ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 22nd September 1917

RYDE MILITARY TRIBUNAL

In respect of Walter H. POOLE, 40, single, C3, bookbinder, the Military representative dissented. The Mayor asked if the army required C3 men, and Mr. COLENUTT replied that they were needed for clerical work. The Mayor: This man is not a clerk; (to POOLE): Can you do clerical work? POOLE: I am rather a duffer at actual clerical work. The Mayor: You would look jolly well in Flying Corps uniform. POOLE: I dare say I should sir, The Mayor, reading from the man's written statement, said he claimed to have a one-man's business, but that had been snuffed quite out as the Government did not keep their word over that. POOLE having stated that he kept his parents out of the business, he was closely questioned by the Military representative and members of the Tribunal as to what he allowed them, but would make no definite statement, saying it was according to what his takings were. Mr. HOPGOOD said his information was that he did not allow them any-thing. POOLE: That is a rather funny remark to make. By Mr. COLENUTT: He had two brothers serving in the Army and another brother was discharged after being in the Army one day. The Mayor: Did they give him a pension for one day? POOLE said he did not suppose so. By Mr. HOPGOOD: His mother went out to work. She had done so for many years and he did not think she would be happy if she did not go. The Mayor: Or be able to live perhaps. By Mr. HAYDEN: He had done no drills this month. Mr. HOPGOOD said he was not going to vote for single men of POOLE's category to be out of the Army any longer. He had seen before them several times and had evaded the questions put to him that day. Personally, he did not believe a word he said.

Researched & typed by Ann Barret Janette Gregson