

Gabriel Price



Governor of Hemsworth Grammar School
Vice Chairman of the Warde-Aldam hospital committee
Member of the Doncaster Drainage Board
Governor of Sheffield University
Member of the Bingley College Training Committee
Member of Parliament

Mr. Price was born at Fairburn the son of a miner. He came to Hemsworth aged 9 months. He attended Old Crow Hill Church School until he was 12yrs old, then started work down Hemsworth colliery. His career was a triumph for perseverance and hard work. In 1905 a bitter dispute took place at the colliery and lasted over four years during which period the miners' families, including Mr. Price and his mother, who was nearly seventy years old, were evicted from their homes. The miners appointed Mr. Price secretary of their relief fund. Army tents were erected for housing at Kinsley, and it was after the visits by Kier Hardie and other Socialists that Mr. Price joined the Labour Party, believing that they preached a movement which offered an opportunity for workers to improve their social and economic positions through political activity. At the end of the dispute Mr. Price gained work at Frickley Colliery in South Elmsall which, at the time, was the newest pit in the Yorkshire Coalfields. Mr.

Price became President of the Frickley Miners Association and was voted to be Checkweighman for the colliery in 1912 (a position requiring the trust of all the men) and held the post till his election to Parliament. Mr. Price worked with the Labour Boards, on the rural council and was a Member of the Board of Guardians till 1928. Since 1919 he had represented the South Kirby division at the West Riding Council meetings. He took a special interest in the Poor Law administration. He became a JP in 1921 at the Pontefract Bench. Mr. Price had connections to most local associations at some time in his career. He was a keen sportsman and played Rugby for Kinsley for 12 years and later turned professional with Dewsbury and York. He was also President of the South Elmsall Homing Society (racing pigeons).