all members and visitors, including one or two members of the slitting Mill Institute. A welcome was also accorded to the Misses B. Elliott, and A. Webster of the M.E.B. who gave a talk and demonstration on cooking for the Christmas season. They were thanked by Mrs. Norah Jones. The results of the demonstration were afterwards given for the raffle-winners were- Mrs Jones Mrs. I.R. Brown, Mrs E. Bettson, Mrs. M.C. Bennett. Mrs. J.E. Norman Mrs B. Barham, and Miss D. M. Jones. The evening's competi...

FESTIVAL IN THE CHURCH

THE second Flower Festival to be held in St. Mary's Church, Colton, took place at the weekend. Whilst not quite equalling last year's Festival — many people being away on holiday — the event was still a considerable success.

Church takings up to Sunday night were £59, and the grand prize draw raised £38 10s. Much time and thought were given by friends of the church in decorating the beautiful old building.

Rugeley Festival Singers sang at evening services on Saturday and Sunday, and on Sunday afternoon they gave a concert with organ music. Services were ...

Ridware (rubber plant), Miss M. A. Cooper (trowel and fork), Mrs. Cowan, Blithbury (long handled trowel), Mr. Luke Mellor, Blithbury (flower cutters), Linda Webster (watering can), Mr. P. W. Westhorpe (plant pot), Mr. Price (plant pot holder), Mrs. M. E. Mellor (plant pot), Mr. L. Kendrick (spray), Mrs. Edwards (plant pot), Mrs. Neg Shareshill (bulb ...

A QUI...

In a quiz orga... Brown, assisted by ... Jones and Mrs. B... croft, the winning ... captained by Mr. ... Other team captai... Evans, Mr. Morg... Preston.

Winners of a raf... Meddings included ... Mrs. J. James, Mrs. ... Jones and Mrs. E... announced that afte... competition on July ... would be invited t... the Cottage Stores, ... chairman, and hear ...

Letters of thanks ... from Mrs. R. Willi... J. Charles. Mr. Bro... who had been activ... kept village campai...

It was announce... would not be an ... ing in August, but ... vedere on Cannock ... be arranged on Au... annual show on Au...

COL...

COMPETITION. ... "Best Kept Village" ... mittee, are making ... to set the village ... shape. The villag... tions — Mr J. C. ... resentative) is in ch... from the Colton s... to the Reading ... Jones, (W.I. re... Hollow Lane c... Preston (W. I. re... to the Colton s... Mr David A. Bo... sentatives), Holl... shelter; Messrs Jo... Rep.) and Gerald ... are attending to t... including Manor ... Way. The footb... the Misses Jo ... Ravenscroft to ... Sunday afternoo... bers and seven... worked very har... cemetery, which ... state. The chair... the cemetery ... could lose Col... award, and ask... odd hour or two ... shears or some o... "a square yard o... Sanders said th... grateful to every ... during the past ... in working parti... individuals in ... frontages, hedges ... Improvement is ... is due to all co... The next four ... time to maintain ... already attained. ... have a small co... frontages of the ... church grounds ... state and are ... kept" church gr... of the diocese.

Cooking for the C... was the subject of ... tion given by Miss ... Miss A. Webster ... Women's Institute ... ber meeting, the ... being offered for r...

Raffle winners ... Jones, I. R. Brown, ...

GARDENER TOM TAKES THE COUNCIL CUP

GARDENS in Colton were of a very high standard, said Cllr. Gerald Sanders, organiser of the village's "Best Kept Garden" competition which was held on Saturday.

Judges were Messrs R. Chudleigh and S. Deakin, and the Parish Council Cup went to Mr. Thomas Preston, of number seven holding, Blithbury Road. Mrs. Hilda Bell, of Barn Cottage, Blithbury Road and Mr. W. C. Sargeant, "Yorrick," High Street came second and third respectively.

Winners of the Little Hay Rose Bowl were: 1, Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts, High Street; 2, Mr. W. C. Sargeant; 3, Mr. Jack Brown, of the Cottage Stores. Prizes will be presented at the annual show.

The Colton village Produce Guild "Best Kept Garden" competition was also held last week, judged by two members of the County Farm Institute, Rodbaston, Messrs D. Myatt and Lloyd. Results were announced at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown.

They were: 1, Mrs. Hilda Bell, of Barn Cottage, Blithbury Road; joint second, Mr. C. Bannister, 'Four Winds,' High Street, and T. Preston, number seven holding, Blithbury Road; 4, Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts; and 5, Mr. John James, of Oldhams Cottages.

Members of the guild also heard this week that member Mrs. C. Bannister had won third prize in the national annual competition for the Mickleburgh Challenge Cup.

AT the request of their president, Mrs. I. Preston, members of Colton W.I. stood in silent tribute at their October meeting to late-serving member, Mrs. Ivy James.

Later, the president welcomed two members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade who gave a talk and demonstration on the 'kiss of life'. They were thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

Mrs. Preston, who had attended the Autumn council meeting of the County Federation as a delegate, gave a comprehensive report, after which names were taken of those members wishing to attend the Autumn meeting of the Parkside group.

The competition for the funniest snapshot was won by Mrs. Mary Taylor, and the raffle was won by Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs. Monica Taylor. Hostesses were Mrs. N. Jones, Mary Taylor and Mrs. H. A. Williscroft.

GUILD.— At the December meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild held in the Reading Room, Mr. Jack Brown, the chairman, presiding over a good attendance welcomed all including visitors. Members from Colwich and Slitting Mill were introduced. Minutes were read and confirmed, and ideas were invited regarding speakers. Names for the Slitting Mill party were also taken. The highlight of the evening came from entertainment by the Stafford Morris Men. Singing concluded a pleasant evening. A vote of thanks to the Morris men was proposed by Mrs. I. Preston. The competition for six mince pies was judged by Mrs. E. H. Tabernor and Mrs. Lee of Colwich. There was only on entry in the Christmas card competition. The competitor was Lynn Sanders. The raffle was in charge of Mrs. J. E. Wright and rose bushes given by

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COLTON Village Produce Guild at its September meeting, held last week in the Reading Room, saw a display of colour slides of various Staffordshire views by two members, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams. 14/9/68

Accompanied by a commentary, the slides included this year's flower festival at St. Mary's Church, Colton, and of the couple's recent holiday in Devon and Cornwall. They were thanked by the chairman, Mr. Jack Brown.

Mr. Brown also thanked those who had helped at the Midlands Festival of Steam, and said that the best kept garden competition and the visit to the Forestry Commission deer hide on Cannock Chase had been enjoyable events. He thanked the show committee for their work, and said he thought it had been a good show.

Mr. Brown also congratulated Mrs. May Bannister on winning third prize in the Mickleborough cup competition.

Details of the guild's "home-grown" supper, to be held on October 3, were announced and offers were made of various contributions towards this.

Members were reminded of the county dinner and dance to be held in Stafford on October 18.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. C. M. Amyes and Mrs. Joan Garwood.

Menfolk did table duty at supper

14/10/68

COLTON VILLAGE Produce Guild held their annual 'home-grown' supper on Thursday of last week, when guests included Mr. J. D. Lewis of Colwich, (county chairman), and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. J. W. Jones (county vice-chairman) and Mrs. Jones; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Farrer, Mr. and Mrs. L. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hully, and Mrs. M. E. Mellor.

Mr. Jack Brown (chairman) welcomed everyone and after the supper presented a wedding gift to committee member Mr. L. Devall, and Mrs. Brown gave his wife a bouquet.

Male members did most of the waiting at table and washing up.

Crazy whist, organised by Mrs. I. Preston, was won by Mr. Hully, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. E. Preston, and Keith Williscroft.

The raffle run by Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs. R. Williams was won by Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Hully, Mr. Jones, Mr. Farrer, Mr. Lewis, and Mrs. C. I. Pitts.

Dancing organised by Mr. Brown concluded the evening, and Mr. Lewis thanked Colton guild on behalf of the guests.

FUNERAL.— The funeral of 42-years-old Mr. Luke Mellor, of Littlehay Manor Farm, Colton,

The funeral of Mr. Luke Mellor, aged 42, of Littlehay Manor Farm, Colton, took place at St. Mary's Church, Colton, a week on Monday.

Mr. Mellor was a member of the Lichfield and Rugeley Branch of the National Farmers Union and a former member of the Colton Parish Council. For many years he was a player with Abbots Bromley Football Club.

The service, which was followed by cremation at Beaconside, near Stafford, was conducted by the Rev. Gordon Hodson, Curate of Rugeley.

Mourners were: Mrs. Margery E. Mellor (widow), Mr. D. George Mellor (brother) and wife Mrs. Greta Mellor, Mrs. Monica Fateh (sister), Mrs. Grindey, Mrs. E. Holdcroft, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mellor, Mr. and Mrs. Sessions, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Mellor, Mr. Chas. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. W. Holland Plant, Mr. W. Tavernor (uncle), and Miss N. Tavernor, Mr. A. Plant (uncle), and Miss M. Plant, Mrs. D. H. Plant (aunt), Mr. Herbert S. C. Mellor, Mr. and Mrs. C. Mellor, Mrs. B. Powell Mrs. G. U. G. Shufflebotham and Miss Ina Plant.

Mr. John James (father-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. John James (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Miss A. James (aunt), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jones (aunt and uncle), Mr. C. Morris (uncle), and Mr. B. Morris, Mr. James Morris.

Mr and Mrs. J. Hilton, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Bettson, Mr. Rupert Evans, Mr. and Mrs. W. Sargeant, Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston; Mr. and Mrs. P. Westhorpe, Mr. G. Roobottom, Mr. Duncan Moore; Mr. John Grimley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillips, Mr. T. Godwin, Mr. B. Evans, Dr. J. G. Salter, Mr. Frank Knight, Mrs. E. Knight, Mr. and Mrs. R. Knight, Mr. R. G. Harris, Mr. Richard Froggatt, Mr. and Mrs. J. Charles and Mr. V. Charles, Mr. T. Hughes, Mr. G. Willetts, Mr. Hayward Collier, Mr. G. Parrott, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Arber, Mrs. Bodenham, Mrs. Hubball, Mrs. Andrws, Mr. C. Phillips, Mr. Eric Sutton.

Mr. W. Finnemore, Mr. John Finnemor, Mr. John Hooley, Mrs. G. Brandrick, Mr. M. J. Hollins, Mrs. F. Pratt, Mr. J. E. Riley, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cooper, Mr. L. J. Neighbour, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Bettson, Mr. G. Hampson, Mr. J. Sargeant, Mr. H. Rushton, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. D Atkin, Mr and Mrs. A. Chilton, Mr. John Satterthwaite, Mr. Eric Sargeant, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bloor, Mr. F. K. Cottrell, Mr. D. J. Cottrell, Mr. J. Hill, Mr. Roger Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bloor, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Price, Nurse L. Deacon, Mr. John Hampson, Mr. W. Brinkler, Miss Rachel Brinkler, Mr. Alan Woodward, Mrs. E. A. Cooper and Miss D. Cooper, Mr. George Greaves, Mr. and Mrs. McDowall, Mrs. Rose Devall, Miss Elsie Myatt.

Mrs. E. Griffin, Mrs. H. Challinor, Mrs. A. Devall, Mrs. D. Goodall, Miss C. N. L. Williscroft, Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. P. M. Best, Mr. and Mrs. G. Deacon, Mr. and Mrs. D. Evans, Mr. Edward Norman, Miss Lucy Norman, Mr. Harold Martin, Mr. J. Giles (representing R. Tideslev Ltd.), Mr. Branston, Mr. F. Denley (representing F. H. Burgess Ltd.), Mr. L. Oakes, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Reynolds, Miss C. Burns, Miss Janet Jones, Mr. Peter Jones, Mr. Keith Hindley, Mr. R. Chivers (representing N.P. Bank Ltd.), Mr. R. Stevenson, Mr. Walter Norman), Mr. and Mrs. W. Leeke, Mr. T. Leeke, Mr. R. James and Mr. F. Whale (Staffordshire Farmers Ltd.).

Mr. F. Moore (W. Gwennop, Agriculture, Ltd.); Mr. and Mrs. I. Collins, Mr. L. Kendrick; Mr. and Mrs. C. Bannister, Mr. and Mrs. H. Leeke, Mr. R. Grimley, Mr. and Mrs. W. Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. F. Norman, Mr. Richard Hicks, Mr. Bob Cliff, Mr. F. H. Sims, Mrs. M. James, Mr. C. J. Bloor (representing Messrs. W. S. Bagshaw and Sons), Mr. G. Goring, Mr. Goring (representing Greyhound Inn), Mrs. L. Curtis, Mr. E. J. James (Vice-Chairman, Lichfield and Rugeley N.F.U.), Mr. and Mrs. A. Devall, Mrs. L. May Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. John Sproston, Mrs. R. Bass, Miss Jean Bass (representing Mr. and Mrs. P. Everall), Mr. W. J. Parr and Mr. R. W. Parr, Mr. F. Hardcastle (representing R.D.C. and Colton Parish Council), Mr. V. Hardcastle (Messrs. Hardcastle

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COLTON

GUILD.— The November meeting of the Colton Village Produce guild was held in the Reading Room Colton. Colour slides were shown by Miss Hilary Bruce. She was thanked by the Vice-Chairman Mr. T. Preston. Presiding over the meeting, Mr. Jack Brown, Chairman, read a letter of thanks for grapes, and congratulations cards on the birth of a son from Mrs Rosemary Rooke, and a letter from Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lewis thanking Colton Guild for the evening at their "home grown supper". An invitation was accepted to the Slitting Mill Guild Party, The show committee was reformed for 1969 show. Mrs. I. Preston Show treasurer

gave details of the financial position which was considered satisfactory. Suggestions were sought for next year's show, and a lively discussion followed. The raffle given by Mr and Mrs C. Bannister was won by Mrs. L. Jackson. The competition for an autumn arrangement was won by Mrs. I. Preston and Mrs Jackson and the competition for six sprouts was won by Mr. J. James. Attending to refreshments were Miss D. M. Jones (Secretary) and Mrs. J. E. Wright Members were asked to bring a few refreshments for the December Meeting when a team from Stafford will be entertaining with "Mummers and Carols".

REMEMBRANCE DAY.— Remembrance Day at Colton this year had to take a different form. No procession being possible from the war memorial to church and the remembrance service was taken entirely in church by the Rev. Clough. The roll of honour was read from the memorial slab at the west end of the church.

MEETING.— The "best kept village committee" met recently at Bellamour Lodge, under the chairmanship of Councillor Gerald Sanders. Three youth club members were welcomed. They were Michael Preston, Alex Wright and John Norman. The committee hope to receive a report in the near future indicating some of the black spots that lost points in this year's competition. In the New Year, the committee plan to arrange a social evening, to raise funds to defray normal printing expenses, and possible prizes for individual efforts. One of the main problems of the committee is to maintain interest in this competition throughout the year, and the chairman would welcome any help from villagers, possibly to join the Committee, or to offer any comments or opinions which would assist in making next year's effort a success.

COLTON

MR. P. W. Westhorpe was M.C. at the annual whist drive held in St. Mary's School, Colton, recently. The event was organised by the headmaster and staff, and all proceeds will go towards the pupils' Christmas party.

Prizes were presented by Mrs. G. Shaw, who had taught at the school for 21 years. Winners were Mrs. K. Martin, Mrs. E. Williams, Mrs. J. E. Wright, Mr. Russell, Mrs. M. S. Toy, Mr. R. J. Myatt, Mrs. M. G. Bennett and Mr. P. Preston.

Miniatures were won by Mrs. E. Preston and Mrs. Williams. Grand draw prize winners were

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Mrs. Hodgkinson, Mrs. T. Preston, Mrs. M. A. Myatt, Mr. R. G. Harris, J. Shaw, J. Barker, Mrs. S. Harris, Mrs. Richards, Miss V. Smith, Mrs. Ferguson, Miss Brinkler, Brenda Norman, T. Hodgkiss, Mrs. F. House, Tracy Armett, Mr. J. Martin and A. H. Boston.

THE first meeting of Colton 1969 Show Committee took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. Preston recently.

Re-elected were: Chairman, Mr. T. Preston; secretary, Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft; treasurer, Mrs. Preston; vice-chairman, Mr. J. Meddings. Other mem-



Colourful festival at Colton

Above: Pictured in the nave of St. Mary's, Colton, while looking round the flower arrangements are retired village headmaster, Mr. E. Broughton, Mrs. Broughton (left), their daughter Mrs. H. Teasdale (second from left), Christopher Teasdale, Suzanne and Alison Bergin. On the right are Mrs. A. Devall and Mrs. E. Griffin. Below: Phillip and Stephen Norman admire one of the screen arrangements prepared by Miss D. M. Jones in Colton Church for last weekend's flower festival.





MEDIAEVAL St. Mary's Parish Church, Colton was a blaze of colour last weekend when its second flower festival took place. All the decoration and arrangements were carried out by village people.

Every corner was alive with colour, besides the more obvious places for decoration like window ledges, the font and the choir screen. Members of the Village Produce Guild and the Women's Institute joined with church organisations to put Colton on the map once again

One tasteful arrangement in which blue and white predominated was prepared by Mr. Leslie Devalle; and a window space was filled with whites and green by Mr. J. C. Price.

Miss D. M. Jones completed 50 years of church decorating. She did the screen arrangements and also worked on the greenery surmounting the pillars — Cedar of Lebanon foliage being included there. Another long-serving stalwart was Mrs. A. E. Cooper.

Donations by visitors to the church totalled £59 by Sunday evening and a prize draw run in conjunction with the festival raised £38 10s.

Rugeley Festival Singers sang at services on the Saturday and Sunday evenings which were conducted by the Ven. Basil Stratton, Archdeacon of Stafford.

Winners in the prize draw made on Monday were as follows: —

Mrs. Duxberry (Wedgwood vase); Mr. J. C. Price (shears); C. Hancock, Hill Ridware (rubber plant); Miss M. A. Cooper (trowel and fork); Mrs. Cowan, Blithbury (trowel); Mr. Luke Mellor, Blithbury (flower cutters); Linda Webster (watering can), Mr. P. W. Westhorpe (plant pot), Mr. Price (plant pot holder); Mrs. M. E. Mellor (plant pot); Mr. L. Kendrick (spray); Mrs. Edwards (plant pot); Mrs. N. Shareshill (bulb bowl and voucher); Mrs. Childs (bulb bowl and voucher); Jeannette Deacon (bulb bowl and voucher); Mrs. Baugh (bulb bowl and voucher);

'MAY FAY

INSTEAD of a "M fayre", as in the past t Colton Women's Insti ganised a fund-raisi fayre", which was he reading room. It was ful venture, and was by some of the Slit members.

In charge of varie were Mesdames Ivy (president), I. R. Bro surer), Carol M. (secretary), Norah Jo president), E. M. Sa G. Bennett, B. M. Ra June Meddings, N. Dora Deacon, M. C Monica Taylor, Joan and Joan E. Wright, D. M. Jones (vice-pre

Refreshments were charge of Mrs. M. B Mrs. Lily Jackson ra petition, the winn Rachael Brown and Cox, Mary Taylor, P. Taylor, N. We Ivy Preston.

Poet

WITH a pencil in o notebook in the May Bannister wander countryside and takes a she sees.

Then, when she get to "Four Winds", C Rugeley, Mrs. Bannister old housewife, sits at h and translates those poems and short stories.

Mrs. Bannister, has poetry and short stori she was a little girl. recently she has been do anything but screw throw them away.

A few weeks ago, h took the plunge and national short story c And it paid off. For her Old Oak" came third in organised by "Village L gan of the National Fe Village Produce Associa

Now, she's all set work to a publisher. her success she is d come a professional w

A member of th Literary Society for months one of Mrs. poems was chosen for Rugeley library.

Most of her work ha countryside as its theme.

"I love the country me.

When it comes to w Mrs. Bannister cannot and write. "It has t something spo plained.

"But if I have to get it down rather like painting

Mrs. Bannister in the country ideas. "I have to write," she said.

"Poetry is my weeks I don't all."

"When doing just sit down do, nearly ever

She said that complete about a week and that ever since she was a

"But I am very I have written for have been rather sh

The competition breakthrough. "And write professionally," ter told me.

Married with

Colton chi

The younger child had a fancy dress C in the Reading Roo afternoon, when pr by Amanda Wright Mama), Peter Norman Jean Norman (Holly



● Mr. John James (left), winner of the Gents' Cup, receives his trophy from Mr. L. Morgan, watched by Mrs. James.

6/9/68

A RECORD number of exhibitors, 39, took part in Saturday's annual show staged by Colton Village Produce Guild, in conjunction with Colton W.I.

With support increasing each year, the show committee is now thinking of using a larger room for future events, thus enabling extra classes to be introduced.

Top individual winners on Saturday were Mr. John James and Mrs. Ivy Preston, who were awarded the gents and ladies cups, respectively, by Mr. L. Morgan of Slitting Mill. A new trophy, a small silver cup given by Mr. James for the best exhibit in the vegetable section, went to Mr. Ted Murcott for his onions from seed.

The judges were: horticulture — J. W. Jones of Maer, and W. Cadman of Pipe Gate; cookery, Miss B. Elliott, M.E.B. demonstrator; handicrafts and wine — Mrs. J. G. Salter of Abbots Bromley; flower arrangements and children's classes — Mrs. Catlin of Standon. Full list of awards:

Vegetables

Heaviest yield from one uncut potato: 1, Mrs. V. James, 13 lbs.; Mr. J. James, 11 lbs.; 3, Mrs. M. Sargeant, 7½ lbs. Potatoes, any variety: 1, Mr. W. C. Bannister; 2, Mrs. C. M. Sanders; Keith Williscroft. Tomatoes: 1, T. Preston; 2, Mr. J. James; Mrs. I. Preston. Onions from seed: 1, T. Murcott; 2, J. James; T. Preston. Onions from sets: 1, Mrs. Hilda Webb; 2, Mrs. Sargeant; 3, Miss D. M. Jones. Shallots: 1, Mrs. L. Jackson; 2, W. C. Bannister; 3, T. Preston.

Beetroot: 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, F. Mountford; 3, Stephen Upton. Runner beans: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, J. Meddings; 3, R. Bennett. Peas: 1, W. C. Bannister; 2, T. Preston; 3, J. James. Carrots: 1, W. C. Bannister; 2, R. Bennett; 3, J. Meddings. Cauliflower: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, Mrs. Sargeant. Cabbage: 1, T. Murcott; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, J. James. Leeks: 1, J. James; 2, T. Murcott. Marrows: 1, J. James; 2, T. Preston; 3, T. Murcott.

Fruit

Eating apples: 1, Mr. Norman Bruce; 2, Mrs. J. E. Wright; 3, Mr. Jack Brown. Cooking apples: 1, J. Brown; 2, Keith Williscroft; 3, Mrs. Webb. Pears: 1, J. Brown; 2, N. Bruce.

Flowers

Gladioli: 1, F. Mountford; 2, N. Bruce; 3, J. James; decorative dahlias: 1, T. Preston; 2, J. James; 3, Mrs. Ivy Preston. Cactus dahlias: 1, J. James; 2, T. Preston; 3, N. Bruce. Pom pom dahlias: 1, Mrs. H. C. Bell; 2, Mr. Richard Morrall; 3, J. James.

Container of mixed annuals: 1, Mrs. Jackson; 2, T. Preston; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Roses: 1, J. James (and Rose Society bronze medal); 2, F. Mountford; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Carnations: 1, F. Mountford; 2, J. James; 3, T. Preston. Asters: 1, J. James; 2, Keith Williscroft; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Pansies or violas: 1, J. James; 2, Miss Jones; 3, W. C. Bannister. Chrysanthemums, outdoor: 1, J. James; 2, Mr. Davis Pitts; 3, T. Preston. House plant in flower: 1, Mrs. C. I. Pitts; T. Preston; 3, Mrs. I. Preston House plant in foliage: 1, T. Murcott; 2, Mrs. Bell; 3, Mrs. Edith Preston.

Floral arrangement in sherry glass: 1, Mr. Leslie Devall; 2, Mr Wright; 3, Mrs. Webb. Arrangement in space to depict music verse or book: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Bell; 3, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft. (The judge awarded a special prize for originality to Mrs. Ruth Williams).

Cookery

Blackcurrant jam: 1, Mrs. Preston; 2, Mrs. Jean Fowell; 3, Mrs. Pitts. Orange marmalade: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Sargeant; 3, Miss Jones. Lemon curd: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, Mrs. Wright; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Jelly to eat with meat: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Miss G. Ravenscroft. Chutney: 1, Mrs. May Bannister; 2, Mrs. Bell; 3, Mrs. I. Preston.

Cheese scones: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Williams; 3, Mrs. Sargeant. Sweet in a tumbler: 1, Miss G. Ravenscroft; 2, Mrs. Pitts; 3, Mrs. Sanders. Dundee cake: 1, Mrs. Pitts; 2, Mrs. Williams; 3, Mrs. Sargeant. Small white loaf: 1, Mrs. Monica J. Taylor; 2, Mrs. Sanders; 3, Mrs. M. G. Bennett. Treacle toffee: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Bennett. Home-made wine: 1, Mrs. Wright; 2, Mrs. E. Preston; 3, J. Brown.

Handicrafts

Ladies' hand-knitted cardigan: 1, Mrs. Sanders; 2, Mrs. Sargeant. Dress: 1, Miss G. Ravenscroft (also bronze medal); 2, Mrs. Sanders; 3, Mrs. E. Preston. Something new from something old: 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, Mrs. Sanders; 3, Mrs Bannister.

Colton Village Produce Guild's annual show, organised in conjunction with Colton W.I., and held in the Reading Room on Saturday, had a record number of 39 exhibitors.

The men's cup went to Mr. John James, the ladies' cup to Mrs. Ivy Preston, and a new silver cup given by Mr. James for the best exhibit in the vegetable section was won by Mr. Ted Murcott with his onions.

Mr. T. Preston won the Parish Council Cup for the best kept garden, with Mrs. H. C. Bell second, and Mr. W. C. Sargeant third.

The Littlehey rose bowl, given by the Mellor family in memory of Mrs. J. L. Taylor, for the most attractive garden was won by Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts, with Mr. W. C. Sargeant second, and Mr. Jack Brown third.

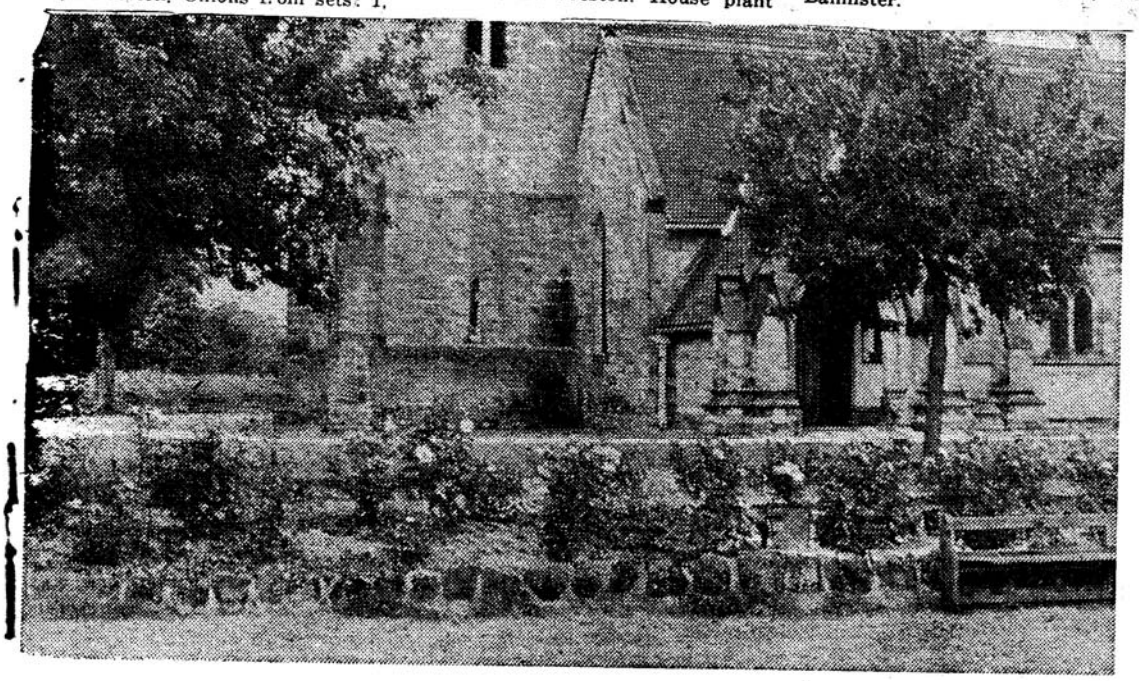
Trophies were presented by Mr. L. Morgan of Slitting Mill.

Judges were: Horticulture, Messrs. J. W. Jones, of Maer and W. Cadman, of Pipe Gate; cookery, Miss B. Elliott, M.E.B. demonstrator; handicrafts and wine, Mrs. J. G. Salter, of Abbots Bromley; flower arrangements and children's classes, Mrs. Catlin, of Standon.

Heaviest Yield from one Uncut Potato: 1, Mrs. V. James (13lb.); 2, Mr. J. James (11lb.); 3, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant (7½lb.). Six Potatoes (any variety): 1, Mr. W. C. Bannister; 2, Mrs. C. M. Sanders; 3, Keith Williscroft. Tomatoes: 1, Mr. T. Preston; 2, J. James; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Onions from seed: 1, T. Murcott; 2, J. James; 3, T. Preston. Onions from sets: 1, Mrs. Hilda Webb; 2, Mrs. Sargeant; 3, Miss D. M. Jones. Shallots: 1, Mrs. L. Jackson; 2, W. C. Bannister; 3, T. Preston. Beetroot: 1, Mrs. Sargeant; 2, Mr. F. Mountford; 3, Stephen Upton. Runner Beans: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, Mr. J. Meddings 3, Mr. R. Bennett. Pods Peas: 1, W. C. Banister; 2, T. Preston; 3, J. James. Four Carrots: 1, W. C. Bannister; 2, R. Bennett; 3, J. Meddings. Cauliowers: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, Mrs. Sargeant. Cabbage: 1, T. Murcott; 2, Mrs. Jackson; 3, J. James. Three Leeks: 1, J. James; 2, T. Murcott. Vegetable Marrows: 1, J. James; 2, T. Preston; 3, T. Murcott. Eating Apples: 1, Norman Bruce; 2, Mrs. J. E. Wright; 3, Mr. Jack Brown. Cooking Apples: 1, J. Brown; 2, Keith Williscroft; 3, Mrs. Webb. Five Eating Pears: 1, J. Brown; 2, N. Bruce.

Gladioli, 1, F. Mountford, 2, N. Bruce, 3, J. James; decorative dahlias, 1, T. Preston, 2, J. James, 3, Mrs. Ivy Preston; cactus dahlias, 1, J. James, 2, T. Preston, 3, N. Bruce; Pom-pom dahlias, 1, Mrs. H. C. Bell, 2, Mr. Richard Morrall, 3, J. James; container of mixed annuals, 1, Mrs. Jackson, 2, T. Preston, 3, Mrs. I. Preston; 4 H.T. roses, 1, J. James (and Rose Society Bronze Medal), 2, F. Mountford, 3, Mrs. I. Preston; carnations, 1, F. Mountford, 2, J. James, 3, T. Preston; asters, 1, J. James, 2, Keith Williscroft, 3, Mrs. I. Preston; pansies or violas, 1, J. James, 2, Miss Jones, 3, W. C. Bannister; outdoor chrysanthemums, 1, J. James, 2, Mr. David Pitts, 3, T. Preston; house plant in flower, 1, Mrs. C. I. Pitts, 2, T. Preston, 3, Mrs. I. Preston; house plant in foliage, 1, T. Murcott, 2, Mrs. Bell, 3, Mrs. Edith Preston; floral arrangement in sherry glass in shades of one colour, 1, Mr. Leslie Devall, 2, Mrs. Wright, 3, Mrs. Webb; arrangement in space 18 ins. wide to depict music, verse or book, 1, Mrs. I. Preston, 2, Mrs. Bell, 3, Miss Gwendoline Ravenscroft. The judge awarded a special prize for originality to Mrs. Ruth Williams, for "The lonely petunia in an onion bed."

Blackcurrant jam: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Jean Powell; 3, Mrs. Pitts; Orange Marmalade: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Mrs. Sargeant; 3, Miss Jones; Lemon Curd: 1, Stephen Upton; 2, Mrs. Wright; 3, Mrs. I. Preston. Jelly to eat with meat: 1, Mrs. I. Preston; 2, Miss G. Ravenscroft. Chutney: 1, Mrs. May Bannister; 2, Mrs. Bell; 3, Mrs. I. Preston.



Colton churchyard, which has won the first prize in the churchyard competition organised by the Friends of Ancient Staffordshire

Remembrance day at Colton took a different form this year. There was no pro-

...ing the winning exhibits ...e Handsacre Leek Club ...w (the first in the Midlands) ... Saturday, are Mr. J. W. ...ney, secretary (left) and Mr.



PRODUCE GUILDS HARVEST SUPPER

The annual harvest supper of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds was held in the canteen of the Universal Grinding Wheel Company, Stafford, on Friday last.

The chairman, Mr. J. D. Lewis welcomed more than 150 members. Local guilds attending included Abbots Bromley, Colton, Colwich and Slitting Mill.

MAUD REPORT OPPOSED

Colton Parish Council decided at their meeting last week that they were not in favour of the Maud Report proposals and they agreed to support Lichfield Rural Council on this issue.

The chairman, Councillor A. V. Hardcastle, welcomed their new clerk, Mrs. V. G. Hurd who takes over from November 1. Mr. Hardcastle thanked the retiring clerk, Mrs. Mary R. Taylor, for her long years of service on the council.

Councillor J. C. Price gave notice of his intention to plough up certain footpaths, which will be eventually reinstated. Notification had been sent to the County Council. Councillor Hardcastle then thanked Councillor Price for his public spiritedness.

Colton

MEETING. — The annual meeting of the Colton village hall entertainment committee took place at Bellamour Lodge. Officers re-elected were: Chairman, Mr. J. C Price; vice-chairman, Mr. Fred Hardcastle; secretary, Mrs. P. M. Buckley. All other members were re-elected.

W.I. — Colton Women's Institute members and friends, joined by a few members from Etching Hill and Slitting Mill institutes, made the journey by coach to Northampton to visit a cosmetic factory. Following tea, every guest received a bottle of perfume as a souvenir.

GUILD. — Colton Village Produce Guild members and friends, joined by six members of Colwich guild, visited the folk dancing festival at Birmingham, chairman Mr. Jack Brown taking part in the Morris dancing.

M.U. — Colton Mothers' Union met at the home of fellow member Mrs. V. James for their February meeting. The enrolling member, Mrs. P. B. Best, led

COLTON.—At the January meeting, it was decided to write to the Parish Council to press for improvements in the bus service to and from Colton and Rugeley. Arrangements were made for a visit to a cosmetics firm at Northampton on February 10th and to the Birmingham folk dance festival on February 12th. Mrs. Brown offered the use of her home for any meetings while the Reading Room is closed. Mrs. Ivy Preston (President) presided and there was a talk on antique furniture. The speaker was thanked by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft. Tea hostesses were Miss D. M. Jones, Mrs. Jean Fowell, Mrs. June Meddings and Mrs. Joan Norman.

COLTON

M.U.: Colton Mothers Union members spent a delightful afternoon at Gratwich near Uttoxeter. They met in the small Church for a service, being joined by a coachload of members from Codsall. The service was taken by the Rev. C. T. Upton, Rector of Kingstone and Gratwich, and the lesson was read by the Rev. A. S. Towlson, Rector of Colton and Blithfield. During the service the Colton banner was blessed and handed back to Mrs. E. Bettson. The banner has been reconditioned and the name embroidered on the back by Mrs. Upton. There was tea at the Rectory and Mrs. P. B. Best, enrolling member, presented Mrs. M. A. Westhorpe, former secretary, with a bowl of hyacinths. Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft extended members' thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Upton for hospitality. This was endorsed by Mr. Towlson.

COLTON

COLTON Village Produce Guild members and friends, joined by six members of Colwich Guild, visited the Folk Dancing Festival at Birmingham. The visit was all the more interesting because Guild Chairman Mr. Jack Brown took part in the Morris Dancing.

COLTON Women's Institute members and friends, joined by a few members from

CAROL SERVICE

Illnesses affected the carol service at Colton St. Mary's Church. The Rector, the Rev. A. S. Towlson took the service with Mrs. A. Clendon at the organ. Lessons were read by members of village organisations which included Mr. F. Hardcastle (Village Hall entertainment committee), Mrs. B. Bettson (Mothers' Union), Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft (Parish Council), Mr. M. Williscroft (Parochial Church Council), Mrs. C. M. Sanders reading as an individual and the Rector reading the Christmas Gospel.

Read lessons: Mr. Norman Bruce, of Colton Village Produce Guild was among organisation representatives who read lessons at a carol service held at St. Mary's Church, Colton.

THE annual general meeting of Colton W.I. was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown . . . . with Mr. Brown treating members to glasses of home-made wine before they got down to the business of the meeting.

Treasurer Mrs. Brown presented a satisfactory report of the Institute's finances, and was thanked by second vice-president Miss D. M. Jones. The secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, outlined activities of the past year and was thanked on behalf of members by Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft.

President Mrs. Ivy Preston, who had earlier thanked the Browns for their hospitality, thanked members for their loyalty throughout the past year and was, in turn, thanked by vice-president Mrs. Norah Jones.

All officers were re-elected and there was no election held for the committee. Mrs. Ravenscroft continues as Press correspondent, and Mrs. Brown offered to take on 'Home and Country' affairs. The remainder of the committee are Mrs. L. Jackson, Mrs. E. M. Sargeant, Mrs. M. G.

Travel talk to Colton W.I.

Mrs. E. Bettson gave an account of her Mediterranean cruise last May, describing visits to Malaga, Naples, Malta, Gibraltar and other places, when she attended the last meeting of Colton Women's Institute.

President Mrs. I. Preston proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Bettson.

Reporting on the proceeds from a stall at the recent Donkey Derby, Mrs. Preston said proceeds would go to the Women's Institute and to the village produce guild. She read a letter of thanks from the Round Table, organisers of the Derby, and one from the Cancer Campaign for Research.

Mrs. J. Meddings won the raffle and all members contributed to the refreshments.

COLTON Village Produce Guild, at the invitation of the W.I., will be holding a stall at Rugeley Round Table's "donkey derby" in June.

This was accepted at the April meeting of the guild held in the Cottage Stores at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown.

The stall at the "donkey derby" will be the main fund-raising event and the wish was expressed that all members would assist with the venture.

A display of film slides, including those of flowers, swans during winter in Elmore Park, the 1965 Festival of Steam in Bellamour Park, and some of Colton, were shown by Mr. Darby from Rugeley. Mr. Brown gave the vote of thanks.

Business discussed included Mr. A. J. Haynes's offer to tidy the flower borders round the War Memorial, and a proposed visit to the dressed wells at Tissington.

Members were reminded about the pot plant competition at the county show.

Tea hostesses were Mesdames E. M. Sargeant and B. M. Ravenscroft. In the raffle Mr. Brown won a pot of honey given by Miss D. M. Jones, secretary, and place mats given by Mrs. J. E. Wright were won by Mrs. L. Jackson.

The May meeting will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. N. Williams, at Trentham.

GUILD.— Colton Village Produce Guild members met at The Cottage Stores for their annual general meeting. No election took place as the officers and committee agreed to carry on for two or three months, until the reading room is available again. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown presided over a good attendance. He welcomed as new members, Mr. A. J. Haynes and Rachel Brown. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary Miss D. M. Jones gave a comprehensive report of the guild's year, showing a varied and interesting year. The treasurer Mrs. B. M. Ravenscroft, presented the financial statement, which showed that expenses were more than £10 over income. But as no money raising event had been held during the year, this was considered satisfactory. The chairman expressed thanks to the secretary and treasurer and went on to thank members for support throughout the year. An invitation was received from Abbots Bromley guild for four members to attend their party on March 28. Members were told that the first round of the County Quiz will be at Colwich on March 31. Colton will not be able to send a team this year, but they agreed to try to enter the pot plant competition at the County Show. A letter from the Midland Festival of Steam asked if members would give their help with refreshments. This they agreed to do. Miss Jones gave a talk on bees



MRS. M. A. WESTHORPE, secretary of the Colton Mothers' Union, has retired from her post, as she will soon be leaving the district. Her place will be taken by Mrs. I. Preston.

The union visited Mrs. Westhorpe's home at Apsley House, Colton, for their April meeting which took the form of a farewell party. Mrs. E. Bettson thanked Mrs. Westhorpe for her work as secretary, then enrolling member Mrs. P. B. Best led members in a short service.

Mrs. K. Knight of Gratwich spoke of her visit to historical houses all over the country. She passed round guide books, and ended her talk with a self-composed poem, inspired by her visit to the home of Sir Thomas Beecham.

Mrs. Preston proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Knight.

Mesdames Best, V. James and M. J. Taylor donated the raffle prize, which was won by Mrs. B. Ravenscroft.

Thanks were given to Miss E. Rotchell for collecting donations for the flowers to decorate Colton church at Easter. Miss Rotchell proposed that money left over when she purchased the flowers should be used for floral church decorations at Whitsun.

Colton

The April meeting of Colton Women's Institute took place at The Cottage Stores, by invitation of the treasurer Mrs. Brown and Mr. Jack Brown. The president, Mrs. I. Preston, welcomed Mesdames Britten and Hurd, new residents in Colton who were attending as visitors. It was announced that the village produce guild had agreed to join forces with the W.I. at the stall to be staged at the donkey derby in June. It was agreed that instead of a meeting in

GUILD.— Presiding at the annual general meeting of Colton Village Produce Guild, Mrs. Ivy Preston thanked Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown for allowing the use of their home for the meeting. Mr. Brown handed everyone a glass of his home-made wine. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The treasurer, Mrs. Brown, presented the financial report, which was considered satisfactory. She was thanked by Miss D. M. Jones. The secretary, Mrs. C. M. Sanders, gave her report. Mrs B.M. Ravenscroft, extended members' thanks to her. The president thanked members for their loyal support throughout the year. She was thanked in return by Mrs. Norah Jones, vice-president. Mr. Maurice Williscroft attended as teller. All officers were re-elected. There was no election for committee. Mrs. Ravenscroft will continue as Press representative and Mrs. Brown offered to attend to "home and country". The rest of the committee are: Mrs. L. Jackson (assistant secretary), Mrs. E. M. Sargeant (assistant treasurer), Mrs. M. G. Bennett, Mrs. June Meddings and Mrs. Jean Fowell. Invitations were received from Hamstall Ridware, Colwich Slitting Mill and Hixon. And a letter was read from Rugeley Round, regarding the donkey derby. It was decided to accept their suggestion of a space at this event, on a payment of two guineas. Proceeds would be used for the W.I. and it was agreed to ask the produce guild to join in with the W.I. It was also agreed to again help, as last year, at the Midland Festival of Steam. A rail outing is to be arranged to Windsor. Members will again collect for the Cancer Research Campaign. Details of the spring meeting of the Parkside group at Colwich were settled. Hostesses were Mesdames Bennett, Lamb, Preston, Sargeant and Ravenscroft. The raffle was won by Mrs. Brown. The April meeting will also take place

MOTHERS' UNION. — For their monthly meeting Colton Mothers' Union members joined Blithfield members in Newton Village Hall. Following a service taken by Mrs. G. Vernon (Blithfield Enrolling Member), a enlightening talk, illustrated by a film, was given by Mr. James, a representative of the Church of England Children's Society, on the general work of th's

COLTON

V.P.G. : Members of Colton Village Produce Guild with one or two friends spent an interesting evening last week, when they had a conducted tour of Blithfield Reservoir, dam, and control tower. They also watched their Guide feed the fish in the numerous tanks. The chairman, Mr. Jack Brown, expressed thanks to the Guide.

COLTON Village Produce Guild held their recent meeting at the home of chairman Mr. Jack Brown.

Mr. Brown said he was glad to see Mr. J. James back after his illness. In reply Mr. James thanked members for their get well cards. A welcome was also extended to Mr. Alan Hurd, a new resident in Colton who was attending his first meeting.

Another new member is Mrs. G. Haynes, but she was not able to attend that evening. Members were pleased that their pot plant exhibit in the County Show had come third in the foliage section, thanks to those who loaned plants.

An appeal was made for plants to place in the borders around the War Memorial, and for helpers in the Best Kept Village competition.

The "Best Kept Garden" competition will take place in July, and members were invited to the Village Stores for the presentation of prizes in early August.

An interesting talk was given by Mr. S. Deakin on "Fuchsias", who illustrated his talk with numerous plants.

A raffle prize given by Mrs. Haynes was won by Mrs. H. Bruce. Hostesses were Miss D. M. Jones and Mrs. L. Jackson.

A FEW members of Colton Village Produce Guild enjoyed a "gardeners' evening" with a horticultural quiz arranged by Brereton Gardeners' Association. Mr. J. Ivison of Lichfield was question master.

Teams taking part were Brereton Gardeners' Associa-

During the annual meeting of the Staffordshire Association of Village Produce Guilds at the County College of Agriculture, Rodbaston, an interesting talk on "Plants and People" was given by Mr. C. E. Armstrong, head of the horticultural department of Kesteven Agriculturel College, Lincolnshire.

Mr. J. D. Lewis presided and the following officers were elected: President, Professor Alan Greenwell of Keele University; secretary, Mr. D. M. Gibb; treasurer, Mrs. M. S. Toye; auditor, Mr. J. Wheatley; representative to the National Federation, Mr. J. J. Nock.

Colwich's resolution that all guilds should pay 1s. per member to the association in affiliation fees was defeated.

Winners of the quiz were the Maer team, Colwich came second, with Tittensor, third. In the draw, prizes wetn all over the county and Mrs. Toye won the £10 prize.

The Penkridge winners of the Febru... nted

COLTON

BEST KEPT GARDENS. — Judges in the Colton Parish Council's best kept gardens competition were Mr. J. Spinks, of Ingestre Gardens; Mr. G. Allson, of Great Haywood; and Mr. E. Dalby, of Oakham, Rutland. Results were: Parish Council Cup for most comprehensive garden — 1, Mrs. Hilda Bell, Barn Cottage, Blithbury-road; 2, Mr. A. J. Haynes, of 6, Oldhams Cottages; 3, Mr. Thomas Preston, No. 7 Holding, Blithbury-road. Little Hay Rose Bowl for most attractive garden in village — 1, Mr. and Mrs. David Pitts, 88,

THE RUGELEY TIMES

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Monday,

Dear Mrs Ravenscroft,

Yes, please get a story from the golden wedding people. I am asking Mr Jones to go for a picture but don't know at present when it will be convenient. It is almost certain to be Tuesday, because he is planning to take Wed. off to make up for working last Sat. and today. Perhaps you will warn them to expect him on Tues. afternoon ?

Yours sincerely

P.s. No August papers available but I shall be destroying file copies when our bound file is received. Will they do? They will have holes in back.

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May. 29.62.

Dear Mrs Ravenscroft,

Thanks for letter and your help. Shall be glad to hear of the P.C. on Thursday, but keep it short! If too interesting to shorten, hold it for the following week.

Regarding the P.C.C., I rang the rector for time and place of the Blithfield youth club meeting and he told me of the P.C.C. He asked if we should be getting it from you and I reminded him that he had ruled that he was Press officer. He hinted that things were going smoothly in the village again and that those things were best forgotten (my words, not his).

I accepted a report by phone in case you were not sending, and did two stories - one about the pumping station, the other on general matters. The pumping bit got in, the others were held over. Before I had written up the others your report came in, so I combined his and yours. I believe a bit also went in the Pulpit column.

From all this you will gather that you are in order in charging for it, I think, and also in order in reporting church news!!!

Yours sincerely

Alec Hood

Rugeley Times

West Midlands Press Limited

BOW STREET RUGELEY
TELEPHONE RUGELEY 3355-6

October 24 1972

Dear Mrs. Ravenscroft

Thanks for letting me know those pinnographic joss. I note that the Wyatt's Diamond Wedding falls on a Thursday - we would like to use it in that week's issue, out on November 11, so would it be possible for you to do a repeat the week before and let me have it by Nov 10? Thank you. Otherwise it will be a week late. We shall probably be calling to take a picture of Mr and Mrs. Wyatt on either November 6 or Nov. 7.

Yours

Patricia Lams (Mrs.)
Chief Reporter.



With thanks and appreciation to

Ruth Williams & Gwen Johnson

for allowing us to copy their father's scrap book