

Passive Methodist Resistance to Education Act Tax in 1903

The local Methodist minister the **Reverend Thomas Bowes** and **Arthur Fairweather**, were both passive resistors to the terms of the Education Act of 1902 whereby taxes paid benefitted Church of England and Catholic Church Schools to a much greater extend. Opposition for the Act came especially from Methodists, Baptists and other non-conformists outraged at preferential support for Anglican and Catholic schools. In the September of 1903 they both appeared before the Woodbridge Magistrates Court for non-payment of the tax and upon their continued defiance, the Court ordered that their pocket watches be seized, to be sold at auction in settlement of outstanding monies. The watches duly went to the auction at the Lecture Hall, Woodbridge, with Mr G H Shipman as auctioneer.

The story is that they both attended the auction and successfully bid for the other's watch, which they then exchanged.

The Fairweather engraved watch is still telling the time but whether the Bowes watch has survived till today is unknown.

PASSIVE RESISTANCE AT WOODBIDGE AND LEISTON.

On Wednesday Mr. W. G. Whisstock (rate-collector), in conjunction with Supt. Lingley, executed the distress warrants made against passive resistors for non-payment of rate and costs as follows:—Rev. Thomas Bowes, 14s., silver watch; Mr. W. Holder, 10s. 6½d., silver watch; Mr. A. Fairweather, 12s. 8d., gold watch; Mr. W. J. Smith, 11s. 6d., silver watch; Mr. George Durrant, 15s. 7d., silver watch; Mr. B. H. Rowland, £1 12s. 5½d., case of knives; Mr. A. Rowland, 10s. 4½d., silver watch; Mr. S. T. Pulham, 17s. 6d., lady's gold watch; Mr. A. Adams, 11s. 11d., silver watch; Miss K. C. Denny, 13s. 4d., violin; Mr. J. L. Ward, 10s. 2½d., silver watch. There will be no public sale, as upon the several articles being handed to Mr. James Hunt he paid the amounts recoverable.

The sale of the goods taken in the distraint upon the 11 passive resistors in Woodbridge took place yesterday morning at the Lecture Hall, Woodbridge. Mr. G. H. Shipman, who was the auctioneer, said he understood the sale was to assist the overseers and collector, and that he did not intend to charge any commission. The 11 lots, consisting of gold and silver watches, a case of knives and forks, cruet stand, etc., were all purchased by Mr. Arthur Fairweather, with the exception of those the Rev. T. Bowes bought. There was no demonstration whatever, and not many persons were present. After the sale the Rev. T. Bowes announced that a public meeting would be held in the evening.



Background Info Only

Thomas Bowes was born 1859 in Westward, Cumberland. Ada Myfanwy Watkin born 1853 Rhuddlan, Flintshire they were married in Teesdale in 1892. They had one child Sidney Watkin Bowes born Aysgarth Yorkshire 1894.

Ada Died 1922 and is buried in Felixstowe but unable to trace death of Thomas Bowes. Sidney married Elsie Whapman but were childless. In 1939 they lived in Tonbridge Kent

The Bowes lived in Woodbridge 1901 but by 1911 census they had moved to Tonbridge

Administrative County		Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County Borough, Municipal Borough or Urban District		Ward of Municipal Borough or Urban District		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough or Division		Town or Village or Hamlet				
Aylesbury		Woodbridge		St Mary's		Woodbridge		Woodbridge		Woodbridge		Woodbridge		Woodbridge				
Colts	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No. of HOUSES	Name and Surname of Head of Family	RELATION to Head of Family	Condition of Marriage	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN										
1	Thomas Bowes	Head	Mar.	52	Congregational Minister			Cumberland, Westward										
	Ada M. Watkin	Wife	Mar.	58				Flintshire, Rhuddlan										
	Sidney W. Bowes	Son	Unm.	16	School			Yorkshire, Aysgarth										
	Elsie Whapman	Daughter	Unm.	26	General Servant (Domestic)			London, Woodbridge										

1911 England Census for Sidney Watkin Bowes

Kent > Tonbridge > 07

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE					PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards					BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.	
			Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced	Other	Personal Occupation.	Industry or Service with which worker is connected.	Whether Employer, Worker, or Working on Own Account.	Whether Working at Home.					
Thomas Bowes	Head	52	Married	12	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Cumberland, Westward	390	
Ada Myfanwy Watkin	Wife	58	Married											Flintshire, Rhuddlan	456	
Sidney Watkin Bowes	Son	16	Single											Yorkshire, Aysgarth	830	
Elsie Whapman	Servant	26	Single											London, Woodbridge		

**Arthur Fairweather Obituary East Anglian Times
26th February 1937**

MR. ARTHUR FAIRWEATHER

BUSINESS MAN AND KEEN METHODIST

The death occurred early on Thursday morning of Mr. Arthur Fairweather, J.P., of Suffolk House, Woodbridge, one of the oldest business men of Woodbridge, and a prominent and well-known figure in the religious and political life of the county. After an attack of influenza complications set in which necessitated Mr. Fairweather's removal about a fortnight ago to an Ipswich nursing home, where an operation was performed. However, a relapse occurred early on Thursday.

A native of Framlingham, where he was born in 1863. Mr. Fairweather was associated,



in his early days, with the old "Framlingham Weekly News," and subsequently was engaged in Ipswich. He went to Woodbridge in 1891, taking over the printing and stationery business in Church Street of the late Mr. W. Read, at the same time becoming editor of "Woodbridge Reporter," a journal which has since progressed considerably

under his guidance. Throughout the 46 years he resided and worked in Woodbridge. Mr. Fairweather keenly and actively interested himself in the public affairs of the town and discharged with distinction numerous offices and duties. A true and staunch friend to many, he enjoyed widespread respect and esteem, and, in a quiet and unassuming way, exercised considerable influence in the town and district. He was appointed a J.P. in 1926.

RELIGIOUS WORK

A man of strong religious and political views, Mr. Fairweather had been prominently identified with the Free Church and temperance life of the county since his youthful days in the "Framlingham Weekly News" office under that well-known temperance advocate, the late Mr. Robert Lambert, founder and editor of that paper. Early in the period he was resident in Woodbridge he became connected with the Wesleyan (now Methodist) Church there, and for forty years was a most regular worshipper, seldom missing a service. His interest was by no means confined to his own Church, for in addition to holding numerous and important offices in connection with the Woodbridge section and the Ipswich Circuit, he was a local preacher of considerable repute, and undertook preaching engagements in nearly every village in the Ipswich Circuit, as well as in many other towns and villages in Suffolk and beyond. Taking the greatest interest in all efforts for the advancement of his church and of religious life generally, Mr. Fairweather was formerly chairman of the Local Preachers' Mutual Aid Association of the Ipswich Circuit, and was Secretary and Treasurer of the Woodbridge Methodist Church as well as acting in other official capacities for that and other Methodist chapels in the Woodbridge section. As Circuit Steward of the Ipswich Circuit he performed considerable work, and on several occasions was appointed delegate to the Synod.

Politically, Mr. Fairweather was a staunch adherent of the Liberal cause, and formerly played an active part in many election campaigns in the Woodbridge Division. This was in the days when political feelings were inclined to run much higher than they do at present, and when violent clashes between the rival factions of the day were a fairly frequent occurrence. Thus Mr. Fairweather had a store of anecdotes concerning those more colourful days so far as elections were concerned, especially of one memorable occasion when considerable damage was done to several shop fronts in Woodbridge, principally in Church Street.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN WOODBRIDGE

Mr. Fairweather's death removes one of the leading figures in the public life of Woodbridge. He was chairman of the Woodbridge Beaumont Trust, and for many years secretary of the old Lecture Hall and Old British Schools. After the latter building was demolished he continued to be the correspondent of the Council Schools until quite recent times. He also took great interest in the work of the Woodbridge Burial Board, and up to his death was chairman of the Woodbridge Plate Glass and the Woodbridge Land and House Company. He was also a Seckford Governor.

Mr. Fairweather was among the oldest local correspondents of the *East Anglian Daily Times*, having held that office for Woodbridge and district for over 30 years.

Mr. Fairweather's sporting interests were confined to cricket and bowls, being formerly a playing member of the Woodbridge and Melton Cricket Club and the Doric Bowls Club.

Mr. Fairweather married a daughter of the late Mr. Robert Lambert, of Framlingham, and is survived by her and two sons and two daughters—Mr. A. R. Fairweather, of Woodbridge; Mr. D. L. Fairweather, of Eye; Mrs. K. M. Wicks and Mrs. Tosbach, both of Woodbridge.

A service will be held at the Woodbridge Methodist Church at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday, and the committal will take place at the Woodbridge Cemetery at 2.15 p.m.

Funeral attendees of Arthur Fairweather printed in the Woodbridge Reporter

Funeral of the Editor

A PUBLIC TRIBUTE

Representing nearly every walk of life, both public and private, in town and in country, a congregation which filled the Methodist Church, Woodbridge, gathered to participate in the funeral service for Mr. Arthur Fairweather, Editor of "The Woodbridge Reporter and Wickham Market Gazette," which was held last Saturday. This assembly of people had come to pay a last tribute to one whose passing will be acutely felt, and who had won the affectionate esteem and regard of those whose privilege it was to know him.

Mr. Fairweather passed away on Thursday of last week in his 75th year, having carried on the Printers' and Stationers' business in Church Street for the past 45 years, formerly carried on by Mr. W. Read, who is still actively engaged in the production of a national "daily" in London.

The manifestation of sorrowful respect on Saturday was the more unique because it seemed to be inspired by a sense of love rather than a sense of duty.

During his many years as Editor of this newspaper, he had come to know almost every conceivable branch of activity carried on in this district, and through his long association with the Town of Woodbridge knew, and was known, by nearly everyone. His sterling qualities of mind and heart caused him to draw to himself a wide circle of friends; and he had qualities which made it a pleasure for the Church Street Staff to work for him.

Mr. Fairweather never spared himself in the cause of his Church, in fact the funeral service took place at a Church where many times he had conducted Divine Worship.

Close to his heart was the cause of the League of Nations, of which at the time of his death, he held the position as Chairman of the Woodbridge Branch. A staunch believer in the principle that might did not necessarily mean right, and that armaments must necessarily lead to war, he held fast to a vision of a time when reason should rule rather than right.

The service, which combined simplicity and reverence, was conducted by the Revs. H. Johnson, Woodbridge Methodist Church; H. W. Radcliffe, Superintendent Minister, Ipswich (Museum Street) Circuit; and A. C. Staniland, Felixstowe.

The hymns, "When I survey the wondrous Cross," and "Jesu, lover of my soul" were sung, the Methodist Church Choir leading the singing. The passages of Scripture read were Psalm 23, and John xiv.

High tribute was paid to the life and work of the deceased by the Rev. H. Johnson in the course of a short address.

Mr. E. Bilney, as a tribute, presided at the organ, and as the congregation assembled he played Handel's "Funeral Anthem" and Mendelssohn's "O Rest in the Lord." At the close he rendered "Cast Thy burden upon the Lord" by Mendelssohn, and "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

The late Mr. Fairweather had expressed a request he should not be conveyed from his house through the streets of the town and back, and in consequence the cortege made its way after the service, from "Suffolk House," Ipswich Road, which is within a short distance of the Cemetery.

The family mourners at the Church and graveside included the following—Mrs. Arthur Fairweather (widow), Mrs. K. M. Wicks (daughter), Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Fairweather (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Fairweather (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Toshach (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. John Tyson (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs. B. U. Fairweather, Felixstowe (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. W. Mayhew (Felixstowe), Mr. and Mrs. John Self, Framlingham (sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law), Mr. Fred Bennett (Downham Market) and Mr. Cecil Bennett, Mr. H. L. Fairweather (nephew) and Mrs. Fairweather (Halesworth), Mr. F. Goddard and Mr. W. Goddard (Ipswich), Mr. L. W. Fairweather (nephews), Mr. Frank Tyson (nephew) and Mrs. Tyson, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Simons (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Gooch, Halesworth (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Haward (niece), Mrs. F. Stalley, Mr. H. Sladen, Mr. Quinton Parker, Mr. Dennis Baker, Mr. George Durrant.

The only other sister, Mrs. Elgar, of Woodford, London, was unable to be present.

The following members of the Staff of Messrs. Arthur Fairweather Ltd., were present—Works Staff—Messrs. C. Dunnett, R. C. Banyard, E. Lant, W. Simpkin, W. Randall, R. Newman and R. Gibbs. Shop and Office Staff—the Misses E. M. Cutting, J. Carter, K. M. Jones, and Mr. Durant Toy.

Among those at the Church were the following—Archdeacon J. G. R. Darling (Archdeacon of Suffolk and Chairman East Suffolk Education Committee), Rev. R. B. Dand (Rector of St. Mary's Parish Church, Woodbridge), Rev. G. R. D. Bennett (Assistant Priest St. Mary's Church), Rev. Dudley Symon (Headmaster Woodbridge School), Rev. W. R. Macray, Rev. F. E. Doughty (Martlesham), Rev. and Mrs. T. G. Rhind-Tutt (St. John's, Woodbridge), Rev. G. W. Wilkins (Quay Congregational Church), Rev. H. M. Ray Smith (Beaumont Baptist Church), Rev. W. J. Robins.

Mr. G. Barnardiston, J.P., Mr. J. H. Lachlan White, J.P., Mr. R. C. Notcutt, J.P. (representing the Seckford Governors), Dr. W. W. Crawford, Major T. H. Bryant, M.B.E., Mr. W. J. Longden, M.B.E. and Mrs. Longden, Mr. W. J. Naunton (Chairman Woodbridge U.D.C.), Mr. W. Rainey-Edwards (Clerk to the Deben R.D.C.).

Mr. C. Weavers (representing Bawdsey Methodist Church), Mr. and Mrs. Driver (representing Hollesley Methodist Church), Mr. H. Marjoram (representing Butley Methodist Church), and Mr. A. J. Turner (representing Melton Methodist Church), Mr. Joseph Crane (representing Salvation Army).

Mr. L. A. Naphine (representing the Council Schools), Mr. H. Cole, Mrs. Bernard Rowland, Superintendent H. Eade, Mr. H. Barton, Mrs. F. G. Turner, Mr. F. E. Gardiner (Grundisburgh), Mr. Wm. Savage, Major H. W. Hart, Mr. R. Bentham, Mrs. Baldwin, Mrs. Scoffin, Mrs. Hogger, Mrs. Garwood, Mr. H. W. Scolding, Mrs. Bailey White (Ipswich), Mr. O. Thurlow, Mr. C. E. Howgego, Mr. Fred Smith, Mr. M. W. Johnson, Mrs. Smith, Mr. R. Tyler, Mr. Ridley (Grundisburgh), Mr. C. G. Garnham, Mrs. Eastoe, Mr. Newson, Mrs. Corby (representing Mr. Corby), Mr. Geo. Chandler, Miss Worledge, Mr. G. J. Powell, Mr. J. Sawyer, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Toshach, Mrs. Wix, Mr. C. Finch, Mr. P. C. Mitchell, Mr. W. Kirby, Mrs. A. E. Scrutton, Mrs. Arthur Hill,

Mr. H. Welton, Nurse Dent, Mr. H. C. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Barham, Miss Adams, Mrs. Frank Richardson, Mr. A. J. Dale, Miss Holmes, Miss Royal, Mr. Rooke, Mr. A. H. Smith, Mr. C. A. Jennings (representing Messrs. Arnott and Everett), Mr. H. F. Sullivan, Mr. H. C. Skerritt, Mrs. Meadows, Mr. W. L. Blake (Felixstowe), Mr. B. A. Gardiner, Mr. W. G. Toller, Mr. W. H. Grainger, Mr. J. J. Hazell, Mr. Ernest Durrant, Mr. W. Hill, Mrs. Abbott, Miss V. Gray, Mr. C. E. J. Houghton, Mr. C. N. Moon (Ipswich), Mr. F. F. Reeve (Ipswich), Mr. G. S. Lewis, Capt. Smith, Mr. H. A. Hartley, Mr. F. J. Wilding, Mr. W. Watsham, Mr. J. Whistock, Mr. A. B. Mudd, Mr. B. Beverley, Mr. C. Smy, Mr. A. H. Potter, Mr. G. le Mare Atkinson, Inspector Bird, Mr. A. Plumb, Mr. L. W. Pond, Mr. F. J. Smith, Mr. C. Bennett, Miss Elvin, Mr. G. Venmore Rowland, Mr. A. G. Cooper, Mr. T. G. B. Reeve (representing Messrs. T. G. Reeve and Sons, Ltd., Ipswich), Mr. E. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. E. Carr, Mr. B. Coleman, Mrs. Newson, Mr. R. J. Banyard, Mr. H. J. Scarfe, Mr. H. Scarfe, Mr. W. Scarfe, Mrs. Lanham.

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Amongst the many beautiful floral tributes were those from the Members and Friends of the Methodist Church, Woodbridge; the Staff and Scholars of the Woodbridge Council Schools; the "Woodbridge Reporter" Printing Works Staff; the Shop and Clerical Staff; the Woodbridge Burial Board; the Governors of Woodbridge School; the Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce; the Methodist Church, Bawdsey; the Local Preachers' Ipswich (Museum Street) Circuit; the Beaumont Trustees, Woodbridge; the Members of the Methodist Church Choir; the Committee and Members of the Felixstowe Bowls Club.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. I. Smith, Cumberland Street, Woodbridge, under the personal supervision of Mr. Frank I. Smith.