

Births, Deaths & Marriages -

Englee, Williamsport, Hooping Harbour, Boyd's Arm, Great Harbour Deep

Source: Diary of Rev. Reginald Norman Rowsell, United Church Student Minister of the Englee mission, 1929-1931.

Ordered by Date.

Saturday July 6th 1929 Englee **(Reid - death)**

In the evening I had a call from a Mr. Reid to come and bury the body of his son, Robert Reid, who died six o'clock this morning. The funeral is to take place at the [United] church at two o'clock tomorrow. What do you think of that for my first Sunday here? I went to the home with the man. After spending a little while with them, I read two passages of scripture, the 23rd psalm and the 14th chapter of the gospel according to St. John, and prayed with the family. Then went my way home. The funeral services were solemnized by me the following day at 2:30 p.m.

Sunday July 7th 1929 Englee **(Reid - funeral)**

Two o'clock I went to the home of the man whose son was dead. We sang two hymns and prayed and went to the church. I think all the people in Englee turned out. I didn't know where they all came from. What a crowd. Some difference in a funeral there than in Corner Brook. These people have a heart. I preached to the audience which filled the church from St. John 12:26. I used this verse because it was the one from which the hymn "Down in the valley with my saviour I would go" was written. It was the favourite of our departed brother. I expressed mostly the thought of acting kindly toward our people while they are alive and our conscience shall be free when they come to die. A very good service.

July 30 1929 Williams Port **(Pollard - marriage)**

It was on the 30th day of July 1929 in the evening that I married Josiah Pollard at this place.

Friday August 30th 1929 Williams Port **(Randell - marriage)**

. . . about half past six o'clock a man by the name of Manuel Randell came to see me. He wanted me to marry him tonight at eight o'clock. He was going to marry a Roman Catholic woman but he himself was a C. of E. man. I advised him to have the ceremony performed in his own house. Because the people here are so different in sound understanding that it may cause a lot of excitement for him to be married in the church. He being an Orangeman too. He was married at eight o'clock in his own home. A nice few gathered in although the conditions in that home were not as they are in some homes, yet God was there. He paid me four \$4.00. Best he could do. He said he would pay the other dollar later. But I told him to forget it and asked him as to whether or not he was distressing himself.

Sunday September 1st 1929 Hooping Hr **(Randell - baptism)**

After this service, I went with Mr. Eli Randell to his home and baptized his little child who was born on Saturday Aug. 31st 1929 by the name of Elizabeth.

Tuesday Oct 8th 1929 Englee **(Cassell - death)**

Had a service in North West Arm at the home of Mr. Adam Pitman, a Church of E. man. I talked on Psalm 8:4. A good meeting we had. I heard that Mrs. Cassell, the sick woman, had died and that she died happy. She told the standers-by that she could see Jesus.

[Note: There is no mention in the diary of Mrs. Cassell's funeral. It must have been done by the Church of England minister.]

Wednesday Oct 16th 1929 Englee (**Hancock - illness**)
In the afternoon I visited the sick man, Thomas Hancock.

Monday Oct 21st 1929 Englee (**Hancock - death**)
The rest of the afternoon I spent visiting until tea time. While talking to Mr. Fred Hancock the church bell began to toll and we thought that Mr. Thomas Hancock must be dead. And so it was. I went direct to that home then. Read a couple of chapters from the word of God and prayed with them. This is another way which God has in bringing a large number of people together that He through me may teach them in a right way. May the grace of Jesus Christ now give me strength, wisdom and power to tell them of the love of Jesus Christ. God help me to perform my task faithfully for Christ's sake.

Tuesday Oct 22nd 1929 Englee (**Hancock - pre-funeral**)
Spent all the day until 3:30 o'clock p.m. writing a sermon on Romans 6:23 for the sermon to be preached tomorrow at the funeral service of Mr. Thomas Hancock.

Wednesday Oct 23rd 1929 Englee (**Hancock - funeral**)
Spent all morning and until 1:30 p.m. reading and then went to the funeral. Sung a hymn in the home and prayer then went to the church. We had nearly a full church.

Thursday Nov 7th 1929 Englee (**Parsons - marriage**)
I had a visit from Jessie Parsons of Hooping Hr who wanted me to marry him which I did at 3:30 p.m.

Thursday Nov 7th 1929 Englee (**Hopkins - baptism**)
I went and baptized the son of Willie Hopkins.

Monday Nov 11th 1929 Englee (**Compton - baptism**)
Today I . . . baptized a child, son of Arthur Compton

Saturday Dec 21st 1929 Englee (**Lane - marriage**)
While having my tea I was called to the door. Mr. Gideon Lane wanted me to marry him at eight o'clock in the school room to which I consented and which took place about 9:15 o'clock p.m.

Sunday Dec 22nd 1929 Englee (**Holmes - baptism**)
After tea, I had a call to go and baptize the daughter of E.G. Holmes by name of Elta Cavell.

Sunday Dec 22nd 1929 Englee (**Fillier - illness**)
In morning I preached from Deut. 5:1. Attended Sunday School after which I visited Mr. Wm. Fillier who came home from St. John's hospital on Friday by Prospero and who at this time was very low.

Monday Dec 23rd 1929 Englee (**Fillier - death**)
Spent all morning reading until about 2:00 p.m. Went to the post office with some mail. And visited the Fillier family whose father died about 3:00 a.m. Read some scripture and prayed with them. Returning home, spent remainder of evening in meditation on what I shall deliver on the day of the funeral.

Wednesday Dec 25th 1929 Englee (**Fillier - funeral**)
This is Christmas Day but it is to a lot of people in this place a very bad day. Because we were supposed to have a funeral this morning about eleven o'clock. It is

a very stormy day. Especially when we have to perform such a ceremony as the burial. The Orangemen arranged to have the funeral right after dinner which was so the funeral took place in the church and I preached again to the living, taking advantage of the opportunity of the crowd.

Friday Dec 27th 1929 Englee **(Holmes - death)**
Mr. Holmes little boy who has been sick for a few days died tonight.

Saturday Dec 28th 1929 Englee **(Holmes - pre-funeral)**
About two o'clock p.m. I had a visit from Bert Compton, the sexton for the church. There was no wood for Sunday. While we were talking, Mr. Holmes came in and offered to give wood provided we would haul it to the school. God always opens a door. Mr. Holmes little boy will be buried tomorrow. I went with Bert to the school and helped him to get the wood . . . Returning at 5:00 p.m. I helped on the casket the men were making. Spent rest of night until -- reading and studying and meditating. Now I am going to prepare for bed and seek rest to strengthen me to do the work of tomorrow.

Sunday Dec 29th 1929 Englee **(Holmes - funeral)**
In the afternoon we had a funeral service. The burial of Lloyd Whitney Holmes who died on Friday. We had a crowded church.

Saturday Feb 8th 1930 Boyd's Arm **(Denny - marriage)**
After dinner I went around among the log cabins visiting Mr. John Denny whose daughter I would marry that night to Mr Solomon Noseworthy. Then I went to visit the [Salvation Army] Captain. I spent a long time with him in his study. We talked of nearly everything in general. They have great times in their church but this Mr. Noseworthy was a soldier in his care, now they refused to let him be married in their church because the marriage (had to be).

Sunday Feb 16th 1930 Englee **(Luther - baptism)**
After Sunday School, I went and baptized the child of Mrs. and Joseph Luther who was born on Feb. 1st 1930 and whose name is Baxter Cambridge Luther.

Tuesday May 6, 1930 Englee **(Canning/Hopkins - marriage)**
Tonight I had a wedding. Mr. Jonas Hopkins was married to Miss Janet Canning. I went and had tea at the wedding feast.

Wednesday May 28, 1930 Englee **(Compton - baptism)**
After tea, I went and baptized the daughter of Chatfield Compton and C.O. Eveleigh.

Monday August 11, 1930 Gt Hr Deep **(Northcott/Cassell - marriage)**
. . . on Friday night at 12:00 o'clock p.m. I married Joseph Northcott and Gertrude Cassell. This is another "had to be" marriage. There were not many present. These Northcott men are fine fellows.

Monday August 18, 1930 Englee **(Gillard - baptism)**
I wrote a certificate for Mr. Frederick Gillard whose baby I baptized on Sunday (yesterday) afternoon.

Monday August 18, 1930 Englee **(Compton - illness)**
Just at tea time, the news came to me that Mrs. Thomas Compton (the wife of the sick Thomas Compton of whom I have written many times before) had a stroke of paralysis. This happened about four o'clock. After tea, I went to see the stricken couple. Both are in one room. O how I wish I was a M.D. She has not spoken a word since. After that I went to the school where we had a meeting of the school board. When the meeting ended Mr. Gillard, Mr. Lane and I went to see the sick again. She was still the same. When I came home, I commenced to write a funeral

sermon because her death is almost certain. Tonight Mr. Thomas Compton made his will.

Tuesday August 19, 1930 Englee (**Compton - illness**)
Mrs. Compton was very little better when I visited this morning.

Wednesday August 20 1930 Englee (**Compton - illness**)
After tea this evening, I visited the Compton people. The poor lady is no better. They are leaving for St. Anthony early tomorrow morning.

Friday August 29, 1930 Englee (**Compton - death**)
After that I went to see Thomas Compton whose wife died at St. Anthony on Tuesday last but I had not heard of it until this morning. He did not want me to talk of her in his presence. I asked him regarding funeral hymns and he told me Mrs. John Wilcox would do that for me.

Sunday August 31, 1930 Englee (**Compton - funeral**)
In the afternoon, I had a funeral service. I have never seen such a crowd in the building before. It was right full. I did my very best. Seems to me that my power to speak was greater than ever.

Thursday August 28, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell/Cassell - marriage**)
. . . recorded the marriage of Albert Thomas Randell and Flossie Cassell which took place on the 28th of August 1930 at Hooping Hr.

Sunday September 28, 1930 Williamsport (**Randell - baptism**)
After class, I went to Mr. Randell's and baptized his little child. Had tea with them.

Monday September 29, 1930 Williamsport (**Randell - baptism**)
I baptized the child of William Randell.

Monday September 29, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell/Newman - marriage**)
This night I had a wedding. Mr. Thomas Randell was married to Miss Mary Newman. I went to the feast and had a good time.

Thursday October 9, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell - death**)
Just before tea I was wanted at the door. There was a boat from Hooping Hr. A little boy had drowned. The son of Mr. & Mrs. David John Randell. I went to Hooping Hr. We arrived there at 9:30 p.m. I visited the sorrowing folk and reached my boarding house at 10:00. p.m. and went to bed.

Friday October 10, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell - pre-funeral**)
Had a walk this morning. Then I commenced to write some verses in remembrance of the little fellow, Pleman, who was drowned, which you will find in my note book. I finished this about four o'clock and went to see the folk again. Also went to see Mr. Job Randell regarding the hymns for the funeral.

Saturday October 11, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell - funeral**)
Up until eleven o'clock I prepared for the funeral. The occasion was, I think, one of the saddest that I have experienced. Both parents and grandparents were deeply moved. The funeral took place at 11:00 a.m. and ended at 1:00 p.m.

Saturday November 15, 1930 Gt Hr Deep (**Northcott - birth**)
This morning I have learned that a daughter was born to Mrs. Joseph Northcott through the night.

Sunday November 16, 1930 Gt Hr Deep (**Northcott - baptism**)
Baptized Adney* Mary Northcott, daughter of Joseph and Gertie Northcott, born
November 15, 1930, this 16th day of November 1930.
* Might be Audrey

Sunday November 23, 1930 Williamsport (**Randell - baptism**)
. . . the baptism of two children. Those of Urial & John Randell.

Thursday November 27, 1930 Hooping Hr (**Randell - baptism**)
About 2:30 I went visiting and continued at that until tea time. I visited only
Beniah and Philip Randell. The latter had a baby to baptise but I didn't have my
book. After tea I went and baptized this baby.

Saturday January 10, 1931 Englee (**Compton - birthday**)
Since then I have packed a birthday present for . . . David Compton, who has
invited me to a birthday party this night. Ralph, his son, is here now playing the
phonograph. So in a few minutes I shall go along with him.

Saturday April 6, 1931 Englee (**Hancock - baptism**)
. . . now I must enter . . . in my Register of Baptism the birth of the daughter of
Edly [Hedley?] Hancock who was baptized by me today.