



Typical type bakers van

MAN ATTACKED & ROBBED - LEFT UNCONSCIOUS IN ROAD

While on his rounds at Wootton Rivers, near Marlborough, Wiltshire, Mr Percy Goddard, a middle-aged man employed by a Pewsey grocer, was attacked and robbed.

He left his van in order to call at a house in a private road, when he was violently assaulted. People living near, who answered his shouts, found him lying unconscious.

Silver coins lay scattered about, but about £30 in notes which Mr Goddard was carrying were missing. He was taken to Savernake Hospital, suffering from severe head injuries.

Hartlepool Mail, Tuesday 3 December 1935

WILTSHIRE BAKER'S ROUNDSMAN ATTACKED IN A DARK LANE JUDGE AND HIS DUTY

Ernest George Goddard, labourer, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and twelve strokes with the "cat" at Wiltshire Assizes yesterday for highway robbery with violence.

Goddard, it was stated, had inquired about the movements of a Pewsey baker's roundsman, Percy Goddard – the two men are not related – attacked him on the night of November 30th in a dark lane near Wootton Rivers and robbed him of £30.

As a result of the attack, Goddard was in hospital for ten days and he told the Court that he was unable to do anything because of his shattered nerves.

EVE OF WEDDING

Ernest Goddard was married on the day after the attack, and went to Godalming where he was arrested. Mr. Justice Hawkes, passing sentence, said that counsel for the defence had suggested that there might be reasons why he might even let Goddard go scot free.

"I will tell you quite plainly and at once that I think I should be unduly forgetting my duty and the oath I have taken if I did anything of the kind. I feel it my duty to have you treated in the same way as this man was treated by you, and have you flogged. I do not suppose any judge to be more unwilling than I am to inflict corporal punishment but there are cases in which I think it becomes one's duty to do it, and I think this is one".

Western Daily Press, Thursday 16 January 1936