

“Merthyr Express” 22 April 1882 St. John’s Ambulance Association A Public Meeting will be held at the Drill Hall on Friday 28th April at 8.30p.m., for the purpose of establishing a centre in connection with the St. John’s Ambulance Association. The Association is intended to instruct all persons, so as to enable them to give first aid to any wounded or sick person in the absence of a doctor or surgeon. In a district like this, such instruction is of the utmost value, and all classes are invited to support the movement. Pearson R. Cresswell, Lieut-Col. 2nd. Glamorgan R.V., Dowlais, 20th April, 1882.

“Merthyr Express” 12 May 1900 Ambulance We congratulate Dr. Eleazer Davies on the marked success which has attended his efforts in connection with the Ambulance class. Twenty eight students passed successfully through the examination at the end of the term. We hope to see a continuation of this class next winter.

“Merthyr Express” 2 August 1902 Ambulance A squad from Fochriw has won the chief price of £5 out of seven teams competing at Pontypridd. The squad was as follows: W. J. Ballard (team captain), T. Jones, D. L. Jones, D. W. Edwards, Thomas Davies. Their teacher was Dr. Eleazer Davies.

“Merthyr Express” 25 April 1903 Ambulance An ambulance squad consisting of the following members of Dr. Davies' Class – Messrs. W. J. Ballard (captain), Thomas Jones, Thomas Davies, D. L. Jones, D. W. Edwards - succeeded in getting the first prize at the Mountain Ash Eisteddfod.

“Merthyr Express” 9 May 1903 Technical Instruction The following members of Dr. Davies' class were successful in the recent examination in ambulance: 3rd year - D. L. Jones and W. Cole; 2nd year - D. Jenkins, H. Thomas, J. Llewelyn, S. Llewellyn; 1st year - S. Cole, D. Cole, J. Morgan, W. Jones, R. Jenkins, C. Ballard, R. Jones, J. Jones, T. A. Jones, T. Jenkins, Tom Evans, J. Edwards; junior - Kinsey Llewellyn.

“Merthyr Express” 3 October 1903 Presentation At the schools on Thursday evening last, the services rendered by Sergeant W. J. M'Murray of Dowlais, were recognised in a practical form by the teacher and members of the Fochriw Ambulance Class. The teams from this class have done splendid work during the past season in the numerous competitions they have attended, and this success is due to some extent, to the very valuable instruction in military drill given by Sergeant M'Murray. In a recent competition for the shield, when pitted against the best teams of South Wales, the Fochriw team came in a very close second to Ystalyfera, the holders of the shield. At the presentation meeting, Dr. Davies, the teacher of the class, presided, and after a few remarks, Sergeant M'Murray was made the recipient of a handsome photo of himself, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Serjeant W. J. M'Murray for services rendered, by the Fochriw Ambulance Class, 24th September, 1903." A splendid walking stick was also presented to the Serjeant by Dr. Eleazer Davies. Speeches and songs were given by Messrs. D. Cole, T. Davies, J. Evans, W. Cole, E. Lewis, and S. Cole.

“Merthyr Express” 24 June 1905 Ambulance On Tuesday evening, at the Council Schools, a public distribution of certificates and medallions to the pupils of the Fochriw Ambulance Class took place. Mr. John Henry Jones, manager of the Fochriw Collieries, presided, and Mrs. Jones made the presentations. The certificates were handed to the following, with a kind remark to each: Edwin Davies, Austin Price, James Davies and Arthur Ballard; and the medallions to Rhys D. Jenkins, John Morgan, Tom Evans, Tom Jenkins, Simon Cole, John Edwards, James Jones and Caradog Ballard. Also, Mrs. Jones handed to William John Ballard, a member of the class since its formation six years ago, a silver medal and a walking stick of ivory and ebony, silver-mounted, with a suitable inscription. Mr. Ballard has acted as right-hand man to the surgeon-instructor, Dr. Eleazer Davies, the latter coming in for a travelling bag and dressing-case. During

the evening, the following contributed some music and recitations: Misses Elizabeth Jones and Ceridwen Thomas, Messrs. David James Thomas, Wm. Payne, Watkin Williams and John Morgan. A vote of thanks to the chairman and Mrs. Jones was proposed by Mr. James Williams, seconded by Mr. James Evans, and carried with ringing cheers. The singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" brought the evening to a close.

“Merthyr Express” 15 September 1906 Concert On Saturday evening, a concert was held at the Fochriw Council School, in aid of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade (instructor in brigade drill, Sergeant Wm. John Ballard). Dr. Eleazer Davies presided, and the following programme of music was gone through: overture "Zamps" - Miss Lilian Williams; duett "Awake" - Misses E. Jones and J. Jenkins; song "Y Fellten" - Mr. T. Shankland; violin solo "Romance & Bolero" - Mr. W. Barry, Dowlais; song "Babylon" - Miss E. Jones; song "Margharita" - Mr. T. P. Jones, Dowlais; song "Gwlad y Delyn" - Miss J. Jenkins; duet "Flow, gentle Deva" - Messrs. T. P. Jones & T. Shankland; song "The Storm Fiend" - Mr. T. Shankland; duett "Wicked Cupid" - Misses Jones & Jenkins; violin solo "Blue Bells of Scotland" - Mr. Barry; song "Peidiwch a dweyd wrth fy nghariad" - Miss Jones; song "O na byddai'n haf o hyd" - Mr. Jones; duet "A, B, C" - Miss Jones & Mr. Shankland; quartette "Good Night Beloved" - the four soloists; finale "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau." All the artistes were in excellent form, and the concert was a thorough success. Mr. Edward Lewis and Mr. William Payne, members of the Ambulance Brigade, proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to the artistes and to the chairman, which was carried.

“Merthyr Express” 4 May 1907 Ambulance Brigade Work The Dowlais ambulance centre, which comprises the brigades of Dowlais, Fochriw, and Bedlinog, held their first parade of the season on Saturday at the Dowlais Central Schools yard. The men, who numbered about 40, gave a display of stretcher drill and other work in excellent style. The Bedlinog contingent, who alone were dressed in uniform, looked particularly smart, and it is hoped that in the very near future, the other sections will be similarly equipped.

“Merthyr Express” 11 May 1907 Ambulance Brigade Work Arrangements are being made for a big display of ambulance brigade work on Wednesday evening at the Central Schools, Dowlais, commencing at 6.30p.m.. A parade and inspection by the Chief Commissioner, Inspector General B. Nimms (London), and Deputy Commissioner for the District, Lieut-Col. E. Cureton, will take place. Divisions from Abertillery, Blaina, Tredegar, Brynmawr, Merthyr, Bedlinog, Fochriw, and Dowlais will be present. Special return train arrangements are being made for the brigade men and visitors from Bedlinog and Fochriw. A hearty invitation is extended to all interested in ambulance work in the public generally, to be present.

“Merthyr Express” 19 October 1907 Ambulance The Fochriw Ambulance Brigade held their first Church parade on Sunday 6th October. After parading the principal streets, they proceeded to St. Mary's Church where the Rev. T. Theophilus, vicar of Tredegar, preached an appropriate sermon.

25 April 1908 Ambulance Examination At the Council Schools on Wednesday night week, Dr. H. Lewis-Hughes, Dowlais, examined the students of Dr. Eleazer Davies. The following sat for examination: Medallions - Mr. Henry Hughes, Mr. Evan Jones, Mr. Jesse Williams; Labels - Messrs. D. Jenkins, James Jones, Thomas Jones, Simon Cole, John Morgan, Thomas Evans, Thomas Jenkins; Vouchers - Messrs. Joshua Evans, David J. Evans; First Year - Messrs. D. C. Jones and John Walters.

“Merthyr Express” 13 June 1908 New Ambulance Brigade Drill Hall At Fochriw: Munificent Gift of Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds: Opening Ceremony by Mr. F. A. Gray, Chief Inspector of Mines Whit-Tuesday was a great day in the history of the

little village of Fochriw, the occasion being the opening of a fine Hall, the gift of Messrs Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Ltd. to the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade. The village was gaily decorated, flags and streamers floating from nearly all the houses in the district. The hall was built by Mr. William Walters, Dowlais, from designs by Mr. Vaughan, mechanical engineer, Dowlais, and the splendid workmanship put into the building reflects greatly to his credit. The building is capable of seating nearly 200 people. A committee room has also been built in close proximity to the hall, behind which is an excellent drill ground, which has been made by the personal labour of members of the Brigade, who have worked hard for many days, conveying ashes from the tip close by.

Previous to the opening ceremony, performed by Mr. Gray, Chief Inspector of Mines for the district, the annual inspection of the Dowlais Corps took place on the mountainside by the inspecting Officer, Mr. J. W. White, Iron Bridge, assistant commissioner of No. 7 District. The brigades present were: Fochriw Division (Superintendent W. J. Ballard); Dowlais Division; Bedlinog Division; Troedyrhiw Division. Also present were: Dr. H. Lewis-Hughes, chief surgeon of the Dowlais Corps; Dr. Eleazer Davies, honorary surgeon Fochriw Division; Mr. Tom Davies, chief superintendent of Rhondda Fawr Corps; Mr. Arthur Lucas, superintendent secretary Dowlais Corps; Mr. H. W. Martin, Cardiff; Mr. F. A. Gray, HM Chief Inspector of Mines; Mr. Herbert Lewis, assistant commissioner, St John Ambulance Brigade; Mr. Saint, Deputy Inspector of Mines; Mr. J. H. Jones, Fochriw; Sergeant Thorney, Dowlais; Inspector Edwards, Dowlais. The Fochriw Brass Band under Mr. William Mantle (in the absence of Mr. Wm. Powell who was in competition with the Deri Band), headed the huge procession up to the mountainside, and again, later, on the return journey which preceded the opening ceremony.

Mr. Martin, in a very neat speech, referred to the great usefulness of ambulance work, especially at the collieries. It was noble work. He was glad to see the drill done so well. He then handed Mr. Gray the key to the Ambulance Hall. Mr. Gray opened the door and declared the hall open. The room was soon packed, crowds failing to gain admittance. Mr. J. H. Jones, colliery manager, took the chair at the meeting which followed. He said that they were all very pleased to see Mr. Martin amongst them once again, and equally pleased to see Mr. Gray present. He was sure that there were not two gentlemen in Wales more in sympathy with ambulance work and they were. They were very grateful to Mr. Martin, and his son, Mr. Stewart Martin, for working so hard to attain this room for the use of the Ambulance Brigade. The Band was also to have use of the room for practice.

Mr. F. A. Gray spoke very highly of ambulance work, stating that first aid was often the means of effecting a speedy recovery. He felt proud of Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds for their noble gift; also to Mr. H. W. Martin and his son for working so hard to obtain it.

Mr. White, assistant commissioner, said he was happy to see employers and managers taking such a great interest in ambulance work. Mr. Herbert Lewis, assistant commissioner, St John Ambulance Brigade, spoke of the rapid strides ambulance work was making throughout the country, but no where so rapidly as in Wales. He appealed to the women to form a nursing institution.

The Rev. L. P. Davies, proposed a vote of thanks to Messrs. G. K. N. Ltd., for their magnificent gift. Mr. Charles Payne, in rising to second the vote of thanks, referred to the great work done by Florence Nightingale, and hoped that the women of Fochriw would follow Mr. Lewis's advice and form a nursing institute in the village. He spoke in glowing terms of Messrs. G. K. N. Ltd, of Mr. H. W. Martin, of Mr. Stewart Martin,

and also of Mr. J. H. Jones, for the interest they had taken in this great work. This was a veritable red-letter day in the history of Fochriw, and would be remembered for many years to come. It would be another link to strengthen and lengthen the chain of peace and prosperity which bound master and man together, and he hoped that the chain of love would only be severed in death. He trusted that many valuable lessons in ambulance work would be learned between the four walls of this room, so that when they were called upon to alleviate the suffering of their fellow-workmen, they would not be found wanting.

Mr. Evan Evans, Railway-terrace proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gray in a very neat speech, which Mr. Martin seconded, and spoke some very encouraging words. The good work that had been done by ambulance would be extended to rescue work. The employers would see that any apparatus brought out for rescue work would be given a trial. Ambulance men would be best to take on rescue work, but of course, the rescue brigade was as yet in its infancy. They hoped in time to have rescue stations in the Rhondda and Aberdare Valleys, and at other large centres.

Dr. E. Davies, J.P., moved a vote of thanks to the visitors, and spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. H. W. Martin, who he stated was always ready to do good work. He also thanked Mr. White. It would be too much to mention all the names; so on behalf of the committee, he proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the visitors, one and all. Inspector Edwards, Dowlais, seconded.

The procession was reformed, and headed by the Fochriw Band, marched to the Council Schools, where an excellent spread had been prepared, and to which justice was done. The tables were presided over and assistance rendered by the following: Mrs. E. Jones, Mrs. J. A. Jenkins, Mrs. G. Williams, Miss L. Williams, Mrs. Griffiths, Miss M. A. Lewis, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Evans, Miss Evans, Miss B. Jones, Miss M. A. Ballard, Miss B Ballard, Mrs. Llewellyn (grocer), Mrs. A. Jones (grocer), Mrs. J. Jones (grocer), Mrs. J. Phillips, Mrs. D. Griffiths. Help was rendered by Mr. G. Thomas, Mr. J. M. Lewis, Mr. Edward Parry, Mr. William Griffiths, Mr. D. Morgan, Mr. D. L. Jones, and Mrs. Griffiths, Brook-row. The Band continued to play dance music at intervals in the station yard during the evening.

Great praise is due to the committee for so ably carrying out all the arrangements necessary to make the opening and tea the great success they proved to be. The following gentleman composed the Committee: chairman, Dr. Eleazer Davies; secretary, Mr. Edward Lewis, Railway-terrace; treasurer, Mr. Charles Payne, Railway-terrace; Messrs. J. H. Jones, colliery manager; Sergeant Williams; Mr. H. Evans, Brook House, mechanic; Mr. James Williams, Brynawel, head clerk at collieries; Mr. David John Evans, under manager; Mr. Thomas Robert, senior under manager; Mr. Thomas Roberts, junior under manager; Mr. W. Davies, Capt. Jones, Mr. Edmund Griffiths, station master, who rendered very useful service to the committee. Mr. Edward Lewis deserves very great praise for carrying out his secretarial duties in so able a manner.

20 June 1908 Ambulance On Tuesday night, a meeting of the Ambulance Committee was held in the waiting room, Dr. Davies presiding. All those who helped at the opening ceremony of the Ambulance Hall on Whit Tuesday were thanked, including Mrs. Cooke, Blast Furnace Hotel, Mrs. W. Morgan, Picton Hotel, Messrs. J. S. Davies, Dowlais, for lending flags, etc., for decorating purposes. Mr. Stuart Martin, deputy agent for Messrs. G. K. N. was congratulated upon his recent appointment in South Africa. On behalf of Mr. F. A. Grey, Chief Inspector of Mines, Mr. Charles Payne thanked the committee for the gift of the key used at the opening ceremony.

“Merthyr Express” 31 October 1908 Presentation to Mr. Edward Lewis, Secretary of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade On Friday last, at the Fochriw Ambulance Hall,

Mr. Edward Lewis was presented with a photograph of himself by the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade, for services rendered as their secretary for a long time. The 15in. by 12in. enlargement was mounted on a 24in. by 19in. mount, finished in black and white, framed in carved oak, with flat moulding and gilt inside. A large number were present, and the chair was taken by Dr. Eleazer Davies, honorary surgeon of the Brigade. Dr. Davies spoke of Mr. Lewis's excellent qualities, and of his untiring efforts to raise money for the Brigade by sending out appeals for subscriptions to various parts of the county, and in other ways. Songs were given by Mr. David Cole ("Teithiwr a'i Gi,"), and Mr. T. Jenkins ("Under the Desert Star,"), before Mr. J. H. Jones, M.E., deputy agent, Messrs. G.K.N. Ltd. made the presentation. After speeches from Mr. Jones and Superintendent W. J. Ballard, and a reply from Mr. Lewis, there were songs from Mr. James Jones - "Mor o Gan yw Cymry," and Mr. J. Morgan - "Britons, raise your Banners High," before the meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.

31 October 1908 Ambulance The annual Church Parade of the St. John Ambulance Brigade took place on Sunday morning, when they marched in full dress order to Carmel Congregational Church, under the command of Supt. W. J. Ballard. The men were accompanied by Dr. Eleazer Davies, honorary surgeon, and they presented a very smart appearance. The pulpit was occupied by Mr. Mathias, student of Carmarthen College, who preached an appropriate sermon from St John, xi., 50.

27 March 1909 Soiree A very successful soiree awas held at the Council School on Thursday evening week, promoted by St. John Ambulance Brigade, Fochriw Branch. The tables were beautifully laid and a rich spread was provided. The tables were presided over, and assistance rendered by the following: Mrs. Martha Griffiths, Miss Maggie Griffiths, Miss Elsie Griffiths, Miss Mary Ann Lewis, Mrs. Howell Thomas, Miss Maggie Walters, Miss Mary MacArthur, Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Miss S. E. Williams, Mrs. Jennet Davies, Miss Owen, Miss Hannah Jones, Miss N. May Jones, Mrs. D. W. Lewis, Miss Nellie May James, Mrs. D. J. Williams, Miss Maria Jones, Mrs. P. S. Williams, Miss M. A. Ballard, Miss Elizabeth Jones, Miss Lilian Williams, Miss M. J. Walters, Miss Anna Evans, Mrs. Stephen Barnard, Mrs. Edward Lewis, Mrs. John Evans, Mrs. Walters, Mrs. David Griffiths, Mrs. Griffiths (Brook-row), Miss S. Williams and Miss J. A. Jenkins. The following also rendered assistance: Messrs. Dan Jenkins, John Morgan, Harry Hughes, D. J. Evans, George Thomas, Tom Jones, Tom Evans, Howell Thomas, Joshua Evans, James Jones, John Williams, Thomas Jones, Tom Jenkins, Simon Cole, Crad Ballard, John Lewis, W. J. Ballard, and Austin Price. The secretarial duties were carried out by Mr. Edward Lewis, and Mr. Daniel Jenkins acted as treasurer.

"Merthyr Express" 31 July 1909 Church Parade The Fochriw Ambulance Brigade, under Mr. William J. Ballard, attended Nazareth Church on Sunday morning. The men presented a smart appearance. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Isaac Roderick.

2 October 1909 Ambulance On Tuesday night, Major Jenkins, Chief Superintendent, Dowlais Ambulance, accompanied by Mr. A. Lucas, Superintendent Secretary, and Mr. Nicolas, Superintendent Treasurer, visited the Fochriw Ambulance Division at the Ambulance Hall. The members of the Division were in full uniform, and presented the smart appearance.

16 October 1909 Lecture A very interesting lecture on "Life-saving in Mines" was given by Mr. H. Davies, director of mining instruction, at the Ambulance Hall on Monday evening. The lecturer was illustrated by lantern views, and was highly appreciated by the large audience. The chair was taken by Mr. Evan Evans.

21 May 1910 Ambulance Parade The Fochriw St John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Supt. William John Ballard, attended Noddfa Baptist Chapel on Sunday evening. The Reverend Moses S. Young preached an appropriate sermon.

22 July 1911 Ambulance Division The Fochriw Division was well represented at the Investiture of HRH the Prince of Wales at Caernarvon, one officer and ten men having volunteered for duty. They also attended for duty at Bangor and Aberystwyth, and they were able to render first aid to many who were in sore need. They were given the most responsible station at the investiture - the Castle Square - in conjunction with Troedyrhiw and Cefn sections, along with six nursing sisters, all under the superintendence of Mr. W. J. Ballard. The place was very crowded, and several people fainted, the heat being terrific. This was also the case at Bangor and Aberystwyth. The arrangements for the camp were excellent. The men thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and there was a plentiful supply of food. The probability is that the Fochriw brigade will have their own camp next year.

16 September 1911 Ambulance Inspection The annual inspection of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was held at Fochriw. There was a good muster of the three divisions - Fochriw, Bedlinog, and Dowlais. They marched to the field in charge of their respective superintendents, and were then taken over by Chief Superintendent Jenkins. The Corps officers were all represented, and all did their work well. The inspecting officer congratulated the men on their smartness and efficiency. He noticed that there was a great improvement in carrying out their respective drills, and called the attention of officers and men to the First-aid Voluntary Detachment, and hoped that every man present would do his best to join that particular service. The weather was favourable, and one and all enjoyed the parade.

18 May 1912 Ambulance Parade The Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, held their Church Parade on Sunday evening last, when they attended Carmel Congregational Chapel. Divisional Superintendent W. J. Ballard was in charge, and the Corps Surgeon, Dr. E. Davies, was also present. The Brigade turned up in full numbers. Rev. D. Huws Jones delivered an impressive sermon, stating that the healing power of Christ was the triumph of a divine, human personality. The Christian Church, when true to its mission, perpetuates this healing force in the world. Mr. D. Davies (Pencerdd Morganwg) conducted the singing, and Mr. T. Walters was at the organ. There was a large congregation.

22 June 1912 Ambulance Inspection at Fochriw: Opening of the Ambulance Station The annual inspection of the Dowlais corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, comprising Dowlais, Bedlinog and Fochriw, took place on the mountainside on Thursday evening, last week. The inspecting officer was Mr. Herbert Lewis, Cardiff, Deputy Commissioner, No. 11 District. The Fochriw Division was in the charge Supt. W. J. Ballard. The surgeons were also present. Prior to the inspection, the Dowlais and Fochriw Divisions marched from the Ambulance Station to Pentwyn, where they were joined by the Bedlinog Division. Headed by the Pontllytyn Silver Band, under Mr. Wm. Mantle's conductorship, they paraded the streets of the village, and from thence marched to the mountainside, appropriate march tunes being played en route. After the inspection, a procession was formed, and headed by the Band, marched to the new Ambulance Station. The Station is situated in a convenient place near the colliery. It is very commodious and excellently built. It consists of a coach-house, and a first-aid dressing room, containing all the requisites for dressing any injury. It is beautifully fitted out with baths, bowls and hot and cold supply. The rooms are well finished and furnished with table, chairs and forms for the convenience of those who accompany the injured. The room has been built to afford the greatest amount of light possible, which

is essential for treating injuries. A very large number of people congregated which shows the keen interest taken in the proceedings.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Dr. E. Davies. He welcomed Mr. J. H. Jones who was to open the Ambulance Station. Mr. J. Bevan, manager, Fochriw, in presenting Mr. J. H. Jones with a key to open the Station, stated that in looking at the new ambulance car, it reminded him of the contrivances used in the past for carrying the injured to his home. He remembered a time when a wooden door was used, then came the stretcher, then the litter, and now the beautiful car, which meant greater comfort to the injured on the journey home. Today, accidents were less serious and less frequent as in the past, but still, his desire was to see them diminish. Even greater care, by workman and officials, was essential. It gave him great pleasure to hand over to Mr. Jones the beautiful silver key, suitably inscribed, with which to open the station.

At this juncture, the rain descended in torrents, which greatly marred the proceedings, but notwithstanding the terrific downpour, Mr. J. H. Jones delivered an excellent address. He said that it was a great pleasure to see so many of his Fochriw friends again, friends with whom he had lived for so many years. He could remember the time when the ambulance members carried on their drill on the railway siding beside the coal-weighing machine. Things had improved since then, for now they had an excellent hall. Nine tenths had been subscribed by the workmen towards the purchase of one of the cars. In speaking of the Station, he said that the directors had ordered it to be built at once, and, to be built well. He then descended from the platform, and amidst rounds of cheering, opened the Station.

The huge crowd then resorted to the Ambulance Hall, where a very good programme was provided. Mr. Herbert Lewis, Deputy Commissioner, said that he was very pleased to be present at such a pleasant ceremony. The masters and men should work for the good of one another. He congratulated the people of Fochriw on having such a large number of ambulance men amongst them. He urged the women to start an ambulance nursing brigade.

A solo, "Bachgen Drwr," was rendered in fine style by Mr. James Jones, after which the Rev. Rhys Jenkins spoke. Miss Ceridwen Thomas then sang "In Mellow Autumntide," followed by short addresses by Mr. William Walters (in Welsh), and Mr. E. P. Thomas, colliery manager, Bedlinog. A duet, "Bydd bur I Gymru Fad," was rendered by Messrs. C. Shankland and W. Morris, and thanks were accorded to the Chairman and all who had taken part in the proceedings.

29 June 1912 Ambulance: Royal Review at Windsor The Fochriw Division of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Supt. W. J. Ballard, left for Windsor on Friday night for the Royal Review. They returned home on Saturday morning. The men had a most enjoyable time.

6 July 1912 Ambulance The Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was on public duty at Dowlais on Thursday last, on the occasion of the King's visit. Before going on duty, Mrs. Dr. Davies presented two of their number with the medals issued by the Order of St. John on the occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty King George. The two members were Corporals H. Thomas and T. A. Jones, who represented the Fochriw Division at the Coronation in London.

1 March 1913 Ambulance Mr. Will Hagggar's Picuredrome was packed on Wednesday, when a benefit performance was given by Mr. Hagggar's Company for the Fochriw Division of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The brigade marched in full uniform from the headquarters to Pontlottyn, under the command of Supt. W. J. Ballard. An excellent programme was provided including 'Waterplane trials for the Japanese Navy,' 'The Story of a Wager,' 'Jack and the

Beanstalk,' 'His Brother's Chance,' 'Red Saunder's Sacrifice,' and 'His Mother's Picture.' Mr. Charles Payne thanked Mr. Haggar for his generosity.

14 June 1913 Benefit Performance On Thursday evening, Mr. Haggar gave a benefit performance in aid of the Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade at the Theatre, Pontlottyn. This was the second benefit given for the Brigade in a short time, they having half the proceeds on both occasions. There was a full house, and an excellent programme which was as follows:- duet - 'Put your arms around me honey,' - Mr. Bob Matthews and Miss Bennett; selections - Aber Silver Band; song - 'Heroes of mine' - Mr. Matthews; song - 'Daddy' - Miss Rita Bennett; selections - Abertysswg Silver Band; songs - Mr. Jack Clare; piccolo solo - 'The Wren.' Mr. Charles Payne thanked Mr. Haggar and company for their generosity on behalf of the Ambulance Brigade.

5 July 1913 Church Parade The Fochriw St. John Ambulance Brigade had their annual church parade last Sunday evening, when they marched to Nazareth Chapel under the command of Superintendent W. J. Ballard. The weather was beautiful. Rev. Isaac Roderick officiated, and the singing was conducted by Mr. Wm. Norris with Mr. Roderick Jones at the organ.

30 August 1913 Ambulance About 20 members of the Fochriw Division of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade went under canvas at Porthcawl on Saturday. The men presented quite a smart appearance in their uniforms on the march to Pontlottyn station, from whence they entrained to Porthcawl. They are spending a week at the camp.

6 September 1913 Ambulance Twenty men of the Fochriw Ambulance Division returned from Porthcawl on Saturday. The weather was all that could be desired. This was the first camp organised by the eleventh district, under the command of deputy commissioner, Herbert Lewis. It proved a huge success, all men reporting that they enjoyed themselves immensely.

17 July 1915 St. John Ambulance The Fochriw Division held their annual parade on Sunday. They met at their headquarters, the Ambulance Drill Hall, and marched in review order to Carmel Congregational Chapel to attend Divine Service, which was conducted by the Rev D. Hughes Jones, pastor. He delivered a very impressive sermon. Some of the members of the division, have joined the R.A.M.C. unit of the Welsh Army, and are now in training at Prestatyn. The brigade turned out wearing the new uniforms, and looked smart and efficient, their uniforms being of the new design. The Division was under the command of Superintendent W J. Ballard. Dr. E. Davis, Corps surgeon, was unable to attend owing to ill-health.

30 October 1915 Sewing Guild It is gratifying to know that the carnival, held by the St. John Ambulance Sewing Guild in aid of wounded soldiers, proved a success. In spite of a rather inclement weather, the procession was large and pretty, including Boy Scouts, Red Cross nurses, the Brass Band, and the Ambulance Brigade. The receipts were £13-8-6, and the expenses £1-7-11, leaving a profit of £12-0-7. The proceeds were spent in sending four dozen shirts, five dozen pairs of stockings, and 19 scarves to our wounded heroes, through Mr. Herbert Lewis, honorary secretary of the R.A.M.C. Association, Cardiff. The members of the committee wish to thank all who helped with the carnival, the concert and refreshments, also the ladies who washed the garments before they were sent away.

19 February, 1916 Flags Day A Flag Day in aid of St. John Hospitals, was observed last Saturday. The principal streets of the village were paraded by the Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of bandmaster W. J. Powell. The procession also

included the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade under the command of Superintendent W. J. Ballard. A number of ladies were busy throughout the day disposing of flags.

11 March 1916 Fancy Dress Dance A fancy dress dance was held at St. Mary's Hall, on Thursday week, on behalf of the funds of the St. John Ambulance, and was well attended. The master of ceremonies was Mr. R. Woods, and the pianist was Mr. H. Salmon.

1 April 1916 Concert A concert was held at Noddfa Chapel on Thursday evening week, the chapel being lent for the occasion. An excellent programme of music, etc, was given a by Bargoed Orpheus Party, under their conductor Mr. D. Roberts. Solos, duets, quartettes, and choruses were rendered by the party. Miss Adelaide Roberts presided at the piano, and the chair was occupied by the Reverend E. Williams. The proceeds of the concert were towards the St. John Hospital funds.

24 June 1916 St. John Ambulance Brigade The annual inspection of the Dowlais Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was held at Fochriw last Saturday under favourable conditions. The divisions were in charge of their respective officers, Supt. W. J. Ballard commanding the Fochriw men. The men were taken through different and interesting parts of Ambulance work, and proved very successful at their tasks, satisfying the inspecting officers – Mr. H. Lewis, deputy commissioner; Lieutenant Richards, district superintendent; Captain Dr. Rocyn Jones, district secretary; Mr. Davidson, corps superintendent. Great interest was shown by the people of Fochriw. They attended in large numbers, and were much interested in the work of the brigade. The Fochriw Brass Band played on the procession to the field, under their band master Mr. William Powell. Among the visitors on the field were Mr. Tudor Davies, M.E., deputy agent for Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, who has shown a keen interest in ambulance work since coming to Dowlais, and Mr. J. Bevan, M.E., manager of the Fochriw collieries, who is also a great supporter of the brigade. The inspecting Officer, Mr. H. Lewis, Cardiff, complimented the corps on its efficiency, and expressed a desire to see the ladies of the neighbourhood taking up the work with the men, and helping generally, as a great number of men would be called away. 28,000 men of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were already serving with the colours.

2 September 1916 St. John Ambulance A meeting was held at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday evening last, when Lieutenant- Colonel Herbert Lewis delivered a very interesting address on the work already done by the Order of the St. John Ambulance throughout the country for wounded soldiers and sailors. He also pointed out the immediate needs of the Order in order to carry out the work in future. The task of succouring the wounded was very great. 38,000 beds were at present being occupied by wounded soldiers throughout the country. Mr. Evan Evans, sub-agent, presided. The Fochriw Lodge of Miners voted 3d. a week for 16 weeks after hearing the case put by Mr. H. Lewis.

16 June 1917 St. John Ambulance Brigade The members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade held their annual Church parade on Sunday evening. It started from headquarters, headed by the Fochriw Brass Band, under Mr. W. J. Powell, and marched to St. Mary's Church under the command of Superintendent W. J. Ballard. The Vicar, Rev. John Francis, preached a powerful sermon from Job 28, 28. The singing was conducted by Mr. B. Angell, and Mr. O. Richards presided at the organ.

23 June 1917 Ambulance On Thursday evening last week, a concert was held under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, at the Ambulance Drill Hall, in connection with the presentation of certificates to the successful students for the class session of 1916-1917. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. Bevan, Mining Engineer, manager of the Fochriw collieries. Mr. Tudor Davies, M.E., the agent for

Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds Collieries, was present, and made an impressive address, in which he appealed to the young people of Fochriw to build up ambulance work in their spare time. It was a pleasure for him to see nine certificates presented, but he hoped that next year the number would be much larger. The Reverend John Francis, vicar, also spoke with fervour of the work done by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and of the mission of that great Order. He appealed to people of the place, and said they could not use their abilities to a better purpose. Mr. Edward Lewis, an old member of the Brigade, was has taken an active part for years in ambulance work, spoke well of the work carried out in the place under the regime of the late Dr. Eleazer Davies. Mrs. Bevan then presented certificates. The following artistes took part: Mrs. H. Davies Fochriw; Mr. J. J. Lewis, Dowlais; Miss H. Davies; Miss Doris Davies; and Mr. D. Cole Jones. Messrs. D. C. Jones and H. Hughes were the accompanists.

27 October 1917 Flag Day Flag Day one has a observed at the Fochriw on Saturday in aid of the St. John Ambulance and Red Cross. And number of ladies were busy throughout the day the village disposing of flags.

22 December 1917 Drama Two excellent performances of the Welsh drama "Machan Mawr I!" were given at St. Mary's Hall by the Ambulance Dramatic Society to large audiences on Thursday and Saturday last week. Great praise is due to the performers for the able way each of them sustained their respective parts. The following took part: Mr. James Jones, Mr. Trevor Lewis, Mr. John Morgan, Mr. Harry Hughes, Mr. E. Morris, Mr. Tom Jenkins, Mr. D. James, Mr. D. I. Evans, Mr. Tom Evans, Miss M. A. Walters, Miss Gwen Rees, Mrs. T. Evans, Miss M. Cole.

7 December 1918 Ambulance The day presentation meeting in connection with the Fochriw Female Ambulance Class was held in the Ambulance Hall on Monday evening, when the successful candidates of last year's class were presented with their certificates. The chair was occupied by the Rev. John Francis, who gave a stirring address on the great values of ambulance, appealing to all to take up the good work. The presentation of certificates was made by Mrs. John Francis. Nurse Thomas, in a very pleasing speech, presented Mr. Thomas Jones and Mr. W. J. Barnard with a beautiful walking stick each, in recognition of their great work for the ambulance cause. Both responded with feeling. Addresses were also given by Mr. Samuel Jones, Dowlais, and Mrs. E. Cole Jones. An excellent programme of music was contributed to by the following: Madame H. C. Davies, Miss Hilda Davies, Miss Enid Evans, Master Stanley Lewis; recitations, Mr. W. Lewis. A hearty vote of thanks to all was proposed by Mr. Howell Thomas, seconded by Mr. Edward Lewis. A pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau."

2 August 1919 Ambulance Inspection The annual inspection of the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Dowlais Corps) was held at Fochriw on Saturday, when the Chief Commissioner of the Grand Priory of Wales attended to inspect the different divisions, namely, Fochriw, Bedlinog, and Dowlais. The Chief Commissioner, Mr. Herbert Lewis, expressed his satisfaction at the manner in which the men performed the drills, and added that there had been a decided improvement since his last inspection. He was also particularly grateful for the good work which had been done in the caring for the injured that came up for treatment. He then presented long service medals to Mr. A. Lucas, the Corps superintendent, and to Mr. Parker, the Dowlais Division Superintendent. Colonel Jones, deputy commissioner for the county of the Glamorgan, spoke, and urged every member to continue first-aid work. Mr. Tudor Davies, M. E., spoke in glowing terms of the work which was carried on day-by-day with these men, with whose splendid efforts he came into daily contact. Mr. Davies advised the men to learn how to render first aid in their leisure hours. Three cheers were given to the Chief

Commissioner and his deputies on their departure, and the divisions marched to the station, headed by the Fochriw Brass Band, who gave their services for the occasion.

6 March 1920 St. Mary's Hall On Saturday, the members of the Fochriw Ambulance Dramatic Society gave an excellent performance of the Welsh drama "Y Ferch o Cefn Ydfa" at the above Hall to crowded audiences. The whole performance was magnificent. The characters were ably sustained by the following: Harry Hughes, Dan Jenkins, Dan James, W. Hughes, Mr. G. Cole, J. Morgan, C. Ballard, J. Morgan (Pentwyn), J. and T. Evans, S. Wright, Mrs Thomas, M. A. Walters, A. Thomas, M. Cole, M. Jones, M. MacArthur, A. Llewellyn, S. Jones, E. A. Jones. Stage-managers: Messrs. T. Jones and W. J. Ballard. Scenic artists: Howell Thomas and David Harris. Pianist, Miss H Evans.

16 October 1920 Presentation: Ambulance and Home Nursing Certificates A very well attended meeting was held at Noddfa vestry on Tuesday evening to make presentations to the successful candidates in the Ambulance and Home Nursing Classes. The chair was occupied by the Reverend Esaiiah Williams. Others present on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. John Bevan, M.E., and Mrs. Arthur Lewis, West Bromwich, late of Dowlais. Between the musical programme, Mrs. John Bevan made the presentation of certificates to the following: Messrs. Sydney Wright, Josiah Evans, Thomas Thomas, William Angell, Emlyn Evans, Daniel Jenkins, Harry Hughes, Thomas Jenkins, J. R. Walters, D. Rees, G. Cole, B. Shankland, Misses E. M. Thomas, Doris Davies, A. M. Jones, Maggie Evans, Mrs. M. A. Ballard, J. M. Lawrence, E. Cole Jones, Annie Evans, S. J. Jones. After the usual votes of thanks, Mr. Theo. Shankland led the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" which brought the evening to a close.

17 December 1921 Ambulance A meeting was held at the Ambulance Hall on Tuesday evening last, the occasion being to present a long service medals to members of the St. John Ambulance Corps to mark their 15 years service, and also to present first aid certificates to the ladies who had attended the classes. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Samuel Evans, Vicar, who gave a very appropriate opening address. Mr Tudor Davies, M.E., chairman of the Merthyr Centre of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, gave an excellent address and very encouraging advice. Chief Constable Mansell Davies, Commissioner of the Merthyr Centre, then pinned the ribbons, the medals being held over to be presented at a bigger function. The following gentleman received the ribbons: Corps Superintendent W. J. Ballard, Corps Treasurer Daniel Jenkins, Corporals Caradoc Ballard, Harry Hughes, Tom Evans, Privates Stephen Ballard, Tom Jenkins. Mr. John Bevan then presented the following ladies with first aid certificates: Mrs. Ceridwen Walters, Mrs. Sarah J. Jones, Mrs. Annie Evans, Mrs. Bronwen Davies.

17 June 1922 Annual Ambulance Conference This was held at Dowlais. Mr. J. B. Lewis (checkweigher) and Mr. Sims, assistant colliery manager, were the Fochriw representatives.

1 July 1922 Ambulance At the recent Ambulance Inspection held at Merthyr, we were very pleased to see the following recipients of long-service medals who were members of the Fochriw Corps: Corps Supt. W. J. Ballard, Corps Treasurer Daniel Jenkins, Corpl. Harry Hughes, Corpl. Tom Evans, Corpl. Caradoc Ballard, Pte. Stephen Ballard, Hon. Sergeant Tom Jenkins. Certificates of thanks for services rendered during the war were awarded to Pte. Edwin Davies and Nurse Mary Hughes.

10 February 1923 St. John's Ambulance Brigade Three new cadet divisions - the Mardy Cadet, the Fochriw Cadet, and the Tumble Cadet - have been formed recently, as young people are becoming keenly interested in all parts. Enrolment is open to boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 18.

17 February 1923 Drama On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Fochriw Ambulance Dramatic Society presented 'The Gipsy King.' The players were: Messrs. H. Hughes, S. Lewis, C. Ballard, J. Jones, Stanley Lewis, J. Morgan, W. Hughes, T. Evans, D. Jones, J. Morgan, G. Davies; Misses A. M. Jones, M. McArthur; Mrs. A. Ballard. The accompanist was Mr. T. Walters, the stage managers, Mr. T. Jones and W. J. Ballard, and the scenic artists, Messrs. D. Harris and H. Thomas.

26 May 1923 Ambulance Competition at Dowlais On the Committee was Mr. Dan Jenkins of Fochriw, and amongst the stewards was Mr. H. Thomas, Fochriw.

1 March 1924 Drama At St. Mary's Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday last, the Ambulance Dramatics Society delighted large audiences with the well-known drama 'East Lynne.' The whole production was given in fine style and speaks well of the dramatic talent of the village. The staging, scenery and dresses were greatly admired, and nothing but praise could be heard for the way the drama was played out. Parts were played by Mr. Harry Hughes, Mr. Willie Hughes, Mr. Crad Ballard, Mr. D. James, Mr. Tom Evans, Master Emlyn Evans, Miss Annie Maud James, Miss Maria Jones, Miss Hannah Evans, Miss Mary Hughes and Miss Sarah Jones. The stage managers were Messrs. Thomas Jones, Howell Thomas and W. J. Ballard.

6 March 1926 St. John Ambulance A Flag Day was held on Friday and Saturday in aid of the above. Guardian M. J. Bevan supervised the flags and flowers, and the following also did splendid work: Mesdames S. Evans, P. Isaac, W. J. Payne, T. Evans, I. Evans, D. Davies, S. Jones, Weeks, Clark, Misses M. Jones, D. Walters, M. Morgan, G. Lewis, M. Lewis, E. A. Jenkins, M. Davies, L. Marshallsea, Morgan, L. M. Jones, Stokes, Wills, A. Morgan, Mattie Evans, Woodley, Davies, Jenkins, Ricketts, Mona Evans, Stokes, P. P. Evans, and Jenkins. The sum of the £11 13s 8d was realised between Fochriw and Deri. Messrs. John Morgan and James Jones also disposed of flags and flowers.

26 February 1927 Ambulance Awards Following the presentation to Mr. E. Lewis, the distribution of awards to the G.W.R. ambulance class were made. Compliments were paid to the teacher, Dr. T. S. Evans, and the instructor, Mr. T. Jones. Awards were presented to the following: 1st year: Messrs. S. Brissett, W. E. Davies, W. D. Jones, T. Davies; second year: Mr. D. G. King; medallions; Messrs. J. Thomas, T. J. Jones, W. A. Lewis, P. Jenkins and S. G. Thomas.

17 March 1928 Ambulance Concert On Wednesday evening at Carmel Chapel, a large audience was entertained to a rich musical treat, when Mr. Evan Thomas (Alaw Morlais) with his renowned Dowlais Male Voice Party, assisted by talented artistes, gave a programme of outstanding merit. The concert was in aid of the St. John Ambulance Brigade of the Merthyr Borough Centre. Dr. T. Stenner Evans presided. The proceedings opened with the choir singing "Tempest and Calm" followed by delightful items from the artistes. In the interval, Mr. W. J. Canton, LL. B., who is vice-president of the Merthyr Borough Centre, addressed the meeting.

23 June 1928 Ambulance On Saturday last, the local Ambulance Division journeyed to Merthyr Vale for their annual inspection. Both the officers and men looked very smart; they were under the command of Superintendent Mr. John Morgan. The inspection was conducted by Sir Herbert D. W. Lewis, and during the evening the following members were presented with long service bars by the Chief Commissioner: Corps Secretary Daniel Jenkins, Corps Treasurer William John Barnard, Corporals T. Evans and C. Ballard.

7 July 1928 Ambulance In connection with the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a class has been formed, numbering about 30 members, and others are still joining. The

instructor is Superintendent John Morgan, whose knowledge of ambulance work is well known. Classes will shortly be held under the charge of Dr. T. Stenner Evans.

9 February 1929 Ambulance Competition On Thursday last, very interesting competitions took place in the Old Reading Room in connection with the Dowlais Corps Ambulance League Competition, two teams from Fochriw opposing two teams from Bedlinog. After a keen competition, both Fochriw teams won. The judges were Messrs. D. E. Thomas and D. J. Thomas, Penyardarren.

23 March 1929 Priory of Wales The service medal of the Order, the cherished award for long service in the St. John Ambulance Brigade has been granted to Division Superintendent John Morgan and Private S. Ballard, both of the Fochriw Division, each of whom has maintained an efficient record of 15 years service.

26 October 1929 Ambulance An ambulance class is held every Friday evening at the Council School under the auspices of the Glamorgan Education Committee. Already 20 members are enrolled. The popular lecturer and instructor is Dr. T. Stenner Evans. A word of praise is due to Supt. John Morgan for his assistance with the classes.

2 November 1929 Whist Drive At the Old Reading room on Thursday, under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a whist drive was held. The M.C. was Sergeant Howells, and the winners were: Ladies: Miss Evans; Gents: Mr. W. A. Jones.

30 November 1929 Whist Drive A whist drive was held at the Old Library on Thursday, under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The duties of M.C. were carried out by Mr. Willie Adams Jones.

14 December 1929 Honours Well deserved honours were conferred on the following members of the Fochriw section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade last week: late-Superintendent W. J. Ballard was promoted corps inspector of stores; Superintendent John Morgan, the long service bar for 20 years service; S. Barnard, the long service bar for 20 years service; T. Thomas was promoted honorary sergeant, and Mr. D. Jenkins, corps secretary, was presented with a case of pipes, and a walking stick for faithful services rendered.

12 July 1930 Ambulance The members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Superintendent John Morgan, journeyed to Troedyrhiw on Saturday for the annual inspection, and looked very smart.

15 November 1930 Ambulance The Fochriw Cadets of the St. John Ambulance Brigade brought credit to the village on Thursday by scoring a brilliant victory at the Central Schools, Dowlais, by defeating Bedlinog in the final for the Cup and medals of the competitions in connection with the Dowlais Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Cadets, who have been brought to their high state of perfection, reflected great credit on their superintendent, Mr. John Morgan. The winning team were: Masters W. J. Gittoes (captain), Windsor Rees, Ivor Morgan, Willie Howell and Walter Howell.

2 May 1931 Ambulance Competition At the Library on Wednesday last, a competition was held under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League Cadets. A good number of spectators witnessed an excellent competition. The judge was Mr. D. Morgan, Penyardarren. Fochriw won by a good margin of points. The successful team was Windsor Rees (captain), Ivor Morgan, Willie Howells, and Elwyn Davies. The successful team are under the careful training and supervision of Divisional Superintendent John Morgan. Last year they were the winners of the trophy and bid fair to winning it again this year.

9 May 1931 Ambulance Competition An ambulance competition under the auspices of Dowlais Corps League was held at Noddfa Vestry on Saturday last. Four teams entered and the results were as follows: Fochriw - theory 31, practical 54; Penyardarren 92 - 83; Dowlais Police 85 - 88; Bedlinog 99 - 101. Sergt. H. Thomas proposed, and

Div. Supt. H. Williams seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the judges, officers and members of Noddfa Chapel for the use of the Vestry. The chairman for the evening was Div. Supt. J. Morgan.

25 July 1931 Ambulance The Fochriw Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Superintendent John Morgan, journeyed to Dowlais on Saturday last for the annual inspection by the Commissioner for Wales.

19 September 1931 Flower Day On Friday, in aid of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a very successful flower day was organised by Mrs. (Dr.) Williams and Mrs. J. Bevan, when the following ladies were busy disposing of flowers resulting in the sum of £3 12s 2d being handed over to the Brigade. The collectors were: Miss Dora Lewis and Miss M. L. Morgan; Miss A. Slimmonds and Miss M. E. Thomas; Miss Olive Payne and Miss Nellie White; Miss E. Gittoes and Miss Iris Evans; Miss Phoebe Jones and Miss Lilian Way; Mrs. Williams and Miss M Thomas.

26 September 1931 Omission The names of Miss Jessie Thomas and Miss Gwyneth Parry were inadvertently omitted from the list of sellers in connection with the St. John Ambulance Flag Day.

3 October 1931 Ambulance Congratulations to Mr. Daniel James and Mr. James Jones, members of the Fochriw Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who have been awarded the Service Medal of the Order for 15 years faithful service, which may be looked upon as the "blue riband" of brigade work. It is the more valuable these days because it cannot be bought, and therefore it is a visible sign that the recipients have earned it.

12 March 1932 Ambulance At the Great Western Railway Divisional Ambulance Competition held at Cardiff, the Fochriw team won the second prize - the Sven Hanson Cup, out of 14 teams. Individual prizes were also won. The following were in the team: Mr. R. G. Wood (captain), Mr. Tom Jones, Mr. S. G. Thomas, Mr. R. Jones, Mr. B. J. Thomas.

30 April 1932 Ambulance The second of the series of competitions, organised for Cadets under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League of the St. John Ambulance, was held at Noddfa Vestry on Saturday. Fochriw finished last of the seven teams that competed.

24 September 1932 Ambulance Congratulations to the Fochriw Cadets Ambulance team, who carried off the first prize at Pontllytyn Eisteddfod. The winning team was: Messrs. J. Morgan (captain), Reggie Gittoes, Archie Adams and Tudor Rowlands. The team had been carefully trained by Mr. John Morgan.

12 November 1932 Ambulance The re-examination of the Great Western Railway Ambulance Brigade took place last week. The examiner was Dr. Monnelly. The instructor is Mr. R. G. Wood, who is to be complemented on the work of the class. The names are as follows: Messrs. R. G. Wood, W. Davies, B. J. Thomas, T. J. Jones, L. T. Bell, P.C. Sanson, G. Richards, R. Griffiths, J. T. Davies, S. G. Thomas, W. J. Rees, S. R. Haines, J. Franks.

26 November 1932 Ambulance The annual presentation of awards to the members of the Fochriw Division of the Dowlais Corps took place at Noddfa Vestry (kindly lent) on Friday. A fine programme of music was given by Mr. Thomas Walters, Madam H. Cole Davies and Miss Mary Lewis. The presentation of prizes to the Cadet winners of the Pontllytyn Eisteddfod, 1932, was made by Mrs. Lucas, wife of Mr. Arthur Lucas, staff officer, Merthyr Centre. She presented the following winning members with biscuit barrels: Ivor Morgan (captain), Reggie Gittoes, Archie Adams and Tudor Rowlands. A demonstration was given by the cadets under the instruction of Divisional Superintendent John Morgan. Mrs. S. Lewis presented Sergeant Howell Thomas with a

serving medal and bar for over 20 years service; Corps Inspector of Stores W. J. Ballard and Corporal Thomas Evans with second bar for 25 years service.

11 February 1933 Ambulance A team from the Fochriw Division competed in a league competition at Bedlinog on Saturday, taking second place out of five competitors. Last week, the Fochriw Division sent out an S.O.S. for financial support, and a generous response was made, for which the officers and members wish to thank all for helping the noble cause.

18 February 1933 Ambulance A competition under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League, Cadets' Section took place at Noddfa Vestry on Saturday. Eight teams competed. The winners were Fochriw with 82 marks, followed by Penydarren A who scored 75, and Bedlinog A third with 74. The team was as follows: Messrs. I. Morgan (capt.), R. Gittoes, Archie Adams, Tudor Rowlands.

18 March 1933 Ambulance The Fochriw G.W.R. Ambulance Team competed at Cardiff, against 18 other teams, for prizes offered by the G.W.R. Co. They were successful in winning the Rhymney Valley Challenge Shield, and each man was presented with a beautiful case of cutlery for individual work. It is the first time in the history of the competitions for the same team to win in succession, the second and then the first prize for beginners. By winning, they qualify to enter the semi-final at Newport on March 31st, where they will compete against the winners of other divisions. The captain is Mr. Rufus Wood, and the team is: Messrs. Samuel G. Thomas, Tom J. Jones, R. Jones and B. J. Thomas.

1 April 1933 Ambulance Under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps, Cadet Section, a competition took place at Bedlinog on Saturday, when Fochriw were the winners. The following comprised the team: Messrs. Ivor Morgan (captain), Reggie Gittoes, Archie Adams, Tudor Rowlands. The team is trained by Supt. John Morgan.

8 April 1933 Ambulance Under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League (adult section), a competition took place at Noddfa Vestry (kindly lent), on Saturday last. The adjudicators were: practical - Mr. A. Williams, Deri; theory - Mr. Taylor, Dowlais; timekeepers - Mr. Rufus Wood and Corps Inspector of Stores W. J. Ballard. The winners were: 1. Dowlais Police; 2. Bedlinog A; 3. Fochriw A. Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

3 June 1933 Ambulance A team consisting of the following members of the Fochriw section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, namely, Mr. Griff Thomas (captain), Messrs. Dan James, Thomas Thomas, Harold Barlow and Willie Howells, secured third prize at the competition under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League on Saturday last. The team gave an excellent account of themselves, and praise is due to the splendid work of Superintendent John Morgan.

10 June 1933 Presentations Noddfa Vestry was the scene at a happy function on Thursday evening, the occasion being the presentation of awards to the members of the G.W.R. Fochriw and Rhymney Ambulance Class. A programme of music was given by the Fochriw Ladies' Choir, conducted by Madam H. C. Davies; duet, Mesdames Davies and S. Millward; recitations, Miss Eliza Evans and Miss Margaret Dyer; trios, Mesdames Lawrence, Morgan, Gregory, Davies, James and Davies. The accompanist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence. The chairman was Mr. Tom Jones, headmaster, we gave an interesting address on ambulance work. Mr. B. Board (Divisional Superintendent's Office, Cardiff) presented the awards to the class members. Mrs. Board, on behalf of the Fochriw Class, presented Mr. R. G. Wood with a half-tea set in recognition of his work as instructor. The team that recently won the first prize were congratulated by Mr. W. Davies, station-master. The team was as follows: Messrs. R. G. Wood, T. J. Jones, S. G. Thomas, R. Jones, B. J. Thomas.

1 July 1933 Ambulance The members of the Fochriw section of the St. John Ambulance attended at Treharris on Saturday last for the annual inspection and parade.

2 September 1933 Concert At Noddfa Vestry on Sunday, the Fochriw Silver Band gave a concert for the benefit of the Fochriw Ambulance Division. The Band was assisted by Miss Mary Lewis, soprano, and Mrs. Dilys Uzzell, soprano. Mr. Thomas Walters was the accompanist, and the chairman was Divisional Sergeant Howell Thomas.

16 September 1933 Ambulance Congratulations to the Fochriw Ambulance Team who competed at Pontlottyn Eisteddfod on Saturday and secured first prize in the Ambulance competitions, winning a cup and medals. The team gave an excellent display, securing 153 points. The team members were: Messrs. Griff. Thomas (captain), Dan James, Tom Thomas, Harold Barlow and Stanley James.

25 November 1933 Personal Hearty congratulations to Mr. Griff Thomas of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade who won the Canton Cup in the individual ambulance competition at Dowlais. A large number competed.

25 November 1933 Ambulance An ambulance class, under the instruction of Mr. Rufus Wood, sat for their re-examination at Bargoed station on Monday. The successful students were Messrs. R. G. Wood, Tom Jones, Bryn Thomas, Leslie Bell, and W. Beer. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. Arthur Minett, secretary.

9 December 1933 Ambulance The annual distribution of prizes and awards in connection with the Fochriw Ambulance Division was held at the New Hall on Thursday. The chairman was Mr. T. J. Jones, headmaster of Fochriw Councils Schools. He was supported by Mr. John Morgan (Merthyr), Mr. W. J. Canton (Dowlais), Mr. A. Lucas (Merthyr), Councillor A. T. Minhinnick, Mr. Albert Williams, Mr. John Morgan, Mrs. S. Lewis (Fochriw) and Mr. D. W. Jones (Dowlais). The Fochriw Ladies' Choir, conductor Mrs. H. C. Davies, accompanist Mr. W. Lawrence, rendered a selection of choruses. Mr. D. W. Jones presented the Cadets with the Samuel Cup and a wrist-watch to each member of the team as winners off the Dowlais Corps League. The team were Messrs. Ivor Morgan (captain), R. Gittoes, A. Adams, and T. Rowlands. Mr. W. J. Canton then addressed the assembly and afterwards handed the Canton Cup to Mr. Griff Thomas, Fochriw, for the best individual display. After a contribution from the Ladies' Choir, the Rev. J. L. White, Vicar, then presented first year certificates to Messrs. E. Jones, B. Cumpstone, G. Grimmett, Ivor Morgan, Reg Gittens, Elwyn Davies, W. Howells, Windsor Rees. This was followed by a recitation by Miss Megan James, Pontlottyn. Staff Officer A. Lucas then presented the Adult team with the Dr. J. Jones' Cup and medals. The winning team were Messrs. Griff Thomas (captain), Dan James, T. Thomas, H. Barlow and S. James. Miss Mary Evans gave an excellent rendering of "Nightingales in June." Mrs. Sam Lewis then presented the adult team with the third prize won in the Dowlais Corps League. A recitation by Miss Megan James and a selection by the choir then followed. Superintendent John Morgan gave a report of the work done by the division during the past year, and extended an invitation to ladies interested in first aid to form a class. An enjoyable evening closed with the usual votes of thanks.

3 March 1934 Ambulance The G.W.R. Divisional Ambulance Competition (Senior Section) of the Cardiff Valleys, was held at Cardiff on Tuesday, when the Fochriw Station Team were awarded fourth place. Each man was presented with a case of fish knives and forks. The team members were: Rufus G. Wood (captain), L. F. Bell, T. J. Jones, R. J. Jones, B. J. Thomas.

24 March 1934 Ambulance Mr. J. Morgan has been promoted by the Dowlaid Corps to be Corps Treasurer, and Div. Sergeant Howell Thomas to be Divisional Superintendent.

31 March 1934 Omission The name of a Private Walter Parry, who has been promoted as Divisional Inspector of Stores by the Fochriw Ambulance Division, was inadvertently admitted in last week's report.

31 March 1934 Ambulance The first of the series of ambulance competitions in connection with the Dowlais Corps League, was held at the Old Library on Saturday. Six teams entered the competition. The winners were Penydarren B with 128 points.

23 June 1934 Ambulance Inspection Fochriw Section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, under the command of Superintendent Howell Thomas, journeyed to Pentrebach on Saturday for the annual parade and inspection of the Taff Cynon Corps by the Hon. John Bruce, Commissioner for Wales.

4 August 1934 Ambulance Exam The result of the re-examination of the Fochriw Ambulance Division was as follows: Labels: Supt. H. Thomas, Corps Treasurer J. Morgan, Ambulance Officer T. Evans, Sergeant D. James, Corporals E. Lewis, W. Parry, H. Thomas (jun.), Privates T. Thomas (secretary), W. H. Parry, H. Barlow, E. Lewis, L. James, G. Baldwin, W. Thomas, Bryn Price, Daniel Jenkins; Vouchers, Ivor Morgan, R. Gittoes, Bryn Cumpstone, G. Grimmett. The examination was conducted by Dr. D. C. Williams.

29 December 1934 Ambulance: Presentation of Awards at Fochriw The local division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade held their annual presentation of awards at the New Hall on Wednesday. Mr. Sam Lewis presided. He emphasised the good work the ambulance men were doing throughout the country, and appealed to the young men present to take up the work. Fochriw Male Glee Party, under Mr. Tom Walters, rendered "Oes Mae Gwlad," followed by a solo by Mr. Wilfred Jones, Bedlinog, which was encored. A recitation was given by Mr. Derlwyn Jones, Bedlinog, which was also encored; Glee Party, "The Little Church;" solo, Mr. M. Shankland. Then followed the presentation of warrants of appointments and promotion by Mr. W. J. Payne. He said ambulance was a noble work, and he was pleased to see stalwarts of the movement on the platform. He appealed to the young people to join the Cadet movement and equip themselves to be of service. He then presented warrants of appointment and promotion to Mr. John John, Corps Treasurer, Mr. Howell Thomas, Divisional Superintendent, Mr. T. Evans, Ambulance Officer, Mr. Dan James, Sergeant, Mr. Howell Thomas Corporal, Mr. Walter Parry (Inspector of Stores and Corporal). Mr. Brinley Cumpstone and Mr. G Grimmett were awarded certificates. The following winners of the cadet team were presented with a fountain pen and pencil case; Mr. Tudor Rowlands (captain), Mr. Tom Smith, Aneurin Morgan and Jack Evans. A record of the brigades work for the last three months was read by Mr. George Grimmett as follows: street accidents - 30; colliery accidents - 60; public duties - 25. Mileage incurred in removal of patients - 55. The musical entertainment then continued as follows: solo, Mr. Tom Jones; solos, Mr. Windsor Jones; recitation, Mr. D. Jones; choruses, the Glee Party. Mr. Sam Lewis moved a vote of thanks to all for their help and services, and this was seconded by Corps Treasurer John Morgan.

16 February 1935 Ambulance Competition At the Old Library on Saturday, it cadet competition was held by the Dowlais Corps League. Five teams competed, and the judges were Mr. Dan James (Fochriw), and Mr. Ernest Treble, (Bargoed). The winners were: 1. Fochriw A (capt. Aneurin Morgan); 2. Penydarren; 3. Fochriw B (Glanmor Williams).

2 March 1935 Ambulance Competition In a trial ambulance competition at the Old Library on Saturday, the judges were Mr. W. Skyrme and Mr. H. Skyrme, Deri. Fochriw were placed second. In the Cadets' competition, Fochriw B was second and Fochriw A third. The judges were Mr. E. Rees and Mr. P. Griffiths, Dowlais. Penydarren, with eight points, retained the Cup, and Fochriw be were runners-up with six points.

11 May 1935 Ambulance Inspection The members of the Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade visited Cardiff on Saturday and took part in the inspection at Cardiff Castle.

11 May 1935 Ambulance Parade Members of the Fochriw Branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and Cadets, headed by the Fochriw Silver Band paraded through the village on Friday.

7 September 1935 Ambulance Competition At an ambulance competition held under the auspices of the Dowlais Flower Shows Committee at Dowlais on Thursday week, a Fochriw adult team tied with Treharris for first prize. As a deciding factor, an individual test was arranged for the captains of the respective teams, and this was won by one point by the Treharris captain. The Fochriw Cadets' team came third. The teams were as follows: adults: Ivor Morgan (captain), Reg. Gittoes, Sergeant D. James, Geo. Grimmett, T. Powell; Cadets: T. Rowlands (captain), A. Morgan, T. J. Lewis, J. Evans, and W. Walters.

28 December 1935 Fochriw Ambulance: Presentation of Awards Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance held its annual concert and presentation of awards at the New Hall on Thursday. Councillor Sam Lewis presided, and praised the work that ambulance men did throughout the country. He was pleased to see so many young men taking up ambulance work. Mr. T. Thomas (brigade secretary), in giving a brief resume of the year's work, said the members of the Fochriw division had attended 30 minor accidents, 20 stretcher cases, 80 minor colliery accidents, 45 stretcher cases, total number of cases - 175; mileage covered - 75. At the cadets examination conducted by Dr. W Monnelly, 16 obtained certificates.

Presentations: Mr. W. J. Payne presented Mr. George Greening with a medallion, and certificates to Messrs. W. & T. Jones. Mr. Wyndham Lawrence presented the winners of the cadet competitions with a fountain pen each. They were: A team: Glanmor Williams, T. J. Lewis, F. Williams and C. Smith; B team: V. Llewellyn, N. Thomas, W. Walters and J. Evans. Mr. D. J. Davies presented the cadet certificates to T. J. Lewis, M. Davies, Jack Evans, S. James, C. Smith, N. Thomas, E. Gittens, F. Williams, W. Walters, V. Llewellyn, B. Hiscox, G. Williams, T. Towlands, A. Morgan, I. Saunders and G. Thomas.

Choruses were rendered by Miss K. Beddoe's Choir, Pontlottyn, and solos by Miss Betty Rees, Rhymney. Supt. H. Thomas thanked the artistes, and Sergt. Daniel Jones said they were looking forward to a medical comforts depot in the village. A vote of sympathy was extended to Corps Treasurer John Morgan in his illness, as was a wish for his speedy recovery.

4 July 1936 Ambulance Inspection The annual inspection of the Dowlais and Taff Valley Ambulance Corps will be held on July 11th. The parade will be headed by the Fochriw Silver Band, and it will mark the 30th year of ambulance work at Fochriw.

24 October 1936 Ambulance Supper At Noddfa Vestry on Saturday, the Ambulance Division held an anniversary supper to commemorate the 30th year of the Division at Fochriw, which was formed on 12th June, 1906. On the proposition of Ambulance Officer T. Evans, a vote of thanks was passed to the following: Mrs. J. Williams, Mrs. T. Thomas, Mrs. R. Thomas, Mrs. Lizzie Harris, Miss M. Morgan, Mrs. G. Harris, Mr.

G. Thomas, the staff of the Fochriw Co-operative Store, and to the deacons and members of Noddfa Church for the loan of the vestry. Sergeant D. James seconded. The secretary was Mr. T. Thomas.

5 December 1936 Ambulance Competition A Cadet competition was held at the Old Library on Thursday. The following were successful: 1. W. Walters - 77 marks; 2. T. J. Lewis - 75. The winner received a silver cup and the second a silver medal. The adjudicators were Corps Treasurer John Morgan (practical); Cadet Officer T. J. Powell (theory); timekeepers, Sergeant D. James and Div. Sec. T. Thomas.

12 December 1936 Ambulance: Presentation of Awards The annual concert and presentation of awards of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was held at the New Hall on Thursday 3rd December. Mr. E. Lewis presided and gave a review of ambulance work in Fochriw. He invited the young people to take up the work. Mr. W. A. Jones presented the Cadets with their trophies. Mrs. Sam Lewis presented a cup to W. Walters, the winner of the cadet individual championship. The Corps Cup was presented by Mr. W. J. Payne, who also presented a warrant to Cadet-Sergeant T. J. Powell, and congratulated him on his appointment as superintendent of the Fochriw Division. Mr. W. H. Jones presented Cadet team "B" with a cup won in the Dowlais league, and the third prize to team "A." An exhibition of ambulance work was given by G. Williams (capt), A. Morgan, T. J. Lewis, S. James, and Div. Treass. J. Morgan. An entertainment was given by the following artistes: Norman Squire, Pontlloftyn (piano accordion), and Mr. Dilwyn Jones, Bedlinog, (elocutionist). Sergt. D. James and Ambulance Officer T. Evans proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to all who had taken part.

25 September 1937 Personal Mr. T. J. Powell, Pentwyn, who is prominently identified with the Fochriw detachment of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, has received the Dr. De Laver's Diploma for Manipulative Surgery.

20 November 1937 Ambulance Worker Corps Treasurer John Morgan of the Dowlais Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has been nominated for the post of Corps Superintendent. He has served for 36 years in the movement.

18 December 1937 Ambulance Work The presentation of awards to the Fochriw Ambulance Division was held on Thursday. Mr. David Williams presided. Mr. T. Walters presented the Dowlais Cup to the winning team: T. J. Lewis (capt), I. Saunders, Ivor Davies and L. Cumpstone. The Individual Cup was won by Cadet T. J. Lewis, with Tudor Rowlands second. The presentations were made by Mr. Emlyn Evans. Dr. S. B. Turner presented A.R.P. certificates. A concert was held in connection with the certificates.

29 January 1938 First Aid A meeting was held at and New Hall on Wednesday with the object of forming a ladies first-aid class at the Fochriw. Division Superintendent Howell Thomas presided, and explained the object of the meeting. He also welcomed Commissioner W. J. Canton, who gave a detailed account of what was required. Corps Supt. John Morgan also spoke. It was decided to form a ladies class, and several names were enrolled. The divisional secretary is of Mr. T. Thomas.

21 May 1938 Ambulance Lecture On Thursday at the New Hall, Lady County Officer, Miss Marion Richards, matron of Merthyr General Hospital, gave a lecture to the women's section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. She was accompanied by Mrs. Williams of the Merthyr Centre. Corps Superintendent John Morgan and Divisional Superintendent Howell Thomas welcomed, introduced, and thanked them. Miss Richard spoket on "Qualifications Necessary to be a Good Nurse." The class is busy preparing for the examination.

2 July 1938 Ambulance Man Honoured Corps Superintendent John Morgan has been made a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John. Mr. Morgan has devoted his life to ambulance work. He holds the 15 years long service medal, and three bars. He has been a member of the Priory of St. John for 30 years, but has been associated with ambulance long before. In 1902, he joined the Fochriw Ambulance Class with Dr. Eleazer Davies as lecturer, under the auspices of the County Council. In 1906, he joined for St. John Ambulance Brigade, which then included three divisions - Dowlais, Bedlinog and Fochriw. Mr. Morgan was at that period enrolled as corporal; he was promoted to Sergeant, Divisional Superintendent, and then Corps Treasurer. He is now Corps Superintendent. He also holds the A.R.P Certificate from 1902 to 1938, and has passed every re- examination. He has been honoured on several occasions as a judge in ambulance competition, also as a lecturer at classes. He was active in helping to form the Cadet Division who have won a great number of prizes in competition. He has coached senior teams very successfully.

9 July 1938 Ambulance The members of the Fochriw Brigade of the St.. John Ambulance attended on Saturday for the annual inspection by the Honourable John Bruce, and also, a demonstration of air-raid precautions.

10 September 1938 Ambulance Brigade The result of the anti-air raid precaution and first-aid examination is as follows: First year re-exam in A. R. P. and F. A.: Supt. H. Thomas, Corps Supt. J. Morgan, Amb. Officer T. Evans, Div. Treasurer D. James, Hon. Sergt. & Div. Sec. T. Thomas, Div. Inspector of Stores B. Cumpstone, Pte. G. Baldwin. Cadet Supt. T. J. Powell has received his grade two certificate in A. R. P. and F. A. and is now a qualified instructor. Cadet Supt. T. J. Powell is also an instructor of the cadet division.

24 September 1938 Ambulance Cup Winners Fochriw Adult Ambulance team won the Guest Keen Cup at the competition at Dowlais Corps Competition on Saturday, when five teams competed. The team was trained by Corps Supt. John Morgan, and was composed of Messrs. I. Morgan (captain), T. J. Powell, Idris Williams, Islwyn Saunders, Tudor Rowlands and Dan James. Two teams of cadet are preparing for competition under the supervision of Corps Supt. John Morgan and Cadet Supt. T. J. Powell.

1 October 1938 Ambulance Success Two teams of cadets from Fochriw won the first and second prizes at the Dowlais Corps Cadet Competition on Saturday. The first prize-winners were Messrs. T. J. Lewis (captain), W. Walters, Ivor Davies and Cuthbert Llewellyn. They scored 134 marks. This is the third year in succession of they have won the first prize. The second prize-winners were Messrs. A. Morgan (captain), Glanmor Williams, V. Llewellyn and Ronald Lewis with 124 marks. The teams were trained by Cadet Officer T. J. Powell.

29 July 1939 Ambulance News The result of the annual re-examination of the members of the Fochriw ambulance Division is now to hand, and it is pleasing to note that every member satisfied the examiner, thus making every member efficient for the year. The examiner was Dr. W. Monnelly, who has consented to give a course of lectures in first aid in the near future. An invitation is extended to all interested to attend. Ambulance Officer T. Evans has been officially appointed as Division Superintendent to the division in place of Superintendent H. Thomas, who resigned at the end of 1938. Honorary Sergeant and Divisional Secretary T. Thomas has been awarded the long Service Medal for 15 years efficient service in the Brigade.

13 January 1940 Women's Ambulance Class The Women's Voluntary Service formed a St. John Ambulance class some time ago, and a series of lectures have been given by Dr. Monnelly. An examination has been held, the examiner being Dr.

Robertson, Treharris. The results have now been received and prove 100 per cent successful. The candidates were: A. Evans, M. Jenkins, M. Evans, Mrs. Tyler, S. Powell, H. Morgan, H. Davies, E. M. Davies, A. Cumpstone, Miss Sal Jones, G. Cumpstone, M. Jones, Olive Payne, Elsa Mathews, Katie Davies, Rosie Davies. Those who attended the classes wish to thank Dr. Monnelly, the lecturer, Supt. Tom Evans and the members of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade for the assistance they have given. The secretary is Mrs. Sal Jones.

4 May 1940 Ambulance Awards At the New Hall on Wednesday, a number of certificates were presented to members of the St. John Ambulance Corps. The chairman was Councillor W. J. Payne. Ex-Div. Supt. Howell Thomas, who had been a member of the Fochriw Division from 1903 until his retirement in 1939, was presented with a clock by Div. Supt. Tom Evans. Div. Supt. Tom Evans was himself presented with a watch by Miss Katie Davies on behalf of the women's ambulance class. The guest artiste for the evening was Mr. Jack Davies, Pentwyn, whistler and impressionist. Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was the accompanist. The presentation of certificates to the following cadets (who are going into the adult Brigade after receiving a course of lectures in first-aid by Dr. Monnelly), was made by Ex-Div. Supt. Howell Thomas: Islwyn Saunders, Glanmor Williams, Thomas J. Lewis, Vernon Llewellyn, Idris Williams, Sylvanus James, Stuart Davies, Leslie Mantle, Cuthbert Llewellyn and Edward Thomas. The presentation to Ronald Lewis of the individual Cadet Cup, and the second prize of a buscuit barrel to David Mantle, was made by Mrs. M. Jenkins. Sergt. Dan James and Div Sec. T. Thomas thanked the artistes for their services. Mrs. T. Evans and Mrs. H. C. Davies thanked the chairman for presiding. Mr. T. Thomas carried out the arrangements.

8 June 1940 Flag Day A flag day in aid of the St. John Ambulance and Red Cross was organised by Supt. Tom Evans and Div. Sec. Tom Thomas. The following were the sellers: Mesdames T. Evans, A. Ballard, M. Jenkins, W. A. Davies, S. Jones, S. Phillips, S. Lewis, I. Cumpstone, A. Cumpstone, Miss S. Jones and Supt. T. Evans. The sum of £4 13s 7d was realised.

15 June 1940 Ambulance Fochriw Senior Ambulance team scored another success on Saturday by winning the Guest-Keen Cup at Dowlais. This is the second time for the team to win the Cup. The team were: Messrs. Ivor Morgan (captain), Islwyn Saunders, T. J. Lewis, T. J. Powell, W. H. Parry.

9 November 1940 Ambulance Brigade Mr. Tom Powell, Pentwyn, a member of the Fochriw section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, won the individual cup competition at Dowlais on Saturday.

18 January 1941 Ambulance Appointments Dr. W. Monelly of Ivor House, has been appointed divisional surgeon to the Fochriw Ambulance Division, and Pte. Thos. J. Lewis, as inspector of stores, a position held by Mr. Islwyn Saunders prior to his joining H.M. Forces. Pte. Ivor Morgan has been appointed cadet superintendent in place of Mr. T.J. Powell, Pentwyn. On December 17, 21 cadets attended the preliminary certificate examination, which was conducted by Dr. Monelly. The result of the examination is now to hand and is very encouraging as every candidate satisfied the examiner. Thus the cadet division has increased by 21 for the year 1940. The new cadets are: William Clark, Harry Hawke, Ronald Barnard, Ray Donovan, Elvin Shoemith, Ed. Stapple, Kenneth Rowe, John Newbury, Cyril Bowden, Ron Cornish, Peter Gazzard, Frank Little (all evacuees), Maynard Ballard, Len Davies, Douglas Beal, Gwyn Davies, Allen Wadley, Ron Lewis, E. Davies, Eros Evans and Glyn Edwards. A few weeks ago, an individual competition, for young cadets was held, with ex-cadet Officer T.J. Powell as adjudicator. The winners were: 1. Ron Lewis; 2. Dd. Mantle. The

evacuee boys that contested gave a good account of themselves, particularly in that they had only about three to four weeks practice in first aid work. Mr. T. Evans, divisional superintendent, gave lectures to the boys each week.

25 January 1941 St. John Ambulance On Thursday, at brigade headquarters, an individual first aid competition for the adult members was held. The adjudicator was Div. Supt. Tom Evans and Corp. Walter Parry. The first prize winner was Cadet Officer Ivor Morgan, and the second, Div. Sergt. D. James. The adjudicator in the theory test for the cadets was Div. Sergt. Dan James and Div. Sergt. T. Thomas presented the prizes to the winners.

12 July 1941 Ambulance Award Ambulance Officer Dan James of the Fochriw Section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade received his second bar to his long service medal last weekend. He also received a letter of congratulation from the Hon. J.H. Bruce on his 26 years service to the Brigade.

19 July 1941 Ambulance Award Corpl. Walter Parry has been awarded the long service medal of the order. He has been a faithful worker of the Fochriw Brigade, St. John Ambulance, for many years.

14 June 1941 Red Cross Flag Day A flag day in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade was held at Fochriw at the weekend, and a splendid response was received. The event was organised by Div. Supt. Tom Evans and Div. Sec. Tom Evans. The following assisted: A. Evans, E. Thomas, S. Lewis, Ballard, Thomas, James, Jenkins, Jones, Taylor and Powell. The sum of £5 7s. 9d. was realised.

30 August 1941 Ambulance Inspection The annual inspection of the Riches Ambulance Corps was made at Pontlottyn on Saturday, when Fochriw Division attended, under the command of Supt. Tom Evans and Ambulance Officer Dan James. The Cadets were in the charge of Cadet Officer Ivor Morgan.

11 July 1942 Ambulance Medal Congratulations to Divisional Superintendent T. Evans, Fochriw Ambulance Division (Riches Corps), on being awarded his fourth bar to the long service medal of the Order of St. John, for 35 years' efficient service as a member of the Order. Very few members have the honour of holding the long service medal and four bars. Div. Supt. Evans is the only one in this area.

22 August 1942 Ambulance: Long Service Medals This week, two members of Fochriw Ambulance Division, received notification from the Hon. J.H. Bruce, Chief Commissioner for Wales, that they had been awarded long service medals. They are Hon. Sgt. & Div. Sec. T. Thomas, and Corpl. T.J. Powell. Hon. Sgt. Thomas has been awarded a bar to the long service medal, thus completing 20 years efficient service. He has been secretary of the division for 19 years. Corpl. Powell has completed 15 years service.

5 December 1942 Cadet Competition At the Brigade headquarters (Noddfa Vestry) on Tuesday evening last, an interesting and well-attended competition took place. The competitors were all young boys, ranging from 10 years to 15 or so. In the junior section there were 14 competitors. The winners were: 1. Glyn Parry, Pentwyn; 2. Leslie Hollister. In the second cadet section there were 8 competitors. The winners were: 1. David Mantle; 2. Ronald Lewis. The winner of the senior competition was presented with a silver cup by Div. Supt. Tom Evans, which is retained for one year. The adjudicators for the competition were: test, junior section – Pte. S.M. James; theory – Hon. Sergt. Div. Sec. T. Thomas; senior section, theory - Pte. S.M. James; practical test – Div. Sec. T. Thomas. The time keeper were Ambulance Officers D. James and Sergt. W. Parry. The supervisor was Div Supt. T. Evans.

10 July 1943 Ambulance Man Honoured Mr. Thomas Evans, divisional superintendent of the Fochriw Ambulance Division, has been appointed a Serving

Brother of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. Mr. Evans is the only member now in the brigade of the old veterans of the cause at Fochriw when the brigade was formed at Fochriw in June 1906. The honour bestowed is well deserved for Mr. Evans has given 37 years of faithful service to the cause of ambulance work. He is the fourth member of the Fochriw Brigade to gain the honour.

1 January 1944 Champion Cadet The youngest ambulance cadet at Fochriw has won the champion cup. He is Gwynfryn John Powell, son of Mr. & Mrs. T. Powell, 3, Glen View, Pentwyn.

15 January 1944 Services Recognised At Brigade headquarters (Noddfa Vestry) on Tuesday, Amb. Officer Daniel James, St. John Ambulance Brigade, was presented with a wallet of notes in recognition of his services as treasurer to the Brigade. Amb. Officer James held the position of divisional treasurer for 14 years. The presentation was made by Div. Supt T. Evans, who spoke of Mr. James' faithful service.

18 November 1944 Ambulance Competition At the Brigade Headquarters in Noddfa Vestry on Tuesday last, an individual first aid competition was held for Brigade members. Five competed. The result was: 1. Cadet Srgt. Ivor Morgan; 2. Amb. Officer D. James; 3. Div. Insp. of Stores T.J. Lewis. The first prize was a Dutchess set, presented and made by Sgt. Walter Parry, a member of the Brigade, who is now a patient at Talgarth Sanatorium. The adjudicators were Div. Secretary Ed. Jones and friend from Bedlinog.

12 January 1946 New Ambulance Cadets An examination in preliminary first aid for boy cadets from 10 to 14 was recently held. Thirteen cadets sat the examination that was conducted by Divisional Surgeon Dr. W. Monnelly. All candidates satisfied the examiner and gained their preliminary certificate in first aid, and become members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division. The successful candidates were: John Morgan, Brian Pearce, Islwyn Shankland, Leonard Evans, James Davies (Fochriw); G. Powell, Edwin Ivor Davies, D.R. Jones, Horace Davies (Pentwyn); Ivor & Idwal Bradley, Haydn Dyer, Kenneth Sawday (Pantywaun). The boys had been instructed by Cadet Supt. Ivor Morgan, and Div. Supt. Tom Evans, assisted by Ambulance Officer D. James and Hon Supt. & Div. Sec. T. Thomas. The boys will be presented with their certificates at a public function in the near future.

23 February 1946 Cup Competition At the Brigade Headquarters, Noddfa Vestry, on Tuesday, an individual cup competition was held. The competition reached a high standard, considering the competitors have only been together for four to six months. There were twelve competitors. Result: 1. Cadet Ivor Bradley, Pantywaun, theory, 23, practical, 35; total 58; 2. Cadet J. Morgan, 22 – 27 – 49; Cadets Gwyn Morgan and Islwyn Shankland tied on 40 marks for third place. Adjudicators: practical – Ambulance Officer D. James; theory, Divisional Supt. T. Evans. The donor of the cup for the cadets is Corporal T.J. Powell, now serving with the R.A.M.C. overseas.

2 March 1946 One of the Winners At the brigade headquarters, one of the winners in last week's competition was Cadet Gwyn Powell.

30 March 1946 Ambulance Promotion Hon.Sergt. and Divisional Secretary T. Thomas has been appointed Cadet Officer by the Priory of Wales Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Mr. Thomas had been Divisional Secretary for the past 22 years.

8 June 1946 Ambulance Award Amb. Officer Daniel James, Martin-street, has been awarded a third bar on his service medal. The Hon. John H. Bruce, Commissioner for Wales, in a letter to Mr. James writes, "I have the privilege of offering you my sincere congratulations on being awarded a third bar to your service medal: an achievement to be proud of, and I also congratulate you on your continued loyal and

efficient service in the brigade.” Mr. James has been a member of the brigade for 30 years. He is also a deacon of Carmel, and a trustee of the Institute.

4 October 1947 A Fine Record Div. Supt. Tom Evans was presented with the ribbon and five stars in recognition of 40 years efficient service, at the annual inspection of the St. John Ambulance at Ystrad Mynach on Saturday. The presentation was made by Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P.

15 November 1947 Ambulance Presentation In the report of the St. John Ambulance meeting last week, the name of Master Ivor Bradley, Pantywaun, who was presented with a cadet certificate, was omitted.

12 June 1948 Ambulance Competition Under the auspices of the Riches Corps, a competition was held at Fochriw on Saturday. This was the first of a series to be held in the area over the coming months. Result: 1. Bargoed, 2. Bargoed A, 3. Bargoed B. 4. Brithdir, 5. Fochriw. Adjudicators: practical test, Mr. E. Jones, Abertysswg; theory, Mr. Stockton, timekeeper, Mr. J. Ings, Pontlottyn. Corps. Supt. T. Jones, Deri, was in charge of the competition. A vote of thanks was proposed to both adjudicators by Cadet Officer Idris Jones, Brithdir, seconded by Dic. Supt. T.J. Powell, Fochriw.

31 July 1948 President Honoured At a meeting of the Fochriw Ambulance Division at Headquarters, Coun. W.J. Payne, the president, was presented with a warrant and badge of office. This is the first time a president has been appointed in the Fochriw Division. The Division was formed 43 years ago, and Coun. Payne was one of the members in the brigade at that time. The presentation of the warrant and badge was made by Supt. T.J. Powell, who said it was a great pleasure for him to make the presentation to Coun. Payne as their first president. Corps Insp. of Stores T. Evans also added a tribute, and Coun. Payne responded, recalling some of the early days when he was a member of the Brigade. Coun. S. Lewis and Mr. E. Pritchard have been appointed vice-presidents, and have received their warrants and badges of office. The members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division wish to record that for the first time in the 43-years history of the Division, three people from the village have had the honour of being appointed.

31 July 1948 Ambulance Re-Exam The following members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division were successful in their annual re-examination. Supt. T.J. Powell, Amb. Officer D. James, Capt. L.D. Mantle, Hon. Sgt. Div. Sec. T. Thomas, S.M. James, Idris Williams, Ronald Lewis, Glanmor Williams, Cadet Supt. I. Morgan, Corp. Insp. of Stores T. Evans. The re-examination was conducted by Dr. W. Monnelly, Divisional Surgeon. It is proposed to send six boy cadets to the St. Athan Camp for a week's holiday during the last week of August. The cadets will be in charge of Ambulance Officer D. James, together with other officers of the local division.

18 September 1948 Annual Inspection Members of the Fochriw St. John Ambulance Brigade and Cadets attended the annual inspection at Caerphilly Castle on Saturday. The inspection was carried out by Capt. W.J. Canton, Commissioner.

13 November 1948 Fatal Accident Mr. Thomas Evans, 3, Moore's-row, met with a fatal accident whilst following his employment at the Bargoed Colliery. Mr. Evans was one of the foremost St. John Ambulance men in the Rhymney Valley. He is survived by a wife and grown up family.

5 March 1949 Ambulance Promotions At a Corps meeting at Bargoed First Aid Station recently, Supt. T. J. Powell was appointed as Corps Inspector of Stores to the Riches Corps. This position was previously held by Corps Officer T. Evans, H.S.B. On the position of Div. Supt. becoming vacant by this appointment, Non. Sgt. and Div. Secretary T. Thomas was appointed Div. Supt. at a brigade meeting held at the brigade headquarters on February 22. The appointment was made under the supervision of

Corps. Supt. T. Jones, Deri. A miscellaneous concert will be given by Pontlottyn Co-operative Children's Choir at the New Hall on March 23, proceeds in aid of Fochriw Ambulance Division.

9 April 1949 Won Competition At the Riches League Ambulance Competition at Bargoed on Saturday, Fochriw Division were the winners. The Fochriw team was: L. Mantle, capt., T. Powell, S. James, D. Phillips. Scores: Fochriw, 158, Brithdir, 151; Bargoed A, 149; Bargoed B, 144½; Pontlottyn, 128. Judges: Div. Supt. E. Jones, practical; Ambulance Officer J. Bromley of the Lindsay Corps, theory.

30 July 1955 Ambulance Flag Day The officers and members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division wish to thank all who took part in the recent flag-day collection. The sellers were as follows: Llwyn Iago Estate, Misses Margaret Morris and Jeanette Burrows; Aelybryn etc., Misses Joyce Evans & Mary Cumpstone; Brynteg etc., Miss Ann Ballard, Mrs. Yvonne Davies; Cae-glas, Miss Ann Morris, Mrs. Eunice Jones; Penybanc, Gordon Evans, Mansel Evans.

3 March 1956 Golden Jubilee Officers of the Fochriw Ambulance Division are celebrating their golden jubilee on April 7th, 1956. Fochriw was one of the early pioneers in the valley in the ambulance world. A re-union will take place at a supper in the New Hall on April 7. The secretary is Mr. T. Thomas, Dynevor-street.

12 May 1956 Ambulance On Saturday May 19, the Fochriw Ambulance Division are to celebrate their golden jubilee by holding a re-union supper at the New Hall, when the Hon. John Bruce and other members of the St. John Ambulance are expected to join in this notable event. Fochriw, one of the oldest divisions in the valleys, has a proud record in the old days for pioneer work in ambulance, and some of the faithful ones are still keeping the flag flying. The secretary is Mr. T. Thomas, 21, Dynevor-street.

8 December 1956 St. John Ambulance It is pleasing to know that the Fochriw Section is getting very active again, thanks to the efforts of the stalwarts of the movement in the village. Meetings are held every Tuesday at Noddfa Vestry, and examinations will be held shortly. A hearty welcome is extended. The secretary is Mr. T. Thomas, Dynevor Street.

19 January 1957 First-Aid Class Fochriw holds a First Aid Class at Noddfa Vestry every Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. All interested in first-aid are invited to attend.

19 January 1957 Competition The first of a series of competitions was held at Bargoed Ambulance Hall on Saturday. A team consisting of the following represented the Fochriw Division: P.C. R. Southwood (capt.), I. Morgan, T. J. James, S. M. James. Six teams competed. Fochriw gained third place.

19 January 1957 First Aid Awards The following members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division were successful in their first aid examinations held in December last: Labels - Supt. T. Thomas, I. Morgan, S. M. James; First Certificate - T. Vaughan, T. J. James, W. Parry, George Kijaic, L. W. Harward. Examiners: D. T. Sheppard (Theory); Commissioner W. J. Skyrme (Practical).

2 March 1957 Ambulance Competition On Saturday last at the New Hall, Bargoed, an ambulance competition took place. The result in order of compiling was: Pontlottyn 193 marks; Bargoed A 208; Bargoed B 193; Fochriw 220. A further competition will be held at Bargoed on Saturday.

25 May 1957 Ambulance Cup Winners Fochriw Ambulance Team was successful in winning the Tom Jones Challenge Cup in a competition held at Bargoed Ambulance Hall on Saturday. The cup was presented in memory of Corps Supt. T. Jones, Deri. Members of the winning team were: P.C. R. Southworth (capt),

I. Morgan, T. J. James & I. Shankland. Four teams competed: Bargoed, Fochriw, Deri and Pontlottyn. The scores were: Fochriw, 227 points; Bargoed, 221; Pontlottyn, 212; Deri, 182. The judges were Area Officer E. Phillips, Mr. A. Bisgrove and Mrs. J. Seabourne - all of Tredegar.

8 June 1957 Ambulance The Fochriw St. John Ambulance Team took part in a competition at Seven Sisters on Saturday. They gave an excellent performance finishing sixth out of fifteen teams. The team was P.C. R. Southworth (capt.), T.J. James, Ivor Morgan, Islwyn Shankland.

28 December 1957 Awards The following members of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade have been given the following awards, granted by the Grand Priory for loyal and efficient service in the St. John Ambulance Division: Div. Supt. T. Thomas, 3rd bar for long service medal, making 30 years service; Div. Sec. S.M. James, long service medal, Pte. Ivor Morgan, long service medal, 15 years' loyal and efficient service each; Div. Supt. Has now completed 35 years as a member of the Fochriw Division.

18 October 1958 Ambulance Awards Div. Supt. T. Thomas of the Fochriw St. John Ambulance Division has been awarded a fourth bar to his long service medal for 35 years service. Mr. Ivor Morgan has been awarded the first bar to his long service medal for 20 years service.

10 January 1959 Appointment At a meeting at the Ambulance Hall, Bargoed, on Saturday, January 3, Divisional Superintendent T. Thomas, Fochriw Division, was appointed Corps Inspector of Stores.

24 January 1959 New Superintendent At a Brigade meeting held at Brigade Headquarters on Sunday, January 11, 1959, Pte. Ivor Morgan was appointed Divisional Superintendent of the Fochriw Ambulance Division.

28 November 1959 St. John Ambulance Meeting In Fochriw At a meeting of the Brigade at the New Hall last Saturday, Coun. W. J. Payne traced ambulance work in the village for many years. He also referred to the recent death of a faithful member, Mr. William Parry (divisional treasurer), and said he hoped the young candidates present would follow in the steps of older members. After the address, Coun. Payne, who is divisional president of the Fochriw section, presented certificates to the vice-presidents, Mr. D. J. Lewis (manager of the Ogilvie Colliery) and Mr. John Llewellyn. Also present were Mr. John H. Jones of Bargoed (Supt. Riches Corps) and Mrs. Jones (Deri Lady Corps Supt. Nursing Section), and Mr. Calvin Quick (Bargoed Corps Supt.). Mr. J. H. Jones presented Mr. T. Thomas, as corps officer, and Mr. Ivor Morgan, as divisional superintendent. The vice-president, Mr. John Llewellyn, presented labels for 1959 to Mr. Ivor Morgan (Supt.), Mr. S. M. Jones (secretary), Mr. T. Thomas, Mr. T. J. James, Mr. I. Jenkins, Mr. R. Southward, Mr. J. Jones (div. Treasurer), and Mr. V. Llewellyn. Mrs. Jones presented Emrys Parry, son of the late Mr. Wm. Parry (div. Treasurer), with his father's medallion and 1959 Label; Mr. S. M. James with the first bar to his long service medal; Mr. J. Jones with the divisional treasurer's certificate; and Corps Officer T. Thomas with his fourth bar. Mr. J. H. Jones and Mrs. T. Jones spoke in favour of starting a ladies nursing club, and other speakers were the Vicar, Rev. E. Sedgmore, Mr. I. Llewellyn, Mr. C. Quick (Corps Supt.) and Mr. I. Evans. Mr. Thomas moved a vote of thanks to all who had helped and given their services, and the meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology by Mr. T. Walters, A.L.C.M. Before the meeting, a tea was provided by Mrs. M. Withers and friends. The secretarial duties relating to the evening were carried out by Mrs. S. L. James.

23 April 1960 Ambulance Worker Honoured Mr. Thomas Thomas, Dynevor Street, was made a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John, at a recent ceremony in Cardiff.

5 November 1960 Nursing Reserve A meeting has been called for the evening of Thursday, November 10, at the Welfare Hall, under the auspices of the National Hospital Service Reserve. It is hoped to see a large number present, to hear the speakers, and to form a class in first aid and nursing. All are welcome.

19 November 1960 National Hospital Service Reserve A meeting called with the object of forming a National Hospital Reserve was held at the New Hall last Thursday. Mrs. Elizabeth Puckey, Bargoed, spoke of the value of such a reserve. Another meeting will be held at the New Hall on Nov. 24th. For information, apply to Supt. Ivor Morgan, or any member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, P.C. Soutworth of Mr. Cyril Davies.

3 December 1960 National Hospital Reserve A meeting at the New Hall on Thursday decided to start a National Hospital Reserve class. The meeting was addressed by County Officer Elizabeth Puckey, Coun. W. J. Payne, and Supt. Ivor Morgan. Other members of the St. John Ambulance attended. Fifteen members enrolled, and it was agreed to start classes on December 8th at the New Hall.

1 September 1962 St. John Competition Fochriw annual open senior ambulance competition, under the patronage of the Order of St. John (Priory of Wales), will be held at the New Hall on Saturday at 2.30 p.m. A number of teams have entered including several national winners. In the ambulance world, Fochriw has a noble tradition dating back over 60 years. The secretary is Mr. S.M. James, 12, Hillside, Ogilvie, Deri, and the president is Coun. W.J. Payne.

8 September 1962 Fochriw Open Ambulance Competitions Some of the finest ambulance teams in Wales and Monmouthshire took part in the Fochriw Annual Open Ambulance Competition at the New Hall on Saturday. The winners were Cefn Cribbw team with 317 marks, followed by Kenfig Hill and Abertysswg. The winning team was presented with £8 and a shield. Second prize was £4, and third prize £2. The prizes were presented by Corps Superintendent J. Hayden Jones, Coun. W. J. Payne, president, and Rev. Evan Sedgemore. Officer Tom Thomas thanked the judges, the Welfare Committee, and the ladies who provided tea.

27 October 1962 Placed Third The Fochriw St. John Ambulance team came third in the competition held at Bryn, near Maesteg, on Saturday. The team was: Supt. Ivor Morgan (capt), Evan Warner, Tom Powell, Kerry Morse. There were seven entries.

3 November 1962 Ambulance Team Success The Fochriw Team came third in an open competition at Treharris Ambulance Hall on Saturday. Team: Supt. I. Morgan (capt), Tom Powell, E. Warner, S.M. James.

15 December 1962 Placed Second Fochriw Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade, gained second place in an ambulance competition held at Bargoed on Saturday, December 8.

12 January 1963 New President Mr. J.P. Llewellyn has been made President of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in succession to the late Councillor W.J. Payne. Mr. I.T. Evans is the Vice President.

12 January 1963 Ambulance Supper The annual supper of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Fochriw Division, was held recently at the New Hall. Among those present were Corps Superintendent J.H. Jones and Mrs. Jones; Corps Secretary Calvin Quick, Bargoed; Lady Corps Superintendent A. Jones, Deri; Corps Inspector of Stores T. Thomas and Mrs. Thomas; Vice President I.T. Evans; Mrs. Evans and Miss M. Jones, Fochriw. The chairman was Mr. I.T. Evans. The following promotions have been

made: Divisional Officer, S.M. James; Divisional Secretary, A.T. Powell; Divisional Sergeant, J.W. Jones; Divisional Corporal, E. Warner; Divisional Inspector of Stores, T.J. James. The following officers passed for label: Superintendent, I. Morgan; Divisional Officer, S.M. James; Divisional Secretary, A.T. Powell; Divisional Sergeant, J.W. Jones; Divisional Corporal, E. Warner; Divisional Inspector of Stores, T.J. James; T. Thomas, R. Southworth, G. Williams, V. Llewellyn, A. Cook. Vouchers: G. Edwards, G. Coles, B. Smith, J. Coggan, M. Shankland, G. Williams, A. Reed, Mrs. R. Thomas, Miss E. Fox, Miss A. Morris.

19 January 1963 Competition In the ambulance competition held at Bargoed on Saturday, the Fochriw Division senior team gained first place, and the junior team fourth place.

9 March 1963 Shield Competition The Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has been chosen to represent the Riches Corps in the Llandinam Shield Competition to be held in Bridgend later this month.

30 March 1963 Fochriw Ambulance Team's Distinction Fochriw Ambulance Team won the Glamorgan County Ambulance Competitions outright on Saturday. They gained two trophies, a cup for the best ambulance team in East Glamorgan, and the Glamorgan County Shield for the best team in the whole of Glamorgan. The team members were Supt. Ivor Morgan (captain), Mr. T. Powell, Mr. Evan Warner, Mr. Lyn Edwards and Mr. S.M. James. The team will compete in the final in Cardiff on May 18. The Fochriw Junior Ambulance Team has qualified for the Coal Board Competition at Porthcawl next Saturday, representing Ogilvie Colliery.

4 May 1963 Ambulance Team Wins The Ogilvie Colliery Ambulance Team which represented the South Western Division of the National Coal Board at the Miners' Ambulance Championships held at Blackpool on Saturday last, gained sixth place out of nine teams. Mr. Adrian Reed, captain, gained first place in the individual competition. All are members of the Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

11 May 1963 Ambulance Success The Fochriw Division "A" Team of the St. John Ambulance Brigade gained first place in the Gelligaer open championships at Bargoed on Saturday. The junior team gained fourth place.

15 June 1963 First Aid Thirteen members of the Fochriw Division St. John Ambulance Brigade sat for their re-examination in First Aid on Sunday last. The examiner was Dr. Paul McCarthy, Deri.

7 September 1963 Competition The annual Open Ambulance Competition for the John Llewellyn Shield will be held at the New Hall on Saturday, Sept. 7. Competitions commence at 2 p.m.

5 October 1963 Darts Mr. Ivor Morgan and Mr. Carey Morse won the individual pairs challenge at the Ambulance Hall, Bargoed. Both are members of the St. John Ambulance, Fochriw Division, and the Ogilvie Ambulance team.

26 October 1963 Ambulance Team At the invitation of the Cardiff City Police, Fochriw Division Ambulance Team took part in a competition at the Law Courts recently. The team was placed second, scoring 150 points for the floor test, and 34½ for the theory. Ivor Morgan, captain, Tom Powell, Sylvanus James and Adrian Reed were highly commended by the judges for their floor test. On Saturday last, the team gained first place in the competition held at the Ambulance Hall, Bargoed. The next competition will be held on Saturday, Nov. 2, at Treharris.

16 November 1963 Ambulance Team The Fochriw team was placed second at a competition at Bryn.

21 December 1963 Ambulance The Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance gained first place in the league competition held at the Ambulance Hall, Bargoed, on Saturday. They will now represent the Riches Corps at the Llandinam Shield Competition to be held later.

22 February 1964 Ambulance Competition In the final of the Riches Corps Ambulance Competition, the Fochriw team gained first place and won the Tom Jones Memorial Cup.

Sisterhood Mrs. Acreman of Ystrad Mynach, was the speaker at the meeting. The devotions were taken by Miss Gretta Evans. Mrs. P. Jones presided. Mrs. Annie Davies was the organist.

25 April 1964 Championship for Fochriw Ambulance Team Adrian Reed (capt), Glyn Edwards, Gareth Coles and Neil Baker, all members of the Ogilvie Colliery Junior Ambulance Team, gained first place in the National Coal Board South Western Divisional Championships held at Nottage Primary School, Porthcawl, on Saturday. Individual prizes were won by Glyn Edwards and Neil Baker. They will now represent the South Western area at the N.C.B. Championships at Skegness in May. The team is trained by Mr. Ivor Morgan, superintendent of the St. John Ambulance, Fochriw Division.

2 May 1964 Two Cups Won Fochriw Ambulance Division competed at Bridgend on Saturday and gained first place thus winning the Dr. Turner Cup. They will now represent the Riches Corps at a further competition to be held in Cardiff for the Llandinam Shield. On the same day, the same team gained first place at the annual ambulance competitions, sponsored by the Gelligaer Urban Council, held at the Ambulance Hall, Bargoed, and won the Dr. Bowen Owen Cup. Fochriw finished 28 points ahead of their nearest rivals. The team members are: I. Morgan (capt), A.G. Reed, G. Edwards, G. Coles, R.G. Coggan.

6 June 1964 Ambulance Competition The Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance gained second place in a competition at Neath. The team was: Ivor Morgan (capt.), Gareth Coles, Glyn Edwards, Adrian Reed.

13 June 1964 St. John Fochriw Ambulance Division represented East Glamorgan in the Welsh Brigade Final. They were placed fourth in the competition class and second in the uniform inspection. Eleven teams competed. Fochriw were the youngest team at the final, and were: I. Morgan, A. Reed, G. Edwards, G. Coles, J.C. Morse.

4 July 1964 St. John Honour Div. Supt. Ivor Morgan, 12, Rhodfa Ganol, a member of the Fochriw Ambulance Division, was presented with the Priory Vote of Thanks at a recent investiture of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, Priory of Wales, at the City Hall, Cardiff. Mr. Morgan has been a First Aider for over 30 years, and he is also a member of the Ogilvie Team.

8 August 1964 Fochriw St. John by 'Wanderer' Fochriw Ambulance Division was founded in 1898 by the late Elizar Davies, a respected and beloved doctor of that era. In 1906 it became a member of St. John. Mr. Ivor Morgan, the present superintendent, proudly carries the torch lit in those far away days. Mr. Morgan is proud of his Fochriw Division and its great traditions, and he gave me a complete list of its superintendents from its birth. They are: Mr. Williams Ballard, Mr. Dan Jenkins, Mr. John Morgan, Mr. Howard Thomas, Mr. Thomas Evans and Mr. Thomas Thomas. Until 1940, Fochriw belonged to the Dowlais Corps, but with the introduction of Air Raid Precautions, they were compelled to join the Riches Corps, though they were reluctant to change. Nevertheless, they quickly made their presence felt, because they were successful in winning the Riches competition four times. The Division has since been successful in the Glamorgan Championships on several occasions, and has come

out on top two years in succession, and also reached the final of two occasions. Mr. Morgan also points out that the Division organises an open competition each year, and attracts the best in the country, and he made it known that these competitions are fully staged. The Ogilvie Colliery Ambulance team are also members of the Division, and their junior team has been successful in winning the area championships two years in succession. They have also reached the finals on two occasions in successive years. No mean feat. The Divisional Surgeon is Dr. William Monnelly, and its chairman is Mr. John Llewellyn, J.P. Fochriw should be proud of the division's achievements. I am sure the division will progress and march to future glory. The leadership is there, and the boys respond magnificently. [with photograph]

15 August 1964 Ambulance Team The Ogilvie Ambulance Team took first place in a competition at the National Eisteddfod at Swansea last week. The team - who are also members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division - were Messrs. Adrain Reed, Gareth Coles, Neil Baker and Glyn Edwards. Their instructor is Supt. Ivor Morgan, Fochriw Ambulance Division.

5 September 1964 Ambulance Corps Dinner The Fochriw Corps held their annual dinner on Saturday at the Gwerthonor Hotel, Gilfach. Mr. George Tomkins, Area Manager of the N.C.B., drew attention to the achievements of the Fochriw Ambulance team - Gareth Coles, Adrian Reed, Glyn Edwards and Neil Barker. They were the National Coal Board No5 Area Junior Champions in 1963, and Senior Finalists in 1964, South Western Divisional Champions in 1963 and 1964, and finalists in the National Championships 1963 (6th) and 1964 (3rd). Among others present were Mr. W. Skyrme of Headquarters staff, Area Commissioner Idris Jones & Mrs. Jones, Area Supt. J. Jones and Mrs. Jones, Area Lady Corps Supt.. The team was presented with plaques by Mr. D. J. Lewis, M.E., manager of Ogilvie Colliery, and medallions were presented by Mr. Derek John. The National Coal Board certificates were presented by Mr. George Tomkins and Area Supt. J. H. Jones presented the Eisteddfod Certificates. The competition for the John Llewellyn shield will be held at the New Welfare Hall this Saturday (Sept. 5th) when teams from all over Wales will be competing.

12 September 1964 St. John Ambulance On Saturday, Fochriw St. John Ambulance held their annual competitions. The judge was Dr. D.T. Rowlands, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Merthyr, assisted by Corps Supt. Mr. J.H. Jones. The dual individual judges were W. Jones and H. Fisher, Porth. Dr. Rowlands commented that he was pleased to see such a high standard of first aid. Fochriw Divisional President, Mr. J.P. Llewellyn, J.P., presented the Challenge Shield to the winners. Guests present were Brigade Secretary of Wales Mr. C. Parry, S.B.; Area Commissioner J. Jones, Mrs. Brunton, Mrs. Jones. The present thanked the competitors also the Fochriw Division for staging such an excellent test. The results were: Cefn Cribbwr A, 287½; Monmouthshire Police, 282; Abertysswg, 282. Others competing were Cardiff Police, Cefn Cribbwr B, Treharris, Wales Gas Board B, Bedlinog. Top marks for the duals: 1 and 2 were Cefn Cribbwr and Abertysswg; 3 and 4 were Monmouthshire Police Corps. Srt. Major A.T. Powell on behalf of the Fochriw Division thanked all who had made the competition such an excellent success.

4 December 1964 Long Service Congratulations to Corps Staff Officer Tom Thomas, Brook Row, on being awarded his fifth bar to his Long Service Medal. Mr. Thomas has completed 42 years with the Fochriw Ambulance Division.