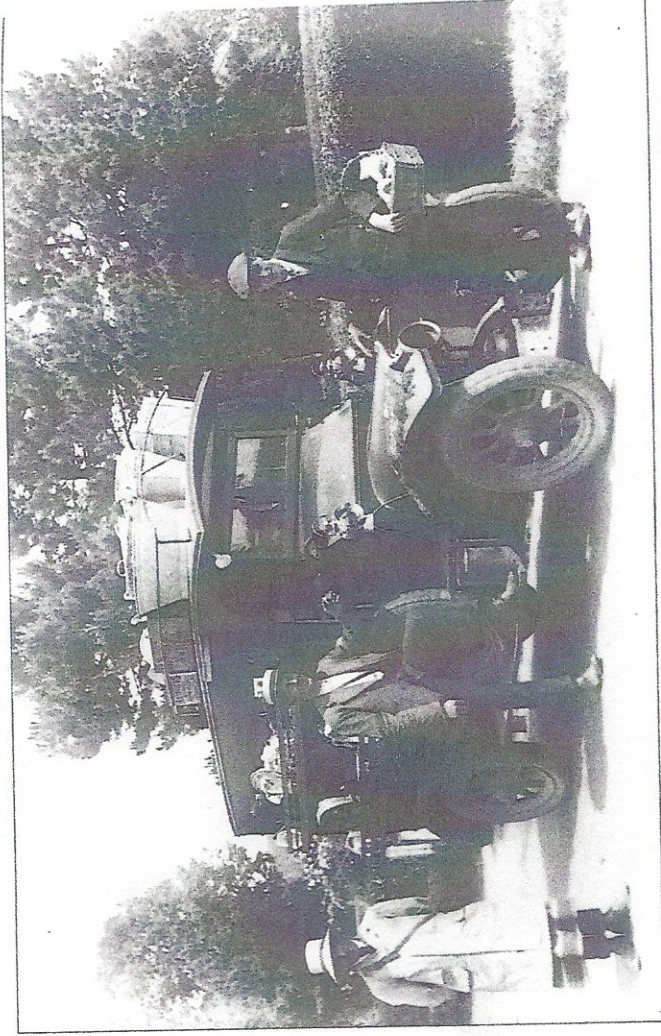


Clopton People

Albert Soames





121. The start of the Soames coach business, now run from Otley and Woodbridge. In 1925 Albert Soame (centre) was listed as 'a hawker'. His first van, bought in 1924, was this Talbot, which he operated out of Clopton, selling a wide range of goods, including paraffin at 4d (less than 2p) a gallon. George Button (right) helped, while the man to the left was Almer Steel, an Otley butcher.



1/63

Built Up Fleet of Coaches

MR. ALBERT SOAMES, OF WOODBRIDGE, DIES

Mr. Albert Soames, of 1, Manor Road, Woodbridge, head of Messrs. A. Soames and Sons, motor-coach proprietors, died on Wednesday aged 67.

In his young days he was village carrier at Clopton and had twice-weekly service between Ipswich and Clopton and a number of adjoining villages. Later, he acquired his first motor-coach and operated this when he carried out extensive rounds of Suffolk villages in connection with his hardware and oil business.

Over the years he built up a fleet of over a dozen coaches.

His firm, in which his two sons are partners, operates from four different centres—Ipswich, Otley, Felixstowe and Woodbridge—carrying out private hire and contract work.

Mr. Albert Soames saw service in the Royal Horse Artillery in World War I.

SOAMES.—On January 20th at 1, Manor Road, Woodbridge, Albert, dearly loved husband of Edith, Proprietor of "Forset-Me-Not Coaches", Otley and district, aged 67 years. Funeral, Monday, January 25th, 12 noon, at Clopton Church.
Journey's End.