1930 - at Cowbridge Police Court

James Smith, a labourer from the Lodging House, Cowbridge pleaded guilty to stealing a chicken from a fowls-run at the back of High Street on March 29th. The Rev. David Philip David of Dynevor House said that he went into the fowls-run which was the property of his father-in-law, Mr James Bird, and whilst there the defendant came up and asked if he could do the garden for the witness. He was told that the garden had been done, and the witness said that he then left and the defendant remained near the fowls-run. The chicken was valued at 7s.6d.

Margaret Brown, Eastgate Street said that about 5 pm that day she was walking over the footbridge near Poplars House, when she saw the defendant standing in the water up to his knees. He said he was driving the fowls back to Mr Bird's. She walked on, and turning around saw him pulling the chicken out of the hedge.

The defendant said he was very sorry. He had no work and no money for food or lodge. He was said to be a native of Essex who had lived in Cowbridge district for about twelve years, and earned a living as a watercress seller. He had never been charged with any offence before.

He was 'bound over' in the sum of £3 for six months, and had to pay 15s. costs.

From a Glamorgan Gazette article