

OLICANA MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL
INTEREST

VOL XV JAN 1981 - SEP 1981

G-16

2/2

Manor House Museum Attendant Retires

3 APRIL 1981



An attendant at the Manor House Museum since 1974, Mrs. Margaret Brown, of Trafalgar Road, Ilkley, has retired.

She was presented with a water colour painting by the artist E. J. W. Prior, at a celebration attended by colleagues and former colleagues at the Manor House.

Previous to working at the museum, she worked as caretaker at Ilkley Town Hall for five years and before that farmed at Barden and Embsay.

Archaeologist Mr. S. Kerry is pictured presenting Mrs. Brown with the water colour painting, with, from left to right, her museum colleagues Mr. J. Broughton, Mr. M. Moody, Mr. J. Holden and Mrs. P. Laycock.

BRADFORD TURNED DOWN 3 APRIL 1981 ILKLEY STORE PLAN THROUGH SPITE, SAYS MP

Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Panel decision to reject an application for a new Hillard's store at Ilkley has been described by Ripon MP, Dr. Keith Hampson as "political vindictiveness."

Three Councils can not agree over an application for a Co-operative departmental store on part of the town's central car park or on another application for a new Hillard's supermarket on the former railway goods yard.

The application by the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society, favoured by Bradford Metropolitan Council, but not favoured by Ilkley Parish Council or the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council will be the subject of an appeal at a public inquiry in May.

Another application for the development of the goods yard was welcomed by the Parish Council but turned down by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Plans Panel. Grounds for refusal were that it represented a substantial addition to the shopping floor space in Ilkley on a site clearly separated from the existing shopping centre; the Panel was concerned to ensure that the integrity of the existing shopping centre was retained in the interests of the shopping public.

"There are other current proposals for shopping development on sites within the established shopping centre which will meet the local planning authority's objectives. It was considered the proposal premature until these developments have taken place."

Dr. Hampson said he was staggered at what could only be the "political vindictiveness" of Bradford Metropolitan Council.

"In all the time I have been a Member of Parliament I have not come across such a spurious reason for rejecting a planning application. No one looking at it objectively can argue that the railway site is not within perfectly reasonable walking distance of the other shops in the town. In fact it is an ideal position for a large store because anything else closer to the centre, as we all too clearly seen with the Co-operative proposal, will lead to unbearable congestion," said Dr. Hampson.

"What a nerve for Councillors to claim that their decision is 'in the interests of the shopping public.' Let the shoppers make their own mind up. If they prefer one shop to another then they will use it. They do not need protecting by an interfering committee."

"I can see no other reason for rejecting this application other than Bradford Labour Party spite at the town's rejection of the Co-operative Society's ambitions," said Dr. Hampson.

ACROSS THE YEARS 10 APRIL 1981 ILKLEY PRAISED FOR ITS BEAUTY

100 Years Ago

A visitor from Staffordshire, staying at the Troutbeck Hotel, Ilkley, wrote a letter to the Ilkley Free Press in praise of the beauty of Ilkley and its endless attractions as a holiday town. The writer began "Whoever was the first to find this singularly favoured spot, and to make his abode here, far from the scenes of toil and strife should be immortalised." The atmosphere he described as pure and bracing, making one feel years younger by the "lightness and buoyancy it imparts to the nervous system." The scenery he described as the most wonderful works of God, the local excursions as of sheer magnificence, the railway service excellent, and the Troutbeck Hydropathic establishment as a really good house for both families and gentlemen to visit.

75 Years Ago

The principal attraction in Addingham on Good Friday was the procession through the streets of the scholars from the Wesleyan and Reform Sunday Schools singing special hymns on the route.

William Clapham, of Ilkley, an engine driver, had an accident whilst coaling his engine after having driven it from Ilkley to Leeds. He had filled the bunkers and was climbing back on to the footplate when a large piece of coal fell and struck him on the head. He was admitted to Leeds Infirmary.

Balls took place on Easter Monday at local hotels and hydros. Rockwood House Hydro and the Stoney Lea Hydro attracted townspeople as well as visitors. Craiglands Hydro held their annual fancy dress Cinderella Ball with a string band in attendance from 7.30 p.m. to 12 p.m.

50 Years Ago

Arrangements were completed by the Ilkley Gliding Club for the use of a remarkably fine piece of ground at Malham. This was situated in an isolated area near to Malham Tarn, with an acreage of no less than 1,468 acres. Over the wide area were a number of hills suitable for securing gliding practice, and also highly suitable to stage inter-club competitions.

Ilkley Urban District Council marked the 21st anniversary of the election of Mr. Wm. Dobson as a member of that authority by

appointing him chairman of the Council. Mr. J. C. Scott, a bachelor member of the Ilkley Urban District Council, protested at his name being put forward for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and said his appointment was an insult to that committee. He said he had no intention of attending that committee when there were plenty of married men on the Council. Dr. M. Dobson said he would rather not be a member and Mr. C. F. Pyett was proposed and agreed to attend the meetings willingly. Mr. J. C. Scott took the place of Mr. Pyett on the Rating and Valuation Committee.

25 Years Ago

Wharfedale Local Association of Boy Scout's secretary, Mr. H. V. Haddrill severely criticised the citizens of Ilkley when the 6th Ilkley Scout Group had to be disbanded owing to lack of a leader. The troop began in 1937 under the leadership of Mr. I. H. Sharpe and had continued during the war under the cub leader Miss W. Barron.

Mr. A. E. Pullan, Peel Place, Burley, was made an honorary life member of the Wharfedale Naturalists Society in recognition of his services to natural history in Wharfedale.

The Aire daic-Wharfedale Senior Cricket League played their first matches of the season in cold weather. The highlights of the first day were the brilliant bowling of F. Elkins for Burley and L. Roe for Ilkley, and the first Wharfedale batsman to reach the half century was P. Brumfit of Ilkley.

School outfitters advertised blazers from 19/11 to 45/-; cricket shirts at 15/-, sweaters 17/6; school suits from 45/- to £5 10s. and Girl's regulation summer dresses from 32/6.

QUESTION OF PARISH RATE DISCUSSED AGAIN AT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

3 APRIL 1981

The question of levying a parish rate, which has been discussed on several occasions since local government was re-organised in 1974, arose again at the annual meeting of the Ilkley Parish, held at Kirklands, Menston.

The idea, however, met with some doubt from the chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. K. G. Johnson.

The suggestion was for a rate of one pence in the pound to raise an estimated £25,000 a year to cover such schemes as the provision of tennis courts at Menston and improvements to football facilities at Burley, both of which Bradford Metropolitan Council refused to carry out.

Cr. Johnson, however, said that there would be a 'nil return' situation whereby Bradford could withdraw what they provided. He added that the Parish Council was, strictly speaking, in an illegal situation in that, by law, it should be supporting itself out of its own rates but was being supported by Bradford Metropolitan Council. He asked why a Parish Council should levy a rate when services were supposed to be provided by the District Council to whom rates were paid.

Rate Increase

The Chairman of Ilkley and District Ratepayers Action Group, Mr. W. D. Fisher, asked what action Ilkley Parish Council had taken against Bradford Metropolitan Council's recent rate increase.

Cr. Johnson said the Parish Council had objected to the rate increase in relation to the level of inflation. Mr. Fisher added that the Ratepayers Action Group would support any Parish Council opposition to the rates.

Local libraries, and particularly their cataloguing systems, came under considerable criticism at the meeting. Cr. Mrs. M. Renton said the cataloguing system was poor and mentioned one instance when she could not find the books of one author on a single list. Cr. Mrs. Renton blamed the system whereby one library was always dependent on another and was able to pass the responsibility to someone else.

Cr. Johnson added that he had found books in a very untidy state on visiting the library at the end of the day. He had been told by staff that it was due to staffing problems and cuts in local expenditure. In one instance, he explained he had to wait two years before obtaining a book he requested.

Progress Reports

The Chairman of Ilkley Civic Society, Mr. Gilbert Lister, had submitted a request for progress reports on several local schemes, including the proposals for an extension of the Conservation Area, the Traffic Management Scheme and Ilkley's Town Map.

Cr. W. R. Hill said a report concerning the proposed extension of the Conservation Area had been sent to Bradford Metropolitan Council by the Parish Council and that they were still awaiting a reply. He added that he felt Bradford were in sympathy with the plans for an extension.

About the Traffic Management Scheme Cr. Hill said it had been agreed to monitor the scheme so that any particular problems could be investigated and he felt the introduction of parking charges to Ilkley's central car park had caused people to park further from the town centre.

Chairman of the Parish Council's Plans Committee, C. S. Cossley-Smith, said the 1973 Town Map was the only one in use now but, he added, planning officers were at present surveying Alredale and intended moving on to Ilkley next.

Answering a question about whether the Parish Council, through its representatives on the governing bodies of local schools, monitored the effects of successive cuts in the educational services, Cr. Johnson said that they did not directly monitor the effects. "However," he added, "I would like to point out that our representation has been cut by 50 per cent due to a shortage of money. The standard of education in Ilkley is regarded as very high indeed, so we have not got a great deal to complain about in Ilkley. There are, however, problems with some Middle Schools, such as Ilkley Middle School where they are having a reduction in staff owing to a decline in the number of pupils." Cr. Johnson also commended the work of the Parent-Teachers' Associations in raising funds for school projects such as Ilkley Grammar School's P.T.A. efforts to raise money towards a new mini-bus.

Christmas Lights

Mr. Vincent Dobson, representing the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, asked Cr. Johnson if any plans had been made for Christmas lights in Ilkley this year. Cr. Johnson said that the council had no means to pay for the lights at the moment but ways of raising money had been discussed. He added that he hoped to have further information in about three weeks concerning the lights.

Mr. Dobson also raised the point of box maps for Ilkley, being made by Bradford Metropolitan Council with the Chamber of Trade and Commerce. Cr. Mrs. Renton said Ilkley Parish Council would like to see the finished designs before they were actually decided upon.

Mr. J. B. Gundry, representing Burley Community Council, raised the question of possible improvements at the junction of Main Street and Station Road, Burley.

Cr. Johnson said he had been told by the vice-chairman of West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council that it was the Department of the Environment who made the decisions, and they had decided alterations were not to be made at the junction. However, Cr. Johnson said that a co-ordinating committee had now been formed between the County Council and the D.o.E. with the hope of more consultation between the two in the future.

Successes

Reviewing the past year, Cr. Johnson said the Parish Council could claim some success during the year, namely the agreement with Bradford Metropolitan Council to alter the layout of the footpaths at the riverside gardens in Ilkley, the refusal of the Castle Road proposals to build a development there, the allocation to Ilkley of a Tourist Information Centre, the extension of the Conservation Area, and the considerable alterations made to the original Traffic Management Scheme.

Cr. Johnson listed the failures as car parking charges in Ilkley's central car park, the Rhyddings Road auction rooms, the lack of proper tennis courts at Menston, no improvements to football facilities at Burley, the loss of proposals to put traffic lights at the junction of Main Street and Station Road in Burley and the still un-resolved Co-operative store issue. He added that ongoing problems included the provision of a bottle bank in Ilkley, the dog problem and the fountain area at Burley.

Cr. Johnson said the year had been notable for the number of crises which arose. "The Town Survey was carried out largely by Parish Councillors under considerable pressure," he said, "and we have had a change of Parish Clerk in mid-year."

"The Council as a body had now settled down after the large changes in membership of two years ago and was continuing to be vigilant and active in looking after the interests of all local residents," Cr. Johnson concluded.

10 APRIL 1981

Government Help Sought To Preserve Land Vital To Town's Future

Government help is being sought to help preserve land in Castle Road, Ilkley, which the Parish Council believes should be landscaped and opened to the public.

The land between the site of the Roman Fort and the riverside gardens has long been regarded as an eyesore. The site was formerly occupied by wooden garages which served as workshops for Chamber Bros., car body builders. They were erected in 1921 and demolished in September, 1978. The remains of a bungalow, partly destroyed by fire, occupies part of the site.

Concern was expressed in Ilkley over the development of the site and last month an application for planning permission to build seven Scandinavian warehouse type houses was turned down by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

At the meeting of Ilkley Parish Council on Monday, which was attended by the Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council, Cr. D. Smith, Parish Councillor W. R. Hill said the area around the Manor House, the Parish Church and the site of the Roman Fort was perhaps the most important part of Ilkley. The area was greatly enhanced when the former Ilkley Urban Council purchased property adjacent to the site.

"In view of the importance of the area around the Parish Church and the Manor House and the open area of the riverside gardens, it is vital that the site in Castle Road be cleared of all property, landscaped and opened to the public," said Cr. Hill.

"Will Bradford Metropolitan Council use powers of compulsory purchase to enable the area to be kept undeveloped and transformed into gardens for posterity?" asked Cr. Hill.

Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council, Cr. D. Smith said they were concerned to maintain Ilkley as the people of Ilkley wanted to see it. On the question of Bradford Metropolitan Council purchasing the site he could not see this happening because finance was committed during the present financial restraints. He hoped they would be able to protect the site through planning control.

Later that night, at the monthly meeting of the Parish Council members agreed to express its concern and desires over the site to the Department of the Environment and the Local Councils Association and ask for their assistance.

Cr. Hill said the site was vital to Ilkley's future and if Bradford could not provide the money then the Parish Council should be looking at other ways and means such as seeking the help of the Department of the Environment or the National Trust.

Cr. C. H. Scaife was critical of the proposals saying Ilkley had been shouting about increasing costs. They should not start supporting another scheme which was to cost money. They already gave £15,000 to the Ilkley Literature Festival and another £5,000 for chandeliers at Keighley. All this money came out of the pockets of businessmen and people, he said.

Cr. E. S. Gardner supported Cr. Scaife's views saying they should control spending.

The Council agreed by eleven votes to four to seek help from the Department of the Environment and the Local Councils Association.

BRADFORD WOULD NOT OBJECT TO ILKLEY LEAVING THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

LOOKING FOR A COMMON POLICY OVER STORE PLAN

Ilkley Chamber of Trade is seeking members' views so that a common policy can be put forward at a public inquiry into the controversial proposed Co-op store on land at South Hawksworth Street.

The Chamber's Executive Committee intends to represent members at the inquiry in May, and has circulated a questionnaire among members.

Questions asked are:-

"Are you in favour of the proposed Co-op in Ilkley car park?"

"Are you in favour of the Co-op on another site?"

"Are you in favour of any other development within the car park?"

"Would you like to see car parking facilities extended within the central car parking area?"

Members have also been invited to submit any other comments they have on the subject.

Confirmation that Ilkley Parish Council could count on support of Bradford Metropolitan Council should Ilkley decide it wanted to leave the Bradford Metropolitan area was given by the Leader of the Council.

Cr. D. Smith gave this assurance when, with the Council's Chief Executive, Mr. Gordon C. Moore, he made his annual visit to Ilkley Parish Council on Monday night where he was available to answer questions raised by Councillors.

Cr. E. S. Gardner, a member of the Parish Council's committee set up to investigate Ilkley becoming part of a District Council other than Bradford asked the Leader for this confirmation on Monday.

Cr. Smith said if Ilkley wanted to leave the Bradford district he would take steps to try and bring this about. He felt any section of the community should be where it wanted to be and if Ilkley people wanted to become part of another district then he would support their wishes.

The Parish Council Committee to investigate the possibility of leaving the Bradford area was formed in January when Cr. Gardner stated that it had become increasingly clear that the views of the people of Ilkley were largely ignored by Bradford. The time had come for them to say "enough is enough", he said.

TOURISM

"As Bradford Metropolitan Council are pursuing a policy to encourage tourism in Ilkley, how do they envisage a boom in visitors following the new implemented pay car park with the proposed loss of car parking space if approval to have a department store on the car park which will not be providing its own parking facilities for either customers or staff, is confirmed by Bradford," asked Cr. Mrs. M. Renton.

Replying Cr. Smith said it was felt that the introduction of a 10p per hour charge would enable a quicker turn around in the centre of Ilkley. It was felt that by doing so it would encourage people who wanted to park in the centre for a long time to find a long stay car park, said Cr. Smith. Previously many people who worked in Ilkley parked their cars all day on the central car park, he said.

Cr. Mrs. Renton reminded the Leader that if Bradford Metropolitan Council had its own way over the development of a Co-operative store on land close to the car park a large portion of the car park would be used by people visiting the store. "How does this tie in with encouraging tourism to the town?" asked Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Cr. Smith said anyone coming to Ilkley to shop would no doubt be welcomed by the people of Ilkley and it was felt a charge of 10p an hour would encourage them to visit the town.

DISCRIMINATION

Chairman to the Parish Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson asked for an indication of the way the Bradford Metropolitan District policy of "positive discrimination" was working against the interests of the Ilkley area.

A reply from Bradford stated that the Ilkley area had fared extremely favourably during the 1980-81 in connection with the Council policy of attracting tourists. The following works had been undertaken: improvements to the courtyard at the Manor House, improvements to prevent erosion of the Cow and Calf Rocks, the refurbishment of the Ilkley Information Centre, financial support

for the Ilkley Literature Festival, and the newly produced booklet on the Ilkley Town Trail Walk. This expenditure totalled \$60,000 and would attract additional expenditure from the Tourist Authority, so there was little evidence of discrimination in the Ilkley area.

So far as refuse collection was concerned there had been no discrimination in the Ilkley area and though the road sweeper had been diverted for a period the standards of sweeping in Ilkley had been maintained.

DECLINE

Cr. F. G. Lambert said Bradford was a city in severe industrial and commercial decline and a re-vitalisation of the economic life of the area was necessary. Could Ilkley Parish Council help in the economic revival and what part could it play? he asked.

Bradford had replied saying it was difficult to suggest ways in which Ilkley Parish Council could assist in the economic revival of Bradford other than to seek their support for their activities in the tourist promotion field and to suggest that they kept the Ilkley business community informed of the existence of the Economic Development Unit and to encourage businessmen to approach the EDU if they required assistance. Cr. Smith said they had tried to fix a rate which would, as far as possible, help everyone but he pointed out that this year the Council had lost £10m in grants from the Government.

AUTHORITY

Cr. Lambert went on to ask what steps were being taken to give more authority to the outlying areas as promised in the Socialist Party Election Manifesto last May?

Cr. Smith said it would be desirable and more democratic to do this but so far they had been unable to develop it.

BURDENS

"Although few people enjoy unemployment, the private sector is bearing the brunt of it. How can you justify little or no redundancy in the public area whilst, at the same time, you are proposing to impose even greater financial burdens on both commerce and industry to support your actions?" asked Cr. C. D. Poole.

Cr. Smith said staffs had been reduced and there were many more vacant posts which were not being filled in the next financial year because of the restraints. If they sacked people then society suffered twice, he said.

EMPLOYED

Cr. J. M. Shelton asked how many people were employed by Bradford Metropolitan Council at the beginning of April, 1980 and how many were employed at the end of March 1981?

Cr. Smith said the number of administrative staff employed in April, 1980 was 6,336 compared with 6,118 in December, 1980. The manual work force totalled 10,841 in April, 1980 compared with

10,642 in December, 1980.

This was not very good, said Cr. Shelton who said rate-payers were continually being hammered for more rates and industry was continually cutting back. They were not asking for more sackings but more efficiency, said Cr. Shelton.

Cr. Smith said over 1,000 employees had left the Council under the golden handshake scheme and those posts would not be filled.

"RIGHT TO BUY"

"How many tenants of council houses in Ilkley, Burley and Menston, have applied to purchase their dwelling in accordance with their 'Right to Buy' under the provisions contained in the Housing Act 1980 and how many are still outstanding?" asked Cr. Peter A. Williams.

Cr. Smith said between 5 October, 1980 and 10 March, 1981, twenty applications had been received. Of these five had not yet responded to the Council's offer; two were not entitled to purchase under the "Right to Buy" scheme; five had accepted the offers; five were awaiting offers; one had not returned an outstanding form and two applications for flats were awaiting basic information and valuation.

CORRESPONDENCE

16 APRIL 1981

Proposed Development In Brook Street

Sir, It is good to see a constructive approach to the re-development of the Western area of the Ilkley station site yet preserving what is good of the old station buildings. However, it seems a shame that the proposed plan shows a lack of true architectural quality.

The uniformity of the standard shop units, so contrived, will add nothing to the quality of the Victorian environment in this prime situation in the centre of Ilkley. The use of stone in the construction is in itself no panacea to architectural quality.

The proposed cost of this development, of £14 million would indicate the necessity of very high rentals, which would not attract local tradespeople as has been suggested.

It is a pity that "Greenwoods" shop front, which recently won an award from the Civic Society and the old Regis Cafe which has been so tastefully adapted into a hair-dressing salon maintaining an essential link with Ilkley's Victorian past should be swept away. Surely it is not beyond the ingenuity of a good architect to combine a varied facade in keeping with the proposed good planning of the rest of the development.

Recently there have been other glaring examples of poor taste in changes of facade to other buildings in Brook Street, which the planning authority should never have authorised, yet other such changes in the Grove shops show what can be done to Betty's cafe and the Grove Bookshop. If our readers agree with what we say can they please write objecting to the proposed plan to — The Principal Planning Officer, Mr. J. Steel, Central Offices, Jacob's Well, Bradford 1.

Mr. and Mrs. K. N. GREENWOOD.

Holly House,
7, Westville Road.

ILKLEY'S "REBEL" COUNCIL'S CLAIM FOR LEGAL COSTS DESCRIBED AS "IMMORAL"

16
APRIL
1981

Ilkley Parish Councillors have this week been described as rebels asking for between £2,000 and £3,000 to pay a bill for legal representation at the forthcoming public inquiry into the proposed siting of a Co-operative Departmental store on land adjoining Ilkley's central car park.

Parish Councillors who feel the proposed Co-operative store would be wrongly sited claim they have a right to precept for money needed by the Parish and that the Metropolitan Council had an obligation to provide it.

They had asked Bradford Metropolitan Council to pay the costs by levying a rates precept but they came under attack from the Council's Deputy Labour Leader, Cr. Daniel Coughlin, who branded the Parish Council's attempt as "immoral."

He said "even if this is legal I have no doubt it is immoral. I will oppose it all the way and if there is no legal obligation we will refuse to pay."

The Parish Council, by asking Bradford Metropolitan Council, has now invoked an Act of Parliament to make Bradford pay these costs by levying a rates precept.

Vice-Chairman to the Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, told the "Gazette" this week that she believed the unease and disappointment amongst Ilkley councillors and people in the Ilkley district was sparked off by the Metropolitan Council's unbending attitude regarding the proposed Co-operative Society development adjoining the central car park.

It was a thousand pities they did not yield to Ilkley's wishes. This would have paid dividends, and would have been appreciated enormously by councillors and the electorate of Ilkley, she said.

As reported in the "Gazette" towards the end of last month a full scale row has developed between three councils concerning the future siting of supermarket developments at Ilkley.

The Council can not agree over an application for a Co-operative departmental store on part of the town's central car park or on another application for another supermarket development on the former railway goods yard.

The application by the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society, favoured by Bradford Metropolitan Council, but not favoured by Ilkley Parish Council or the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council, will be the subject of an appeal at a public inquiry in May.

Another application, this time for a new Hillards supermarket on the railway goods yard, has been refused by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

DISCLOSURE OF PLANS CRITICISED

The disclosure on Tuesday of plans by Ilkley Parish Council to investigate Ilkley becoming part of a District Council other than Bradford has been strongly criticised.

The report in a morning newspaper described Ilkley Parish Council as a rebel Parish Council seeking support for plans to set up a new local authority because it claimed the Bradford authority ignored local feeling.

The report went on: "The Deputy Leader of Bradford Council's controlling Labour Group, Cr. Daniel Coughlin said there would be no objections to the Conservative controlled parish.

A sub-committee set up by the parish in January is considering three options and is expected to report next month.

The parish's chairman, Cr. Kenneth Johnson said: "One plan is to liaise with parishes at Pool, Arthington, Otley and Wetherby to form a Wharfe Valley District Council.

"We would have to get the agreement of the local authorities and appropriate political parties and convince the Boundary Commission."

The Parish is also considering joining Craven District Council.

The third option is to try to join Harrogate Council, ended the report.

In March the "Gazette" stated that such a committee had been formed by the Parish Council and that the committee was expected to make its first report soon.

Chairman of that Committee, Parish Councillor E. S. Gardner told the "Gazette" that the remarks made in the morning newspaper came as a surprise. "I can only say this report merely quotes the obvious alternatives."

"At this stage I wish to make it clear the Committee has not yet formulated its report nor even fully investigated the various alternatives such as a Wharfe Valley District Council.

"None of the authorities mentioned have even yet been approached officially and it is far too early to make any further comment," said Cr. Gardner.

He did say, however, that a report could be expected within the next few months.

Parish Councillors Mrs. M. Renton said "I think it is really too early to make comments on the possibility of Ilkley Parish Council parting company with Bradford.

There was a sub-committee of the Council investigating this and it had not made a full report of its findings or a recommendation, nor had any final approaches been made to other bodies apart from the question asked of the Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council at the Council's last meeting and his reply, both of which were reported in last week's "Gazette", she said.

"I am sure the Chairman of the Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson will agree with me that all comments must be purely conjecture at this stage. I am equally sure Bradford will be happy to lose Ilkley thus ridding the Metropolitan District of a solid Conservative block. They should consider they will also lose our rates and weigh one against the other," she said.

ACROSS THE YEARS 16 APRIL 1981

Confusion Over "The Grove"

100 Years Ago

At a meeting of the Ilkley Local Board Mr. J. Lund complained that there was a good deal of confusion at times owing to the fact that the definition of "The Grove" was somewhat ambiguous. One part of it was called "The Grove" and the other "Grove Road" and to simplify things he put forward the motion that the entire road be named "The Grove". The motion was carried.

The Finance Committee of the Local Board announced its declared intention to take legal proceedings against any who had defaulted in paying the District Rates and Water Rate.

Ilkley Cricket Club was soundly defeated in a match against Yeadon, being all out for only 19 runs. The top scorer for Ilkley was J. Critchley who scored five runs, and four batsmen were out for ducks. The Yeadon team made a total of 85. The Ilkley correspondent blamed the sun shining on the wickets for his team's dilemma.

75 Years Ago

Following delightful weather over the Easter period, the last week in April was back to winter with a vengeance. The temperature was intensely cold, with snowstorms and frost, and ice was to be found coating many local pools.

Fear was felt in Ilkley for the safety of an Ilkley man, Mr. Joseph Henry Thistlethwaite, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Thistlethwaite of Alexandra Crescent, Ilkley, who was residing in San Francisco during a catastrophic earthquake, which was known to have killed 3,000 people and caused £80,000,000 damage. It was the worst of its kind ever reported in North America and left in its wake 25 miles of ruins. Mr. and Mrs. Thistlethwaite had had no word as to their son's safety and were naturally fearing the worst.

The men's section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade had raised £40 towards the cost of a horse drawn ambulance, and a lady had offered to donate a further £20. The Ambulance Brigade had just a further £20 to raise which seemed to be a fairly easy task and it was hoped that the vehicle would soon be purchased and put to use.

50 Years Ago

A "Milk War" was raging in Ilkley between local farmers and suppliers, resulting in some of the farmers in the district selling milk as low in price as 3d. per quart, the lowest price recorded in 21 years. Two weeks earlier milk

had retailed at 6d. per quart. Then the retailers reduced the price to 5d. and asked the farmers to accept a wholesale price of 1s per gallon. This offer was rejected by six local farmers who announced their intention of retailing their own milk at 4d. per quart. The retailers then countered with the same price and the farmers made a further reduction in price to 3d. per quart. In this they were actually losing money as they had their own deliveries to make, but the whole thing had become a matter of principle. After a meeting with the retailers there was deadlock as the retailers refused to offer more than 1s per gallon. No arrangement was reached.

Ilkley and Addingham Education Committee passed resolutions of protest against a proposed new central school being sited in Little Lane. Ilkley suggested that land in Cowpasture Road purchased for a girl's secondary school be used, but Addingham went further and protested against the erection of a school at all, as they did not wish the Addingham 11 plus group to have to travel daily to Ilkley.

25 Years Ago

There was a heavy fall of snow during the last week of April 1956, which brought to an end a long spell of dry but cold weather.

Ann Robertshaw of Grange Farm, Ilkley, was the winner of the novice class in her first full scale pony club trial in the Bramham Moor Hunt Pony Club Open Event.

The Vogue Players presented "Love's a Luxury" at the King's Hall, Ilkley, with leading parts played by Jocelyn Watts, Harry Batty, Michael Stocks, Keith Plunkett, June Threlfall, Edward Buckley, Mora Kaberry and Elizabeth Hewitt. The play was produced by Eric Fearnside.

16 APRIL 1981

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF NEW STORE PLAN

A petition signed by 28 local residents in support of Hillards' proposals to build a new supermarket on the site of the former railway goods yard at Springs Lane, Ilkley, has been sent to Bradford Metropolitan Council.

The council recently turned down Hillards' planning application for the new store because it would be a substantial addition to the shopping floor space in Ilkley on a site clearly separated from the existing shopping centre.

Ripon MP Dr. Keith Hampson felt the council had turned down the plans through "political vindictiveness."

The petition endorsed the remarks made by Dr. Hampson. "The site of the proposed building of Hillards store, plus space for 120-150 cars, is not outside any shopping zone. There are several shops in Cowpasture Road and the Town Hall, Public Library and the general post office, to which apart from other reasons so many go to collect their pensions, are in this area. If all the municipal buildings are here surely it can not be considered to be outside the 'centre of Ilkley,'" stated the petition.

"The present site in Railway Road is a danger zone in the town, and buildings on the proposed new site would remove this hazard," it concluded.

Mrs. Margaret Jackson of Bolling Road, Ben Rhydding, who signed the petition, felt that perhaps if other residents also wrote to Bradford the council could be persuaded to have second thoughts and realise that the proposed site for the new store was ideal.

ACROSS THE YEARS 24 APRIL 1981

Cattle Dealer Assaults Burley Landlady

100 Years Ago

A Burley cattle dealer was charged at Otley Police Court with assaulting the landlady of the White Horse beerhouse, Burley in 1881. He was alleged to have struck two blows to her face when she asked for money owing to her husband for a galloway. The defendant denied any such debt, called her a liar and struck her two strong blows with his open hand. The dealer was engaged to keep the peace for six months, as witnesses said that the landlady had been very "free with her tongue" and he was sorely provoked by her.

50 Years Ago

The Wharfedale Joint Isolation Hospital Committee decided to recommend to the local health authorities the adoption of treatment against diphtheria by immunisation. In an epidemic the danger was not completely through direct contact with sufferers so that isolation was not a complete answer. There were carriers of the disease, who if immunised, would not spread an epidemic unknowingly.

An anonymous donor put forward plans to start on the building of a new Roman Catholic Church and presbytery on a site off the Burley-Menston Road. The donor, preferring to remain anonymous, offered to build the church as a memorial to his old friend Canon Earnshaw, and to help the people in the locality who had to travel to Otley. The estimated cost was about £4,000, the church to be paid for by the donor and the house by a fund from the diocese.

25 Years Ago

Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club's record for the season was an outstanding one. The matches won and lost were the second best in their history and in some respects, their best. Out of 34 matches the Ilkley club won 26 matches, lost 7 and drew one. They had 20 consecutive victories in a row and Peter Atkinson, the captain and full-back registered 234 points completely outstripping the previous individual record of 163 points which he set up himself in 1955.

Middleton Hospital, Ilkley, advertised for a qualified shorthand typist with an excellent salary range of £182 per annum at 16 years rising to £475 per annum. The General Hospital, Otley had a vacancy for a Clinical Secretary with the same salary range.

The star attraction at the Essoldo Cinema was Walt Disney's "Lady and the Tramp," a full length cartoon feature film.

75 Years Ago

The success of the previous season was reported at the annual meeting of the Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club, although regret was expressed at the loss of their former secretary, Mr. H. E. Sonenthal. Mr. F. B. Muff was elected President, Mr. C. W. Atkinson, secretary and Mr. B. T. Akers, treasurer.

At last Ilkley Urban District Council agreed to take some action to keep the portion of the Ilkley to Otley main road at the East end of Ilkley township in better repair. This had been known for some time as "Denton Bog" because of its usually wet and dirty state and had been the subject of repeated complaints.

Ploverfield, Ben Rhydding the residence of Mr. J. C. Eddison was sold to Mr. J. S. Cooke of Springfield, Gomersal.

1 MAY 1981
150 YEARS SINCE BIRTH OF ILKLEY CHURCH'S ARCHITECT

New Scotland Yard buildings, Bryanston School and St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley, have one thing in common. Each was designed by Norman Shaw, the famous Victorian architect who was born 150 years ago on 7 May.

Shaw built St. Margaret's Church in 1878, when he was a well established architect. Using a Perpendicular design, Shaw produced an impressive structure with a crypt and clerestory, and a very wide nave.

Capable of inspiring others, Shaw was counted as one of the few original Victorian architects who could claim to have founded a school of architecture through his pupils and those who wanted to break from traditional Victorian conventions.

He was essentially one of those architects who bridged the gap between Victorian and Edwardian architecture, and Ilkley was lucky enough to have a sample of his work, even though like most Victorian buildings it was not appreciated until time had mellowed it and in many cities the survival of some of the best of the Victorian architecture was threatened.

1 MAY 1981
LOCAL VOLUNTEERS RESCUE LAMBS FROM SNOW

Over the weekend several local members of the Grassington based Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Team volunteered to help farmers around the isolated hamlet of Foxup, at the head of Littondale, in their search for hundreds of sheep, newly born lambs and cattle lost in the deep snow.

The rescue teams were led by the Secretary and Control-

ler, Mr. Chris Baker, of Addingham.

On Saturday several parties spread out and rescued many sheep and cattle, but also found nine dead cattle which had been buried in an eight foot deep snow drift. On Sunday the search continued, and one party made their way over the moor tops, because it was impossible to travel by road, to Pen-y-

Chent Farm, where it was reported that the farmer had only seen handfuls of his hundreds of sheep. Throughout the day the volunteers recovered or rescued about 70, buried along the bottoms of walls.

Mr. Peter Miller, of Ilkley, Secretary of the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Team, said, "This is one of the ways in which our volun-

tary team helps the general public. It is not only the potato-holders who we are called out to assist."

Picture shows Mr. Miller helping to bottle feed one of the rescued lambs at Bridge Farm, Foxup. With him are Mrs. Gail Lund formerly of Westgate, Otley, and her daughter Rachael (7), who now live at Bridge Farm.



Ilkley Hoped For A Record Holiday Season

100 Years Ago

Lodging house keepers and hoteliers in Ilkley were observed to have been putting their houses and hotels in good order ready for the coming summer months, and the "Gazette" expressed a hope that Ilkley would have a record season as a holiday town in 1881.

A farmer and gamekeeper from Beamsley was charged at Skipton Petty sessions with "unlawfully and feloniously beating his wife thereby causing her death." After serious discussions the hearing was adjourned for an indefinite period before being laid before the public prosecutor.

Miss Maggie Critchley, daughter of Ilkley townsman Mr. T. J. Critchley, was one of only four violinists in England who obtained honours in connection with the Royal Academy of Music's first class certificate examination for the violin.

75 Years Ago

The service offered by the Post Office was not always efficient in 1906. An Ilkley lady received a parcel by post from Heaton, near Newcastle in early May, and was amazed to discover from the postmark that it had been on its way as a Christmas gift since 23 December 1904, nearly eighteen months previously.

A letter was received from the Ilkley man who was in San Francisco at the time of a terrible earthquake and fire and for whom there had been great fear for his safety. Mr. Joseph Thistlethwaite of Alexandra Crescent, Ilkley, wrote of his dreadful experiences in a letter to his parents. He had been burned out of the house he shared with a friend, and also the Bohemian Club where they were employed. It took them 24 hours to get five miles to the park, the only safe place in the city—where they camped out, hungry and thirsty with hundreds of other survivors. The city was put under martial law, and many people were shot for looting and disobeying orders. The troops then started issuing daily rations to the many thousands of homeless, men, women and children. A few days later the fire still burned in the city and Joseph Thistlethwaite expressed his intention of trying to get out of San Francisco as soon as he possibly could.

50 Years Ago

Despite the fact that in March Ilkley Council had resolved there would be no private street works for a period of eighteen months, Messrs. Baldwin and Co. started building ten new houses in a street to be called Chantry Close, a continuation of Chantry Drive. They had requested that the street should be made up at the same time so that the houses could be sold without any contingent liability upon purchasers for the making up of the roads. There ensued a great deal of argument between councillors, some declaring that this ruling was holding up the advancement of the town, but the prevailing opinion was that the onus should be on the purchasers of private houses to be responsible for making up the streets.

There was a presentation to Mr. F. M. Hood, who had been the hon. secretary of the Ilkley Moor Golf Club for 20 years. He was given an up-to-date wireless set with a gramophone attachment. He was succeeded by Mr. W. A. Box.

It was recorded that April 1931 was the wettest April on record for over 50 years with sun following and high temperatures during the first week in May.

25 Years Ago

A report to Ilkley Council on the Old Manor House, Ilkley, described the building as an exceedingly interesting and historic one which called for careful re-conditioning of every feature. The structure was reported as being sound, and most of the work to be done involved the removal of modern partitions. The estimated cost of conversion was approximately £6,500 to £7,000.

Bathing Pool charges were advertised for the forthcoming season. The adult season ticket was to cost £1; Juniors 10s; and spectators 10s. Prices per session were 1s. (weekdays) and 1s. 6d. (weekends and holidays) for adults and 6d. for junior bathers. The pool was to open daily between the hours of 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

A local garage offered Daimler cars for sale.—The Conquest Mk II at £1,549 and the Century Mk II at £1,699.

COUNTY COUNCIL

PRODUCES BIG NEW

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Reference to Mesolithic sites in Otley and Wharfedale

There are many references to Otley and other local townships in a new and definitive publication "West Yorkshire: an Archaeological Survey to AD 1500" that has been produced by West Yorkshire Metro. Council's Archaeology Unit, and is published this week.

The size alone of this four-volume set, comprising three books of text and one of coloured maps, is witness to the archaeological richness of the county, and a reminder of the former days, before it became better known for its urban and industrial aspects.

The cost per set of four volumes is £39, or £35 if more than one copy is ordered. Principally the survey is a reference work for use both by individuals and by scholarly bodies, but in addition, it is claimed, it provides a basic tool for the Archaeology Unit itself, in that it will assist in the formulation of long-term County Council policy towards archaeology. The survey has therefore both a practical and an academic standing. The four volumes, says the County Council, "represent an in-depth merger of the hardware of archaeology with

the software of history." Carried out in the light of modern scholarship, the emphasis is on objectivity, and a precise identification of all sources used.

"This will ensure permanency, even after freshly gathered material has permitted new interpretation to be made from basic data," it is said.

Particular stress is laid on the method of approach to past settlements in the county. The traditional form, of a gazetteer of known archaeological sites and finds, viewed as isolated points in the countryside, is regarded as tending to create false perspectives and assumptions. Instead, the new survey attempts to fit sites into the landscape.

Chapters deal with each of the prehistoric periods. The distribution of all known sites and finds of the Roman period are discussed, and the years between 410 and 1066 are covered by chapters on the archaeological, documentary and place-name evidence for the British kingdom of Elmet.

The survey provides tenurial histories for the townships of West Yorkshire, and examines such topics as landholding, local administration and the distribution of wealth.

The rural medieval landscape is reconstructed from documentary sources, and includes discussions on the manorial framework, the crafts and industries, communications, and monastic holdings.

In its pre-history section, the survey has references to Mesolithic sites on the Wharfe and Washburn and to the findings made there by Mr. Eric Cowling, of Otley and other local authorities.

In the sections dealing with the 10th century period, there are many references to the extent of the Archbishop's holdings in the Otley and Wharfedale area.

Heaviest Snowfall At Ilkley This Century 1 MAY 1981



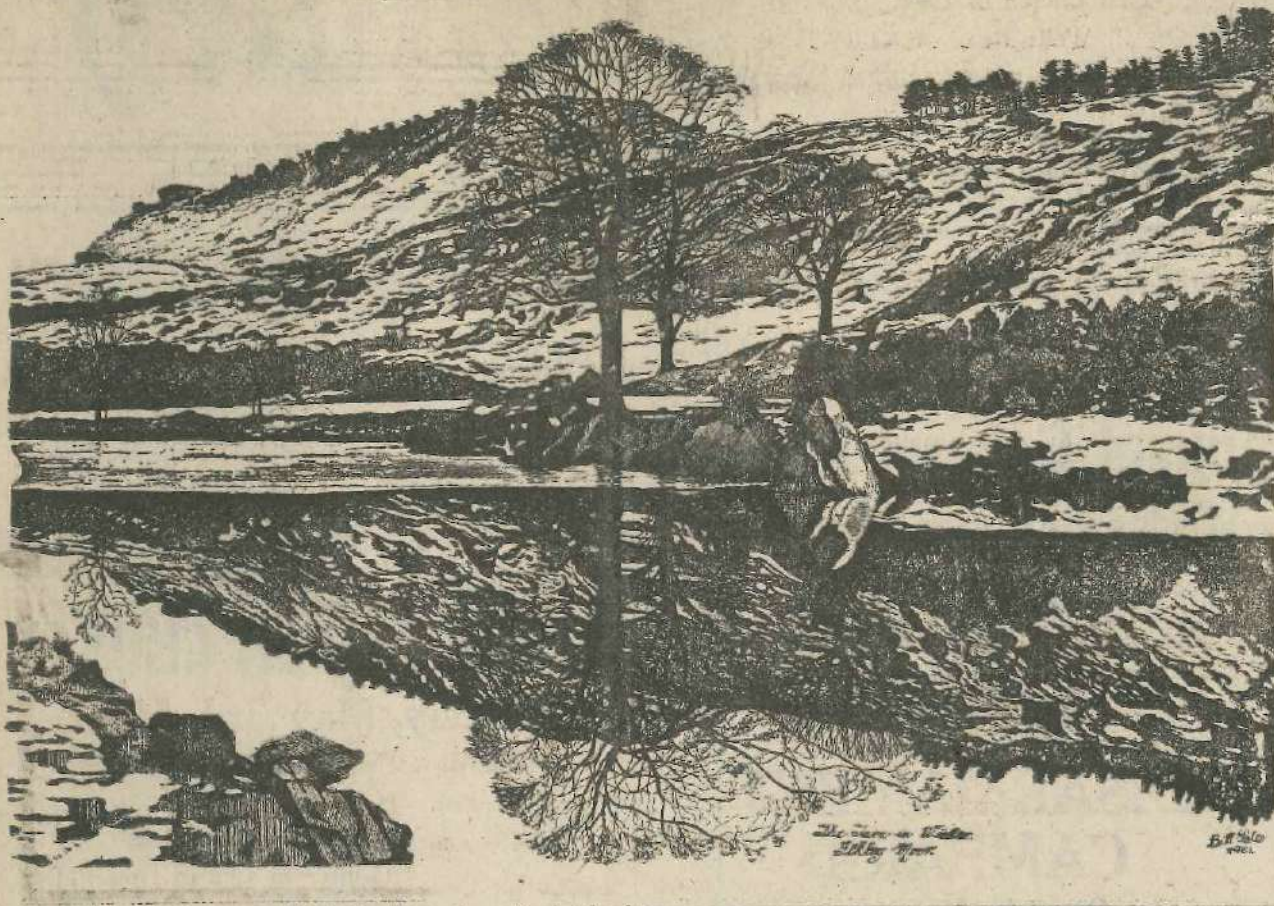
After the sunniest Good Friday for many years there was an abrupt change in the weather last Friday, which brought the heaviest April snow this century.

The snow began to fall overnight and continued throughout Friday into Saturday morning lying to depths of several inches on most roads and footpaths in the area. Traffic was reduced to

very low speeds until the snowploughs had been to work, but the continuing snowfall meant that roads were not really cleared until Saturday morning.

On higher ground and where the wind had caused drifts the snow was up to three or four feet deep.

A rise in temperatures from Sunday cleared the snow quickly from the lower ground.



Although the appeal of the Tarn has diminished to many people over recent years, it still remains a pleasurable spot to visit on a beautiful summers day, with splendid views of one of Wharfedale's most picturesque stretches.

Craig Tarn, on the edge of Ilkley Moor, once saw streams of daily visitors, mainly from the hotels, hydros large boarding houses and mansions just off the moor edge. Fashionably dressed couples from the hotels were a familiar sight in the afternoons and, during the holiday periods, the Tarn proved popular with day visitors from the nearby industrial centres.

The existence of the Tarn dates back over 100 years to when it was no more than a bog and a pond. An ambitious self-elected committee with an idea for a lake and promenade on the site received enthusiastic support from the villagers and the scheme went ahead, with the approval of the Lord of the Manor, Mr. Middleton, in 1873. However, there were notable opponents to the scheme—the Dobson brothers, of the Craiglunds Hydro just down the hillside, who watched closely the construction of the Tarn and criticised the methods of construction employed; criticisms which, in September, 1874, proved valid, when the water crept through the embankment and flowed down the moor slope to flood the Craiglunds Hydro and its croquet lawn and gardens.

However, despite the criticisms of the Dobsons, the Tarn became the most popular attraction in Ilkley. A fountain was built on one of two islands no longer to be found there, with pipes laid about 100 yards up the moor where a reservoir was built to provide the water supply. Seats were placed around the Tarn and trees and shrubs were planted.

In June, 1874, the Tarn with its broad promenade and young trees planted there was described by an original committee member, "From early morning until the afternoon there were always nurses to be found with their young charges, and young people with their sketching blocks. The arrival of twilight was wistfully hailed by another class of visitor, when soft whispings took place and cupid's marketing began. The Tarn was the finest work undertaken for the delectation of visitors and it was hoped its appreciation would be an inducement to the

This hope was realised. As years passed there was increased appreciation of the choice of site and the way opportunity had been grasped. On the south side of the Tarn an open space was provided in the shelter of the rocks and there religious meetings, band concerts and entertainment by pierrots were held.

The water fowl were of great interest and many children grew to welcome the suggestion of a walk to feed the ducks on the Tarn. Rats and foxes have ended this pursuit, though ducks frequently make their own way there.

Sketch by Bill Pates.

8 MAY 1981
**ILKLEY GROUP
MARCH ON
MENWITH HILL**

Eighty people from Ilkley were among thousands from all parts of Yorkshire who took part in the Menwith Hill March and Picnic on Monday.

It is reported Menwith Hill is a top secret United States communications base ten miles from Harrogate, housing a complex local and international telephone tapping centre.

The official estimates of numbers on the march was 7,000, including Church groups, trade unions and peace groups as well as individuals. Students from Ilkley College sheltered from the rain in an American Indian tepee won in a competition.

Children presented bouquets of flowers to the Americans at the base in a gesture of friendship. The flowers were received by an RAF public relations officer at the main gates. The United States staff and their families remained out of sight.

A rally following the march was addressed by two MP's Mr. Ron Brown, of Leith, and Mr. Bob Cryer, of Keighley.

It is proposed to hold the march annually until the Menwith Hill base is closed.

ACROSS THE YEARS 8 MAY 1981

**BAND PERFORMANCES
AT THE TARN
100 Years Ago**

A meeting was to take place at the Middleton Hotel, Ilkley, for interested parties, with the intention of discussing the best steps to be taken to promote band performances at the Tarn two or three nights a week during the summer months. Many of "the leading resident gentry" had apparently already given this scheme their hearty approval and had offered pecuniary assistance.

One of the largest and most important Ilkley Parish Church vestry meetings in the history of the town was held primarily to appoint an assistant overseer to succeed Mr. John Hartley, who had tendered his resignation owing to "age and weakness." They also wished to make some sort of financial arrangement as a pension for Mr. Hartley. After a great deal of discussion it was agreed to pay the new overseer £70 per annum, but £20 of this was to be paid by him to Mr. Hartley for the duration of the latter's life. Mr. T. J. Pate was elected from four candidates with an overall majority of 53.

A somewhat gruesome picture of a toothless hag headed a 1881 advertisement for a local Dental Surgery with the words "When Nature fails then Art Steps In." Artificial teeth for sale fixed without pain, upon an entirely new principle from 2s. 6d. each.

75 Years Ago

Ilkley Council was urged to give the Swimming Club their financial support if they could not provide a town swimming bath. The Council's assistance to the club enabled them to open the Victoria Swimming Baths to the public. It was proposed to fill the bath with water from the Brewery and the work of laying the pipes for this purpose was taking place. Previously the town's water supply was used, aired by steam pipes.

Ilkley Cricket Club lost their first match in the Airedale and Wharfedale League of the season, being all out for 67 runs against Rawdon. The highest scorer for Ilkley was H. W. Godby with 14, and Thresh and Hood were the only other two to reach double figures. W. Hanson took four wickets for Ilkley at a cost of only 11 runs.

50 Years Ago

Miss Alice Broughton and Mr. W. H. Ibberson presented a widely varied programme in the King's Hall in aid of the Home for

Yorkshire Mothers and Babies at Withernsea.

Music was played by Bradley Hustwick, of Addingham, Miss Olive Warr, an Ilkley soprano sang two songs, Miss Patricia Dutton gave two recitations, and a Spanish dance was presented by Miss May Hurford and Miss Shirley Chamberlain. Mr. Ibberson played a selection of music by Grieg and Schumann. The chief item on the programme was a "Fairy Fantasy" written by Miss Broughton and performed by local children. Taking part were—Patricia McRink, Thelma Woodrup, Jean Lund, Ruby Parkins, Doris Clarkson, Mary Bradwell, Peggy Swales, Mary McRink, Irene Bradley, Eileen Brett, Shirley Chamberlain and David Wallis. Mr. F. Bontoft was in charge of the special effects and lighting.

Ilkley Urban District Council announced the appointment of Mr. Herbert G. Peters as Clerk to Ilkley Council to succeed Mr. H. C. Hoggett at a salary of £500 per annum. Mr. Peters who lived in Leeds Road, Ilkley, was 25 years of age.

25 Years Ago

Ilkley Flower Club held their first "Spring Academy" in the Winter Gardens, Ilkley. There were over 100 entries for the large variety of arrangements. Amongst the prize winners living locally were Mrs. Jackson (Addingham); Mrs. F. Marshall (Ilkley); Mr. T. N. Paul (Ilkley); Mrs. K. Whitehead (Burley); Miss Gregory (Ilkley); Miss Dean (Ilkley); Mrs. R. Fawcett (Ilkley); Mrs. J. C. Ford (Ilkley); Mrs. J. Knox (Ilkley).

Ilkley Choral Society reported a successful year at their annual meeting, despite the fact that they still had the same number of members as when they had started seven years earlier. They were particularly short of soprano singers as they had only twelve.

Ilkley Cricket Club gained their second win of the season by tumbling the Silsden team for 35. C. Aldridge got seven wickets for 17 runs and L. Roe took three for 14. Ilkley scored 112 runs, with J. Brumfit, B. Lambert and P. Dexter making the most runs for their team.

EIGHTEEN MONTH ARGUMENT REACHES CLIMAX WITH PUBLIC INQUIRY NEXT WEEK

8 MAY 1981 NEW PRESIDENT OF BRADFORD LAW SOCIETY

After 26 years as secretary of the Bradford Law Society Mr. Charles Pickles (64), of Bolling Road, Ben Rhydding, has been appointed President.



A practising solicitor for 43 years, Mr. Pickles is the senior partner at Sampson, Wade and Co. in Hustlergate, Bradford.

A graduate of Leeds University, Mr. Pickles was articled in Bradford and returned to the city after the 1939-45 war to work for George Turnbull and Son, Bradford.

Mr. Pickles, who is married with a son and daughter, said: "Even as a young boy all I wanted to be was a solicitor, although my father was a Bradford estate agent."

"My hobbies outside legal work have been mainly to do with outdoor activities such as fell walking and climbing."

He was President of the Lakeland Fell and Rock Club between 1976 and 1978.

Photograph by courtesy of the Telegraph and Argus, Bradford.

The eighteen month argument over siting of a proposed new Co-Operative departmental store at Ilkley reaches its climax on Tuesday with the opening of a public inquiry at Ilkley Town Hall.

An Inspector from the Department of the Environment will hear evidence for and against the proposals to build a new store on land adjacent to Ilkley's central car park at South Hawsworth Street.

This will be the biggest public inquiry at Ilkley since the one called to determine the Ilkley By-Pass in 1965.

The controversy over plans for a Co-operative store began in December 1979, with the announcement that Bradford Metropolitan Council's Land Panel had agreed to sell the site for the development of a supermarket.

Ilkley Parish Councillors were shocked that their recommendations for the future of the site had been totally disregarded. The store plan was one of three put forward, and the only one not favoured by the parish council. Alternatives were for a development of eight shops, to mirror the Grove Promenade scheme, or for small shopping units. In addition it was suggested the land could be used as an extension to the existing car park.

The Co-operative Society's plan was for a three-storey departmental store, the first level incorporating a motor cycle showroom with a yard for loading and unloading, service and storage area. The second level was a single unit food hall of ten thousand square feet, and level three a department store of ten thousand square feet. Pedestrian access from the car park would be at the food hall level.

Nuisance

The parish council was against such a development because of the nuisance which members felt would be caused by delivery vehicles on the narrow street, which was also very near a bus garage. It was also near to and visible from the conservation area, and it was felt consideration should be given to the long term development of the site, bearing in mind that the bus garage might not always be there.

The parish council was not satisfied with the outward appearance of the proposed building, and felt a car park should be provided. Councillors also considered there would be a nuisance from trolleys and litter.

Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Panel had already indicated that any of the three plans put forward would be likely to receive approval.

Traders were also shocked by the proposals, and felt the introduction of a large new store would upset the balance of family businesses and national concerns, apart from causing congestion in an already congested area.

The Chamber of Trade protested to Bradford and organised a petition against the plans.

Feelings in the town began to run very high, and the parish council and Chamber of Trade were joined in their protests by other groups like the Civic Society, Ilkley and District Ratepayers' Association and the Standing Conference of Women's Organisations.

As more alternative plans for the controversial site were submitted, Ilkley Parish Council requested that the land be released for an extension to the car park. Councillors felt this would solve an immediate parking problem in the town centre and help offset the number of car parking spaces being lost in the county council's traffic management scheme.

Bradford Council's Planning Division recommended that the plan be turned down and the land be used for a car park extension.

Change Of Power

However, last May's elections saw a change of political power at the District Council, with Labour taking control, and it was announced that the council would take another look at the controversial plan.

In July the Planning Panel approved an application for a Co-operative store and motor cycle showroom, but because they also approved plans for four shops, a cinema and motor cycle showroom on the same site the scheme then had to be passed on to the Development Service Committee.

One of the biggest surveys ever to be held in Ilkley was organised by the parish council to establish the views of residents on the store plan, and armed with the results a deputation of parish councillors went to Bradford. However, they received "nothing more than a brush off".

The Development Services Committee deferred a decision on the plans and referred the matter to a full council meeting. This was after the county council had asked for more time to consider how the proposals could affect traffic conditions in the town.

In the meantime Ilkley Parish Council asked the

over-rule the "dictatorial, partisan approach" of Bradford Council. However, they were told that as this was a local issue the Prime Minister did not think it right to interfere.

After further consideration, West Yorkshire County Council issued a directive to Bradford District Council that planning permission should be refused on the grounds of traffic problems which would be caused.

However, despite this directive the District Council decided to approve the plan provided it had legal powers to do so. The District Council agreed to take legal advice, and if the county council's directive was not binding the development should go ahead.

Because no firm decision had been reached by last December it was announced that a public inquiry would be held to settle the controversy. Ilkley Parish Councillors felt that as no decision had been reached within a certain time the application had been deemed to have been refused, therefore the Co-operative Society now had the right to appeal at a public inquiry.

Ilkley Parish Council, as objectors to the proposals, will be legally represented. At Tuesday's parish council meeting Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, Vice Chairman, reminded members of the public they were entitled to attend the inquiry, at which they had the right to speak.

CELEBRATING QUEEN VICTORIA'S BIRTHDAY

100 Years Ago

Flags were flying in Burley in honour of Queen Victoria's birthday. In the evening the volunteer corps assembled at their headquarters in Peel Place in full dress and with the Ilkley Brass Band at their head marched to the "residence of their esteemed captain, where a feu-de-joie was fired, after which the company presented arms while the band played the National Anthem." Refreshments were then served and the men marched back to headquarters followed by a large crowd of spectators.

The generosity of an un-named Ilkley man enabled a party of 76 patients from the Ilkley Hospital to enjoy a day at Bolton Abbey. A picnic lunch was eaten on the banks of the Wharfe near Bolton Bridge, and they travelled through Bolton Woods to the Strid. On the way back the party was given a meal at Stephenson's refreshment house at Bolton Bridge before returning home in horse drawn conveyances.

75 Years Ago

Concern was expressed by Ilkley townspeople over the delay in opening New Brook Street. The reason seemed to lie with the authorities, particularly the West Riding County Council.

The resignation of Dr. Johnstone as medical officer for the Ilkley Hospital after twenty five years, was the reason for an extraordinary general meeting of subscribers and donors to the Hospital. The question then arose as to whether it would be in the interest of the institution if they had more than one medical officer and there was a suggestion for it to be a dual appointment. There was a long and heated debate on this matter, some of the committee considering this to be a good step as a safeguard when the medical officer was away from home, but in the end it was decided to appoint one officer again who could name a deputy when necessary.

50 Years Ago

The first two days of the Whitsuntide holiday were spoiled by heavy rain and cold winds. However, Whit Monday had real holiday weather with warm sunshine

and a gentle southerly breeze, and Tuesday was a long day of glorious sunshine. The better weather attracted vast hordes of people to Ilkley to enjoy the moors, riverside and the bluebells in Middleton Woods.

A special holiday attraction was a visit by Percy Allis and Henry Cotton, the two famous golf professionals to Ilkley Golf Club. A big crowd of spectators followed the match played on the Ilkley course which was won by Henry Cotton by two and one.

The Arthur Newsome Ltd., Public Works Prize Band from Burley was to be visited by an official from the B.E.C. to see if their performance was of a high enough standard to warrant a broadcast performance. The band had Mr. W. I. Warburton as a leader, whose zeal had been infectious amongst its members. They had had many successes in competitions which had probably attracted the attention of the B.E.C.

The star attraction at the New Cinema over the holiday weekend was Ivor Novello and Benita Hume in "Symphony in Two Flats"; and at the Grove Cinema, Maurice Chevalier and Clara Bow in "Paramount on Parade."

25 Years Ago

Ilkley Bathing Pool made a good start at Whitsuntide, the first weekend of its season, as the weather was fine and sunny, and not one drop of rain fell over the bank holiday week-end.

Ilkley firemen, however, did not enjoy the holiday weekend as they were called out to a total of ten moor fires over the holiday period.

Mr. James H. Bowes, Conservative representative of the Ben Rhydding ward for five years, was elected Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, with Mrs. Hylda Hawkins as vice-chairman. During the annual meeting Mrs. Florence Hampshire was presented with a bouquet to mark the start of her 21st year as a member of Ilkley Council, and tributes to her public service were endorsed by all her fellow members.

In a three day programme of league cricket, Burley played Alan Atkinson had an aggregate of 243 runs for the three holiday games, the highest ever recorded in the League.

22 MAY 1981 PRIORY CHURCH

WINDOWS TO BE RESTORED

Work has started this week on removal of three stained glass windows on the south side of Bolton Abbey Priory Church, as part of the church's £300,000 restoration scheme.

The windows will be taken to the York Glaziers Trust for expert restoration.

The windows were part of the mid 19th Century repair of the church and were a gift of the 6th Duke of Devonshire in 1853. They were designed by Pugin, the architect and artist, who was renowned for his use of colour and attention to detail. Much of the coloured glass and decorative work in the House of Commons was also done by him.

PUBLIC INQUIRY

15 MAY 1981

PLANS FOR ANOTHER STORE AT ILKLEY DISCLOSED AT APPEAL INTO CO-OP CONTROVERSY

The plan for a new Co-operative store in the centre of Ilkley which this week has been the subject of a public inquiry was one of the most controversial Bradford Metropolitan Council had had to determine since its inception in 1974.

It was disclosed during the inquiry, which was expected to end today (Friday) after a four day hearing, that on 1 May two planning applications had been lodged in respect of the redevelopment of the bus depot, adjoining the appeal site. Both were for the use of the site as a retail store.

DAY ONE

The first day on Tuesday was confined to the presentation of evidence for a new store and after a hearing lasting six hours the inquiry was adjourned until Wednesday.

At the outset a change of attitude by the West Yorkshire County Council towards the proposed development was challenged by Cnty Cr. H. V. Haddrill, of Ilkley.

Mr. D. A. Ansbro for the County Council told Mr. A. Raby, an Inspector of the Department of the Environment, that whilst the County Council would not be withdrawing its objections to the proposals it would not be pursuing them.

Mr. Ansbro went on to say it was not possible for the County Council to withdraw the directive once it had been issued, but if a fresh application was to be submitted, which was favoured by the Local Planning Authority, the County would not oppose it in the circumstances.

This was challenged by Cnty. Cr. Haddrill, who said he expected this change of attitude by the County Council to take place, but he put it to the Inspector that the County Council could not legitimately withdraw its evidence. The original directive was given by the full Council and evidence prepared.

"I submit that until the annual meeting of the County

Council next week none of the people elected last week have the power to alter the decision or the intent to give evidence. For the inquiry not to have the evidence or reasons would be wrong," said Cnty. Cr. Haddrill.

Mr. David Woolley, Q.C., acting for the Co-operative Society, outlined the case and spoke of the advantages the proposed new store would bring to Ilkley. These would include forty-two new jobs, with the provision of a modern shop of the kind Ilkley lacked, on a location about as good as it could be expected to find.

Chief Planning Officer for the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society, Mr. George W. Money said they had been looking for a site in Ilkley since 1976. The proposals were aimed at improving the attractiveness of Ilkley as a shopping centre, offering to the consumer a wide range of merchandise in an attractive walk round store.

"That there is a need for such a facility may be further highlighted by the fact that during its first full week of operation, the free bus service from Ilkley to our Sunwin House at Skipton attracted 540 passengers and the numbers were increasing each week," he said.

In reply to a question about the affects of such a store on other traders Mr. Money said retailers in the vicinity of the new store at Skipton had been telling them that they had never been so busy since the store opened.

Mr. Money describing the proposals at Ilkley said besides about 4,000 individual lines of groceries being available there would be fresh produce, meat, bread and confectionery, cigarettes, tobacco and delicatessen items. It was envisaged that in the non-food area of the store the following durables would be sold: carpets, furniture, white electrical goods, TV and audio, household linens, housewares, china and glass hosiery and fashion accessories.

There would also be wines and spirits, subject to licensing, and a travel bureau was also envisaged. Non-food items would be retailed from the third level, food items, wines and spirits, travel department from the second level, said Mr. Money.

Mr. William D. Walker, architect, said the Co-operative Society had made a successful tender for the site adjoining Ilkley's central car park, and in December, 1979 his firm was instructed to submit a planning application for the scheme. He said they had held a series of informal meetings with planning officials, which had resulted in a number of amendments to the original plans. These included alterations to the access and sight lines as well as changes to the pitch of the roof.

"During all our discussion and correspondence with the local authority, with or without the presence of a repre-

sentative of the West Yorkshire County Council, traffic congestion at the junction of Brook Street and West Street, Ilkley, was not mentioned," said Mr. Walker.

He said they had not heard of concern over traffic congestion until one day before the full Bradford Council meeting at which the Council had resolved to grant planning permission when the directive was issued by the County Council.

In his description of the building Mr. Walker said entry for service vehicles would be from South Hawksworth Street via a ramp access within the building falling to a vehicle movement and parking area capable of accommodating articulated service vehicles for unloading, reversing manoeuvres and parking. The building would incorporate a motor cycle showroom to accommodate the existing leaseholder on site with display windows facing South Hawksworth Street to the north and the public car park to the east with customer access from South Hawksworth Street only.

On the subject of car parking Mr. Walker said that the Local Authority planners stated that parking requirements for a scheme of this size would normally be one hundred spaces. A free standing site would require one hundred and forty spaces. However, the requirement for additional car parking would be waived due to the size of the existing car park, he said.

CONTINENTAL WEATHER
FOR MAY

100 Years Ago

May was a beautiful month a hundred years ago, the skies were blue and cloudless "in truth Continental in Character" according to the *Ikley Gazette* which went on to say "Such as even the Shah of Persia might have been well satisfied with." Visitors to Bolton Woods had returned delighted as it was generally agreed that the foliage locally had never looked as well in May.

Mr. Thos. Sargeant of the Star Inn was the benefactor who provided a trip to Bolton Abbey for younger members of St. Margaret's Church Choir. They left Ikley in four wagonettes accompanied by Messrs. J. H. Knight and J. I. Kirby. They rambled through the woods and meadows and did ample justice to the splendid spread provided at the Red Lion Hotel, Bolton Bridge. When they returned to the Star Inn at 8.30 p.m. they gave three resounding cheers for Mr. Sargeant before returning home to bed.

Mr. Jonathan Hainsworth, rate collector to Ikley Local Board instituted proceedings against a number of defaulting ratepayers. He had received instructions to enforce payment so that the old rate could be closed and a new rate laid as early as possible.

75 Years Ago

Mr. J. P. Middlebrook, Chairman of Ikley District Council, presided over a meeting of the Yorkshire Dialect Society. The differences were shown between the dialect of the North and East Ridings and the common speech of the "unlettered West Riding." The West Riding dialect had a great deal in common with Midlands dialects owing to the immigration of textile workers into West Riding.

At the May meeting of the Wharfedale Board of Guardians, a special committee reported on a visit to Menston Asylum to see the pauper patients from Wharfedale. There were 92 from the area and care and attention to their needs was found to be satisfactory.

Mr. Cooper completed his arrangements and intended opening his Pierrot troupe for the season on Whit Monday in a marquee in the field opposite the Constitutional Club in South Hawksworth Street. Good artistes had been engaged and first class entertainment was assured.

50 Years Ago

Mr. W. H. Darby, of Ikley, a well-known local cricketer, who had for some years been the Divisional Surveyor for the Skipton Division of the West Riding County Council was transferred to the Otley Division. A former fast bowler for Ikley Cricket Club he had turned out for three seasons for Ben Rhydding Sports Club.

Soaring demonstrations at Woofa Bank, the steep hillside between Addingham and Silsden appeared to be dogged by misfortune for Ikley Gliding Club. Adverse weather conditions affected the Whitsuntide demonstrations of soaring and gliding

with two of the finest sail-planes in the country. An East wind made flights impossible on the Saturday and heavy rain spoiled flights on Sunday. Conditions improved on the Monday and about a thousand spectators assembled. Disaster came with the very first flight of the day when Herr Krause was catapulted from the crest of the hill, rose beautifully, banked, turned back towards the crowd and went into a spin and nose dived in a most alarming manner. Fortunately despite expectations of serious injury Herr Krause was unhurt. The Ikley Gliding Club, however, gave their recently constructed Zogling machine a test flight and three or four flights were made with the Ikley Club's new Dixon type glider until a bad landing damaged the wing and the fuselage.

25 Years Ago

The Wharfedale Music Festival celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, and was congratulated on its unbroken history by all three adjudicators. Mr. John Holgate commented on the verse speakers sounding rather wheezy and catarrish and said that it was part of the Yorkshire heritage and climatic.

The first Whit-Monday walk at Burley for at least fifty years proved to be a happy and successful occasion. About a hundred children of all ages, shepherded by Sunday School teachers and parents, took part in the walk which formed up in the primary school. They walked in procession to the lawns in front of the Grange, led by the Vicar and the cross bearer and choir boys. There was a short service in Burley Parish Church followed by a picnic tea on Burley recreation ground, with a programme of sports.

Mr. Wilfred Gledhill, of Ben Rhydding, was appointed president-elect of the Ikley Rotary Club to succeed Mr. I. H. Sharpe, and the elected Vice-president was the Rev. A. Edgar and Junior Vice-president, Mr. J. H. Wilson.

DAY TWO

When the inquiry resumed on Wednesday there was a further reference to the change of attitude by the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council not to pursue its objections to the proposals.

Cnty. Cr. Haddrill told the Inspector "I have not altered my views of the illegality of what has been done." He accepted the point that evidence could not be submitted which could not be cross examined but with the approval of the Inspector he said he would give evidence and as a result could be cross examined.

The inquiry continued with further evidence for the case for the store when Mr. Gerald R. Leake, a lecturer in traffic management and transport infrastructure at Leeds University, told the inquiry that he would deal with objections made on the grounds of traffic and car parking.

Mr. Leake, who was called by the Co-operative Society to support their case, said the County Council had directed Bradford Council to refuse the application because "the proposed development, if approved, would be likely to result in a material increase in the volume of traffic entering and leaving Brook Street at its junction with West Street."

His evidence would deal with this objection and also cover the additional car parking demand likely to be generated should the application be allowed, relating this to the current parking provision and producing evidence on the number and size of servicing vehicles at the store.

During his evidence Mr. Leake referred to car ownership in Ikley and said it was high. In 1975 it was 0.89 cars-household — a level fifty three per cent higher than the West Yorkshire average of 0.58 cars-household. Sixty seven per cent of all households in Ikley had at least one car with 22.5 per cent having two or more cars.

"Since many elderly are physically unable to drive a car and many households with young families can not afford to buy one in the present (and anticipated)

reasonably assumed that the number of households in Ikley having at least one car (estimated to be just above seventy per cent in 1981) must be close to saturation point," said Mr. Leake.

He went on to speak about the feasibility of shopping times saying that unlike work trips shopping trips could be made at a variety of times, particularly in areas of high car ownership such as at Ikley.

Mr. Leake dealt at some length with car parking saying that estimating the peak number of car parking spaces likely to be required should the development be permitted was a difficult exercise and one not capable of precise analysis.

He considered that over most of the shopping peaks, Thursday evening, Friday evening and Saturday morning, no problem would be created, either in the town centre as a whole or in the immediately adjacent central car park, since the number of available car parking spaces was considerably in excess of the estimated additional demand should the development be approved.

Mr. Leake concluded that the service area was adequate to meet the anticipated peak number of service vehicles; adequate site lines were provided at the entrance to the service area; the service vehicles could satisfactorily negotiate the Brook Street-West Street and South Hawksworth Street — site access junctions; no noise problems would be created.

Mr. Leake's evidence occupied the morning session and the inquiry adjourned at half past six after the evidence of one of the chief witnesses, Mr. John O. Steel, Principal Planner in Bradford's Directorate of Development Services.

Mr. Steel said "It would not be an over statement in this case to point out that this application is one of the most controversial that the District Council has had to determine since its inception, and perhaps the most controversial in the context of the former Ikley Urban District Council area."

It was towards the end of day two that Mr. Steel in his evidence disclosed that on 1

tions were lodged in respect of the bus depot which adjoins the appeal site.

"One involved the change of use of the existing building to a retail store and the other involved the redevelopment of the building again as a retail store. Perhaps in view of the location and the proposed use these applications will generate a similar level of reaction as the current appeal proposals," said Mr. Steel.

During his evidence Mr. Steel pointed out that whilst there were objectors to the plan the salient points from the supporters of the scheme included —

There was a large unexpressed feeling in favour of a Co-operative store, and that a new building was preferable to an extension of the car park or the retention of the existing building.

A major area of concern stemmed from consistent objections to the scheme from Ikley Parish Council which had resolved that the site should be used as an extension to the car park. Ikley Civic Society objected to the proposals on the grounds that a large store would be completely out of character with the town centre and that a development of smaller units would be desirable. The Standing Conference of Women's Organisation objected stating that the proposed scheme was located in the wrong place.

In reply to an arguable case for extending the car park on the appeal site, Mr. Steel said in terms of the growth of car-ownership one could almost make out a case for continually increasing car parking provision to satisfy the insatiable needs of the motorists.

"Indeed, the remaining unsurfaced part of the central car park was resurfaced in Spring, 1979 at a cost of £45,600. However, I suggest that because of the location of the site, its situation with the town centre, and its relationship to nearby shopping facilities, the development proposed is an acceptable land use and a building on the site is more desirable than a continuation of an open area."

15 MAY 1981

"It is not a function of the planning process, however, to operate protectionist policies in the interests of established retailers in the town centre, but to ensure that the location of any new shopping development is accessible to the shopping public and that it takes a form that is acceptable in terms of present day standards of amenity in shopping provision," said Mr. Steel.

"The appeal site is within the established shopping centre of Ikley, and its location is, therefore, not an issue. The impact of the development is thus not a material planning consideration, because there will be no loss of trade in the town centre as a shopping location," said Mr. Steel. He suggested it was appropriate to return to detailed considerations of siting, layout and design matters.

"In terms of appearance and functioning of the town centre, I would argue that it is rather more appropriate to have a building on this site, than to see it as an extended form of tarmac," he said.

It was interesting to note, said Mr. Steel that the Ministry of Transport was also of the opinion that the servicing of the building would not cause problems for the nearby trunk road and adjoining streets.

"Taken in total, I believe that this shopping scheme is properly located in the centre of Ikley, that it will provide an additional facility for the residents of the town and considerably improve the appearance of an important site within the town centre," said Mr. Steel.

If the application was approved Mr. Steel pointed out that one of the conditions agreed with the appellant was that reasonable access would be allowed during excavation for archaeological surveys.

A report on the third and fourth days of the hearing at which objections to the proposals were made to the Inspector will appear in next week's edition.

PLANS FOR FOUR MAJOR SHOPPING DEVELOPMENTS AT ILKLEY

"SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER"

Plans for four major new retail developments in Ilkley should be considered together, so that the best possible solution could be determined, it was suggested at the third day of a public inquiry into controversial Co-Operative Society proposals at Ilkley last Thursday.

The first two days of the inquiry had been concerned with hearing evidence in favour of the proposals for a Co-Operative store next to the central car park, and on Thursday and Friday it was the turn of the objectors.

DAY THREE

During the inquiry it was revealed that planning applications had been submitted with regard to the bus depot next to the appeal site. One was for change of use of the depot to a retail store, and the other for redevelopment of the site with a retail store.

It was announced that plans for an ambitious new shopping centre incorporating Woolworth's store in Brook Street had been approved in principle, and that Hillards had appealed against refusal of planning permission for a store on the former railway goods yard.

Mr. B. M. K. Horner, director and general manager of the West Yorkshire Road Car Company, felt it would be best if all the various applications were considered together.

"The Road Car Company feels that the most appropriate course of action would be to invite the Inspector to advise his Minister to 'call-in' all the applications and reach decisions which would be for the benefit of Ilkley town centre as a whole," said Mr. Horner.

"If the Minister were to 'call-in' all the applications and invite the various applicants to state their case to him, prior to him making a series of determinations, the

company is of the opinion that this process would lead to the most appropriate answers. The company would be happy to join in this process, and it trusts that all other serious applicants would also support this course of action," he said.

Mr. Horner said his company had operated the bus depot at Ilkley since 1927, but in the last ten years the area had become the heart of an active retail area and the manoeuvrability of their vehicles had been affected by the increased traffic intensity.

This had led to increasing delays, difficulties and increasing costs, and it was felt that the opening of a new retail store next to the bus depot could only have an adverse effect on their ability to operate efficiently.

For some time the bus company had been considering closing the Ilkley bus depot if it would prove economically viable as a retail site. He explained that if approval was given for the Co-op plans for the adjacent site this might decrease the potential value of the bus depot site and lead to the company rationalising their operations elsewhere. If another bus depot was closed instead of the Ilkley one this would lead to more use of the Ilkley depot and result in increased congestion in the South Hawksworth Street area.

Ilkley Parish Council's objections to the Co-Operative Society's proposals were given by the Chairman, Cr. Mrs. Mary Renton.

She began by pointing out that the Parish Council had consistently approached the whole matter of the future of the appeal site, and the proposal which was the subject of the inquiry, in an objective and realistic manner.

The Parish Council had both responded to, and received the support of, public opinion in the town, and was therefore properly representing public interest and feeling.

Bradford Metropolitan Council had failed in its duty to take properly into account representations made to it by the Parish Council in relation to the proposal, she said.

Mrs. Renton then outlined the Parish Council's objections to the proposed store on the appeal site.

"The proposed development will give rise to additional demand for car parking space in the immediate vicinity of the site. The existing adjacent central car park is already barely sufficient for present peak shopping demand, and as the proposal includes no parking provision for customers, and only three parking spaces for an indicated staff of 45, it must follow that the approval and implementation of

the proposal will aggravate the existing car parking situation in the town centre," she said.

"The proposed servicing arrangements will give rise to serious congestion and in all probability danger to traffic and pedestrians—both on roads leading to the site, from Brook Street, Church Street and Cunliffe Road, and on South Hawksworth Street in the immediate vicinity of the proposed service bay entrance.

"The architectural style of the proposed development is totally alien to the still predominantly Victorian town centre within which it is located," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Objections were also presented by Mrs. P. Fisher, of Curlew Close, Ilkley, who felt the application should be taken in the context of a town plan. The nature of use of the building would not be appropriate on that site, and there would be problems of litter and shopping trolleys left around the busy car park, she added.

Mr. Sydney Beck expressed Ilkley Civic Society's concern about the nature of the proposed store on the edge of Ilkley's Conservation Area. He explained that the Society was pressing for an extension of the Conservation Area.

22 MAY 1981

DAY FOUR

Technical evidence for the Parish Council was given by Mr. Geoffrey E. Formstone, who said he had 25 years experience in highway engineering.

Mr. Formstone pointed out that the proposed development would create some problems in the surrounding streets due to increased shopping traffic and the movement of service vehicles. However, these would not be severe, he said.

"The main objection to the use of the site for a retail departmental store is that it will create a parking problem," he said.

"Parking in Ilkley at the moment is not difficult, provided that the user is prepared to seek space in the town centre as a whole," said Mr. Formstone.

"By 1991, however, the position will have worsened. Nearly all the presently available spaces will be taken up at the peak hour and there are no plans to increase the spaces available.

"If the Co-op development is permitted it will create a demand for extra places. This can not fail to bring forward the time when something will have to be done. The problem will be worst in the central car park and it will spill over into the surrounding streets. The question of increasing the number of parking spaces in Ilkley town centre could not be postponed indefinitely," he concluded.

Planning Consultant Mrs. Jennifer Hubbard said the Parish Council had been

ment, and that planning permission should not be granted.

"The development is premature in relation to an assessment of the need for additional shopping floor space in Ilkley and a comparative assessment of the alternative schemes which are currently under consideration," said Mrs. Hubbard.

"It is premature in relation to comprehensive proposals for the car park, which should seek to establish priorities for the area as a whole — including improvements to the built environment, the need for additional car parking, pedestrian conveniences and safety, the need for or demand for new shops, and in particular to formulate policies where there are conflicting demands on land," she continued.

"It is premature at the very least until it can be seen how the plans would relate to any development on the adjacent bus depot site.

"The scheme represents an over-development of the site with unsatisfactory off-site side effects.

"The design of the building pays no regard to buildings in the immediate vicinity or to the essential character of Ilkley.

"The building is inappropriate in mass and scale, in particular its height and uninteresting roof line, for this site.

"There are highway and car parking objections to it.

"For these reasons I recommend that the appeal be dismissed," concluded Mrs. Hubbard.

County Councillor H. V.

was sure the proposed development would lead to a great increase in the amount of cars and pedestrians crossing the West Street and Brook Street junction, and pointed out that it was a matter of judgement whether adequate car parking facilities were available.

Mr. Vincent Dobson, Vice President, outlined objections by the Ilkley Chamber of Trade and Commerce. He said the Chamber had not objected when the site was bought under a compulsory purchase order by the former Ilkley Urban District Council because it was understood it would be used for a car park extension.

Further objections were also presented by Mr. M.H. Maufe of Panorama Drive, Ilkley, who supported the Parish Council and said it appeared little consideration had been given to the proposals for small shop units on the site.

Mrs. Q.C. Fraser, of Stocked Way, gave the velvets of Ilkley Road Safety Committee who had always opposed this scheme from a traffic point of view, and Ilkley Standing Conference of Women's Organisations, who felt there was a need for much more car parking space in Ilkley.

Summing up Bradford Metropolitan Council's case Mr. Matthew Horton said so far as the council was concerned there was only one issue at stake, and that was would there be danger at the West Street junction. It was for that reason the inquiry had been called.

He said the responsible highway authority which had

not to make it an issue so the inquiry could not. The county council had made it impossible for the district council to determine a planning application which it had been quite willing to do.

Mr. Peter Wilbraham, for Ilkley Parish Council, stressed that certain parts of the proposed new store, like a walkway at the side and canopies which overhang above the car park, were not actually within the site of the application and therefore planning permission could not be granted.

The majority of the width of the walkway would be outside the appeal site, and the canopies, which were an intrinsic part of the development, would overhang by two metres.

One of the conditions stated when the land was put out to tender by Bradford Metropolitan Council was that there was to be no encroachment upon the existing car park and this development clearly did he said.

Mr. David Woodley QC said the Co-Operative Society was a well established commercial enterprise which was not going to invest a vast sum of money on what some had described at the inquiry as a "white elephant". The Society wished to develop the site which he believed would become a shopping development anyway.

He claimed the traffic objections were the only reasons which had forced the inquiry to take place, and no-one with expertise had said there would be a risk of accidents.

A decision by the Secretary of State for the Environment

COUNCIL DISMISSES RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR LORRY BAN AT ADDINGHAM AS "NONSENSE"

29 MAY
1981

A Department of the Environment and Transport reply to Addingham Parish Council's suggestions for banning heavy lorries and improving the safety of the village's Main Street has been dismissed as "utter nonsense" by the Parish Council's Chairman.

Councillor A. H. Jerome said a representative of the Department had taken his own opinion as fact and the parish council were expected to accept it.

In view of the Department's attitude the parish council decided to seek a meeting between officers of the county council, district council and representatives of the parish council to gain support for their campaign.

The parish council and residents of the village were convinced that more and more heavy lorries were passing along Main Street since the opening of part of the new Skipton By-Pass, but the Department's reply said the Skibeden Link Road between the A65 and A59 should not itself have increased traffic using the A65.

"The new road allows east-bound traffic to leave Skipton by the A59, and those vehicles which would otherwise have used the A65 from Skipton town centre will then return to their former route by the new road. The reverse will apply for westbound traffic," said the letter.

"I can not understand any reason which might cause more traffic to use the A65 as you suggest following the construction of the Skibeden Link. In arriving at this I have considered the major roads radiating from the east side of Skipton—the A59 to Harrogate, the A1 and beyond; the A65 to Leeds; the A629/A650 to Keighley and Bradford.

Little Choice

"Each of these roads has clearly defined destinations, and as they move away from Skipton their routes get further apart. As there are no other short or convenient connections between these roads I would have thought that traffic really has little choice between these routes.

"With reference to your request for consideration to be given to the provision of 'sleeping policemen' on the A65 I regret that, bearing in mind the nature of the road and the type of traffic it carries, these would not be appropriate. They are really intended for side roads which carry a small amount of light vehicles," the letter continued.

"I apologise that you have not had an answer to your request for a traffic census to be taken in Addingham. The situation is that funds for a census would come from a special allocation, and because it is necessary to

work to very tight cash limits I regret that it would not be possible to include this work in the current financial year. Having said this, I am not sure that a census would be very productive as the Secretary of State has already decided to suspend work, for the time being, on any future by-pass for Addingham. Also, a lorry ban would not be a practical proposition as there are no readily available alternative routes to which lorries could be diverted.

Anxiety

"I am sorry that once again I have not been able to agree to your requests, but for the time being there does not seem to be anything which can be done to relieve your council's anxiety about traffic using the A65 through Addingham," the letter concluded.

Cr. Jerome felt a meeting should be held at Addingham with officers of the county and district councils to discuss the question of a by-pass, the A65, the banning of heavy lorries and use of the A59 as an alternative route.

He thought they should continue to press the Ministry of Transport as much as possible, but they would have a better chance of getting results with the county and district officers behind them.

ACROSS THE YEARS 29 MAY 1981

Ilkley Brass Band Concerts At The Tarn

100 Years Ago

The monthly meeting of the Local Board was held with twelve members present. It was decided that a deputation should approach Mr. Middleton, the Lord of the Manor, to ascertain what he was prepared to do towards the urgent repair of the stepping stones across the River Wharfe. A deputation from the Ilkley Tarn Band Fund waited upon the Board with reference to proposed improvements in the vicinity of the Tarn. It was decided that the Board would provide a number of seats close by.

Ilkley Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. Bellerby gave a free concert at the Ilkley Tarn, with the band in full uniform in front of a large and representative audience. The weather was beautiful, the music delightful and the surroundings "delectable". The only slight criticism of the evening's entertainment was the interference by the unseemly conduct of some youngsters and a few "rowdies" of more mature years. It was hoped to have twice weekly evenings concerts at the Tarn throughout the summer season.

75 Years Ago

The ceremony of formally opening the new road and bridge connecting Ilkley with Middleton took place on Saturday 2 June, 1906 and the event was an imposing spectacle. Members of the Ilkley District Council and a few gentlemen concerned met at the Council offices and drove down to the bridge, the vicinity of which, and the bottom of Brook Street was decorated with flags and streamers.

The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. J. A. Middlebrook, the Council chairman in the presence of a large crowd of people. Mr. Hall, the clerk, first handed to Mr. Middlebrook the document dedicating the road and bridge to the use of the public for ever. The rope barrier across the road was then cut by the Chairman who formally declared the road and bridge open. The first people to cross were a contingency of 3rd Lancashire Royal Engineer Volunteers who were spending Whit weekend at camp at Ben Rhydding and they marched across the bridge led by Colonel Crook amidst hearty cheers from the assembled crowd.

A serious trap accident occurred on the Ben Rhydding new road when Mr. Thos. Grunwell (farmer) and Mr. Thos. Outersides (butcher) were driving in the direction of Ilkley and the horse bolted. Both gentlemen sustained injuries, Mr. Grunwell dislocated his shoulder and was cut about the face, and Mr. Outersides was cut and bruised in the face, head and knee.

50 Years Ago

For the third time in four years a team representing the 5th Ilkley (Ilkley Grammar School) Troop of Scouts won the shield at the Wharfedale Scouts Association Ambulance competition. The team was D. H. O. Gemmill, E. Wire, W. D. Roberts, A. Dewhurst, E. Mallinson and I. Rae.

The manner in which the buses had affected the number of people traveling by train was described as remarkable. An application by Mr. Samuel Ledgard to continue his bus service between Ilkley, Guiseley and Leeds made railway representatives disclose a heavy decline in passenger traffic on the railways. There had been a 66 per cent drop in the number of rail passengers.

Warm tributes were paid to the work of district nurses in Ilkley at the annual meeting of the Ilkley District Nursing Association. Nurses had paid a total of 12,545 visits during the year and had 343 patients on their books. Praise was accorded too to the invaluable work of voluntary helpers and the voluntary committee who backed the nurses' work in the area.

In the Council minutes it was recorded that Mr. D. W. Crawshaw, an articled pupil in the surveyor's office then in his third year, should be paid the sum of 5/- per week clear with the Council paying his full insurance.

25 Years Ago

Burley Catholic Church held its annual May procession. The May Queen was Maurin Cordin and her attendants were the Misses Ormanroyd, Sloan, Settle and Corran with Peter Stewart Murray acting as cushion bearer.

Concern was expressed by members of the War Memorial Committee of Ilkley Council at the apparent slow progress of the work being carried out in the Riverside Garden scheme. The Surveyor said that the contractors expected to have the work completed ready for grass sowing at the end of June but there was still a great deal of work to be done. Mr. Clough complained that the committee had been deceived and that there had never been the number of men working on the scheme that there ought to have been and there were so many adverse comments passed about the work that it was hard to be on the committee. The surveyor explained that there had been unforeseen difficulties with tree roots and with the discovery of a tip on the site.

S JUN 81

£45,000 OVERHAUL FOR ILKLEY NEW BRIDGE

75 YEARS AFTER OPENING

Exactly seventy-five years since its official opening, the bridge carrying New Brook Street across the River Wharfe at Ilkley is to undergo a £45,000 overhaul.

The condition of the fixings for the parapet had been causing some concern, and following a detailed inspection it became apparent that some repair work would be necessary to prevent further deterioration.

Tarmac Construction Co. Ltd. have been awarded a contract to take down, refurbish and reconstruct the

parapet railings, and at the same time it is intended to provide new supports for the railings and carry out repainting.

The work is expected to start towards the end of this month and will take about fourteen weeks. Pedestrian and vehicular access over the bridge will be maintained at all times.

The bridge was first projected in 1899 by the Wharfedale (Ilkley) Estate Company, although such a scheme to connect Ilkley and Middleton had been talked of for about 35 years pre-

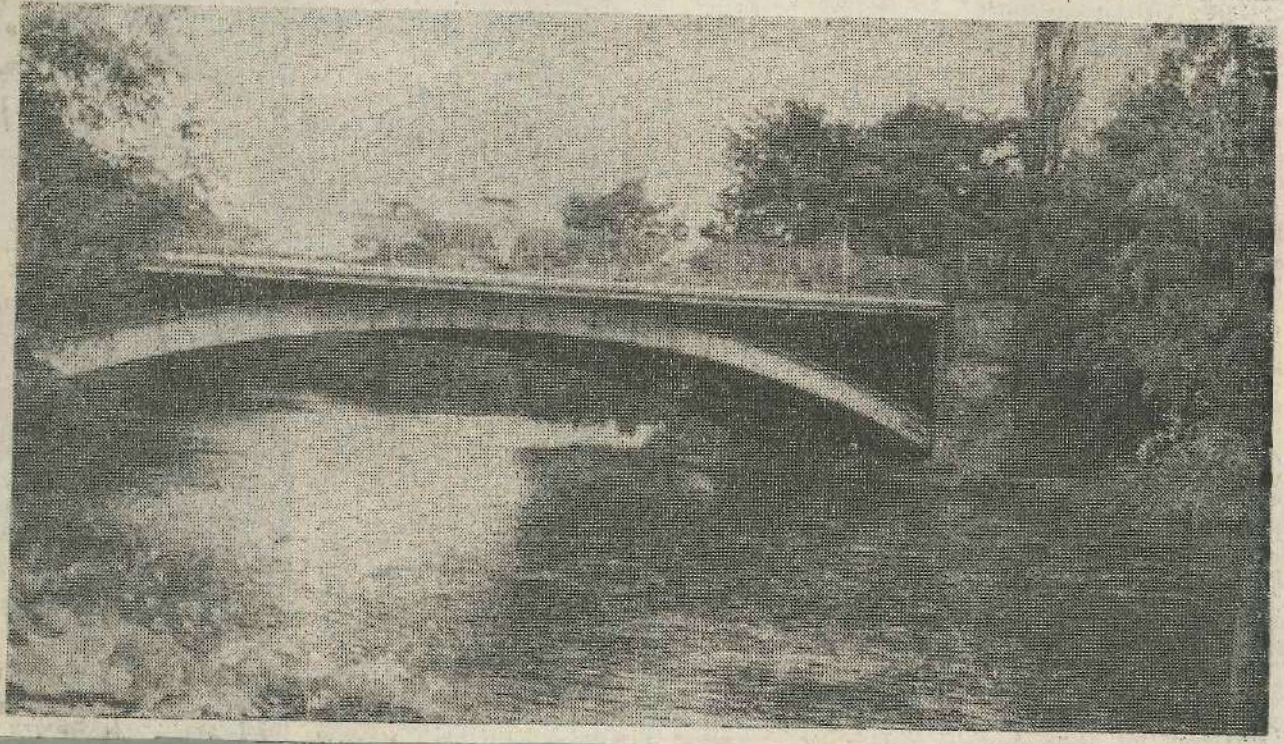
viously. It was built by the Estate Company with joint assistance from the West Riding County Council and Wharfedale Rural District Council, at a total cost of £17,000, and officially opened by the Rural District Council Chairman, Cr. J. A. Middlebrook, on 2 June 1906.

The opening ceremony, with the whole area decorated with flags and streamers, was described as one of the most striking and imposing spectacles ever witnessed in Ilkley. The first men to cross the new bridge were members of the 3rd Lancashire

Royal Engineer Volunteers regiment, on their way to a Whit week camp at Ben Rhydding.

The bridge was felt to be the greatest improvement that had ever been undertaken in the neighbourhood, although at one time the scheme had been anything but approved of by many residents.

Contractors for the building of the new bridge were Somervail and Co., Dalmuir, and George Smith, Ilkley. The architect and engineer was James B. Fraser, Leeds.



S JUN 81

Burley vicar's 25 years in the ministry



To mark his 25 years in the ministry, the Rev. Donald Aldred, Vicar of Burley-in-Wharfedale, was presented with a watch at a ceremony following the morning service on Sunday. Canon Tom Levesley spoke about the Rev. Aldred's service and the gift was handed over by the Churchwardens. A bouquet was also presented to Mrs. Janet Aldred. The Vicar cut a cake baked by Mrs. Bessie Lupton and this was distributed to the parishioners. Mr. Aldred came to Burley in 1969.

ACH
1
Mar
severa
aim o
and it
the fo
the s
Mano
matte
It
that i
would
and
been
the p
bridge
which
receiv
the e
to b
wear
have
The
was
Eli
most
of h
being
Skipt
Polic
she
boro
prom
once
Th
the
temp
betw
82 d
Ilk
busy
beau
less
seek
of
plen
Coo
mar
Stre
(var
Brid
T
Chu
and
thun
tow
a li
ing
D
app
Ilkl
Hor
stor
mor
had
Joh
the
A
wan
in
Sew
Ilkl
mat
of
dan
Put
did
sub
Bol
act
wh
"cl

COUNCIL WANTS TOWN CENTRE PLAN TO DETERMINE FUTURE SHOPPING DEVELOPMENTS

So many planning applications for large developments in Ilkley are being submitted that Ilkley Parish Council is now saying it is absolutely necessary for a Town Centre Plan to be formulated.

Members are to press Bradford Metropolitan Council to urgently resurrect the plan on which all future developments can be based.

At the Council's monthly meeting on Tuesday night the Chairman of the Plans Committee, Cr. S. Crossley-Smith said they were becoming inundated with applications for large developments in Ilkley. The Plans Committee at its meeting the previous night felt the time had come for the Parish Council to press for the formulation of the Town Centre Plan.

"Whatever happened to the Town Centre Plan?" asked Cr. J. M. Shelton.

"It has been put in the bottom drawer," replied the Chairman, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton. A lot of hard work had gone into the preparation of the Town Centre Plan and Ilkley Councillors had been praised for their share, she said. However, it had been stated by Bradford Metropolitan Council that at the moment, with the dropping of plans for an Ilkley By-Pass scheme, there was little justification for the continuance of a Plan, said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Clear Message

"The message is very clear. Bradford Metropolitan Council is doing nothing for the Ilkley Town Centre Plan and it is our unmistakable duty to press for it, and if necessary do it ourselves," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Cr. J. M. Shelton wondered if the County Council should be asked if they had any contributions to make to the Plan but Cr. Crossley-Smith said he would like to see the first response come from Bradford. The County Council was concerned with the Structure Plan which was a more overall plan.

Whatever the District Council said they would be working under the advice of the County Council, said Cr. Peter Williams.

A letter to Bradford Metropolitan Council from the Chairman of Ilkley Civic Society, Mr. Gilbert Lister read at the Parish Council's meeting stated that the future shopping in Ilkley was being influenced by three major considerations:-

1. the development of the Hawksworth House site.
2. The future use of railway land.
3. Proposals for Brook Street.

"Current legislation requires prospective developers to make applications and requires planning authorities to react to the applications and, in normal circumstances, it is not too difficult for planning authorities to come to a decision which is in the best interests of the community.

"However, the present situation in Ilkley is more complicated because the three major considerations are interdependent—as implied when application for a supermarket on the railway land was refused.

"On the two proposals for Hawksworth House site, the one for which planning permission has been granted would probably result in shops being opened in competition with similar existing businesses, whilst the proposal which is the subject of a public inquiry would result (if granted) in competition over a wide range of goods and possibly provide for the supply of certain goods not covered by present retailers," stated Mr. Lister.

"The proposed supermarket on the railway land for which permission was refused, but which might possibly be put to appeal, would have taken over from an existing supermarket by introducing a larger volume of supermarket activity and adding the sale of a further range of goods.

Brook Street

The proposals for Brook Street would preserve certain existing shops and provide others which would probably compete with present traders in other parts of the town.

"It is apparent that there is a need to consider the requirements for retail outlets by type and number before planning applications are sanctioned or refused.

"So far as we now, there has been no recent analysis of the shopping requirements for Ilkley. The subject does not appear to be covered in any policy document and thus, without authoritative assessment of requirements any decisions on planning applications are likely to be subjective and to fall short of the best solution," stated Mr. Lister.

"This Society puts forward the proposal that a detailed study of the shopping requirements of Ilkley be undertaken and a policy statement be issued as a guide to intending developers and planning committees.

"Moreover we suggest that decision upon major shopping developments should be deferred until the results of the study have been agreed and published. This should not be an excuse for procrastination but rather an incentive to complete the study as quickly as possible.

"A unique opportunity now exists to get an optimum solution to the use of the railway land. In addition to its use as a transport exchange, various proposals have been made, ranging from a Civic Society Scheme for the station building to planning applications for a leisure complex and supermarket. Light industry has also been suggested.

"But, whatever happens on the railway site it must affect the rest of the town and thus the case for the proposed study is re-inforced.

"In the particular case of the proposals for Brook Street it seems quite wrong that planning committees should be obliged to decide upon a scheme of such complexity in the short time normally allotted to planning matters. Indeed it is doubtful whether the supporting documents can be understood and appreciated in detail without several hours of study. Thereafter a great deal of thought about appearance in relation to surroundings, details of finishes and materials to be used, will have to take place before the best decision can be reached," stated Mr. Lister.

Cr. Mrs. Renton was most anxious some sort of survey of the town centre should be carried out and that the Town Centre Plan be formulated so all developments could be measured. "I would like any future surveys to be carried out by the Parish Council because it will carry more weight," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

"What we are talking about is whether Ilkley can stand a large shopping area and where to put it," said Cr. T. W. Pardoe.

Cr. Shelton said they did once have a Town Centre Plan which covered far more than shopping areas. It included light industrial developments, residential developments, cinemas and libraries, he said.

The Parish Council agreed to support the letter from Ilkley Civic Society and inform Bradford when it pressed for the formulation of a Town Centre Plan.

5 JUN 81 CONSTITUENCY CHANGE FOR ILKLEY?

Proposed Parliamentary Constituency boundary changes announced by the Boundary Commission could lead to Ilkley being moved from the Ripon Constituency into Keighley.

It is expected the removal of Ilkley's largely Conservative vote from the safe Tory Ripon Constituency would bring about a change at Keighley, where Labour MP Bob Cryer had a majority of only 78 at the last election.

Mr. Cryer's slender majority, gained over Conservative candidate John Dawson, would almost certainly be wiped out if the proposals were accepted.

ACROSS THE YEARS 5 JUN 81 Complaints Over "Exposed Bathing" At Ilkley

100 Years Ago

Many Ilkley residents held several meetings in 1881 with the aim of forming a Swimming Club and it appeared at that time that the forming of a club would need the sanction of the Lord of the Manor and his views on the matter had been requested.

It was reported in the Gazette that if a club could be formed it would put an end to the "regular and exposed bathing which has been practised for many years at the part of the river above the bridge called the 'sandbeds' against which complaints had been received by near residents." It was the expressed intention of the club to bath only at early hours, to wear "university costume" and to have a suitable tent for changing. The chief desire to form the club was to make the sport "decent".

Elizabeth Sutton, described as a most wretched looking specimen of humanity, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Skipton Road, Ilkley at Otley Police Court. She told the court she was on her way to Scarborough and was discharged on a promise to quit the district at once.

The weather was warm during the first week in June 1881 with temperatures each day ranging between 71 degrees Fahrenheit and 82 degrees Fahrenheit.

75 Years Ago

Ilkley experienced an unusually busy time at Whitsuntide, the beautiful weather inducing countless number of city dwellers to seek "the leafy lanes and fresh air of the countryside." Ilkley had plenty to offer its visitors with Mr. Cooper's pierrots opening in a marquee in South Hawksworth Street and the Royal Magnets (variety artistes) appearing at the Bridge Pavilion.

The flagstaff on Ilkley Parish Church was struck by lightning and shattered during a severe thunderstorm but fortunately the tower itself was damaged beyond a little of the lead roof surrounding the staff being displaced.

Dr. Thos. Browne Herder was appointed medical officer to the Ilkley Hospital and Convalescent Home to succeed Dr. Thos. Johnstone who had resigned after more than 20 years. Dr. Herder had often acted as deputy to Dr. Johnstone and was no stranger to the hospital.

50 Years Ago

A series of grave complaints of wanton and mischievous damage in the Electricity Works and the Sewage Works were reported to Ilkley Council. In each case the matter had been put in the hands of the police as well as further damage in the Gas Works and the Public Library. Mr. J. C. Scott did not consider Ilkley was being subjected to an outbreak of Bolshevism, but that these were acts of wanton damage by youths who had not then yet got the "elements of citizenship and decent civic pride."

The Moors and Parks Committee decided to seek advice from the appropriate department of Leeds University regarding the best method of resisting the growth of weeds in the Tarn. Mr. J. C. Dinsdale, Chairman of the Committee, said that six motor loads of weeds had been taken out.

A report from the local Medical Officer showed there had been 16 deaths in April, and the average age at death was 61. Dr. Whitfield said that he thought that when the recent census figures were assessed that the average age of the people of Ilkley would be found to be high in comparison with people from other similar places.

The first two days of June produced two inches of rain causing flooding at Ilkley Golf Club, the Cricket Club and Escroft, the Main Road between Otley and Burley being under water at Mickle Ing.

25 Years Ago

It was reported that expenditure during the year exceeded income by over £100 at the annual meeting of Ilkley Players, but that as new seating had been installed and repairs carried out this was considered satisfactory.

The treasurer, Mr. W. Hanbridge, appealed for more patrons to pay an annual subscription of a guinea.

Criticism of players who had left the British Legion Association Football Club to form a new club in the town was heard at the annual meeting at Annandale. The new club was to be called Ilkley A.F.C. Mr. T. Lynch, Chairman and Treasurer of the Legion Club said that the objection was to players not fulfilling their obligations.

Addingham Cricket Club were all out for 43 runs in reply to Guiseley's 180 for seven. J. Robertson of Guiseley claimed five Addingham wickets for only one run. Ilkley were defeated by Otley and ended 95 runs behind with two wickets in hand. Ilkley passed out of the Waddilove Cup competition in the second round when they were defeated by Menston failing to reach Menston's total by 33 runs. This was largely due to the bowling of C. Cater and A. Bowes.

RIPON AND PUDSEY DIVISIONS WILL LOSE THEIR NAMES UNDER BOUNDARY CARVE-UP PROPOSALS

Towns in Wharfedale and Airedale will become a part of Leeds

The Otley, Wharfedale and Aireborough parts of the Ripon Parliamentary Constituency, and the Horsforth part of the Pudsey Constituency, will both become attached to Leeds if approval is given to changes in the boundaries proposed by the Boundary Commission for England as part of a general review of constituency areas.

The Commission recommends that West Yorkshire should be represented by 22 constituencies. There are at present 20 constituencies and parts of eight others which result from local government reorganisation in 1974. The Commission is required to follow county boundaries as far as practicable, and the constituencies now proposed are contained within the county boundary.

The proposed changes threaten several seats and the loss of long standing Parliamentary names.

If the changes are accepted by the Home Secretary the Leeds Wards of Otley and Wharfedale, Aireborough, Cookridge and Westwood will be lumped together to form the Leeds North West Constituency (Electorate 66,519).

Horsforth will join Bramley, Pudsey North and Pudsey South to become Leeds West constituency (Electorate 66,582).

Ilkley will be taken from the Ripon Constituency to join Craven, Keighley North, Keighley South, Keighley West and Worth Valley under the title Keighley Constituency. (Electorate 61,103).

The House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Acts place a limit on the total number of constituencies. County and London Borough boundaries are to be followed as far as is practicable. Subject to these requirements the electorates of constituencies are to be as nearly equal as possible but the Commission can depart from these rules if special geographical considerations make this desirable. The 1988 Act also relieves the Commission of the obligation to give full effect to the rules in all circumstances if, for example, changes would break local ties.

Where representations are made by an interested local authority or by a body of 100

or more electors, the Commission cannot proceed with their final recommendations to the Home Secretary until a local inquiry has been held. If the Commission decides to alter its recommendations, the revised recommendations must also be published but a further local inquiry is not obligatory.

The Commission must submit their report on the general review for the whole of England to the Home Secretary before April, 1984. The Home Secretary is then required to submit the report to Parliament with the draft of an Order in Council to give effect to the recommendations with or without modifications. If modifications are proposed the Home Secretary must at the same time present a statement of the reasons for them. The Order in Council requires the approval of both Houses of Parliament and the redistribution takes effect at the General Election following the approval of the Order.



Mr. Giles Shaw, M.P. for the Pudsey Constituency which could lose its name and form part of Leeds West.



Dr. Keith Hampson, M.P. for the Ripon Constituency, which could be carved up and become part of Leeds North West.

The Commission is required to consider representations made about their provisional recommendations within one month of local publication. However in the case of West Yorkshire they will take into consideration any representations made to them during the period up to July 10 1981. These representations should be addressed to The Secretary, Boundary Commission for England, St Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP.

Scaffolding encases two of Otley's oldest cottages

Wharfedale & Airedale Observer

5 JUN 81



Scaffolding surrounds the Rose and Crown public house in Bondgate, Otley, and the two old cottages into which it will be extended. Engraved in the wall of one of the cottages are the initials

HEALTH AUTHORITY "RELUCTANTLY" CONSIDERS CLOSING GROVE CONVALESCENT HOME

12 JUN 81

A proposal to close down the Grove Convalescent Home at Ilkley - the first of its kind in Yorkshire when it was opened 120 years ago - has been approved in principle by the Leeds Area Health Authority.

At its meeting on Tuesday afternoon the authority reluctantly agreed to approve the preparation by officers of a consultation document with regard to the proposed transfer of services and accommodation to another hospital and the subsequent closure of the Grove Convalescent Home.

Mr. Richard Oswald, District Administrator, said the consultation document would probably be ready by about the end of the month, setting out the arguments for closure and possible alternative arrangements for patients and staff.

The document would then be circulated to all the health authorities concerned, including the Community Health Councils, as well as local authorities, parish councils and Members of Parliament. There would be a three months period when views could be submitted for consideration before a final decision was taken, Mr. Oswald explained.

He said the Government had ordered the National Health Service to find \$23 million savings from "inefficient practices" during the current financial year. This was 0.4 per cent of the total revenue and had been applied across the health service.

The figure of 0.4 per cent meant Leeds Area Health Authority had to save \$457,000, and on Tuesday the authority had discussed a number of

proposals for doing so.

"It was clear we were already over committed on present services. The money available is not adequate, and we will have to exercise stringent controls on expenditure," Mr. Oswald went on. "The proposed closure of the Grove Convalescent Home is only one of a number of suggestions which was considered."

Mr. Oswald explained that the total running costs of the Grove Home were about \$250,000 a year. It was proposed that a home at Thorpe Arch, near Wetherby, would also be closed, and the total running costs for the two amounted to \$650,000 a year. If both were closed the authority expected a saving of around \$250,000 a year, mainly on overheads like rates and heating.

One of the suggestions being considered was that Leeds Area patients could possibly be transferred to Middleton Hospital.

Mr. Oswald said he had spoken to staff at the Grove Home on Tuesday morning to tell them of the proposals.

He stressed that as the authority was under-funded for its commitments it was that much more difficult to cope with a reduction of income—but they had to comply with the cash limits set.

He stressed that the proposal to close the Grove Convalescent Home was not adopted with any enthusiasm by the Area Health Authority, but with some reluctance.

The home has 58 beds, catering for patients mostly from outside the Ilkley area, and a staff of about 40.

Mr. Geoffrey Vere of Ilkley, Chairman of the Airedale Community Health Council, said although strictly speaking the Grove Convalescent Home was not within their administrative area the council was to investigate the proposals.

Any change affecting the health of patients in their district was of great concern to members, he added.

12 JUN 81 WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

The Convalescent Home on The Grove, Ilkley, was established on the old Ilkley Bath Charity which was formed as long ago as 1829 to make grants to poor patients. As the charity grew in importance and in funds the first convalescent homes in Yorkshire was built on The Grove in 1862.

Originally known as the Ilkley Bath Charity Institution, the name was changed to the Ilkley Bath Charity Hospital, later shortened to the Ilkley Hospital, then the Ilkley Charity Hospital. It later became the Ilkley Convalescent Hospital and later still the Convalescent Hospital, Ilkley.

Even in those early days it was realised the title "Hospital" could be misleading, and it later became the Ilkley Convalescent Home, changing to the Wharfedale Convalescent Home, the Hydropathic Hospital, Ilkley, the Public Convalescent Home, Ilkley, the Free Convalescent Home, Ilkley, and later the Ilkley Wells Hospital.

The home became the Ilkley Infirmary, and then for nearly fifty years was the Ilkley Hospital and Convalescent Home. This cumbersome title was adopted when a \$1,000 legacy was left by Mr. Thomas Emsley to "The Ilkley Convalescent Home", and was paid to Bradford Corporation as custodians of the Semon Home.

After some legal fencing the money was eventually handed over to the Ilkley Hospital, as Mr. Emsley had intended, but it was thought advisable to supplement the title "and Convalescent Home".

It later became the Ilkley Convalescent Home to avoid confusion with the Ilkley Coronation Hospital.

12 JUN 81 Cyclist Reaches Ilkley After Serious Accident

100 Years Ago

Despite a dislocated left elbow and severe lacerations to the muscles of his right arm, a young cyclist still managed to cycle to Ilkley after a serious accident near Burley, A. Beetham was returning to Ilkley from Otley when his bicycle got into a rut in the road and threw him off with great force. It was not until the young cyclist got into Ilkley that he learned the extent of his injuries.

A gala was held on the Ilkley cricket ground with music provided by the Ilkley Band for dancing. However, heavy rain somewhat dampened the occasion. That same evening a performance of the operetta, "Trial by Jury" was given at the Craighands Hotel.

75 Years Ago

During a severe thunderstorm the flat staff on Ilkley Parish Church was struck by lightning and shattered. The tower itself was undamaged except for some lead roof surrounding the staff being displaced.

The 3rd Lancashire Royal Engineer Volunteers spent the week camping in Ilkley, and they chose a week of beautiful weather. They camped by the river near the Ilkley Rugby Club fields.

A Whitsuntide ball and whist drive took place at Marlbro' House Hydro and proved a great success.

50 Years Ago

Along with the rest of the eastern side of England, Ilkley felt an earth tremor at about 1.26 a.m. on Sunday, 7th June, 1931. Many residents were considerably alarmed by being awakened and feeling their beds rock, and hearing furniture and ornaments rattling in various parts of the house.

There was no serious damage, though it was reported that the ceiling of one room in Ben Rhyding was slightly cracked. A quantity of plaster had fallen on to the dining room table.

A famous landmark on Ilkley Moor, known as Cowper's Cross, was destroyed after being struck by lightning. The millstone grit cross had stood on the Moors for generations and there were many legends that accounted for its origins.

The second annual Ilkley Sheep Dog Trials event was held in Ilkley's Holmes Fields and, despite continuous rain, the afternoon saw several fine performances. Some of the finest working sheep dogs in the country took part and the entry figure was "most encouraging." The trials were then considered a valuable addition to Ilkley's summer attractions.

Favourable reports were presented at the annual meeting of the Ilkley Council of Social Welfare, an Ilkley organisation which sought to co-ordinate the various charitable enterprises in the Ilkley district.

25 Years Ago

The possibility of the formation of a second Association Football team in Ilkley was discussed by a group of footballers from Ilkley, Burley and Otley in June, 1956. Provisional nominations were made for the official positions and though no name had been given to the club at this time it was agreed a team should be entered in the Wharfedale League.

Dr. Sydney Northcote, Mr. John Holgate and Mr. Maurice Jacobson congratulated the Wharfedale Music Festival at which they were adjudicating on its unbroken history of fifty years.

A special meeting of the Governors of Ilkley Secondary School was held in private to hear information in the possession of the County Council in connection with the request for a new Secondary School at Ben Rhyding.

A new Standard Super Eight car was being advertised for sale in the "Gazette" at £608 17s. including purchase tax.

At Ilkley's two cinemas Danny Kaye could be seen at the Grove Cinema in "The Court Jester" and at the Essoldo Cinema John Wayne and Lauren Bacall were featured in "Blood Alley."

Tennis and sportswear available at Busbys in Brook Street, Ilkley, included swimsuits at 21s. 11d., shortie coats at 84s. white cardigans at 14s. 11d. and skirts at 72s. 6d.

COUNCILLORS AND CIVIC SOCIETY DISAPPOINTED OVER APPROVAL OF TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

The approval of a £1 1/2m scheme for shopping development in the centre of Ilkley has disappointed Ilkley Parish Councillors and Ilkley Civic Society.

The scheme, which includes a large new store for Woolworths as well as other shop units on land fronting Brook Street next to the railway station, was approved by a Bradford Metropolitan Council Planning sub-committee on Monday.

The plan was described by Cr. Harry Peacock, Chairman of Bradford's Planning Sub-Committee as an "exciting project" but has been viewed in Ilkley as an over development of the site.

The scheme includes a large new store for Woolworth's as well as other shop units on land fronting Brooks Street next to the railway station. It will replace several shops on the site including the present Woolworth's store.

The application was made jointly by Shop and Store Developments and British Railways Property Board. Shop and Store Developments are the parent company of Greenwoods (Menswear) of Guiseley, who have traded on the site for the last thirty years.

The new development, which is expected to start soon, will be in natural stone with some likely to be used from buildings demolished in the district, and two of the railway platforms will form part of a car park for 102 cars with the areas between filled in and used as access roads. Supports and canopies will be retained and the new development will have glass covered shopping walk-ways or malls. There will be about 23,750 square feet shopping space.

Cr. Peacock said that with the railway making part of the site available he felt it was an opportunity which Ilkley could not afford to miss. The site had been earmarked for retail development for more than ten years and the sub-committee could not afford to dilly-dally or the opportunity might be lost.

Any development for the central area, he said, should start from this site, and he thought it would have a ripple effect on the rest of the town centre.

The sub-committee was told that there was some local opposition. Ilkley Parish Council considered there would be over-development of a dominant site, and it could have a detrimental affect on the existing street scene. Ilkley Civic Society urged a detailed study of shopping requirements in Ilkley's centre before any decision was made about the scheme. Individual residents also wrote letters of objections, one stating that the destruction of the Victorian shops would change "a charming corner".

Cr. Peacock said he had always considered the present use of the site a "let down" and Cr. Gordon Raistrick said he thought it was a corner requiring a dominant feature.

Chairman to the Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton told the 'Gazette' that objections had been made on the grounds that whilst the Council welcomed some development on the site the present scheme was regarded as an over-development for this important part of Ilkley.

"We did not like the heavy and imposing frontage which would reduce the number of trees in the town centre and affect the view of part of the main street," she said.

"The Council would have preferred another look at the plans and perhaps a joint site meeting with Bradford. The development should be considered along with two other major planning applications for development in the town and this was one reason why the Council was calling for Bradford to formulate a Town Centre Plan," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

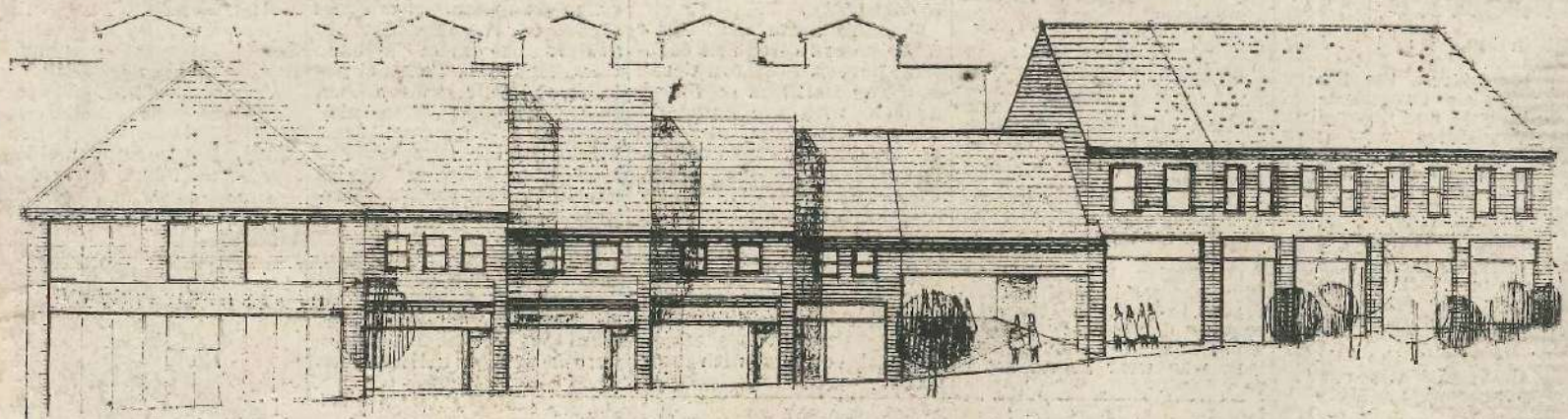
Chairman to Ilkley Civic Society, Mr. Gilbert Lister said the site was within a proposed conservation area and the plan had been regarded as rather mundane and aspects of this could be seen in any modern development in other towns.

"British Rail has, at considerable expense, just completed full restoration of the station including the glazed canopies, Victorian pillars, railings, balustrades and gas lighting. A large glazed area was to be used for a car park. In addition the Civic Society had drawn up an imaginative scheme for this whole area," he said.

"However, the present plan is thought to be mundane, and aspects of this can be seen in any modern development in other towns. These include mass designs, ground floor repetitive shop fronts, structurally, aesthetically weak small glazed canopies, mock criel windows, mixed roof materials (asbestos-cement-concrete). Rebuilt retaining walls contrast badly with walls to be retained and rendering weathers quickly and badly. The Ilkley scheme does not only include these weaknesses, but its design would contrast discordantly with the monumental masonry of the railway age. The scheme does not fit in with the Edwardian style of the surrounding buildings," said Mr. Lister.

Mr. Lister went on to quote Mr. Alfred Wood, the County Planning Officer, for the West Midlands who said "every town has its amiable eccentrics (buildings) which make it different from other towns". The existing Greenwoods shop (winner of the Ilkley Civic Society Award), the hairdresser and the flower box surrounded by mature trees, are some of their amiable eccentrics," said Mr. Lister.

"However, if these 'eccentrics' are replaced at all, they should be replaced by buildings of the highest standards. This can be done. The firm—Shop and Store Developments have succeeded in doing this in Settle, and had gained an award for doing so. Moreover, railway stations can be successfully revitalised and sensitively converted for alternative uses, as has been proved at Richmond," said Mr. Lister.



An artist's impression of the proposed new development in Brook Street showing the new Woolworth's store on the left at the junction with Railway Road.



19 JUN 81

Pressing For Building Of New Ilkley Grammar School

100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Gazette of 100 years ago reported, "We are glad to learn that after all Ilkley College is soon to be occupied, and used for the purpose for which it was built, viz. educational work. The occupant will be Walter James Kaye, a member of the Society of Friends, of Holly Bank College, Harrogate."

Seventy-eight Ilkley ratepayers attended a special meeting convened to discuss the application of funds of the Ilkley Grammar School. Working people in the town were most anxious that future generations should at last derive some benefit from the scheme. Mr. T. P. Muff, speaking at the meeting as a Governor of the school said they had purchased about 25,000 square yards for the school in a commanding position to be a credit to the town at a cost of £2,420, and the funds in hand stood at £6,233, with a further £1,500 invested. He said that it was unfortunate that so much time had elapsed without procuring some practical application of the funds and he was pleased that the town had taken the matter in hand which would strengthen the hands of the Governing body to bring the matter to a practical issue.

Mr. W. Hartley moved that in the opinion of the meeting the time had arrived for the immediate building of the Ilkley Grammar School and the Charity Commission should be respectfully asked to publish their scheme without delay. Mr. Oswald Lister seconded this motion declaring that a new Grammar School would be a great boon to the town. Mr. Muff was praised for attending the meeting.

75 Years Ago

Wells House Hydro celebrated its jubilee, as it was fifty years since it first opened, and the Manager, Mr. Ballardie arranged a garden party on an extensive scale to take place in the Winter Gardens and grounds.

The hydro was erected to designs by Mr. Cuthbert Broderick of Hull, who also designed Leeds Town Hall, and two extensions had already been added to the original building. The first was a large and handsome winter garden, believed to be the first structure of its kind in England, and then an annexe to provide additional sleeping accommodation.

Entertainment for the jubilee included the band of the Yorkshire and Lancashire regiment, the Bavarian String band, and the Harrogate Pierrots, as well as various vocalists, conjuror, a palmist and a pianist, and over 1,000 invitations had been issued.

In answer to complaints by visitors to Ilkley regarding lack of amusements and the town not being sufficiently modern, the Ilkley Gazette listed some of the varied entertainment available. There was a pierrot show, the Magnets concert party and a military band. The Gazette deplored the need for more entertainment and thought that the natural beauty of the place, the pure fresh air, scenery and healthy out-door recreation should have been sufficient to satisfy most people and exhorted visitors not to complain but to enjoy the natural amenities of the district.

50 Years Ago

The annual choir trip of the Addingham Parish Church was to Whitby. A party of 30 members and friend went by motor via York. Tea was served before returning home in Scarborough and they were back in Addingham at 10.30 p.m. Fine weather helped to make the outing a very enjoyable one.

The Mount Hermon choir was also fortunate in having their trip on the same fine day, and a party numbering about 20 went by motor to Chester, where lunch

was served and the Cathedral and other places of interest were visited. They went on to Rhyl for tea and reached home again in Addingham at 12.30 a.m.

25 Years Ago

Per head of the population Ilkley paid more in rates than any other Urban District in the West Riding. It was revealed in a publication of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government that the figure per head was £10 12s., whilst Otley was £7 10s., Skipton £8 1s. and Aireborough £7 5s.

Work was in progress in preparing the site at the bottom of Mill Gill for the public shelter which the Ilkley Rotary Club was presenting to the town. A bench mark discovered on the old drinking fountain showed the altitude at this point to be 313 feet above sea level, and permission had to be obtained from the Ministry of Works for this to be removed.

Considerable improvement to the centre of Burley was likely to be effected by the purchase of Burley Lawn, a large stone built house, bordering on to the Main Street. It was thought probable that the property would be converted into flats for elderly people, and the high surrounding wall lowered to that the grounds would be visible from Main Street and give a more open aspect to the village.

THE ORIGINS OF FARFIELD HALL

Members of the Addingham Civic Society paid a visit to Farfield Hall, a residential home for elderly people. They were escorted round the grounds and inside the hall by Mr. and Mrs. Edwards who gave an interesting commentary.

The hall was purchased in 1947 for its present purpose. It was built in the last century by the Lister family, later owners being George Douglas followed by his son Keith Douglas, well-known in musical circles. The Wishing Bridge across Bolton Road was a well loved feature of the grounds until it was unfortunately touched by a passing lorry, made unsafe, and then removed.

The site upon which Farfield Hall was built was formerly a Quaker farm-house, part of which was incorporated into the building. Members enjoyed the visit, leaving full of admiration for the pleasant atmosphere, the beauty and interest of the situation. Civic Society members appreciated the time given by Mr. and Mrs. Edwards to escort the tour.

26 JUN 81

26 JUN 81

OVERHAUL OF NEW BRIDGE STARTS ON MONDAY

The overhaul repair work on the New Bridge at Ilkley, at a cost of £45,000 will begin on Monday and last for 13 weeks. The work is to be carried out by the Tarmac Construction Company.

The New Bridge was opened exactly 75 years ago but was first projected by the Wharfedale (Ilkley) Estate Company in 1899. The Estate Company with assistance from the West Riding County Council and the Wharfedale Rural District Council built the New Bridge at a cost of £17,000. It was officially opened by the Chairman of the Rural District Council, Mr. J. A. Middlebrook, on 3 June, 1906.

The Tarmac Construction Company is to take down, refurbish, and re-construct the parapet railings and at the same time it is intended to provide new supports for the railings and carry out repainting. This work is to be carried out following a detailed inspection of the bridge when it was found that some repair work would be necessary to prevent further deterioration.

Traffic lights are to be brought into operation.

One way traffic in each direction during the working hours on the bridge will be in operation for at least the early stages of the thirteen week period.

However from the late afternoon of each day outside working hours on the work on the Bridge the traffic situation will be back to normal and two way traffic will be in operation when the lights will not be in use.

FAMOUS ILKLEY LANDMARK MAKES WAY FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT

19 JUN 81

One of Ilkley's most famous landmarks—the 100 year old Stoney Lea Hotel in Cowpasture Road—is in the process of being demolished. The site is up for sale with planning permission for 23 flats, with garages, and a restaurant.

The hotel, which is owned by Gonersal based Stoney Lea Estates Ltd., was built in 1880 by Mr. Tom Emmott

and remained the property of the same family until 1945.

The Stoney Lea was built in Victorian style and became a well known hydropathic establishment where guests visited to improve their health. With the decline of the spa's popularity it later became a fully licensed hotel with about thirty bedrooms, and received visitors from all parts of the country. The

register contained many famous names before the hotel eventually closed last year.

A planning application was submitted for development of the site in 1973 and was renewed last October by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

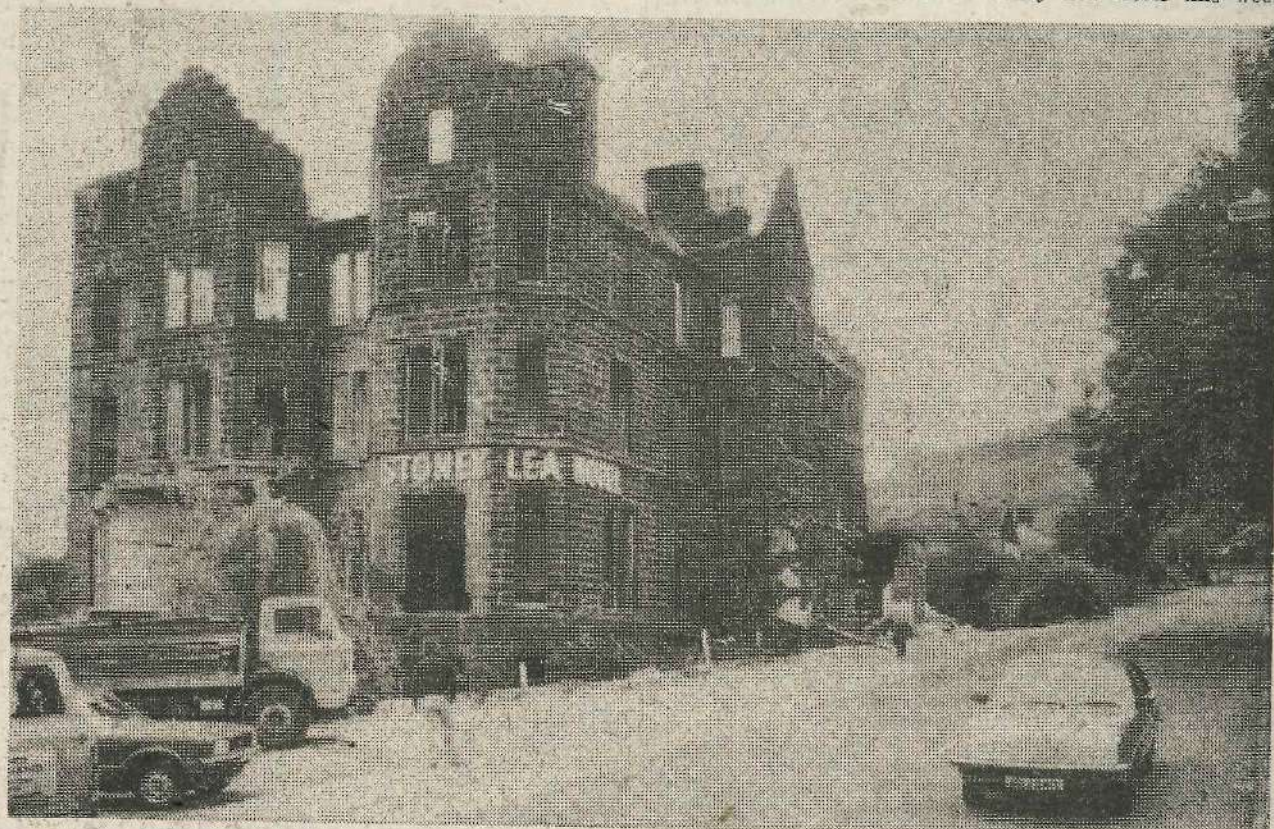
The demolition work is being carried out by Bradford Stone Sales Ltd., and

has so far progressed to the stage where the windows, roof and much of the interior have been removed.

The good quality stone and re-useable timber is being sold by the demolition firm.

Agents for the sellers are Dacre, Son and Hartley of Ilkley.

• Picture shows demolition work in progress at the Stoney Lea Hotel this week.



New Service To Bolton Abbey By Waggonette

100 Years Ago

A daily return waggonette run from Ilkley to Bolton Abbey was a new venture started in July, 1881, by Mr. J. B. Lee. The waggonette left Ilkley Railway Station at 10.50 a.m. and returned from the Devonshire Hotel each day at 5 p.m. The single journey was advertised as 1s. and the return fare 1s. 6d.

The North Eastern Railway Company announced a reduction in the price of their first and second-class fares. Ilkley to York (1st class) would be 4/11 and 4/1 (2nd class) and to Harrogate 2/6 (1st class) and 2/1 (2nd class). Fares to Leeds and Bradford, however, were to remain the same.

The Wheatheaf Hotel, Ilkley, announced that they had undergone repairs and could offer hot and cold water baths, a large dining room 46ft. by 19ft. fitted with electric bells and heated with hot water pipes which could seat 100 guests to dinner. They also offered good stabling and fishing tickets.

75 Years Ago

The Ilkley Gazette quoted at length a Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury's journalist who extolled at length the beauties of a visit to the old White Wells.

The journalist described the climb up the hill as comparatively easy and well worth making, both for "the splendid panorama of hill and dale" and also the "entrancing oratory" of the guide. The Old Wells had been in the possession of the then tenants, the Butterfield family, for well over 100 years. The guide told the visitors how the wells were of Roman origin and discovered some 600 years previously and explained that in one of the baths a spring ran which had healing qualities for eyes so those present knelt down to bathe eyes and forehead. He waxed lyrical over the beneficial qualities of the water with regard to rheumatic complaints and recounted how an enthusiastic lady golfer had bathed in the baths every morning during the previous winter with temperatures of seven degrees below the coldest well water, and each day she left "with a light and bounding step invigorated by the pure crystal spring."

50 Years Ago

OTLEY bunch of Magistrates dealt with charges against two police constables stationed at Ilkley. They were accused of taking a car without the consent of the owner and cruelty to a horse.

The charges arose out of a collision between a car and a horse on the Ilkley to Beamsley Beacon Road. The car was found abandoned by the roadside with the front badly damaged whilst the horse was pinned underneath with two broken legs. The animal was so seriously injured it had to be shot. The car was the property of Mr. John S. Ellison, of the Spa Flats, Ilkley, and had been left in a garage behind the Grove. It was alleged the policemen took it without permission. Apparently the two constables had to visit an unoccupied house which lay off their beat, and they decided to go in Mr. Ellison's car. On the way back they took a wrong turning down a narrow lane where they skidded into the horse. They endeavoured to extricate the horse but failed. This was about 3 a.m. and the horse was not discovered until a passing cyclist saw the car and the animal at 7 a.m., during which time the injured animal had been in agony.

After a two hour hearing the defendants were found not guilty of cruelty as they believed the horse to be dead, and the charge of taking the car was proved but the men were discharged and ordered to pay £3 costs as the policemen appeared to be under the impression that Mr. Ellison would have given permission for them to use the car if asked, even though he had denied this in court in this instance.

25 Years Ago

Exchange visits between pupils of the Ilkley Grammar School and the Lycee de Coutances had already forged a strong bond between the English and French towns. This friendship had been furthered by an exchange of letters between the President of Ilkley Rotary Club, Mr. Ivan H. Sharpe, and the President of the Rotary Club of Coutances, M. Edmond Paupert. On the occasion of the Charter dinner of the Coutances Club in 1956 a bannerette from the Ilkley Club was formally presented and an accompanying letter hoped the presentation would signify the friendship between the two clubs and he also expressed regret that no representative from Ilkley was able to attend the French dinner.

The Ilkley Young Conservatives held a car treasure hunt, with a route from Ilkley to Skipton and back to Nesfield where Mr. and Mrs. T.H. provided supper. The winners were Mrs. Austin and Miss Austin, Miss Beecroft, Miss Sweeney and Mr. Barnes.

Bargains at Busby's Sale included dresses from £1 to £3, coats from £3 10s. to £6, ladies dressing gowns at 35/- and nylon hosiery at 6/11, 7/11 and 11/9 per pair.

"Warring Of The Elements" Over Ilkley District

100 Years Ago

Ilkley had a severe thunderstorm during the first week of July, 1881 which surpassed anything within living memory. There was a magnificent display of both sheet and forked lightning over the western ridge of Rombalds Moor. "Ilkley was for four hours the theatre of the warring of the elements" according to the Ilkley Free Press. A violent tornado swept across the valley of the Wharfe, accompanied by torrents of rain and huge hailstones.

Much damage was done to Wells Road and a large quantity of stones and gravel was washed down to obstruct the top of Brook Street. A number of shopkeepers in Brook Street suffered with flooded cellars, households in Chapel Lane were flooded, a house in Ash Grove struck by lightning and the whole of the basement of Craighlands Hydro was flooded. It was feared that the total damage caused by the freak storm would prove to be considerable.

75 Years Ago

Ilkley Grammar School Governors awarded their first leaving scholarship of £30 per year for three years tenable at the University of Leeds to J. H. Mawson the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Mawson, Eaton Road, Ilkley. Good progress was reported on the work on the Town Hall buildings.

A plague of midges around the bandstand at West View was found very distracting by visitors keen to enjoy the music provided by the military band hired for the season. Despite the comfort of new lounge chairs and the balmy summer weather combined with the beauty of the view over the valley, the Gazette reporter despite smoking a pipe of strong tobacco to try and evade the bites of the insects could only report a very unpleasant few hours of "abject misery".

50 Years Ago

Fine weather favoured the Ilkley Grammar School Sports which had been postponed for two weeks due to unfavourable weather. The individual championship was won by J. Wire, Hague was second and Brumfit and Ambler were joint third with Briggs in fourth place. Black House were the winners of the house championship.

Dr. H. T. Bates, the Medical Officer of Health had some vital points to make regarding how the health of Ilkley's people could be improved.

He said that the town benefitted by having a good supply of pure water, and hoped that as it originated on the moor that not too much grazing or overstocking of grouse would be allowed.

Bathing had been taking place in the river and Dr. Bates said there was no truth in any rumour that this could cause typhoid fever. The only case in Ilkley had been traced to a source miles away from the town. He deplored the fact that there had been 79 cases of diphtheria during the year, and he said that the vaccination rate against this disease was too slow and he hoped that more parents would have their children immunised.

Dr. Bates said Ilkley had good playing fields, moors, the river and many natural

attractions but said that volumes of smoke poured into the atmosphere from domestic fires. He also criticised the dusty state of many of the local roads. He praised the standard of the local milk supply and also the school cleaning standards.

During the year 24 cases had entered the local Maternity Hospital; the ambulance had been used 132 times and he praised the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic and of the District Nursing Association.

25 Years Ago

A proposal was accepted by Ilkley Council to add £90 to an offer of £110 from the Ilkley Chamber of Trade towards the cost of an illumination scheme for two weeks at the period of the Ilkley Trades Fair and four weeks in December. They were also considering the possibility of floodlighting White Wells and the Ilkley Parish Church.

The riverside Memorial Gardens were ready to be taken over by the Moors and Parks Department of Ilkley Council, a further step towards the completion of a plan started some ten years earlier. Mrs. F. S. Hampshire spoke of an urgent need for seats in the new park and it was decided to make some temporary provision. The Committee was still to decide whether there should be any formal handing over of the gardens.

Mr. W. Gledhill was invested with the chain of office as the Ilkley Rotary Club's president for the year 1956-7. The Senior vice-president was the Rev. A. Edgar and the junior vice-president, Mr. J. H. Wilson. The retiring president was Mr. Ivan H. Sharpe.

The Ilkley Gazette had the information that "Automation comes to Ilkley" with a note saying that self-emptying waste paper baskets were in operation in Church Street. The explanation was that the baskets attached to lamp posts had no bottoms!

3 JUL 81

PREPARING FOR DEMOLITION OF BRIDGE

Single lane traffic control will be in operation on a stretch of Bradford Road, Burley, from Wednesday when work begins on the preparation of the old railway bridge for demolition later this month.

Bradford Metropolitan Council had decided to demolish the bridge, at an estimated cost of £50,000, rather than grout the brickwork to prevent water pouring through. It was the water turning to ice which caused the question of the bridge to be raised at a meeting of Ilkley and District Road Safety Committee. The water formed huge icicles under the bridge and many considered this to be of danger to traffic and pedestrians.

The single lane traffic control will operate between the junction with Endor Crescent and the southern side of the bridge until 25 July, when from 6.00 p.m. until 12 noon the following day, the entire stretch of Bradford Road between the junction with the A660 at Burley and the roundabout at the Fox and Hounds will be closed to traffic, except for access.

A diversion will operate via Otley.

ILKLEY'S BIGGEST REDEVELOPMENT SINCE THE BUILDING BOOM WILL SOON GET UNDER WAY

The biggest town centre redevelopment scheme Ilkley has seen since the building boom of the last century will be under way by the end of the year.

Plans have now been approved to redevelop the site at the top of Brook Street where £1½ million scheme will incorporate a new Woolworths store and 18 shops.

The new development will be known as The Wharfedale Centre and will be carried out by Shop and Store Development, of White Cross, Guiseley, a company which is part of Greenwoods (Men's Wear) Group.

The new shops will have prominent frontages to Brook Street and Station Road and will be built in a two-phase shopping development which will comprise a new Woolworths store to be situated where the present railway embankment abuts on to Brook Street.

First Phase

This will be the first phase of the development as it will not involve any demolition of buildings, only the removal of the railway embankment which will be used to fill the existing railway tracks at the rear of the site. The slope to Brook Street will be used to full advantage so that ground floor shop units with traditional shop frontages will be stepped, thus allowing first floor shopping over ground floor units fronting on to pedestrian malls which will be fully glazed.

Deliveries to the eighteen shops of varying depths and widths allowing complete flexibility for individual traders on unit sizes, will be from the rear with underground service corridors.

There will be three separate entrances to the Mall. The main pedestrian access will be opposite the pedestrian crossing on Brook Street and similarly the main access point from Station Road will be almost opposite a zebra crossing adjacent to the existing railway station buildings. A further access for those arriving by car or train is from the railway station which will allow pedestrians to enter the precinct completely under cover.

The site itself extends about 350 yards down Railway Road and the entrance to the new car parking-goods delivery area will be where the present coal drops adjoin the pedestrian footbridge. The whole of the area will be landscaped allowing vehicles to enter and leave the site at one point where a car park will accommodate over one hundred cars. In all probability, companies which take shops in the new development will be allocated car parking spaces.

An extremely positive response has been received by the developers for shops within the development which has been advertised in the national and trade press.

Station Improvement

It is intended that in the development a certain amount of remedial work will be carried out to the station area itself, improving the pedestrian surfaces and carrying out repairs to the existing glazed roofs and adding character generally to the whole of this area with small display windows being incorporated within the curtilage of the railway station area. It is one of the intentions of the developers to retain the character of the area, but at the same time making it a busy area, which they see as being somewhat of a tourist attraction with quality being the prime objective.

The developers have worked in close consultation with the planning officers of Bradford Metropolitan Council, and the scheme has been re-drawn on seven different occasions in order to enhance the ascetic appearance and general character of the proposed buildings. Not only are the individual shop units stepped back with a Brook Street frontage but they have bungalow fronts and the roof line is staggered to form an interesting feature of the site.

Woolworths building will be dominant in character and the first floor individual windows will extend beyond the face of the front elevation which is clad in stone.

Shops with entrances to the Mall will have corner-frontages to maximise general display and the four main shop units to the corner of the site fronting Station Road will have a stone gable introduced to break the roof line and at the same time shop fronts at ground floor will be staggered. The buildings adjoining the existing station buildings have comparatively low roof profiles so as not to dominate the existing Victorian architecture of the station.

On completion of the development, it is intended, in conjunction with Bradford Metropolitan Council, to carry out a tree planting schedule to the external elevations of the property.

Second Phase

It is intended that, once the first stage of the development has been carried out, Woolworths will move from their existing store to the new store, whilst demolition is carried out to the existing buildings on the site for the second phase of the development to start. It is anticipated that construction on the Woolworth's store will start before the end of this year, and it is hoped that the second phase will start next year and will be completed during Spring, 1983.

A spokesman for the developers told the "Gazette" that "it is the developer's intention to carry out a very high quality development in character with Ilkley which is predominantly a Victorian town, but at the same time adding a new dimension to the shopping pattern which will allow potential customers in Ilkley to shop under cover with a good tenant mix being introduced to the development as a whole.

"It allows complete flexibility for those intending to shop in the new development. They will be able to travel by train and car as the site is in the centre of Ilkley and having a traditional pattern, one feels that it will add to the attraction of Ilkley and people who live in the surrounding districts, who at the present time shop in Skipton or travel nearer to Leeds or Bradford, will break their shopping habits and travel to Ilkley with the appropriate additional benefits," he said.

FRIDAY, 10 JULY, 1981

GROWING UNREST

There can be little wonder over the unrest within the Ilkley district for getting out of the Metropolitan District of Bradford and joining a more rural authority akin to Ilkley.

Relationships worsened this week with the news that action by Bradford Metropolitan Council was threatening the very life of the town's Road Safety Committee.

The Committee has been told pay up at the rate of six pounds an hour to use the Council Chamber of Ilkley Town Hall or get out. The Committee finds itself in some dilemma for as a voluntary body and non profit making it has no funds and has appealed, with the support of the Parish Council, to Bradford for its application for concessionary use of the room to be re-considered.

There can be nothing but anger over such a decision which threatens the existence of a local organisation which has contributed to the district's road safety over the past forty years. It has met regularly each month for perhaps an hour or two on each occasion and over the years representatives from many of Ilkley's organisations have conscientiously attended meetings and taken part in debates which have improved safety for both drivers of vehicles

and pedestrians.

To charge a committee for holding its monthly meeting a rent would not have been thought of let alone considered a few years ago but since Local Government Re-organisation in 1974 there has been many changes in the Ilkley district and no doubt there will be many more to follow.

For its next meeting in August the Committee will move to Burley where the Rev. D. B. Aldred, a Committee member, has offered the use of the annexe of St. Mary's Church.

There have been suggestions that the County Council, under which the Road Safety Committee serves as part of a national organisation, should pay the rent. If this proves to be the case, then Bradford Metropolitan Council should place the bill at the door of County Hall and leave the Committee to continue its useful service to the community.

At this month's meeting of the Parish Council on Monday night, the Council moved into private session to discuss a preliminary report for the case for Ilkley becoming part of another authority other than that of the Bradford Metropolitan District. The Council is hoping to make known its findings later this year.

10 JUL 81

Women's Temperance Assoc. Formed At Ilkley

100 Years Ago

The Rev. A. C. Downer, Vicar of Ilkley, presided at a meeting in the Assembly Rooms, Wells Road with the object of forming a British Women's Temperance Association branch in Ilkley. Miss C. A. Smith of Addingham Road and Miss K. Simpson of Parish Ghyll Road were appointed branch honorary secretaries.

A bazaar was held in the recreational hall of Craiglands Hydropathic Establishment in aid of the fund to reduce the heavy debt resting on the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Leeds Road, Ilkley. The sum of £315 was raised in two days. A great attraction was the vocal and instrumental entertainments given each evening with the Misses Tomlinson and Messrs. Binns and Riley contributing their skills to the success of these. Praise was also accorded to Mr. H. Hall, teacher of music, Alexandra Crescent, Ilkley who was the accompanist.

At Wetherby market prices quoted included butter at 1/1 to 1/3 per lb., eggs at 13 to 14 for 1s., fowls 3/6 to 5/6 per couple, ducks 4/- to 5/6 per couple and pigeons at 7d. each.

75 Years Ago

With the object of increasing the popularity of cricket as opposed to football Ilkley Cricket Club joined the Airedale and Wharfedale League for the first season, and although their results had not been far from striking the spectator attendances had improved and refreshments were being provided regularly as an added inducement.

The well known author, Mr. G. K. Chesterton, paying a visit to friends in Ilkley, spoke at the P.S.A. Sunday afternoon meeting on "Christianity and Materialism."

The Manchester Literary Society led by their president Mr. George Milner, visited Wharfedale and drove from Skipton to the Devonshire Arms, Bolton Abbey where dinner was served. He drove on to the abbey and through the woods and by the riverside by Appletreewick and Burnsall returning by Barden Tower.

Beautiful weather favoured a garden sale and fete held at Middleton Lodge in aid of Dr. Barnardo's home for incurables at Manningham. The house and grounds were open by Mrs. Kellett, wife of Mr. Sidney Kellett J.P., and president of the local branch of the league. The net proceeds amounted to £35 which was for the upkeep of a cot in the home at £30 for twelve months.

50 Years Ago

Over 200 children from Wharfedale took part in the Ilkley and District Motor Club's Children's Day Outing, and were taken for a motor ride and given tea at Ripley where games and sports were arranged.

Rapid progress was being made with the work of establishing a filtration system for the water in Panorama Reservoir and it was hoped that the work would be completed by September 1931.

As generally expected the 1931 census figures revealed that the population of Ilkley was nearing the 10,000 mark and stood at 9,399. However, the fact that there were nearly 2,000 more women and men was considered quite exceptional. This was partly accounted for by the large number of domestic female servants in the town at the time. There was a far larger number of houses, but the number of occupants of each house was less than in former census figures. The birth rate for Ilkley in 1930 was only 10.4 as opposed to a National average of 16.3.

25 Years Ago

A 22 year-old French student, Georges Quetier, a guest of the Dales Group of Rotary Clubs at the Langbar International returned home with the rare distinction of being one of the very few people to fall in the Strid at Bolton Abbey and survive. He was a guest of Mr. Herbert Wilson, Southway, Ilkley, the Sanitary Inspector for Ilkley Council. Although he had been told not to jump M. Quetier jumped, failed to reach the other side properly and slid into the water. Making a human chain, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Jackson and another student managed to haul him out just as he started to be swept downstream and before the current had taken control. The prompt action of the two Ilkley men undoubtedly saved him from death by drowning.

17 JUL 81

Railway Station Or Car Park?

Sir,—When I first came to this area I was delighted to find in Ilkley a well preserved and very original example of a fine Nineteenth Century railway station, complete with gas lamps. Platform 3 even retains the old low platform favoured by the Midland Railway, and which necessitates wooden steps to board the train. I was pleased to learn that it was intended to preserve this building, which I regard as the most interesting and attractive in Ilkley.

It was therefore with amazement that I read in last week's Gazette that Platforms 3 and 4 will be filled in and turned into a car park as part of the new shopping development in Brook Street. I can see the logic in preserving buildings by putting them to an appropriate alternative use which does not alter the character. This development will destroy the character and is totally inappropriate. Surely there are some places which can be protected from the strangling intrusion of the motor car? It is not even as if there is a shortage of parking in Ilkley.

Is this the thin end of the wedge? As the whole character and appearance of the inside of the station will be altered for the worse, it will make it less worthy of future protection and preservation. Will other such schemes progressively nibble away at the station until it is only fit to be pulled down and replaced by a single platform with bus shelter, such as is to be found at the railway terminus at Colne?

If you have a soft spot for Ilkley Station, take a long look at it, photograph it, and say goodbye because it will never be the same again.

IAN R. HENDERSON
2, Stone Stay Fold,
Addingham.

ILKLEY RAILWAY PLATFORMS TO BECOME CAR PARK FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT

10 JUL 81

The ambitious £1½ million re-development scheme for Brook Street, Ilkley, will involve the provision of parking for over a hundred cars in the area now occupied by platforms three and four at Ilkley railway station.

The gap between the platforms, which used to carry the Skipton line, will be filled with

rubble taken from the old bridge embankment, and access will be provided for vehicles via a slope where the old coal drops are now, along Railway Road.

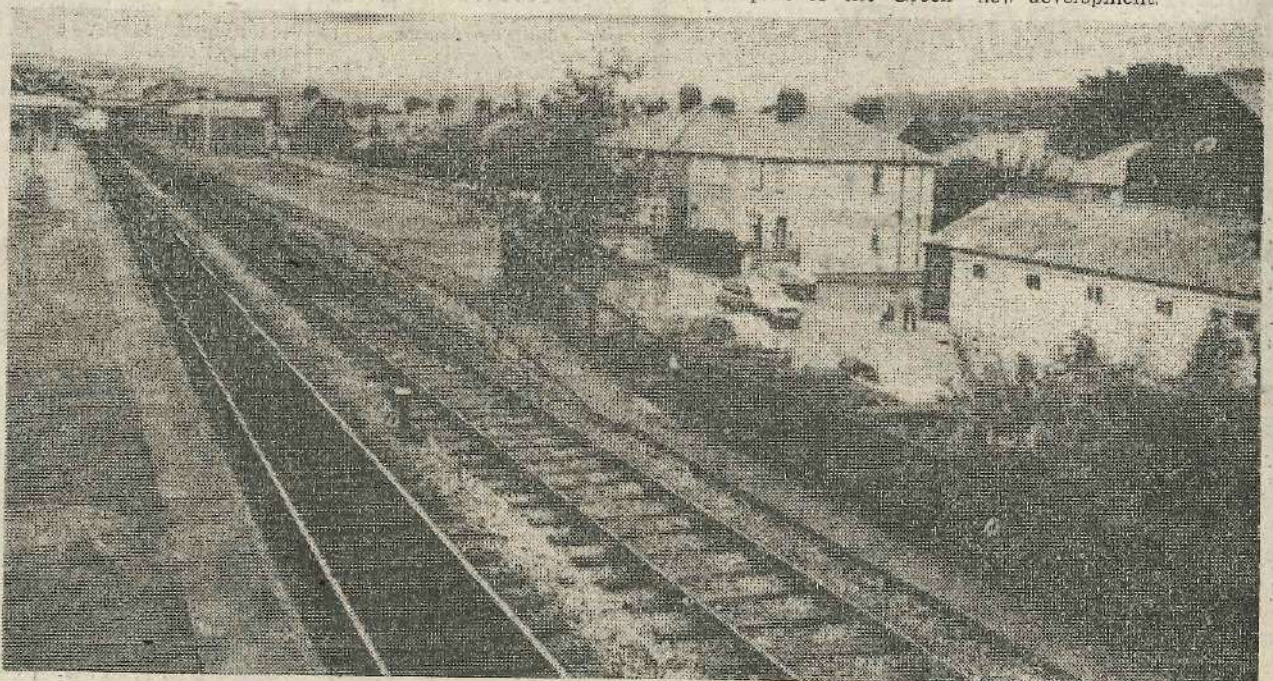
The former bridge embankment at the junction of Railway Road and Brook Street will be demolished as the first phase of the scheme, which is expected to start before the

end of the year, to make way for new premises for Woolworth's. When these have been provided it is hoped the second phase, comprising eighteen shops, will be started next year and completed during spring 1933.

The scheme has been proposed by Shop and Store Developments, of White Cross, who are part of the Green-

wood's (Men's Wear) Group. They say an extremely positive response has already been received for shops within the development, which has been advertised in the national and trade press.

Picture shows the area which will be filled to provide car parking facilities for the new development.



17 JUL 81

DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER TO OPEN NEW YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE AT ILKLEY

The Duchess of Gloucester will be in Ilkley on Tuesday to open Nell Bank the new training and leadership camp for young people.

She will be escorted round the centre by Coun. Paul Hockney, Chairman of the Trustees, who was the driving force behind the Silver Jubilee Appeal during his year of office as Lord Mayor of the Bradford Metropolitan District.

Work on the centre, built as a training and leadership camp for young people where they can learn to live together and serve the community, is still going on although the keys for the centre were handed over by the contractors to the Trustees in September last year. Plans for the development of the centre included the setting-up of a small farm on the site, the building of sports fields, indoor accommodation and classrooms.

Attending

The Duchess is expected to arrive at the centre at about 11.35 a.m., when the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Sir William Bulmer, will introduce the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Cr. D. C. Coughlin. The Lord Mayor will then present to the Duchess his wife, the Lady Mayoress; the Chief Executive, Mr. G. C. Moore, and his wife; the High Sheriff, Mr. C. Fenton, and his wife; the Chairman of the County Council, Cr. Graham, and his wife; the Clerk to the Lieutenantcy, Mr. F. J. Butcher, and his wife; the Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, and the Chairman Consort, Mr. S. P. Renton, and Cr. Hockney.

After introducing his wife, Jean, and the Warden, Mr. Steve Bennett, Cr. Hockney will conduct the Duchess of Gloucester towards the centre's main building, where she will be invited to unveil a commemorative plaque affixed to the exterior of the building. She will then be invited to sign a photograph of herself which will be framed and hung in the centre. Members of the Management Committee and other invited guests will join the Duchess at this point.

After being presented with a bouquet by eleven year old June Bradford, a member of the Bradford Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied (Phab) Club, she will be escorted by Cr. Hockney into the dining room of the centre where members of the Phab Club, who will be staying there at the time, will be undertaking various projects, including flower arranging and country crafts.

With Royal Party

The group will then be divided into three parties—the Royal Party, the Lord Lieutenant's Party and the Lord Mayor's Party. The Royal Party, comprising the Duchess, the Lady in Waiting, Cr. Hockney, Mr. Bennett and Master Martin Rae, an escort, will move out of the dining room to the First Aid room,

which will be staffed by members of Shipley Junior Red Cross, and then past the shop, which will be staffed by members of the Nell Bank Inner Circle, a recently formed support group for the centre.

The Duchess will then be escorted out onto the camp-

ing area, where she will see members of the Fifth Airedale Cub Scouts planting shrubs and making kites, and members of the Seventh Airedale Cub Scouts who will be erecting tents, cooking and showing the Duchess plans for the erection of a Chapel at the centre, to be carried out by the group.

She will then be taken to another area of the camping site, where a group from "Community Industry" will be working on the development of car parking at the centre. She will then be escorted across the area, passing further groups of young people from Shipley Junior Red Cross who will be demonstrating various First Aid treatments in their tents. She will then move to the rear of the dormitories, where members of the Fifth Thackley Boys Brigade will be planting trees.

The Duchess will be escorted through the dormitory block, including the toilets and showers, and back to the main entrance. Several of the 'residents' will be in the dormitory block. In the covered area between the two main blocks some of the First Pudsey Brownies will be undertaking small craft projects, such as painting stones and scraper-board, and will also be singing.

There will be an opportunity for the Duchess to Gloucester to see the warden's bungalow if she wishes before the formal leave takings, which will be conducted by Cr. P. Hockney, Mrs. Hockney, Mrs. G. C. Moore, the Chief Executive, the Lord Mayor Cr. D. C. Coughlin and his wife, the Lady Mayoress. She is expected to be leaving the centre at about 12.25 p.m.

Among those present at the opening will be the Management Committee, the builders and the architect. The builders were Vincent Dobson Ltd., of Ilkley.

The centre has been carefully blended into the natural landscape, with as little alteration of the landscape as possible. Such was the care taken in building it that one hundred volunteers were used to cut a trench for a water pipe through the nearby woods because it was felt a mechanical digger would have caused too much damage.

It comprises three buildings, including the warden's house, all of timber portal frame construction, and an area for tents.

ACROSS THE YEARS 17 JUL 81 BAND PERFORMANCES AT ILKLEY TARN

100 Years Ago

Band performances at the tarn in 1881 did not receive the "liberal support" which the committee had counted on, and there was a loss of 10s to 17s each night. This was despite an average attendance of 500 people at each performance. The average contribution from the audience could only have been three farthings per person.

St. Margaret's Church Choir visited Ripon and Fountains Abbey for their annual outing. They left Ilkley at 7.30 a.m. and reached Ripon at 9.5 a.m. The party numbered about forty and included the Vicar the Rev. H. B. Otley, and the curate the Rev. C.R. Taylor. Ripon Cathedral was visited, the Bishops Palace and the Holden Library where a short service was held in the Chapel. They had their dinner at the Unicorn Hotel and then drove by waggonette to Studley Royal and Fountains Abbey. The party returned to the Unicorn Hotel for tea and left Ripon for Ilkley on the 8 p.m. train.

Amongst the advertisements in the 'Ilkley Gazette' were cottages, houses and livery stables to let. For example "A dry house, five minutes walk from the station three reception rooms seven bedrooms, three attics and a good garden. Rent £45 per annum"

75 Years Ago

Ilkley National schoolboys winning scholarships for the year Alan Moiseley and Leonard Green who were awarded County Council Minor Scholarships. Foundation Scholarships at Ilkley Grammar School were won by P. Stephenson R. Pratt, C. Hobbs and A. Dobson.

Mr T.W. Padgett (Clerk) reported to the Ilkley District Education sub-committee that when he was at Wakefield complaints had been made about the low attendances at schools in the Ilkley District. However, he found that Ilkley had been grouped with Wharfedale as a whole. Ilkley's attendance had however, been affected by an outbreak of various infantile ailments. The Attendance Officer said parents were taking their children out of school when they reached 13 years of age without obtaining certificates. This was a breach of the law as under 14 years they had to get special permission.

Cooper's Pierrots show "Al Fresco Rotunda" adjoining the Brook Street Gardens proved very popular at 6d and 4d per head.

50 Years Ago

The first British gliding conference was held in the Ilkley Winter Gardens and useful discussions were held on gliding club management and an inspiring vision of possibilities to which gliding

might attain in the future. Mr Wm Dobson chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council welcomed the delegates to the town, and Mr E.C. Gordon England president of the British Gliding Association, presided over the conference.

The two Otley men summoned for assault following a "rough and tumble" at a village dance at the Lecture Hall, Burley. The manager of the dance hall, Mr Samuel Maston was struck on the back of the head and rendered unconscious. Mr Maston's son Alfred (19) who acted as doorman had refused the two Otley brothers admission on the grounds of drunkenness and the result was a general free for all fight. The defendants were fined heavily and ordered to pay costs.

Approximately 350 Wharfedale scouts and cubs took part in the annual rally of the Wharfedale Association in the Holmes fields Ilkley. The salute was taken by Major D. E. Roberts Scout Commissioner for Farsley. Prizes were presented by Mrs Whiteley of Ilkley, whose husband, Frank Whiteley had been the Mayor of Mafeking at the time of the famous siege, and was a close personal friend of Lord Baden-Powell. The rally was organised by Mr Ronald Priestman and Mr Eric Rawnsley was in charge of the parade.

25 Years Ago

A party of 73 children and five adults from Ilkley Secondary modern school had a day in London and managed to visit more than half a dozen historic buildings before breakfast at 8 a.m., having travelled down overnight. The first tube journey they took was to Piccadilly Circus at 5.30 a.m. They saw all the major sights and had a trip down the river followed by more sight-seeing and the return journey at 4 p.m. reaching home at 9 p.m.

Sports trophies and certificates were presented to pupils at Ilkley Grammar School at a ceremony on the school lawn by G. Lechaptois, Senior English Master at the Lycee de Coustances M. Lechaptois was welcomed by Mr H Eagle Chairman of the school Governors.

24 JUL 81

DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER VISITS ILKLEY TO OPEN NELL BANK CENTRE

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester was in Ilkley on Tuesday to officially open Nell Bank Centre, the Bradford District Queen's Silver Jubilee project. Arriving at 11.35 a.m., the Duchess saw Nell Bank looking its best on a sunny but breezy morning.

The aims of the Centre are to provide opportunities and facilities for young people and adults to be trained in leadership skills for community service and citizenship in order to help others. This is already happening through the groups which have already been in residence, and through local organisations and individuals who have been involved in the development of the site since the contractors handed over to the Trustees last September.

The appearance of the site—so different from that which visitors would have seen less than a year ago—is a credit to the hard work of the Warden, Mr. Steve Bennett, and the countless folk who have spent time at Nell Bank. A camping area has been developed and landscaped; a stream cleaned up and bridged; rockeries formed and planted; paths laid, particularly for the benefit of the wheel-chair bound; a tuck-shop provided; and the main driveway re-aligned and gravelled.

There is more to come, given the continuing enthusiasm of volunteers, including the setting up of a small farm, sports facilities, further indoor accommodation and classrooms.

Chairman of the Trustees, Cr. Paul Hockney, in welcoming the Duchess, said the opening ceremony was the culmination of four years work which began with the Jubilee year fund raising when he was Lord Mayor. "The spirit of Jubilee is here at Nell Bank", he added. "We hope it will produce young people with the kind of community spirit which this country so badly needs at present."

The Duchess unveiled a commemorative plaque and signed a photograph which will be framed and kept at Nell Bank. She offered congratulations to all those involved in the development of the Centre and hoped everyone who went there would find it a fulfilling experience.

Eleven year-old June Bradford, a member of the Phab Club (the Bradford Physically Handicapped & Able-bodied Club), presented a bouquet to the Duchess, who then continued on a tour of the Centre with Cr. Hockney.

Mr. Bennett and Master Martin Rae. Other official visitors were shown around the Centre by escorts.

The Phab Club were staying at Nell Bank at the time and the Duchess began by seeing their craft work in the dining area, moving on to the First Aid Room and then to the shop, staffed by members of the Nell Bank Inner Circle, a recently formed support group for the Centre. Around the camping area were Cub Scouts, Brownies, Boys Brigade and Junior Red Cross showing a wide range of activities—cooking sausages, making kites, bandaging, planting shrubs, and pitching tents. A group from Community Industry were working on the development of car parking. The tour ended with a look in the dormitories and at craft activities by a Brownie group.

Throughout the tour, the Duchess showed a keen interest and stopped to talk to many of the young people.

Among those present at the ceremony were the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Sir William Bulmer; the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Cr. D. C. Coughlin; Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton; the Management Committee; the builders and architect.

The Duchess went from Nell Bank to the "Five Oaks" spina bifida home at Ben Rhydding, where she was shown around the new activity centre before going on to Bradford to open the new £6 million press hall at the Telegraph and Argus buildings.

24 JUL 81

Concern Over Sewers After Outbreak Of Fever

100 Years Ago

Dissatisfaction was expressed at the monthly meeting of the Burley Local Board as to the state and ventilation of the village sewers and it was agreed that four new ventilators should be put in. This followed an outbreak of fever in the village when concern was expressed over the sanitation facilities. The Medical Officer of Health, Wm. Murray, presented his report on the village for the second quarter of the year and recorded 14 births, and 11 deaths none of which were due to infectious disease. Five deaths recorded were babies under one year, and four were of people over 60 years of age. He expressed his intention of making a house to house inspection in the hope of preventing a further outbreak of typhoid fever in the autumn.

The opening service in connection with the Ilkley Congregational new school and classrooms was held during the first week of August 1881, and Rev. Joseph Parker preached in the Congregational Church to a large congregation.

75 Years Ago

James Thompson, a labourer living in Wellington Road, Ilkley was stabbed in the forehead by a Guiseley hawker during a drunken brawl in the Crescent Hotel Vaults. The hawker and a friend had been ejected from the bar for fighting with Thompson and had returned. Watkinson stabbed Thompson with a pocket knife above the left eye, inflicting a nasty wound. The case was committed to the West Riding Assizes and the prisoner was sentenced to four months imprisonment with hard labour.

In addition to this case a letter in the correspondence columns of the Gazette commented that scenes in Brook Street could be likened to those in the very worst slums. "Drunks falling about in the street and using obscene language and the police having to cart them off on trucks to the police station." The scenes were described as disgusting exhibitions in Ilkley's public streets.

50 Years Ago

A meeting of representatives of the local churches and organisations was called with the object of arousing interest in a 1932 Disarmament Conference, and with the intention of forming a local committee in the town. Mr. W. Dobson, Chairman of Ilkley Council, presided. It was agreed to form a committee and Mr. H. Eagle was appointed hon. secretary.

A presentation was made by staff and pupils of Ilkley Grammar School to Mr. A. Girling, of Skipton, who for ten years had been Cricket coach and groundsman at the school. The school cricket captain presented Mr. Girling with an inscribed silver biscuit barrel on behalf of his many cricketing friends.

At Busby's, Brook Street, Ilkley, pillow cases were for sale from 6d; silk stockings at 1/6 per pair, tweed coats at 30/-; art silk plated knickers at 2/11; frocks at 5/- and model lace dresses at 3 guineas each.

25 Years Ago

A decision to increase the scope of Middleton Hospital was announced by Mr. S. R. Runton at the Nurses' Prizegiving at the hospital. This was owing to the decline in the incidence of Tuberculosis, and Leeds Regional Hospital Board had asked if they would be willing to accept 60 geriatric patients in the near future. Mr. Runton said they had willingly agreed and this would extend the scope of the hospital to more of a General Hospital.

Ilkley Youth Club were seeking premises less expensive to run than those they had at Mornington House which had been in use since December 1949. The Club's membership figure of between 60 and 70 was not sufficient to keep up with the cost of rates and heating.

Situations Vacant included vacancies for a full time boilerman at £10 per week, a driver at £10 4s. 10d. per week, and a hospital electrician at 4/5½ per hour.



The Duchess of Gloucester unveils a commemorative plaque at the Nell Bank Centre, Ilkley, on her visit on Tuesday. She is watched by the Chairman of the Trustees, Paul Hockney, who was Lord Mayor of Bradford District during Jubilee Year.

Formation of School of Art at Ilkley proposed

100 Years Ago

An "influential meeting" was held at the Middleton Hotel, with the purpose of "taking into consideration the formation of a School of Art" at Ilkley. Mr. Moeller appeared to have been the prime mover in the matter and suggested that Mr. Fison, who was closely connected with education in Ilkley, should preside. The meeting was unanimous in wishing an Art School to be formed in the town and a committee was elected for this purpose. Members were.—Rev. A. C. Downer (Vicar); The Rev. W. Pope (Middleton Lodge); Major Middleton; Dr. Call; Dr. Little; Messrs. H. J. Cooke; H. Muff and J. W. Atkinson.

A large number of Ilkley residents were summonsed before the Justices at Otley Police Court for the non-payment of district and water rates. Mr. Jonathan Hainsworth represented the Board and orders were instigated for immediate payment of arrears in most instances.

The charming wooded estate of Parish Ghyll, beautiful and picturesque, was offered for sale by tender, together with the "delightful freehold residence" known as Stoney Royd.

75 Years Ago

Plans had been passed for the erection of a grand stand by Ilkley Rugby Club on the enclosure adjoining the New Bridge. The stand was to be 25 yards long and five tiers in height, complete with enclosure and press box, and would be able to accommodate 400 people. The erection of this stand would make the ground eligible for county matches and cup tie finals and was hoped to be of benefit to the town in general.

Flooding of houses, shop premises and gardens followed a heavy thunderstorm as the culverts were unable to take the whole of the torrents of water. Houses affected were in Little Lane and Brewery Road, and Mr. Tetley, the occupier of "The Fancy Bazaar" in Cunliffe Road, had a large quantity of goods stored in his basement damaged by the flood waters.

It was officially announced that the Prince of Wales was to be one of the Duke of Devonshire's guests at Bolton Abbey for the grouse shooting, and was to arrive on 16 August.

50 Years Ago

There was the prospect of changing a long tradition in connection with the Ilkley Tradesmen's annual cricket match, known throughout the country as Blacks Hats v. White Hats. The match celebrated its jubilee in 1930 and there was talk among the players that the match should be allowed to fall through.

An interesting suggestion had been put forward, however, that the match should be between the Ilkley Tradesmen and Otley Tradesmen, and a suggestion had been put forward to the Otley Chamber of Trade that they should participate at least in 1931. The invitation was formally accepted by Otley and a team of 20 was to be sent up to play Ilkley on Ilkley Feast Wednesday.

Mr. Roland H. Wade, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Mercer Wade of Beacon Hill, Langbar, passed with honours the examination for admission on the Roll of Solicitors of the Supreme Court.

Members of a jazz band formed a novel arch with their instruments at the wedding reception at Grove Hill, Otley, following the marriages of Mr. J. W. Williamson of Ilkley and Miss Bertha R. Weatherhead of Otley. Both were musicians.

25 Years Ago

A maximum amount of water was in store in the reservoirs serving the Ilkley Urban District according to the Chairman of the Waterworks Committee, Mr. John Hardy. Heavy rainfall in July was responsible for this, and it was felt that it would be highly unlikely that there would have to be any water restrictions during 1956. The total rainfall for July was 4.55 inches as compared to 0.88 in July of the previous year.

Mr. Geoffrey M. Thompson was the second driver in Yorkshire to pass the searching driving test of the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

A layout and plans for the erection of 50 flats on land in Langford Road, Burley, were to be prepared by the Surveyor on the instructions of Ilkley Council. It was decided to purchase 1.21 acres of land in Back Lane, Burley, together with a coal store and three cottages, from Mr. F. A. Rathmell, Burley at a cost of £875.

"A Town Like Alice" with Virginia McKenna and Peter Finch was showing at the Essoldo Cinema, to be followed by "a challenging drama of teenage violence" with new star James Dean, "Rebel without a Cause."

31 JUL 81 CONSIDERING REQUEST OVER USE OF HALL

Bradford Metropolitan Council has delayed consideration of a request by Ilkley's Road Safety Committee for free use of Ilkley Town Hall for its meeting.

The Council's General Services Sub-committee had decided previously that the Road Safety Committee should pay an economical rent, but the secretary, Mrs. J. E. Kitching, asked the Sub-Committee to re-consider its decision in view of the important work of the Road Safety Committee and the voluntary work of its members.

Cr. Alan Jerome said there was no wish to discourage the good work of the Road Safety Committee. Cr. Tom Brown, the Chairman, said the Road Safety Committee operated under the umbrella of the county council.

He wanted to know if the county council had any financial commitment to it. He did not want Bradford Council to subsidise the county council.

It was agreed to defer consideration while inquiries were made to see if the county council had any financial responsibility.

The Sub-Committee turned down a similar request from the Ilkley Civic Society. The Society had been refused a free letting, but had submitted a fresh application pointing out its work to revive the local sports council.

Cr. Eric Turner suggested that to charge £6 a hour was "a bit steep", and he thought the council could help by charging half that rate if it could not agree to a free letting.

The Sub-Committee decided the Civic Council should pay the full rate.

31 JUL 81 LAND PURCHASE REQUEST TURNED DOWN

A request by Ilkley Parish Council for the Department of the Environment to purchase land adjoining Castle Hill, Ilkley, so that the land could be preserved as an open space has been rejected.

Ripon Constituency M.P., Dr. Keith Hampson, who had acted on behalf of the Parish Council, said: "It would have been an admirable idea to buy the plot in order to leave it as an attractive open space, but only Bradford Council is in a position to allocate the money and it clearly intends to concentrate on the city itself."

Explaining the reasons for refusal of the request, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Lord Irwin Bellwin, said: "Urban Programme Grant is paid under the Local Government Grants (Social Need) Act, 1969, to local authorities who are required to incur expenditure in any urban area of special social need. Since such areas tend to be in inner cities, a high proportion of the Urban Programme money is allocated for use in defined inner areas by authorities designated under the Inner Urban Areas Act, 1978."

"Bradford is a Programme Authority, with an annual allocation based on assessed levels of deprivation and on an approved programme of schemes. It is, however, somewhat different from most designated authorities, in that the City Council is allowed to operate its programme on a district-wide basis, having due regard to the limitation of grant-aid to urban areas of special social need."

"I would not have thought that Ilkley came into this category, but it would be for the Parish Council initially to make a case to the District Council, which would be required to fund 25 per cent of any approved scheme," Lord Bellwin concluded.

7 AUG 81 Royal Wedding window display contest winners



The Royal Wedding Shop Window Display Competition, organised by the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, has been won by D. Greenwood's, the drapers shop in The Grove, Ilkley.

The competition, which was open to all Ilkley traders irrespective of whether they were a member of the Cham-

ber of Trade, aimed to provide traders with the opportunity of increasing sales and generally impressing shoppers with their enthusiasm and interest in Ilkley as a shopping centre.

The competition was judged on Saturday by Mr. Arthur Wilson, a retired optician formerly of The Grove, Ilkley,

and Mr. John Parkes, a former newsagent in Skipton Road, Ilkley.

The winners received a cup and a rosette and the runners-up, Quality House Antiques, of Church Street, Ilkley, and third placed Margaret John, of Valley Drive, Ben Rhydyng received rosettes.

with their prizes by the immediate past President of Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, Mr. D. Copleston (centre), are, from left to right, Mrs. M. Mortimer, a sales assistant at Greenwood's, Mrs. D. Greenwood, senior owner of the shop, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Moody, part

A portentous apparition appeared over Ilkley

100 Years Ago

There was a comparatively poor attendance at the annual sports and festival of the Ilkley Athletics Club. The programme was full, and very well organised by the stewards with events following each other in rapid succession. However, the weather was far from good, with a raw cold wind, but this changed to bracing wind with bouts of sunshine. The events included long distance running, bicycle races, walking two mile handicap and a flat race and steeplechase. Contestants were from as far afield as Nottingham, Manchester, Wakefield and Widnes. The prizes were distributed by Miss Middleton and Mr. Charles Middleton.

A somewhat lyrical editorial of August 1881 was slightly baffling—it would appear that perhaps crowds turned out to see a balloon or airship over Wharfedale. It starts "The portent appeared in the Easter horizon, the region of rising suns, the fit symbol of returning prosperity. At first over the verge of the horizon a huge aerial dome became apparent, looming indistinctly". Then later the object as "a portentous apparition". The article said that "multitudes stood and gazed from the upper heights of Menston, where the undulations were most gradual. There dropped upon the grateful valley a shower of blessings which the utmost gratitude of posterity can only inadequately record."

Whatever the object in question was it had written on it in letters of gold "Prosperity to Bradford" which was readable as "It winged its way by the heights of Burley Moor. Then there followed a detailed description of the beauties of the whole valley as if viewed from the air. It continued "westwards still and lighter came the uninvited visitant, and the wistful operatives of Burley smiled a brighter smile, when from its attendant car were dropped parcels of orders that meant for them fresh boxfuls of their beloved taddy and to their wives pearl necklaces that were made in Birmingham; and when the Wharfe overflowed its banks and interrupted their weekly visit to Ilkley they walked cheerfully over the higher path, for they knew that their unannounced incomer was a prophet of good things to come, and they smacked their lips in anticipation over the rich treats that awaited them in the better days to be".

75 Years Ago

Beautiful weather favoured August Bank Holiday weekend and consequently the Charity Carnival was held under the most favourable conditions imaginable. Tribute was paid to the untiring work of the hon. Secretary, Mr. George Mott, for his hard work and organising ability. A procession formed in Station Road. There were not as many tradesmen's turn outs and draught horses as usual, and only one comic band turned out, but in the way of new features there was a fancy dress parade of children, decorated parasols, and a great deal of comic excitement. The parade went right through the town to Mr. Garrett's field in Brook Street, where the festivities took place.

Prizes were presented to—E. G. Dean of Ilkley for boy's fancy dress "get up"; A. Sampson of Menston won the best decorated cycle; H. Tennant and H. W. Sellers of Ilkley won second prize for the best Comic Pair; Edith Clarkson won the class for representing a nursery rhyme; Miss Longfellow was the first in the parasol competition; and F. Trees won the prize for best action in harness.

In addition there was a military tournament by the Yorkshire Hussars, acrobatic performance, drill and exhibition by the Ilkley Fire Brigade, children's sports and a fireworks display. Music was provided by the Ilkley Council Military Band, and the Ilkley Brass Band. Mr. W. A. Johnson of Brook Street was in charge of the refreshments.

50 Years Ago

Miss Marian Lister, Ashburn Place, Ilkley completed 50 years as organist at Ilkley Wesleyan Church. Miss Lister had lived in Ilkley since 1880 and had started to learn music with her father at the age of five.

Blue skies, glorious sunshine and a "tilting wind across the bracken" made the Bank Holiday a great success in 1931. Bookings at the hydros and hotels were good, with many establishments full to capacity. The paddling pool at the moor edge was thronged with hundreds of children, young people climbed and explored Rocky Valley and the Cow and Calf, and crowds poured into Ilkley from packed trains and motor buses. Lines of cars fringed the moors and each and every moorland hollow had parties of picnickers. The River Wharfe's banks had hundreds of people sitting and paddling or bathing in the river. The public tennis courts, putting and bowling greens and boating stretch were kept busily occupied.

Two young men rambling near the Cow and Calf rocks found the body of an Ilkley man hanging from a tree in a plantation to the West. They notified the police and the body was later identified as that of a man from Alexandra Crescent who had been out of work for some months and had been in a depressed state of mind.

25 Years Ago

Ilkley Council decided that they were unable to allow Rates Relief to the Ilkley Cricket Club, the Ilkley Rugby Club and Burley Rifle Club on the grounds that the requirements of the Section of the Act under which the applications were made were not fulfilled. The sports clubs charged admission to games and did not rely on membership fees entirely, which rendered them not eligible for help, and the Burley club was largely a social club with a licence, which raised moneys for various charities from time to time.

A sixteen year old Ilkley Grammar School boy, Stephen Best of Curly Hill, was with a party of 12 youths who completed a 100 mile hike of the Pennine Way from Malham to Alston in a seven day trek in bad weather.

Fine bowling by Lionel Roe, who took seven wickets for 32 runs, enabling Ilkley to dismiss Menston for 104 runs at Ilkley, and the home team with some difficulty managed to win by two wickets. Top scoring batsman for Ilkley was A. Gray with 27, but six of Ilkley's batsmen were out for single figures.

Beautiful weather for the Grouse season

100 Years Ago

The grouse season opened with beautiful weather and Mr. Lister led a party of five guns over Rombalds Moor, where some 70 brace were bagged. Six guns were at work on Middleton Moor, with Mr. Charles Middleton leading his party.

Mount Hermon Chapel at Addingham re-opened for public worship following a closure for repairs, renovation and re-decoration.

Each evening for a week the Bronte family gave a drawing room entertainment in the Assembly Rooms at Ilkley. The artistes consisted of Miss Minnie Adele Bronte, infant soprano; Miss Edith Bronte, the little mimic and

comique; The Masters Bronte violinists; Mr. Bronte, solo flute; and Mrs. Bronte who accompanied on the piano.

75 Years Ago

The number of visitors to Ilkley was still satisfactory even after the Bank Holiday period. Most of the hydros and hotels were exceedingly busy and many of the lodging houses were enjoying a prosperous time.

The Duke of Devonshire entertained a distinguished shooting party at the Hall, Bolton Abbey, which included the Prince of Wales. He arrived in the Royal Train at Bolton Abbey station where he was met by the Duke. They rode in the Duke's open carriage to the hall, escorted by mounted police. The Dukes party attended divine service at Bolton Abbey Priory church, where there was a large congregation including visitors from Ilkley and Skipton.

Ilkley resounded with music and entertainment with the Pierrot Performances, the Tarn Band, the Royal Magicians, a Military Band in the Kiosk, a performance of "A Country Girl" at St. Margaret's Hall, a Military Band at Craiglands and organ recitals in the Parish Church.

50 Years Ago

Mr. W. B. Teggan, Ilkley's "highly respected postmaster," retired after eight years in that position. He was succeeded by Mr. F. E. Hughes, of Sowerby Bridge.

Ideal weather favoured the opening of the grouse season fifty years ago and although most birds were lighter than the previous year the sport was better than expected. There were many of underdeveloped birds due to late season hatchings, but there was no trace of disease on most of the moors.

Hose to the length of over half a mile had to be laid up a steep incline at Ben Rhydding by Ilkley Fire Brigade, when they were called to a burning haystack at Gib Farm, Mount Stead. The water had to be obtained from a point half way down Ben Rhydding drive. The stack was the property of Mr. Sam Layfield, who was away from home but the alarm was raised by one of the farm hands.

At the Winter Gardens, Ilkley the Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Phyllis Mary Hollins played daily at 7.30 p.m. on mission 4d. There was dancing every Thursday and Saturday throughout the season, admission 1/-.

25 Years Ago

A gale force wind blew over the moors and conditions were described as "rough and tough" for the opening of the grouse shooting season. Mr. Harold McMillan was shooting with the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire's party over the famous Bolton Abbey Moors.

Dr. A. W. Proctor presenting his report to Ilkley Council, as Medical Officer of Health, said that largely thanks to immunisation there had been no cases of diphtheria in the town for ten years. He said there was a big percentage of retired persons in the town and that the deaths had exceeded the births in number but not by many. The fine dry summer would improve the health of many.

Awards were made to pupils of Ilkley Grammar School to candidates at "A" Level as follows. — Alan Geoffrey Milnes, State Scholar; Michael Tiley, State Scholarship; Elizabeth Ann Bilsby, Reserve Candidate for State Scholarship; Donald Graham Barlow, Reserve Candidate for State Scholarship.

Ultra Big screen T.V. 14" table models were advertised by a local electrical store at 60 gns. A giant English Electric 17" T.V. retailed at 68 gns.

ACROSS THE YEARS 28 AUG 81

Bazaar Raised £300 For St. Margaret's Church

100 Years Ago

A five day bazaar in aid of the building fund of St. Margaret's Church was a resounding success with receipts amounting to £1,988 and an overall profit of over £300. Entertainment was provided in the evenings ranging from a demonstration of mesmerism by Dr. Little to a living waxworks show with characters represented by the family of Mr. J. Atkinson, Mr. R. Marriott, and Mr. Peake.

An Ikley farmer was charged at the Otley Petty Sessions with being drunk and incapable in a public place as he had been found asleep on the footpath between Ikley and Ben Rhydding by P.C. Hufflington. He was fined 10s. including costs.

Edmonds' Menagerie visited Ikley for a day and was well patronised. Animals, birds and reptiles were on view including a good display of lions with Delmonico the lion tamer. The wise elephants were said to have caused much amusement, and the baby leopards proved to be a great attraction.

75 Years Ago

The beautiful grounds of Warbeck, the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Muff were the scene of a Primrose League Garden Party with about 200 guests attending. The proceedings started with a cricket match in a field in Easby Drive between teams captained by Miss K. G. Moeller and Dr. Bampton, and the ladies won by one run. Following this there was afternoon tea with music by the Bros. Gibson (harp and violin) and Mr. Bedford Ogden (banjo vocalist). There followed a number of speeches from the distinguished company present, and the day terminated with amusements including Aunt Sally, clock golf, bowls, mini-golf and quoits.

Lack of delivery of the necessary ironwork was holding up the building of the new town hall and public buildings.

50 Years Ago

The King's Hall was being re-decorated after being in a shabby state for a considerable time. The predominant colours used were green and cream, and whole of the woodwork in the hall was to be painted "a pleasing mahogany." Improvements were also being carried out to the seating, and one hundred and sixty two new bucket seats were being provided. The new curtains for the stage were mohair velvet in gold, and there were being made considerable improvements to the heating and ventilation system.

The corner of the river above the Old Bridge was being used for river bathing during the best spell of weather of the year, and hundreds of children were using the paddling pool to paddle and to sail their toy boats.

Addingham Parish Council was considering the danger from traffic on the narrow streets of the village, to try to ensure the safety of the public. Police had been taking a census to ascertain the volume of traffic, particularly on the dangerous corner near the Crown Hotel where the Bolton Abbey Road joined the Ikley Road.

LOOKING BACK 100 Years Ago

Preparations were well in hand for entertainment for Ikley Feast, held during the third week of September. There was to be a cheap special train to Morecambe, a marquee for dancing in the evenings in the grounds of the Listers Arms Hotel, and entries were invited for Ikley Races, which included trotting stakes, hack stakes and a tradesman's purse of ten sovereigns.

In Addingham the great annual gathering of the various friendly societies in the village took place on the first Monday in September. The beautiful weather attracted a large number of people to take part. There was a parade to Mount Hermon Chapel for services headed by their bands, and then to the Junction Inn where each band played a selection of music before the clubs had dinner, each going to different inns in the village. A concert was given in the Wesleyan schoolroom in the evening the proceeds of which were given to the funds of the day school.

Classrooms had been secured by the committee formed to start a school of art in Ikley at the College, and it was hoped to open the school on 20 September.

75 Years Ago

Ikley had a heat wave during the last week of August, with weekend temperatures in the shade reaching 84 degrees Fahrenheit. Many visitors were still in the town, with good bookings at hydros, hotels and lodging houses.

Ikley Grammar School announced its successes with the Governors' Leaving Scholarship of £30 per annum tenable at any University awarded to J. H. Mawson; and Oxford Local Examination Senior Candidates (Honours) M. E. Brodie and E. F. Wilkinson.

+ SEP 81

Mason and Spencer, Cab proprietors advertised Char-a-banc drives from Ikley — to Denton Park and Otley 1/6; to Bolton Abbey and the Strid 2/-; to Skipton and Malham Tarn 4/6; and to Haworth 4/6. The office of the company was in Sedbergh Buildings.

Mr. William Holmes of Addingham House, Ikley, fell from a tram car and injured his head. He was picked up insensible and taken first to a nearby doctor, and then home by horse drawn ambulance to be attended by Dr. Hearder. His injury was found to be of a serious nature, and he was expected to be "laid low" for some time.

50 Years Ago

To help the funds of the Ikley Nursing Association a boy's cricket match between D. Ambler's team and J. Brumfitt's team was played on the Ikley ground. Brumfitt's team batted first, and thanks mainly to J. W. Harper and J. Barraclough their innings totalled 71. Ambler's team replied with 82, S. Milnes and W. Bishop being the top scorers. Refreshments were provided by Miss Agnes Sutcliffe, secretary of the Nursing Association. The match raised over £7.

The London North Eastern Railway was offering half day rail excursions to Scarborough at 4/6, and a similar excursion to Saltburn and Redcar from Otley with bus connections from Ben Rhydding and Ikley.

In an advertisement for used car bargains a 1927 Daimler car was offered at £95, a 1930 (one year old)

Riley 9 h.p. at £175. A one year old Fiat 9 h.p. was priced at £109.

An advertisement for newly made, self contained flats offered furnished or unfurnished accommodation from 10/- to 40/-.

25 Years Ago

Mr. Jeremy Gott, of Hampton House, Ikley, was one of seven British pianists who were to travel to Hungary in September 1956 to take part in an international competition in Budapest, to mark the 70th anniversary of the death of Franz Liszt.

There were only nine men and one woman unemployed in the Ikley area in August 1956 according to Mr. W. Whalley, secretary to the Skipton and District Employment Committee.

The new superintendent minister of the Ikley Methodist Circuit, the Rev. Elijah Green, was to preach in the area during the last week of August. Mr. Green and his wife had moved from South Lane Church, Hessle, where they had been for seven years.

The Burley Guides camped at Bishop Monkton, lead by Miss Margaret Terry, and Miss M. Bickle their former Captain.

"SPLENDID" PROGRESS ON £45,000 OVERHAUL OF BRIDGE OVER RIVER AT ILKLEY

28 AUG 81

Work is progressing "splendidly" on a £45,000 overhaul of the bridge carrying New Brook Street across the River Wharfe at Ikley.

A West Yorkshire County Council spokesman said the parapets had been taken away for repair and repainting, and these were being returned and re-erected. The handrails were being replaced and he hoped the work would be completed

in the next four to six weeks.

The overhaul of the bridge began exactly 75 years since its official opening, after the condition of the parapet fixings had given rise to some concern. Following a detailed inspection it became apparent that some repair work would be necessary to prevent further deterioration.

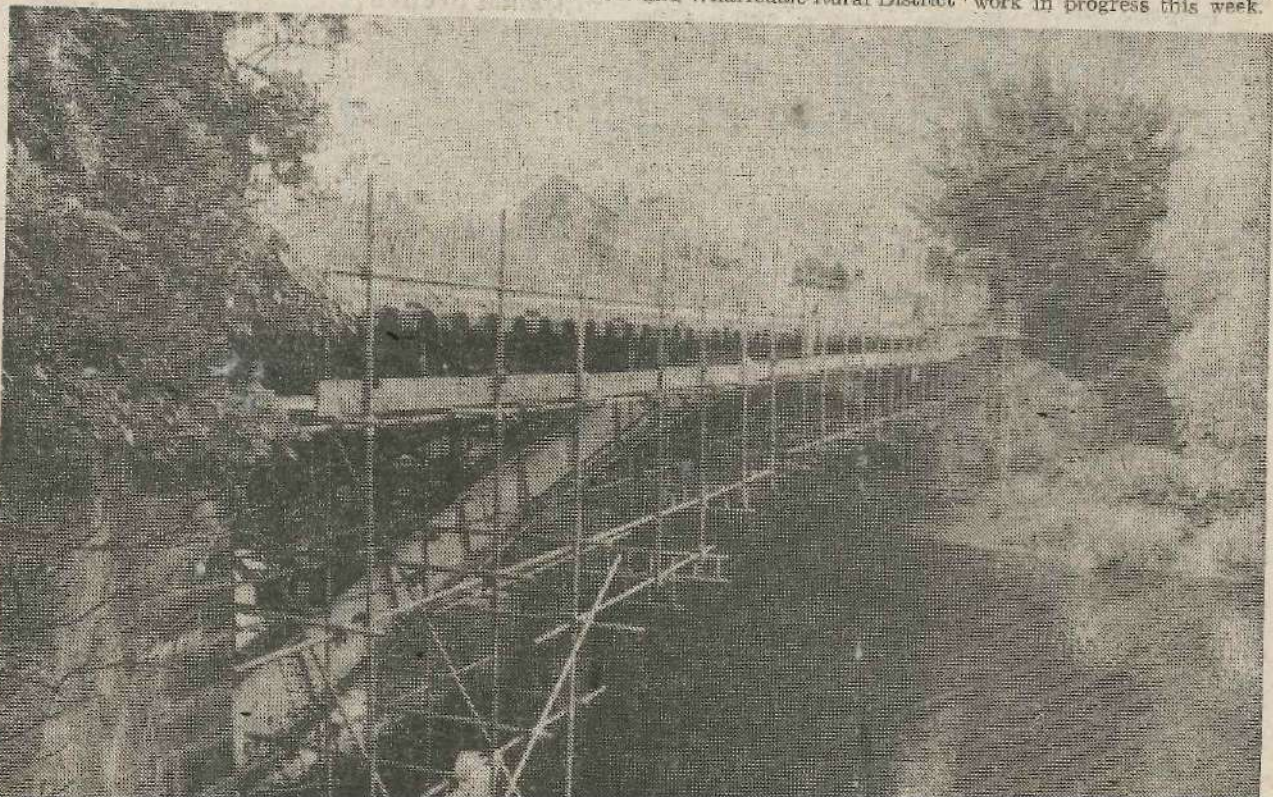
Tarmac Construction Co.

Ltd. were awarded the contract.

The bridge was projected in 1899 by the Wharfedale (Ikley) Estate Company, although such a scheme to connect Ikley and Middleton had been talked about for 35 years before that. It was built by the Estate Company with joint assistance from the West Riding County Council and Wharfedale Rural District

Council at a total cost of £17,000 and officially opened on 2 June 1906. It was described at the time as the greatest improvement ever undertaken in the neighbourhood, although at one time the scheme had been anything but approved of by many residents.

Picture shows the repair work in progress this week.



FORTHCOMING
AUCTION

4 SEP 81

SALE OF HALL AND CONTENTS OFFERS A RARE OPPORTUNITY

One of the fascinations of a country house auction sale is that in the space of one or two days a series of articles goes under the hammer which represents often several generations of accumulation by one family.

Different eras, different fashions and tastes appear much to the delight of the surrounding population who have probably known the members of family well, but never until now seen them summed up in such a way.

An exceedingly rare opportunity to depart from this pattern occurs at the sale of the contents of Steeton Hall, near Keighley on 29 and 30 September for here there is a fascinating microcosm of history representing no more than 20 years or so at the turn of the last century with hardly anything material added since. Not only are the contents all of an age, but as far as the pictures and furniture are concerned, represent a collection of some of the finest and in certain cases most massive examples of their kind to be seen on the market in these parts for some time. The Hall and its contents are for sale as part of the estate of the late Miss Dorothy Clough and to see why this situation has occurred, we need to look briefly at local and family history.

Built In 1662

Steeton Hall, which is situated in the Aire Valley on the Skipton side of Keighley dates back to 1662 although property has stood on the site as far back as 1190. For 150 years the fortunes of the house rose and fell with that of the Garforth family, the most renowned being Thomas Garforth who after dominating the district as a leading Magistrate, recruiter of men for the Napoleonic wars, and bon viveur, died penniless in 1811 after selling the Hall for £18,000 the previous year. It was in the Garforth family occupation that a legend grew up about the Hall, for belonging to the building is a horn, which hangs high up in the dining room to this day, and must never on any account be removed.

The house was re-built in 1863 by John Craven to take the shape it now enjoys, and then in 1903 it was purchased and completely refurbished by Mr. Sam Clough. Sam Clough was a superb example of the archetypal Victorian Keighley manufacturer, prosperous, down-to-earth and philanthropic to the less fortunate members of his own community. He was Mayor of Keighley from 1910 to 1912, the first in fact to be so without previous municipal government experience, and his robes will be included in the sale.

His two private interests were his collection of paintings mainly amassed for the Hall within a few years of moving there, and riding, which he loved to do in company with his daughter Dorothy. He died in 1935, and his daughter concentrated her interests on her mother's main passion, the Girl Guides Movement. After her mother died, Miss Clough opened up the house and grounds for the use of generations of guides who have camped there since 1943. The presence of the girls is, however, evidenced only by the vast collection of much thumbed children's adventure books, which form part of the book section of the sale.

The result is effectively a representation of Miss Clough's childhood (she was born in 1900) with the furnishings which surrounded her, the best that money could buy, none of which have been changed since, her books and toys, some of her early frocks and fancy dress, and even her mother's wedding gown.

Private Collection

The picture collection which dominates the sale and covers the walls of all the reception rooms comprises a fine cross section of Victorian landscape and genre painting, mainly in oils. The largest measures 45in. x 86in., plus its massive gilt frame, and is a study of the Duke of Marlborough after the Battle of Ramilles by Ernest Crofts, dated 1880, and several more approach it in size. Another "A Frightful State of Things" a delightful interior study by Professor Gaetano Chierici was exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1881 and then lampooned in "Punch," the title being deftly applied to the housekeeping of the, then, present government.

There are other spirited genre subjects such as "At His Wits End" by Alfred Strutt, a fox scuttles down a cottage chimney surrounded by the local hunt. "The Gamekeepers Courtship" by George Smith; He hovers at the front door, She hides and Mother referees from the fireside; "Home Sweet Home" by W. Dendy Sadler, the whole of a Victorian family have a musical afternoon; and a fine farmyard scene by J. F. Herring junior. Auctioneer's favourite is the one seen every time one enters the dining room from the side entrance and is invariably lit up by a shaft of sunlight. It is "Bob Apple" by Fred Morgan, a very Victorian study of girls picking apples in a Southern orchard.

Water colours, although few in number, are also most attractive including a study of children playing by a stream by Miles Birkett Foster, an orchard scene by A. Glendenning junior, and no less than 18 local scenes by E. Riby, painted in the first ten years of this century.

Furniture

The furniture again tells the same story and only half a dozen Georgian items are in evidence including a couple of wardrobes, a snap top table and the odd single chair. The rest are a mouth watering mixture of small delicate items, many with a Continental flavour, and a series of massive suites, several one suspects made specifically for the situation. The "Jacobean Revival" carved Oak dining suite runs to 16 pieces including a 14 foot long table, the Walnut Morning room suite has 14 items and the library suite 10 items. In three cases, bedroom suites include washstands complete with wash basins all plumbed in, and the main bedroom boasts a superb inlaid rosewood suite with two large wardrobes, a dressing table

with twin mirrors, a pedestal cupboard, three chairs, a tiled washstand and basin and matching fireplace.

Where the dining room is Oak, English and massive, the drawing room is French and delicate in flavour with superb inlaid card tables, a Boule secretaire, a abattant, a delightful little kingwood commode, a Vitrine with Vernis Martin panels and so on. For ornament, there are highly sentimental carved marble figures, glowing Berlin porcelain plaques, Cloisonne jardinières and a collection of Chinese blue and white porcelain vases.

Even the light fittings are remarkable in their own right, most either of gilt metal or bronze, often Art Nouveau in style, and with a large rise-and-fall pendant in the centre of the room.

The Silver provides a predictable range of tea services, cutlery, condiments and so on, about 650 ounces in all including one particular mystery. The main cutlery service comprises 98 spoons and ladies, all solid Silver, but 86 forks all in E.P.N.S. There are also several ceremonial trowels indicating the times when members of the Clough family had laid the foundation stones of various Wesleyan Chapels and Sunday Schools.

The Clough family library was in one respect very staid, with bound sets of standard classics, but on the other hand showing interest in the children with many volumes of fairy tales and the like superbly illustrated by artists such as Arthur Rackham and Edmund Dulac. The collection also includes an important 3rd Edition of Whitaker's History of Craven and Morris' British Birds in six volumes.

Just about everything in this extraordinary collection belongs to the narrow time scale of the first few years of this century or just before. Even the bath is a vast machine with a superstructure providing shower jets pointing in nearly every direction. All were cherished by Miss Clough irrespective of their cash value characteristic which she regarded as no more than a nuisance. One notable lot, however, is much younger than this and is one item which Miss Clough did allow herself to buy. It is her little car, an eleven year old Morris traveller in half-timbered British racing green. It has travelled 7,600 miles in all

ACROSS THE YEARS 11 SEP 81

Smooth Running Of Schools Sought By Committee

100 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

Ilkley residents were asked by the Committee of the National Schools for their co-operation over the smooth running of the schools. A new committee had been formed consisting of the Rev. A. C. Downer (Vicar of Ilkley); Rev. H. B. Ottley (Vicar of St. Margaret's); the Trustees, the Guarantors, the Treasurer and Secretary, and the Churchwardens of the two churches. They wished the townspeople to provide voluntary support based on Common Sense, Accommodation, Justice, Religion, Self-Interest and Economy. There were at that time 427 places at the schools.

Despite too much "imbibing" on the part of residents and visitors Ilkley Feast passed off pleasantly. A trip to Scarborough was greatly enjoyed, as was a shorter trip to Brimham Rocks. The annual sheep fair was quiet owing to wet weather but Feast Week on the whole was said to have been a great success.

Denton and Chambers advertised furnishing ironmongery such as fitted baths, mangling machines, gas chandeliers, gas brackets, stoves, kitchen ranges, fenders, fire ironments, pumps, stable fitting and a special line elegant chandeliers from 15s. to £30.

75 Years Ago

The annual sheep fair in Chantry Drive offered a large number of sheep, half bred ewes 42s., Lonk ewes 25/- to 35/-, lambs 25/- to 30/-, and cross bred lambs 25/- to 30/-, and cross bred lambs up to 35/-.

The number of pupils at the start of the school year at Ilkley Grammar school was 120 boys, compared to 65 in 1904. It was the largest attendance ever recorded at the school.

The 25th annual cricket match promoted by Ilkley Tradesmen took place on the ground of the Ilkley Cricket Club, with the usual ceremony of the traditional Black Hats v White Hats. Mr. James Rayner captained the Black Hats, and Mr. Joseph Houldsworth captained the White Hats, with each side consisting of 30 players. The annual dinner followed the match at the Listers Arms Hotel with 100 tradespeople and their friends partaking of "a sumptuous feast" provided by Mr. and Mrs. Brumfitt.

In a speech at a prize distribution at the Boyle and Petyt School Beamsley, the Duchess of Devonshire expressed her displeasure at the amount of litter thoughtlessly left by trippers at Bolton Abbey. She often tried to bury the litter left around herself when out walking.

The quality of the entries at the Ilkley Flower Show, bearing in mind there had been streaming rain for three days prior to the show, was extremely high. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Edgar Heap, the president of the society who laughingly admitted that he had no knowledge of gardening.

A local billposting company was summoned by the West Riding County Council for erecting an advertising hoarding along the main road at Ilkley which was said to injuriously affect the view of rural scenery. The court, however, after a long argument, decided that because Middleton and Denton Woods were so far away that it did not ruin either the woods or those who wished to enjoy their loveliness.

Ilkley Sanitary Laundry advertised high class work at moderate rates, semi finished service 20 articles for 2/6 including three gentlemen's suits to be sponged and pressed.

25 Years Ago

Private work undertaken by members of Ilkley Council staff, particularly plans drawn up by members of the Surveyors Department were discussed at the Council's General Purposes Committee.

Mr. Townend, Clerk to the Council, observed that as far as new appointments were concerned it was in the contract of employment that no private work should be undertaken. If, however, this was not a previous clause in any of the older contracts then there was no breach. Mr. Townend went on to assure the committee, however, that it was generally understood by members of staff of the Surveyor's department that no private work was to be undertaken.

Thirty pupils of Ilkley Grammar School arrived back in Ilkley following an exchange visit with pupils of Coutances Lycee. They had spent three weeks in Coutances as guests of French scholars whom they had entertained previously in Ilkley.

Losing At Cricket Cost Players A Supper

100 Years Ago

The annual friendly cricket match between the tradespeople of the town, instituted in 1880 was played on the cricket field in showery conditions. The field itself was in a bad state "having much the appearance of a mud pond in some places." The two teams were captained by Mr. Lister and Mr. Beanlands and was won easily by Mr. Lister's men. The cost of the match was a supper, the expenses of which were defrayed by members of the losing team. This took place at the Crescent Hotel and was served "in first class style by Mr. Lee."

A clearance sale at Hebblewhite's boot shop, bottom of Brook Street, advertised women's cashmere house boots at 3/2; Women's lasting house boots at 4/4; Kid and velvet boots at 4/2; patent slippers with heels 3/3; strong leather slipper 2/10; and felt and lasting slippers 2/5.

75 Years Ago

The three day meeting of the Yorkshire Ladies' County Golf Club was held at the Ilkley Golf Club's links, with 44 entries. Some excellent play was to be seen. The Coronation Medal was won by Mrs. McCarthy, Ilkley, and Miss B. Thompson returned the best scratch score of 36.

It was a red letter day for Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club when they opened their new grandstand. Mr. Jackson, who performed the ceremony was introduced by one of the club's vice-presidents, Mr. Percy Dalton, who said that Ilkley had one of the best playing clubs in one of the best playing areas in Yorkshire.

The new horse ambulance arrived in Ilkley and was located in Mr. H. Sargeant's Coach House off Bolton Bridge Road. It was available for all cases of accident and serious illness where removal to hospital was necessary. The ambulance was completely equipped there being both a wheel stretcher and a hand stretcher together with other seats. The ambulance had been made by one of the best firms in the country at a cost of £95. Applications for use of the vehicle had to be made to Mr. Walter Ineson, Brook Street, Ilkley.

The matron of the Ilkley and Wharfedale Orphanage acknowledged private gifts of bread and butter, dripping, flowers, bread, tea cakes, pastry, vegetables, clothing and wool for knitting stockings from local residents in the area.

50 Years Ago

Enthusiasm was high at Ilkley Rugby Union Football club, with about 45 players turning out for practice. The selection committee consisted of Messrs. J. Firth, G. Brook, S. R. Runtun, A. Durran, A. King, J. H. Pell (Captain) and G. Eaton (team secretary).

Mr. Albert Modley of Ilkley, son of Professor Modley, made a successful appearance for the season as a member of the

Arcadian Follies on the South Pier at Blackpool. Mr. Modley had started his stage career as on of "The Two Eddies" in a comedy act on the variety halls. He had originally trained to be a physical training instructor and had won the amateur boxing championship of Yorkshire in 1917.

Unemployment figures showed an increase of 26 in the number of unemployed workpeople in Ilkley compared to the previous week making a total of 153. There was also a total of 58 unemployed at Addingham.

The Samuel Goldwyn—Florence Zeigfield riot "Whoopee" was the star attraction at the Grove Picture House, with Eddie Cantor, Eleanor Hunt, John Rutherford and Paul Gregory. It was seemingly one of the first colour "extravaganzas" to be shown in Ilkley.

25 Years Ago

Addingham street lighting was described as being "topsy turvy" at the September meeting of Addingham Parish Council. They were on during the day when they should be off, and off at night when they ought to have been on. The Council were to write to the Gas Board and the Electricity Board demanding immediate improvements.

Mr. Alan Denby, of Princess Road, Ilkley, escaped injury in an air accident which occurred near Harewood House, the home of the Princess Royal. Mr. Denby was flying in a twin engine Gemini aircraft with a friend, Mr. Ernest Crabtree when the port engine propeller sheered off. The propeller fell, within 200 yards of Harewood House, in the grounds and the plane flew back to Yeaton on one engine and made an emergency landing.

FORMER CURATOR OF ILKLEY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY DIES

Former curator of Ilkley's Manor House Museum and Art Gallery before becoming exhibitions officer with Bradford Metropolitan District Museums and Art Galleries, Mr. Arthur Kituhing of Bridge Lane, Ilkley, died in Otley General Hospital on Sunday. He was 69.

Mr. Kituhing, who was born in Sheffield in 1912, attended Sheffield College of Art and later opened a small gallery on the site of the new Crucible Theatre. He worked in the county planning authority at Chelmsford, where he started organising art exhibitions.

Mr. Kituhing moved to Ilkley in 1959, working in the council's surveyor's department for some time. He started organising exhibitions in Ilkley in 1961 and was appointed administrator at the Manor House museum, where he became curator.

In his work as exhibitions officer after local government re-organisation in 1974 Mr. Kituhing earned a reputation for promoting the work of local artists and giving them encouragement in their careers. A keen artist himself, he exhibited in several towns, mainly in the north of England. An exhibition of his drawings and the work of artists encouraged by him is to be held at Ilkley Manor House at Christmas, entitled "A Tribute to Arthur Kituhing."

Mr. Kituhing was a member of the Leeds Fine Arts

Club, Ilkley Film Society and Ilkley Art Club, and was an official of the Ilkley Literature Festival.

He leaves a widow, a son and a daughter.

A funeral service was held at Ilkley Parish Church on Wednesday.

Tribute

Arthur Kituhing, who died last weekend, will be remembered with great respect and affection by all who were fortunate enough to know him—but particularly by the innumerable fellow artists in West Yorkshire for whom he was friend, confidant and vigorous advocate.

As the first curator of the Manor House Art Gallery and Museum he achieved a remarkable reputation for the place as a premier showcase in the North for the best of contemporary art being produced in the area.

Under his stewardship it became something quite unique for the early '60's—a municipally sponsored gallery which placed its first priority on the cultivation and display of new work. One of his lasting achievements is that this policy, combining the best of private patronage with local authority backing, set a pattern which is still being vigorously pursued by Bradford Metropolitan Art Gallery and Museum Service.

He saw his role as nurturing talent, and balancing styles and attitudes to provide the public with a multifaceted programme to illustrate the whole range of contemporary concerns. A modest man himself, he genuinely counted all his exhibitors as friends, and rejoiced wholeheartedly when some achieved recognition and success. He had a great eye for spotting promise in unlikely places.

His qualities of perception, patience and concern for others must have stood him in good stead while for many years he tutored adult classes in Skipton and elsewhere. His own artistic training in Sheffield had grounded him in the traditional virtues, and many will recall with gratitude his quiet insistence on the basic tenets.

But it is as a painter in his own right that Arthur Kituhing would wish to be remembered, and his claim is a particularly strong one. To a certain extent he saw all his other responsibilities—as a husband and father, as a gallery director, as committee member of a number of local voluntary organisations such as Ilkley Art Club, the Film Society and the Literature Festival—as subservient to his overwhelming responsibility as an artist.

The strength of this calling was apparent to all who knew him. It was not something he had chosen from a range of possibilities, but something which had chosen him from an early age and would not let him go. Even in the last few weeks before returning to hospital he was working on a new series of drawings which are as fresh and innovative as any that have gone before.

Spiritually, his twin masters were Picasso and Matisse; his mission to translate and develop the work of these Olympians into a mid Twentieth Century British context. His own vision burned with no less intensity than theirs, though the struggle to reconcile the irreconcilable sometimes showed on canvas as painful anguish.

To a casual acquaintance he might have seemed rather diffident, with his wry understated sense of humour. But this self-deprecating manner hid unexpected strength of purpose and magnificent aspirations. These flowered into a lifetime's output of oils, gouaches, prints and drawings: an impressive achievement which stands testimony to a brave and determined spirit who accepted the challenge and never once compromised.

M.D.

Ilkley store plan turned down

The controversial plan for a store development at South Hawksworth Street, Ilkley, which went to appeal in March this year, has been dismissed by the inspector, as predicted in last week's Weekly Times. *Weekly Times 24 Sep 81*

The ruling by the Department of the Environment inspector, Mr Alister D. Raby who conducted the inquiry in the Ilkley Parish Council chamber was announced yesterday.

The inspector recommended that the scheme from the West York-

Too large for town centre, says inspector

shire Co-operative Society be dismissed mainly on the grounds that the development was too large for the Ilkley town centre.

He had also taken into account the considerable public opposition to the scheme.

"In my opinion the appeal proposal takes very little account of its surroundings.

"It is significantly higher than the buildings with which it would immediately relate."

He felt that the height would be visually intrusive compared with the low lying surrounding buildings.

Since Bradford Metropolitan Council had decided not to proceed with the Ilkley Draft Town Centre Plan there had been a marked increase in planning applications for shopping development schemes in the town centre.

The number of applications totalled more than the

"The balance of public interest indicates that the proposal should not be approved at the present time, but an opportunity should be given for the scale of the development to be reassessed in the context of the situation as it has evolved since the application was made," he said.

"There is understandable if unjustified local concern that the district council's interest in the development has coloured their attitude as a planning authority."

"The matter came to appeal as the result of a highways direction, now effectively withdrawn."

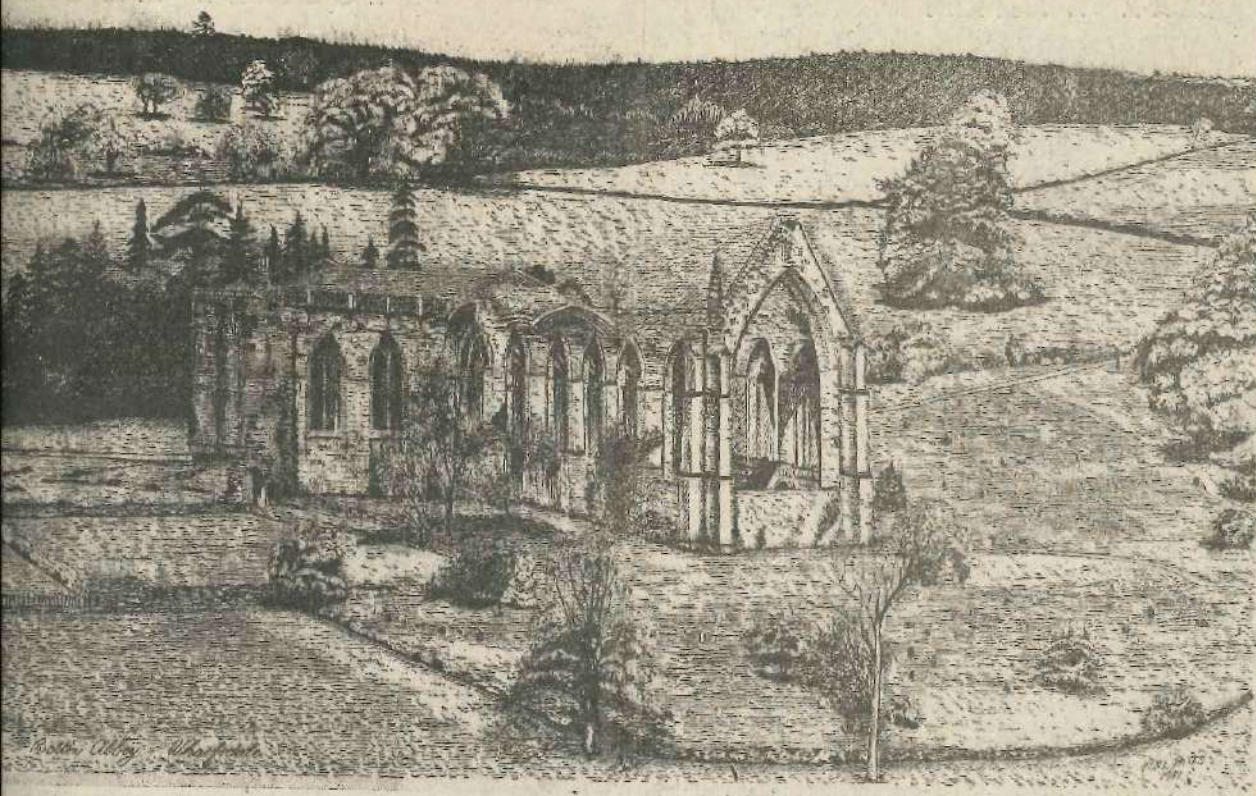
Care should be taken in maintaining a visual impact in Ilkley in view of the public opinion, he said.

The decision will delight Ilkley Parish councillors, Dr Keith Hampson, MP, the Ilkley Action Group and other organisations in the town who all opposed the development.

The Co-op scheme was originally approved by Bradford planners in Octo-

SAVING ONE OF BRITAIN'S PREMIER HISTORIC MONUMENTS AT BOLTON ABBEY

SEP 81



The Bolton Abbey Priory Church Restoration Appeal, launched last year to save one of Britain's premier historic monuments, has so far proved a great success, with the half-way stage towards the target of £300,000 already passed.

Despite a rather unsettled summer, crowds have continued to flock to the abbey and an estimated 10,000 schoolchildren from all parts of the country have visited the abbey on historical trips during the past two months. Rector, the Rev. Canon B. Slaughter, said there also had been an increase in the number of foreign tourists to the abbey and more day outings.

The whole future of the abbey fell into grave doubt years ago when architects reported that the fabric of the church had seriously deteriorated. The lead roof, which was over one hundred years old, had needed beyond repair. The gables and downpipes were inadequate to carry rainwater and it was penetrating the woodwork below. Damage to masonry on the south side was discovered, the walls had suffered from the removal of monastic buildings after the Dissolution and subsequent water penetration. The sixteenth century stained glass windows of the south wall were in poor condition and in danger of collapse. The heating and lighting systems needed attention and many of the 19th Century floor tiles were loose, and the churchyard walls and fences needed attending to. However, the success of the appeal so far, which has been supported nationwide, has brought a strong hope for the future of the abbey to be secure, a historic monument set in the unrivalled beauty of Wharfedale.

The history of the abbey dates back to the 13th century. The church and monastic buildings were largely completed by 1220, and rebuilding and extension work began in 1290 and continued into the next century.

The monastery was suppressed in 1539, only nineteen years after work began on the entrance to the Priory Church, known as Prior Moone's Tower. Prior Moone himself and fourteen brethren were pensioned off and the monastic estates were purchased by Henry Clifford, First Earl of Cumberland. The nave of the Priory Church alone was preserved in its traditional role as parish church.

It is now almost one hundred years since the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish, but a fountain built in his memory is still a great attraction with the many visitors to Bolton Abbey.

Lord Frederick, the second son of the seventh Duke of Devonshire and Liberal M.P. for the Northern Division of

the West Riding of Yorkshire from 1865 until his death, succeeded the Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P. for Bradford, as Chief Secretary for Ireland in William Gladstone's second administration, but was assassinated in Dublin within a few hours of his arrival in Ireland.

The tenantry of the Duke of Devonshire's estate at Bolton Abbey subscribed for the erection in the churchyard of a cross in his memory at the request of Lord Frederick's family, and what resulted was the present fountain, which was built in 13th Century Gothic style at a cost of about £2,000. The fountain was formally inaugurated on Friday, 11 June, 1886.

One aspect of the abbey and the nearby Rectory which has intrigued many people from as early as the beginning of this century and still catches the imagination of some is the supposed ghost of a priest which has been reported to appear from time to time.

The former Rector of The

Priory Church, the late Rev. F. G. Griffiths, claimed to have seen the mysterious figure numerous times during his tenure, but the original intention of building a tall tower-like memorial was abandoned in his years at the abbey, and also claimed that his wife had seen the figure, dressed in the garb of the Augustinian order.

Many people are sceptical about the claims of the Rev. Griffiths, including present Rector the Rev. Canon M. B. Slaughter, who dismisses the claimed sightings as "a terrible hoax." He said: "I have been at the abbey now for a long time and I can certainly say that I have never seen anything to suggest that the Rectory or abbey is haunted. I think the reports of a ghost were just a terrible hoax to gain publicity."

However, the fact remains that other sightings of the figure have been reported, the most significant of which was in 1912, when King George V, the Duke of Devonshire, his son and Lord Desborough claimed to see the figure.

Sketch by Bill Pates of Addingham.

ACROSS THE YEARS 18 SEP 81

Plan To Replace Stepping Stones With Bridge

100 Years Ago

Members of the Local Board debated the payment of plans they had had drawn up for a wooden bridge over the Wharfe to replace the existing stepping stones. They had previously agreed to pay for the preparation of these plans out of their own pockets but changed their minds at the last minute and only Mr. Beanlands was willing to pay his share. The Clerk was therefore instructed to pay his share. The Clerk was therefore instructed to pay from Local Board Funds by cheque.

A further attempt was being made to get a much needed railway line open between Ilkley and Skipton. Preliminary arrangements had been made and the prospects for the provision of such a service between the two towns looked likely.

Messrs. Oates, Ingham and Sons celebrated brass band gave two Saturday performances at the town. Despite their excellent performance and programme dark and lowering skies made their audiences very meagre.

75 Years Ago

A large audience assembled in St. Margaret's Hall to see a production of "Three Little Maids" a charming new musical play. Mr. Chas Macdona and his London Company put on the production and it was said that his company "always pleased on the boards." It was to be followed by Mr. Brandon Thomas and his London Company with "Charley's Aunt" described as "the great success of the century" with reserved seats at 3/- and 2/-.

Ilkley Education Committee offered evening classes in the following subjects.—Youth and Young men: English, Workshop Arithmetic, Drawing and elementary design. Girls and Young Women: Arithmetic, English, plain Needlework and Fancy Needlework. There were also Mixed classes in French, Commercial Arithmetic, Shorthand and Art. Afternoon classes offered Cookery, Dressmaking, Starching and Ironing. This was the full range of the classes on offer.

Mrs. Fred Reynolds of Ilkley had a new novel published entitled "Hazel of Hazeldean" described as yet another of her "nice works."

50 Years Ago

Ilkley retained the cup following the Black Hats v. White Hats cricket match which for the first time was played against tradesmen from Otley. Ilkley in White Hats, captained by Mr. J. Rayner, only scored 74, but to all the spectators surprise they managed to dismiss the Otley team for 67. There were 21 players on each side and there was a good deal of fun and "comic capering" on the field during the match.

Ben Rhydding Golf Hotel was the venue for a house party of over 200 people associated with the Oxford Group Movement. This was described as a gathering of people for the deepening of spiritual life, but it was described as an animated group which attracted people of all kinds from all over the country. The guest list included university students, doctors, army officers, surgeons, tutors, businessmen, clergymen and nurses, and there was a large proportion of young people of both sexes.

Mr. Thomas Capstick, of Addingham, who had for twelve years held the office of English judge to the International Sheep Dog Society was honoured at the annual gathering of the society at Llandudno with the presentation of an Illuminated Address to mark his retirement from the position

25 Years Ago

The only Ilkley event which marked "Ilkley Feast Week" in 1956 was the fact that all the banks were closed on the Wednesday afternoon. Apart from this insignificant gesture there was nothing to distinguish the week from any other. Some of the older residents remembered the sheep fair, with huge flocks of sheep being brought into the town and other hectic activities with the traditional Black and White Hats Cricket Match and stalls set out in Brook Street. This, however, was a thing of the past.

Dorothy Braybrook's School of dancing offered winter courses of ten lessons at the Assembly Hall, Wells Road from Babies to Senior Ballet at £1.15/- for ten lessons. The Fifty-Fifty Club for ballroom dancing, half old time and half modern started their winter weekly sessions at the Winter Gardens Ballroom each Saturday for club members. There was a special ball advertised at 3/- per head for the anniversary of "The Battle of Britain" with modern and old time dancing to the Olicana Players on 28 September. The four films at the two local cinemas included Alfred Hitchcock's "The Trouble with Harry" with Edmund Gled and Shirley MacLaine and "The Last Frontier" with Victor Mature and Guy Madison. There was also a grand Galan Night dance at the Kings Hall Annexe with the Ken