

Headed By Mrs. Edith Baglin, of Coleford



EIGHTY DESCENDANTS

How many families in the Forest of Dean can claim to possess five generations? This was looked upon as something of a rarity, but the publication of particulars of the record held by Mr. Timothy Vaughan, of Carter's Piece, who is the head of five generations, has disclosed another but even more impressive one, since the head of the family is in her 97th year and possesses two great-great-grandchildren through separate branches.

She is Mrs. Edith Baglin, widow of Mr. Emphraim Baglin, who died 11 years ago at the age of 89. She is a member of a very old Berry Hill family noted for its longevity. Both her parents died at the age of 87. She still has a sister living in London, a Mrs. Stubbs, who is in her 90th year, while the ages of two of her sisters who have died were 89 and 83 respectively.

Throughout her life Mrs. Baglin has lived in the district. At present she is living with her grand-daughter, Mrs. Percy Tomlins, at Staunton Road, Coleford. For so great an age she is an exceedingly active woman. She possesses all her faculties and is able to attend to many household duties. Her sight is unimpaired, for she can see to sew and read as well as anyone.

A mother of ten children, five of whom are dead, she has 28 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. Her surviving children are Mrs. Lizzie Barber, Manchester (74), Mrs. S. Witts, Broadwell (64), Mr. Dan Baglin, Berry Hill (61), Mr. William Baglin, Mile End (60), and Mrs. J. Price, Coalway (58).

In August, 1935, Mrs. Baglin won the prize awarded by the Coleford and District Jubilee Committee for being the oldest person on the Recreation Ground at their gala.

Members of the five generations are Mrs. Baglin; her daughter, Mrs. S. Witts, Broadwell; her grandson, Mr. Fred Witts, Coalway; her great-grandson, Mr. William Witts, Coalway, and her great-great-grandson, the son of Mr. William Witts. The other great-great-grandchild belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Chiswell, of Bream, but in this case the direct line has been broken.

Coleford's Oldest Resident

Five weeks ago we gave an interesting account of a record of five generations, of which Mrs. Edith Baglin, widow of Mr. Ephraim Baglin, of Berry Hill, was the head. Though in her 97th year, Mrs. Baglin was then enjoying the best of health and was as active as ever, but a week ago she was taken ill, and following a stroke she passed away in the early hours of Monday morning at the home of her grand-daughter, Mrs. Percy Tomlins, at Staunton Road, Coleford.