

TRENTHAM 1939 - Air Raid Precautions



In Trentham 124 men and women were designated as ARP wardens, according to the 1939 Register.

The senior warden was Mr J Stuart Maddock of Albert Road.

Their HQ was in the Sunday School Rooms of the Methodist Church.

In Trentham, local scouts helped with the distribution of gas masks and showed residents how to put them on. Luckily they were never needed.

AIR RAID WARDENS WANTED

A RESPONSIBLE JOB FOR RESPONSIBLE MEN



IWM

SIREN TEST IN NORTH STAFFS.

CITY AND TOWN EXPERIENCES

NO ALARM

Reports on to-day's air raid siren test in the Midland Civil Defence Region, which includes the whole of Staffordshire, show that the warnings were heard in the streets of urban areas, even against heavy traffic, but that they would need considerable amplification to reach people in works, offices, big shops or even private houses where there was any volume of other sound.

The City sirens were distinctly heard in chorus at **TRENTHAM** but within a few seconds of their commencement were almost drowned by a deeper-throated warning from somewhere in the Trentham Estate. This resembled a particularly powerful motor horn, and the actual raid warning took the form of intermittent blasts, no doubt due to the difficulty of producing a warbling note with such an instrument.

CITY CHIEF CONSTABLE'S SALARY

DECISION DEFERRED AFTER COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Stoke-on-Trent City Council, as briefly reported in the *Sentinel* last night, deferred for the time being a decision on a recommendation of the Watch Committee that the salary of the Chief Constable (Mr. F. L. Bunn) be increased and placed on a new scale suggested by the Home Office.

The decision to defer the matter was taken following a statement by the Town Clerk that the whole question of the strength of the City Police Force, and a suggested increase, had to be considered.

The Watch Committee reported that the present salary of the Chief Constable was £950 per annum, rising by biennial increments of £50 to £1,150, and their recommendation was that the salary be placed on the scale suggested by the Home Office—£950 per annum, rising by biennial increments of £75 to a maximum of £1,250, the first increment of £75 to take effect as from September 1st, 1940.

A.R.P. EMOLUMENT

Mr. H. Hopwood said the present salary of the Chief Constable was equivalent to £18 10s. per week. What he and other ratepayers wanted to know was whether the house he occupied at **Trentham** belonged to the Corporation, and, if so, if he paid rent for it; whether the Corporation provided a car and a chauffeur, whose wages would be about £200 a year; and whether he has received £100 or £200 as A.R.P. Chief Officer. He wondered if the Chief Constable had given back, or was going to give back, the money he had received in connection with A.R.P., because in the last few weeks he had heard of two Chief Constables who were also A.R.P. officers for their districts returning A.R.P. grants.

Our Readers' Views

A.R.P. IN THE CITY

CASE FOR RETAINING WORKERS

WARDEN'S REPLY TO SIR F. JOSEPH

(To the Editor of the "Sentinel")

Sir,—While admitting that strict economy is needed to make the best use of our resources, Sir Francis Joseph has chosen an unsuitable time to upset and discourage the A.R.P. organisation of the City.

Money is not the only talking point in the safety and comfort of the citizens. I state, without fear of contradiction, that the City is not over-supplied with full-time workers of any kind. The bill may be heavy, but only by an extra 30s. per week per man as against their being on the dole doing nothing. This applies in many cases.

Is this too much to ask for the comfort and safety of the public, particularly should there be a daylight raid? Voluntary wardens, &c., cannot retire from their work and hold themselves available at any time, and it is only after working hours that our posts are sufficiently manned.

Sirens should be controlled day and night during the war. We have not sufficient police or Specials to control them without the help of wardens.

As wardens, our first duty is to try to avoid panic and instil confidence, but we cannot be in two places at a time. While all wardens will wish our new Chief Warden for the City a pleasant and satisfactory term of office, with our utmost co-operation, it is to be hoped that he (and possibly, Sir Francis Joseph) will inspect the organisation from headquarters downwards, and they will find sufficient evidence to prove the cause for dissatisfaction on the part of those whose pleasant duty it is to organise their posts.

Let the City reconsider their decision before it is too late.—Yours &c.,

J. STUART MADDOCK,
Head Warden, **Trentham**
Albert-road, **Trentham** October 5th, 1939.



IWM

BLACK-OUT TIME TO-NIGHT

6-20

A.R.P. ELECTRIC LAMPS
60w. Reliable
Each ... 6d.

HUNT BACH'S
Lamb St. HANLEY.

WARDEN'S REPORT FORM. A.R.P./M.I.
Form of Report to Report Centres.

(Commence with the words) "AIR RAID DAMAGE"

Designation of REPORTING AGENT (e.g., Warden's Sector Number)

POSITION of occurrence

TYPE of bombs :—H.E. Incendiary Poison Gas

Approx. No. of CASUALTIES :— (If any trapped under wreckage, say so)

If FIRE say so :—

Damage to MAINS :—Water Coal Gas Overhead electric cables Sewers

Names of ROADS BLOCKED

Position of any UNEXPLODED BOMBS

Time of occurrence (approx.)

Services already ON THE SPOT or COMING :—

Remarks :—

(Finish with the words) "MESSAGE ENDS"

ORIGINAL } These words are for use with a report sent by messenger.
DUPLICATE } Delete whichever does not apply.