

Record broken after 90 years

A Canterbury transport firm with an unblemished record since it started over 90 years ago was fined £50 by magistrates at Canterbury.

Charles Hewitt Ltd, of 5a Rhodaus Town, admitted one of its lorries transmitted excess axle weight and had an excess gross weight on the A28 at Hersden on February 22.

The firm's driver, Cyril Birch, of 26 Sweechgate, Broad Oak, admitted the same offences.

Both were granted absolute discharges for the axle weight offence. The firm was fined for the gross weight offence and ordered to pay £10 costs and the driver was fined £15 for the same offence.

Mr Maurice Braga said the lorry was stopped and weighed in a routine check.

The second axle weight was 17 tons 19½ cwt, an overload of 9¼ cwt. The gross weight was 11 tons 11 cwt, 15 cwt over the limit.

Mr George Cotton, for both, said the firm was scrupulously careful and warned its drivers of the dangers of overloading.

It was paid on an hourly basis and there was no advantage in overloading.

The company was established in 1885 and had no previous convictions.

Friendly village shopkeeper goes

After living in Bridge all his life, 67-year-old Mr Cyril Prickett, the friendly village shopkeeper at 26 High Street for over 30 years, has retired.

Mr Prickett went to the old Church of England Primary School in Patix-

bourne Road and for two years, from the age of 12, he worked as a Saturday boy at his present shop, which then had its own bakery.

He also did gardening in the district for 4d an hour. He later joined the fire ser-

vice and then the Auxiliary Fire Service, in which he served during the war.

In 1944, he bought the shop in Bridge where he first started work as a schoolboy and has remained there ever since.

A keen gardener, Mr Prickett won many prizes

for flowers and vegetables in the Bridge and District Horticultural Society shows and helped with the as verger at St Peter's Church, later succeeding him.

As a member of the Village Hall Management Committee he arranged the hall lettings and for some years was a member of the Parish Council.

He married his wife Sylvia, at St Mary's Church, Bishopsbourne, in 1939 and they have three married daughters. They live at Hoath, one at Pe Bottom and one at Ramsgate. There are six grandchildren.

A cheque

At a meeting in the village hall last Tuesday, Mr Prickett was presented with a cheque by Cllr M Olive Knight, chairman of the committee, who expressed its appreciation of his work and wishes for his retirement at Ramsgate.

Other tributes came from the Vicar, Canon Colin Perry, Cllr Mrs Margaret Young, Parish Council vice-chairman, and Mrs Diane Upton, Matron The Close, who presented gifts on behalf of the residents.

Taking over at 26 High Street, is Mr Bernard Price, whose family used to keep a shop in Bridge some years ago.



Mrs Sylvia Prickett and her husband Cyril, retiring from their shop in Bridge High Street.

Disabled service

The 24th annual service for the disabled will be held at 3.15 pm at Canterbury Cathedral on Sunday.

All physically handicapped are invited to attend the service, followed by entertainment by the King's School Military Band in the Water Tower Garden. The Lions Club, Round Table and other friends of the group will provide tea.

The address will be given by the Dean, the Very Rev Victor de Waal, and lessons will be read by Mr O. A. Denly, founder of the Disabled Drivers' Association, and Mr Donald Campbell, its national chairman.

Many disabled will travel to the service from all parts of the south. The Mayor, Cllr Mrs Margaret Scott-Knight, will lead the association's officers into the Nave after being welcomed by the Dean.