

A PROPOSED WORTHINGTON TEMPORARY VILLAGE SCHOOL c.1913.

The proposed temporary village school described as follows in a newspaper article, clearly did not materialise, as In November 1919, it was recorded in the Leicester Journal that 56 children were still walking from Worthington to Newbold School for their education. It was not until 1926 that the village of Worthington had its own permanent school which is currently in its centenary year.

To be read in conjunction with a history of 'Newbold Church of England School' which can be found on the author's website samuelstewart.com under subsection education

I can remember a few events from the General Strike of 1926 and I'm pretty certain this was the year the school in Worthington opened and I began my school days. Before then all the children from the village walked to Newbold to attend school.

The teachers were Miss Amos and Mrs Mawson. At eleven years old it was back to Newbold for most children of the village where the staff at that time (1930) were Mr Burrows, the headmaster, Mr Cuthbert, a student teacher, Miss Mitchell and another whose name I cannot recall.

Ralph Walker, Parish Times 2002

BY SAMUEL T STEWART - OCT 2026

Transcribed from The Melton Mowbray Mercury and the Oakham and Uppingham News - 3 July 1913.

A PROPOSED TEMPORARY SCHOOL AT WORTHINGTON

Mr. D. Vessey, barrister, on Friday afternoon, held an enquiry for the Board of Education at the Wesleyan Chapel, Worthington, relative to the proposal made by the Leicestershire County Council, to provide a new elementary school for about 50 children at Worthington. Notice of the appeal had been made to the Board of Education against the proposal by more than ten rate-payers in the area. The enquiry was attended by Mr. W. A. Brockington, Director of Education, Mr. J. W. West, a member of the County Education Committee, the Rev. H. B. Green, Vicar of Worthington, Mr. Sisson, headmaster of Newbold Schools, and a dozen or so ratepayers and parents. A memorial was drawn up in favour of a school at Worthington village, owing to the children having to walk a mile and a half to Newbold, it being represented that the distance was too great., and particularly in the winter.. Notices were issued re a school for about 50, and to remove a school building from Cosby to Worthington. It was intended by the committee to provide accommodation for children up to nine and a half years of age, There were 210 on the books of Newbold Schools, with 43 attending from Worthington.

The Vicar of Worthington had protested, and it was alleged that the proposal was engendered by Political and Sectarian feeling. On the most extravagant basis, the proposal would not cost Worthington more than a penny in the pound. The committee was guided by the apparently influential representations of the parish and parents. It would be a relieving school, not competing with Newbold, and the educational interests of the area would not suffer. The Newbold school was not overcrowded and the committee would not be supplying a deficiency. The hygienic conditions of the Worthington village children would be improved (Applause). The opinion of the Education Committee was that it was a hardship for the Worthington children to walk a mile and a half to Newbold school. It was his (Mr. Brockington's) opinion, too.

Mr J.G. Shields C.C., was in favour of a temporary school as suggested. He objected to a permanent school, as not being necessary fo years to come. If the cost of a temorary school woud be under £100, it would be small amount spread over ten years, and the children would be protected from weather exposure in having to walk to Newbold. He hoped the rate payers of Worthington would not object or the Board of Eduction might decide on a permanent school.

Several parents gave evidence as to the hardship of the children, it being stated that they took their meals to school, and if the food was not sodden with rain, it was baked during summer in the school porches at Newbold, and then thrown

into the hedges. One parent recounted that years ago children exchanged their dinners for sweets at Newbold.

The barrister, after a three hour sitting, adjourned the enquiry until the evening for the attendance of Mr. Goodman, C.C., of Swannington (also a member of the education committee), who was then informed of the afternoon's discussion, that the majority agreed to a temporary school at Worthington village for 18 infants and children in standard I :- at present a total of 26.

Mr. Goodman was satisfied that the names of residents favouring the school at Worthington was representative.

The barrister, closing the inquiry, and said he would present a report to the Board of Education accordingly. **The opponents misunderstood the proposals and did not now object to an infant school for Worthington village**

The following was transcribed from the Burton Chronicle - 17 Feb 1898

WORTHINGTON ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CONCERT

Note - It is assumed that this concert was given by all the pupils attending the Newbold National School (later to become Newbold C of E School) and not just those from Worthington. Note the songs referencing Darkies and Coons.

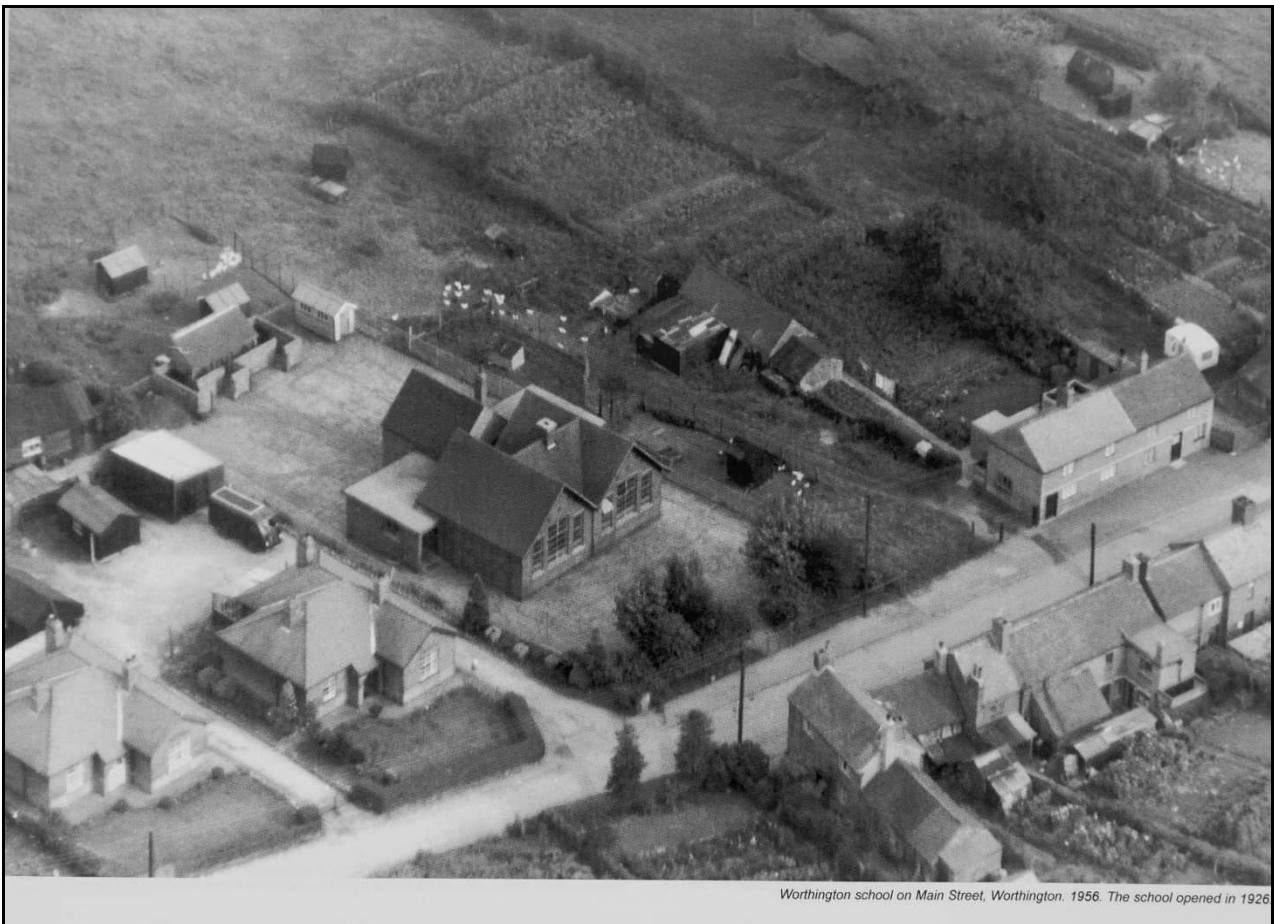
On Tuesday evening, the annual children's concert was given in the National School. The room was crowded to excess, and many were unable to gain admission. Mr. R. Sisson, the headmaster, and those who assisted him are to be congratulated upon the results of their efforts.

The whole of the programme was exceedingly well rendered. The Action Song - *Sneezers, Yawners and Laughters* caused an immense amount of amusement, and was vociferously encored. The song *Swiss toy girl* was well sung by Mary Sharpe and was thoroughly appreciated by the audience. The infants recieved a well deserved encore for the excellent way they gave the recitation *It's no joke to be a baby* and the boys deserved special praise for the way they rendered the action songs *Paddy Blake* and *The liittle Grenadiers*, as do also the girls for *The liittle gipsies* and *The fan girl*. Every item on the programme was thoroughly enjoyed and in the humorous cantatas *The fun of the fair* (which formed the second part of the programme), the waxwork figures and the darkies songs recieved special praise.

The proceeds are devoted to the purchasing of school prizes for attending school reguarly and punctually.

Full programme :- song - ' Union Jack'; School children - action song 'Family Lines'; Girls - action song ' Sneezers, Yawners, and Laughters'; Boys and Girls - Kindergarten song 'Railway train' Infants - Gavotte and song 'see us dance our stately measures'; Girls - song 'My uncles farm'; Boys and girls - recitation ' it's no joke to be a baby'; Infants - song and chorus - 'Swiss toy girl' Mary Sharpe; Boys - action song 'Paddy Blake'; Girls - action song Japanese fan Girls; Boys - action song and drill 'Little Grenadiers'; Girls - action song 'Little gipsies; Girls - action song ' Kilkenney cats'; Boys - humorous cantatas entitled ' the fun of the fair' - opening chorus ' Come children play; song and chorus 'In for a lark'; song and chorus - 'You'll all see the niggers; chorus 'Ho; Boys and Girls; song and chorus '- Showman's song'; chorus 'You may talk of the menagerie'; chorus 'The waxwork figure'; song 'Jill's song'- recitation 'The safety cycle; chorus - ' Come darkies all'; song and chorus - ' Dat little coon in pants; song and chorus - 'Little coons song'; chorus - ' Good old Aunt Eliza; finale - ' God save the Queen'.

WORTHINGTON VILLAGE SCHOOL 1926 -



Worthington school on Main Street, Worthington. 1956. The school opened in 1926

1926



Worthington School. Class of 1926.

The Ford Model T pick-up in the background belongs to Dan Kinsey with which he made deliveries around the village and also undertook local general haulage. Miss Amos, the class teacher is standing at the back. She lived into her 90's and died at Ashby in 1990, still Miss Amos. The pupils are;- from L to R - Back row. Ivy Smith, Violet Smith, Jessie Taylor, Ivy Summerton, Unknown, Jack Dolman, Tom Smith, Jack Spencer, Mont Summerton, Unknown, Tom Winfield. Front Row:- Unknown, Unknown, Winifred Collins, Ralph Walker, Unknown, Jack Hodges, Beattie Smith, Henry Brooks, Jack Smith, Frank Winfield. The four unknown pupils were the children of itinerant farm labourers.



Worthington School. Class of 1940. On the back row, the tall girl with a bow is Edith Summerton and on the right of the row is Arthur Wheatley. On the second row, the fifth child is Doreen Summerton. From L to R : Top row. Sid Smith, Trevor Cartwright, Derek Hicklin, unknown, Joan Malt, John Shaw, Jean Adcock, Edith Summerton, Alan Smith, Arthur Wheatley. Second row. Marjory Shaw, Dorothy Shaw, Shelia Jordan, Edith Shaw, Dorothy Smith, Gwen Tivey, Joyce Jordan, Kathleen Richards, Joan Leeson, Shelia Toon, Doreen Aldridge. Third row. Olwin Blood, Betsy McMurrin, Nancy Blood, Marion Roley, Edith Smith, Doreen Summerton, Margaret Blood, Muriel Aldridge, Betty Moore. Bottom row. Terry Cooper, Rex Cooper, Donald Moore, Mick Davis Whyman, Trevor Malt, Wally McMurrin, Leonard Shaw