

“Merthyr Express” 22 August 1891

Merthyr Board of Guardians: State-Aided Old Age Pensions The Board discussed the issue but decided to postpone a decision on its attitude for another month. Rev. Aaron Davies outlined the proposed ideas that the pension would be secured by contributions from the contributor from his or her own resources to the value of £6-10-0 a year, payable at the age of 65. The State would guarantee a similar amount; so that a pension of £13 per year would be payable at age 65. The Post Office and Friendly Societies would be involved in the collection of funds. Other members stated that the State's contribution would have to come from somewhere and until this was known it would be sensible not to form a definite opinion on the issue.

11 June 1938 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday.

24 September 1938 Old-Age Pensioners A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday. Mr. W J. Payne, who presided, thanked all who had helped in any way to provide such an excellent day at the seaside for the aged folk. The auditor's report was given by the Messrs. Emrys Evans and Bob Rees. After meeting all expenses, a surplus was left with which to open a fund for next year. The chairman said they were losing a very faithful supporter of the outing fund at the end of the month as Sergeant Mourton was retiring. He was thanked for his support. The secretary reported that arrangements had been made for a dance in aid of the pensioners' fund. Mr. Aneurin Thomas, Caerphilly, an old Fochriw boy, had offered to bring his popular Collegian Dance Band, and his offer was accepted with thanks. The following were added to the organising committee for the event: Messrs. E. Lewis, A. Cumpstone and J. Mantle.

29 October 1938 Old Age Pensioners A branch of the Old Age Pensioners' Association was formed at a meeting held in the Institute on Thursday. Officers elected were: chairman, Mr. Edward Lewis; treasurer, Mr. John Davies; secretary, Mr. Thomas Ballard, 1, Moore's-row; committee members: Mr. Job Thomas, Mr. Evan Jones (to represent Pantywaun), Mr. D. Rees Jones and Mr. D. J. Griffiths. The collector who had visited the pensioners in their homes gave a report. It was announced by the secretary that 98 had enrolled as members of the newly-formed branch. The movement is endeavouring to improve the position of aged people.

26 November 1938 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held on Thursday at the Institute, Mr. Edward Lewis presiding. Speeches were made by Councillors Mrs. M. Williams, Bargoed, Iorwerth Hopkins and Sam Lewis; also, Mr. Bolwell, Bedlinog, Mr. James Davies, secretary of the Pontlottyn O.A.P. branch, Mr. T. H. Jenkins, Bargoed, and Mr. Evan Jones, Pantywaun. Mr. T. Evans, Aelybryn, thanked the speakers.

18 February 1939 Pensioners' Outing Fund Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Friday. The resignation of the treasurer, Mr. J. H. Evans, was accepted with much regret. It was decided to retain his services on the committee. Several schemes for raising funds for the annual outing were discussed, and it was eventually decided to ask Mr. T. J. Jones to organise a one-act drama in aid of funds.

4 March 1939 Pensioners' Meeting At a meeting of the Association on Wednesday, a vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of Mr. Hy. Evans, Martin-street. A report on the recent Bargoed meeting and of the progress made in the Caerphilly Division was given by Mr. E. Lewis, the Fochriw delegate. The branch nominated the following as officers of the Caerphilly Division: chairman, Mr. J. Rees, Bargoed; vice-chairman, Mr.

Rees, Caerphilly; secretary, Mr. E. H. Jenkins, Bargoed; treasurer, Mr. T. Ballard, Fochriw. It was decided to hold a meeting at Pantywaun in order to receive the report of the meeting at Ystrad Mynach.

22 April 1939 Pensioners' Outing Fund A meeting took place at the New Hall on Thursday, Councillor W. J. Payne presiding. It was decided to hold a concert on May 11th in aid of funds. It was decided to ask the Old Age Pensioners' organisation to appoint two of their members to represent them on the Outing Committee.

13 May 1939 Pensioners' Outing Fund Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting at the New Hall. Mr. Price welcomed the representatives from the pensioners' organisation - Messrs. Job Thomas and David Griffiths. Mr. D. J. Davies reported on the progress of the concert to be given by the pupils of Bargoed Secondary School in aid of the fund. The following names were added to the list of presidents: Messrs. Edgar Richard, J. Evans and W. Wadley. It is proposed to hold community singing at Pantywaun on Whit Sunday, and it was decided to ask the Fochriw Silver Band to attend.

20 May 1939 Pensioners Outing Fund: Student's Concert at Fochriw A concert was given at the New Hall on Thursday by the pupils of Bargoed Secondary School. At the close of the programme thanks were accorded the chairman, staff and pupils by Counsellors W. J. Payne and Samuel Lewis, and Mr. D. J. Davies, secretary.

27 May 1939 Pensioners' Outing Fund A meeting was held at New Hall on Monday. Mr. W. J. Payne presided. The secretary presented the financial statement and gave a report of the concert by the Bargoed pupils. Discussion followed on the venue for this year's outing, and it was agreed that they would travel to Barry Island on Tuesday, July 4th. Dinner and tea will be provided.

8 July 1939 Pensioners Outing On Tuesday, the annual outing took place, and over 120 pensioners and friends visited Barry Island. The party was accompanied by Messrs. W. J. Payne, W. J. Davies, W. J. Watkins, Edgar Pritchard, C. Edwards, R. Evans, T. J. Powell, D. Griffiths and J. Thomas (members of the outing committee). Before leaving for Barry, the members visited the polling booth to record their voters at the by-election.

12 August 1939 Pensioners' Meeting Councillor W. J. Payne presided at the meeting of the Outing Fund on Thursday. He paid tribute to all who had supported the fund-raising efforts. The auditor's report was given by Mr. T. Ballard and Mr. Bob Rees.

11 November 1939 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held at the New Hall, Mr. Edward Lewis presiding. Mr. Thomas Ballard dealt with the correspondence. A report on the conference at Ystrad Mynach was given by Mr. Lewis.

27 April 1940 Old Age Pensioners Councillor W. J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Outing Fund on Tuesday. Mr. D. J. Davies gave the financial report, which showed about £9 in hand.

The Chairman referred to the death of Mr. Hugh M. Mantle who was killed on HMS "Hardy." He was 18 years old, and his brother, Edgar is serving in the RAF.

22 June 1940 Outing Fund Councillor W. J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Outing Fund on Tuesday. The chairman said they had met to consider ways and means of providing a day's outing for the aged folks. For a number of years now they had been able, with the co-operation of the public, to provide a day's outing, and this year again they hoped to do the same. Times were difficult, and their thoughts were with the boys at the fighting front. Mr. W. Watkins (treasurer) gave the financial statement, and also the balance sheet of the concert, which was very satisfactory. Mr. D. J. Davies (secretary)

dealt with the correspondence. It was decided he to visit Abergavenny and Gilwern on the 2nd of July.

6 July 1940 Pensioners' Outing On Tuesday, the old age pensioners of Fochriw and District had their annual outing. The party numbered about 100 and left by motor coaches for Abergavenny. Dinner and tea were taken in the Castle grounds and later in the day the party visited Gilwern. The party arrived home at 9:00pm.

10 August 1940 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday last and was well attended. Mr. James Davies, Pontlottyn, addressed the meeting and urged all pensioners to join the Association. An increase in pension for those in need had been achieved, but the Association would not be satisfied until an increase in pensions for all had been granted, as well as other benefits for old people.

14 September 1940 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held on Wednesday. Mr. Job Thomas presided. Mr. Edward Lewis was elected to attend the meeting at Ystrad Mynach. All age and supplementary pensioners are earnestly requested to join the association and attend meetings.

19 April 1941 Old Age Pensioners Mr. Job Thomas presided at a meeting of the Fochriw branch, supported by Mr. Job Saunders, treasurer. It was decided to distribute the funds among deserving causes. £1 was to be given to Merthyr General Hospital.

10 May 1941 Old Age Pensioners Mr. Job Thomas presided at a meeting when it was decided to dispose of their funds as follows: £1 to Merthyr General Hospital; £1 to the Comforts Fund; 16 shillings to the Library and Institute.

29 August 1942 Pensioners' Meeting A well-attended meeting of old age pensioners was held at the hall on Thursday with the object of re-forming the Fochriw branch. There were present Messrs. J. Reed, Tom Rees, J. Merchant (Bargoed), Rev. Isaac Evans and Mr. W. Hopkins. Mr. J. Reed presided and gave an address on the object of the meeting. The other delegates also spoke. It was decided to re-form the branch. Officers appointed were: chairman, Mr. George Sibley; secretary, Mr. Thos. Ballard; treasurer, Mr. Wm. Cook. An invitation is extended to all pensioners to join and make the movement a success in the village.

5 September 1942 Concert For O.A.Ps. On Thursday, a concert was given at the New Hall by the Bedlinog Apollo Gleemen, in aid of the Fochriw O.A.P. Outing Fund. Mr. Albert Mantle presided. The party, under the conductorship of Mr. T.S. Rees, were in excellent form. A vote of thanks to the Gleemen and artistes was proposed by Mr. D.J. Davies, secretary, and seconded by Mr. W. Watkins, treasurer. It is intended to take the pensioners on an outing to Brecon on September 22. Officers of the outing fund are: president, Dr. Monnelly; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; treasurer, Mr. W. Watkins; secretary, Mr. D.J. Davies.

19 September 1942 Pensioners' Outing The annual outing of the O.A.Ps. will take place next Tuesday at Brecon, when the party, about 80 in number, will leave by the 9.20a.m. train. As a result of the two concerts held, funds are available to give the aged people a happy day. The secretary is Mr. D.J. Davies with Mr. W. Watkins as treasurer.

26 September 1942 Pensioners' Outing On Tuesday, the O.A.Ps. of Fochriw and Pantywaun held their annual outing to Brecon. About 80 pensioners journeyed by train from Fochriw Station, the Pantywaun pensioners joining the train at Pantywaun. Accompanying the party were Coun. W.J. Payne, chairman of the Outing Fund

Committee; Mr. A. Mantle, vice chairman; Mr. D. John Davies, secretary; Mr. W. Watkins, treasurer; Mr. E. Pritchard, vice president, and members of the committee.

26 September 1942 Old Age Pensioners At a meeting last week at the Hall, Mr. George Sibley, chairman, appealed to all pensioners to become members of the newly formed branch, to help improve their position. The following also spoke: Mr. D.J. Davies; Mr. A. Mantle; Mr. T.F. Jones; Mr. J. Morgan; Mr. E. Jones; Mr. George Marshalsea, Pantywaun. A resolution was moved that they communicate with Mr. Ness Edwards, M.P., protesting against the means test, asking him to do all in his power to abolish it, and thanking him for his efforts on behalf of the old age pensioners.

10 April 1943 Old Age Pensioners A meeting of the Fochriw branch was held at the Hall on Tuesday, Mr. George Sibley presiding. The branch is in a flourishing condition with a membership of about 100. A hearty welcome was extended to all pensioners to join the branch. The secretary is Mr. T. Ballard, with Mr. W. Cook as treasurer. It was reported that Mr. Ness Edwards, M.P., would address the meeting on the Beveridge Report on April 12 at the Hall.

21 October 1944 In Aid of Pensioners A dance in aid of the Fochriw and District Old Age Pensioners' Christmas Fund was held in the New Hall last Thursday. The music was played by the Fochriw Silver Band, conductor Mr. Emrys Lewis. The M.Cs. were Messrs. J. Lewis, C. Cumpstone and David J. Davies. The winners of the waltz competition were Mrs. Pinch and Mr. Fred Bowen, and the winners of the spot prizes were Miss Iris Cullinane and Mr. Trefor Golding, all of Deri. The promoters were Mesdames Ruth Fox and Rachel Williams, who were also in charge of refreshments.

6 October 1945 Old Age Pensioners A meeting was held in the New Hall on Tuesday, when Mr. E.T. Pritchard presided. Speakers were Mr. T.J. Rees and Mr. J. Read (Bargoed). The speakers were thanked for their addresses.

25 May 1946 To Help Pensioners A concert, organised by the Fochriw Youth Centre, was held at the New Hall on Monday, when Mr. B. Cumpstone's Children's Choir, the Troedyrhiw Girls' Choir (conductor Mr. Elwyn Morgan), and the Fochriw County Youth Centre Choir (conductor Mr. H. Ballard Thomas) took part. Items were given by Marie Davies, Milly Williams, Emrys Shankland, Hywel Lewis, Dennis Harding, Huw B. Thomas. The accompanists were Miss Phillips and Mr. H.B. Thomas. The chairman was Mr. D. Emlyn Evans, B.A., warden of the Centre, who stated that the entire proceeds would be devoted to the Fochriw Old Age Pensioners' Fund.

14 September 1946 Pensioners' Outing On Monday, the O.A.P. held their annual outing to Barry Island. All sat down to lunch, after which they enjoyed themselves in various ways. They were accompanied by Messrs. T. Ballard and J.J. Lewis, secretaries, and J. Davies, treasurer.

7 September 1946 Gifts from Australia O.A.Ps. in the Fochriw valley received gifts of food during the week from the people of Queensland, Australia. The distribution was made by members of the O.A.P. organisation, in association with local ward members of the Council.

30 November 1946 Pensioners Addressed A public meeting of the Fochriw O.A.P. was held at Noddfa Vestry, when Mrs. Hardy of the Gilfach branch was the speaker, and dealt with the Old Age Pensioners' Bill. Mrs. Farley presided, and thanked the speaker. On the motion of the Rev. E. Adams Evans, seconded by the branch secretary, a vote of

sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Mr. David Parry, who was a member of the association.

7 December 1946 Pensioners Entertained An O.A.P. concert in aid of the Christmas Cheer Fund was held at the New Hall on Wednesday, when a variety concert was given by a group of artistes from Merthyr. Mr. Thomas Ballard, secretary of the O.A.P. Association said that he appreciated the grand spirit of goodwill towards the aged. He thanked Coun. Payne and Mr. Wm. Griffiths, Merthyr, who had arranged the Concert. Coun. Payne said that the O.A.P. lot had been a very hard one. They were very glad that an increase had been given from 10s. to 26s., and he hoped it would be increased still further. The artistes were: Mr. Percy Caswell (baritone); Mr. Billy Lewis (tenor); Mr. Owen Powney (comedian); Mr. Billy Williams (ventriloquist); Mr. Ron Hughes (accordion); Mr. Fred Watkins (piano). Choruses, duets and trio were given by the party. The Vicar moved a vote of thanks to all concerned, seconded by Mr. George Sibley.

26 July 1947 Old Age Pensioners A general meeting was held at Noddfa Vestry on Tuesday, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne. The speaker was Mrs. E.A. Hardy of Gilfach, Bargoed. The chairman welcomed her to Fochriw, and spoke of her excellent work for the movement. He appealed to every pensioner in Fochriw to join the movement. One of the objects of the meeting was to present to the O.A.P. the results of the Mile of Pennies which amounted to £10, which was presented by Mrs. Farley and a band of workers. Mrs. Hardy gave an address on the aims and objects of the movement. A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. Henry Harris. Mr. J.J. Lewis & Mr. George Sibley moved votes of thanks to Mrs. Hardy, the chairman and Mrs. Farley and friends for their efforts in aid of the O.A.P.

27 September 1947 The Pensioners' Charter A public meeting was held at Noddfa

Vestry of Tuesday in support of the O.A.P. Charter. Coun, Sam Lewis, J.P., presided, and

was supported by the following speakers: Mr. David Jones, Ystrad Mynach; Mr. T.J.

Rees, Porthcawl; Mr. J. Reed, Bargoed. A resolution in support of the early

implementation of the Charter was passed.

15 November 1947 Pensioners' Dance A successful dance in aid of the old age pensioners was held at the Mayfair Ballroom, Pontlottyn, on Thursday, by permission of Mr. & Mrs. Rees, for which the committee thank them, and also the donors of the prizes - Mr. Cyril Davies, bus proprietor; Mr. E.T. Pritchard, president, Rising Sun Inn; and Mr. P.H. Ford, Emporium, Bargoed. Spot prize-winners were: Miss Williams, Pentwyn; Mr. Harris, Bargoed; Miss Hettie Gittings, Mr. Ken Evans, Pontlottyn. The organiser was Mr. J.J. Lewis.

3 January 1948 Pensioners' Dance A successful dance was held at the New Hall on Thursday week in aid of the O.A.P. Fund. The M.Cs. were Messrs. B. Pollock and E. Lewis. The secretary is Mr. J.J. Lewis.

17 January 1948 O.A.P. Entertained A meeting of the O.A.P. Association was held at the Old Library Institute on Tuesday to elect officers for the new year. Mr. Howell Thomas presided. The following were re-elected: secretary, Mr. T. Ballard; treasurer,

John Davies; auditors, W. Cook, D. Harris. Last year's vice chairman, Mr. D.E. Jones was appointed chairman. A telegram was received from the Caerphilly Area secretary stating that he was unable to speak owing to illness. On the previous Thursday a tea was provided for the O.A.P. by the ladies of the village, and they were thanked by the Vicar, the Rev. Eurof Jones, and the secretary.

24 January 1948 The Pensioners A committee has been formed whose duties will be to organise functions in aid of the O.A.Ps. in the area. It will be known as the progress committee. The following officers were elected: chairman, Mr. Martin Thomas; secretary, Mr. Wm. Ross; treasurer, Mr. Vivian Powell; committee, Messrs. Stan Davies, Bernard Brown, Berkeley Angell.

14 August 1948 Pensioners' Outing On Wednesday last, four motor coaches conveyed the O.A.P. and friends travelled to Swansea. For some months, events have been organised to finance the event. Apart from the free coach ride, each pensioner was handed the sum of 9s. on the morning of the outing. The following are the officials of the committee: chairman, Mr. Martin Thomas; secretary, Mr. W. Ross; treasurer, Mr. V. Powell; committee, Messrs. Stan Davies, B. Brown, B. Angell.

25 December 1948 Pensioners' Draw The Christmas draw organised by the O.A.P.

Supporters took place last week. Winners have been notified. The officers and committee wish to thank the donors of prizes: The Rhymney Valley Building Supply Company; The Emporium, Bargoed; Roath Furnishing Co., Bargoed; Mrs. H.L. Farley, Fochriw; and also the public and ticket sellers for their support.

22 January 1949 New Chairman At the annual meeting of the Fochriw O.A.P. Association, the chairman during the past year vacated the chair, and installed the vice-chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis. Mr. Lewis responded, and asked for the support of all members of the branch during the coming year. The following were elected as officers: vice-chairman, Mrs. W. Cook; treasurer, J. Davies; secretary, T. Ballard; committee re-elected viz. T. Ballard, J. Davies, J.J. Lewis, D. Harris, W. Cook, D.J. Griffiths, Tom Evans. It was decided to thank the Institute Committee for their kindness in granting the use of the Old Reading Room as a meeting place free of charge. The chairman made reference to members who had died during 1948, and asked for a vote of sympathy with relatives.

27 August 1949 Old Age Pensioners Outing On Sept. 6th, the Fochriw O.A.Ps. will hold their annual outing to Porthcawl by motor coaches. Officers of the outing fund are: Coun. Payne, chairman; Mr. R. Thomas, vice-chairman; Mrs. Phyllis Jones, treasurer; Mrs. H.L. Farley, secretary.

13 May 1950 Pensioners Addressed Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P., addressed the Fochriw Branch, O.A.P., at the Old Library on Tuesday, when he dealt with several matters of interest to the movement. Mr. J.J. Lewis presided.

17 June 1950 Old Age Pensioners Association The Fochriw secretary of the Association thanks all inhabitants who helped make the recent house-to-house collection a success, and also, the following persons who took the boxes round the village and outskirts, namely: Mrs. Eva Rees & Mrs. A. Cumpstone; Brook-row district - £1 14s 3d;

Mrs. M. Davies & Mrs. J. Lawrence, Aelybryn - £1 19s 10½d; Mrs. Des harding & Mrs. Tom Davies, Brynteg - £1 14s 8d; Mrs. Lucy Jenkins, Martin-street & part Railway-terrace - 12s 2d; Mrs. Ceinwen Williams, Dynevor-street an Pit-row, 15s 3½d; Miss Cassie Shankland, Guest-street and Williams-road - £1 0s 3d; Mrs. Hannah Pope and friend, Pentwyn and Penybank - £1 15s 10d; Mrs. Farley 4s; total £9 10s.

19 August 1950 O.A.P. Outing On Tuesday, the Fochriw old age pensioners had their annual outing. This year, a tour around the Vale of Glamorgan by motor coaches was the choice. The secretary is Mr. T. Ballard, treasurer, Mr. John Davies, and the chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis.

25 August 1951 Pensioners at Porthcawl The O.A.P. annual outing was held last Wednesday, and they journeyed to Porthcawl by motor coaches. Favoured with sunshine, they had a most enjoyable day. The secretary is Mr. T. Ballard; treasurer, Mr. W. Cook; secretary, Mr. A. Marshallsea.

6 December 1952 Jumble Sale A jumble sale was held at the New Hall on Saturday last for the benefit of the O.A.P. The sale was opened by Mrs. E. Lewis, wife of Coun. S. Lewis. The sale was organised by the O.A.P. Women's Supporters' Committee, whose chairman, Mrs. J.M. Lawrence, introduced Mrs. Lewis, and later presented her with a bouquet. The Committee wish to thank all who gave articles and helped in any way to make the sale a financial success. Stall holders were: New Stall, Mesdames J. Lawrence and M. Davies; Pound Stall, Mrs. Sheen; Jumble Stall, Mrs. C. Shankland and Mrs. Enid Jones, Mrs. M. Watkins and Mrs. M.A. Lewis; White Elephant and Bran Tub, Mrs. Joan Owen Brooks. Mrs. Gillard; Hats and Shoes, Mrs. E. Jones; Raffle, Phyllis Hughes; Refreshments, Mesdames Mildred Evans, E. Shankland, P. Thomas & A.G. Lloyd.

1 August 1953 O.A.P. Outing On Tuesday, the pensioners journeyed to Swansea by motor coaches. Arrangements were made by the ladies committee - secretary, Mrs. J. Owen, treasurer, Mrs. M. Shankland, chairman, Mrs. J. M. Lawrence, president, Mrs. H. L. Farley.

10 July 1954 O.A.P. Annual Outing On Tuesday, the Fochriw Pensioners had their outing to Porthcawl, by road. Mrs. O. Shankland, secretary, and Mrs. J. Owen, treasurer, organised the trip assisted by a hard working committee.

16 October 1954 O.A.P. Dance The O.A.P. Supporters' Committee held a dance at the New Hall on Friday in aid of the Fund. Music was provided by Mr. John Pullen on his radiogram. The M.C. was Mr. C. Cumpstone. Thanks were accorded the tradesmen of Fochriw who supplied the refreshments, and also to Mr. Emlyn Evans, Mrs. J.M. Lawrence, and Mrs. H.L. Farley for the prizes which were won by Mr. Emrys Shankland, and Miss Elsa Morgan and partner. A donation of 12 shillings was given by Mr. Francis Williams, Pentwyn. Thanks to all who made the evening a success. The secretary is Mrs. Joan Owen, and the treasurer, Miss C. Shankland. The sum of £18 was realised.

19 March 1955 Donation The Old Age Pensioners Supporters Committee wish to thank the Fochriw Debating Society for the donation of £4 12s. to the Pensioners Fund. The secretary of this committee is Mrs. Joan Owen, and the treasurer Miss Shankland.

30 April 1955 Jumble Sale A jumble sale was held at the New Hall on Saturday, when £42 was made for the O.A.P. outing fund. The Supporters' Committee wish to thank all who helped. The officers are: president, Mr. Farley; chairman, Mrs. J. M. Lawrence; secretary, Mrs. Joan Owen; treasurer, Miss Shankland.

16 July 1955 Pensioners' Outing On Tuesday, in glorious weather, the Fochriw Old Age Pensioners travelled to Porthcawl in three luxury coaches. Arrangements had been carried out by the committee of which Mrs. Jean Owen is secretary, and Miss C. Shankland, treasurer.

7 January 1956 Pensioners' Committee Fochriw Old Age Pensioners' Committee wish to thank the Fochriw Youth Club and Fochriw Boys for their donation of £4 15s 7d, the proceeds of a football match played on the Welfare Ground on Christmas Eve. The secretary is Mrs. Jean Owen, and the treasurer, Miss Shankland.

7 July 1956 O.A.P. The members of the O.A.P. Supporters' Committee are grateful for the cheque of 25 guineas presented to the Fochriw & District O.A.P., by the president, Mr. John P. Llewellyn, on behalf of the Deri Amateur Boxing Club.

28 July 1956 Pensioners' Outing This took place on Tuesday, by motor coach, to Porthcawl. The weather was fine, and an enjoyable day was spent. Excellent arrangements were made by the Committee.

5 January 1957 Gifts To Pensioners The O.A.P. Supporters' Club wish to thank the New Estate Guild for their donation of £5 out of their jumble sale takings. The committee gave every pensioner 5s. each as a Christmas gift, instead of the usual 2/6. This was made possible because of the generous gift of 25 guineas from the Deri Amateur Boxing Club. In addition to this they received 5s. each from the Pensioners' Association making a gift of 10s. to every paying member.

2 February 1957 O.A.P. Fochriw Old Age Pensioners held their tea at the New Hall on Saturday. The trayholders and servers were the ladies of the supporters' committee, who are to be complimented on the work they have done throughout the year to provide funds to held the O.A.P. Coun. W.J. Payne presided. Amongst the guests were Coun. E. Burgess, J.P., and Mrs. Burgess, County Councillor W.J. Kedward, O.B.E., J.P., and Mrs. Kedward, Mr. T. Walters, A.L.C.M., secretary O.A.P., Mr. Walter Jones, treasurer, Rev. E.A. Evans, B.A., vicar, late secretary. The chairman complimented Coun. Kedward on being honoured with the O.B.E., and he also noted that his wife was a Fochriw lady. Others joined in the congratulations to which Coun. Fedward responded. A vote of thanks to all the guests and ladies' committee and supporters was moved by Coun. Payne and seconded by Mr. T. Walters. The committee of the Womens' Supporters O.A.P. Committee are: president, Mrs. H.L. Farley; chairman, Mrs. J.M. Lawrence; secretary, Mrs. J. Owen; treasurer, Miss C. Shankland; committee, Mesdames M. Davies, M.A. Lewis, R. Williams, M. Watkins, E. Jones, M. Evans, Enid Jones, G. Mantle.

22 June 1957 Pensioners Outing Fund A "mile of pennies" was organised at Fochriw and Pentwyn on Friday, June 14, for the Outing Fund. £28 13s 9d. was collected. The Supporters Committee wish to thank all who helped.

14 June 1958 Supporters' Meeting On Thursday evening at the New Hall, the old age pensioners' ladies' supporters committee held a meeting. The present aim is to give the O.A.Ps. a day at the seaside. A "Mile of Pennies" will be organised, appealing for generous support.

12 July 1958 Pensioners' Outing The O.A.P. annual outing took place on Tuesday to Porthcawl. The weather was beautiful, and the old folks had a fine days enjoyment. The event was organised by the Ladies Support Committee.

9 May 1959 Jumble Sale This was held at the New Hall on Saturday. As a result of the sale, £40 was made for the annual O.A.P. outing to Porthcawl in July. Gifts of clothing,

food and money came from Fochriw, Pentwyn and Penybank. The raffle box of chocolates was won by Phyllis Watkins, Heol-y-bryn, and the food parcel by Mr. Wilton, Guest Street.

12 September 1959 O.A.P. Supporters Committee The Committee gave a tea for their chairman, Mrs. J. M. Lawrence, on her 78th birthday. Mrs. M. Davies, aged 83, presented her with a bouquet on behalf of the committee. Mrs. M. Lewis proposed a toast. The Committee also welcomed four new members: Mrs. S. Gittens, Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. Gillard and Mrs. N. Dummett.

4 June 1960 Mile of Pennies On Friday last, the O.A.P. Supporters' Committee held a mile of pennies to swell the funds so that the Pensioners can enjoy a day at the seaside. Great credit is due to the ladies' committee who work throughout the year organising events. The total amount raised was £20 7s 3½d.

25 June 1960 O.A.P. Outing On Tuesday, the Fochriw Old Age Pensioners held their annual outing through the Vale of Glamorgan, visiting Barry, Ogmere and Porthcawl. The trip was organised by the Ladies' Supporters' Committee.

22 October 1960 Jumble Sale At the New Hall on Saturday, a jumble sale was held by the Ladies' Supporters' Committee in aid of the Old Age Pensioners' Fund.

5 November 1960 Jumble Sale At the Old Age Pensioners' jumble sale, £48 11s 6d. was raised towards the Christmas gift to 142 old age pensioners in the district. Mrs. Chetnik, Glanynant, won the box of chocolates. The committee is grateful to all who helped on the stalls, especially as owing to illness, they were down to six, and it would have been impossible to hold the sale.

8 July 1961 Pensioners' Outing The annual outing took place on Tuesday organised by the Ladies' Support Committee. The place selected was Porthcawl, and a very enjoyable day was spent.

15 July 1961 Mile of Pennies The Ladies' Supporters' Committee organised a "Mile of Pennies" on Friday in aid of the Fochriw and District Old Age Pensioners. It realised £34 4s 8½d. The ladies wish to thank all who assisted.

16 September 1961 O.A.P. Singing Festival A combined meeting attended by representatives of all the churches of Fochriw and Penybank was held at St. Mary's Church on Thursday. The Vicar presided. The object was the holding of a community singing festival in aid of the Old Age Pensioners of the district. It was agreed to hold the event on Sunday evening, October 1, 1961, at 7.45 p.m. The chairman will be the Vicar, and the conductor, Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., and the organist Mr. Frank Jones. A silver collection will be taken. All are welcome.

11 November 1961 O.A.P. Supporters The Fochriw Ladies O.A.P. Supporters Committee celebrated its 10th anniversary this week. The Committee is now busy preparing Christmas gifts for the old people. The committee chairman is Mrs. M.A. Lewis; secretary, Mrs. Joan Owen; treasurer, Miss Cassie Shankland.

26 May 1962 Fochriw Plans Singing Festival for Pensioners A community hymn singing festival is to be organised by the churches of Fochriw in aid of the old age pensioners' funds. This was decided at a meeting of the local churches on Wednesday at St. Mary's Church, when the Rev. Evan Sedgemore presided. It will be held at Penybank Chapel. Officers were elected: chairman, Pastor D. Thomas; conductor, Mr. W.A. Davies; organist, Mr. Willie Edwards; pianist, Mr. Idrisi Powell; soloist, Miss Rosemary Jones.

7 July 1962 Mile of Pennies The Ladies' Supporters' Committee of the O.A.P. held a very successful 'Mile of Pennies' collection on Friday. The Committee wish to thank the public for their support.

7 July 1962 O.A.P. The O.A.P. had their annual outing on Tuesday, and toured the coast from Barry to Porthcawl. The arrangements were made by the Ladies Supporters' Committee.

6 October 1962 Pensioners' Week To commence the Old People's Week, a community hymn singing was held at Pantywaun Chapel on Sunday. Pastor Wm. Griffiths presided, and Mr. W.A. Davies, Nazareth Chapel, conducted. The organist was Mr. Willie Edwards, and the pianist Mr. Idris Powell. Miss Rosemary Jones was the soloist. Prayers were said by Rev. T.J. Jones. Other speakers were Rev. Evan Sedgemore and Rev. Jones. Coun. Payne and Mr. W.A. Davies, Carmel, thanked everyone. A collection of £6 8s 1d. was realised for O.A.P funds.

19 January 1963 Pensioners' Gift The O.A.P. of Fochriw and district received a Christmas gift of 12/6 from the Committee of the organisation. The recipients are indebted to the Committee for their generous gift.

27 July 1963 Community Hymn Singing A meeting of all chapel representatives held at St. Mary's Church recently, decided to hold community hymn singing in aid of the O.A.P. Fund on Sunday, September 20 at Carmel Chapel.

5 October 1963 Hymn Singing The annual community hymn singing in aid of the O.A.P. Fund was held at Carmel. Conductor: Mr. Ewart Davies; organist, Mrs. Ann Davies; chairman, Mr. Wm. Davies. Votes of thanks were accorded.

9 May 1964 Jumble Sale The committee of the O.A.P. Association organised a jumble sale recently. Over £50 was realised for the O.A.P. Fund.

4 July 1964 Collection A mile of pennies in aid of the O.A.P. Fund was organised by the Committee and realised over £30.

5 September 1964 Community Singing The annual community singing in aid of the Old Age Pensioners Fund was held at Noddfa on Sunday last. The chairman was Mr. T. J. Jones, and the conductor was Mr. E. Davies. Pastor W. Griffiths read the Scripture, and Nurse M. Lewis led in prayer. The collection amounted to £6 2s 10d.

4 July 1964 Pensioners' Outing Members of the O.A.P. Association journeyed to Aberavon and Porthcawl by bus for their annual outing. Each member was presented with a small gift before departure. Any pensioner who wishes to join should contact Mrs. Joan Owen, 17, Guest Street.