

Your Job or Your Marriage

In the early 1930's a number of countries including the UK, USA and Germany, responded to the current high level of male unemployment by introducing legislation to remove married women from the workforce or to deter them from entering it. People thought that if married women brought a second wage into the household, then that denied others their opportunity to earn. The status of women teachers was under discussion in Yorkshire in the early part of 1934, when great opposition to the employment of married women teachers came from their male colleagues and school Governors. Resignation was required upon marriage due to the long-standing general view that a married woman's 'place' was in the home, raising her family. It was similarly out of the question that women with young children should be employed in schools. Since the opening of the School in 1921, the termination of the employment of many women teachers at Hemsworth had taken place and been accepted as automatic when they married. Indeed, in January 1934 the West Riding Education Committee felt moved to create a report on the matter, which stated that, *"the employment of women teachers is unwise on educational grounds, and prevents a due succession of women teachers."* Even though it was admitted that the dismissal of all such teachers *"might result in cases of hardship...."* and that therefore each case should be reviewed on its merits, nevertheless, the review of the predominantly male members of the Education Committee decided to assess the appointments of all married women teachers annually.

One of the members of the Education Committee at that time, and with strong views on the employment of women teachers, was Lady Mabel Florence Harriet Wentworth-Fitzwilliam (1870-1951). Her father was William Wentworth Fitzwilliam, Viscount Milton, the eldest son of William Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, 6th Earl Fitzwilliam. Her father died before inheriting the Earldom and it passed to her brother, William Wentworth. Contrary to her privileged background she was a socialist politician, known as Lady Mabel Smith after her marriage in 1899. She was a West Riding County Councillor and later a county Alderman, and a member of the Workers' Education Authority. In 1932 and 1934 she served on the Labour Party National Executive Committee. As a Christian and a social worker, she said that her social conscience had developed after seeing the conditions of children living on the Wentworth estate, which was her ancestral home.

What do you mean by "hardship"? In the Education Authority's debate, Lady Mabel stated that as an educationalist of some years' standing, she had never yet seen any proof that a woman became a worse teacher because of getting married. The matter should be viewed from one standpoint only - that of the child in the school. What did the Committee mean by "hardship"? As an education committee, it was their duty to find the best possible teachers for the children, and if it could be proved that there was hardship to the children, then that teacher should be removed, not otherwise. While she would do anything she could to help any teacher, married or otherwise, who was in difficulties, it was not the function of an educational authority to take personal hardship into consideration. She thought they had long ago ceased to say *"A woman's place is in the home."* Married women had the same right as any other citizen to do that for which they were most fitted. Very few of her colleagues on the Committee agreed with her views. The following account of Ald. Ben Turner's speech which appeared in a local newspaper illustrates the antagonism which prevailed. "Ald. Turner said he was old-fashioned and had "never heard more absurd speeches" than those just made. His views would not be acceptable to feminists, but he still believed the married woman's place was at home, and that the husband should be responsible for the household finances. There should be "time for motherhood." It was said this was a "means test." "Nowt o't soart." (Laughter) It is a physical, mental and moral test." While she had no objection to the proposed annual review of married women teachers, Lady Mabel could not support the Committee's intention to form opinions on women's personal lives. She proposed an amendment on this, which was heavily defeated at the vote, with the chairman remarking when the vote was taken, "Only eight feminists." (Laughter)

The contrast between the ideas of the policy-makers and the grass-roots pragmatism of working educationalists could not be better illustrated than by the appointment at Hemsworth in February 1934 of Mrs. Wilks, who was known as Miss Morgan Jones when she was formerly the music teacher. Upon her marriage, she had automatically left the school, and was now called upon to deputise for Miss P.E.M. Wright during her illness. Clearly this was the best person for the job, and so it would appear that Lady Mabel's opinions had not fallen on completely deaf ears! *During this temporary period of employment, Mrs. Wilks and Mr. Jenkinson co-wrote the School Song.*

Staff Shortages

While the debate about the ending of the employment of married women teachers was under way, concern was also being expressed at the tendency of the Board of Education in London to cut down rather than increase the size of Staffs in schools. Mr. Jenkinson raised the matter with Mr. J.H. Hallam, the Director of Education, who half-promised to consider the appointment of another mistress providing the Head could make a good case for one. At that time there were 435 pupils at the School, with a staff of 19, which gave the proportions of students to staff as 22 to 1. This was two more than some other schools. A mixed school such as Hemsworth should be over-staffed rather than under-staffed was Mr. Jenkinson's claim.

A Second Going

In February, Mrs. Garstang resigned for a second time from the Board of Governors, due to her change of address from Leeds to Oxford. She had been the representative of the Council of Leeds University on the school's governing body since its establishment in 1921. Expressions of appreciation of her long service to the school were given to her by the Governors. Mrs. J.W. Harvey of Leeds University was to replace her.

Let the Fire Brigade Come!

When the Governors were discussing their request to the County Authority for the provision of two dozen fire extinguishers for the school in February 1934, Coun. Isaac Burns enquired whether the Hemsworth Fire Brigade ever visited the school for practices. Both Mr. Jenkinson and Capt. Hallam agreed that this would be a good idea, and so Coun. Burns promised to mention this at the next meeting of the Urban Council. The extinguishers were subsequently supplied at a cost of £22. 0s. 0d. Loosely connected to

this subject of fire precautions, a letter was received in February 1934 from Mr. J.H. Hallam, Director of Education, to say that the West Riding County Council had agreed to provide new water mains at the school at an estimated cost of £70.0s.0d.

A Storm in a Milk Churn

In March 1934 the Governors were extremely angry at the directive from the new Milk Marketing Board that the price of milk supplied under contract by a local farmer at a cost of 1s.3d (6p) per gallon must be increased to 1s.5d (7p). Capt. Hallam was presiding over the meeting, and said he knew that the Hemsworth Joint Hospital Committee had experienced the same thing, and their protests had been unavailing. Coun. Mrs. Dooley stated with no little exaggeration - "It is the greatest ramp in history!" She made the point that it would not be so unacceptable if they could be sure that the producers were getting the extra money, but she wondered who was going to benefit from the extra twopence. Whilst believing that no notice would be taken, the Governors voted to send a protest at "this extravagance in charging the extra twopence" to the relevant authority.

In the Pipeline in March 1934

1. The Director of Education intimated that the request for an extra member of staff would be submitted to the next meeting of the Education Committee. Miss Docking M.A. replaced Miss Wilde for the summer term only.
2. The approval of the Board of Education and the Education Committee would be sought for the adaptation of a room at the school for Art and Pottery at an estimated cost of £148.
3. The erection of iron railings on the top of the North wall during the forthcoming financial year was approved.

Someone Else

A Second Form boy was busy writing two hundred lines.
"It's an awful fag and a dreary drag," said he, "and my spirit pines
To join a higher Form, the Fourth, where dozens of happy boys come forth.
A boy in the Fourth was working hard at his evening preparation.
"I sit and swot till my brow is hot with worry and trepidation.
In the ranks of the Sixth I'd love to be - a fellow of weight and dignity.

That very same day a Prefect had said, on mournfully entering the School,
"It's an awful fag and a dreary drag to stop these kids from playing the fool.
My trials are coming faster and faster - would that I could become a master!"
A master in his room just then was marking his pupils' papers.
"I'm tired of strife, yet I spend my life in stopping the schoolboys' capers.
If I could change my life, 'tis plain - I'd become a babe in the First again.

These lines were penned by Phillips G of 2C in 1934, and appeared in the School Magazine.

Staff Play March 22nd and 23rd 1934 A Hundred Years Old (Quintero Brothers)

Produced by Mr. A.G. Jenkinson assisted by Miss N. Wilde.



Cast

Papa Juan	A.G. Jenkinson
Trino	J.D. Hamilton
Currita	Miss N. Wilde
Dona Marciala	Miss J. Harrison
Don Evaristo	L.N. Collette
Dona Filomena	Miss E. Shortridge
Carmen Campos	Miss D. Prince
Eulalia	Miss D. Kenward
Manuel	R.T. Shiells
Antonon	H.G. Augur
Alonso	L.T. Hyde

This play of Spanish family life regretfully did not have a large attendance for the opening performance yet it was one of the most successful given by the Staff. The cast departed from the comedy of previous productions, and although the plot was not easily followed, interest was sustained by the excellent characterisations. Mr. Jenkinson excelled as 'Papa Juan' the arrangements for whose 100th birthday constitute the essence of this 'modern' play, written only two years previously. Miss Wright arranged the incidental music played between the acts.

"Trade Routes of the Empire"

Commander Hey, R.N. gave a lecture to the pupils on this topic on March 6th 1934.

The Pontefract Choir Competition

The School participated in this Music Festival on March 15th.

Governors' Meeting, Friday 23rd March 1934

Captain L. Hallam presided over this meeting of the Governors, when the discussion centred on the news that the County Education Committee was not prepared to consider appointing a new teacher at the school until the number of pupils who would be attending the school the following September was known. If it could be proved that the number of pupils was consistently increasing over a three year period, then a new teacher would be considered. The Headmaster swiftly recited that in 1932 there were 429 scholars, 443 in 1933, and 430 at that moment. If the matter were to be left until July, the appointment would be too late, and the time-table for the next year's work would have already been compiled. He reminded everyone that the average pupil-teacher ratio was 20.8, and the HGS average was 22.4. It was generally agreed that the Authority should be pressed to appoint an additional teacher in time for September.

This seems to have been the annual meeting of the Governors at which the members and staff were thanked by Captain Hallam for their loyal co-operation during the year. He also thought it would be an act of good grace to thank the Education Committee for the way they had dealt with the Governors' requests. Apart from the clear facetiousness of this, most of the Governors' requests had been firmly rejected, his conciliatory attitude contrasts greatly to the former years of Ald. Price's active chairmanship, where the wishes of the Governors could be carried upwards into the realms of power at County Headquarters by Ald. Price himself. Little did the Governors know at this meeting that their former chairman was about to hit the headlines the following day.

"A tragedy of ill health and overwork"

On Saturday 24th March the shocking news reached the Hemsworth area that one of its most popular and able Labour Members of Parliament, Ald. Gabriel Price of South Elmsall had died. The inquest later recorded a verdict that Mr. Price, 54 years old, "Drowned himself while temporarily of unsound mind" in the River Calder while returning from a visit with his son at Mirfield. His widow, Mrs. Winifred Kate Price, stated that her husband suddenly left her side and ran, and later was recovered from the river. It was also stated that Mr. Price had recently been treated for neurasthenia, and he had resisted his family's persuasions to take a holiday and rest from all his arduous Parliamentary duties. Known as a lifelong fighter in the interests of the miners, Mr. Price had succeeded Mr. John Guest as MP for Hemsworth in 1931.

The local newspaper headlines translated the feelings of the local people.

"Tragic Death of Mr. Gabriel Price M.P."

"Life of Public Service Ended"

"High Tributes from Many Quarters"

"Hemsworth Division Grief-Stricken"

"Strength Overtaxed by Devotion to Duty"

There followed a period of painful incredulity and great sorrow throughout the whole community. Gabriel Price was held in the highest esteem by all classes, and did not have any real enemies. Political opponents admired his integrity and honesty, and local men looked to him for help and guidance which was always readily given. The miners and their families revered him, knowing that he had always worked hard in their interests.

The Inquest, 25th March 1934

Mrs. Price gave evidence and said though not well her husband had never threatened to kill himself. Mr. Dudding, a lorry driver of Huddersfield Road, said he was driving towards Mirfield when he heard Mrs. Price scream. She was running towards the Ship Inn calling for help. Mr. Dudding drove his lorry to the river bank and with the help of others formed a rope into a lasso to try to rescue Mr. Price, who had his head above the water, but they failed. A boy came along with a long cane and Dudding managed to get Mr. Price to the river bank but said he thought he was dead at that time. Police Constable Cooper gave evidence that anyone running down the hill would have to climb a fence to get to the water.

The verdict was that "Mr. Price had drowned himself whilst temporarily of unsound mind."

It came to light that Mr. Price had once been awarded a medal for saving a boy from drowning; he carried it with him at all times. The inscription read; "For bravery in saving life at Kinsley. 15th January 1895. Presented to Gabriel Price from Councillor Lilley" Coroner; Mr. C J Haworth

On the day of his funeral service at Hemsworth Parish Church the colliery ceased operations to allow all the miners to line the streets to farewell the cortege, and the local schools joined the mourners to farewell "Honest Gabe".



Mr. Gabriel Price, M.P.
Chairman of the Governors. 1921 - 1934.

The sudden and tragic death of Mr. Price on March 24th. caused a profound reaction throughout the district. There can be no question that but for Mr. Price there would have been no Secondary School in Hemsworth in 1921, and since its foundation in that year, Hemsworth Grammar School had to thank Mr. Price in a large measure for its success. He had kept its claims and requirements to the front at the meetings of the Education Committee and the County Council in Wakefield, so much so indeed that it came to be regarded as a red-letter day when Hemsworth Grammar School did not appear on the Agenda. He took the keenest interest in the School's activities, and many times he was heard to say that of all his public work, there was none that gave him so much pleasure as his efforts in connection with the School. His regular appearance on Parents' Day year after year was much appreciated, as was his captancy of the Parent's Cricket Team, even though it meant perhaps a midnight dash to London afterwards.

"His memory has been fittingly preserved in the School by the naming of Price House after him, and it is safe to predict that he will be known to future, as to past and present generations of girls and boys as the founder and benefactor of Hemsworth Grammar School."

From the School Magazine 1934

Headmaster's Tribute: Mr. A.G. Jenkinson

"I have known Mr. Price since 1921 when Hemsworth Grammar School was opened. Mr. Price was chairman of the Governing body which appointed me as Headmaster, and he remained chairman to the end. During the last two years his Parliamentary and other duties prevented him from attending the Governors' meetings regularly and from taking an active interest in the school, but previously there was no man who laboured more incessantly on the West Riding County Council, on the Education Committee and on the Board of Governors for the advancement and betterment of Hemsworth Grammar School. Many improvements in the school have been due to his interest and co-operation, and it is not too much to say that but for Mr. Price there would not have been a Secondary School in Hemsworth twelve years ago.

Boys and girls who have passed through this school, and their parents, owe an immense debt of gratitude to Mr. Price for the many benefits that have come to them through his services. He was not so fortunate as them; if he had had the advantages of a Grammar School education he might have gone further and fared better.

He had few recreations: public work was everything to him, and his life was given to it. The school motto, "Labor Ipse Voluptas" or "Work brings its own pleasure" was never better exemplified than in the life history of Mr. Gabriel Price, who will go down to future generations as one of Hemsworth's greatest working men."

A by-election was held for the British House of Commons constituency of Hemsworth on 17 May 1934 following the death of the sitting MP Gabriel Price. The Labour candidate, George Arthur Griffiths, was returned unopposed. He held the seat at the next two general elections, and died in office in 1945.

The Aftermath

The following weeks at the School were a time of painful re-adjustment to the death of Ald. Price. It had been the case when he first became an M.P. that he was occasionally missing from the Governors' meetings, but there now emerged a stronger realisation that the school had lost forever its champion. In its grief, the leaderless Governing Board resorted to some less than admirable political squabbling.

A new chairman emerged in Mr. Absalom Flavell, who first presided over a June 1934 meeting that would best have been forgotten by all its participants. The opening salvo was fired by Mr. S. Davis, who introduced the topic of a comment made by the Headmaster, Mr. Jenkinson, during the previous Governors' meeting in March. Mr. Jenkinson had mentioned that the previous three years at the School had been happy ones, but he could not say that that had always been the case. From what he (Mr.

Davis) had read in the press, he understood that the three years previous to the last three had been a nightmare to Mr. Jenkinson. He (Mr. Davis) was a member of the Board at that time, and could remember nothing but harmony between the Headmaster and the Governors. He thought the comment was uncalled for. For his part, Mr. Jenkinson said he had nothing to withdraw. The past three years had been very pleasant, but he could not say the same for all the Governors' meetings. Mr. Flavell interjected with the comment that he had been on the Board for a number of years and had never known "a rough house." The Headmaster would only say that he had had unhappy experiences when the school was being formed, and there the discussion ended.

Without an account of the actual newspaper report which had so incensed Mr. Davis, it is difficult to see any other motive for the open chastisement of the Headmaster than a desire to put him in his place. It appeared to be a way of pointing out to him that there was a new regime now in charge, and he should take note of this. This was a discordant beginning to the 'post-Price' era.

A Week in Devon - Tuesday April 3rd - Tuesday April 10th

Mr. Hyde and eleven boys travelled to Exeter to spend the week touring the beauty spots of Devon. Henry Lunn Ltd. organised the trip, to include four day-excursions to Exmoor, Dartmoor, Torquay and Plymouth. They all rode ponies, went boating, explored caverns, visited a cathedral and a pottery, and walked through a gorge. John Priestley recorded his impressions of Plymouth in April 1934 in the School Magazine.

".....on Plymouth Hoe we looked with pride and admiration at the beautiful war memorial near the famous statue of Sir Francis Drake. At first we were struck by the children of Plymouth: they were all military-minded. The tiny tots were either looking intently at the bombing operations by the sea planes hovering above the clear blue water of the harbour, or toddling down to bathe in the specially made open air pool.....talking in accents we could not understand. Plymouth is the chief naval and military base of the West Country, and this is evident. Everything seems to be in readiness for an invasion - the huge guns overlooking the harbour, the battleships, tanks, aeroplanes, sea planes, the barracks and the soldiers are there to repulse the attacks of the enemy."

Huddersfield Sports

After holding the Championship Shield of the Inter-School Sports for the previous three successive years, the School had to accept defeat by a margin of 21 points. Rain had rendered the Fartown track 'sticky' according to the School Magazine of that year; however, a good afternoon's sport was nevertheless experienced. Mr. Austin, assisted by Wainwright, had devoted considerable time to training some promising athletes. Kenneth Croft won the furlong (220yards) and the sprint (100 yards) outstandingly, and Wade paved the way to success in the middles relay event, but overall defeat had to be accepted in a sporting manner.

Pride in the Degrees - 1934

The Headmaster announced that the following students had recently taken degrees at their respective Universities:

J.C.G. Mellors	MSc, Sheffield
Arthur Thorpe	BSc with 2nd Class Honours in Mining, Sheffield
J. Richards	BA in General Honours, Liverpool,
Lawrence John Frazer	BA with 2nd Class Honours, Bangor
Josephine Read	BA with 2nd Class Honours in English Literature, Leeds
Betty Austin	BA with 2nd Class Honours and Mathematical Tripos, Cambridge

School Concert June 27th 1934

The annual concert was not as large as on many previous occasions. A programme was given by the following performers:

Hilda Noble	pianoforte solo
Estelle Rhodes	song
Eva Harris	violin solo
Miss P.E.M. Wright	song
Kathleen Perry	pianoforte solo
Dorothy Green	song
Stanley Bristow	song
Miss Agnew and Miss Wright	pianoforte duets.

The boys' choir, the Old Savilians' Orchestra of Wakefield and the girls' choir performed, and the Headmaster thanked everyone who had assisted in making the concert a success.

Show Us Your Teeth!

A summertime dental inspection of 384 children at the School discovered that 34 of them had perfect "dentitions" and 288 required dental treatment.

County Minor Scholarships announced June 1934

The following ten and eleven year olds were informed in June 1934 that they had successfully passed an examination which would enable their admittance to Hemsworth Grammar School in the following September, with their fees paid by the West Riding Local Authority.

Boys

Brierley - Alan Johnson, Roy O'Hara, George A. Woodward,

Hemsworth - Wilfred Eastwood, John E. Bell, George B. Courtney, George H. Goodinson, Tom Ryalls, Cyril Senior,

Huntwick -w - Nostell & Foulby - Clifford W. Capp,

North Elmsall - Ronald Pearman,

South Elmsall - Willie Nightingale, Valentine Picken, Ernest L. Eyre, Clifford E. Raikes, Gordon J. Harby, Harry Smith,

South Kirkby - Alwynne Younge, Vincent Dodson, Charles Bruce, Jack Nicholson, James E. Walker, William E. Seal, Leslie Wright, Norman Parkinson, Raymond Young, Thomas Bilsborough,
Upton - Sidney J. Criddle, Arthur Higginbottom

Girls

Brierley - Mary Wormald, Joan Horman, Edna Clayton, Sylvia Hill, Rebecca Thomson,

Crofton - Joyce Towler

Havercroft-with-Cold Hiendley - Edith A. Stones,

Hemsworth - Betty Gill, Phyllis H. Julian, Lois M. Jackson, Katherine E. Ellison, Lilian J. Wilson, Edna M. Harper, Edith B.

Townend, Florence E. Hart,

Huntwick-w-Nostell & Foulby - Eunice D. Senior,

North Elmsall - Peggy Senior

Ryhill - Elsie Dawson, Dorothy Holbrook, Ruth A. Hall

Shafton - Christine Picketts

South Elmsall - Doreen Lawton, Joyce Brocklehurst, Joan Milner,

South Hiendley - Marie Mills,

South Kirkby - Freda Crofts, Rita Schofield, Doris Bonell, Lucy Nettleton, Kathleen Brook, Margaret Briggs, Betty Clayton, Mary Corbett, Margaret Hardy, Ellen Gething, Bettine Harrison, Sheila H. Pratt

(Names in bold appear on the School's war memorial lectern which was created 14 years later)

The Thirteenth Sports and Parents' Day, Wednesday, July 20th 1934

A large and interested gathering of parents gained an insight into the sporting abilities of the students of Hemsworth Grammar School at this annual event, which took place in the school grounds during fine weather. Several new records were established. The boys' senior Victor Ludorum was Kenneth Croft and K. Fairs retained the senior girls' Victrix Ludorum for the second year. Roland Armitage won the junior boys' trophy and Dorothy Green was the junior girls' champion.

The final placing of the "Houses" was close, Talbot House winning the challenge cup with 68 points, Price House being second with 65 points, Holgate third with 60 and Guest fourth with 24 points.



In the Boys' Tug o' War, Talbot beat Holgate

The officials were:

President	Mr. A. G. Jenkinson (Headmaster)
Organisers	Miss Harrison, Mr. Scourfield, and Mr. Hyde
Ground manager	Mr. Hyde
Recorder	Mr. Collette
Judges	Misses Kenward, Shortridge, and Wright, and Messrs. Crossland, Augur and Storer
Stewards	the Governors and staff
Starter	Mr. Hughes.

Outstanding performances were those of the two senior champions, Kenneth Croft and K. Fairs, along with Heath in the High Jump. Heath and Croft each jumped 5ft. 1½ ins, which was two inches higher than the previous record, while Miss Fairs' jump of 4ft. 6ins. beat the previous best height by one inch. J. Wardle and G. Redfern also established a record in the junior girls' high jump by clearing a height of 4ft. 1½ ins., which was ½ ins higher than the former record. The awards were distributed by Mrs. Guest, a member of the school's governing board, who was supported by Mrs. G. Price, Mrs. E.L. Dooley, and Mr. A. Richards (Governors), and Mr. A. G. Jenkinson (headmaster). The Frickley Colliery Band played selections during the afternoon.

Results: (Names augmented where possible)

T - Talbot, P - Price, G - Guest, H - Holgate

- Long Jump, senior boys**
- Long Jump, senior girls**
- Long Jump, under 15 boys**
- Long Jump, under 15 girls**
- High Jump, senior girls**
- High Jump, under 15 girls**
- High Jump, senior boys**
- High Jump, under 15 boys**
- Throwing the Discus**
- Putting the Shot**
- Throwing Cricket Ball**
- 80 yards, senior girls**
- 80 yards, middle girls**
- 80 yards, junior girls**
- 100 yards, senior boys**
- 100 yards, middle boys**
- 100 yards, junior boys**
- Obstacle Race**
- Girls' Orange Race**
- 120 yds hurdles, senior boys**
- 120 yds hurdles, junior boys**
- 100 yds hurdles, senior girls**
- 120 yds hurdles, junior girls**
- Boys Sack Race**
- Girls Sack race**
- 220 yards, senior boys**
- 220 yards, junior boys**
- 220 yards, junior girls**
- Skipping Race**
- Bunny Race**
- 440 yards, senior boys**
- 440 yards, junior boys**
- Girls Obstacle Race**
- Girls Three-Legged Race**
- Girls Balance Race**
- Mile Handicap, boys**
- House Relay**
- Brothers and Sisters Race**
- Band Race**
- Old Boys Race**

- 1**
- Heath E.A. (P)
 - K. Fairs (T)
 - Flowers (G)
 - May Harby (G)
 - K. Fairs (T)
 - J. Wardle (H) & G. Redfearn (H) tie
 - Kenneth Croft (P) & Heath E. (P) tie
 - Roland Armitage (H)
 - Wainwright (P)
 - Wainwright (P)
 - Ward F.B. (T)
 - Edith Cooper (P)
 - Dorothy Green (T)
 - Blanche Eyre (P)
 - Kenneth Croft (P)
 - Pearce J. (T)
 - Hall (H)
 - Barraclough (T)
 - Edna North & Co. (P)
 - Kenneth Croft (P)
 - Pearce J.(T)
 - Doris Hainsworth (T)
 - Dorothy Green (T)
 - Walker (P)
 - Y. Higgins (T)
 - Kenneth Croft (P)
 - Roland Armitage (H)
 - Dorothy Green (T)
 - Doris Hainsworth (T)
 - Blanche Eyre (P)
 - Baxendale (T) & Thorpe junr.(T)
 - Roland Armitage (H)
 - Margaret Bower (P)
 - Rita Needham & Co.
 - Y. Higgins (T)
 - Denham (H)
 - Price
 - Joan Wilson and Frank Wardle.
 - J. Walley (big drum)
 - William Kirk

- 2**
- Wade G.K.(T)
 - Edith Cooper (P)
 - Roland Armitage (H)
 - Dorothy Green (T)
 - K. Lawton (P)
 - Stevenson (P)
 - Robinson (P)
 - Thorpe junr. (T)
 - Kenneth Croft (P)
 - K. Fairs (T)
 - May Harby (G)
 - Redfern (H)
 - Gordon Hopkinson H. (H)
 - Vollans (H)
 - Turton (T)
 - Chambers (P)
 - Trevey & Co. (P)
 - Gordon Hopkinson H. (H)
 - Roland Armitage (H)
 - K. Fairs (T) - 16.6 secs.
 - May Harby (G)
 - Marsh (G)
 - Rita Needham (G)
 - Gordon Hopkinson H. (H)
 - Pearce J. (T)
 - May Harby (G)
 - Rita Needham (G)
 - B. Page (G)
 - George Duckett (G) - 61 secs.
 - Pearce J. (T)
 - M. Lee (H)
 - Mary Austin & Co.
 - Margaret Berry (H)
 - Broom (H)
 - Holgate.
 - Frederick R. Smith.

- 3**
- Gordon Hopkinson (H) - 17ft. 10 ins.
 - K. Lawton (P) - 14ft. 9 ins.
 - Fairs (T)
 - Margaret Austin (P) - 14ft. 9½ ins.
 - Kathleen Himsforth (H) - 4ft. 6 ins.
 - Dorothy Green (T) - 4ft. 1½ ins.
 - Gordon Hopkinson (H) - 5ft. 1½ ins.
 - Pearce J. (T) - 4ft. 4ins.
 - Thorpe junr. (T) - 71 ft. 4½ ins.
 - Weaver B. (G) - 37 ft. 5½ ins.
 - Shaddock (G)
 - Doris Hainsworth (T) - 10 secs.
 - Constance White (H) - 10 secs.
 - Rita Needham (G) - 11.2 secs.
 - Frank Hewitt (P) - 11 secs.
 - Hince (H) - 12 secs.
 - John H. Hibbert (P) - 12.8 secs.
 - Howitt F.N.(P) - 18.6 secs.
 - Scott T.(P) - 18.6 secs.
 - G. Redfern (H) - 15.8 secs.
 - George Duckett (G) - 24.4 secs.
 - Hince (H) - 29.4 secs.
 - G. Redfern (H) - 31.4 secs.
 - Patrick Duffy J. (H) - 69.2 secs.
 - Duffy J.(H) - 5mins. 15.2 secs.



Parents, friends and pupils watch the 1934 sports



Kenneth Croft wins



Three-legged racing



Apple bobbing

Crafts Exhibition

Considerable interest was taken by the parents in an exhibition in the school hall of the students' work in arts and crafts, cookery and needlework, woodwork, metalwork, and machine drawing. Tea was served in the dining hall. A dancing display was given, and a Parents v. School cricket match in the evening was won by the School by nine wickets. The parents scored 73 and the school replied with 86 for 1 (Wade not out 50, Shaddock not out 23). The day's proceedings were wound up with some friendly rivalry between the mothers and school girls on the tennis courts.

A Day Trip to London July 20th 1934

A party of 64 scholars and Staff members set off at 6.15am for the rail trip to King's Cross. On their arrival, charabancs were waiting to take them via Kingsway, the Strand and Whitehall to Westminster Abbey, where the group was allowed to wander at will. The Houses of Parliament were viewed from the outside only, and the party then proceeded to Hampton for lunch. The court was duly visited, and from there the group proceeded to Windsor. They were all held silent and entranced in St. George's Chapel by its splendour and beauty, and then came a three-hour steam boat trip down the Thames which was enjoyed by all. At Bourne End they rejoined the coaches and were driven back to London. The leading coach escaped most of the Aldershot and Ascot traffic, but others were not so lucky, and were delayed by three hours. Finally, tired but happy, they all boarded the train at King's Cross and headed back to Yorkshire.

Girls' Swimming Gala - July 26th 1934

The third annual swimming gala for the girls of Hemsworth Grammar School was held at Frickley Baths on this Thursday afternoon. For the second year running, Peggy Barber, a South Elmsall girl, gave a fine performance, winning six firsts and a second. Guest House finished first with 45 points, Talbot second with 33, Price third with 31 and Holgate fourth with one. Members of the Staff supervised the events which resulted as follows:

	1	2	3
Two lengths freestyle	Peggy Barber	Margaret Austin	D. Hepworth
Balloon Race	Peggy Barber	Margaret Austin	D. Hepworth
One length backstroke	Margaret Austin	Peggy Barber	D. Hepworth
Neat Diving	D. Hepworth	Margaret Austin	Vera Carter
Umbrella Race	Peggy Barber	K. Arrand	
Surface Diving	Peggy Barber	Margaret Austin	D. Hepworth
One length breast stroke	Peggy Barber & Margaret Austin (tie)		D. Hepworth
Plunging	D. Hepworth	Margaret Austin	Vera Carter
"Goodnight" race	D. Hepworth	K. Arrand	Kathleen Himsworth
Rescue race	Peggy Barber	Margaret Austin	Kathleen Himsworth
House Relay Race	Guest	Talbot	Price

The Boys' Gala was arranged for two days earlier, but owing to insufficient entries, only the relay race was run, resulting: 1) Price, 2) Guest, 3) Talbot, 4) Holgate.

School Certificates

60 pupils were entered and 48 passed with 19 distinctions.

Matriculated:

George Elvidge, E. Heath, H.L. Hopkinson, Joseph Keough, Arnold Skelding, J.N. Wilson, D.E. Baxendale, V.K. Thorpe, L. Wilson, A. Keeling, W. Metcalfe, Doris Hainsworth, Hetty Blanchard.

School Certificates:

Ronald Allen, Gerard Challender, Gordon Hopkinson, Albert A. Kirk, Ernest Pointon, John T. Priestley, H.N.C. Shadlock, R. Wade, D.W. Winham, K. Croft, H.E. Foster, F.R. Pitchfork, Fred Smith, S. B.T. Weaver, Eric S. Whittle, C. Binks, D.J. Bragger, R. Gladwyn, N.K. Julian, William Robinson, E. Walsh, R.J. Wass, P. Watson, Dorothy Dickenson, Doris Hall, Elsie Mason, Elsie Stamp, Bessie Athron, Ellen Keeling, Elsie Lindsay, Margaret Poole, Kathleen Liversedge, May Madeley, Florence Senior, Margaret D. Townend.

The English results were disappointing, and probably explained by the many changes of teachers during the year. There was a 100% pass in French, and almost this in History and Latin.

Higher School Certificates - There were 13 entrants of whom nine passed.

Millicent Webb won a County Major and a State Scholarship. Kenneth Goodall obtained a County Technological Scholarship, and Robert Thorpe won a Parker-Rhodes Mining Scholarship tenable at Sheffield University. Four former students were now at Manchester University, two at Liverpool, four at Leeds, two at Sheffield and one at Newcastle.

Satisfactory Balance Sheet

On September 7th 1934 the annual meeting of the Old Hilmian's Association was held at the School, and the following officials were elected:

Chairman - Alice Scott, vice-Chairman - William Kirk, Treasurer - Norman Senior, Secretary - James Keenan.

Committee - Freda Swaine, Miriam Wass, George Potts, Ken Brewin and John Barker.

It was reported that membership had increased from 35 to 60, and all the sub-branches of the Association had experienced a successful year. For the first time in five years, a profit had been made for the year, and the balance sheet was satisfactory.

A New Term, A New Form and New Teachers

Miss E. Nicholson of Great Houghton began her employment as an English teacher in September 1934 after the 37 days of the Summer holidays, as did Miss D.A. Euler of Bradford who was appointed Domestic Science mistress in place of Miss D. Mullinder who after seven years at the school, left to be married. Miss E. Bromley of Southport was also appointed to teach French and English. The Head expected a First Year intake of 89 in September 1934 - 40 more than usual. There were now 458 scholars compared with 420 at the beginning of the previous year. Despite the new Staff and the creation of a new Form, it was felt the School was still crowded.

Justices of the Peace

October's announcement of the list of new Justices of the peace contained two familiar names: Mr. Arthur Godfrey Jenkinson and Capt. Leonard Hallam. The announcement of this honour in the local newspaper gave a reminder to the Hemsworth and District readers of the achievements of these two gentlemen, and their suitability as magistrates.

Mr. A.G. Jenkinson, Hemsworth Grammar School's popular Headmaster was educated at Dulwich College and at Brasenose College, Oxford. He achieved B.A. and M.A. degrees, and a Diploma in Education while at Oxford. He was assistant master at Aysgarth School, Yorkshire for seven years, and then assistant master for temporary periods at Fettes College, Harrow, Edinburgh Academy, and Christ College, Brecon. He was Headmaster of St. Austell School, Cornwall for 11 years before arriving in Hemsworth in 1921. Between December 1914 and March 1918 Mr. Jenkinson was a private in the Royal Fusiliers, and later a lieutenant, captain and major in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, serving in France and Italy. As President of the Hemsworth Branch of the British Legion he was held in high esteem. A prominent churchman, he was formerly a warden of Hemsworth Parish Church, and a representative of the parish at the Wakefield Diocesan Conference, by virtue of which he was a member of the Parochial Council.

Captain Leonard Hallam of Carlton came to the area in 1920 to take up an appointment with Hemsworth Rural Council, and shortly afterwards became estates manager for the Carlton Main Colliery Company. Among his appointments are Chairmanships of:

- Sherburn Joint Smallpox Committee,
- Hemsworth Joint Hospital Committee,
- Barnsley Rural Council,
- Staffing and Salaries Committee of the West Riding Public Assistance Committee,
- Carlton Parish Council,

He was also vice-Chairman of the Hemsworth Grammar School Governors and Carlton Parochial Church Council. Capt. Hallam had been President of Hemsworth Amateur Operatic Society for the previous ten years, having usually taken a leading part in the society's productions. He was a member of the "Old Volunteers" of the East Yorkshire regiment before the war, and served in France from 1914-1918, and was mentioned in dispatches. He joined the 4th York and Lancs. Regiment as a private and went through the ranks to become a captain.



Capt. L. Hallam.

It would appear that this honour resulted in the resignation of Capt. Hallam from the School's Board of Governors. He is not mentioned in the School records thereafter.

Thirteenth Annual Speech Day, Wednesday November 14th 1934

The thirteenth annual Speech Day was held at Hemsworth Hippodrome before a large attendance. County Coun. A. Flavell, chairman of the Governors, presided, supported by Mrs. G. Price, Mrs. S. H. Guest, Messrs. G. Cooper, J. Potts and S. Fieldhouse (governors), Capt. L. Hallam (an ex-governor), Mr. A.G. Jenkinson (Headmaster), and Miss M. A. Griffiths (Senior Mistress). The prizes and certificates were distributed by Mrs. Hone, wife of Canon Hone, Rector of Barnsley, and an address was given by Mr. A.L. Rowse, M.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, a former pupil of Mr. Jenkinson when he was at his previous school at St. Austell in Cornwall. An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Dooley, a Governor, owing to illness.

Thirteen Years' Progress

The Chairman paid a tribute to the late Mr. Gabriel Price, chairman of the Governors from the establishment of the school until his death earlier in March, and went on to congratulate the headmaster on his appointment as a magistrate. Outlining the history of the school, Coun. Flavell said the total cost of the amendments to the original building to date was approximately £46,000. The school was opened in September 1921, with 101 pupils, of whom 76 were fee-payers, and now had 452, of whom 97 were fee-payers and 355 held scholarships. In the whole of the secondary schools in the West Riding there were 11,143 scholarship holders and 5,131 fee-paying pupils. Many Hemsworth students, he added, had passed through college and university, and were rendering valuable service to the nation. Others were preparing to follow, and the country would be cleaner, sweeter and wiser because of the existence of that school. He urged the pupils to be resourceful and, when the psychological moment arrived, to be ready.

Numbers Rising

The Headmaster, in his annual report, said that the numbers in school were rising. During the previous year 69 pupils left the school of which seven went to University or Training College, five were teaching for a year before going to college, six were nursing, four in the R.A.F., two in the R.N., eleven shop assistants, four clerks, eight artisans or mechanics, two farming, two in domestic service, five had left the district, and thirteen were at home or unemployed. He would have liked to have been able to say that none of those who left were unemployed, and he urged parents to decide what they wanted their children to do at least a year before they left, so that the staff might have a chance of helping them

Between Scylla & Charybdis, (or a rock and a hard place)

"I suppose that to devise a suitable curriculum," continued Mr. Jenkinson, "is one of the greatest difficulties that headmasters of secondary schools have to face at the present time. On the one hand we are told that a scrappy education is worse than useless, that a thorough knowledge of a few subjects is of far more value than a superficial knowledge of many; on the other hand the champions of particular subjects are all clamouring for the inclusion of their own as an indispensable part of education, and the mere mention of early specialisation is apt to raise a panic. How is the headmaster to steer a wise course between Scylla and Charybdis? In these days, knowledge is becoming more and more specialised, and character, which is the ultimate aim of education, must be based on knowledge. An earlier specialisation and a reduction in the number of subjects is the safe way out of our difficulty. I think we have done something in the right direction by our system of alternative courses in the fourth and fifth years, but the curriculum is still overloaded. Then there are examinations to be faced, and the requirements of examining bodies make it necessary to retain subjects which might otherwise be eliminated. I am not sure that the final solution of this complex problem is not to be found in a system of selective and non-selective schools, by which the selective school would take the more academic or would-be University pupils, and the non-selective would be able to adopt a more simplified and at the same time more broadened and more satisfying curriculum with possibly a School Certificate at the end of it for those who leave school at 16. I know the objections to such a scheme, but to my mind they would be far outweighed by its advantages if it led to a simplification of the curriculum."

The Headmaster then paid tribute to the late Mr. Gabriel Price, the founder and benefactor of the School who had been chairman of the Governors since the opening of the school.

Mrs. Hone distributed the prizes, and was presented with a bouquet by Doris Hainsworth, the head girl of the school.

Prize List

In addition to the certificates, the following prizes were distributed:

County Technological Scholarship
County Major and State Scholarship
Parker-Rhodes Scholarship
For Distinction in School Certificate

Kenneth R. Goodall
Millicent Webb
Robert H. Thorpe
C. Binks, Hetty Blanchard, Gerard Challender, George Elvidge, Doris Hainsworth, Gordon Hopkinson, H.L. Hopkinson, A. Keeling, Joseph Keogh, W. Metcalfe, Arnold Skelding, V. K. Thorpe, E. Walsh, Eric S. Whittle, L. Wilson.

Form Prizes

George Elvidge, Margaret Poole, W. Metcalfe, Vera Parkinson, P. Kenyon, Mary Ineson, G. Sutton, D. Corbett, Kathleen Mills, Olive White, Joyce Garrod, Barbara Crossland, Beryl Townend.

General Information

H. Bradley.

Star Prize

Beryl Townend.

Special Prizes for Head girl and Head Boy of the school

Sybil Howson and J. N. Thorpe.

Special prizes for Latin

Hetty Blanchard and J. N. Wilson.

Needlework prize

Vera Parkinson.

General progress

E. Arthur Jessop (21 places), Alice Allton (19), William Higgins (19), John Westbroome (19).

House Challenge Cup

(1) Talbot (1,092½ points), (2) Holgate (878), (3) Guest (722½), (4) Price (593).

Inter-House Sports Cup

(1) Talbot (68 points), (2) Price (65), (3) Holgate (60), (4) Guest (24).

House Arts Cup

(1) Talbot (100½), (2) Holgate (61½), (3) Guest (33), (4) Price (21).

Prize Winning

After congratulating the school on its "magnificent record of progress," Mr. A.L. Rowse, the special guest, gave an address. He began by saying that those who were best at examinations were not necessarily the best citizens, nor were they the worst. Winning prizes was rather a technical affair. The important thing was to turn out good, fully developed men and women, for if the country was to come out of its difficulties it needed every scrap of ability coming through the schools. It could not afford to waste any, and he hoped the West Riding County Council, which was one of the most liberal minded education authorities in the country, would make every effort to see that boys and girls of outstanding quality were drafted on from the secondary schools to the universities to be further trained. It stood to reason that the wider the net was cast the larger should be the haul. If they made it their business to bring out of the elementary schools all the boys and girls who would most profit by further education on those lines there should be still untapped sources of ability with which to serve the community. The aim of education should be to bring out the particular capacities, to discover the bent of individuals. Pupils should not be sent out as mere specialists having no general attitude to life. Still less should they go out so innocent of the world as to fall victims to the bad influences of contemporary society. They had a duty to see that each generation had a better chance than the last. We were going through great difficulties, and would gain or lose according to how we made the future. It was in our wills to make it.

In a word to parents - "poor, harassed, and often worried parents," as he described them - Mr. Rowse said the best advice he could give was to watch their children and find out what was their natural bent. It was no good trying to drive them into something not fitted for them. If the children had a talent no pains should be spared to develop it. He concluded by wishing the school all prosperity.

Dr A.L. Rowse, FBA, Emeritus Fellow of All Souls was made a Companion of Honour in 1997 for services to history and literature. The historian spent the greater part of his academic life at All Souls, Oxford, of which he became a Fellow at the age of 22. His subjects in more than 90 books of history, poems, biography, and criticism have been diverse, but he remained primarily, a historian of the Elizabethan age



Dr A.L. Rowse 1903-1997

A comprehensive vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Guest, seconded by Capt. L. Hallam, who congratulated the school on its wonderful progress. In reply, Mr. Rowse asked for the customary day's holiday, which was granted. A programme of music and plays was given by the scholars, with Miss P.E.M. Wright as conductor and Miss I. Agnew as accompanist. Miss Wright also sang two songs.

Holiday for Royal Wedding

A day's holiday was granted for the school on November 29th 1934 on the occasion of the wedding of the Duke of Kent and the princess Marina.

Tenders

The tenders of W.J. Townend and Sons, Hemsworth and Mr. H.E. Brooks of South Elmsall for the supply of meat and groceries respectively for the school dinners were accepted.

The Milk of Human Kindness

During the first weeks of November 1934, a system of milk distribution to the students had been put into operation for the first time. When the subject of this milk had first been mentioned as a possibility, Mr. Jenkinson had requested a medical officer should visit the school to ascertain which children would benefit from the supply of milk. Dr. Lawrence certified that 88 (53 girls and 25 boys) needed milk, and a further 28 parents promptly requested a similar supply for their children. Each listed child was therefore given one-third of a pint per day at a cost of 2½d (1p). Only five of the participating children had been unable to pay, and the headmaster and Governors looked forward to the day when free milk would be supplied to every schoolchild. When the matter was discussed one month later, 125 children were supplied with milk each morning, and six were receiving it free of charge. A request had gone to the Board of Education for the free issue of milk to all pupils. At a meeting of the Hemsworth Urban District Council Councillor Isaac Burns asked where the money was coming from to pay for this milk. Coun. G. Cooper replied that he could not answer that question, and everyone awaited the decision from London. Coun. Burns then conceded that if there were children who could not afford to pay for the milk, then they should be supplied out of the rates.

Round the Bend

In response to the Governors' request for information, Mr. J.H. Hallam, Director of Education, said that there had been no provision in the original estimate for the new Mining Centre currently in the process of being built, to pay for rounding off a sharp corner in the road near the back entrance of the School. The work would cost about £120, but the proposal could not be entertained at that particular time, however dangerous was the state of the road.

Much Ado About Nothing (December 19th and 20th 1934).

Although this is one of Shakespeare's Comedies, it was almost turned into a tragedy when on the first night the costumes failed to arrive. However, they reached Hemsworth for the succeeding nights. The performance was notable not only for its fine portrayal of the leading characters, but also for its good all-round acting by the supporting cast. The scenery, which added a great deal to the effectiveness of the play, was made by Mr. Hamilton assisted by C. Clarkson. As stage manager, Mr. Hamilton was also in charge of the excellent lighting effects, and Miss Clifford once more took on the task of Producer. As in previous years, Mr. Shiells was the Business Manager. The School and visitors showed their appreciation of the Play by their very good attendance each night.



Back row L-R: 1, 2, Eric Ineson, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Middle row L-R: 1, 2, 3, 4, George Eldridge, 6, 7

Front row L-R: 1, 2, 3, 4, Hetty Blanchard, 6, 7, 8

Hamlet - The Osiris Players

Once again the School was visited by this acting company who presented an abridged version of this play. The actors received an ovation which demonstrated the appreciation of the young audience. The acting of all the cast members was of a high standard, giving an afternoon of delightful entertainment.

As 1934 was progressing, so too was the building work on the Mining College in a corner of the school's grounds, facing the main road. Sadly, Gabriel Price, one of the prime movers in its creation would not be able to witness its completion, nor the ongoing progress of the school which had been so close to his heart. Having completed its thirteenth year, the School had now become well known as Hemsworth Grammar School, with its Governors under the Chairmanship of Coun. A. Flavell.

In September 1934 there were 455 pupils at the School.

Calendar Spring Term 1934

January 10th (Wed.)	Term begins.
February 5th.	Marks and Orders.
February 16th.	General Knowledge Examination.
February 19th (Mon.)	Mid-Term Holiday.
February 20th-28th.	Forms VI. and V. Test Examination.
February 26th.	Marks and Orders (to be read on March 1st).
March 6th.	Lecture by Commander Hey, R.N. on "Trade Routes of the Empire."
March 8th & 9th.	Inter-House Reading Competition.
March 15th.	Pontefract Choir Competitions.
March 19th.	Marks and Orders.
March 21st & 22nd.	Staff Play.
March 28th.	Term ends.
April 18th (Wed.)	Summer Term begins.
Sept 1934 - Sept 1935	70 days' school holidays, (12 Xmas, 15 Easter, 37 Summer)

Despite the social upheavals continuing throughout Europe, life in the Hemsworth area generally focussed on putting bread on the table, and endeavouring to provide the younger generation with sufficient life experiences and good examples to help make the country "a cleaner, sweeter and wiser place". (Coun. Flavell speaking on Speech Day).

Notable people and events running concurrently with this were:

Adolph Hitler as Fuhrer of Germany, became head of state as well as Chancellor in August 1934.

Stanley Matthews began his 23 year international football career.

Bonnie and Clyde continued their killing spree in America and were themselves finally ambushed and shot.

Shirley Temple appeared in her first film "Stand Up and Cheer"

Donald Duck made his first screen appearance.

The Liner Queen Mary was launched 26 September on the Clyde.

Margot Fonteyn made her debut age 15 dancing in the ballet Nutcracker Suite in London.

The Masters Golf Tournament was inaugurated in Georgia, U.S.A.

Fred Perry won the men's' singles title at Wimbledon.

Lego toy blocks were made for the first time in Denmark by local carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen.

The first laundrette opened in Texas with four washing machines, and charging by the hour.

In 1934 a Belgian, Paul Otlet, sketched out plans for a global network of computers (or "electric telescopes" as he called them) which would allow people to search and browse through millions of interlinked documents, images, audio and video files. He described how messages could be sent, files shared and even social networks could be established. He gave his invention the name "reseau" which might be translated as "network" or "web". His vision relied on a patchwork of index cards and telegraph machines making a hyperlinked system which anticipated today's Web. His legacy fell victim to a series of historical misfortunes - including the Nazis marching into Belgium and destroying much of his life's work. Today Otlet is largely forgotten, but a small group of researchers are currently resurrecting his writings and reputation, and raising funds for the establishment of the Mundaneum museum in Mons.