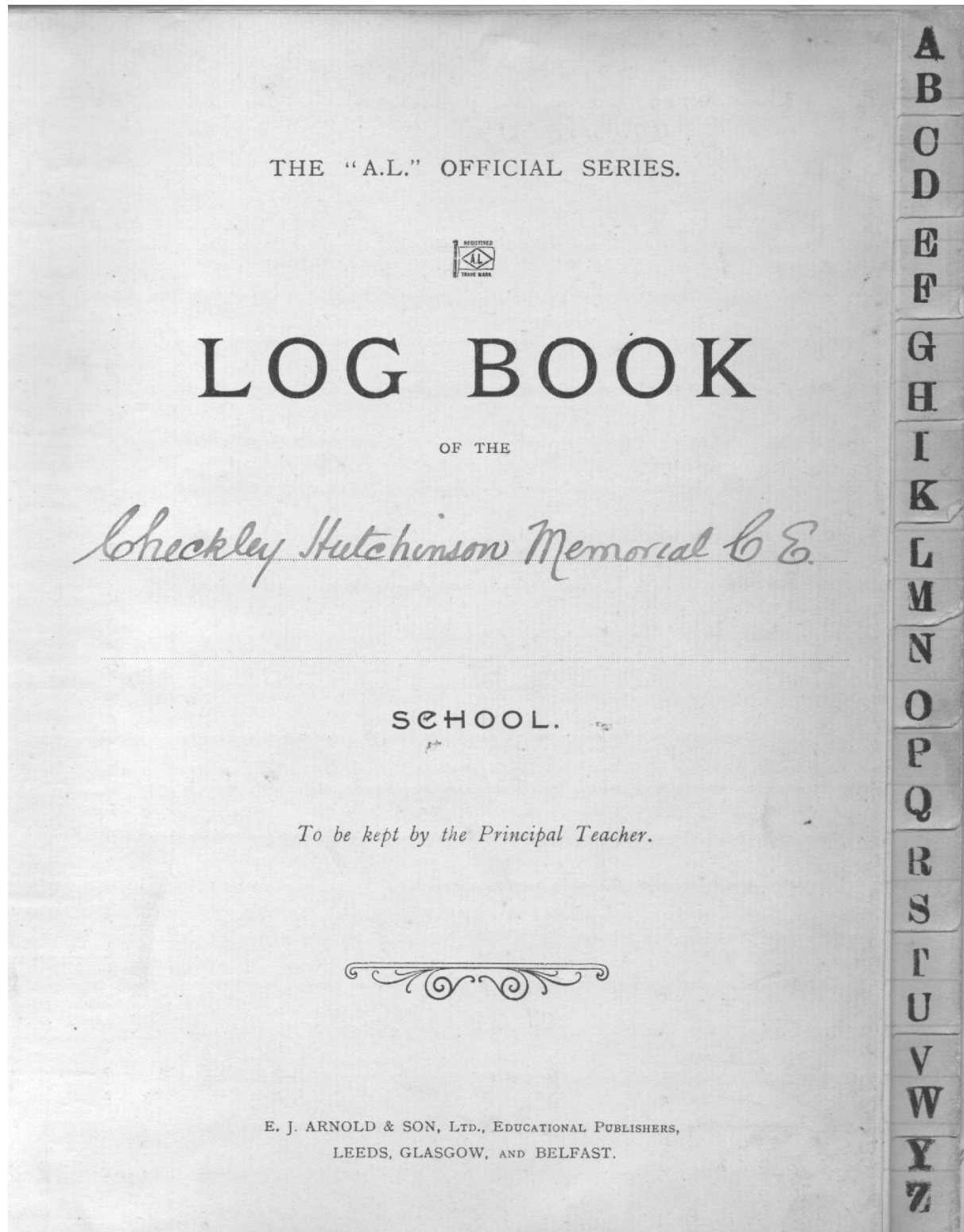


LOG BOOK FOR CHECKLEY HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL C of E SCHOOL, Staffordshire

March 1917 - March 1918

Head Mr. Arthur Salt. Assistant Mrs. Annie Salt



# DIARY OR LOG BOOK.

## EDUCATION CODE, SCHEDULE IV.

### Regulations as to School Records.

1.—Every school must have:—

- (a) A Diary or Log Book, which should be a bare record of the events which constitute the history of the school.

The Log Book should be stoutly bound and contain not less than 300 ruled pages. It must be kept at the school under the care of the Head Teacher. He should enter in it, from time to time, such events as the introduction of new books, apparatus, or courses of instruction, any plan of lessons approved by the Board, the visits of managers, absence, illness, or failure of duty on the part of any of the school staff, or any special circumstance affecting the school that may, for the sake of future reference or for any other reason, deserve to be recorded. *The provisions of Article 23 must be observed, and the Local Education Authority may also direct that the reports made to them by their Committees, or by their Inspectors, or by other officers, shall be entered in the Log Book; but otherwise the Log Book should contain statements of fact only, and should contain no expressions of opinion on conduct or as to the efficiency of the school.*

Entries in the Log Book should be made by the Head Teacher as occasion may require. Entries should be made only by the Head Teacher, by the Correspondent, by the Managers who check the registers, or by the officer (if any) authorised by the Local Education Authority.

The Log Book should contain an explanation of the reason for the closing of the school on all occasions on which it is closed. It should also contain an account of all important variations in the attendance, and all deviations from the ordinary routine of the school.

#### **CODE.—Chapter IV.**

*Art. 23.*—Any Report on the school sent by the Board to the Local Education Authority, or to the Managers, together with any remarks made thereon by the Board for communication to the Local Education Authority, or to the Managers, must as soon as received be entered in full in the Log Book and signed by the Correspondent.

This Log Book is commenced in March 1917. Head Teacher at the time Arthur Salt who commenced work here Midsummer 1887. The Assistant Teacher is Mrs Salt. who is a certificated Teacher but not paid as one.

She began teaching in this school in January 1895 and continued to do so till August (end) 1903. when Miss Eleanor Phillips was engaged temporarily till Christmas. Mrs Salt recommenced work again here in February 1904.

1917  
1 March 9<sup>th</sup>

The last entry in the old Log Book referred to the wretched attendance.

The weather certainly has been very bad all winter, but the Attendance Officer rarely comes near the school, not oftener than once or two months on an average, and when he does come does but little to improve attendance.

The attendance was so low on Monday (50% a.m. + 42% p.m.) and Tuesday (47%) that the registers could not be marked. Wednesday + Thursday, as well as Friday morning were rather better, but snow commenced falling about 10 and kept on all day so that registers could not be marked in afternoon.

M. Hawkins, Superintendent of Attendance Officers called at the school 3.30 (with reference to attendance) in the midst of the storm.

March 13<sup>th</sup> The Attendance Officer called at the school an hour after the children had been dismissed to bring some forms to be filled up with reference to ages of children on books on Jan 31

- He made no enquiry about absentees and did no visiting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Mr Frost's men put a new step in boys' porch and Nurse Phelley examined the children as to personal cleanliness.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Mr Shoebottom, a former Manager of the school was buried today  
Mr Frost's man did some necessary alterations to two windows. He also removed bowl (washing) from boys' porch, which had been broken, and is to be replaced by a new one.
- 20<sup>th</sup> School was closed this afternoon; a Confirmation service by the Bishop of Lichfield (Dr Kempthorne) being held in the Church
- 21<sup>st</sup> Twenty Library Books, arrived today from Nottingham - They had been ordered by the County Council, and were a gift from Mr Carnegie.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> More snow fell, and severe frosts occurred during the week
- 30<sup>th</sup> The Educational year ends today. Seeds from Leighton's arrived

1917  
3 April 2<sup>nd</sup> The new Educational year should have commenced today - but till after 9 o'clock in the morning so furious a blizzard was raging, and the snowdrifts were so deep that only 5 children came. No school, of course.

A notice has been received about school holidays for 1917 on account of the War viz Whitsuntide holiday to be limited to 1 day Summer holiday to be of six weeks duration to be divided as far as possible between hay harvest (month) and fortnight for potato picking and fruit gathering.

The rule that the school must meet 420 times <sup>is</sup> to be relaxed, but care must be taken to make over 400.

Another notice has been received to the effect that the maximum expenditure <sup>allowed</sup> on school stationery and needlework materials for 1917-18 is £10. 10. 0.

1<sup>st</sup> Closed school this evening for Easter Holiday

16<sup>th</sup> Reopened school this morning. Although now the middle of April, the ground every

morning last week up to Friday was covered with snow, which generally melted before night.

20<sup>th</sup>. Four children named Greensmith who came to live in Leigh Parish, near Fole and are expecting to remove much nearer to Leigh school have left this and been admitted at Leigh, and Frederick Arnold has also left and gone to live at Great Gate

24<sup>th</sup> Mrs 10M Philips visited the school on Tuesday examined the registers and found them correct.  
M. Alice Gallimore

27<sup>th</sup> The weather, after being unsuitable for gardening for months, has suddenly changed. A start has been made & good progress has taken place this week.

May 4 Examined registers & found them correct.  
George W. Philips

The weather this week has been every thing to be desired for gardening, and the whole of arrears in the work have been made good. All seeds have been

5 1917  
May 4<sup>th</sup>  
7<sup>th</sup>

planted except Runner & Dwarf Beans.  
A new bowl for washing hands etc has  
been placed in boys' porch (the last one  
which had been in use for 37 years  
having been accidentally broken) when  
it was found that the lead piping  
conveying the water was in a damaged  
condition and the stop tap cracked & un-  
workable. These were replaced <sup>today</sup>.

M<sup>rs</sup> Land the newly appointed Attendance  
Officer (Temporary) visited the school, and  
then several parents of irregulars.

9<sup>th</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> W M Philips visited the school today

17<sup>th</sup> Half Holiday today for Ascension.

The Runner & Dwarf Beans mentioned on  
May 4<sup>th</sup> were planted on 11<sup>th</sup>. (Friday last).  
Weather colder again now.

25<sup>th</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Land again visited the school and then  
several parents whose children had been absent.  
Margaret Salt left school today. She has  
obtained a situation in a farm house.

June 1<sup>st</sup> As this was Whitsun week, the children had  
holiday on Monday - as last year.



June 8<sup>th</sup>

Admitted Kathleen Beddow on Monday

Thursday morning was wet - attendance rather poor

15<sup>th</sup>A very fine hot week. The Attendance Officer (M<sup>rs</sup> Land) visited the school on Thursday, and a few cases of irregularity afterwards.

Admitted Agnes Noakes on Monday.

22<sup>nd</sup>

The Rector visited the school on Monday morning and announced a holiday for Friday (today) in honour of the knighthood of the Director of Education for the County who is now Sir Graham Balfour.

29<sup>th</sup>The Attendance Officer (M<sup>rs</sup> Land) visited the school on Wednesday.

Weather is unsettled, and although one or two people have commenced haymaking practically no progress has been made.

July 6<sup>th</sup>

The weather this week has been very dry and sunny, and most people have begun haymaking - but the glass is falling rapidly, and there are today many signs of rain.

13

The threatened rain did not make its appearance here although heavy storms

7 1917  
July 13

occurred in some parts of Staffordshire and during the week it has been hot and dry again

Mrs Land visited the village on Saturday last to see a farmer who was illegally employing school boys - they have been at school all week since - and she came again on Monday.

Closed school at 3.15 for a month  
Midsummer Holiday

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> Reopened school. Mrs Land visited again. She is trying hard to gain a satisfactory attendance of the children, which had been very bad under the late A. Officer.

17<sup>th</sup> Have removed the names from register of Pearl Yates (attendance certificate); Kate Allcock, and Winifred Deaw who have left the neighbourhood, also readmitted Leonard Toon or Mellor

24<sup>th</sup> Admitted Olive Brent, who has come to live in the district

During this week and last the boys have

lefted and sold the potatoes in the school garden. This year every kind of crop, with the exception of Beet <sup>the seed of</sup> which failed to germinate, has done very well. For the first time for several years the birds have not touched the peas, but during the hot time of the holidays, they ripened so rapidly that the crop was spoiled for food.

Aug 28<sup>th</sup>

Yesterday was fine till 7.30pm but today the rain which commenced about 7.30 last night seems to have continued all the night and from 6.30 to 8 came down in torrents. It got fair soon after 8 and remained so till 11 but only 38 children came. It was totally unfit for children who to come through grass fields but a few who live by a main road might have come. The rain was still coming heavily in the dinner hour and the afternoon attendance was the same as the morning

31<sup>st</sup>

The Attendance Officer visited the school today Several children are away sick, chiefly through

9 1917

Sep 7<sup>th</sup>.

eating unripe fruit.

The weather has been delightful all week and the ground is getting in good condition again for gardening operations. Fruit is abundant this year, but sugar for preserving it is very scarce.

Geoffrey Woodbridge who has been staying in Lower Fean for some months has now returned to his mother in London.

14<sup>th</sup> Two of the Haldens who have been away since the Midsummer holidays have returned to school this week.

21<sup>st</sup> Attendance rather better this week.

Admitted Barbara Troy, an infant. The weather continues showery, and it is difficult the harvest the corn, and in ~~the~~ places some little hay is still out.

Closed school today for Autumn Holiday. (Two weeks).

Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>

Reopened school. Violet Rayson & James Hurst, each over 12<sup>3</sup> have left for work.

12<sup>th</sup>

The weather is so wet it is impossible

to do any gardening just now, although work in preparing ground for winter and spring is badly needed.

19<sup>th</sup> Annie Wright's name has been removed from the register. She has gone to live at Hat's hill.

Another wet week. No gardening has been possible.

21<sup>st</sup> The Attendance Officer visited the school on Monday. Charles Beddow's name has been removed from the register by order of School Medical Officer who visited the school on Monday afternoon Oct 15

The weather has been a little better this week and attempts at gardening were made on Monday & Tuesday, but the soil was in such a sodden condition (it is a very heavy soil) that the children would have been better away from it.

Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> A little gardening has been attempted under similar conditions to last week. The gardening year ended on Wednesday, but it has been impossible to dig the ground over, or cleanse it from weeds.

11<sup>1917</sup>  
Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

The School Attendance Officer visited the school on two ~~or~~ occasions this week.

A notification has been received from the Board of Education to the effect that the certificates of both Teachers expire in February; and also communications from the County Education Office at Stafford suggesting an extension of the Teachers' certificates, but the Teachers do not see their way, at present, at any rate, to accede to this proposition.

16 A decided improvement in weather has allowed some of the arrears in garden work to be done - but the ground dries so slowly at this time of the year that there is little chance of ~~the~~ it getting in good condition before Spring

23 The No of children on the books steadily decreases, as one after another of the older children leave and there are scarcely any young ones to take their places, either now or later. Bernard Buley, who has been staying at Wetley Rocks and attending school

there, returned yesterday and came to school today.  
Herbert Evans has been granted exemption although  
not quite 14, to help his father, a farmer. His brother  
who was helping him, has been called up.

Nov. 28 Examined registers & found them correct  
George W. Phillips.

30<sup>th</sup> John Stevenson, farmer's son was exempted  
from attendance at school for a week, by  
the Education Authority last week. He  
returned to school again on Monday. He  
had been engaged in removing turnips from  
the field.

Dec 7<sup>th</sup> The Attendance Officer visited the school  
during the week as usual. The percentage  
of attendance ~~is~~ is now good.

18<sup>th</sup> Examined registers & found them correct  
George W. Phillips

Admitted William Hy Fairbanks (under)  
on the 17<sup>th</sup>

19<sup>th</sup> The weather this week has become  
very cold. Snow fell on Sunday night

13<sup>th</sup> 1917  
Dec 19

and Monday morning was raw & cold, with about an inch of snow on the ground. The attendance for the day was only 60%. Tuesday - snow still on ground but frozen hard and drier than Monday % rose to 80 and today to 85%.

21<sup>st</sup>

A communication, from the County Ed. Com<sup>tee</sup> stating schools would close for Christmas Vacation on Thursday night (20<sup>th</sup>), reached the Correspondent on Tuesday morning. This was printed on a slip of paper and placed along with Fornas V for December & January, and the Monthly Circular. It was not discovered till 8 pm on Thursday and as Mrs Smith had arranged everything for Cookery class on Friday and the children could not be told it was decided to open school as usual & have Monday Jan 7<sup>th</sup> instead

Closed school for Christmas Holidays



1918

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

14

Tuesday. Reopened School (see Dec 21) on a bitterly cold morning 79.5% being attendance 81.3% in afternoon.

11<sup>th</sup> The Attendance Officer visited the school on Wednesday morning.

18<sup>th</sup> Some snow lay on the ground on Monday and the weather was bitterly cold: attendance fair. Snow disappeared on Tuesday, but on Wednesday morning the ground was so deeply covered that only about a dozen children came, chiefly from the village.

Some of these had their feet so wet that it was deemed advisable to send them home at once and school was abandoned for the day. On Thursday the percentage rose to over 60 & on Friday to over 80.

25<sup>th</sup> The Attendance (percentage) this week is good.

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> The Attendance Officer visited the school on Monday.

8<sup>th</sup> Examined registers & found them correct  
George W. Phillips

15 1918  
Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

During the week quite a number of children have developed colds - coughing is now the order of the day, and several <sup>children</sup> are away.

15<sup>th</sup> The attendance is poorer still this week, for although the weather is mild it is damp with it.

22<sup>nd</sup> As Mrs. Fall reaches the age of 65 today her engagement as Teacher ceased automatically last night.

As the Head Teacher reaches 65 on Monday next his engagement ceases on Sunday.

It has been suggested that owing to lack of Teachers on account of the war, the present Teachers should continue for a few months. They, however, owing partly to domestic reasons, and partly to somewhat precarious health, have been obliged to decline the offer but the Head Teacher has consented to stay on till March 31 at considerable inconvenience, for the

Authorities have failed to <sup>provide</sup> ~~have~~ fresh 16  
Teachers to take up the Appointment before  
April 1<sup>st</sup>.

28<sup>th</sup> This morning snow was falling heavily  
at 7, and the ground was well covered  
before school time. Only Hoch. presented themselves  
March 1<sup>st</sup> The names of John Stevenson &  
Oliver Brunt have been struck off the  
Register, the Education Authority having  
granted them exemption for farm  
work. The former is not quite 13 the  
other is over 13 but two years of her  
attendances cannot be found & she  
was regular in the others. In addition  
her grandmother with whom she  
lives is unable to do much work &  
no other help is available

8<sup>th</sup> A few cases of sickness have interfered  
with Attendance this week.

15<sup>th</sup> The Attendance this week has been  
perfect till today when three have been  
away. One little boy met with an accident  
last night, <sup>but</sup> two little girls have sent no reason.

1918  
17 March 22

The Attendance Officer visited the school on Monday. Rain came on on Tuesday but not till after 9 o'clock otherwise the weather has been perfect.

The future Mistress, who is to take charge from April 1<sup>st</sup> visited the school on Thursday afternoon. Attendance - good -

26<sup>th</sup> The Rector called registers & signed them to day

Mar 27<sup>th</sup>

I concluded my work in this school today after over 37 years.

