



## Warminster Board of Guardians

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Warminster Board of Guardians was held on Monday. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. Chisman presided, and there were also present: Blanche Lady Pelly, Miss Compton, Miss Maxfield, Messrs. J. Pearce, J. H. Sly, J. Coombs, W. H. Marshman, W. J. Eyers, J. Hinton, and the Rev. G. H. S. Atwood, with the Clerk (Mr. Merrick.)

### Master's Report

Mr. White reported that there were at present in the house forty-three inmates, as against fifty-five last year - a decrease of twelve. The casuals relieved numbered eight the first week of the fortnight and twelve the second, as against twenty-three and twenty-eight last year - a decrease of thirty-one on the fortnight. He reported receipt of flowers for decoration of the wards from the Salvation Army flower service, per Captain Wilkins. The death of John Whatley, of Sutton Veny, was reported, and James Davis, one of the inmates, was complained of for returning home drunk on "liberty day," and being abusive to the gatekeeper. Mrs. Ransom, another inmate, got over the wall, and escaped to friends at Heytesbury, but was brought back.

Davis was brought in and interrogated by the Chairman as to the charges brought against him. Davis went to the extent of admitting that very little made him tipsy sometimes, and said the abuse consisted of telling the porter's wife, when she accused him of being drunk, that she had not to pay for it. He was censured, and his leave stopped for a month.

### A Prudent Resolve

The Master also reported that he had written for coals to the Radstock Coal Company and to Mr. White of Warminster. The former had tendered at the rate of 21s. 2d. per ton and the latter at 21s. 6d., both delivered free. For the purposes of the house both qualities were equal.

The feeling of the Board was that the local man should get the order, and it was decided that he be first offered it at the price of the Radstock Company.

The Clerk suggested that, as the coals were at their lowest just now, it might be advisable to lay in the winter's stocks, and this was acted on, it being decided to order two truckloads - twenty tons - instead of one. It was suggested that the order be divided between the two tenderers, but no motion was made.

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