



Widow's Country Cottage

Did not tell Assistance Board About It

Before Mr. Powell at Westminster Police Court, on Thursday, Lucy Daines (66), no occupation, of Jasmine Cottage, Collingbourne Kingston, Wiltshire, was charged on a warrant with knowingly making a false representation that she was without means except for the widow's pension of 10s. a week, when obtaining an allowance under the Unemployment Assistance Act.

She admitted it.

A solicitor representing the Unemployment Assistance Board said prisoner applied for assistance, and represented that the only money she had was 10s. a week widow' pension. Grants were made that involved a total sum of £4 10s. This amount would not have been granted had she disclosed the fact that she was receiving 7s. 6d. a week from a cottage in the country.

"In Great Difficulty"

Miss O. K. de Berry, court missionary, said no doubt prisoner had been in great difficulty. She had had to pay considerable sums to maintain the cottage and pay the rates, and she still paid the rent of her home in Pimlico, although she evacuated to Wiltshire.

Prisoner explained that she had had to pay a lot of expenses from her hard-earned wages in maintaining the cottage and paying the rates. She had only 3s a week left. She bought the cottage when her husband had his pension so that they could live in it. He lived for only a year after. As prisoner could not get her living in the district she came back to London.

The Magistrate: Why didn't you tell the Board about the cottage?

Prisoner: I'm sorry. I apologise.

The Magistrate: If they had known you had these expenses something might have been done to meet you. Prison is the remedy for people who make false statements and get money to which they are not entitled. I will consider what to do with you. I shall remand you in custody until Saturday.

On Saturday the magistrate said he had decided to bind her over for six months on her own recognisances of 40s.

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