

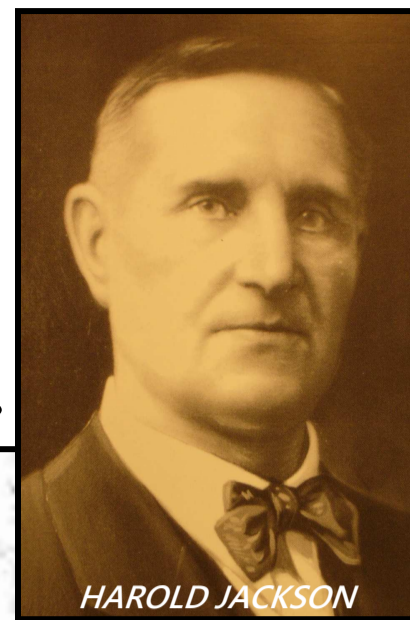
# After the Great War...

## EARLY 20th CENTURY TECHNOLOGY



(Photo from internet)

The first TELEPHONE exchange in the country was opened in 1876 and in the 1897/8 Directory there were nine numbers listed for Garstang. Numbers 8 and 9 were Harold Jackson's and there were no other telephones in Bleasdale Parish until the 1920's, when Mr. Silcock had had one installed at Bleasdale Tower by 1923.



HAROLD JACKSON

1897/98 Telephone Directory

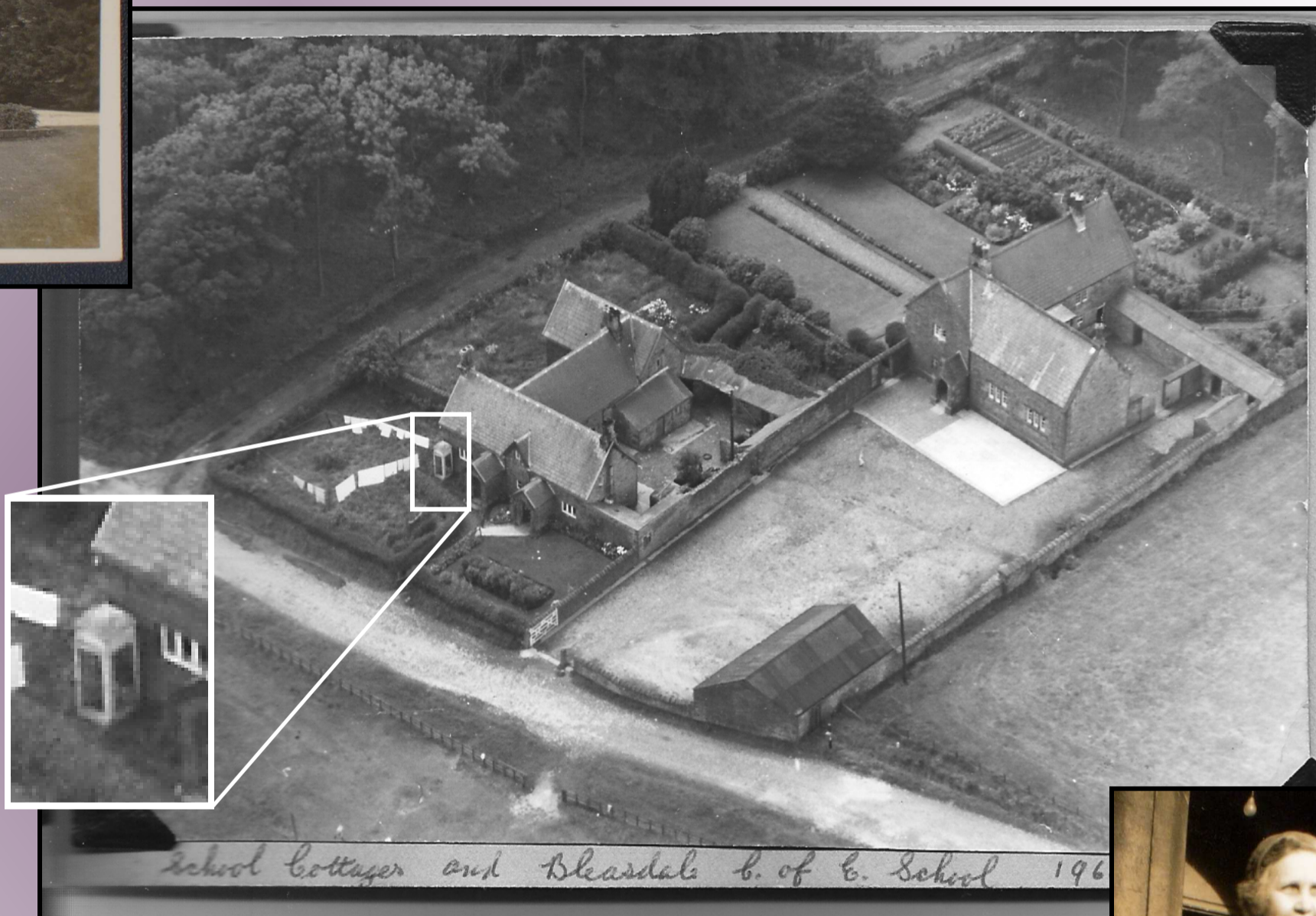
GARSTANG.	
2	ALBERT Mill Co., Ltd. ....Cotton Manufacturers...Calder Vale mill.
4	ECCLES, Joseph.....Cotton Manufacturer...Myerscough hall.
5	GORHAM, J. J. ....Sion hill, Garstang.
8	JACKSON, F. & H. ....Paper Manufacturers...Oakenclough mills.
9	JACKSON, F. & H. ....Paper Manufacturers...Paper bag factory.
3	LIVER, J. W. ....Cotton Manufacturer...Myerscough cottage.
7	SIMPSON, A. ....Merchant...Elmhurst, Barnacre-wth-Bulls.
6	THOMAS, Jos.....Chemist...Market street.

Bleasdale Tower, date unknown



THE TOWER-BLEASDALE

In 1936, Leo Lord had one put in at his haulage business. By this time Bleasdale had become part of the Chipping Exchange.



School Cottages and Bleasdale C. of E. School 1960

School Cottages and Bleasdale C. of E. School 1960

Miss Constance Smith

Numbers of users did not increase greatly immediately after the First World War but from 1926 red telephone boxes began to be installed throughout the country and certainly by 1960 the residents of Bleasdale had their very own box outside the Post Office at School Cottages. Miss Smith, the then Headteacher, noted the installation of the new apparatus with a typically wry comment:



*10<sup>th</sup> July 1959: 'The installation of the telephone has been a great improvement to the school and should prove a great blessing to me, although it would be very much more efficient if I could hear the bell ring in the house.'*

From the School Logbook

**NO SEWING MACHINES FOR GARSTANG SCHOOLS.**—At Thursday's meeting of the Garstang District Education Committee a letter was read from the county authority stating that a limited number of sewing machines were available for schools.—Mr. Lancaster said a sewing machine could be a very dangerous machine, and he would not advocate their introduction to schools until a fool-proof type was invented.—Mr. T. Ibbison said the real danger of introducing the machines was that there would be a tendency for scholars to lose the skill of their fingers, and, after all, hand sewing was an art that ought not to be lightly discouraged.—This was also the view of a lady member of the committee; but Mr. Irvin Jackson said children ought to be educated in the use of the sewing machine. Sewing by hand was comparable only to mowing a field with the scythe.—A resolution was passed to the effect that no applications be made for sewing machines.

Preston Guardian 2nd May 1925

The first SEWING MACHINE at Bleasdale School arrived in 1915, presumably for making bedlinen and bandages for casualties. 'introduced a sewing machine for use during needlework.'

From the School Logbook: 3rd September 1915



(Photo from Internet)

But the Garstang Education Committee in the 1920's was reluctant to introduce this 'dangerous' new technology, as the report on the left shows.

